GSO Web Site
User’s Guide

Interactive
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GeorgiaStandards.Org

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Goal

To provide a dynamic, interactive, online resource that will enhance and support teaching and learning in Georgia with the Georgia Performance Standards as the main focus.

Georgia teachers are committed to meeting the educational needs of their students and increasing student achievement.

GeorgiaStandards.Org provides the resources necessary for teachers to accomplish their goals.

One Stop Shop for Educators!

Public Web Site

- Quick access to printable Georgia Performance Standards (GPS), by subject and grade
- Quick access to resources that are aligned to the GPS
- Quick access to printable curriculum frameworks, by subject and grade
- Quick access to resources, tools and web links commonly used by teachers
- Quick access to the Georgia Performance Standards phase-in implementation plan and materials for Math, Science, Social Studies and English Language Arts
- Quick access to updates and news articles about the Georgia Performance Standards and GeorgiaStandards.Org
Legend

Each web page component in the illustration to the left is numbered. Please refer to these numbers as you look within pages 4 to 28 to locate the details about each web page component shown here.

The home page components include:

1) Web Page Menus
   - Introduction (page 4)
   - ELA (5 - 8)
   - Math (9 - 12)
   - Social Studies (13 - 16)
   - Science (17 - 19)
   - Training (20)

2) Search for Standards & Resources (22-26)

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Web Page Menus: Introduction Menu

Introduction Menu
The topics listed within the Introduction menu provide an overview about the Georgia Performance Standards, how they came to be and how they are being implemented within the Georgia school systems, by content area and grade.
English Language Arts Menu: Standards

ELA Standards by Grade Level

Example of Printable Standards
The Georgia Department of Education, Office of Curriculum & Instruction has provided an example of a Curriculum Map for each grade level and examples of Units aligned with the GPS as "models" to illustrate what can be implemented within the grade level. School systems and teachers are free to use these models as is; or modify them to better serve classroom needs; or create their own curriculum maps and units from scratch.
ELA Program

The ELA program page provides additional details concerning the ELA curriculum. These details include a description of the ELA curriculum process, revisions to ELA standards, and a variety of related news events and updates.

### English Language Arts Program

Communication, both oral and written, is an integral part of a society’s foundation. With this in mind, it is more important than ever that students become proficient in reading and writing. The English Language Arts Curriculum is a process designed to introduce students to core concepts that are further developed and expanded as students progress through each grade level. This process allows students to develop the skills necessary to: 1) comprehend and interpret texts, including written as well as audio and video texts; 2) compose a variety of types of texts, including those critical to the workplace; 3) effectively communicate and interact with others in group situations; and 4) effectively communicate information through different modes of presentation. The English Language Arts curriculum integrates the processes of reading, writing, and listening/presenting in order to help students effectively communicate and interpret information in a variety of modes.

#### Georgia Performance Standards

The Georgia Performance Standards provide a framework for English Language Arts instruction. The standards are designed to ensure that all students achieve proficiency in the English Language Arts. The standards include a variety of topics, such as reading, writing, speaking, and listening. The standards are designed to be flexible and adaptable to meet the needs of all students.

#### ELA Program

The ELA program page provides additional details concerning the ELA curriculum. These details include a description of the ELA curriculum process, revisions to ELA standards, and a variety of related news events and updates.

#### Bible Courses:

- Bible Course: Old Testament
- Bible Course: New Testament

#### Revisions to ELA Standards

- On July 10, 2008, the Georgia State Board of Education approved revisions to the English Language Arts Georgia Performance Standards. Access these revisions. New Standard
- On July 10, 2008, the Georgia State Board of Education approved revisions to the English Language Arts Georgia Performance Standards. In order to introduce students to the rich literary contributions, Georgia authors or authors about Georgia have made over the years, a new standard has been approved. This standard is also designed to enhance students’ study of the Georgia, which also takes place in the 11th grade.

#### ELA Standards

- The student acquires knowledge of Georgia authors and significant contributions created by Georgia authors.
  - a. Identifies a variety of Georgia authors both male and female.
  - b. Identifies authors’ connections to Georgia through a variety of materials including electronic media.
  - c. Identifies award-winning Georgia authors.
  - d. Examines texts from different genres (e.g., picture books, poetry, short stories, novels, essays, informational writing, and dramatic literature) created by Georgia authors.
  - e. Relates literary works created by Georgia authors to historical settings and events.
  - f. Explains how Georgia is reflected in a literary work through setting, characterization, historical context, or current events.
  - g. Evaluates complex texts across a variety of selections written by Georgia authors, distinguishing themes from topic.

#### Literature Standards

- The addition of this standard places a specific requirement on eighth-grade teachers, but it does not place an additional requirement on the curriculum. The study of literature is required in the first standard in the Reading and Literature strand. Therefore, this standard simply specifies that a variety of works should be studied. Please note that a list of specific or suggested authors and works to study has not been created.

#### Young Authors Writing Competition

Information concerning the 2007 Young Georgia Authors Writing Competition has been sent to Superintendents, Curriculm Directors. RESIDs and principals should have received a copy of the official rules book, an informational sheet, and a list of the 2006 state and RESA winners. For more information you can contact Christie McCarty at cmccarthy@dl.pso.uga.edu or (404) 402-2087.

- Download Official Rules
ELA provides a web page with best practice videos for teachers implementing the ELA GPS within K-5. The first series of video and related resources focus on the use of the writing portfolio within each grade. The second series of videos and related resources portray teacher-student conferences concerning the writing portfolio.
Mathematics Menu: Standards

Example of Printable Standards

Mathematics Standards by Grade Level
“Models” of Instructional Plans

The Georgia Department of Education, Office of Curriculum & Instruction has provided an example of a Curriculum Map for each grade level and examples of Units aligned with the GPS as “models” to illustrate what can be implemented within the grade level. School systems and teachers are free to use these models as is; modify them to better serve classroom needs; or create their own curriculum maps and units from scratch.
Teacher Edition Units

The Teacher Editions of the Mathematics Frameworks are a compilation of tasks that are designed to illustrate the depth and rigor expected in the standards. Included in these documents are printed versions of the Mathematics Frameworks, comments and solutions of all tasks, NAEP sample questions, sample lesson plans, and sample assessments. Not all units contain all sample items. **The Teacher Editions are available through the unit builder log in portal only.** The student versions are available at [www.georgiastandards.org](http://www.georgiastandards.org) through the Math link and then through the Frameworks link.

Printing Teacher Edition Units

1. Select Mathematics Frameworks.
2. In the Grades 9-12 section, select a Teacher Edition unit.
3. The window will convert to the MyGaDOE Portal Log In. Log in using your portal username and password or sign up to create an account.
4. An Adobe dialog box will open. Select Open. The file will open as a pdf.
5. Close the file by clicking on the “x” in the top right-hand corner.
Mathematics Program

The mathematics program page provides additional details concerning the Mathematics curriculum. These details include a description of the Mathematics curriculum process, additions to Mathematics Frameworks, support materials and a variety of related news events and updates.
Mathematics Menu: Podcasts

Math Podcasts
Mathematics provides a web page with professional learning videos for teachers implementing the Math GPS within 6th and 7th grades. A number of teaching activities are demonstrated along with links to related resources.
Social Studies Menu: Standards

Example of Printable Standards

Social Studies Standards by Grade Level
Social Studies Program

The Social Studies program page provides additional details concerning the Social Studies curriculum. These details include a description of the Social Studies curriculum process, implementation of the Social Studies GPS, support materials and a variety of related news events and updates.
"Models" of Instructional Plans
An example of a Curriculum Map for each grade level and examples of Units aligned with the GPS have been provided as "models" to illustrate what can be implemented within the grade level. School systems and teachers are free to use these models as is; modify them or create their own curriculum maps and units from scratch.
Social Studies Videos
Social Studies provides a web page with a series of professional learning videos for teachers implementing the Social Studies GPS within K-12.

The videos series focuses on various aspects of conceptually teaching Social Studies.
Science Menu: Standards

Science Standards by Grade Level

Example of Printable Standards
Science Program
The Science program page provides additional details concerning the Science curriculum. These details include a description of how the Science curriculum relates to our everyday world; the hands-on nature of the curriculum and the need for students to acquire both Characteristics of Science and Content.

The Science curriculum in Georgia is designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills for proficiency in science. Relationships between science, our environment, and our everyday world are crucial to each student’s scientific literacy. Science is a way of knowing through the use of science processes to understand scientific concepts. Hands-on, student-centered, and inquiry-based approaches are the emphases of instruction.

Georgia Performance Standards

The hands-on nature of the science curriculum standards increases the need for teachers to use appropriate precautions in the laboratory and field. The guidelines for the safe use, storage, and disposal of chemicals must be observed. Safety of the student should always be foremost in science instruction.

Science consists of a way of thinking and investigating, and includes a growing body of knowledge about the natural world. To become literate in science, therefore, students need to acquire understandings of both the Characteristics of Science and its Content. The Georgia Performance Standards for Science require that instruction be organized so that these domains are treated together. Therefore, A CONTENT STANDARD IS NOT MET UNLESS APPLICABLE CHARACTERISTICS OF SCIENCE ARE ALSO ADDRESSED AT THE SAME TIME. For this reason they are presented as co-requisites.

Science Presentations
- 2006 Curriculum Directors Conference
- GPS Administrator Conference
- Georgia Science Teacher Association Science Update
- Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching-GSTA

CONTACT INFORMATION
Juan-Carlos Aguilar
Science Program Manager
1754 Twin Towers East
205 Jesse Hill Jr. Drive SE
Atlanta, GA 30334
(404) 657-9072
jaular@doe.k12.ga.us

Steve Rich
K-5 Science Program Specialist
(404) 463-1977
srich@dce.k12.ga.us

Adrian Neely
NCLE & Middle School Science Specialist
(404) 463-1765
aineeley@doe.k12.ga.us

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Training Menu

**Content Specific GPS Training Registration**
Provides online registration for all content-specific GPS training sessions scheduled for the current school year.

**GPS Redelivery Training Materials - Phase I**
Provides access to Presentations, Participant’s Guides and Facilitator’s Guides used in the 2005 training including: Standards-Based Education and the new GPS; Unpacking Standards for Unit Development; Assessment for Learning; Making Instructional Decisions; Differentiation; Teacher Commentary; GeorgiaStandards.Org; and Administrators’ Content Specific Training.

**GPS Redelivery Training Materials - Phase II**
Provides access to Presentations, Participant’s Guides and Facilitator’s Guides to be used in Phase II delivery of: Standards-Based Education and the new GPS; Unpacking Standards for Unit Development; Classroom Assessment and Instruction; Making Instructional Decisions; and Administrators’ Content Specific Training.

**GPS Delivery Training Materials - Phase III**
Provides access to Presentations, Participant’s Guides and Facilitator’s Guides used in Phase III.

**GPS Principals’ Mathematics Toolkit**
Provides presentations to help middle and high school principals implement the Mathematics GPS. Materials are also included to help parents and educators understand the changes within the new mathematics curriculum.

**School Improvement Division Leadership Training**
Provides a link to the materials from training sessions held in Fall 2004 and Spring 2005. The School Improvement Division offers continued Leadership Development sessions. For details regarding registration for this training, please contact your local RESA.

**Georgia Performance Standards Awareness Materials**
Provides presentations that can be used in professional development sessions to spread awareness about the Georgia Performance Standards.

**GPS Training Delivery Materials - Phase IV**
Provides access to the Presentations and Facilitator’s Guides used in the 2007 Social Studies GPS training.
Search Standards & Resources

This access point provides Georgia educators with the ability to easily find Georgia Performance Standards or resources aligned with the GPS in specific content areas and grade levels for the K-12 curriculum. In addition to the Home page, this access point is provided on every page within the GSO web site. Selecting this link opens a portlet that resembles the portlet shown in # 7 in the illustration below. Details about conducting a search using this Search Portlet are provided on the next few pages.

MyGaDOE Login

Provides access to your own professional workspace where you can search for instructional units, activities, assessments and other resources aligned with the Georgia Performance Standards. It also contains the Unit Builder, a set of online technology tools that helps you create educational plans directly aligned with the GPS for your grade and topic. Please consult the User’s Guide portlet (# 12 on page 27) located on the GSO Home page for details about how to signup for a MyGaDOE GSO Account and details about how to use the GSO Portal.

Welcome To GeorgiaStandards.Org

Provides quick access to popular areas in the website including; English; Mathematics; Social Science; Science; Career, Technical and Agricultural Education; Modern Languages & Latin; Reading and Teachers as Advisors.

GPS Website Finder

Provides quick access to a number of web locations used by teachers in preparing instructional materials.

Teacher Tools

Provides quick access to technology tools frequently used by teachers in creating teaching / learning activities. These sites provide links to quiz generators, course & lesson authoring tools, flashcards, testing tools, survey tools, web authoring tools, podcasting tools, presentation tools and many others.

Search Standards & Resources

The Search Portlet provides quick access to educators so they can easily search for standards and resources using a keyword, subject area, or grade level criterion. You can easily and quickly:

- Locate a printable copy of the GPS for your class.
- Locate instructional plans aligned to the GPS, intended to model sound instructional frameworks.
- Locate other resources that are aligned to the GPS.
Searching for Standards for Grades K - 8

The Search Portlet on the GSO Home Page offers educators and parents an easy, quick way to locate and view a printable copy of the Georgia Performance Standards by subject and grade. Within the K - 8 grade band, for the core curriculum areas of English, Science, Mathematics and Social Studies, a standards search involves just a couple of mouse-clicks. Let's take a look at an example.

1. **Click** your mouse in the **check box** next to 4 in the **Grades** section (see the illustration on the right).

2. **Click on** the pull-down menu for **Subject** and **select** … **Math**.

3. **Click on** the green **Search button** located in the lower left corner of the window.

4. In the window that now opens, you can see that Search Results found 19 standards for … Math … 4th grade (see image on right).

5. Now look what happens if you select 6, 7 or 8th grade (any or all). Notice that a new pull-down menu now appears (the Courses menu), offering a selection of courses within that selected grade level (see arrow in illustration on right).

   The Courses menu appears because some schools offer courses in Modern / Latin Languages and / or Career, Technical and Agricultural Education within these grades.

6. **Put a check mark** next to 6th grade (see image on the left).

7. Use the **Subject menu** and **select** … **Modern Languages and Latin**.

8. Use the **Courses menu** and **select** … **French**.

9. Use the **Level menu** and **select** … **Level 1**.
1. Using the Search Portlet for standards within grades 9 through 12 is also quick and easy, but it involves the use of a few more choices, since there are many more options for courses within these grades. Let’s take a look.

2. **Click** to place a check mark next to 10th grade. Notice that as soon as you perform this action, a new menu appears immediately below … the Courses menu (see arrows in the image to the right).

3. Use the pull-down menu to **select** … **Science**.

4. **Click on** the **Courses** pull-down menu. Notice that there are a number of Science courses that can be taken in high school (9, 10, 11 or 12 grade).

5. **Select** Chemistry.

6. Now **click on** the **Search** button.

7. In the window that now opens, you can see that Search Results found 16 standards for … Chemistry (see image on right).

**Searching for Standards for CTAE**

In the Subject menu, if we select Career, Technical and Agricultural Education, a few more sub-menus appear because CTAE has such a broad offering. The choices offered in each subsequent menu are dependent on the choice made in the menu immediately above it.

For example, in selecting CTAE in the Subject menu, the Program Concentration, Career Planning and Courses menus now appear.

- Whatever selection is made in Program Concentration will determine what is displayed in the Career Pathway menu.
- Whatever selection is made in Career Pathway will determine what is displayed in the Courses menu.

The illustrations on the right show two different examples and the resulting choices.
Let’s Dig A Little Deeper ...

... by searching for instructional plans that are aligned with Georgia Performance Standards. These instructional units, tasks and learning activities have been developed by the Georgia Department of Education to illustrate instructionally sound means of implementing the GPS.

Searching is as easy as … 1, 2, 3

1) Search for the standards for your subject / grade.

2) Select the standard you need instructional plans for.

3) Locate and select the appropriate instructional plan.

There are categories for:
- Units
- Performance Tasks
- Assessment Tools
- Learning Activities
- Teaching Activities
- Aligned Resources

These instructional plans should be viewed as “models” of how the GPS within each subject and grade can be implemented within the classroom. They are not mandatory. School systems and teachers are free to use these models as is, or modify them to better suit specific needs, or not use them at all.

The choice is yours!
Instructional Plans Aligned With Standards

Search for Standard First

1. We are going to search for a standard first because the standards serve as the foundation upon which instruction takes place.

2. For this example, click your mouse in the check box next to 6 in the Grades section. See (a) in the illustration.

3. Use the Subject pull-down menu and, select - Math. See (b) in the illustration.

4. Click on the Search button. See (c) in the illustration.

5. You should now see the results of the search, with 18 standards being displayed. See the illustration below.

6. Now locate the standard you want to work with. In this example, we will use M6D1.

7. Click on the link … M6D1. See arrow in image on right. You can tell it is a link because it is formatted with blue text and is underlined.

8. In the window that opens (as illustrated in large image on right), the details of the standard are displayed, including the whatever instructional plans that are aligned to the this particular standard. These plans may include: Units, Performance Tasks; Assessment Tools; Learning Activities; Teaching Activities and Aligned Resources.
1. You can also search for Resources that are aligned with the GPS.

2. In the Search Portlet, click on Resources (see the illustration on the right).

3. Note that new fields now appear - Format and Differentiated for: (see the illustration on the right).

4. The Format field provides the ability to quickly search for a particular type of resource, for example, a video or flash clip, or perhaps a web site. Currently this field may not yield the results you expect: GSO is in the process of categorizing 50,000 database resources by using a variety of criteria.

5. You can search for Resources by using the same criteria and means as you did with Standards.

6. In this example let’s type-in … cells … into the Keywords field and then put a check mark next to 5th grade. Finally, select … Science … from the Subject menu (see illustration to the right).

7. As you can see in the results window that opens, there are 36 resources that are aligned with cells, 5th grade, and Science.

8. These resources include instructional units, tasks, websites and a variety of other resources.

9. GSO is in the process of working with a number of educational partners to dramatically increase the number of instructional resources that will soon become available and searchable through the GSO Search Portlet.
**GSO Web Page - Other Components**

8 **Top Picks**
Provides quick access to a variety of web-based educational resources that support teachers in creating educational materials and activities.

9 **Helpful Links**
Provides quick access to a number of reference and resource sites used by teachers and administrators.

10 **Best of the WEB**
A panel of judges from the Center for Digital Education determined that the GSO teacher’s portal was “the Best of the WEB” among many other educational websites evaluated on innovation, efficiency, economy and functionality. “Once again, this year’s entries showed remarkable innovation.” said Marina Leight, vice president of education for the Center for Digital Education. “The K-12 Web sites continue to improve communication and expand access to learning resources for the students, parents and teachers that they serve.”

11 **Contact Information**

**Content - GSO Web Page Issues**
For any issues or questions directly related to the GeorgiaStandards.Org web site, please contact the department representative listed under Content issues.

**Georgia Performance Standards Issues**
For any issues, problems or questions directly related to the Georgia Performance Standards or how they might be implemented within the curriculum, please contact the department representative listed under Standards issues.

12 **User’s Guides**
Provides an online copy of the most current user’s guides to the GSO Websites. Each user’s guide provides both overview level and step-by-step level descriptions of the relevant features and functions. The online version of these guides provides an interactive index. You may also download and print these PDF documents. The guides include: the GSO Website User’s Guide; Signing up for a GSO Portal Account and the GSO Portal User’s Guide.
GSO Web Page - Other Components

Proposed Standards
A draft copy of newly approved Performance Standards for academic areas are posted in this area of the GSO website for a 60 day public review period. An online survey follows each set of new standards providing the capability to make comments about the new proposed standards.

GSO Partners
A number of educational organizations work with GSO to provide professional learning, consulting, and services for Georgia educators to promote the appropriate use of technology in support of teaching, learning, and leadership.

Support Materials
Provides additional information about the Georgia Performance Standards and how they are being phased-in and implemented within Georgia grades K-12.

Parent Information
Provides printable versions of brochures for parents of children K - 8 with a welcoming introduction from Kathy Cox, State Superintendent of Schools. The brochures also contain a listing of all the Georgia Performance Standards for each grade and subject, along with descriptions of the assessments that will be taken throughout the year. There is also another set of brochures for parents concerning significant cognitive disorders and the GPS.

Georgia Standards News
Provides a series of news articles concerning a variety of subjects related to GeorgiaStandards.Org, the GPS, and technology integration.

Georgia Standards Calendar
A calendar that provides dates concerning Georgia Performance Standards events, training schedule, etc.