The Key to Aligning YOUR KINDERGARTEN CLASS

with Common Core State Standards



5 Projects that Integrate Technology into Core Lesson Plans



ASK A TECH TEACHER

The Key to Aligning Your Kindergarten Class with Common Core State Standards

5 Projects that integrate technology into Core lesson plans

By the Structured Learning IT Team

And

Ask a Tech Teacher

First Edition 2012 Part of the Structured Learning Technology for the Classroom series Visit the companion website at <u>http://askatechteacher.com</u> for more resources to teach technology to Kindergarten-Eighth Grade

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Introduction

In June of 2010, the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices (NGA Center) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) released a set of state-led education standards, the <u>Common Core</u> <u>State Standards (CCSS)</u>. They spell out what students are expected to learn so teachers and parents know what they need to do to help. The standards are designed to be robust and relevant to the real world, reflecting the knowledge and skills that young people need for success in college and careers.

Developed in collaboration with content experts, states, teachers, school administrators and parents, their focus is the core subject areas of Englishlanguage arts (reading, writing, speaking, listening) and mathematics for grades K-12, establishing clear and consistent goals for learning that all stakeholders agreed would prepare America's children for success in life. With American students fully prepared for the future, our communities will be best positioned to compete successfully in the global economy.

Why a new set of educational standards when each state already has its own?

That's why. Fifty-two different educational guidelines means what students are expected to learn varies state to state. Common Core standards respond to the need for consistency in educational excellence, no matter where students live and educators practice.

If your state is one of the forty-six that have adopted CCSS, you know technology is considered not as a separate curriculum, but as a tool to assist English language and math meet their standards. This means if you are the technology teacher, integration specialist, or IT coordinator, you not only need to teach computer skills (like keyboarding, mouse use, software, digital citizenship), but must blend technology into classroom instruction via a combination of technological, pedagogical and content knowledge.

What motivated the integration of technology into the CCSS framework? After twenty years of using computers to move educational goals forward, experts have realized that facility with technology aids students in:

• Demonstrating independence in academic pursuits

- Building strong content knowledge across the curriculum
- Responding to varying demands of audience, task, purpose, and discipline in unique ways
- Comprehending information as well as critiquing it, individually and collaboratively
- Using educational tools strategically and capably
- Understanding other perspectives and cultures

Four particular goals of CCSS are uniquely suited to technology integration. Students are expected to know how to:

- Produce and publish documents
- Interact and collaborate
- Communicate using web tools
- Evaluate information presented in different media formats

This is the **Kindergarten Bundle**, **one of six that make up the full complement of K-5 Common Core State Standards** lesson plan bundles (see other PDF digital booklets for first grade, second grade, third grade, fourth grade, and fifth grade bundles). They will become key to your classroom goal of achieving CCSS goals. All lesson plans have been tested by the Ask a Tech Teacher teachers. All are supported by the Ask a Tech Teacher help team on the <u>website</u>.

How to Use This Book

Before you start, scan the <u>Common Core State Standards</u> website and the overview provided in the Appendix. The language is easy to understand with helpful tie-ins to grade-level specifics and overarching Anchor Standards

Each lesson in this book is color coded for easy recognition of the CCSS standard being met, as follows:

Yellow	Math	
Blue	Reading —Literature	
Green	Reading—Informational Tex	

PurpleReading—Foundational SkillsRedWritingPinkSpeaking and ListeningBlueLanguageOrangeAnchor Standards

Organization of each lesson is as follows:



Where for-fee software and products are used in lessons, an effort has been made to cross-reference free products that will accomplish the same goals where possible. There will be some adaptation required to make them work, but we've purposely selected those that are most compatible.

We've included blank lines in front of each concept so you can check it off when completed. We've heard from many users of our K-6 Curriculum and Toolkits that the nature of technology in the classroom often precludes completing an activity in one sitting. It's useful to track where you ended so you can pick up at that stopping point when you're ready to continue.

A note: When using installed software, projects are designed for a Windowsbased PC. If you have a different operating system (say, Linux or Mac), you'll need to adapt the instructions. Additional note: Embedded links are active only in the PDF/digital version of book. Contact the <u>publisher</u> to find out how to get a discounted PDF with your Proof of Purchase.

About the Authors

Structured Learning IT Team provides classroom teachers with practical knowledge, pedagogical articles and materials, how-to books, tips and tricks, and the tools required to fulfill the technology goals of the 21st century classroom. All textbooks, workbooks, and tools are classroom-tested, teacher-approved with easy-to-understand materials supported by online materials, websites, blogs, and wikis. Whether you are a new teacher wanting to do it right or a veteran educator looking for updated materials, <u>Structured Learning</u> and its team of technology teachers is there to assist you.

Ask a Tech Teacher is a well-regarded resource <u>blog</u> run by a group of technology teachers. It offers oodles of free lesson plans, advice, pedagogical conversation, website reviews and more. Its newsletters and website articles are read by thousands every day, including teachers, homeschoolers, and anyone serious about finding the best way to maneuver the minefields of technology in education.

Jacqui Murray is the editor of a technology curriculum for K-sixth grade, creator of two technology training books for middle school, and three ebooks on technology in education. <u>She</u> is the author of **Building a Midshipman**, the story of her daughter's journey from high school to United States Naval Academy. She is webmaster for six blogs, an <u>Amazon Vine Voice</u> book reviewer, a columnist for <u>Examiner.com</u>, Editorial Review Board member for <u>Journal for Computing Teachers</u>, Cisco guest blogger, <u>IMS</u> tech expert, and a weekly contributor to <u>Write Anything</u>. Her popular technology blog <u>Ask a</u> <u>Tech Teacher</u> is visited by more than 60,000 people every month and her technology articles have appeared in hundreds of online newspapers and magazines.

KINDERGARTEN

#One: Shapes are Everywhere

Writing--Research to Build and Present Knowledge

W.K.8. With guidance and support from adults, recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.

Math--Geometry--Identify and describe shapes

K.G.2. Correctly name shapes regardless of orientation or size.

Essential Question

How do shapes relate to the real world?

Overview

Students take a 'shapes stroll' around school to discover the shapes they have discussed in class in their physical world.

Objectives and Steps

___Review two-dimensional and three-dimensional shapes with students—

squares, circles, triangles, rectangles, hexagons, cubes, cones, cylinders, spheres. Draw them on the class SmartScreen.

Point out examples of shapes in the classroom—the SmartScreen is a rectangle, a bulletin board is a triangle, etc.

_____Discuss structures around school that the students can think of. Is there a triangle, square, rectangle, etc., as part of them.



_____Have sufficient helpers during this exercise—at least 1 parent for each ten students to help with discovery and recording.

____Walk around the school grounds and ask students to point out where they see squares, rectangles, circles, diamonds, cubes, pyramids and

other shapes they are discussing in class. Write them down as students call them out.

Show students how orientation and spatial relationship isn't always what the student is used to seeing—i.e., a triangle might be resting on its point, or a rectangle on its long side.

Can students find structures that are a combination of two shapes (for example, in the first inset picture, there's a circle and а rectangle overlaid to create one of the classroom windows)? Help delineate students how multiple shapes work together to create one image.



- _____Return to the classroom and list the shapes found on the overhead or SmartScreen. Ask students to remind you where they saw them (the front of the building, a ball, etc.). Jog their memories if necessary.
- _____Discuss what it means that their school has so many of the shapes they study in math class. What conclusions can they draw from that?
- ____Open KidPix (purchased software), <u>TuxPaint</u> (free downloadable software), or <u>Kerpoof</u> (free online drawing program). Have students recall the shapes they saw during the Shapes Stroll. Visualize it in situ. Have students share with the class how it fit into a three-dimensional structure.
- _____Have students draw one of the shapes and then draw the surrounding item—building, play structure, window, etc.
- ____Add their name to picture. Export and print. Upload to class website or wiki to share.
- _____If there's time, draw several more.
- Extension: Ask students to visualize their neighborhood or home. What shapes do they see in their mind's eye? Can they draw those shapes and the structures around them?
- Extension: Have students use their descriptive writing skills to describe what they have drawn, how math shapes are the basis for the physical world.

More Common Core help from Structured Learning and Ask a Tech Teacher:

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- The Key to Aligning Your K-5 Class with Common Core State Standards: 30 Projects that integrate technology into Core lesson plans
- <u>The Key to Aligning Your Kindergarten Class with Common Core</u> <u>State Standards: 5 Projects that integrate technology into Core</u> <u>lesson plans</u>
- <u>The Key to Aligning Your 1st Grade Class with Common Core</u> <u>State Standards: 5 Projects that integrate technology into Core</u> <u>lesson plans</u>
- <u>The Key to Aligning Your 2nd Grade Class with Common Core</u> <u>State Standards: 5 Projects that integrate technology into Core</u> <u>lesson plans</u>
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- <u>The Key to Aligning Your 5th Grade Class with Common Core</u> <u>State Standards: 5 Projects that integrate technology into Core</u> <u>lesson plans</u>
- <u>Common Core lesson plans by strand</u>
 - o <u>Math</u>
 - o <u>Language</u>
 - <u>Reading</u>
 - o <u>Writing</u>
 - Speaking and Listening

<u>Common Core webinars</u>