



Materials & Resources Exploration

1. Navigate to the **Home Page** of the SAS Portal at <http://www.pdesas.org>
2. You can access the **Materials & Resources** element of the Portal by clicking the **Materials & Resources** tab or by clicking the circle labeled **Materials & Resources** on the SAS logo in the middle of the **Home Page**.

QuickSearch/Search:










SASIT Tip: There is a **QuickSearch** tool built into the navigation bar at the top of every page in the SAS Portal. Users can search the database of **Materials & Resources** with one click.

1. Locate the **QuickSearch** tool in the upper-right hand corner of the page.

SASIT Tip: Be sure to convey to your audience that the **Materials & Resources** section provides users with a way to locate standards-aligned content through a targeted search. When training this section, you should model a “think aloud”...

2. *“I am planning a lesson on literary elements to my 6th grade students. I’m going to enter the keywords ‘literary elements’ into the **Search** field in the upper-right hand corner of the site.” Click **Search**. The search results will include an overwhelming number of search results, approximately 1952* resources.*
3. *“I don’t have time to browse through this many search results. I’m going to scroll to the top of the page and select **6th grade** to narrow my results, but I will also select the **Subject Area English Language Arts**. If I was a teacher at the secondary level, I would have to select an appropriate course from the **Select a Course** drop-down menu instead. Now I’ll click **Search**.”*
4. Select the **Grade Level 6th Grade**, the **Subject Area PA Core: English Language Arts** and then click **Search**. This will narrow the search results to approximately 234* resources. Be sure to notice that to the left of each title is an icon that indicates the type of content, and a key at the top of the search results.

SASIT Tip: *The approximate number of resources, as well as page numbers, quoted in these steps may change due to the addition of new resources.

-  **Lesson/Unit Plan** Voluntary Model Curriculum Unit and Lesson Plans from PDE
-  **Instructional Content** Lesson Plans, Unit Plans, and Activities for classrooms
-  **Educational Resources** Literature Connections, Tutorials, Teacher Resources, Homework Help, etc.
-  **Videos** Multimedia video content
-  **Assessment** Document Based Questions, Constructed Response Questions, Rubrics, etc.
-  **Web-Based Content** Digital Profiles, Web-based Resources, WebQuests, Documents and Manuscripts, Audio/Podcasts, E-books, etc.
-  **PA Educator Created Content** Resources authored by Pennsylvania educators
-  **Safe Schools Resources** Resources and exemplars for promoting active student engagement in a safe and positive learning environment.
-  **Professional Development** Training modules that cover a variety of professional development topics.

5. *“To see the resource, I need to click on the title ‘**Cover to Cover: Comparing Books to Movies.**’ I can see the alignment to **Subject, Grade Levels** and the **Standards**. Within the **Web-Based Resource** section, I found a link that will take me to the resource. When I click on the link, I find that it’s a full set of lessons wherein students explore matching texts – novels and the movies adapted from them – to develop analytical strategies. .”*

SASIT Tip: The **Cover to Cover** resource is a Verizon Thinkfinity digital resource. The Pennsylvania Department of Education has engaged in a partnership with Verizon Thinkfinity to enhance 21st Century teaching and learning in Pennsylvania. Currently, there are approximately 4200 Thinkfinity resources available in the SAS Portal.

6. *“When I am finished, I can **Close** the tab (or window) to return to the content detail page.*
7. *“This looks interesting. If I click on **Add to My ePortfolio**, it will allow me to save this resource in an area of the site that is like an online filing cabinet. I save a lot of bookmarks and I always forget what they are! I can enter a **Description** so that when I view the list of resources in **My ePortfolio** I will remember why I saved this one.”*

8. Type a description, and then click **Save** to add the resource to the **ePortfolio**. The window will disappear.
9. *“You know, my friend who teaches in another state would love this resource! I can send it by clicking on **Send to a Friend**. All I need to do is fill in my friend’s **Name** and **Email Address** and SAS will email this resource to him/her. My friend **DOES NOT** need to have a password to see the resource, since **Materials & Resources** are available on the public side of the **SAS portal**.”*
10. *“I can also click on **Printer Friendly Version** to print this resource out if necessary (You will need to close the **Printer Friendly Version** window). I need to click the **Back button** at the bottom of the page to return to my search results.”*
11. *I would like to see what some of the other results are like.* Click the **Back** button in your browser to return to your search results.
12. *“I still have a lot of resources to look at – I can see at the top of my search results that there are at least 7 pages full!”*

SASIT Tip: When training, remind participants...

- Additional resources will be added to the portal on an ongoing basis. If they do not find resources for a specific keyword/topic today, they may in the near future.
- Just like when performing a search on the Internet, it is necessary to try multiple keywords. Searches for terms like ‘Native Americans’ may yield different results than a search for ‘American Indians’.
- All of the resources included on the SAS portal are vetted, and have been quality reviewed by a minimum of three educators.
- Links to websites outside of SAS were checked as part of the **Quality Review** process. However, since these sites are not under the control of the Pennsylvania Department of Education we cannot be responsible for their content. Users may encounter advertising or other content, which is why caution signs appear in the search results next to these resources.

All links are checked on a regular basis. If they do come across a link that is broken they can click **Contact Us** in the footer menu on any page to report the error.

Voluntary Model Curriculum (VMC):

SASIT Tip: Voluntary Model Curriculum (VMC), are sample units and lesson plans that are aligned to the Pennsylvania standards in curriculum frameworks for the four major content areas (*Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Reading-Writing-Speaking-Listening*).

Besides being available on this tab, all of the **Voluntary Model Curriculum Unit** and **Lesson Plans** can be located via a keyword search in **Materials & Resources**.

1. Select the **Voluntary Model Curriculum (VMC)** tab.
2. Locate the **Subject Area Literacy**, and the **Grade Level 7th Grade**.
3. You will see a **Unit Plan** titled *Determining the Effects of Figurative Language (L-7-4)*. Click on the title to view the plan.
4. The **Objectives** of the unit will appear at the right of the page – briefly read through them, as well as the **Essential Questions**. Click on the **plus sign (+)** next to each field under **Alignments** to view the alignment to the **Standards, Assessment Anchors** and **Eligible Content**, as well as the **Big Ideas, Concepts**, and **Competencies**.
5. View the **Related Materials & Resources**. These are suggested resources for teaching the unit.
6. View the **Formative Assessment** near the bottom of the page - to be used when all of the lessons within the unit have been taught.
7. Scroll up to the top of the page to note **Add to My ePortfolio/Send to a Friend/Printer Friendly Version**.
 - **Add to My ePortfolio** – saves the plan as a bookmark in your ePortfolio
 - **Send to a Friend** – allows you to send a link to the plan via email to anyone with a valid email address. Your friend DOES NOT have to have a SAS password, since this content is available on the public side of the SAS portal.
 - **Printer Friendly Version** – sends the plan to the printer.
8. Click on **Add to My ePortfolio**. The **Title** and **URL** fields will already be populated. Enter a **Description** (optional) and then click **Save**. The window will close, and the item will be added to the **ePortfolio**.
9. Click the **Back** button in your browser to return to the **Voluntary Model Curriculum** tab.
10. Locate the **Subject Area Literacy**, and the **Grade Level 7th Grade**.

11. Click the **plus sign (+)** to the left of the **Unit Plan** titled ***Determining the Effects of Figurative Language (L-7-4)*** to view **Lesson Plans** available within that **Unit**:
 - **The Effective Use of Figurative Language: Introduction (L-7-4-1)**
 - **The Effective Use of Figurative Language: Imagery (L-7-4-2)**
 - **The Effective Use of Figurative Language: Symbolism (L-7-4-3)**
12. Click on the **Title** ***The Effective Use of Figurative Language: Introduction (L-7-4-1)*** to view the **Lesson Plan**.
13. Click on the **plus sign (+)** next to each field under **Alignments** to view the alignment to the **Standards, Assessment Anchors** and **Eligible Content**, as well as the **Big Ideas, Concepts**, and **Competencies**.
14. The **Objectives** of the unit will appear on the right side of the page – briefly read through them, as well as the **Essential Question**.
15. Notice the **Duration** and **Materials** fields. The **Related Materials & Resources** field contains suggestions for additional materials, when available.
16. Click on the **plus sign (+)** next to the **Formative Assessment** field, which has suggestions for assessing student understanding.
17. Click on the **plus sign (+)** next to the **Instructional Procedure** field, which provides step-by-step instructions for delivering the lesson, and the **Suggested Instructional Strategies** field which highlights strategies from the **WHERE TO instructional design template**.
18. Close the **tab/window** in your browser to return to the **Voluntary Model Curriculum** tab.
19. Locate the **Subject Area Literacy**, and the **Grade Level 7th Grade**.
20. Click on the **Unit Plan** titled ***Determining the Effects of Figurative Language (L-7-4)***. Remember that the **Formative Assessment** for the **Unit** is available within the **Unit Plan**.

Learning Progressions:

SASIT Tip: The **Learning Progressions** identify foundational content standards (**Eligible Content**) that need to be mastered within a **Subject**. These pathways will provide teachers with the opportunity to determine whether students have successfully mastered skills and are able to move forward along the road to career and college readiness.

1. Click the **Learning Progressions** tab.
2. Briefly review the **legend** at the top of the page.
3. Select the **Science Learning Progression August 2010** (Excel file). Open and display the file.
4. Locate **Eligible Content** statement **S4.A.2.1.1** on the **Nature of Science** page.
5. Scan across to the columns for **Grades 3** and **4**. The pink coding in the **Grade 3** column indicates that this skill should be introduced in this grade level. The green coding in the **Grade 4** column indicates that this skill will be assessed in this grade level, and that the white dot indicates that there are **Voluntary Model Curriculum (VMC) Unit Plans** or **Lessons** that address this skill.
6. Click on the **Eligible Content** statement **S4.A.2.1.1** to be taken to the **Voluntary Model Curriculum (VMC)** resources that address the skill.
7. Click on the **Unit Plan Experimenting**.
8. Click on the **plus sign (+)** to the left of **Eligible Content** to expand the field. Notice that **Eligible Content** statement **S4.A.2.1.1** is listed there.

Keystone Content:

1. Click on the **Keystone Content** tab and select **Algebra I**.
2. **Keystone Exams** are built using a module format, wherein the **Assessment Anchors** and **Eligible Content** are organized into two thematic modules. Select **Module 2: Linear Functions and Data Organizations** to begin exploring the resources.
3. Review the various resources on the page, all of which are aligned to **Eligible Content** statements from the **Algebra I** course.
 - **Educator Resources** – instructional resources for Algebra I teachers.
 - **Student Resources** – subject-specific activities for Algebra I students
 - **Sample Assessments** – standards-based sample assessments.

4. Locate **Eligible Content** statement **A1.2.1.1.1**
5. There are currently three (3) resources listed under **Educator Resources**. Click **Additional Resources**.
6. You will see a list of **Additional Resources** for educators that are also aligned to **A1.2.1.1.1**. Click on the **Title *Real World Applications of Parabolas***. This resource is a *lesson plan that allows students to explore real-life applications of parabolas*.
7. Review the lesson plan, noting that all of the resources necessary to replicate this lesson in the classroom are included here, along with suggestions for modification.
8. Close the window.
9. Hit the back button in your browser to return to your search results, and then once again to return to the **Algebra 1 Resources** tab.
10. Once again, select **Module 2: Linear Functions and Data Organizations**, and locate **Eligible Content** statement **A1.2.1.1.1**.
11. There are currently three (3) resources listed under **Student Resources**. Click on the **Title *Functions and Patterns: Representing Functions and Relations***. This resource is a video that provides an explanation about functions and relations, including the information that goes into them, how to interpret them, and how to represent the information (tables, coordinate grid, sets of ordered pairs).
12. Click on the link under the heading **URL or Resource**. The video will open in a new window. Wait a moment for the video to load on the right side of the window. Click the play button to view the video.
13. Close the window.
14. Hit the back button in your browser to return to your search results, and then once again to return to the **Algebra 1 Resources** tab.
15. Once again, select **Module 2: Linear Functions and Data Organizations**, and locate **Eligible Content** statement **A1.2.1.1.1**.
16. There is currently one resource listed under the heading **Sample Assessments**.
17. Click the link to the **Sample Assessment** to view it.

Keystones to Opportunity:

SASIT Tip: The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) has been awarded \$38.6 million through the United States Department of Education’s Striving Readers Comprehensive Literacy Program. The Keystones to Opportunity (Striving Readers) Grant was awarded to support Pennsylvania’s comprehensive approach to improving literacy outcomes for all children, including disadvantaged students, limited English proficient students and students with disabilities.

Local Education Agencies (LEAs) and early childhood education (ECE) programs with the greatest academic need and the greatest capacity for improving student literacy scores are welcome to apply for grant monies via a two-step application process.

1. Select the **Keystones to Opportunities** tab.
2. This tab contains various reference materials related to the grant, including the **PA Comprehensive Literacy Plan**. Click on the link under the **Literacy Plan** heading.
3. The document will open in a new tab (or window).
 - The Pennsylvania Comprehensive Literacy Plan (PaCLP) was written to provide guidance to stakeholders about their roles in developing an integrated, aligned, and comprehensive set of literacy experiences for children (Birth-grade 12). Educators will find specific information about developing, implementing, and evaluating an evidence-based school literacy program.
4. Close the tab to return to the **Keystones to Opportunity** tab.