



Top 12 Resources for Educators

PARCC has created a list of valuable resources for educators. Be sure to [download and share with your colleagues today.](#)^[1]

[Professional Development Modules](#)^[2]

The PARCC consortium is developing online training modules to help teachers, school leaders, and testing coordinators understand the new PARCC assessment system and put the high-quality assessments to work for them and their students. The tools help educators learn how to read results from the assessments, make inferences about the results, and identify learning gaps.

The first two are completed — PARCC Common Assessments Overview and the PARCC Accessibility System. Future topics include introductions to the PARCC Mid-Year Performance-Based Modules, PARCC Diagnostic Tools, and the PARCC Speaking and Listening Tools.

[Model Content Frameworks](#)^[3]

Educators and those developing curricula and instructional materials can use these voluntary resources as a companion to the Common Core State Standards.

The Model Content Frameworks help clarify the standards by illustrating how key content shifts from grade to grade. They also show how teachers and curriculum writers can frame instruction using the standards throughout the academic year.

MCFs are neither a curriculum nor a replacement of the standards. Rather they are to be used as a companion to the standards and as a lens through which to analyze and build local curricula.

[Performance Level Descriptors](#)^[4]

Performance level descriptors (PLDs) outline the knowledge, skills, and practices that students performing at a given level should be able to demonstrate in each content area at each grade level to signal that they are academically prepared for the next academic material and, in high school, ready for college and career.

The PLDs communicate expectations to educators about what types of performance to focus on for each grade level and provide information to help local educators develop local curricular and instructional materials.

[**Text Complexity Worksheets**](#)^[5]

These worksheets help guide an educator's understanding of the standards and outline how to select texts for instructional purposes.

The worksheets help educators determine text complexity, select a variety of text types, select passages that allow for a range of standards/evidences to be demonstrated, pair passages effectively, and meet demands of bias and sensitivity guidelines.

By the time they graduate, students should be prepared to read and analyze the types of complex texts they will encounter after high school. Selecting passages of appropriate type and complexity for use in assessment is integral to this preparation.

[**Blueprints and Evidence Statement Tables**](#)^[6]

Blueprints are a series of documents that together describe the content and structure of an assessment. These documents define the total number of tasks and/or items for any given assessment component, the standards measured, the item types, and the point values for each.

Evidence statement tables and evidence statements describe the knowledge and skills that an assessment item or a task elicits from students.

The blueprints and evidence statement tables help educators better understand the design of the PARCC assessments.

[**Practice Tests**](#)^[7]**and**[**Computer Based Sample Items**](#)^[8]

The practice tests were developed so that students can experience PARCC test items as they appear on the tests.

Try out sample test questions on the same platform that students will experience during the real test. Teachers, students, parents, and others can engage with the sample items using computer-based tools such as drag-and-drop, multiple select, text highlighting, and an equation builder.

PARCC has released online tutorials to help students prepare for and become familiar with the test format and features, including features that make the test more accessible for all students, including those with disabilities and English learners.

[**Technology Tutorial**](#)^[9]

The technology tutorial is designed to level the playing field so that all students are familiar with the technologies used on the PARCC assessments. Students can run through the tutorial

using a school's devices and become confident in using the technologies before taking the PARCC assessments.

The technology tutorial provides online instruction in how to use the PARCC assessment technology and functionalities. Teachers may consider how best to incorporate similar technologies during instruction throughout the academic year.

[PTA Parents' Guide to Student Success](#)^[10]

The National Parent Teacher Association has created grade-by-grade overviews of the Common Core State Standards and what students should be learning at each grade in mathematics and English Language Arts/Literacy in order to be prepared for college and careers.

The PTA guides are available in English and Spanish and are excellent resources for educators to introduce parents to high quality standards and assessments.

[Customized Learning Objects](#)^[11]

PARCC for Educators, the first customized learning object, features videos of interviews with educators from the PARCC states—from preparation to implementation to practice. The resource also includes PARCC-related sources for download and the ability to share the videos and resources via social media.

PARCC for Educators is just the first in a series of customized learning objects that will expand to include: PARCC for Parents, PARCC for Students, PARCC's ELA/Literacy Assessments and PARCC's Mathematics Assessments. This resource is located on the [PBS Learning Media](#)^[12] site. Share away with your fellow educators, colleagues and friends!

[Follow PARCC on Twitter](#)^[13]

Twitter has become a valuable source of information for educators. Educators interested in learning more about PARCC, the Common Core, and instructional practices can connect with colleagues across the county.

Follow @PARCCPlace for the latest PARCC updates and connect with other educators to share resources and stories using the hashtags:


#PARCCCEL C | #edchat | #CommonCore | #CCSS | #k12 | #PARCCready

PARCC Updates Newsletter & Newsroom

[Sign up](#)^[14] for the PARCC biweekly newsletter *PARCC Updates* and get the latest information about the PARCC assessments.

The [PARCC newsroom](#)^[15] includes stories such as items of the week, featured resources, and guest posts from educators and experts.

Additional Information

 [EducatorTop12ResourcesGuide3-11-15.pdf](#)_[1]

Source URL:

http://www.parcconline.org/top-12-resources-educators?utm_source=PARCC%20Updates%205/14/15%20&utm_campaign=5/14/15%20Update&utm_medium=e

Links:

- [1] <http://www.parcconline.org/sites/parcc/files/EducatorTop12ResourcesGuide3-11-15.pdf>
- [2] <http://www.parcconline.org/professional-learning-modules-parcc-assessments>
- [3] <http://www.parcconline.org/parcc-model-content-frameworks>
- [4] <http://parcconline.org/plds>
- [5] <http://www.parcconline.org/sites/parcc/files/PARCCCombinedPassageSelectionGuidelinesandWorksheets.pdf>
- [6] <http://parcconline.org/assessment-blueprints-test-specs>
- [7] <http://parcconline.org/practice-tests>
- [8] <http://parcconline.org/computer-based-samples>
- [9] <http://practice.parcctestnav.com/>
- [10] <http://www.pta.org/parents/content.cfm?ItemNumber=2583>
- [11] <http://www.parcconline.org/customized-learning-objects-new-resource-educators>
- [12] <http://www.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/07734c7b-ddd2-4011-a01f-2e834f3fc690/parcc-for-educators/>
- [13] <https://twitter.com/PARCCPlace>
- [14] http://visitor.r20.constantcontact.com/manage/optin?v=001l3cLBhqUqd_YxbR8iJo5A637uXUFmR3oSaBjxy0N6OKN77IKC0lhsycmU0NKoccPAci4-Xof0WZmdo%3D
- [15] <http://www.parcconline.org/news>