

Common Core State Standards and DynaVox Compass: A Perfect Match



The federal government moved away from the educational standards provided in No Child Left Behind into a new set of standards called Common Core State Standards (CCSS). The CCSS allows schools across the country to provide a consistent, clear understanding of what students are expected to learn during grades K to 12. This was developed so that teachers and parents know what they need to do to help children succeed and learn. Most states have adopted CCSS.

For more information, visit the Common Core State Standards Initiative website (<http://www.corestandards.org/>).

The standards focus on **language arts** and **mathematics** and were developed in collaboration with a variety of stakeholders, including content experts, teachers, school administrators, and parents. CCSS has established clear and consistent goals for learning that will prepare children for success in college and work. The goal is to hold all students to high expectations of learning gains based on college and career readiness. In addition, CCSS has required that students with special needs be provided with specific adaptations, accommodations, and assistive technology in order to attain the high standards.

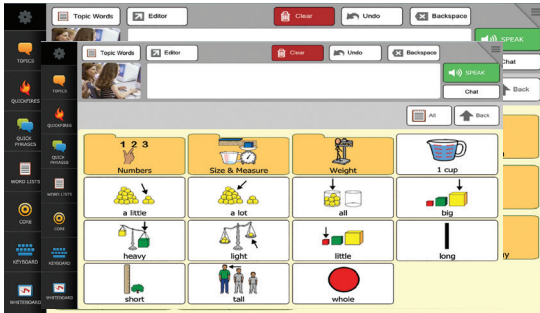


As you start to explore the Common Core State Standards, one of the best things you can do for your students who use AAC is to have a clear idea of what is expected during each instructional activity and make sure that they have the tools needed to succeed. You must also be familiar with the vocabulary that is available in the system. Don't program pages from scratch if you don't have to! This allows you to spend more time teaching skills. There are many pre-programmed topics in the DynaVox Compass that will support classroom activities. In addition, DynaVox Compass gives students consistent access to Communication Tools such as Word Lists, Core Words, Keyboards, Behavior Supports, QuickFires, QuickPhrases and a Whiteboard from any Topic. Let's look at a few examples of some Common Core objectives and match them to vocabulary available in your DynaVox Compass.

Common Core Standards Example for Language Arts (Grade 1)

In Grade 1, students should be able to:

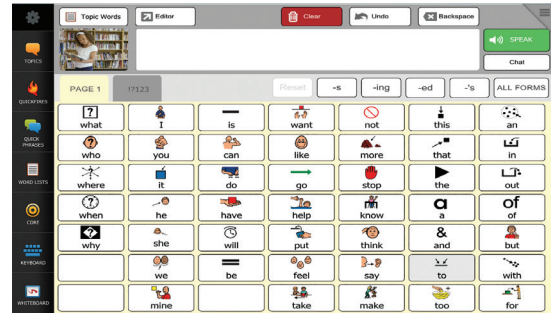
- Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.
- Retell stories, including key details, and demonstrate understanding of their central message or lesson.
- Describe characters, settings, and major events in a story, using key details.
- Identify words and phrases in stories or poems that suggest feelings or appeal to the senses.



General Word List

Common Core Standards Example for Language Arts (Grade 5)

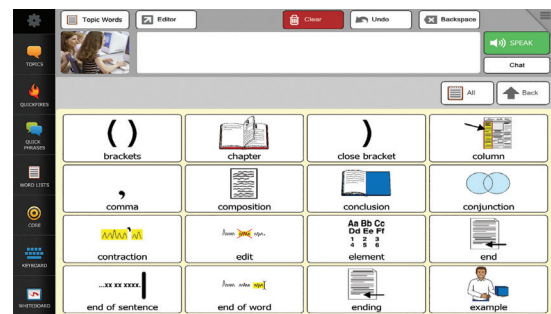
- Compare and contrast two or more characters, settings, or events in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., how characters interact).
- Explain the relationships or interactions between two or more individuals, events, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text based on specific information in the text.



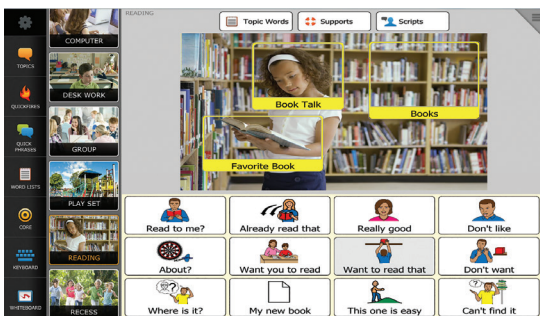
Core Words



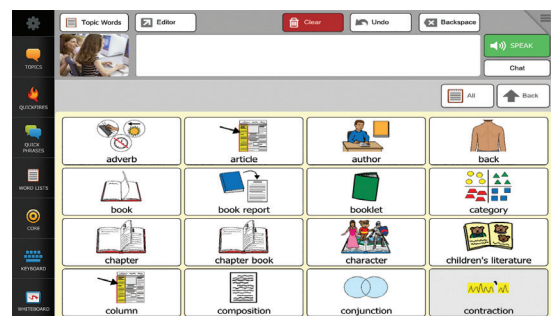
Word List "Describing"



Word List "Writing"



Reading Topic

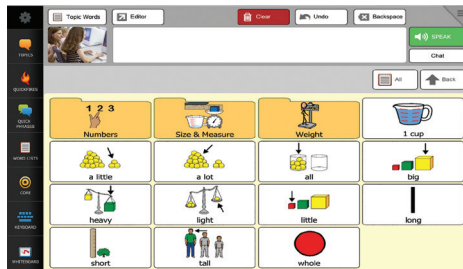


Word List "English Items"

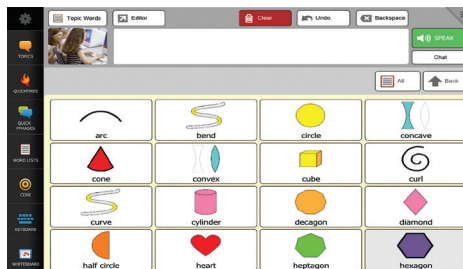
Common Core Standards Example for Mathematics (Grade 1)

In Grade 1, instructional time should focus on four critical areas:

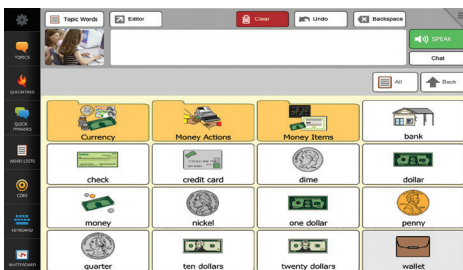
- developing understanding of addition, subtraction, and strategies for addition and subtraction within 20.
- developing understanding of whole number relationships and place value, including grouping in tens and ones.
- developing understanding of linear measurement and measuring lengths as iterating length units.
- reasoning about attributes of, and composing and decomposing geometric shapes.



Word List "Amounts"



Word List "Shapes"

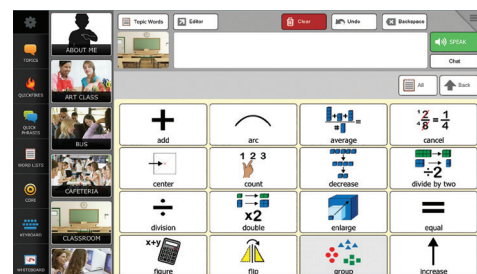


Word List "Money"

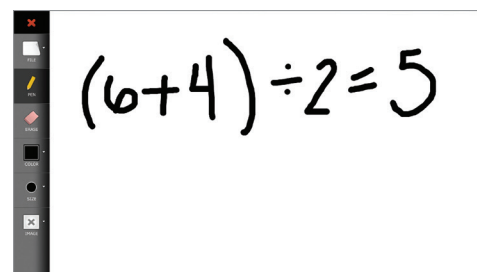
Common Core Standards Example for Mathematics (Grade 5)

In Grade 5, instructional time should focus on three critical areas:

- developing fluency with addition and subtraction of fractions, and developing understanding of the multiplication of fractions and of division of fractions in limited cases (unit fractions divided by whole numbers and whole numbers divided by unit fractions).
- extending division to 2-digit divisors, integrating decimal fractions into the place value system and developing understanding of operations with decimals to hundredths.
- developing fluency with whole number and decimal operations.
- developing understanding of volume.



Word List "Math Actions"



Whiteboard

Resources:

To find out if your state has adopted CCSS, go to the link below and click on "State Adoption" and then click on your state. <http://www.corestandards.org/>

Use the resources below to learn more about CCSS. [Common Core Standards: What Special Educators Need to Know](http://www.councilforexceptionalchildren.org/). Council for Exceptional Children

Common Core State Standard Webinar
<http://www.corestandards.org/>

State-specific Academic Standards Search
<http://www.mayer-johnson.com/support/learn/academicStandards/>