

# ELA REPORTER



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YOUR PROFESSIONAL RESOURCE FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AND LITERACY

## Common Core Tools Webcast Series Now Complete

We are pleased to announce the addition of our final two Common Core Tools professional learning webcasts. With the publication of modules for grades 3 and 6, the K-12 series is now complete. The webcasts were designed to showcase Georgia's



### COMMON CORE TOOLS GRADE 3

teachers and to allow them to share successful, real world strategies for implementing the Common Core Georgia Performance Standards.

In our grade 3 webcast we share the work of Christy Dye and her students at Barksdale Elementary School in Conyers, Georgia. Christy explores integrating foundational reading standards along with the guided study of more complex texts. She also shares her expertise on learning targets, backward instructional design, differentiation, and language/vocabulary instruction. Christy show-

cases authentic student work samples and provides instructional materials that you can use in your own classroom.

Our grade 6 webcast takes us to Austin Road Middle School in Stockbridge, Georgia. Here, veteran teacher Yvette Christian walks us through her unit of instruction based on the novel *Hatchet*, by Gary Paulsen. Yvette discusses engagement and comprehension strategies, close reading, assessment, and the process of moving her students from passive absorption of content to student-centered, active learning.

Of particular interest are the fascinating informational texts with which Yvette supplemented her novel study, including a news report of a real-life struggle for survival by lost teens in the Canadian wilderness. As with the other webcasts, all the materials shared are downloadable for your use.



### COMMON CORE TOOLS GRADE 6

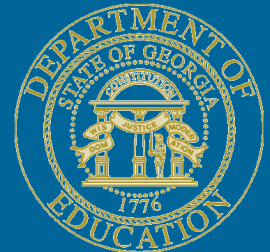
## Get Paid for Your Great CCGPS Lessons!

In visiting schools around the state, we are consistently impressed with the creative, inspiring, and effective instruction that happens in your classrooms every day. We would like to share some of this great work, and have the opportunity to put a little summer cash in your pocket at the same time. Visit our Wiki to learn more...

<http://ccgps-ela-tasksubmission.wikispaces.com/>



Georgia  
Department  
of Education



Dr. John D. Barge,  
State School  
Superintendent

*"Making Education  
Work for All Georgians"*

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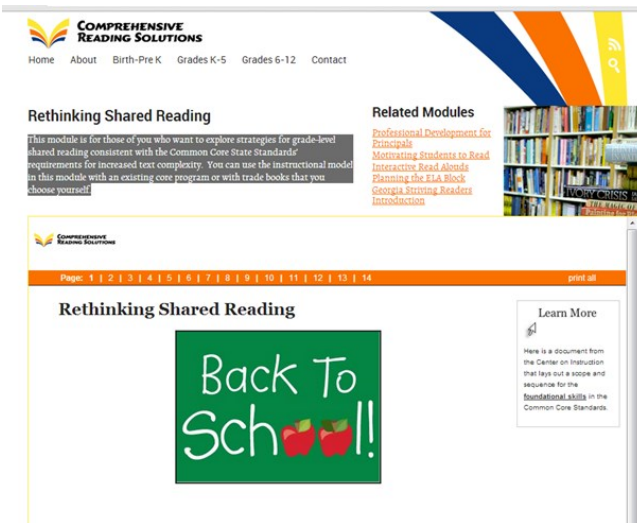


## The Learning Tree: What's New In Professional Learning

### New This Month from Georgia's Striving Reader Site

#### Rethinking Shared Reading

This module is for those of you who want to explore strategies for grade-level shared reading consistent with the Common Core State Standards' requirements for increased text complexity. You can use the instructional model in this module with an existing core program or with trade books that you choose yourself.



#### Summer Learning With PBS TeacherLine Courses

Teachers, school's in for YOU this summer, only you get to pick where you want it to be! Maybe poolside Monday morning, overlooking the lake Wednesday afternoon, and in your PJ's Sunday night? Teacher-Line's weekly assignments will keep you on track and moving along so you won't be scrambling the week before school starts to do it all, but you'll have plenty of flexibility during the week so you can say yes to those last-minute BBQ invites!

View all [upcoming summer courses](#).

Your course facilitator will guide you along with constructive feedback and you'll enjoy the rich exchange of ideas and information with your peers on your discussion board. So whether your summer plans involve a trip far-away or a lot of down-time at home, as long as you have an internet connection, your course will be a breeze with TeacherLine!

#### TeacherLine Southeast



#### Sample June 12 Courses:

- INST320.119 Connecting Family, Community and Schools (K-12)
- RDLA125.466 Children's Authors on the Web: Online Sites that Motivate Students to Write (K-6)

TECH195.305 Graphic Organizers for 21st Century Learning (K-12) Earn PLUs and graduate credit!

PBS LearningMedia offers 30,000+ curriculum-aligned digital resources including videos, games, interactives, lesson plans and lots more! Search, save, and share your favorite resources - create an account now at [PBS LearningMedia!](#)

#### Advanced Placement Summer Institutes for Teachers at UGA

The 2013 Advanced Placement Summer Institutes feature intensive learning sessions held on the campus of the University of Georgia. You can select from 20 subject-specific professional development courses, all taught by College Board-endorsed consultants.

2013 Advanced Placement Summer Institutes offer:

- 30 or more hours of subject-specific professional development in the course you select
  - A certificate of completion for meeting Institute requirements
  - 3.0 Professional Learning Units (PLUs) for Georgia educators, pending Georgia Department of Education approval
- A great opportunity to exchange ideas with peers

You can register for one AP Summer Institute in either or both of these weeks:

- Week 1 Session:** Sunday, June 23, 2013 - Thursday, June 27, 2013
- Week 2 Session:** Sunday, July 7, 2013 - Thursday, July 11, 2013



<http://www.georgiacenter.uga.edu/ppd/courses/fundamentals/advanced-placement-ap-summer-institutes>

#### Coming Soon from the DOE

In the coming weeks the Georgia Department of Education is set to debut an online course through the Georgia Virtual School that will allow educators to earn PLU credit at home. The introductory course is a foundational series of three modules on ELA and Literacy in the CCGPS, covering topics such as close reading and writing text-dependent assessment questions. Watch our Tweets and this newsletter for more information.

## ELA Summer Institute Update Partners in Progress: Creating a Culture of Literacy in Georgia Schools

### ABOUT THE INSTITUTE

Last month we announced our ELA/Literacy summer professional learning series. The institutes will feature a day-long series of workshops presented by educator teams from across the state. The workshops will focus on creative and synergistic collaborations in the classroom that enhance and facilitate the shifts in text complexity, rigor, informational text, and writing from evidence that are inherent in the Common Core Georgia Performance Standards. To register visit:

#### July 16 Macon:

<https://www.maconstate.edu/wconnect/CourseStatus.asp?course=13DOEEELA>

#### July 17 Tifton:

[https://tcccereg.caes.uga.edu/iebms/reg/reg\\_pl\\_form.aspx?oc=10&ct=REG&eventid=7800](https://tcccereg.caes.uga.edu/iebms/reg/reg_pl_form.aspx?oc=10&ct=REG&eventid=7800)

#### July 10 Statesboro:

<http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/conted/elainstitute.html>

#### July 12 Kennesaw (FULL/REGISTRATION CLOSED)

[www.ccpe.kennesaw.edu/ela](http://www.ccpe.kennesaw.edu/ela)

There is no fee to register. A working lunch is provided on site free of charge. If the site nearest you fills, the DOE will reimburse travel expenses for attendees traveling more than 50 miles. Mileage is reimbursed at .565 cents per mile. Remember when booking that the following pricing parameters for lodging apply:

Hotel expenses will be covered for a maximum of 1 night.  
Statesboro, GA - \$77.00 Per Night + Tax for July 9, 2013 to July 10, 2013  
Kennesaw, GA - \$133.00 Per Night + Tax for July 11, 2013 to July 12, 2013  
Macon, GA - \$77.00 Per Night + Tax for July 15, 2013 to July 16, 2013  
Tifton, GA - \$77.00 Per Night + Tax for July 16, 2013 to July 17, 2013  
Official Hotel Receipt is required.

### DAILY EVENT SCHEDULE

8:30 to 10:30 am	Plenary Session and Keynote Speaker
10:45 to 12:00 noon	Workshop I
12:00 to 1:00 pm	Working Lunch: Leveraging Digital Tools with GALILEO
1:15 to 2:30 pm	Workshop II
2:45 to 4:00 pm	Workshop III



For more information visit our website at

<https://www.georgiastandards.org/Common-Core/Pages/ELA-Summer-Training-Institutes.aspx>

### WORKSHOPS

Keynote: Cynde Snider, PhD., DOE Division for Special Education Services & Supports. Calling on personal challenges she faced as a classroom teacher and instructional coordinator, Cynde will move beyond theory to what real teachers can do in real classrooms to meet the needs of their diverse students.



Workshop I: Elementary July 10, 12, 16, and 17  
Breaking Down the Barriers: Differentiation with CCGPS

Workshop II: Elementary July 10 and 16  
Digital Delights: Apps and More that Are Good for the Core

Workshop II: Elementary July 12  
Taking a Bite Out of the Common Core with Digital Tools and Collaborative Planning

Workshop II: Elementary July 17  
Nothing Like the Real Thing: Primary Sources for Interdisciplinary Instruction


Workshop III: Elementary July 10, 12, 16, and 17  
Critical Reading and Writing Around Complex Texts

Workshop I: Secondary July 10, 12, 16, and 17  
This Ain't Your Mama's Dodge Ball: A New Twist on Differentiation in a Research Unit

Workshop II: Secondary July 10, 12, 16, and 17  
Where Have I Been and Where Am I Going? Collaborative Planning for Research, Source Evaluation, Close Reading, and Argumentative Writing in Grades 6-12

Workshop III: Secondary July 10, 12, 16, and 17  
101 Tips, Tools, and Techniques for Using Technology in the ELA Classroom

## Summer Reading: "Find a Book" Georgia!



**Find a Book Georgia**

HELP EVERY CHILD FIND GREAT BOOKS TO READ THIS SUMMER

"Find a Book, Georgia" is a fun and easy way to select books based on a child's Lexile measure and interests. You can use this free search tool to build custom book lists for readers at all levels, and then locate your selections at the local public library.

- GO TO Lexile.com/fab/GA**
- ENTER** the child's Lexile measure  
A Lexile measure is included on the CRCT & GHSGT score reports.
- SELECT** the child's interest categories
- VIEW AND REFINE** the search results  
As you browse books that the child finds interesting, click the "Find in a Library" button next to the book title to check its availability at your local public library.
- PRINT** the child's custom reading list

A Lexile measure is a measure of text complexity only. It does not address the subject matter or text quality, age appropriateness of the content or a reader's interests. The Lexile measure is one piece of information that you can use when selecting books.

"Find a Book, Georgia" is offered in partnership with the Georgia Department of Education and Lexile Developer MetaMetrics.

For more information on Lexile measures, visit [www.lexile.com](http://www.lexile.com)


As the end of the school year approaches, we begin encouraging our children to stay involved in reading over the summer. We are all aware of the "summer slide" that occurs when students do not read on a regular basis and begin to fall behind in reading achievement. To prevent this, we would like to share with you a national, state-led summer reading initiative that supports students in finding great books to read over the summer.

Georgia is launching the 2013 Summer Reading Challenge to combat this summer loss in student reading ability. The Lexile "Find a Book" website can help identify books that students are interested in and are able to read. This tool can be found at [www.Lexile.com/fab/GA](http://www.Lexile.com/fab/GA). Information about the Georgia Department of Education's Summer Reading Challenge initiative can be found at: <http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Curriculum-and-Instruction/Pages/Georgia-Summer-Reading-Challenge.aspx> You may also find this information posted on [www.georgiastandards.org](http://www.georgiastandards.org). Additionally, information about Lexiles on student test reports and

how to use this information can be found at [www.gadoe.org/lexile.aspx](http://www.gadoe.org/lexile.aspx).

Attached are the Find-a-Book Georgia flyer and a parent FAQ document about Find-a-Book that I encourage you to distribute to the students and their families prior to the end of the school year. As this school year culminates, it would be a great time to talk to students and parents about the importance of summer reading and demonstrate how they can use a Lexile measure to find wonderful books to read and enjoy. Additionally, please encourage your students to use the public libraries in your area. Your school media specialists may even have special summer hours for those students who do not have a public library nearby.

The end of the school year is a busy time, but it is important to do all we can to ensure young people continue to learn and challenge themselves. We appreciate you joining our Summer Reading Challenge efforts to help students "Find-a-Book" and increase their reading skills.



**LXILE® MEASURES & READ GA:**

**INFORMATION FOR PARENTS**

You can help your son or daughter find books that best match his or her reading ability and interests. The following information explains how you can use Lexile® measures and "Find a Book, Georgia" to pick titles that best support your son's or daughter's reading over the summer and throughout the year.

**What is a Lexile measure?**  
A Lexile measure indicates the reading level of an individual or a book, and is represented as a number followed by an "L". For example, 750L. By comparing your child's Lexile measure with the Lexile measure of a book, you can decide whether its text demand will be too difficult, too easy or just right for your child's reading ability. To best strengthen his or her reading skills, your child should read books within his or her Lexile range.

**What is your child's recommended Lexile range?**  
Your child's Lexile range spans from 100L below to 50L above his or her Lexile measure. When your son or daughter reads within his or her Lexile range, he or she should be able to comprehend enough of the book to make sense of it, while still being sufficiently challenged to maintain interest and learning.

**How does your child get a Lexile measure in Georgia?**  
A student, in grades 3-8, receives a Lexile measure from either the Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests (CRCT) or Georgia Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests - Modified (CRCT-M). A student can also receive a Lexile measure from his or her End of Course Test (EOCT) for the 9th grade English course or American Core Literature course. Sample score reports showing where the student's Lexile measure can be found are available at [www.gadoe.org/lexile.aspx](http://www.gadoe.org/lexile.aspx).

**How can you use Lexile measures to help a child find books?**  
With the free "Find a Book, Georgia" search tool, you can help your son or daughter select books that best match his or her reading ability (Lexile measure), interests and goals. It's easy and fun to use!

- Go to [Lexile.com/fab/GA](http://Lexile.com/fab/GA)
- Enter your child's Lexile measure
- Have your child select interest categories
- View and refine the search results  
As you browse books that your child finds interesting, click the "Find in a Library" button next to the book title to check its availability at your local public library.
- Print your child's custom reading list

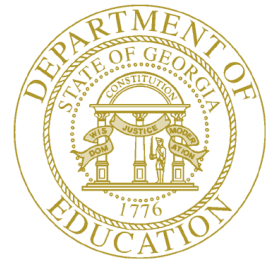
1750 Twin Towers East | 205 Jesse Hill Jr. Drive SE | Atlanta, GA 30334 | For more information, call 404-657-9800.

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FAX: 404-651-8582

[www.gadoe.org](http://www.gadoe.org)



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**DOE ELA Home Page:**  
[http://public.doe.k12.ga.us/ci\\_services.aspx?PageReq=CIServEnglish](http://public.doe.k12.ga.us/ci_services.aspx?PageReq=CIServEnglish)

**GeorgiaStandards.Org ELA Page:**  
<https://www.georgiastandards.org/Common-Core/Pages/ELA.aspx>

## Visit Our Wikis

Elementary: <http://georgiaelaccgpsk-5.wikispaces.com/>  
Middle: <http://georgiaelaccgps6-8.wikispaces.com/>  
High: <http://elaccgps9-12.wikispaces.com/>

