

# Seventh Grade

## English Language Arts & Literacy

### A Sample of What Your Child Will Be Working on in 7th Grade . . .

- Citing several sources of specific evidence from a piece when offering an oral or written analysis of a book, essay, article, or play
- Analyzing works of fiction to see how events advance the plot and how setting shapes the characters
- Determining an author's point of view or purpose in a nonfiction work and analyzing how the author takes a position different from other authors
- Organizing and focusing his or her own writing, including supporting statements and conclusions with evidence and showing that the evidence is accurate and reliable
- Conducting research in response to a specific question by drawing on evidence from several credible literary or informational sources to support an analysis or reflection
- Avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citations (e.g., footnotes, bibliography)
- Presenting claims and findings to others emphasizing main points, making eye contact, speaking loudly enough, pronouncing words clearly, and using formal English when the situation calls for it

### Help Your Child Learn At Home

- ♦ Visit a local art museum together. Take time to closely observe the details of the paintings or other art objects and talk about what you see there.
- ♦ Have your child help plan a family outing, using the Internet or library to research a place he or she is interested in.
- ♦ Ask your child who his or her favorite authors are, and why.

## College and Career Ready

By implementing the Utah Core Standards, Tooele schools have committed to devoting more time and resources to preparing your child for college and the real world. The rigorous, research-based, and internationally benchmarked standards are designed to:

- Align with the expectations of colleges and the modern workforce
- Build upon states' decades-long efforts to craft high-quality education standards
- Provide a clear understanding of what students should know and be able to do at each grade level
- Give parents and teachers tools to help students stay on the college- and career-ready path

### Utah Core/Common Core Links & Information

Here are a few links containing additional information, including details on what each child will be expected to know and do in each grade, as well as tips for parents:

- [www.corestandards.org](http://www.corestandards.org)
- [www.schools.utah.gov/core](http://www.schools.utah.gov/core)
- [www.pta.org/parentsguide](http://www.pta.org/parentsguide)

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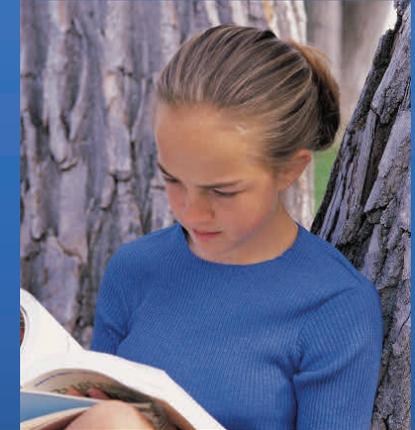
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# Utah Core State Standards



Every Student  
College and Career  
Ready

TOOELE COUNTY  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Seventh Grade

# Frequently Asked Questions

## WHEN WILL MY CHILD START LEARNING UNDER THE UTAH CORE STANDARDS?

The Tooele County School District Board of Education approved the following implementation timeline:



### Math

- 2011-2012: Grades K-2, 6-8, and 9
- 2012-2013: Grades 3-5, and 10
- 2013-2014: Grade 11

### Language Arts

- 2011-2012: Grades K-5, and 7-12
- 2012-2013: Grade 6



## HOW WILL THE STANDARDS CHANGE WHAT MY CHILD IS LEARNING?

Utah standards have sometimes been characterized as being “a mile wide and an inch deep”; meaning, many topics are introduced to students without opportunities for in-depth application. The Utah Core Standards focus instruction on critical thinking to better prepare students for real-world challenges. They specify what students need to know and do at each grade level. They allow for deeper instruction, give students more time to master each skill, and introduce each skill in sequence to lead naturally to higher-level thinking and analysis.

## WILL MY CHILD BE ABLE TO TAKE ALGEBRA AND GEOMETRY?

Absolutely – starting in kindergarten. Higher-level math concepts are embedded in K-12 instruction. While math courses offered in secondary schools will no longer carry names to which we’ve become accustomed to, such as algebra or geometry, they will expand upon geometric and algebraic concepts students have been learning all along.

## WILL THE STANDARDS BE TOO RIGOROUS FOR MY CHILD WHO IS STRUGGLING?

No. Teachers will receive ongoing training and support so they can quickly identify students who need additional attention. The standards are few and more in-depth; therefore, teachers will be better able to prevent students from falling behind.

## HOW WILL THE STANDARDS FURTHER MY ADVANCED STUDENT’S PROGRESS?

All Tooele secondary schools will continue to offer Advanced Placement, Concurrent Enrollment, and Honors courses. In elementary school, teachers will receive ongoing training and support to help them tailor instruction to meet the needs of all students and provide greater depth and complexity to advanced learners.

## ARE THE STANDARDS A NATIONAL CURRICULUM?

No. The standards specify what students need to know and be able to do at each grade level to become college- and career-ready. They articulate expectations and results, not the manner in which content is taught.



TCSD is committed to providing educational opportunities to students without regard to race, color, sex, national origin or disability. If you have questions, please contact the Title IX Coordinator @ (435) 833-1900.

# Seventh Grade Math

## A Sample of What Your Child Will Be Working on in 7th Grade . . .

- Analyzing proportional relationships (e.g., by graphing on the coordinate plane), and distinguishing proportional relationships from other kinds of mathematical relationships (e.g., buying 10 times as many items will cost you 10 times as much, but taking 10 times as many aspirin will not lower your fever 10 times as much)
- Solving percent problems (e.g., tax, tips, and markups)
- Adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing positive and negative numbers, and solving related word problems
- Solving word problems that have a combination of whole numbers, fractions, and decimals (e.g., a woman making \$25 per hour receives a 10% raise; she will make an additional 1/10 of her salary an hour, or \$2.50, for a new salary of \$27.50)
- Solving equations such as  $\frac{1}{2}(x - 3) = \frac{3}{4}$  quickly and accurately, and writing equations of this kind to solve word problems.

## Help Your Child Learn At Home

Look for "word problems" in real life. An example might include:

- ♦ Figuring the amount of a 15% tip or determining what percentage of weekly income goes to pay taxes.

The proceeding was an abridged version of National PTA's Parents' Guide to Student Success. Read it in full at [www.pta.org/parentsguide](http://www.pta.org/parentsguide)

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PTA**  
*everychild.one voice.*