

TEACHER LEADERS

ENGAGE. EMPOWER. INSPIRE.



November 2018

Welcome! I am Meredith Starks, a teacher at Bellaire Elementary School. During my teaching career, I have taught elementary school, and I am currently a Teacher Leader Advisor creating resources for ELA Guidebooks.

The newest resources being added to the 3 – 8 ELA Guidebooks are the supports for diverse learners. In addition to the guidebook lessons, there are now supports available to be done during the lesson, as well as additional supports for background knowledge, structure, language, and meaning that can be done outside of core lesson instruction. Now, teachers will have tools at their fingertips to support students when they are teaching ELA Guidebooks.

Teachers have the autonomy to pick and choose the supports that are right for the students in their classroom. If a student is struggling with fluency, then the teacher can provide the student with the additional fluency passages on the unit topic. If an EL student is struggling with vocabulary acquisition, then the teacher can provide the student with additional vocabulary practice from the supports. The supports for diverse learners are all based on unit content, so teachers are reinforcing the knowledge being built in the unit, as well as providing additional practice in reading skills.

The supports for the 6 – 8 units are available now and can be found in the open [ELA Guidebook units on LearnZillion](#). Be on the lookout for the 3 – 5 supports which will be released in the Spring!

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ELA RESOURCES

Instructional Support

The Department is committed to providing resources to support diverse learners. There are several student supports available that align with the ELA Guidebooks.

- [Let's Set the Context Videos](#)
These instructional videos are for students who need additional support with the content and texts in advance of the unit. Teachers can assign one or more videos to selected students to watch on their own on any device. These videos can be found on the "Unit at a Glance" page of each [ELA Guidebook](#) unit within the LearnZillion platform.
- **Language Links**
The Department, in partnership with The Writing Revolution, a national nonprofit organization, has developed resources for ELA teachers in [grade 6](#), [grade 7](#), and [grade 8](#). The Language Links are aligned to the [ELA Guidebook](#) units and are located on the [K-12 ELA Planning Resources](#) page. The sentence-level writing activities in these Language Links provide the foundation students need to write with clarity and fluency. These are also effective tools for teaching content and assessing comprehension at every grade level.

Assessment Resources

- The [LEAP 2025 ELA Assessment Guide for Grade 3](#) and [LEAP 2025 ELA Assessment Guide for Grade 4](#) have been updated to include the paper-based test schedule for spring 2019.
- LEAP Connect ELA Constructed-Response (CR) Samples are now available - one for grades 3-5 and one for grades 6-8 and 11. The CR samples each include a Student Response Template, Directions for Administration, and Constructed Response Stimuli. The Department will host webinars that will provide a step-by-step demonstration of administering the LEAP Connect CR sample while offering troubleshooting guidance based on feedback received from the End-of-Test surveys of the spring 2018 LEAP Connect tests.
 - To join the LEAP Connect ELA Constructed-Response Sample, **Grades 3-5 Webinar**:
 - Date and Time: **November 13** at 3:00 pm
 - Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/990649066>
 - Phone Number: 1.669.900.6833
 - Meeting ID: 990 649 066
 - To join the LEAP Connect ELA Constructed-Response Sample, **Grades 6-8 and 11 Webinar**:
 - Date and Time: **November 14** at 3:30 pm
 - Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/620633169>
 - Phone Number: 1.669.900.6833
 - Meeting ID: 620 633 169

MATH RESOURCES

Assessment Resources

- The [LEAP 2025 Math Assessment Guide for Grade 3](#) and [LEAP 2025 Math Assessment Guide for Grade 4](#) have been updated to include the paper-based test schedule for spring 2019.
- The Department presented a webinar today on LEAP 2025 Mathematics Constructed-Response Tasks. Participants reviewed the structure, scoring and nature of Type II and III constructed-response tasks. Participants also explored the current trends in student responses and received information on instructional practices and modifications so students are better able to demonstrate mathematical reasoning and modeling. A recording of the webinar and the materials used will be added to the [Assessment Guidance Library](#) in late November.
- **EAGLE:**
 - [A Teacher's Guide to LEAP 360](#) is updated weekly to reflect newly added EAGLE 2.0 items.
 - Ten new items were added for Kindergarten during the last week in October, 2018.
 - Type II (Reasoning) and Type III (Modeling) tasks are added for most grades each month.

SOCIAL STUDIES RESOURCES

Instructional Support

- The [Grade 7 Social Studies Companion Document](#) has been posted! Find the complete document on the [K-12 Social Studies Resource page](#) or in the [Grades 6-8 Social Studies Teacher Library](#). The Grade 7 Companion Document clarifies the prioritized content for Grade 7 2011 Louisiana State Standards. For information on how best to use the companion documents, see the [Using the Companion Documents to Prioritize Content in Social Studies session](#) from the September 2018 Teacher Leader Collaborations.

Assessment Resources

- The [LEAP 2025 Social Studies Assessment Guide for Grade 3](#) and [LEAP 2025 Social Studies Assessment Guide for Grade 4](#) have been updated to include the paper-based test schedule for spring 2019.
- Assessment guides for grades 3-8, located in the [Assessment Guidance Library](#), have been updated to include information about the 2018-2019 social studies test reduction.
- The [LEAP 2025 Social Studies Practice Test Guidance](#) has been updated to include information on how to adjust using the practice test in light of the 2018-2019 social studies test reduction.
- The Department hosted a webinar on LEAP 2025 Social Studies Test Reduction on November 1. In this webinar, the coordinators explained the rationale and logistics of the reduction, instructional implications, and available resources, including specific suggested adjustments to using the social studies practice tests, which do not mirror the new reduced designs. The presentation deck and webinar recording will be added to the [Assessment Guidance Library](#) in late November.
- **EAGLE:** These new item sets have been added to the EAGLE Social Studies Passage and Item Information section of the appendix of [A Teacher's Guide to LEAP 360](#). As new content is added to EAGLE throughout the school year, it will be announced through the Teacher Leader newsletter and added to the Teacher's Guide to LEAP 360 Appendix.
 - Grade 3, Unit 3: Passage 134396, "Louisiana's Early Explorers - de Soto," includes an ER item

- Grade 4, Unit 2: Passage 134408, “Early Colonies,” includes a CR item
- Grade 4, Unit 4: Passage 134216, “Waterways and Settlement,” includes an ER item
- Grade 4, Unit 5: Passage 134070, “Immigration,” includes a CR item
- Grade 8, Unit 2: Passage 133965, “Battle of New Orleans,” includes a CR item
- Grade 7, Unit 5: Passage 133968, “Causes of the Civil War,” includes an ER item
- U.S. History, Unit 2: Passage 134349, “World War I Entry,” includes a CR item

SCIENCE RESOURCES

Instructional Support

Due to high demand, additional Inquiry Hub Biology trainings have been scheduled to provide high school biology teachers with the opportunity to receive training on and pilot high-quality units. The units are linked in the Department’s [Biology Sample Scope and Sequence](#) document, anchored in phenomena, and aligned to Louisiana Student Standards for Science. In order to support teachers in the use of these units, Inquiry Hub is hosting a two-day training in West Monroe on December 13-14. The cost of the two-day training is \$100 and a minimum of 75 teachers must attend the training; if not, the training session will be canceled. [Registration is now open.](#)

Assessment Resources

- The [LEAP 2025 Science Assessment Guide for Grade 3](#) and [LEAP 2025 Science Assessment Guide for Grade 4](#) have been updated to include the paper-based test schedule for spring 2019.
- Assessment guides for grades 3-8 and Biology, located in the [Assessment Guidance Library](#), and the [LEAP 2025 Science Practice Test Guidance](#) have been updated to include test session times.
- **EAGLE:** The following item sets have been added to the EAGLE Science Passage and Item Information section of the appendix of [A Teacher’s Guide to LEAP 360](#). As new content is added to EAGLE throughout the school year, it will be announced through the Teacher Leader newsletter and added to the Teacher’s Guide to LEAP 360 Appendix. Discrete items were added for Grades 3, 5, 6, 7, and 8 during the month of October. Item sets linked to source-based passages have been added to EAGLE for these grades/courses.
 - Grade 8 - Passage 134233 (NCslides), Items 1004414,1004417, 1004419,1004420
 - Biology - Passage 123470 (Adaptations I), Items 1004777,1004780, 1001781, 1004782, 1004784
 - Biology - Passage 134374 (Adaptations II), Items 1004802, 1004805, 1004825, 1004829
 - Physical Science - Passage 134364 (Turbines), Items 1004721, 1004724, 1004726, 1004728, 1004732

LEAP 360 RESOURCES

New: Interactive Reporting Tool

The new Interactive Reporting tool is now available for teacher use to view student item responses and data in [eDIRECT](#) for Interims, Diagnostics, and EAGLE assessments. This data should be used to guide future planning by identify areas of strength and areas in need of improvement. To gain access to the Interactive Reporting tool, district/school users must assign DRC IRS permissions to teacher/test administrator users through the User Management tab in [eDIRECT](#).

Resources and Support

- [A Teacher's Guide to LEAP 360](#) is updated weekly to reflect newly added EAGLE 2.0 items.
- Teacher Study Guides for all available Interims are posted in [eDIRECT](#) under General Information, Documents, Diagnostic/Interim 18-19, and then Teacher Study Guides. Teacher Study Guides include a full PDF of the assessment, the answer key, and any applicable scoring guidance.
- The [eDIRECT Mini Trainings and One Pagers](#) document was updated to include an overview of the new Interactive Reporting feature.

EDUCATOR OPPORTUNITIES

Closing Soon: BESE Tuition Program for Teachers - Spring 2019 Applications

[Applications](#) for Spring 2019 funding through the BESE Tuition Program for Teachers are still being accepted. The deadline to submit completed applications is **Friday, November 9 at 11:59 PM CST**. [The BESE Tuition Program for Teachers](#) provides tuition funding for selected classroom teachers to enroll in courses at regionally accredited colleges or universities in Louisiana. Applicants will be notified in early December regarding acceptance. [Learn more about the program](#), or contact stem@la.gov with questions.

Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST)

Teacher Leaders are invited to nominate outstanding mathematics, science, computer and engineering teachers in grades 7-12. Nominations must be made [online](#). For more information contact Jean May-Brett at jam05@bellsouth.net.

Louisiana Environmental Education Commission Regional Short Courses

In 2019, the Louisiana Environmental Education Commission (LEEC) is bringing continuing education to teachers by staging workshops and/or tours in each of the major regions around Louisiana, focusing on environmental efforts on **Saturday, February 16, 2019**. These short courses are intended to provide continuing education for educators. Registration for short courses is \$20, which includes lunch. Additionally, the Louisiana Environmental Education Association will provide a \$30 stipend to classroom teachers who complete a course. To register, visit click [here](#).

STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

Louisiana Envirothon

The Louisiana Envirothon is an environmental problem-solving competition for students in grades 6-12. Teams train and compete by demonstrating their knowledge of environmental science and natural resource management and present a solution to an environmental problem related to the current issue through an oral presentation. The 2019 current environmental issue is Agriculture and the Environment: Knowledge and Technology to Feed the World. Teachers and school leaders are invited to participate in year's competition, which will be held on April 13, 2019, by organizing a team of five students from the same school or associated with an organized group (i.e. FFA, 4-H, science club, etc.). The team registration fee is \$50. Download your [registration packet here](#). The registration deadline is **December 12, 2018**.

George Rodrigue Foundation of the Arts' Contest

The George Rodrigue Foundation of the Arts' 2018-2019 Art Contest is open to all Louisiana high school juniors and seniors. This year's theme is Cosmos, inspired by Rodrigue's [cosmos series](#). Submissions are now open and will close in January 2019. The Louisiana school with the largest number of entries will also win a \$1,000 art kit for the school's art program! Additionally, the 15 finalists selected will be awarded next March and share \$45,000 in college scholarships. These winning entries will then travel on public view for one year as an exhibition at museums and cultural venues across Louisiana. Full details including submission portal can be found [here](#).

PRINCIPALS' CORNER

New: Workshop for New Principals

Please share with new (0-3 years of experience) principals.

The Louisiana Association of Principals, in partnership with the Department, will offer their New Principals Workshop on December 4 at the Circle J. Picard Center in Lafayette. Download the [available flyer](#) for more details about the event. The [registration](#) deadline is **November 12** and space is limited to the first 100 participants to sign up. Please contact debra.schum@laprincipals.org with questions

Reminder: 2018-2019 Fall Compass Timeline

Date	Action Item
November 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All school rosters are up to date in CIS.
December 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Student Learning Targets (SLTs) are reviewed and accepted.
December 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2017-2018 leader scores are entered into CIS.• Any alternative rubric waivers have been submitted to compass@la.gov.

For more information, please review the [2018-2019 CIS Timeline](#) located in the [Compass Library](#).

CONTACT US

- For questions about instructional support and resources, contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov.
- For questions about assessments and related supports, contact assessment@la.gov.
- For questions about Compass, contact compass@la.gov.