



Montana

Office of Public Instruction

A Balanced Assessment System

October MontCAS Webinar

Assessment Unit | Teaching & Learning Division | Montana OPI

Location: Helena, Montana



Zoom Meeting Features

A screenshot of a Zoom meeting window. The window title bar shows "Zoom Meeting ID: 165-772-946". At the top center, a grey box says "Talking:". Below this, meeting details are listed: "Meeting Topic: Glenna Emel's Zoom Meeting", "Host: Glenna Emel", "Invitation URL: https://psu.zoom.us/j/165772946" (with a "Copy URL" link), and "Participant ID: 28". Three large red arrows point downwards from the meeting details area to the bottom toolbar. The toolbar contains icons for "Unmute", "Start Video", "Invite", "Participants" (with a '4' next to it), "Share Screen", "Chat", and "Record". A "Leave Meeting" button is located in the bottom right corner of the toolbar. The "Join Audio" button in the main area has the text "Computer Audio Connected" below it.



Zoom Poll

Polls

Polling 2: Interims

1. Has your district ever used interim assessments?

Yes

We are planning on implementing interims

No

2. What, if any, type of benchmark assessment has your district used this fall?

Interims

MAPS

STAR

Other

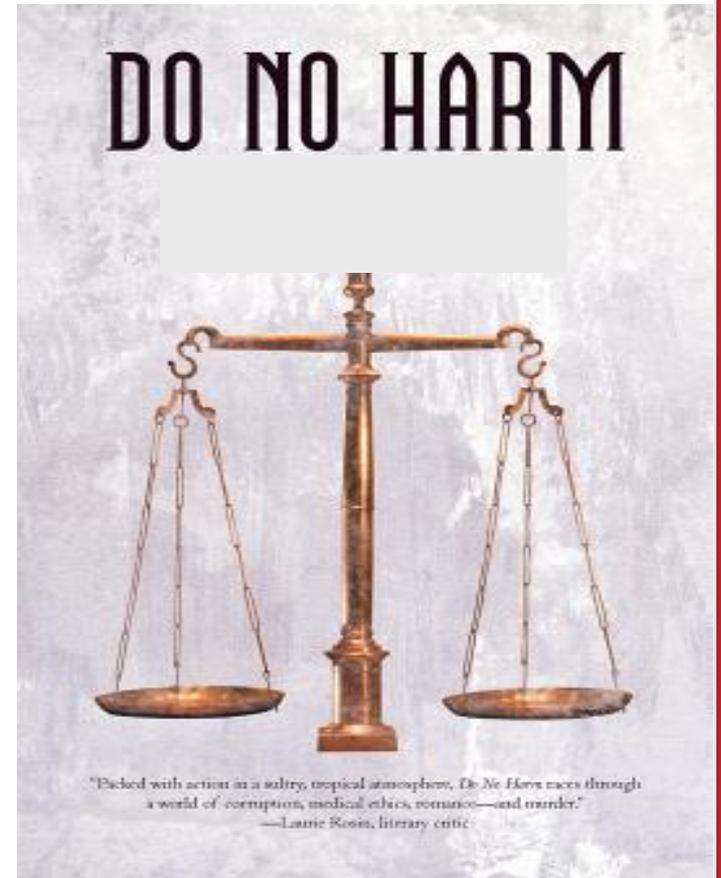
Launch Polling

Objectives:

After this session, participants will be able to describe what a balanced assessment system looks like, have formative resources available to take back to their district, and evaluate the merits of adopting a balanced assessment system within their district.

Guiding Principle

In light of school closures, remote learning, and hybrid models of learning the overarching principle should be to “do no harm.”



A Balanced Assessment System



Boiling It Down



Balanced Assessments are NOT:

- equal amounts of each type of assessment,
- a focus on once a year summative testing,
- things that are to be completed.



Boiling It Down

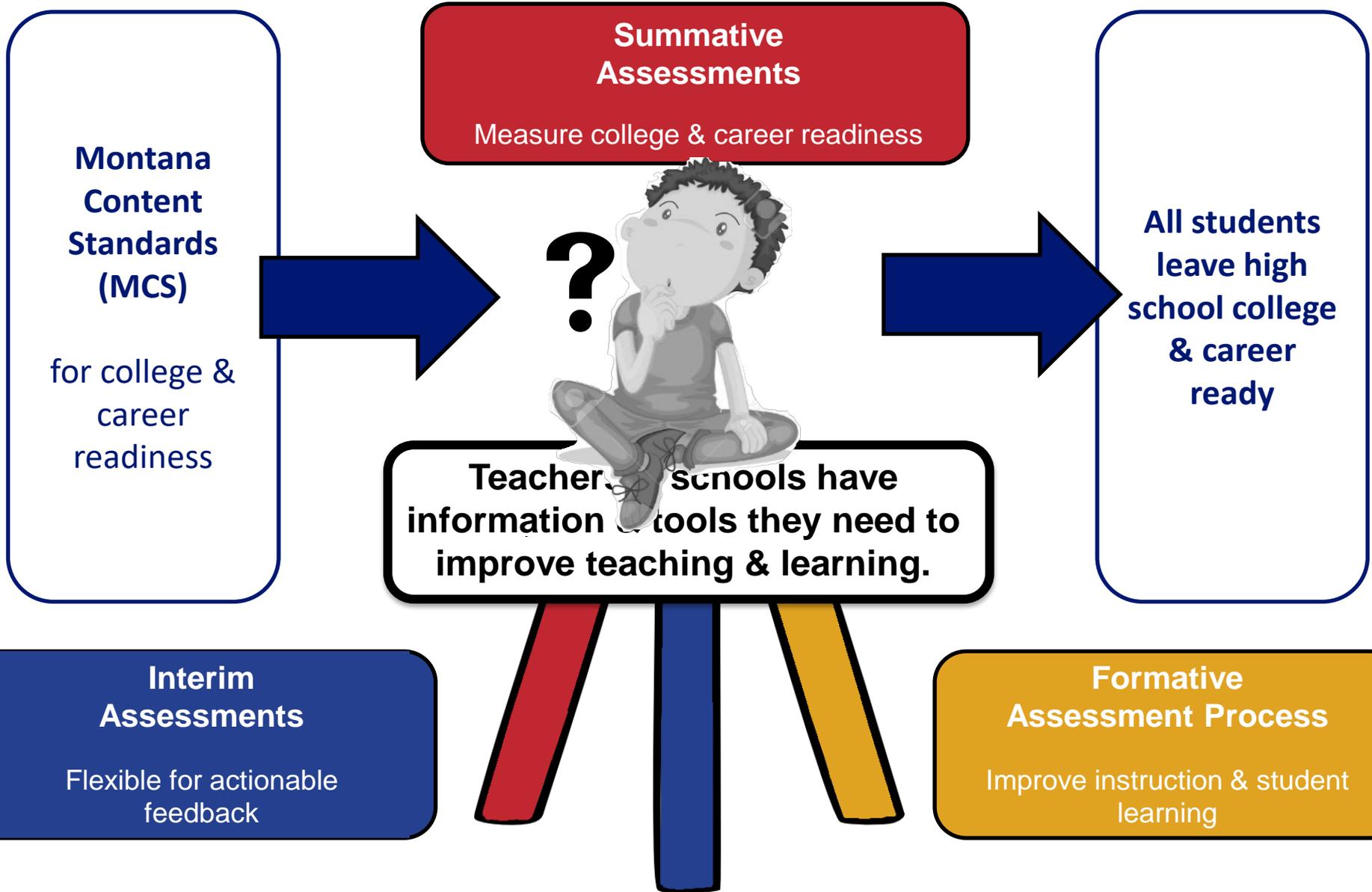


Balanced Assessments are:

- ❑ All assessments are coherently linked together by the standards,
- ❑ The assessments provide multiple data points, which are used to drive student instruction,
- ❑ Student progress is monitored continuously.



Balanced Assessments



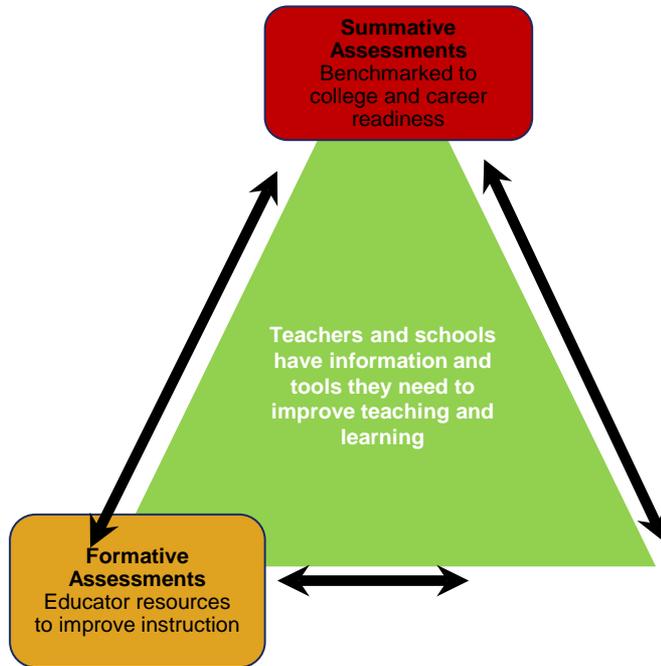
ELA/Math Interim Overview

INTERIM ASSESSMENTS

Optional and flexible tests given throughout the year to help teachers monitor student progress



What ARE Interim Assessments?



Interim Assessments

Flexible, open,
used for actionable feedback

Consortia created, online, generates online reports, practice for students with the computer format, computer and hand scored items

Types of Interims

INTERIM ASSESSMENTS AT A GLANCE

Interim Comprehensive Assessments



Assess the full range of targets, similar to the summative.

Examples:

- Grade 3 ELA
- Grade 3 Math

Interim Assessment Blocks



Assess 3–8 targets in Math or ELA/literacy.

Examples:

- Grade 3 ELA, Reading Literary Texts
- Grade 3 Math, Operations and Algebraic Thinking

Focused Interim Assessment Blocks



Assess 1–3 targets in Math or ELA/literacy.

Examples:

- Grade 3 ELA, Text Analysis (Literary)
- Grade 3 Math: Multiply and Divide Within 100

ICA's are helpful for determining the knowledge and skills of students who are new to the district or the state.

IAB's can be used during the school year more consistently with the results determining next steps for instruction.

FIAB's are very granular and can be administered as warm-ups. Each interim is connected to resources for teachers.

Where to Find the Interims

www.mt.portal.cambiumsast.com

The screenshot shows the website's navigation bar with 'Home', 'Users', and 'Resources'. The main content area features a sidebar on the left with icons for 'Smarter Balanced', Science, A Science, All Math and LA, and with ng. The main grid contains tiles for 'TIDE', 'Practice & Training Test Administration', 'TA Practice and Training Site', 'Reporting System', 'Test Administration', 'Interim Assessment Viewing Application', 'Interim Assessment Resources', and 'Manuals for Online Testing'. The 'Smarter Balanced' tile in the sidebar and the 'Test Administration' tile in the main grid are highlighted with colored boxes (purple and green, respectively).

Administer interims to students using the Test ID code.

Select Smarter Balanced



Remote Administration

<https://remote.smartertoolsforteachers.org/>



REMOTE TEACHING
AND LEARNING

Planning

Administering Interims

Formative Process

Accessibility

Q&A

External Resources

Supporting Remote Teaching and Learning



Interim Score Reports



Virtual Activity

scrumblr by aliasaria

LIST WAYS IN WHICH YOU COULD USE INTERIM DATA

Grab a card by clicking
and dragging it onto
the whiteboard; double-
click to write



Double Click to Edit.



Interim Score Reports

NEW!
All score reports
are in one tile –
Reporting Center

Almost all items
are machine
scored with
immediate
feedback

Constructed
Response and
Performance
Tasks need to be
scored locally.

New features in
the score reports



Reporting Center Dashboard

User: Jones, Principal | Role: SC @ School: Demo School 9999

[Inbox](#) [My Settings](#) [Help](#) [Sign Out](#)

Enter Student ID

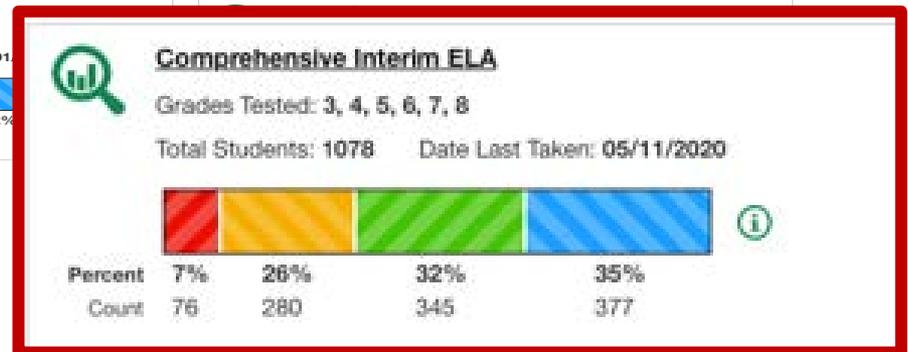
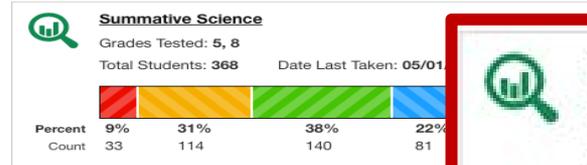
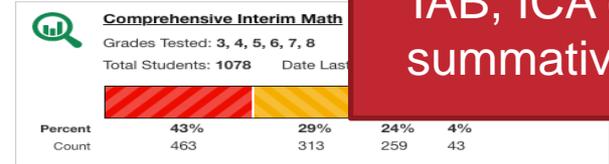
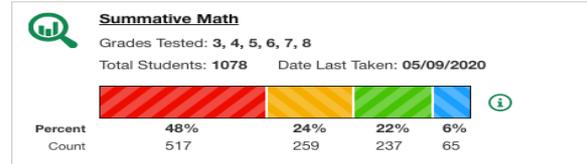
Dashboard

Filters

- Test Group
- Benchmark
 - Comprehensive Interim
 - Diagnostic
 - ELPA21 Screener
 - ELPA21 Summative
 - Interim
 - Module
 - Summative

Performance Distribution, by Test Group: Demo School 9999, 2019-2020

Sorted by: Date Last Taken



Select and view by Test Family (i.e. IAB, ICA or summative)

[Clear Filters](#)

Apply



Reporting Center Dashboard

District Level Users:
- Filter by school

School Level Users:
- Filter by roster

User: Jones, Principal | Role: SC @ School: Demo School 9999
 In My Settings Help Sign Out

Enter Student ID

ation of All Rosters, by Assessment: Demo School 9999, 2019-2020
 Reasons: All Test Reasons Sorted by: Last Taken

	Test Group	Test Grade	Test Reason	Student Count	Average Score	Performance Distribution	Date Last Taken
	Summative	6	Spring 2020	158	674	 Percent Count: 5% (8), 26% (41), 24% (38), 45% (71)	05/10/2020
	Summative	7	Spring 2020	168	673	 Percent Count: 11% (19), 26% (43), 26% (43), 37% (63)	05/10/2020
	Summative	8	Spring 2020	187	684	 Percent Count: 10% (18), 26% (49), 25% (46), 40% (74)	05/10/2020
	Summative	4	Spring 2020	192	619	 Percent Count: 7% (13), 23% (44), 25% (48), 45% (87)	05/10/2020
	Summative	5	Spring 2020	190	638	 Percent Count: 4% (7), 26% (50), 23% (44), 47% (89)	05/10/2020
	Summative	3	Spring 2020	183	613	 Percent Count: 6% (11), 29% (53), 28% (51), 37% (68)	05/10/2020

Individual Test Results

Student	Student ID	Total	5 Items on which Students Performed the Best	5 Items on which Students Performed the Worst	Total Items
Performance Distribution					
State		Percent: 100% Count: 1			
District		Percent: 100% Count: 1			
School		Percent: 100% Count: 1			
My Student	[Redacted]	Percent: 100% Count: 1			
	[Redacted]	Below Standard			

Student Names

Direct link to the Connections Playlist

Individual Student Report

Points Earned on **Grade 3 Read Literary Texts IAB** (Unassigned) Items, by Reporting Category: [REDACTED]
 Filtered by **Test Reasons:** All Test Reasons **Claim:** 1-LT

Filters Print

Student	Total Items														
Item Number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Max Points	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Everyone	0.69	0.62	0.27	0.31	0.62	0.54	0.15	0.92	0.69	0.69	0.42	0.5	0.42	0.5	0.27
[REDACTED]	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Student ID: [REDACTED]	Performance: Below Standard														

5

First, read the dictionary definition. Then, read the directions that follow.

(n) 1. a place in a shadow or hidden from the sun

Click on the word in the paragraph that **most closely** matches the definition above.

The sun beat down, and Monkey was hot. He opened the umbrella. He was cooler in the shade, but the bottoms of his feet still burned. "This ground needs rain," he said.

Details

Topic	Grade 3 Read Literary Texts IAB
Item Difficulty	Moderate

Rubric

The student earns one point by selecting:

- shade

Content Alignment

Claim: Read Analytically: Literary Text - Students can read closely and analytically to comprehend a range of increasingly complex literary and informational texts.

Assessment Target: WORD MEANINGS: Determine intended meanings of words, including words with multiple meanings (academic/tier 2 words), based on context, word relationships, word structure (e.g., common roots, affixes), or use of resources (e.g., beginning dictionary)



Math/ELA Formative Resources

**Tools for
Teachers**



MONTANA



Balanced Assessments



**Montana
Content
Standards
(MCS)**

for college &
career
readiness



**All students
leave high
school college
& career
ready**

**Teachers & schools have the
information & tools they need to
improve teaching & learning.**

**Summative
Assessments**

Measure college & career
readiness

**Interim
Assessments**

Flexible for actionable
feedback

**Formative
Assessment Process**

Improve instruction & student
learning



What is Tools for Teachers?

Tools for Teachers

MONTANA



Embedded formative strategies in every resource.

Accessibility features in every resource.

Differentiated instructional resources.

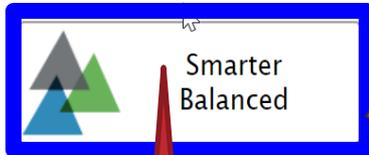
Teacher-created resources connected to the standards.

Professional development for educators.

Where to Find Tools for Teachers

www.mt.portal.cambiumsast.com

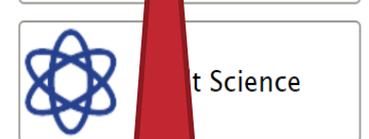
Home Users Resources



Smarter
Balanced



Science



Math Science



Math and
ELA



Tools with

Select
Smarter
Balanced



TIDE



Practice & Training
Test Administration



TA Practice and
Training Site



Interim



Assessment
Application



Assessment
Application



Interim
Resources



Testing



Reporting
System



Test Administrator
Certification



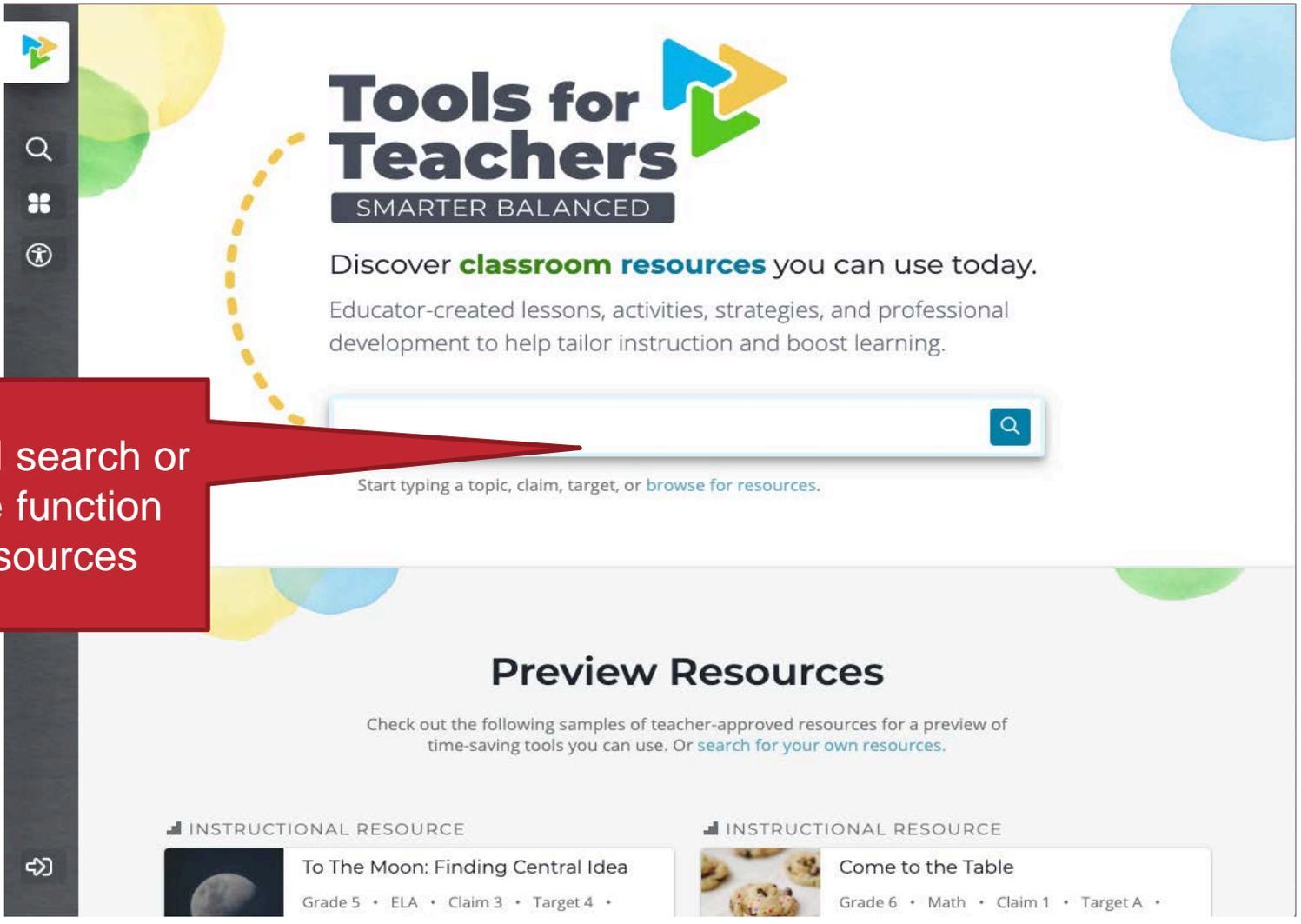
Tools for Teachers



Inbox

A specific Tools for Teachers user role is available that doesn't require portal access.

Homepage

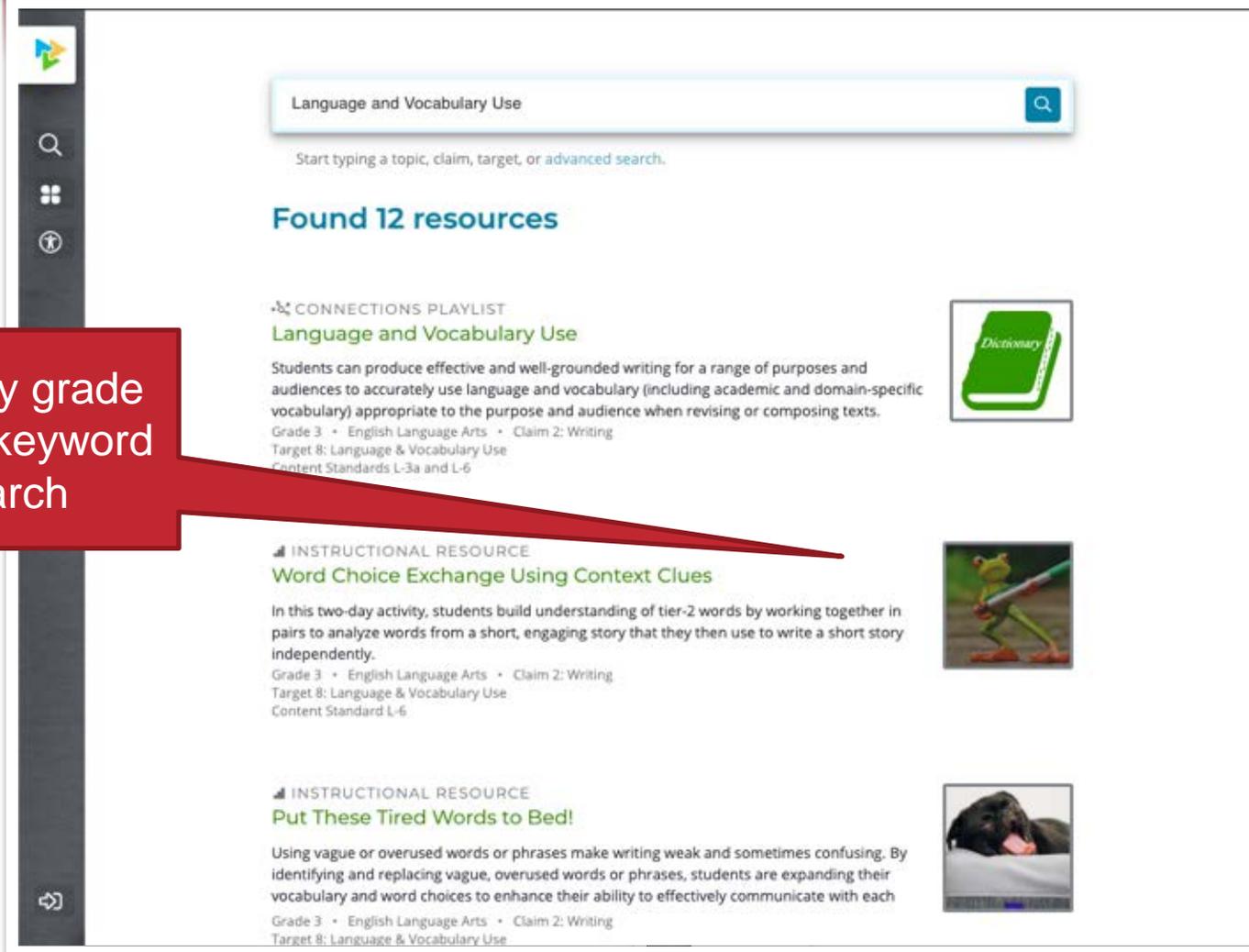


The screenshot shows the homepage of the 'Tools for Teachers' website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with a search icon, a home icon, and a user profile icon. The main content area features a large banner with the title 'Tools for Teachers' and the subtitle 'SMARTER BALANCED'. Below the banner, there is a search bar with a magnifying glass icon and a placeholder text: 'Start typing a topic, claim, target, or browse for resources.' The search bar is highlighted by a red callout box. Below the search bar, there is a section titled 'Preview Resources' with a sub-header 'Check out the following samples of teacher-approved resources for a preview of time-saving tools you can use. Or search for your own resources.' Two resource cards are visible: 'To The Moon: Finding Central Idea' (Grade 5 • ELA • Claim 3 • Target 4) and 'Come to the Table' (Grade 6 • Math • Claim 1 • Target A).

Keyword search or browse function for resources

Keyword Search

Filter by grade
after a keyword
search

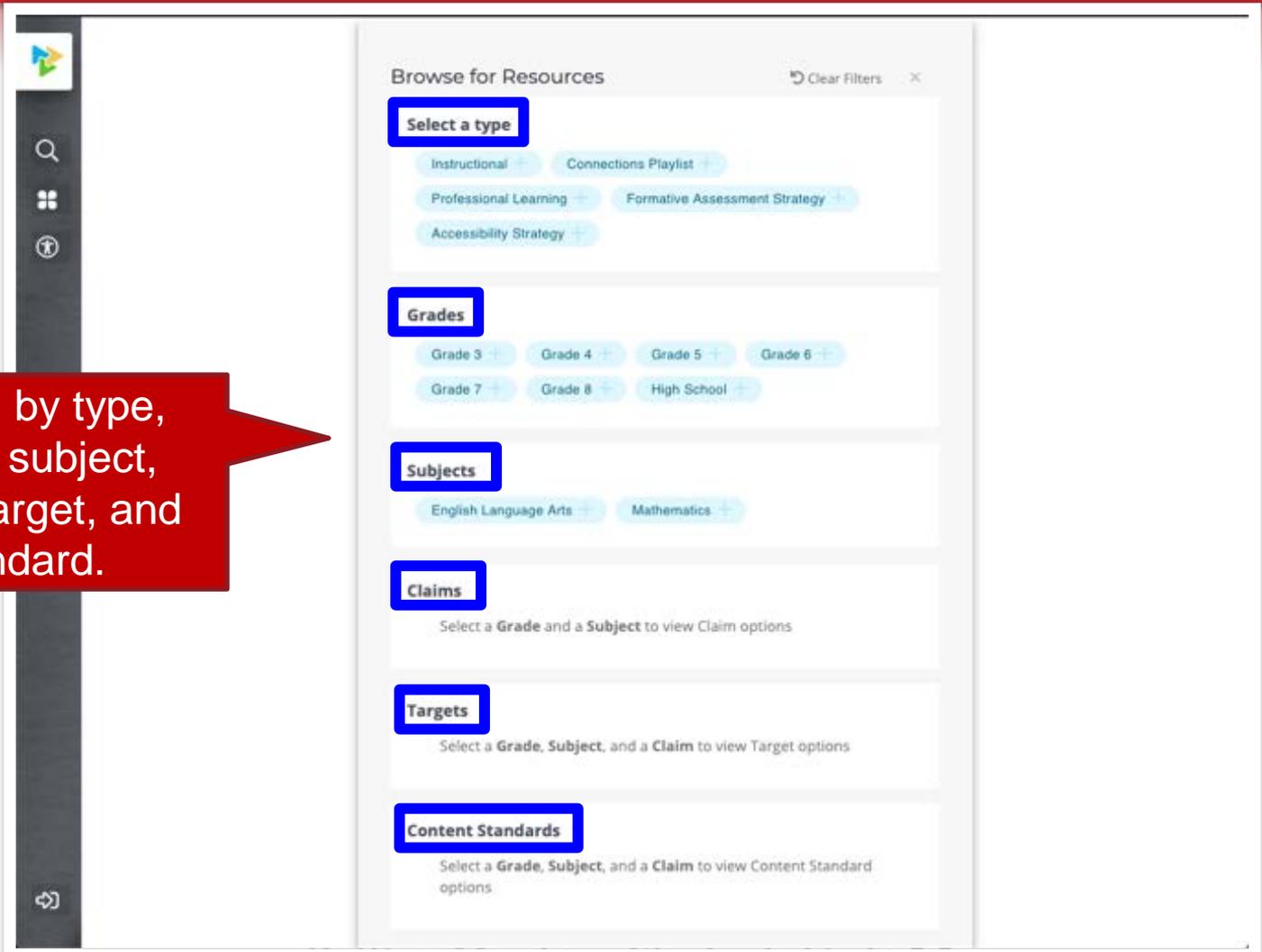


The screenshot shows a search interface with a search bar containing "Language and Vocabulary Use". Below the search bar, it says "Found 12 resources". Three resources are listed:

- CONNECTIONS PLAYLIST**
Language and Vocabulary Use
Students can produce effective and well-grounded writing for a range of purposes and audiences to accurately use language and vocabulary (including academic and domain-specific vocabulary) appropriate to the purpose and audience when revising or composing texts.
Grade 3 • English Language Arts • Claim 2: Writing
Target 8: Language & Vocabulary Use
Content Standards L-3a and L-6
- INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCE**
Word Choice Exchange Using Context Clues
In this two-day activity, students build understanding of tier-2 words by working together in pairs to analyze words from a short, engaging story that they then use to write a short story independently.
Grade 3 • English Language Arts • Claim 2: Writing
Target 8: Language & Vocabulary Use
Content Standard L-6
- INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCE**
Put These Tired Words to Bed!
Using vague or overused words or phrases make writing weak and sometimes confusing. By identifying and replacing vague, overused words or phrases, students are expanding their vocabulary and word choices to enhance their ability to effectively communicate with each other.
Grade 3 • English Language Arts • Claim 2: Writing
Target 8: Language & Vocabulary Use

Browse for Resources

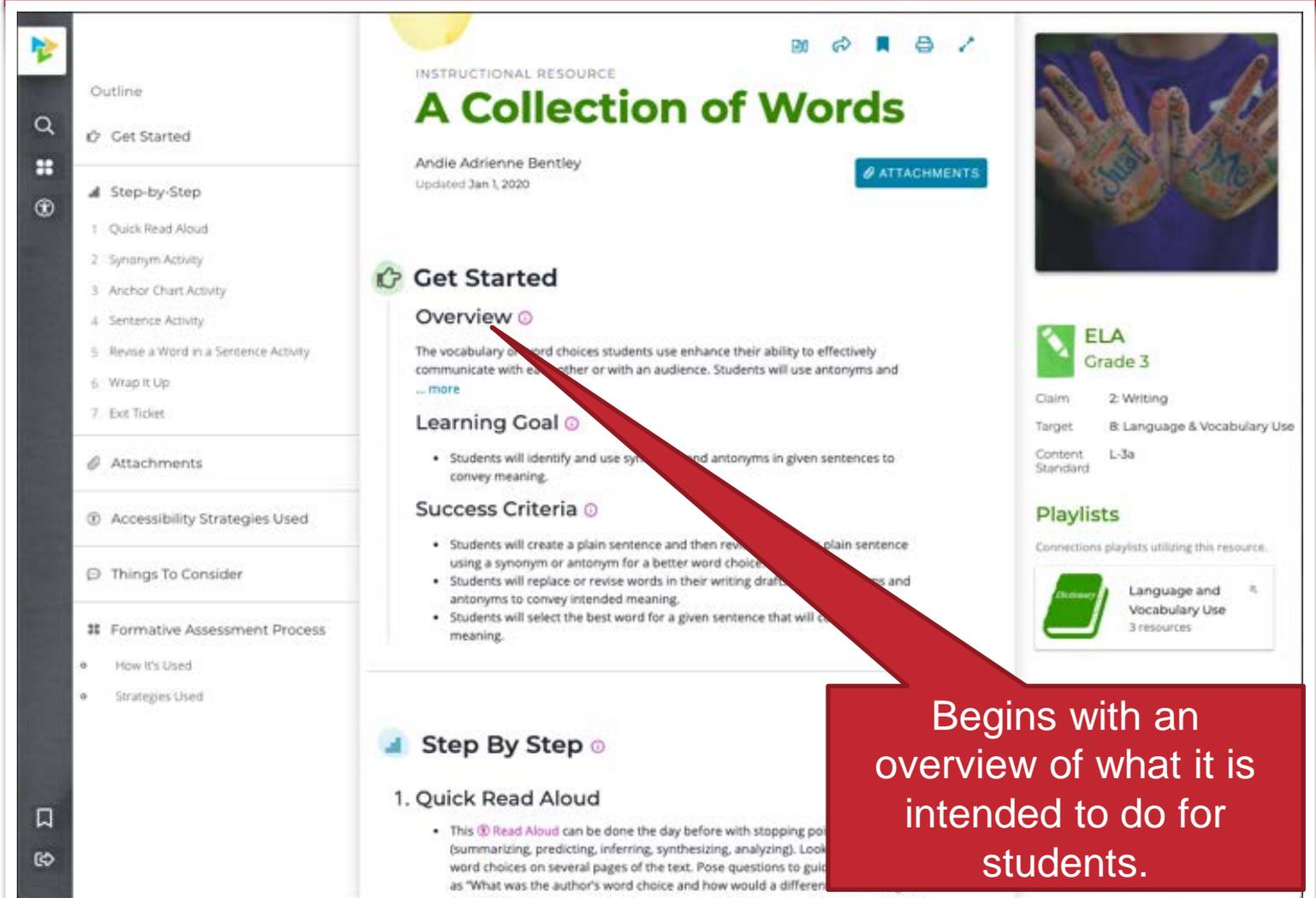
Search by type, grade, subject, claim, target, and standard.



The screenshot shows the 'Browse for Resources' interface. The title 'Browse for Resources' is at the top right, with a 'Clear Filters' button. Below the title are several filter categories, each with a blue box around its header:

- Select a type**: Includes buttons for 'Instructional', 'Connections Playlist', 'Professional Learning', 'Formative Assessment Strategy', and 'Accessibility Strategy'.
- Grades**: Includes buttons for 'Grade 3', 'Grade 4', 'Grade 5', 'Grade 6', 'Grade 7', 'Grade 8', and 'High School'.
- Subjects**: Includes buttons for 'English Language Arts' and 'Mathematics'.
- Claims**: Below the header, it says 'Select a Grade and a Subject to view Claim options'.
- Targets**: Below the header, it says 'Select a Grade, Subject, and a Claim to view Target options'.
- Content Standards**: Below the header, it says 'Select a Grade, Subject, and a Claim to view Content Standard options'.

Instructional Resource



The screenshot shows a digital instructional resource page. On the left is a navigation sidebar with sections like 'Outline', 'Get Started', 'Step-by-Step', 'Attachments', 'Accessibility Strategies Used', 'Things To Consider', and 'Formative Assessment Process'. The main content area is titled 'INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCE' and 'A Collection of Words' by Andie Adrienne Bentley, updated Jan 1, 2020. It features a 'Get Started' section with an 'Overview' subsection. A red arrow points from the 'Overview' text to a red callout box. The right sidebar shows 'ELA Grade 3' standards and a 'Playlists' section.

Get Started

Overview

The vocabulary word choices students use enhance their ability to effectively communicate with each other or with an audience. Students will use antonyms and ...more

Learning Goal

- Students will identify and use synonyms and antonyms in given sentences to convey meaning.

Success Criteria

- Students will create a plain sentence and then revise the plain sentence using a synonym or antonym for a better word choice.
- Students will replace or revise words in their writing drafts with synonyms and antonyms to convey intended meaning.
- Students will select the best word for a given sentence that will convey meaning.

Step By Step

1. Quick Read Aloud

- This **Read Aloud** can be done the day before with stopping points for discussion (summarizing, predicting, inferring, synthesizing, analyzing). Look for interesting word choices on several pages of the text. Pose questions to guide discussion as "What was the author's word choice and how would a different word choice change the meaning of the sentence?"

ELA Grade 3

Claim 2: Writing
Target 8: Language & Vocabulary Use
Content Standard L-3a

Playlists

Connections playlists utilizing this resource.

Language and Vocabulary Use
3 resources

Begins with an overview of what is intended to do for students.

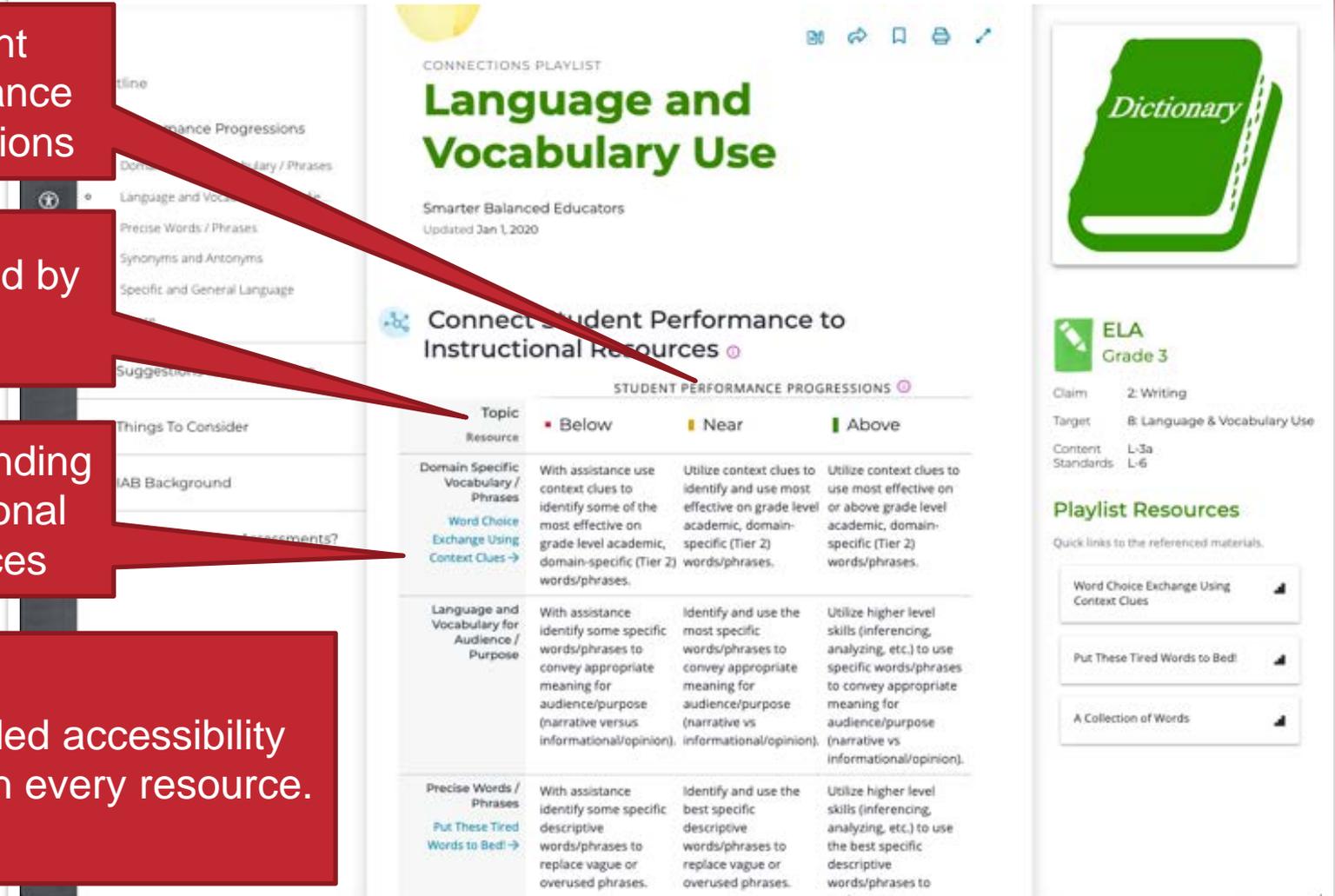
Connections Playlist

Student performance progressions

Organized by topic

Corresponding instructional resources

Embedded accessibility strategy in every resource.



The screenshot shows a web page titled "CONNECTIONS PLAYLIST" with the main heading "Language and Vocabulary Use". Below the heading, it says "Smarter Balanced Educators" and "Updated Jan 1, 2020". A sub-heading reads "Connect Student Performance to Instructional Resources".

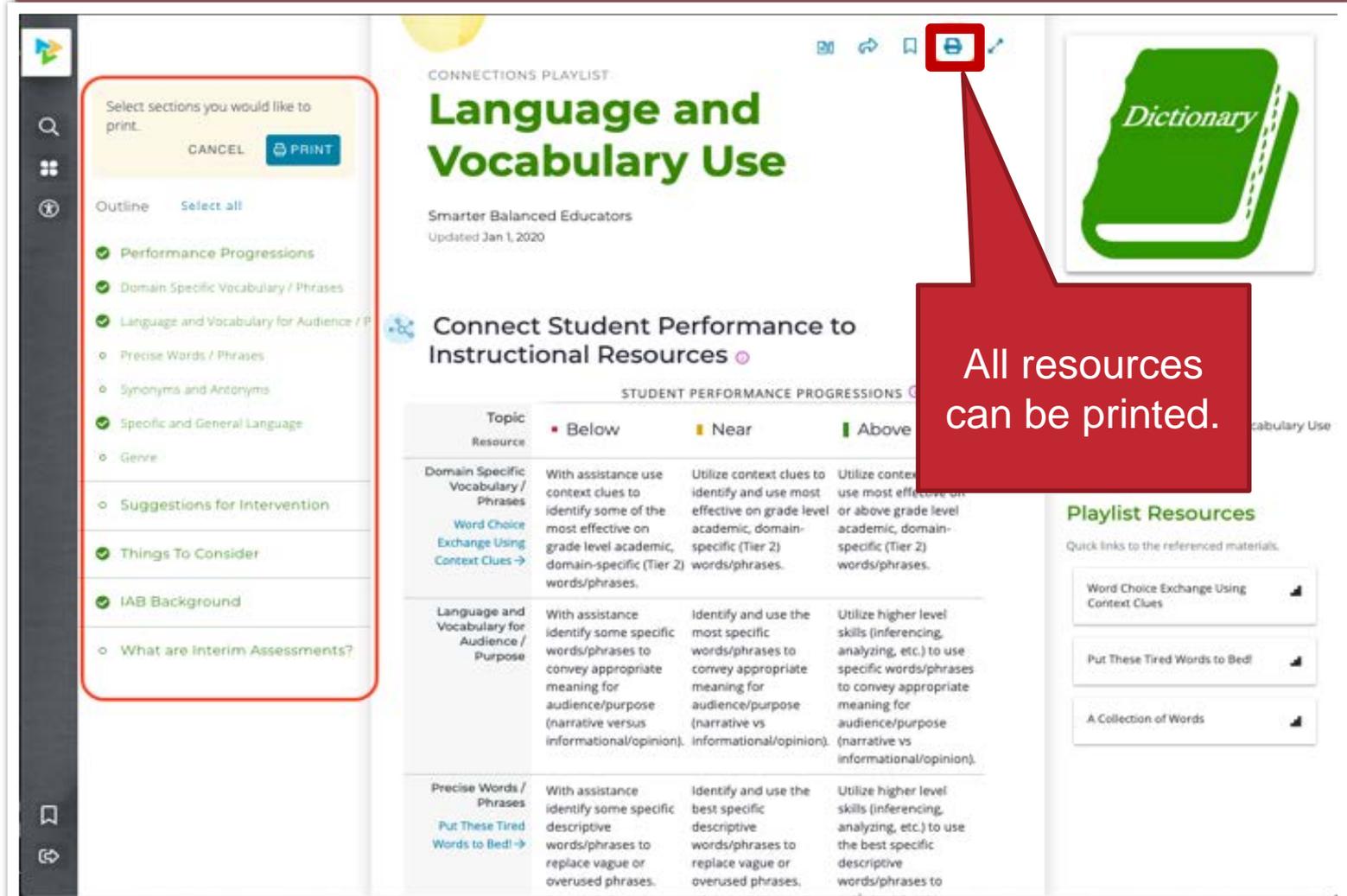
On the right side, there is a green book icon labeled "Dictionary" and a green pencil icon labeled "ELA Grade 3". Below that, it lists "Claim 2: Writing" and "Target B: Language & Vocabulary Use". It also shows "Content Standards L-3a" and "L-6".

The main content area features a table titled "STUDENT PERFORMANCE PROGRESSIONS" with columns for "Below", "Near", and "Above". The table lists various resources such as "Domain Specific Vocabulary / Phrases", "Language and Vocabulary for Audience / Purpose", and "Precise Words / Phrases".

Topic Resource	Below	Near	Above
Domain Specific Vocabulary / Phrases Word Choice Exchange Using Context Clues →	With assistance use context clues to identify some of the most effective on grade level academic, domain-specific (Tier 2) words/phrases.	Utilize context clues to identify and use most effective on grade level academic, domain-specific (Tier 2) words/phrases.	Utilize context clues to use most effective on or above grade level academic, domain-specific (Tier 2) words/phrases.
Language and Vocabulary for Audience / Purpose	With assistance identify some specific words/phrases to convey appropriate meaning for audience/purpose (narrative versus informational/opinion).	Identify and use the most specific words/phrases to convey appropriate meaning for audience/purpose (narrative vs informational/opinion).	Utilize higher level skills (inferencing, analyzing, etc.) to use specific words/phrases to convey appropriate meaning for audience/purpose (narrative vs informational/opinion).
Precise Words / Phrases Put These Tired Words to Bed →	With assistance identify some specific descriptive words/phrases to replace vague or overused phrases.	Identify and use the best specific descriptive words/phrases to replace vague or overused phrases.	Utilize higher level skills (inferencing, analyzing, etc.) to use the best specific descriptive words/phrases to

On the right side of the table, there are three resource cards: "Word Choice Exchange Using Context Clues", "Put These Tired Words to Bed", and "A Collection of Words".

Printing Resources



CONNECTIONS PLAYLIST

Language and Vocabulary Use

Smarter Balanced Educators
Updated Jan 1, 2020

Dictionary

Select sections you would like to print.

CANCEL PRINT

Outline Select all

- Performance Progressions
- Domain Specific Vocabulary / Phrases
- Language and Vocabulary for Audience / Purpose
- Precise Words / Phrases
- Synonyms and Antonyms
- Specific and General Language
- Genre
- Suggestions for Intervention
- Things To Consider
- IAB Background
- What are Interim Assessments?

Connect Student Performance to Instructional Resources

STUDENT PERFORMANCE PROGRESSIONS

Topic Resource	Below	Near	Above
Domain Specific Vocabulary / Phrases Word Choice Exchange Using Context Clues →	With assistance use context clues to identify some of the most effective on grade level academic, domain-specific (Tier 2) words/phrases.	Utilize context clues to identify and use most effective on grade level academic, domain-specific (Tier 2) words/phrases.	Utilize context clues to use most effective on or above grade level academic, domain-specific (Tier 2) words/phrases.
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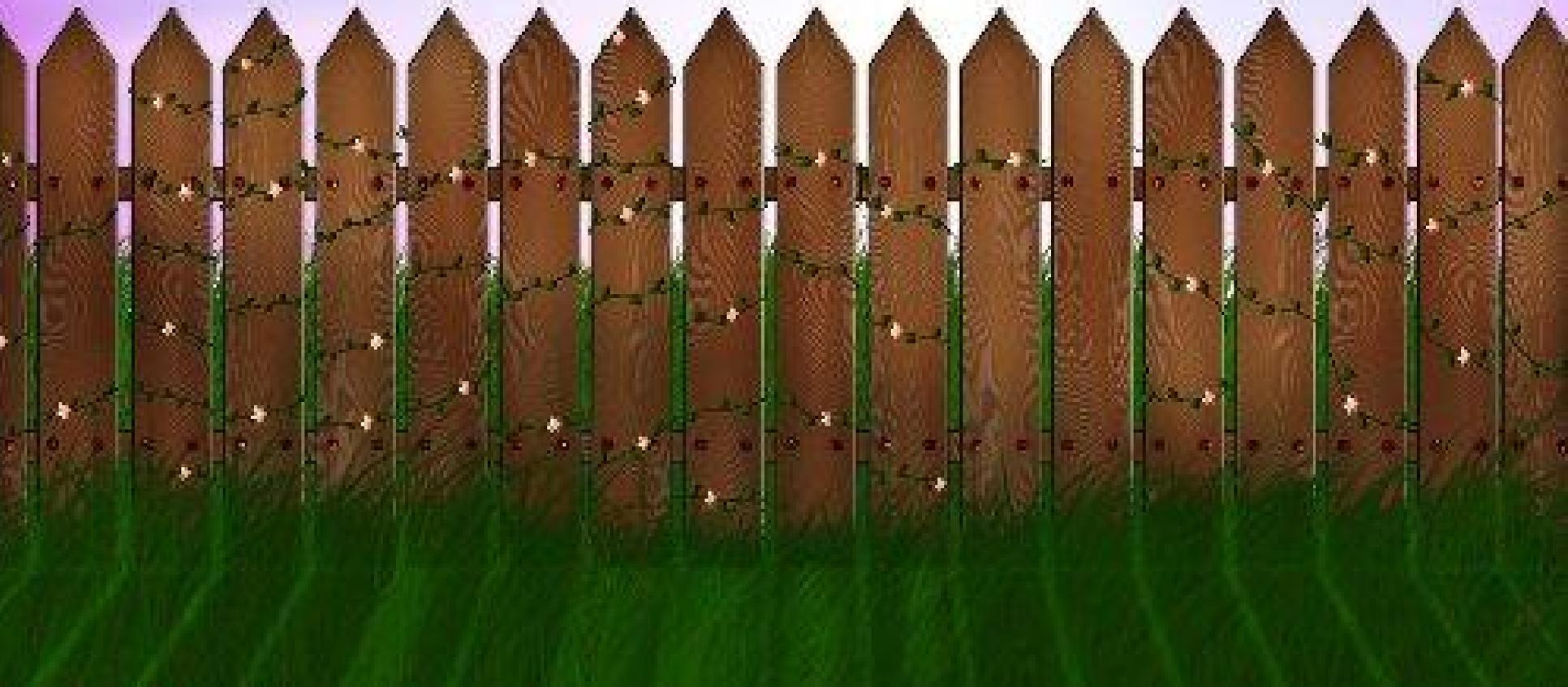
Playlist Resources

Quick links to the referenced materials.

- [Word Choice Exchange Using Context Clues](#)
- [Put These Tired Words to Bed](#)
- [A Collection of Words](#)

All resources can be printed.

ZAP! ZAP! ZAP!



Putting Montana Students First **A⁺**



Connect to Interims



Reporting

Dashboard Selector > Dashboard > Performance on Test > School Performance on Test > Roster Performance on Test



Get Instructional Resources

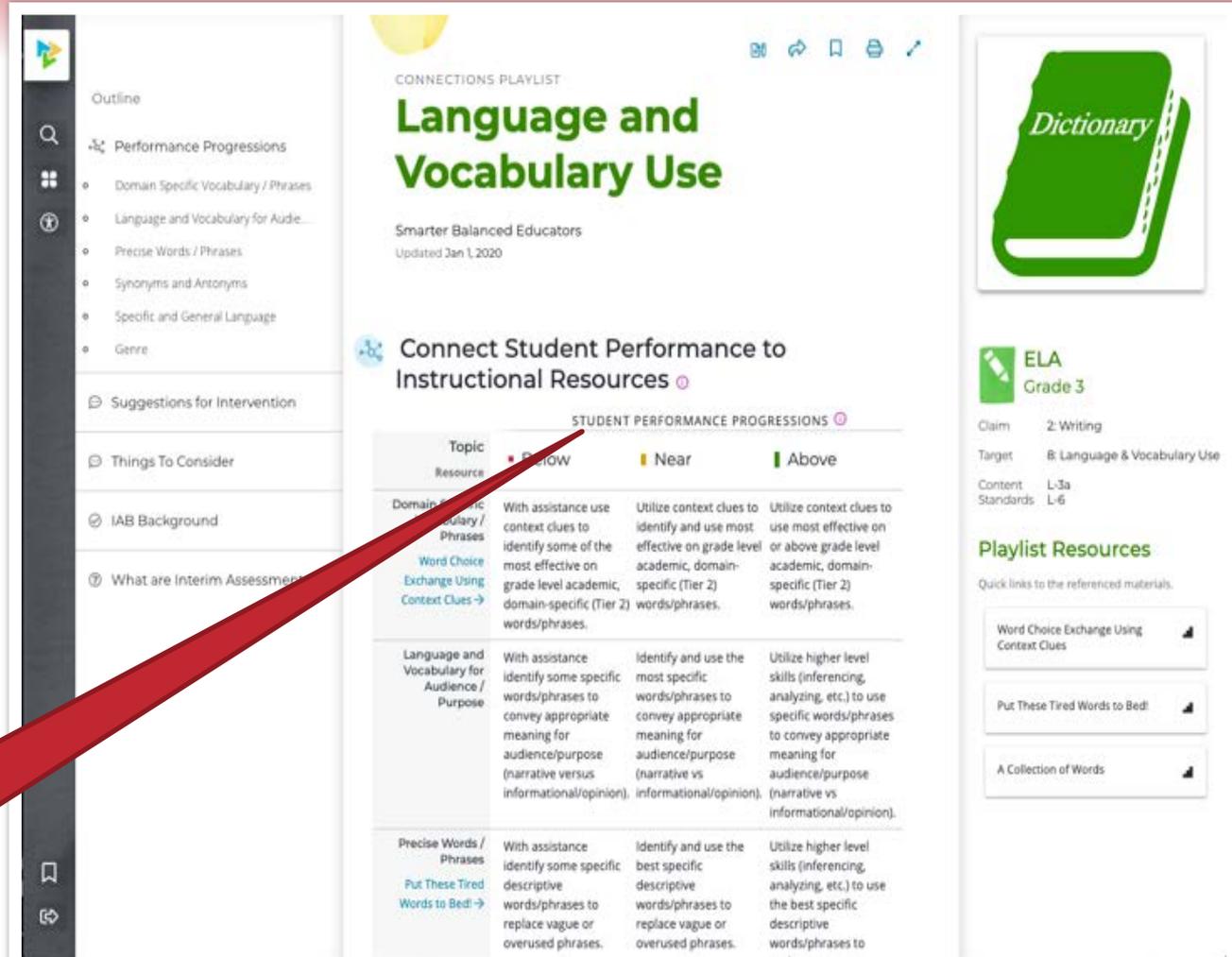
Score, Performance and Points Earned on **Grade 6 MATH - Divide Fractions by Fractions (FIAB)** (Unassigned) of [redacted]
Filtered By School: All Schools Test Reasons: Unassigned



Student	Student ID	Total		
			Performance Distribution	
State			Percent Count 100% 1	5 Items on which Students Performed the Best 5 Items on which Students Performed the Worst Total Items
District			Percent Count 100% 1	
School			Percent Count 100% 1	
My Students			Percent Count 100% 1	
			Below Standard	

On interim reports, select "Get Instructional Resources" and...

Connect to Interims



The screenshot shows a web interface for a 'Connections Playlist' titled 'Language and Vocabulary Use' by Smarter Balanced Educators, updated on Jan 1, 2020. The interface includes a left sidebar with an 'Outline' section listing various topics like 'Performance Progressions', 'Domain Specific Vocabulary / Phrases', and 'Genre'. A red arrow points from a text box to the 'Language and Vocabulary for Audience / Purpose' item in the outline and to the corresponding row in the 'STUDENT PERFORMANCE PROGRESSIONS' table.

Topic Resource	STUDENT PERFORMANCE PROGRESSIONS		
	Below	Near	Above
Domain Specific Vocabulary / Phrases Word Choice Exchange Using Context Clues →	With assistance use context clues to identify some of the most effective on grade level academic, domain-specific (Tier 2) words/phrases.	Utilize context clues to identify and use most effective on grade level academic, domain-specific (Tier 2) words/phrases.	Utilize context clues to use most effective on or above grade level academic, domain-specific (Tier 2) words/phrases.
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On the right side of the interface, there is a 'Dictionary' icon, 'ELA Grade 3' information, and a 'Playlist Resources' section with links to 'Word Choice Exchange Using Context Clues', 'Put These Tired Words to Bed!', and 'A Collection of Words'.

Link directly to the Connections Playlist with resources for that topic.



Virtual Activity

Provide one formative strategy your district uses in the classroom

grab a card by clicking and dragging it onto the whiteboard, double-click to write

Double Click to Edit.

Science Interim Overview

INTERIM ASSESSMENTS

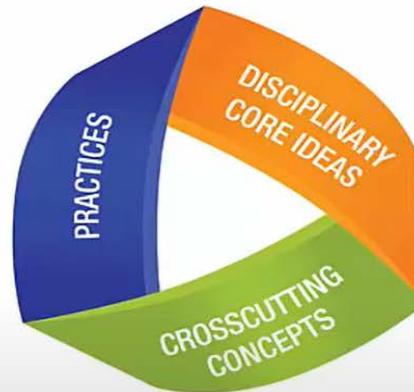
Optional and flexible tests given throughout the year to help teachers monitor student progress



Montana Content Standards

Shift to Three Dimensions of Science Understanding

describe behaviors
scientists and
engineers engage in

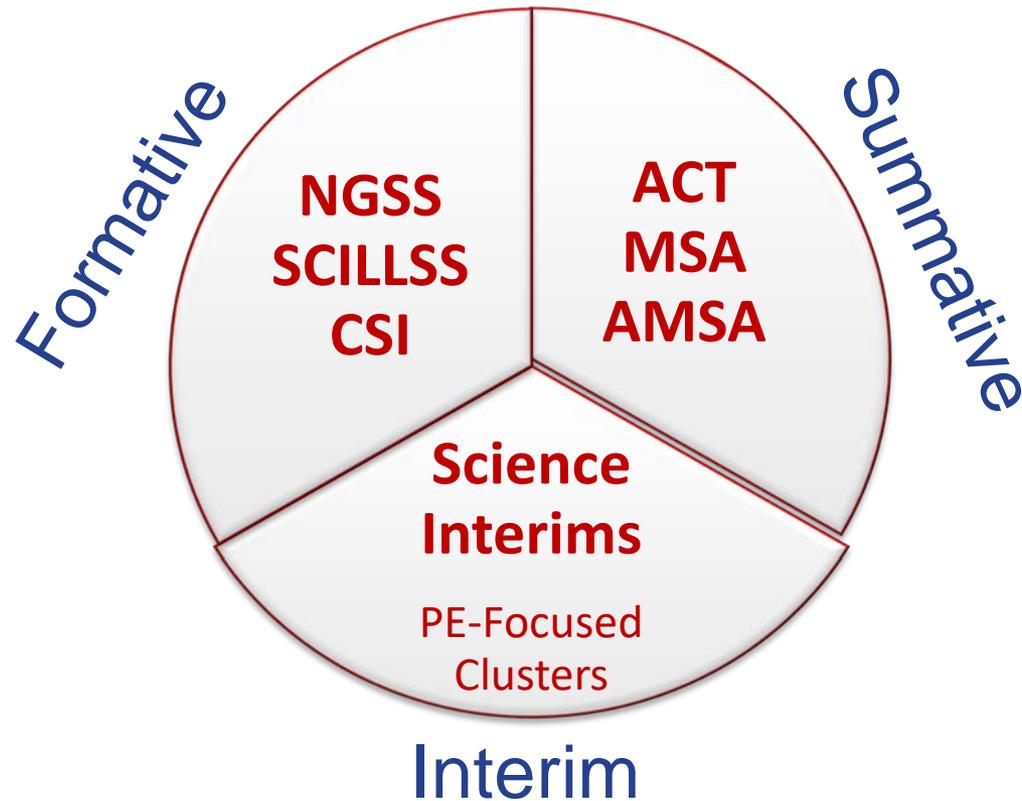


describe core ideas in the
science disciplines

describe concepts linking the
different domains of science

<https://www.nextgenscience.org/understanding-standards/understanding-standards>

Balanced Science Assessment System

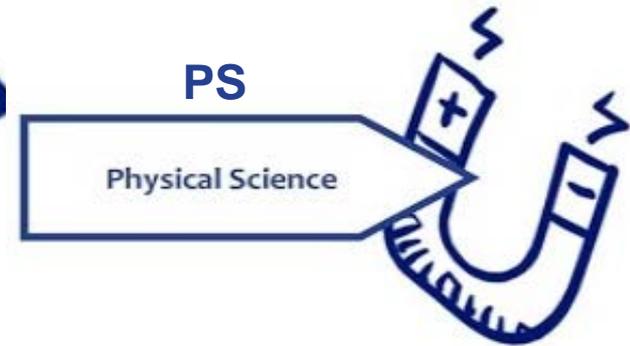
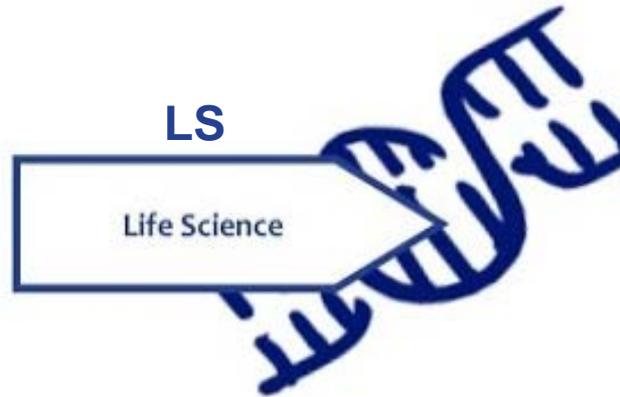




Science Interims

- MSA Interims are now available
- Administration and Reporting procedures similar to Smarter Balanced
- The Montana Science Assessment (MSA) Interim is available for remote proctoring with emphasis on item security
- Visit the **Science Assessment in Montana Site** for more information

Science Interim Types



Addresses the three content domains or disciplinary core ideas (i.e., ESS, LS, PS).

Each Interim (testlet) is one cluster of items focused on a specific NGSS standard.

Takes approximately 10 minutes to complete a science testlet.



Science Interim Guidance

- Use the students' current grade level when assigning interims
- Select one PE per discipline, across several weeks. Use those three results to establish students' baseline
- Be sure to use the Practice Tests beforehand to give students practice with platform and tools. Practice tests for AMSA are also available.



OPI Resources

- **Science Assessment in Montana:** content and videos pertaining to MSA and AMSA.
 - **Weblink:**
<https://sites.google.com/opiconnect.org/mtbalancedassessmentsystemfors/home>

- **OPI Content Standards and Instruction**
 - **Weblink:**
<http://opi.mt.gov/Educators/Teaching-Learning/K-12-Content-Standards-Revision/Science-Standards>

MSA

Montana
Science
Assessment

AMSA

Alternate
Montana
Science
Assessment





Renewal Unit – Google Form

MontCAS Montana Comprehensive
Assessment System
Montana Office of Public Instruction

Webinar Renewal Unit and Evaluation Form

Complete this form to provide the Assessment Team with feedback on the webinar and to receive a renewal unit certificate.

Renewal units will be processed electronically to manage and issue certificates in a more efficient way.

Putting Montana Students First **A+**

Questions?

OPI Assessment Help Desk

Montana Office of Public Instruction

Phone: 844-867-2569

E-mail:

OPIAssessmentHelpDesk@mt.gov