Research Needs

We recommend adapting NYS exemplar Modules to include authentic library research experiences for elementary students. The NYS Research Focus is asking educators to scaffold authentic research from kindergarten to the secondary level. Commissioner John King suggested a 1-page paper in first grade; a 2-page paper in second grade; a 3-page paper in third grade ... etc. thereby building and presenting knowledge. This will help create a college and career ready student.

“Students need to have regular practice with complex text and its academic vocabulary. This should be in your wheelhouse as librarians.”

-Mark Aronson, Rutgers University

“Libraries are the biggest advocates of independent reading on the planet.”

-Paige Jaeger

Library Integration

- Evidence Based Writing
- Technology
- Close Reading
- Reading
- Vocabulary
- Research
- Mathematical Data
- Data Driven Instruction

“Reading and research are threads of discovery woven into the Common Core. Together, they provide a path for investigation, synthesis, understanding, and achievement.”

-Paige Jaeger

The word “information” is mentioned 243 times in the Common Core Learning Standards. Reading is mentioned 388. Both of these words appear more than “complex text,” “evidence,” “technology,” “vocabulary,” and some other “shifts.”

WORD PROMINENCE

based on word frequency/appearance
in the CCSS ELA standards and Appendix A

Produced in cooperation with WSWHE BOCES Communication Services and the School Library System
Libraries and the Common Core

A large portion of the Common Core Learning Standards revolves around the importance of nonfiction in a person's life. We encounter nonfiction every day when we follow recipes, glean facts from news articles, follow directions in an instruction manual, or research information to make a decision. Reading and research activities help build lifelong learners. A strong library program fosters lifelong learning skills. Two independent studies in New York State conclusively found that students in schools with a certified librarian score higher on tests.


How Can Librarians Help?

Librarians Can:
- Craft authentic research projects which move beyond merely seeking information to synthesizing information
- Help teachers align research with the Common Core objectives to “build and present knowledge” (not just facts)
- Plan building-wide independent reading initiatives promoting school-wide participation
- Recommend the latest and greatest reading choices for students with all types of interests
- Suggest rich, written material to support reading of nonfiction to build background knowledge
- Help teachers find quality nonfiction books and articles to use for close reading in science, math, social studies, art, physical education, and music
- Give free access to thousands of popular fiction and nonfiction titles for independent reading and research
- Help students find texts on any topic of interest across a range of complexity, so they are engaged in something they are deeply interested in, at a level that is challenging for them
- Provide digital information
- Teach students to evaluate web information for credibility, accuracy, reliability and support (W 7, 8)
- Show math teachers where students can “mine facts” in terms of numbers, statistics, and ratios. With real-world numbers, mathematics teachers can increase relevance

In the Library:
- Students research tasks that extend learning
- Students conduct short and long research projects
- Students interact and collaborate with others
- Students access digital information
- Students learn to write for information and build and present knowledge
- Databases are Lexiled for an accurate measure of reading difficulty
- Books are available for everyone regardless of demographic
- Lives the best collection of nonfiction on the planet
- Anyone can find challenging material on any topic of interest
- Questions can be investigated

Reading

The more they read, the better they read. The better they read, the more they comprehend. The more they comprehend, the better they achieve. Libraries provide books for all—the have-nots and the have-nots.

“Students need opportunities to stretch their reading abilities but also to experience the satisfaction and pleasure of easy, fluent reading within them, both of which the Standards allow for.”

- Common Core Learning Standards, Appendix A, page 9