

Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium

An Introduction to the Digital Library Joe Di Garbo



DIGITAL LIBRARY

CAS
Communities of Practice Series
February 23, 2015



EDUCATOR LEARNING GOALS

I understand...

- the Formative Assessment Process is an integral component of the Smarter Balanced Assessment System.
- the Smarter Balanced Digital Library will support the formative assessment process.

SUCCESS CRITERIA

I can...

- explain how the Formative Assessment Process is an integral part of the Smarter Balanced Assessment System.
- use resources found in the Smarter Balanced Digital Library to support teaching and learning.

Smarter Balanced

A Balanced Assessment System

How do we get from here...

...to here?

Common Core State Standards specify K-12 expectations for college and career readiness

Summative assessments
Benchmarked to college and career readiness

Teachers and schools have information and tools they need to improve teaching and learning

All students leave high school college and career ready

Educator resources for **formative assessment practices** to improve instruction

Interim assessments
Flexible, open, used for actionable feedback



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Formative Assessment Process Defined



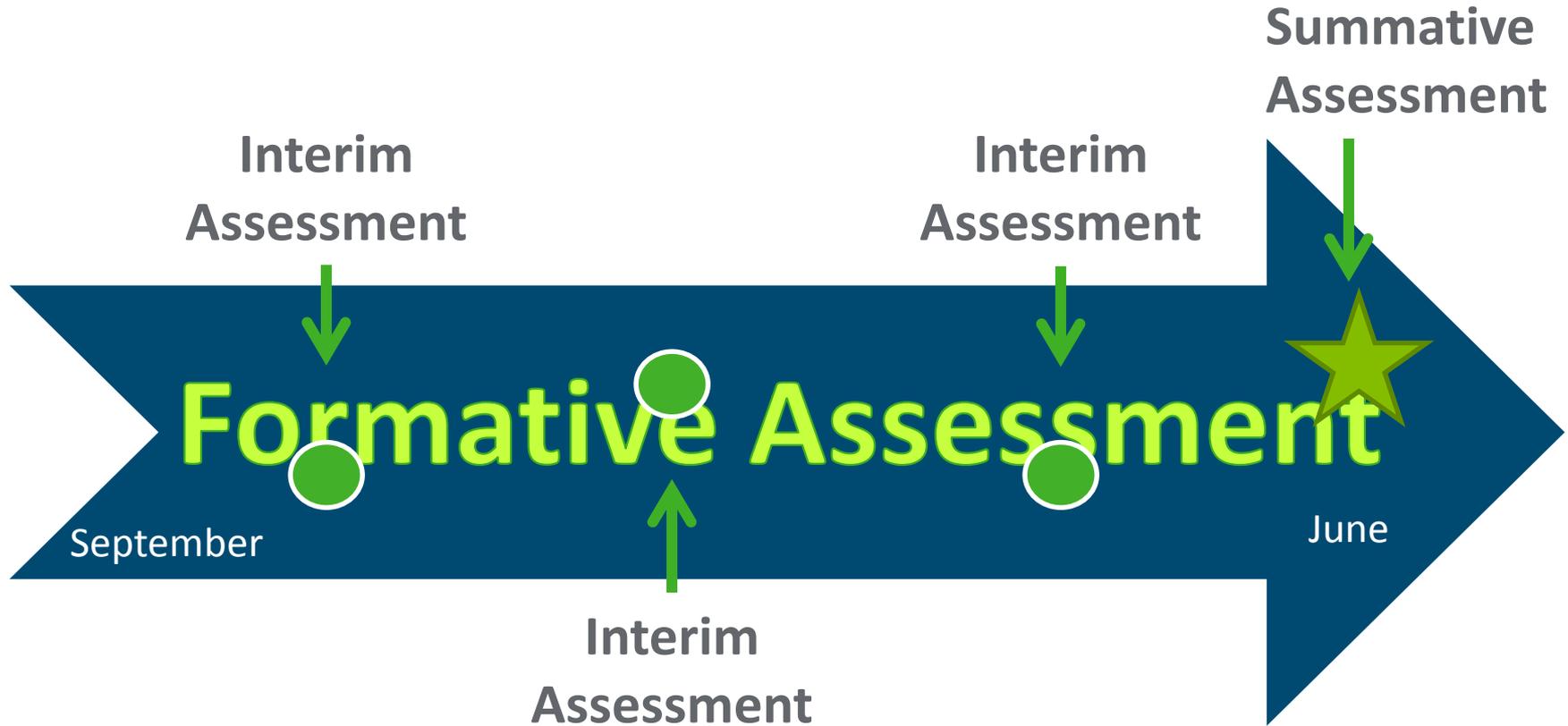
Formative assessment is a **deliberate process** used by teachers and students **during instruction** that provides **actionable feedback** that is used to **adjust** ongoing teaching and learning strategies to improve students' attainment of curricular learning targets/goals.

Key Features of Formative Assessment



- This is a **process**, not a “thing”
- It is used by **both teachers and students**
- Formative-assessment practices occur **during instruction** (literally)
- It provides **immediate assessment-based feedback** to teachers and students
- The function of this feedback is to help teachers and students make **immediate adjustments** that will improve students’ achievement of the intended learning.

Balanced Assessment System



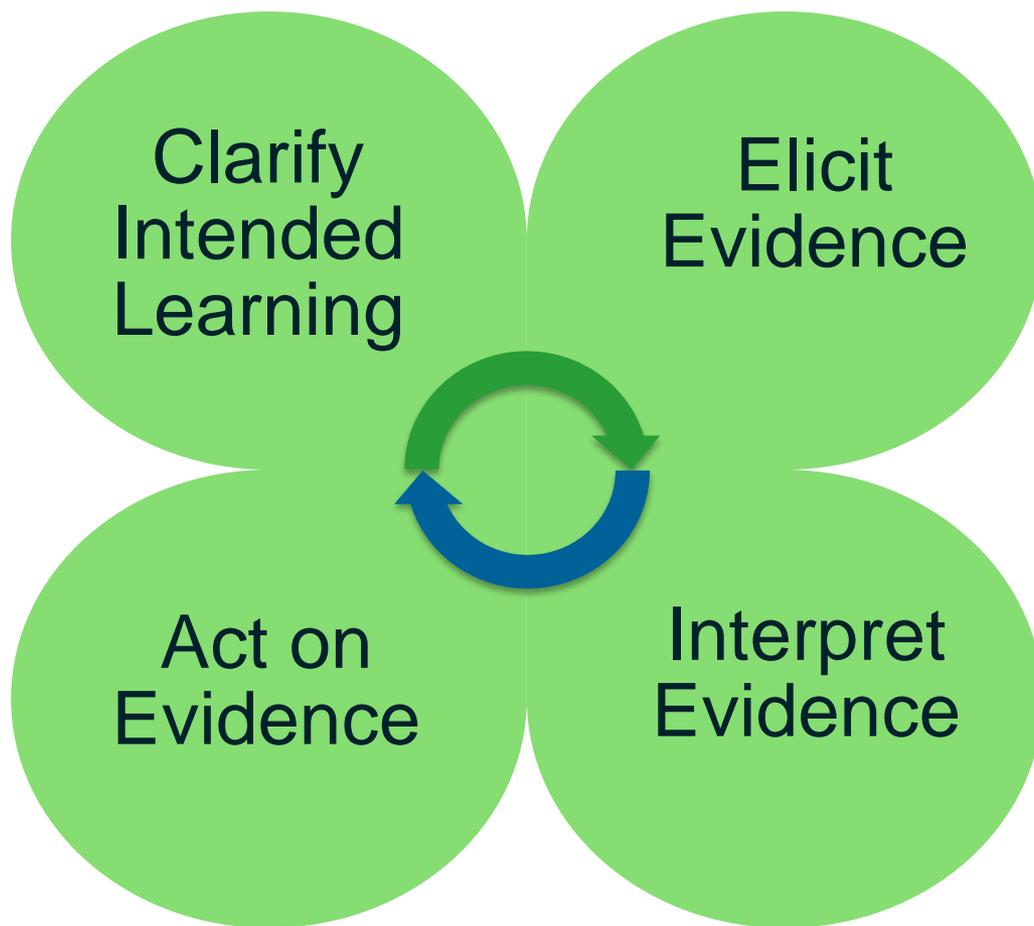
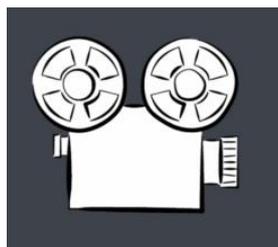
Scope, sequence, number and timing of assessments are locally determined



The Formative Assessment Process is NOT

- It is not a test.
 - Not Common Formative Assessments
 - Not benchmark assessments
 - Not end-of-course assessments
 - Not analysis of test data to make adjustments
- It is not random observations.
- It is not just good instruction.

Four Attributes of the Formative Assessment Process



Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium Digital Library



- An online collection of instructional and professional learning resources contributed by educators for educators.
- Resources are aligned with the intent of the Common Core State Standards (CT Core Standards) and will help educators implement the Formative Assessment Process to improve teaching and learning.

Formative Assessment Practices and Strategies

- Are the basis for a digital library of professional development materials, resources, and tools.
- Are aligned to the Common Core State Standards.
- Are research-based instructional tools available on-demand.
- Help teachers address learning challenges and differentiate instruction.

Digital Library Resources

Assessment Literacy Modules

- Commissioned Professional Learning Modules
- Resources for educators, students and families
- Frame Formative Assessment within a Balanced Assessment System
- Articulate the Formative Assessment Process
- Highlight Formative Assessment Practices and Tools

Exemplar Instructional Modules

- Commissioned Professional Learning Modules
- Instructional coaching for educators
- Instructional materials for students
- Demonstrate/support effective implementation of the formative assessment process
- Focus on key content and practice from the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics and English Language Arts

Education Resources

- High-quality vetted instructional resources and tools for educators
- High-quality vetted resources and tools for students and families
- Reflect and support the formative assessment process
- Reflect and support the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics and English Language Arts
- Create Professional Learning Communities

Resources in the Digital Library

Assessment
Literacy Modules

Exemplar
Instructional Modules

Education Resources



- Not an assessment bank
- Not an item bank
- Not a learning management system where educators can register for training or receive credit by completing specific online courses
- Not a library for general public (will require registration and login)
- Not a site where any resource can automatically be posted; all resources must be vetted through the Quality Criteria

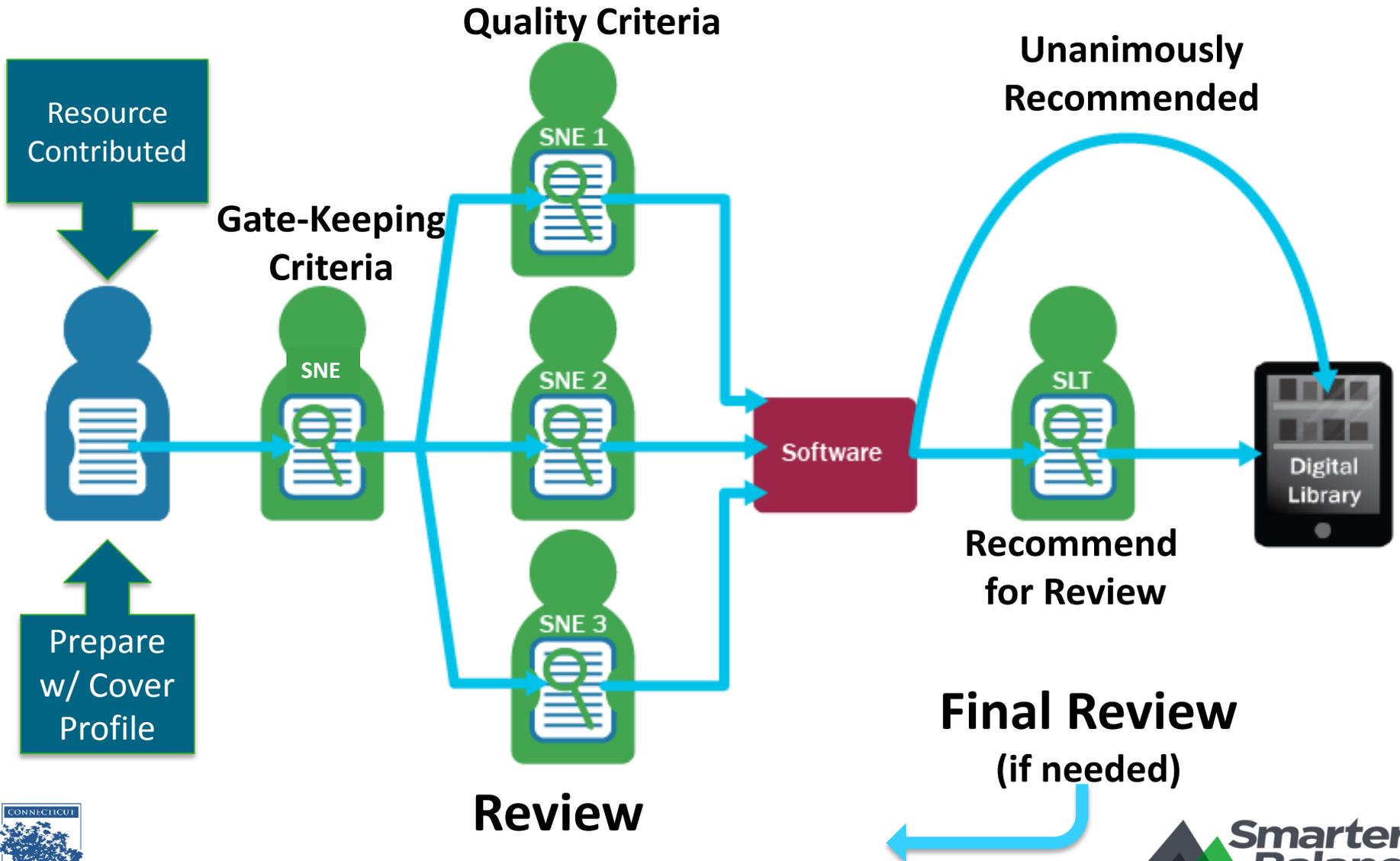
Digital Library Functionality

Uses state-of-the-art tagging, filtering, and search features to locate, view, download, favorite, and rate resources to:

The screenshot displays the Smarter Balanced Digital Library interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the user's name 'Joe Di Garbo' and options for Notifications, Feedback, Favorites (22), and Help. Below this is a search bar and a menu with options like Digital Library Resources, Resource Review, My Resources, Forums, and Reports. A 'Filters' section on the left allows users to refine results by Subjects, Grades, Attributes of the Formative Assessment Process, Media Types, Resource Type, Intended End Users, Intended Student Populations, Educational Use, Module Type, Geographic Settings, and Common Core State Standards. The main content area shows 2808 resources, sorted by 'Newest', with a 'List View' toggle. A grid of four resource cards is visible, each with a title, a brief description, a subject area, grade level, media type, and user ratings. The first card is 'Analyzing Arguments: CBAL (TM) Formative Activity Set and Teacher Handbook' with 770 ratings. The second is 'Proportional Relationships: Clarify Intended Learning' with 83 ratings. The third is 'Integrate Information from Several Texts: Clarify Intended Learning' with 444 ratings. The fourth is 'Characters, Settings, and Major Events in a Story Clarify Intended Learning' with 382 ratings.

- Expand educator practice to differentiate instruction for diverse learners
- Increase educator understanding about assessment literacy
- Promote engagement of students in their own learning
- Design professional development opportunities
- Compile materials for Professional Learning Communities

How Resources Enter the Digital Library



Cross-State Collaboration

Innovative collaboration features that promote collegial conversations across the country. These features:

- Encourage educators to rate resources
- Promote how the resources can be used
- Provide online forums for educators to share their expertise with and pose questions to colleagues

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Digital Library

Notifications Feedback Favorites (19) Help

Digital Library Resources Resource Review My Resources Forums Reports

Filters

Resource Forums (2515) Topic Forums (8) Sort by: Most Participants Search Forums

Topic Forums provide opportunities to discuss the formative assessment process, standards, curriculum, summative and interim assessments, professional development, and other topics with colleagues across the country. The title reflects the focus of the discussion. View the [Help Topics](#) to learn more about Topic Forums.

The Lowdown on the Digital Library Facilitator: Consortium Last Activity: Oct 20th, 2014 10:49 pm	4 DISCUSSIONS	90 POSTS	62 PARTICIPANTS
Finding, Adapting and Discussing Resources for Diverse Learners Facilitator: Consortium Last Activity: Aug 20th, 2014 6:09 pm	4 DISCUSSIONS	9 POSTS	8 PARTICIPANTS
Grade 9 - 12 Facilitator: Consortium Last Activity: Sep 11th, 2014 7:33 pm	4 DISCUSSIONS	10 POSTS	8 PARTICIPANTS
Suggest Future Enhancements Facilitator: Consortium Last Activity: Nov 1st, 2014 11:36 am	3 DISCUSSIONS	6 POSTS	7 PARTICIPANTS
Grade 6 - 8 Facilitator: Consortium Last Activity: Sep 11th, 2014 7:33 pm	3 DISCUSSIONS	3 POSTS	6 PARTICIPANTS

Interactive Modules

More than 100 multi media modules for:

- Assessment literacy
- English language arts/literacy instruction
- Mathematics instruction
- Score reports



Assessment Literacy Module



The screenshot shows a resource card with the following elements:

- Title:** Understanding the Smarter Balanced Assessment System
- Image:** An illustration of three people in an office setting.
- Summary:** This module provides an introduction to the three core components of the Smarter Balanced Assessment System — summative assessments,...
- Favorite:** A red heart icon followed by the word "FAVORITE".
- Subjects:** Not Subject Specific
- Grades:** Not Grade Specific
- Media Types:** Video, Image, Interactive, Audio
- Views and Downloads:** An eye icon with "100" and a download icon with "0".
- Star Rating:** Five star icons followed by "(0)".

Callout arrows point to the following features:

- Resource Title:** Points to the title.
- Image of Primary Material:** Points to the illustration.
- Favorite:** Points to the heart icon.
- Select Tags:** Points to the subject, grade, and media type information.
- Number of Views and Downloads:** Points to the eye and download icons.
- Star Rating and Number of Reviews:** Points to the star icons.
- Posted with Distinction:** Points to a checkmark in the top right corner.
- Brief resource summary:** Points to the text description.

Mathematics Instructional Module



Proportional Relationships: Elicit Evidence

Score Report Module



Two Types:

1. Score Report Types and Features
2. Using the Smarter Balanced Reporting System Data

Resource from the Digital Library

Descriptive Feedback Helps All Students Meet Standards

Combination of Instructional and Professional Learning Resource

♥ Add to Favorites

Author: Susan McCray, Casco Bay High School, Portland ME

Owner: Expeditionary Learning



What's next?

A user of the Digital Library will:

- Have access to innovative, comprehensive modules
- Use resources to support the formative assessment process in the context of the Common Core State Standards
- Rate and review resources
- Share experiences of using the resources
- Collaborate with colleagues across the consortium states



How could you use the **Digital Library** to support **Teaching and Learning?**



How will you use the
Formative Assessment Process
as an integral part
of improving
Teaching and Learning?



Evidence Generally Collected Through In-Class Observations

Domain 1 Classroom Environment, Student Engagement and Commitment to Learning²

1

Teachers promote student engagement, independence and interdependence in learning and facilitate a positive learning community by:

- 1a.** Creating a positive learning environment that is responsive to and respectful of the learning needs of all students.
- 1b.** Promoting developmentally appropriate standards of behavior that support a productive learning environment for all students.
- 1c.** Maximizing instructional time by effectively managing routines and transitions.

Domain 3 Instruction for Active Learning

3

Teachers implement instruction to engage students in rigorous and relevant learning and to promote their curiosity about the world at large by:

- 3a.** Implementing instructional content for learning.
- 3b.** Leading students to construct meaning and apply new learning through the use of a variety of differentiated and evidence-based learning strategies.
- 3c.** Assessing student learning, providing feedback to students and adjusting instruction.

Evidence Generally Collected Through Non-Classroom/Reviews of Practice

Domain 2 Planning for Active Learning

2

Teachers plan instruction to engage students in rigorous and relevant learning and to promote their curiosity about the world at large by:

- 2a.** Planning of instructional content that is aligned with standards, builds on students' prior knowledge and provides for appropriate level of challenge for all students.
- 2b.** Planning instruction to cognitively engage students in the content.
- 2c.** Selecting appropriate assessment strategies to monitor student progress.

Domain 4 Professional Responsibilities and Teacher Leadership

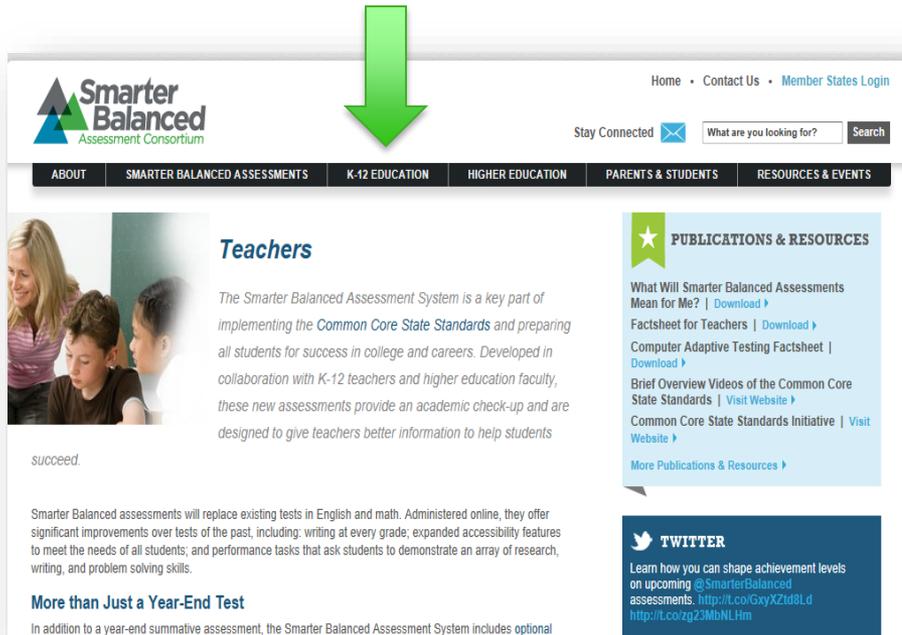
4

Teachers maximize support for student learning by developing and demonstrating professionalism, collaboration and leadership by:

- 4a.** Engaging in continuous professional learning to impact instruction and student learning.
- 4b.** Collaborating to develop and sustain a professional learning environment to support student learning.
- 4c.** Working with colleagues, students and families to develop and sustain a positive school climate that supports student learning.

Find out More

www.SmarterBalanced.org



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Teachers

The Smarter Balanced Assessment System is a key part of implementing the Common Core State Standards and preparing all students for success in college and careers. Developed in collaboration with K-12 teachers and higher education faculty, these new assessments provide an academic check-up and are designed to give teachers better information to help students succeed.

Smarter Balanced assessments will replace existing tests in English and math. Administered online, they offer significant improvements over tests of the past, including: writing at every grade; expanded accessibility features to meet the needs of all students; and performance tasks that ask students to demonstrate an array of research, writing, and problem solving skills.

More than Just a Year-End Test

In addition to a year-end summative assessment, the Smarter Balanced Assessment System includes optional

PUBLICATIONS & RESOURCES

What Will Smarter Balanced Assessments Mean for Me? | [Download >](#)

Factsheet for Teachers | [Download >](#)

Computer Adaptive Testing Factsheet | [Download >](#)

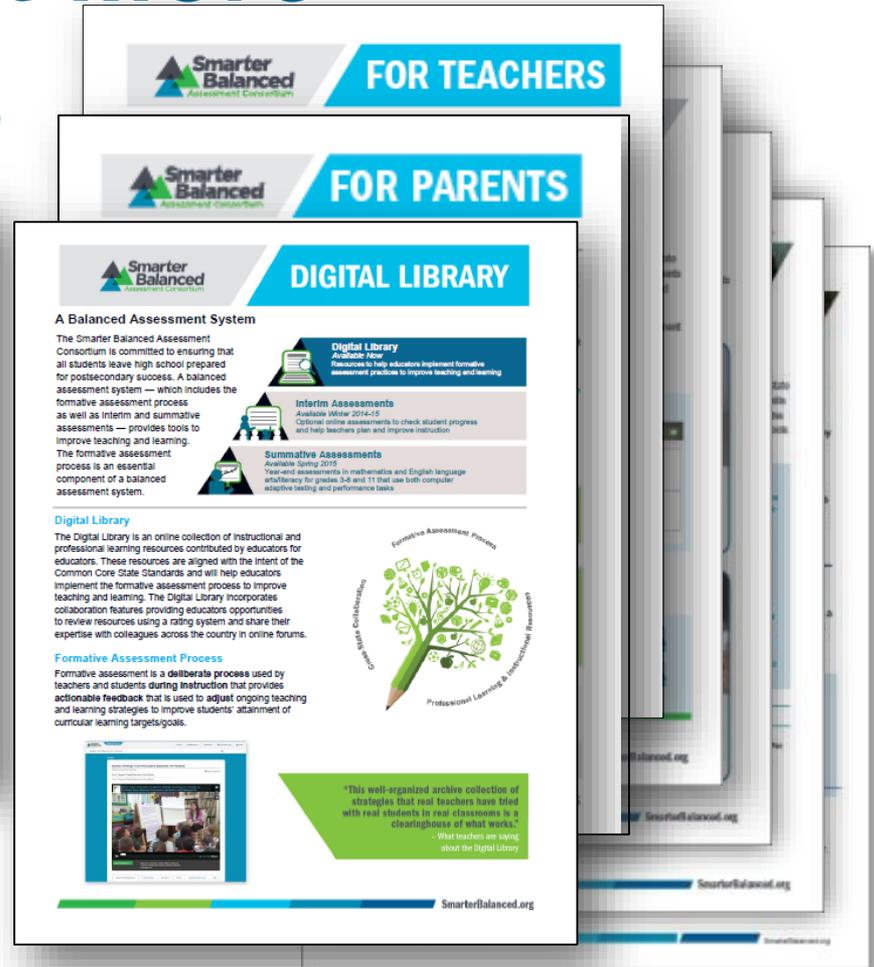
Brief Overview Videos of the Common Core State Standards | [Visit Website >](#)

Common Core State Standards Initiative | [Visit Website >](#)

[More Publications & Resources >](#)

TWITTER

Learn how you can shape achievement levels on upcoming @SmarterBalanced assessments. <http://t.co/GxyXZtd8ld>
<http://t.co/zg23MbNLHm>



Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium

FOR TEACHERS

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FOR PARENTS

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DIGITAL LIBRARY

A Balanced Assessment System

The Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium is committed to ensuring that all students leave high school prepared for postsecondary success. A balanced assessment system — which includes the formative assessment process as well as interim and summative assessments — provides tools to improve teaching and learning. The formative assessment process is an essential component of a balanced assessment system.

Digital Library

The Digital Library is an online collection of instructional and professional learning resources contributed by educators for educators. These resources are aligned with the intent of the Common Core State Standards and will help educators implement the formative assessment process to improve teaching and learning. The Digital Library incorporates collaboration features providing educators opportunities to review resources using a rating system and share their expertise with colleagues across the country in online forums.

Formative Assessment Process

Formative assessment is a deliberate process used by teachers and students during instruction that provides actionable feedback that is used to adjust ongoing teaching and learning strategies to improve students' attainment of curricular learning targets/goals.

Digital Library
Available Now
Resources to help educators implement formative assessment practices to improve teaching and learning

Interim Assessments
Available Winter 2014-15
Optional online assessments to check student progress and help teachers plan and improve instruction

Summative Assessments
Available Spring 2015
Year-end assessments in mathematics and English language arts/history for grades 3-8 and 11 that use both computer-adaptive testing and performance tests

Formative Assessment Process
Professional Learning & Instructional Resources
Digital Library
Collaborative Learning Communities

"This well-organized archive collection of strategies that real teachers have tried with real students in real classrooms is a clearhouse of what works."
— What teachers are saying about the Digital Library

SmarterBalanced.org

Resources in Spanish

www.smarterbalanced.org/parents-students/como-ayudar-a-todos-los-estudiantes-a-que-tengan-exito/

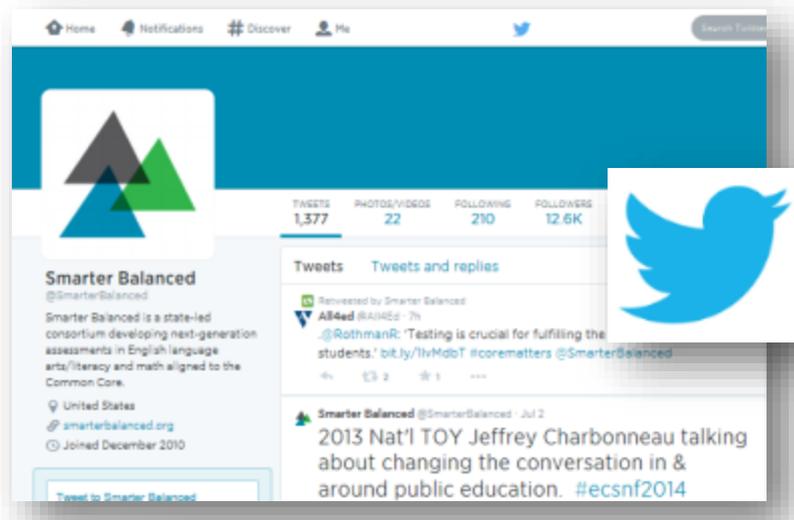
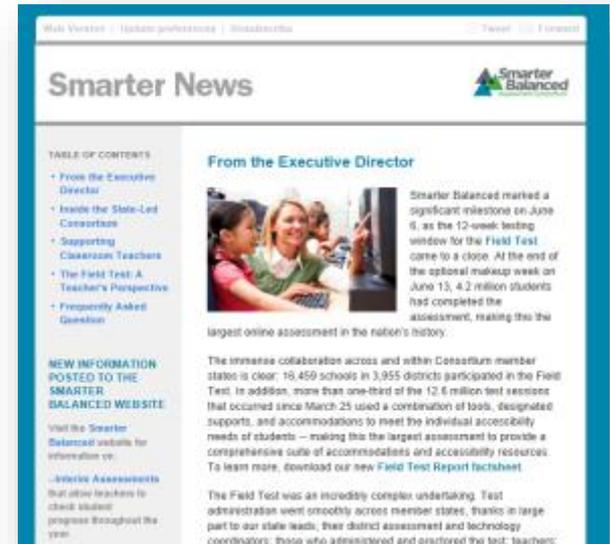


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CTAA

Connecticut Alternate Assessment
(Developed with NCSC)



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[Archived Student Assessment News](#)

November 19, 2014

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Connecticut

State Department of Education Web site:

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Student Assessment

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