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**A newsletter to keep Colorado
teachers and school administrators
up-to-date on current CSAP issues**



Show What You Know® Publishing Newsletter

THE LEADING PUBLISHER OF K-12 TEST-PREPARATION MATERIALS

FALL 2007 ISSUE

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New Science standards spawn new focus

Angela L. Gorter

Show What You Know® on the CSAP Editor

Educators in Colorado have begun the school year with new tools for teaching, thanks to the 2005-2006 "Year of Science."

In September 2005, Science-concerned educators and policy makers set out to evaluate student performance in science based on existing tested standards. They began by comparing national and international Science standards and student performance.

They then took their research into Colorado classrooms, where they found educators frustrated with the length of the present Science assessment frameworks for grades 5, 8, and 10. It was also acknowledged that half of the Science standards overlapped, and that there was an imbalance in content represented in the assessment frameworks.

After collecting data based on historical trends and

research, the "Year of Science" concluded with the report, "The State's Formula for Success." Statements made in the report, such as, "students are not predominantly fluent in any one Science arena," and, "regardless of gender, ethnicity or poverty, students in Colorado are operating below state expectations," further emphasized the need for revised standards.

Following a compilation of recommendations by faculty and focus groups, and the Annual Standards & Assessment Conference, the Colorado Board of Education approved new science assessment frameworks in February 2007.

The new standards eliminated redundancies and replaced curricular activity with statements of concepts they represented.

Additionally, the standards and benchmarks were condensed, which dropped the number of standards from six to five, and significantly lowered the number of benchmarks and objectives assessed. The new standards also include more focused content areas. In the revised standards, three standards focus on key content area and two concentrate on the process and nature of Science. Contrastly, in the 1995 standards, three standards were based on scientific investigation, application, and connections, and three were based on Physical, Life, and Earth Science; all sharing interconnected expectations.

The new standards are being incorporated in the curriculum for the 2007-2008 school year. The Colorado Student Assessment Program (CSAP) Test also is expected to include questions aligned with the new Science standards.

(See page 3 for Standards Chart)



Science Workbooks and Flash Cards available at
www.passthecsap.com or 1.877.PASSING

Flash Cards bring some TV glitz, glam into classrooms

Courtney Huckabay
Show What You Know® Publishing

The nationally broadcast “Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader?” Fox Broadcasting Company’s TV show might be a flashy way to integrate education into entertainment, but the Show What You Know® Publishing Flash Cards are bringing it into the classroom.

Teachers can play their own version of the game show using Show What You Know® Publishing Flash Cards for students in 3rd through 10th grades. Whether it’s just a few minutes before that last bell rings, or it’s time to brush up on the previous grade’s standards, the Flash Cards provide a fun way to study for the CSAP without being intimidating.

“The students will gain confidence in their knowledge and their ability to answer test questions correctly by using the Show What You Know® Flash Cards,” Show What You



Know® Publishing President Cindi Englefield said.

Just embody the Jeff Foxworthy stage presence and start with a deck of Flash Cards from one grade level below the students’ current standing – and you’re off! Because the Flash Cards all are specifically aligned with the Colorado Model Content Standards,

students will be preparing for the test without even realizing it. The affordability of the Flash Cards allows for playing the game like the actual TV show as well – with several grade-level decks for students to pick from a

previous year’s testing knowledge. One deck, containing more than 100 cards, is a great value at only \$14.95.

Englefield agreed, “The students have fun with this activity and don’t even realize that they are learning the skills needed to succeed on the CSAP.”

If the show’s top fifth-grade students Alana, Jacob, Kyle, Marki, and Spencer can contend with adult Marines, teachers, engineers and attorneys, surely students everywhere can face the CSAP with all the confidence of a game-show contestant. Be sure to check out a sample Flash Card inside the new Fall Catalog, or contact Show What You Know® Publishing for a free sample at 1.877.PASSING. Find even more ways to incorporate Flash Cards into your curriculum at <http://www.eapublishing.com/PDF/NationalFlashCardArticle.pdf>.

Educational Funding Sources

The Show What You Know® test-prep materials comply with Federal requirements, so put your grant money to good use!

\$ Title I
Improving Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged/Improving Basic Programs Reading First Comprehensive School Reform

\$ Title II
Improving Teacher Quality

\$ Title IV
21st Century Community Learning Centers

\$ Title V
Innovative Programs

\$ Title VI
Rural Education Achievement Program (REAP)

\$ GEAR UP
Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs

\$ Read to Achieve

\$ Charter Schools Program



“NCLB Tidbits”

Recent headlines on NCLB in the state of Colorado



Draft bill heats up NCLB-renewal debate
Lobbyists and advocates spent the last week of the August congressional recess reading through the 435-page draft bill that outlines key House members’ plans to change the accountability system by measuring students’ academic growth and adding other indicators to those in Reading and Mathematics.

September 5, 2007
David J. Hoff
EdWeek
<http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2007/09/05/02miller.h27.html?mp=851779238>

the amount of classroom time spent on subjects that are subject to testing under No Child Left Behind. The report indicates that schools are focusing more on Reading and Math at the expense of Social Studies, Science and other subjects.

July 30, 2007
<http://www.smartbrief.com/news/ascd/storyDetails.jsp?issueid=033FC22A-D72A-4055-AD4E-9E52E8B3A270©id=40B48736-B959-42E6-994B-19C7884DFDC0&lmcid=4378692&brief=ascd>

Study: NCLB impacting classroom focus
According to a study from the Center on Education Policy, a significant number of school districts nationwide have reduced

<p>Upcoming Conference & Exhibit</p>	<p>Please stop by our booth to review our complete line of test-preparation materials & get a free Flash Card sample!</p> <p>Colorado Council of Teachers of Mathematics Denver, Booth #305 October 4 & 5</p>
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Testing Dates

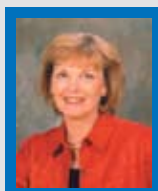
February 18–29
Grade 3
Reading only
Results reported in May

March 3–April 11
Grades 3-10
CSAP all subjects
Results reported in July

New Science standards chart

Colorado Student Assessment Program: Science Assessment Frameworks	Former Standards: Grade 5	New Standards: Grade 5
Standard 1	4 Benchmarks 7 Objectives	2 Benchmarks 8 Objectives
Standard 2	Strand 1 3 Benchmarks 6 Objectives	8 Benchmarks 16 Objectives
	Strand 2 3 Benchmarks 4 Objectives	
	Strand 3 3 Benchmarks 3 Objectives	
Standard 3	Strand 1 4 Benchmarks 11 Objectives	8 Benchmarks 13 Objectives
	Strand 2 2 Benchmarks 7 Objectives	
	Strand 3 3 Benchmarks 15 Objectives	
	Strand 4 4 Benchmarks 10 Objectives	
Standard 4	Strand 1 5 Benchmarks 11 Objectives	9 Benchmarks 13 Objectives
	Strand 2 3 Benchmarks 10 Objectives	
	Strand 3 3 Benchmarks 10 Objectives	
	Strand 4 5 Benchmarks 13 Objectives	
Standard 5	4 Benchmarks 7 Objectives	2 Benchmarks 3 Objectives
Standard 6	5 Benchmarks 9 Objectives	N/A
Total	6 Standards 11 Strands 51 Benchmarks 123 Objectives	29 Benchmarks 53 Objectives 5 Standards N/A

Why does the Show What You Know® Program work?



A Word From Cindi Englefield, President/Publisher

Our easy-to-use research-based program integrates three essential elements for passing a high-stakes standardized test, such as the CSAP: **Knowledge, Practice, and Test-Taking Skills**. The foundation for a confident, successful test-taker is established when these three elements are combined. The Show What You Know® Workbooks and Flash Cards are designed based on these research-based elements and focus on teaching the skills needed to test well. These materials are **specifically aligned with each standard, benchmark, and assessment objective of the Colorado Model Content Standards**. For more information on the Show What You Know® program, go to www.passthecsap.com. To review our research-based documentation, go to <http://www.passthecsap.com/PDF/ColoradoResearch.pdf>.