

Getting to Know the Texas Adult Education and Literacy Content Standards, v.4 Session Handout Packet

Presenter: AnneMarie Molinari-Sanders, M.Ed., TRAIN PD @ TCALL, Texas A&M University

Conference: *2024 TWC Adult Education and Literacy Fall Institute*

Handout #2: Texas AEL Content Standards: Structure Pyramid

Content Area: The big ideas that flow through the curriculum

Subarea: Delineate information for each Content Area into content area topics

Subarea Standard: Describe what learners **should know and be able to do** within a specific Content Area

Benchmark: Describe a **set of skills** that learners need to develop to meet the subarea standard

Texas AEL Content Standards Lesson Plan Template

Instructor: _____ Course: _____ Date: _____

Target student audience (level):		
Texas Adult Education and Literacy Content Standards v. 4	Academic skills:	
	Connection to occupational content:	
	Workplace readiness/employability skills:	
Essential questions: What big ideas will students explore or investigate?		
Lesson objective:		
Level objectives:	Lower level: Students will be able to	Higher level: Students will be able to
Evidence of learning/assessment: (Think about this first: how will you check for comprehension during the lesson, and how will you assess success at the end?)	Student will demonstrate	
Materials needed:		

Lesson Stage	Activity	
Warm-Up/Review		
Introduction (Relate to student experience, goals, prior knowledge)		
Presentation (Whole group)		
Step 1: Modeling (I do)		
Step 2: Guided practice (We do)		
Step 3: Independent practice (You do)	Lower level	Higher level
Assessment		
Application		
Reflection		

Teacher Reflection:

How did the lesson go? What worked well? Was there anything that didn't work as planned?
How should I modify this lesson next time I teach it?

Digital Resources for Standards-Based Instruction

1. [A Garden Grows in Brooklyn](#) – This is the direct link to the *A Garden Grows in Brooklyn* video that was presented during the Standards 3.0 training. This video is available to download and use for instructional purposes with no copyright restrictions from the PBS Learning Media website.
2. [Adult Numeracy Network](#) – This free website has resources for rich math problems, lesson plans, math activities, virtual manipulatives, digital math instruction, and more. All of these options can be integrated into a lesson for the Family or Civics Content Standards.
3. [Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy Sharing Stories](#) – A list of books for parents and caregivers to explore with their children. Each title has a Parent Guide (available in English and Spanish) that provides ideas about how to use the book. All of the books are in print and should be available at local libraries or bookstores.
4. [Colorin Colorado](#) – A bilingual site for educators and families of English language learners.
5. [CommonLit.org](#) – This is a free digital resource with graded reading passages that address a variety of topics, themes, and reading strategies. The resources are suitable for addressing the Family and Civics Content Standards. Teachers need to create an account to access all the features.
6. [CommonSense.org](#) & [WideOpenSchool.org](#) – Both websites have videos to share with students and their children. The videos can be used to address Family Content Standards. These sites also have citizenship resources to address the Civics Content Standards.
7. [Desmos](#) – Desmos Classroom is a free teaching and learning platform for mathematics instruction. Instructors can find free interactive math tools such as graphing and scientific calculators.
8. [EPIC](#) – This website provides a large collection of digital books for kids of various ages. Educators can join the site for free.
9. [iCivics.org](#) – This website champions equitable, non-partisan civic education and inspires life-long civic engagement by providing high-quality and engaging civics resources to teachers and students. This site provides resources for the Civics Content Standards.

10. [How Urban Farming Saved a Dallas Community](#) – A YouTube video featuring Bonton Farms located in South Dallas. This self-sustaining urban farm supports and encourages community involvement and outreach.
11. [LitWorld](#) – This free website features Celebrity Read-Alouds which involve famous people reading a variety of children’s books. The videos would provide an excellent activity for a contextualized lesson plan focused on the Family Content Standards.
12. [Mathigon](#) – This website features a variety of free edtech tools for mathematics instruction including manipulatives, polypads, and flashcards.
13. [Newsela.com](#) – Newsela is free to access the news articles only. Teachers need to create an account. It has short stories that could be used in Parent/Child time in a contextualized lesson plan focused on the Family Content Standards.
14. [PBS Learning Media](#) – This site has free digital resources for both Family and Civics Content Standards. The resources include detailed lesson plans, primary source documents, interactive lessons, and videos.
15. [PBS.org/parents](#) – This site has tips and activities to help parents play and learn at home with their children and can be used in a contextualized lesson plan focused on the Family Content Standards.
16. [Pennsylvania Adult Education Resources](#) – This site has a Lesson Bank which can be used as a resource for lesson plans focused on the Family Content Standards.
17. [Readworks.org](#) – This is a free digital resource with graded reading passages that address a variety of topics, themes, and reading strategies. The resources are suitable for addressing the Family and Civics Content Standards. Teachers need to create an account to access all the features.
18. [SERP Institute Resources](#) – The Strategic Education Research Partnership website provides a variety of evidence-based educator resources for literacy, mathematics, social studies, and science. The free resources include large units of downloadable lesson plans and teacher guides.
19. [Smithsonian Learning Lab](#) – The digital learning lab is a free, interactive platform for discovering millions of authentic digital resources, creating content with online tools, and sharing in the Smithsonian’s expansive community of knowledge and learning.

20. [Teaching Skills That Matter](#) – The Teaching the Skills That Matter in Adult Education project (TSTM) trains teachers to integrate the **skills** that matter to adult students using **approaches** that work across critical **topics**. This link is to the homepage of TSTM. In addition to providing best practices and resources, this site provides contextualized lesson plans that can be used in teaching both Family and Civics Content Standards.
21. [Teaching Skills That Matter Financial Literacy](#) - These contextualized lesson plans include the ability to effectively locate, evaluate, and use information, resources, and services and to make informed decisions about financial obligations, budgeting, credit, debt, and planning for the future. The lesson plans can be used to teach benchmarks in the Family Content Standards.
22. [Teaching Skills That Matter Lesson Plan on Money Management](#)
23. [Teaching Skills That Matter Civics Education](#) – These contextualized lesson plans include instruction on the rights and responsibilities of citizenship and civic participation. The lesson plans can be used to teach benchmarks in the Civics Content Standards.
24. [Teaching Skills That Matter Lesson Plan on the Flint Water Crisis](#)
25. [The Change Agent: An Adult Education Magazine for Social Justice](#) – Each issue explores a different social justice topic through student writing, news articles, opinion pieces, classroom activities, poems, graphics, and cartoons. Copies are available through TCALL.
26. [Unite for Literacy](#) – This website provides access to free digital children’s books on a variety of topics with cultural and ethnic variety. The digital books provide text-to-speech audio narration in multiple languages. The written language of each book is available in English and Spanish.
27. [We Speak New York](#) – This site provides civic-focused instruction through videos, and web and print materials. These are resources for both the Family and Civics Content Standards.
28. [Welcoming America](#) – This site provides resources and toolkits for teachers to use in lessons applying the Civics Content Standards.
29. [Wonderopolis®](#) - Wonderopolis was created by the National Center for Families Learning (NCFL) in 2010. The website provides a variety of educational resources for both instructors and parents including the very popular Wonders with Charlie.