

TEKS Update-Vertical Alignment Document AIS-Instructional Services Zaragoza

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Welcome to the TEKS resource system vertical alignment document video. I've already logged in, and I'm going to enter the system as a grade-five English language arts and reading teacher and go and hit Search.

Your vertical alignment documents will be the first component of any content and grade level that is aligned vertically. In English language arts and reading, we have five vertical alignment documents, because we've taken each of our strands-- listening and speaking, oral or written conventions, reading, research, and writing-- and put them into a vertical alignment document, kindergarten all the way through English 4.

As I open up the vertical alignment document, you'll see that fifth grade is in the middle column. I can toggle all the way down to kindergarten using my View Lower Grade arrow, or I can toggle all the way up to English 4 using my right-hand View Higher Grades arrow. I'm going to scroll down past our narrative, our introduction, and go into a standard, where I see some vertical alignment. So here is 5.3B.

So in a vertical alignment document, you'll see that your student expectation is in bold black. If you are in an assessed grade level, you'll have a supporting standard or readiness standard indicated. And then I can click on my plus sign, and it will give me my cognitive expectation followed by my content expectation all in caps. And then it will give me some definitions or my specificity that brings rigor to that standard.

So as 5.3B, if I'm getting ready as the ELAR teacher to instruct a unit, and I want to make sure that my students have the content or skill that they need from fourth grade, I can go and see that 4.3B is the standard that is laying the foundation for my fifth grade. So I see that compare and contrast to describe. So I can see how the cognitive expectation changes from one grade level to another.

Then I can look at my content. In grade four, fourth graders compare and contrasted the adventures or exploits of characters in traditional and classical literature to this expectation. So they should come knowing what a trickster is, other characters in traditional classical literature, and the definition for these specific words.

In fifth grade, we take this content and skill, and they're going to describe the phenomena explained in origin myths from various cultures. It gives me a definition for phenomena, origin myth. And I can see that once my kids are able to do this, now describe, I can think as a teacher, are they orally describing? Are they describing in writing? Are they describing it in a picture? So describe is a cognitive expectation that we need to think about how many different ways can they do that.

And then when they walk into sixth grade, they should be able to, based on what I've done in my fifth-grade classroom, analyze the function of stylistic elements in traditional and classical literature from various cultures. And again here, some specificity that my students should be able to analyze and identify stylistic elements, the function of the elements in the text, and explain how stylistic elements contributes to the overall meaning. It gives me as a teacher some stylistic elements that could be included in that, the possible functions of those, and then some additional definitions.

So all of our vertical alignment documents can be used the same way. I, as a specific grade-level teacher, can see what content and skill a student should have coming from the previous grade level, what I'm doing with that, and where it's going in the next year.

I'm going to go ahead and scroll back up. And as I do, just as a reminder, vertical alignment documents in English language arts-- there are five of them, and they go kindergarten through English 4. I'm going to go now, and I'm going to change English language arts to mathematics, and I'm going to change grade five to grade three and hit Search.

So in math, our vertical alignment documents are a little different. We have vertical alignment documents, still the first component as I went in, and this first vertical alignment document will go kindergarten all the way to Algebra 1. Then we have a second vertical alignment document that will go grades three through eight, all the statistic standards and alignment.

If I change grade three to grade five, staying in mathematics and search, again, here's my vertical alignment document, the very first component. This first one will go kindergarten through Algebra 1. There's this same exact three through eight statistics. But now I have two additional vertical alignment documents. I have a fifth-grade through eighth-grade algebra, and a fifth-grade through eighth-grade geometry.

So these vertical alignment documents work the exact same way. When I open it up, here is Algebra 2. And you can see that there is no toggle switch, because that's where this vertical alignment document will end. And then I can scroll down and look all the way from fifth grade to Algebra 2, and I can look at all of the standards and see how one is supporting and building on from one grade level to another.

If you have an area where there is a gray line section, that means this 6.2D stops and mastery is there, and they are not building on that in seventh grade around this particular SE. So I go back and back one more time. So just as a recap, if I am in mathematics, mathematics goes kindergarten, Algebra 1 then we have a statistics vertical and document, an algebra, as well as a geometry.

If I change to kindergarten, and I'm going to move into science now, science has a little different vertical alignment documents. Still the first component, but you can see that this vertical alignment document is kindergarten through grade two. If I go to third grade, and I go to science, you'll see it's grade three through five. So in elementary, science vertical alignment documents are grade-banded, K-2 and 3-5. If I go and change to grade six, staying with my science, and hit Search, that vertical alignment document is also grade-banded, sixth to eighth grade.

Now just as a reminder, if I go to a high school course and I go and look for my science courses-- I'm going to just choose biology-- and hit Search, you'll notice that there are no vertical alignment documents. The first document there is our clarification, because for science, our high school science courses are not vertically aligned to anything. Their first component is their clarification document. That's that one course, that one grade level, all your standards. They are not vertically aligned to any other subject areas.

So I'm going to go back up to kindergarten, and I'm going to move subjects to our last core area of social studies, and I'm going to hit Search. Social studies is like science, where they are grade-banded. So for social studies we go kindergarten through grade three vertical alignment. If I go to fourth grade, because this vertical alignment stops at grade three, and stay with social studies, I can see that I have a vertical alignment document. There's a fourth grade and seventh grade, because Texas history is supporting and feeding seventh-grade Texas history.

If I change my grade to fifth, staying with social studies, this is a great vertical alignment document, because this is truly feeding that first history test in grade eight as well as a student's EOC in US history. So this particular vertical alignment document is grade five, which builds and supports on to grade eight, which is the foundation and content for US history vertical alignment document. So just as a recap, social studies is K-3, 4-7, 5-8, and US history.

So all of the other courses outside of these, if I go to sixth grade, and I stay with social studies you'll see that there is no vertical alignment document, because sixth-grade social studies content is not vertically aligned to any other subject area. So you start with a clarification document. Thank you for watching the TEKS resource system vertical alignment document video.

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