



Calendar of Events:

March Academies
Canceled

April 2
PD Day

April 2-4
Spring Break

June 10-12
Math CAMP

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CIITS Links](#)

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Log into CIITS and
click on this image
to leave a suggestion
for how to improve
CIITS.

Friday Focus

CARTER COUNTY SCHOOLS

Volume 2, Issue 23

March 21, 2014

CIITS Update

Throughout the year, CIITS has been transforming so that it is more teacher-friendly. There have been several updates that will allow educators to perform tasks that are vital to assessment and lesson plan creation. Below you will find some of the changes that will prove to be most beneficial to you as a teacher.

Co-Authoring

One of the most helpful revisions to CIITS was the opportunity it gave to "co-author" assessment items. This made collaboration much easier, and it was a great example of CIITS being modified to meet the expressed needs of users. With the newest release of CIITS 15.3, we find more changes to the co-authoring tool that enhance it even more. It has been updated by:

- Providing you folders that can be shared with co-authors, and these folders allow you to manage three components in your assessments: items, passages, and rubrics.

- Allowing co-authors to create items, passages, and ru-

brics directly on the co-authoring page and in co-authoring folders. Items can be moved between folders, and multiple items can be shared at the same time.

- Enabling users to be added as a co-author as long as they have access to Assessment Admin (regardless of their permission to create or edit items).

New Science Standards Added to CIITS

The new science standards are now available for use within CIITS, and the official name of these is Kentucky Core Science Standards. Because the old standards are still in CIITS, make sure you use the ones with this title. An important issue with these new standards is that work designed using the old standards will be invalid--you must go in and align to the new standards.

Student Test-Taking Tips

Students can benefit from some common test-taking tips when taking online assessments, but they may not know how to use them with CIITS. Some that you may want to share with students include:

1. Highlight text. When reading

passages you can highlight text by clicking the Highlight button. This button appears only when test questions contain passages.

2. Hide/show answer choices. You can eliminate choices that you know are wrong and are distracting, and that helps you focus on correct answers. Click Hide to remove an answer and Show to make it viewable again. Things that are hidden become a light gray in color.

3. Flag a test question. Click the Flag button to keep track of questions that you want to come back to later.

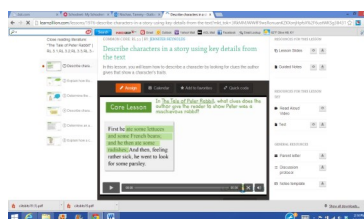
4. Pause the test. If allowed by the teacher, you can click the Pause button to stop the test clock. You will return to the place where you left off, and your answers will be saved.

5. Scroll. Sometimes an answer choice is below the bottom of the screen. Use the Scroll Bar to show more of the passage.

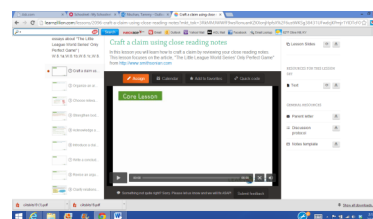
6. View Test Summary. The Test Summary button provides a list of all unanswered and flagged questions. Click a question to return to it.

LearnZillion

LearnZillion may be one of those CIITS resources you've never gotten around to exploring, and let's hope this article changes that. LearnZillion combines over 3600 teacher-made video lessons with accompanying assessment and progress reporting--and they are all aligned with CCSS. The math and ELA resources found here target grades 2-12. Click on this link to access a quick two minute video that introduces the resources in LearnZillion to you. (Be patient, it takes a while to load.) You can explore materials by: 1) viewing offerings at subject/grade levels, 2) using the "Common Core Navigator" to see content by specific standard, or 3) typing a general query into the Search bar. Click on the images below to view some sample lessons recently highlighted by LearnZillion.



Elementary



Middle School



High School