

SpringBoard®

Frequently Asked Questions

What is SpringBoard®?

SpringBoard is a college and career readiness program for ALL students, grades 6–12, in English Language Arts and Mathematics from the College Board. SpringBoard provides a research-based and research-proven on-ramp to college readiness, including Advanced Placement® (AP®) courses. Written by teachers for teachers, SpringBoard makes rigor accessible to ALL learners through a flexible framework that integrates instructional materials, performance-based assessments and exemplary professional development.

Why do school districts choose SpringBoard?

- ▶ To increase the level of rigor in their curriculum.
- ▶ To accelerate learning and close the achievement gap.
- ▶ To prepare more students for AP, college and careers.

What makes SpringBoard unique?

The College Board has backmapped, from AP courses and college-level work, the skills and knowledge students need to be successful in preparing for college. SpringBoard provides a vertical alignment of these skills starting in grade 6, scaffolding them through grade 12, to ensure that ALL students are prepared for the rigorous courses required of today's students. SpringBoard was developed using the Understanding by Design model, employing proven strategies to enable students to “think deeply” and take personal responsibility for their learning.

Is SpringBoard a core or supplemental program?

Both the English Language Arts and Mathematics programs are comprehensive enough to be used as a core curriculum. SpringBoard's structure and flexibility also allow it to be used initially with other programs or resources to help ease the transition.

English Textual Power™: Grades 6–12

- ▶ Levels 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and Senior English

Mathematics with Meaning™: Grades 6–12

- ▶ Middle School Math 1
- ▶ Middle School Math 2
- ▶ Middle School Math 3
- ▶ Algebra 1
- ▶ Geometry
- ▶ Algebra 2
- ▶ Precalculus

Will SpringBoard meet our state standards?

SpringBoard not only meets state standards but also exceeds them through further alignment with the Common Core State Standards and the rigorous College Board Standards in English Language Arts and Mathematics.

Is there research on the impact of SpringBoard?

Westat, a leading research organization, conducted an independent longitudinal research study comparing the results of SpringBoard and non-SpringBoard districts. SpringBoard was shown to have “significant benefit in increasing student achievement.” The executive summary of this report and other success stories can be found at springboardprogram.collegeboard.org/case-study.

How does SpringBoard support English language learners?

- ▶ Differentiated learning strategies are incorporated in teaching suggestions for each activity.
- ▶ Training emphasizes the use of learning strategies to meet special needs.
- ▶ Collaborative activities enable all students to be engaged.

Many districts, such as Hobbs Municipal Schools in New Mexico, have experienced success using SpringBoard with their ELL and special education students. View the Hobbs Success Story at springboardprogram.collegeboard.org/case-study.

How was SpringBoard developed?

SpringBoard is based on extensive research with college faculty, middle and high school teachers, and content experts from across the country. The program's pedagogical foundation consists of the skills, concepts and strategies identified by college faculty that students need for success in AP courses and college-level work without remediation.

- ▶ SpringBoard was written by teachers for teachers.
- ▶ Instructional content was reviewed by curriculum specialists.
- ▶ Assessments meet the high standards of the College Board.

“SpringBoard sets a level of expectations and challenge that is consistent across all educational environments where it is employed. In this way, an entire school can calibrate its curriculum to a common and appropriate standard of college readiness.”

— David T. Conley, *Author of College Knowledge: What It Really Takes for Students to Succeed and What We Can Do to Get Them Ready* (San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2005)

What are the program's components?

Consumable Student Edition

- ▶ Culturally relevant activities provide context for learning.
- ▶ Collaborative activities engage all students.
- ▶ Students learn strategies they can apply to all courses.

Annotated Teacher Edition

- ▶ Essential questions guide and focus learning.
- ▶ Teaching strategies proven successful in AP courses.
- ▶ Flexibility to incorporate other resources.

Formative Assessments

- ▶ Embedded Assessments — Performance-based measurements.
- ▶ Unit Assessments — Contain the College Board's high-quality test items with distractor rationales.
- ▶ Student & Teacher Reflections — Unit self-assessments.

SpringBoard® Online

- ▶ Customizable assessments and reports to inform instruction.
- ▶ Instructional materials and resources correlated to state standards, the Common Core State Standards and the College Board Standards.
- ▶ A Professional Learning Community — A peer-to-peer Web 2.0 resource for teachers and administrators to exchange ideas, discuss hot topics and share documents.

Professional Development

All trainers are current or former SpringBoard teachers, coaches or administrators extensively trained and certified by the College Board, bringing practical experience in successful implementation.

- ▶ Administrator Workshops — Provide administrators with the knowledge and tools they need to support their teachers.
- ▶ Summer Institutes — Teachers participate in three days of Initial Institute training in year one and two days of Advanced Workshop training in subsequent years.
- ▶ Coaching Services along with the option of onsite Progress Monitoring are available to enhance SpringBoard implementations.
- ▶ One-Day Focus Seminars
 - Curriculum Mapping
 - Cognitive Coaching
 - And more...

“SpringBoard has been the single most significant influence on my professional development as a teacher.”

— Paul De Maret, AP Teacher
Poudre School District, Fort Collins, CO

SpringBoard now serves over 1.4 million students.

42 of the nation's top 100 largest school districts have implemented SpringBoard:

- New York City Department of Education, NY
- Los Angeles Unified School District, CA
- Chicago Public Schools, IL
- Miami-Dade County Public Schools, FL
- Clark County School District, NV
- Broward County Public Schools, FL
- Houston Independent School District, TX
- School District of Philadelphia, PA
- Hillsborough County Public Schools, FL
- Orange County Public Schools, FL
- School District of Palm Beach County, FL
- Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, NC
- Prince George's County Public Schools, MD
- Cypress Fairbanks Independent School District, TX
- Pinellas County Schools, FL
- Baltimore County Public Schools, MD
- Jefferson County Public Schools, KY
- Albuquerque Public Schools, NM
- Polk County Public Schools, FL
- Northside Independent School District, TX
- Austin Independent School District, TX
- Baltimore City Public School System, MD
- Fort Worth Independent School District, TX
- Denver Public Schools, CO
- Guilford County Schools, NC
- Brevard Public Schools, FL
- Fort Bend Independent School District, TX
- Greenville County Schools, SC
- Pasco County Public Schools, FL
- Volusia County Public Schools, FL
- Aldine Independent School District, TX
- Seminole County Public Schools, FL
- Washoe County School District, NV
- Mobile County Public Schools, AL
- Boston Public Schools, MA
- San Antonio Independent School District, TX
- Cleveland Metropolitan School District, OH
- Tucson Unified School District, AZ
- Clayton County Public Schools, GA
- Cherry Creek Schools, CO
- Brownsville Independent School District, TX
- Atlanta Public Schools, GA
- Hawaii Department of Education, HI

SpringBoard® For information, call 877-999-7723 or visit www.collegeboard.org/springboard.