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Curriculum Management  
and Standards-based System

# Glossary

## Common Core Curriculum Maps

### ELA/Pre-K – Grade 2

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# Pre-K – Grade 2

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**adventure** A type of story with an unusual and exciting experience or activity

**alphabetical order** to sort or organize based on the letters of the alphabet

**apostrophe** A punctuation mark (') used to indicate either possession or the omission of letters or numbers

**author** A writer of a story, article, book, or other piece of writing

**beat** A main accent or rhythmic unit in music or poetry

**beginning** the point in time or space at which a story starts

**bold print** type that is thicker and heavier in print, usually in order to emphasize a key idea or term

**book** A written or printed work consisting of pages glued or sewn together along one side and bound in covers

**capitalization** To use the large alphabetic characters as the first letter in a sentence or in reference to a proper name

**caption** A title or brief explanation appended to an article, illustration, or poster.

**category** A class or division of people or things regarded as having particular shared characteristics

**character** In literature, a figure that has a particular personality with distinctive traits

**clue** A piece of evidence or information that is used to solve a puzzle, mystery, or to determine word meaning

**comma** A punctuation mark (,) indicating a pause between parts of a sentence; also used to separate items in a list and to mark the place of thousands in a large numeral

**compare** To show how two things are similar

**complete sentence** A grammatical unit that expresses a complete idea and contains both a subject and a verb, or simple predicate

**compound word** A word composed of two or more stems; a word formed by joining two or more simple words

**conjunction** A word used to connect clauses or sentences.

**connections** Linking one thing with another

**consonant** A basic speech sound in which the breath is at least partly obstructed and which can be combined with a vowel to form a syllable and a letter that represents such a sound

**context clue** Information that can be found from the words, phrases, or illustrations that surround an unfamiliar word

**contraction** A word or group of words resulting from shortening an original form

**contrast** To show how two things are different

**definition** A statement of the exact meaning of a word

**details** An individual feature or fact that relates to a larger idea

**diagram** A simplified drawing showing the appearance, structure, or workings of something; a schematic representation

**dictionary** A book that lists the words of a language in alphabetical order and gives their meaning

**edit** To search for errors and make corrections in a piece of writing

**ending** An end or final part of something, esp. a period of time, an activity, or a book or movie

**events** Something that happens at a given place and time

**exclamation point** A punctuation mark (!) indicating an exclamation

**fable** A short story, typically with animals as characters, conveying a moral

**fact** Something that can be proven to be true; verifiable through research not based on opinion or preference

**fairy tale** A children's story about magical and imaginary beings and lands

**fiction** Stories, tales, and novels that describe imaginary events and people

**folktale** A story that is sometimes shared orally and that is passed from one generation to the next in a particular culture

**glossary** An alphabetical list of terms or words found in or relating to a specific subject, usually with explanations; a brief dictionary

**heading** A title at the head of a page or section of a book; a division or section of a subject

**how-to** the procedures for a particular activity; writing detailed, step-by-step instructions

**icon** A symbol or graphic representation on a video display terminal of a program, option, or window, esp. one of several for selection

**illustration** A picture or artwork that helps to make something clear through visual representation

**illustrator** A person who draws or creates pictures for magazines, books, advertising, etc.

**imaginary** Fanciful; not real; existing only in the imagination

**index** An alphabetical list of names, subjects, etc., with references to the places where they occur, typically found at the end of a book

**information** Facts provided or learned about something or someone

**journal** A daily record of news and events of a personal nature; a diary

**lesson** The moral; what was learned by the character or the reader

**letters** A character representing one or more of the sounds used in speech; any of the symbols of an alphabet

**linking words** Another name for conjunctions. Words or phrases which link ideas within sentences and across sentence and paragraph boundaries

**listening** To hear something; to give one's attention to a speaker

**long vowel** The sounds vowels make when they "say their name", although there may be multiple ways of spelling the vowel sound

**lowercase** The small alphabetic characters

**magazine** A periodical publication containing articles and illustrations, typically covering a particular subject or area of interest

**main idea** The most important thought or idea that is presented and supported by other details and points

**menu** A list describing what is available

**newspaper** A printed publication (usually issued daily or weekly) consisting of folded unstapled sheets and containing news, feature articles, advertisements, and correspondence

**nonfiction** Writing that is based on facts, real events, and real people, such as biography or history

**observation** A remark, statement, or comment based on something one has seen, heard, or noticed

**opinion** A view or judgment formed about something, not necessarily based on fact or knowledge

**opposite** A person, thing, or concept that is totally different from, or the reverse of someone or something else

**period** A punctuation mark (.) used at the end of a sentence or an abbreviation

**plot** The main events of a play, novel, movie, or story

**plural** More than one

**poem** A kind of writing, usually in verse. Poetry verse is set out in short lines with words put together in rhythm or rhyme or both; usually shares an experience or strong feelings; written with words chosen for their sounds and beauty as well as their meaning

**predicate** The part of a sentence or clause containing a verb and stating something about the subject

**prefix** Letters or letter combinations placed at the beginning of a word that change the word's meaning

**procedure** A series of actions conducted in a certain order or manner

**pronunciation** The way in which words are spoken

**punctuation** The marks, such as period, comma, and parentheses, used in writing to separate sentences and their elements and to clarify meaning

**purpose** The reason why something is done or why something is written

**question mark** A punctuation mark (?) indicating a question

**question words** interrogative words; who, what, where, why, and how

**reason** an explanation or cause for an action or event

**report** A spoken or written description of an event, topic, or situation; a written document that describes the findings on a topic, event, or situation

**resolution** an ending; the way a problem is solved

**retell** Tell (a story) again or differently

**revise** To look over and change something originally written

**rhyme** Words, syllables, or lines that have or end with similar sounds

**rhythm** A strong, regular, repeated pattern of movement or sound

**root word** A word with no prefix or suffix added

**setting** The place or type of surroundings where something is positioned or where an event takes place

**short vowel** Make a short sound and appear between two consonants (cat, bed, hid) or in the beginning of a word (at, us, ink)

**spelling** The process or activity of writing or naming the letters of a word

**story** An account of imaginary or real people and events

**subheading** A heading given to a subsection of a piece of writing

**subject** The noun to which the rest of the sentence relates

**suffix** Letters or letter combinations placed at the end of a word that change the word's meaning

**summary** A brief statement or account of the main points of something

**syllable** A unit of pronunciation having one vowel sound, with or without surrounding consonants, forming the whole or a part of a word

**table of contents** A list of divisions (chapters or articles) and the pages on which they start

**topic** The subject matter of a text or conversation

**uppercase** Capital letters as opposed to small letters (lowercase)

**vowel** A speech sound that is produced by comparatively open configuration of the vocal tract; a letter representing such a sound--a, e, I, o, u