

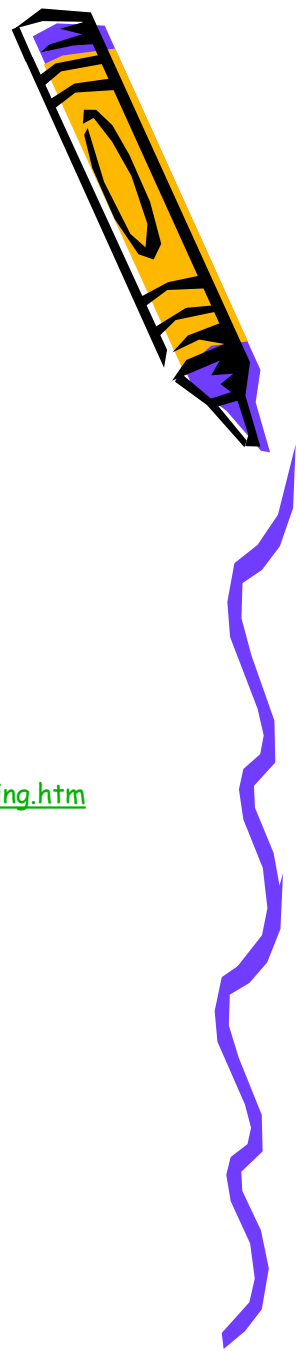
# What is Kindergarten Readiness?



New Hampshire defines kindergarten readiness as: children possessing the skills, knowledge and attitudes necessary for success in school and for later learning and life. Kindergarten readiness is a shared collaboration between families, schools and communities promoting student success.

*Kindergarten Readiness Indicators Task Force, 2012*

# Readiness Goals and Guidelines can be found in many places.



- Kindergarten½ day program CCSS Pacing Guide @<http://www.education.nh.gov>
- NH STATE PIRC Kindergarten Readiness Brochure [INFO@NHPIRC.ORG](mailto:INFO@NHPIRC.ORG)
- Preparing My Child for Kindergarten CarrollCountyUnited.org
- Tri County Head Start's School Readiness Goals Berlin NH 752-7138
- NH Kindergarten Readiness Indicators
- Early Learning Standards Birth - Five years: [http://www.education.nh.gov/instruction/curriculum/early\\_learning.htm](http://www.education.nh.gov/instruction/curriculum/early_learning.htm)
- Annual Growth, Catch-up Growth, Fielding, Kerr & Rosier
- Yardsticks, Chip Wood
- Extraordinary Parents, Lynn Fielding
- Mind in the Making, Ellen Galinsky

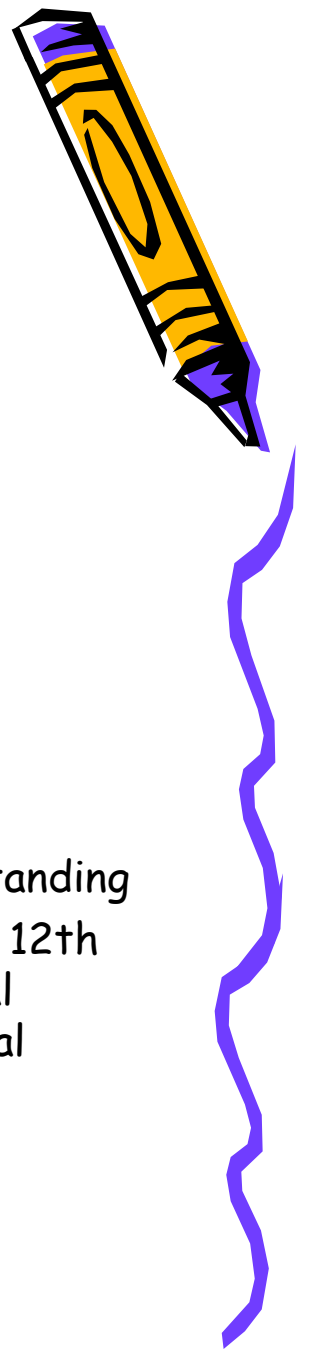


# COMMON CORE

- New levels of literacy are required in the information economy of today. Digital access!
- During the four years between 1997 and 2002, the amount of new information produced in the world was equal to the amount produced over the entire previous history of the world (Darling-Hammond et al. 2008).



# Growth Takes Time

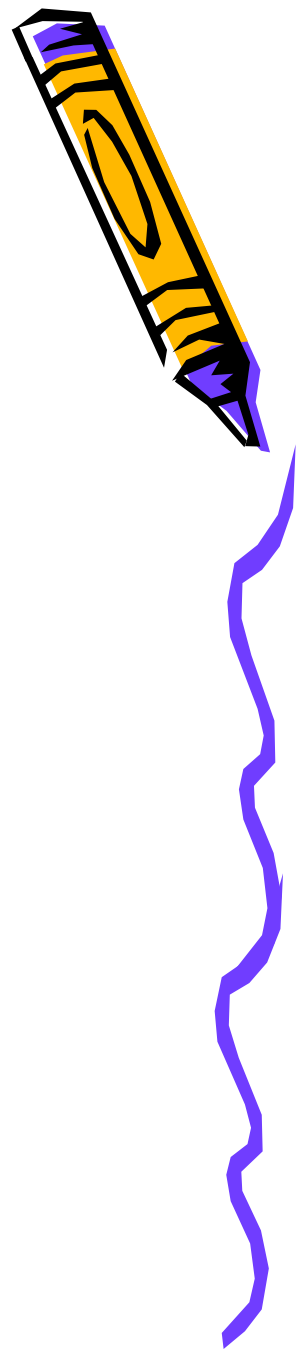


- Change is hard, moves slowly, until POOF! - times have changed!
- (cell phones, diminishing land lines; microwaves, tea kettles)
- 25 years ago, 95% of jobs required low skills
- Today low skill jobs constitute only 10% of our entire economy
- (Darling-Hammond et al. 2008).
- The goal of the common core standards is to build a common understanding of education standards about what students in Kindergarten through 12th grade are taught so they can be competitive in the 21<sup>st</sup> century global economy. States can supplement the common core with their individual state standards.



# CCSS

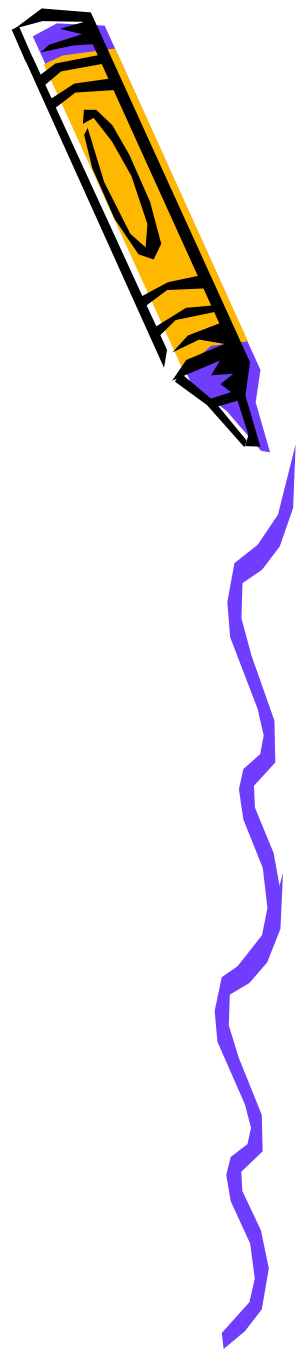
## High, Clear and Few



- Ten anchor standards in reading
- Ten in writing
- Step by step progression of skills
- Collaboratively collect student exemplars
- Develop rubrics
- Baseline narrative pre-test
- Direct instruction of personal narrative using the writing process
- On demand post test in three genres using pacing guide
  - Narrative
  - Argument
  - information



It's a process!  
THREE PHASES:  
INITIAL  
IMPLEMENTATION  
INSTITUTION



# "ready to learn".

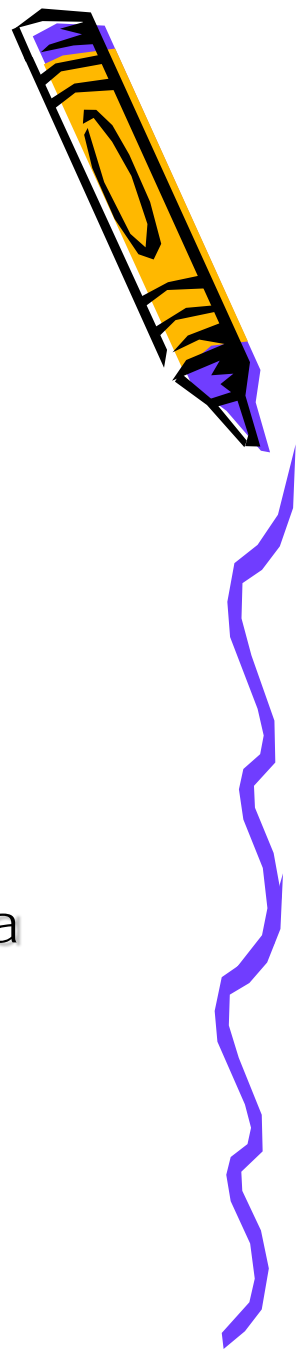
- As James Heckman, a Nobel Laureate in Economics states, "Effective early childhood education packages skills such as attentiveness, impulse control, persistence and teamwork. Together, cognition and character drive education, career and life success- with character development often being the most important factor".





## Effectiveness Factors for Early Education Programs for Children From Birth to Age 5

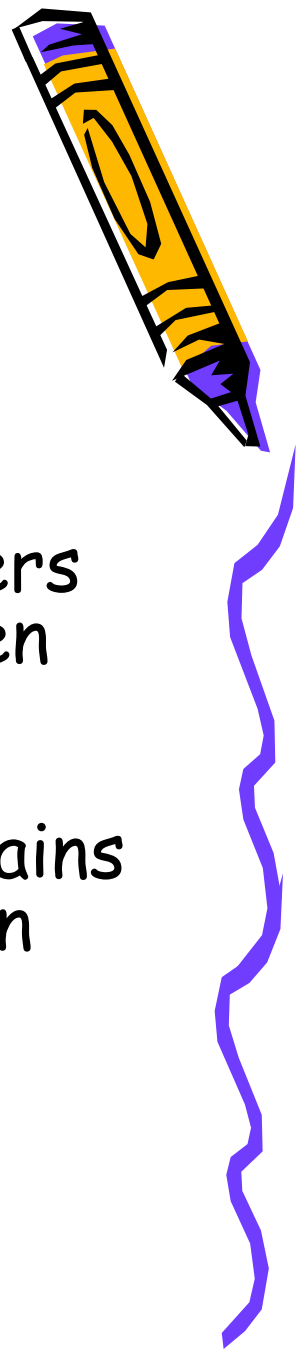
- Language-rich environment
- Warm and responsive adult-child interactions
- Qualified and stable workforce
- Small group sizes and high adult-child ratios
- Developmentally appropriate, intentional curricula
- Safe and regulated physical setting





## Transition from Preschool to Kindergarten

- CCSS are not a national or state curriculum nor are they federally mandated. **Standards** do not tell teachers how to teach, but provide a kindergarten through 12th grade **roadmap for what students should know and be able to demonstrate as mastered skills**. It remains up to each local school district to design curriculum to help their students successfully achieve the standards."



## Learning goes from hand to head

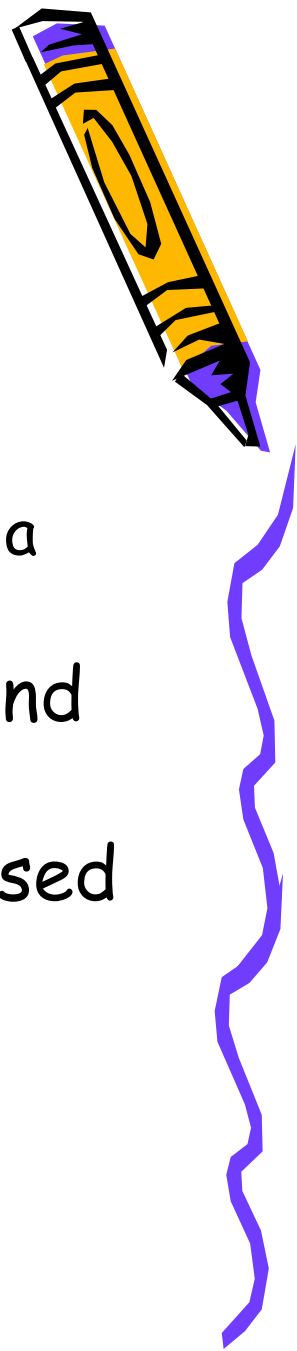


- One quarter of the kindergarten experience should be in physical activity. Kindergarten is intended as active learning!
- Four year olds and early fives need focus on redirecting behaviors.
- Ask questions that lead to the next level of cognitive exploration and understanding.
- Five year olds are bound by the senses, restricted by what they see.
- Focus on one thing at a time.
- Keep expectations clear and simple.
- Kindergarten is intended to be taught developmentally, meeting the needs of young children *and* increasing skills.

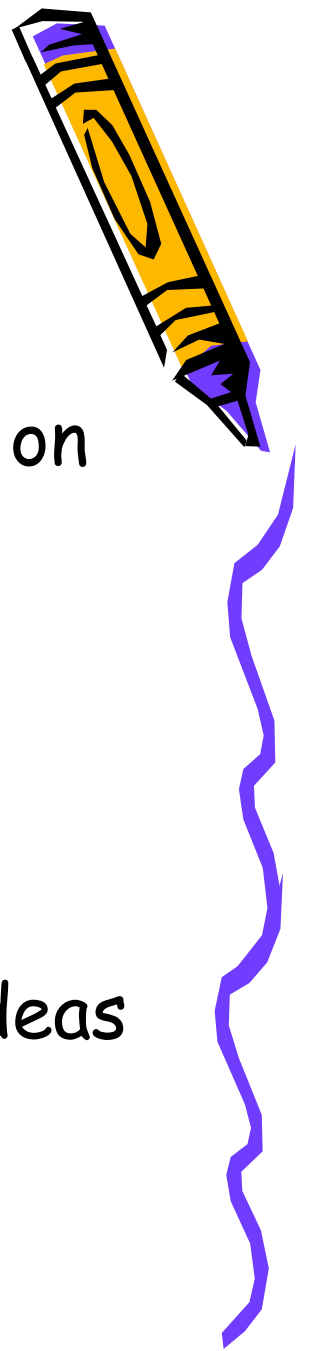


The goal is clear. The path is not.

- All learning standards are like raw ingredients to a cake. (The goal is to bake a cake, the *flavor* depends on the district curriculum.) The *classroom* cake will depend on the recipe (the teacher) used and baking skills. Teachers make choices based on the instructional needs and current skills of their students.



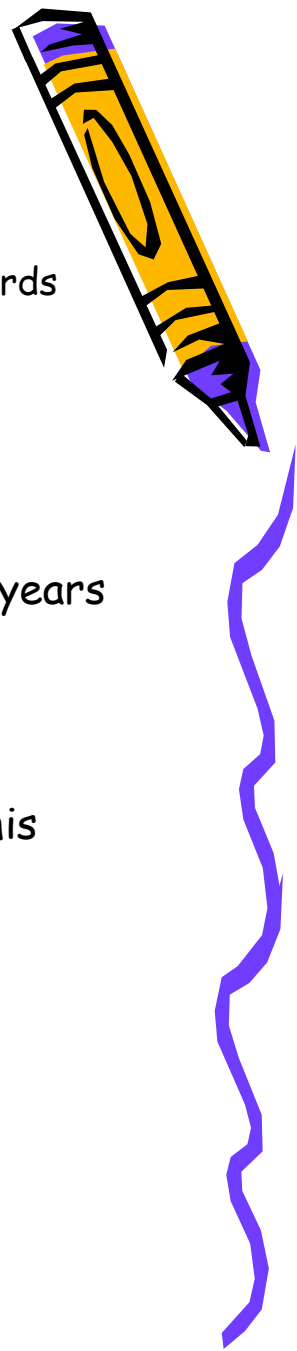
# The Path



- Collaboration with peers and reflection on these ambitious expectations of the common core is necessary for success
- Collaboration amongst teachers within grade levels and grade spans
- Collaboration amongst peers to share learning experiences, to question new ideas and to explain individual thinking



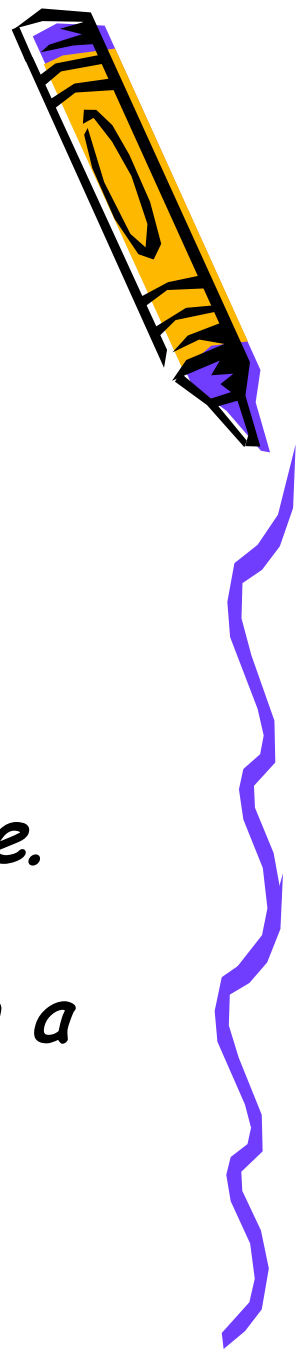
# Wake up call



- *CCSS* emphasize much higher-level comprehension skills than previous standards
  - Place equal weight on reading and writing
  - Stress the importance of critical citizenship
  - Emphasize reading complex text
  - Has a clear design, with central goals and high standards
  - Convey that intellectual growth occurs through time, across years and across disciplines
  - Call for proficiency, complexity, and independence
  - Support cross-curricular literacy teaching
  - Emphasize that every student needs to be given access to this work
  - Aim to put every state on the same measuring stick
  - respect the professional judgment of classroom teachers
    - » Pathways to the Common Core by Lucy Calkins



# Writing Schedule and Overview



- Pacing guide (curricular plan)
  - Use mentor texts
  - Mini lessons
  - Prompting and support

*All children develop at their own rate.*

*Some will develop these skills a bit earlier, and some will develop them a little later.*



# How to help the preschooler get ready for the common core



- Read Kindergarten Readiness Guidelines prepared by Team Carroll County United
- Mastery is not required, practicing is!
- Get started on different skills, mix it up!
- The Common Core is what we teach all year. At the **end of the teaching year** your student will develop many of the skills in the kindergarten Common Core Standards.



# Thank You!

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