

6. Benchmarks and Action Examples

The AASL *Standards for the 21st-Century Learner* will have a positive effect on student achievement when the standards are translated into the teaching and learning that happens every day in the library and classrooms of the school. The learning skills, dispositions, responsibilities, and self-assessment strategies presented in these standards must be explicitly taught by library media specialists and classroom teachers in the context of classroom curriculum. Students and teachers will find that content learning is enhanced as students develop their repertoire of skills, strategies, attitudes and commitment toward learning.

To facilitate the process of bringing the *Standards for the 21st-Century Learner* alive in school instructional programs, the following sections present Action Examples for library units and lessons on the new standards. The examples have been divided into sections by the benchmark years of grades 2, 5, 8, 10, and 12. All benchmark-year sections include the skills that might be taught at those grades so that students develop complex and sophisticated learning skills over the course of their years in school. In addition, each section includes example lessons with a description of the instructional context.

These Action Examples represent a variety of content areas, library contexts, and collaboration levels in order to outline possibilities for implementation of the *Standards for the 21st-Century Learner* in any school situation. No Action Example is intended to be prescriptive or complete, but each is offered as a framework upon which library media specialists can build instructional programs that support all students in their development as empowered 21st-century learners.

The following grid outlines the Action Examples included in the following sections.

Grade	Skill	Disposition	Responsibility	Self-Assessment	Content Area	Content Topic	Library Context	Level of Collaboration
K	1.1.2	3.3.5	2.3.1	2.4.3	Language Arts/Health/Social Studies	Community Helpers	Flexible Lesson in a unit	Moderate
1	3.1.1 3.1.3 3.1.4	2.2.4	1.3.4	1.4.2	Science	Insect investigation	Flexible Multiple lessons in a unit	Moderate
2	1.1.1 1.1.3 1.1.4 1.1.6	1.2.1 4.2.3 1.2.5 1.2.6	1.3.3 1.3.5	1.4.2 1.4.4 2.4.1 2.4.3	History	African American history	Flexible Multiple lessons in a unit	Intensive
3	1.1.6	2.2.4	NA	1.4.4	Political Science/ Civics	Branches of government	Combination Stand alone lesson	Limited
4	2.1.6	2.2.4	1.3.5	3.4.2	Science/ Technology	Parts of the food web	Fixed Stand alone lesson	None
5	1.1.3	1.2.1	NA	2.4.2 3.4.2	Health	Nutritional value of snack foods	Fixed Lesson in a unit	Intensive
6	3.1.5	2.2.4	2.3.1	4.4.5	Science	Energy sources and the environment	Flexible Multiple lessons in a unit	Intensive
7	1.1.4 1.1.5	1.2.1 1.2.4	1.3.3	1.4.1 1.4.2	Social Studies/ Language Arts/ Technology	Community history	Flexible Multiple lessons in a unit	Intensive
8	3.1.4 3.1.6	2.2.4 3.2.1	3.3.5 3.3.7	1.4.1 3.4.2	Science/Math/ Language Arts	Global warming	Combination Multiple lessons in a unit	Moderate

9	4.1.7	4.2.1 4.2.2	4.3.1 4.3.4	1.4.2 1.4.4 4.4.1	English/ Technology	Favorite author	Individualized instruction	None
10	2.1.4	2.2.3	3.3.4	1.4.3	Math	Comparing data using InspireData software	Flexible Stand alone	Limited
11-12	4.1.3	3.2.3	3.3.7	2.4.2	English/ Language Arts	Folktales and culture	Flexible Multiple lessons in a unit	Intensive