

What can Community Based Organizations (CBO's) and Private Child Care Providers do to connect their programs to the Common Core State Standards?

- Review your program activities and the Common Core State Standards to see what you are *currently* doing that is related to the Common Core State Standards.
- Develop and utilize a program flier to educate schools and parents regarding the learning opportunities and activities your organization offers to support the common core standards and youth success.
- Build a relationship with the schools your participating youth attend. Become familiar with the school's goals and School Improvement Plan (SIP). Connect with the Principal, Teachers, and Afterschool Coordinator. Contact the School Community Council Chair and participate in School Community Council, PTA and other school meetings where parents will be present to discuss specific standards your program can support.
- Promote READING at all opportunities: reading directions (recipes, games, worksheets, reading challenges, assembly of toys/furniture). Provide books on topics that the youth love and have a passion for.
- Promote applied MATH skills: sports scores (rankings, individual and team statistics, etc.). Talk about comparisons, bigger than, taller than, shorter than, etc. These are math skills too! Build this into your discussions about sports events.
- Be ready to support the youth in your program as school assignments become more difficult and challenging. Be patient.
- Provide the time, appropriate environment and resources needed to study and complete homework assignments while at your program.
- Provide opportunities for reading. Reading a variety of books increases vocabulary, comprehension, general knowledge of the world, and promotes a love of learning. Fill your center with opportunities to read.
- Review the PTA Common Core resources for practical strategies and ideas.
- Provide Common Core information to partnering organizations who deliver services in your programs.
- Provide summer learning opportunities that align to the core to reduce the "summer slip" or learning loss.
- Hire a part time paraprofessional from a local school to work in your afterschool program.