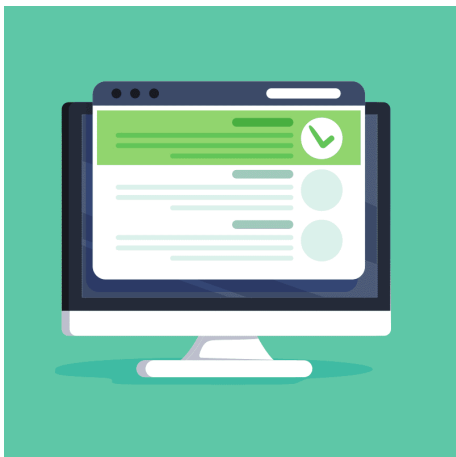


Key Features of the New Pearson Curriculum

Overview

The new Pearson Curriculum is offered in the following courses for District Partners:

- Social Studies 3–5
- Language Arts 6–8
- Science 3–8
- Physical Science
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Economics



Quick Checks

Quick Checks are assessment activities in the curriculum that provide teachers the opportunity to quickly view student progress on a lesson-by-lesson activity basis and determine which students need additional support prior to unit tests. Students must complete the Quick Check in each lesson to mark the activity as complete.

Benefits of Quick Checks

Quick Checks provide the following benefits to teachers and students:

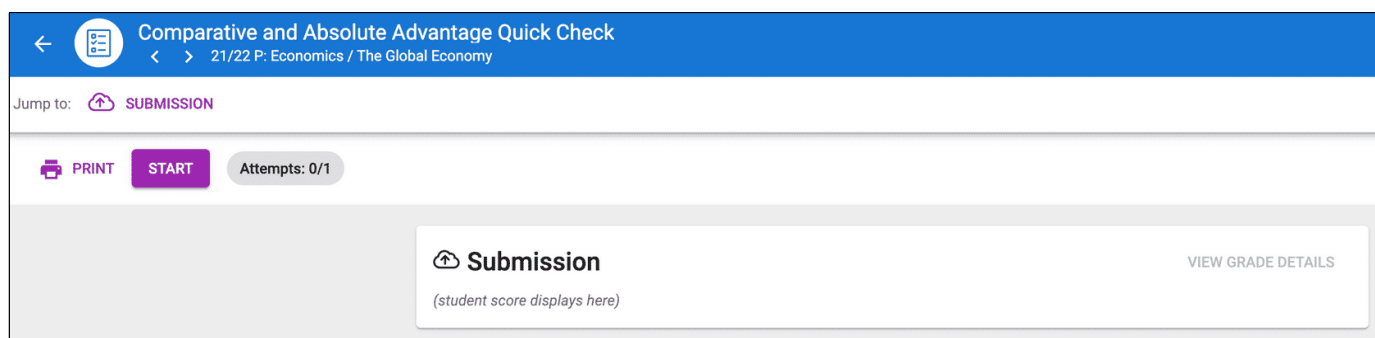
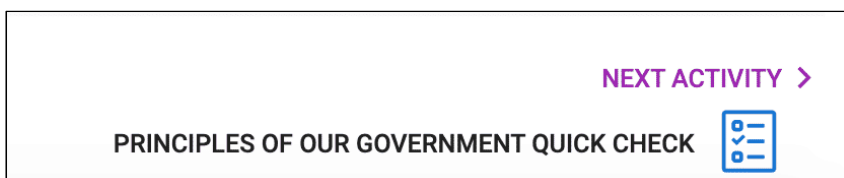
- lesson-by-lesson Gradebook data to inform teachers about their students and how they are progressing throughout the course
- confirms a student's understanding of the lesson content
- prepares students for the assessment at the end of a unit and can also be used for review

Where to Find Quick Checks

Quick Checks appear at the end of each lesson activity.

A student can take their Quick Check by selecting the Next

Activity button to move through the lesson, or students can access the assessments through the Course Tree under Course Activities.



New Updates to Quick Checks

- Quick Checks occur after each lesson and take the place of quizzes. There are no quizzes in the new Pearson Curriculum courses.
- Quick Checks will default to count for 20% of a student's grade. Since they appear after every lesson, each individual Quick Check accounts for less than 1% of a student's overall final grade. These weights can be modified for users with Administrator or Teacher Author permissions.
- Quick Checks count toward the course grade for all students. This is a new feature for students in grades 3–5. Students in grades 3–5 will be provided with multiple attempts at Quick Check questions.

Sample Communication for Families

Below, you will find a sample communication to share with families if you are asked questions about Quick Checks.

You may adjust this message accordingly based on concerns and/or questions; however, these are the general points you should communicate.



Hello!

As your student progresses through their lessons, they will be regularly assessed on the content so myself or their other teacher(s) can see how they are mastering the course material. Your student will frequently complete Quick Checks in the new Pearson Curriculum courses, and they will count towards your student's grade in the course.

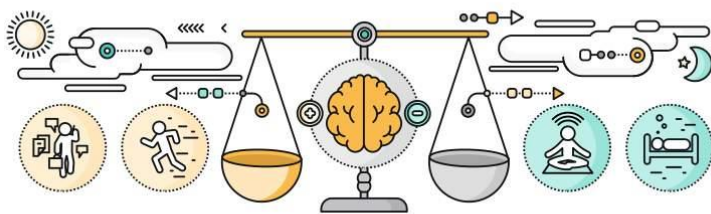
After your student completes a Quick Check, myself or their other teacher(s) will determine if they need more support in that area. Quick Checks will also help prepare your student for the unit test.

Note for grades 3–5: Teachers of students in grades 3–5 may also want to include that Quick Checks will now count towards the student's grade. These students will be provided with multiple attempts at Quick Check questions.

Key Takeaways

- Quick Checks provide lesson-by-lesson activity data to teachers about their students and how they are progressing throughout the course.
- Quick Checks appear at the end of each lesson in the new Pearson Curriculum courses.
- Quick Checks will count towards your student's grade. Students in grades 3-5 will be provided with multiple attempts at Quick Check questions.

Social and Emotional Learning



At Pearson Virtual Schools, we strive to support the whole student academically, socially, and emotionally. The new Pearson Curriculum courses integrate social and emotional learning (SEL) to support students in these areas. Social and emotional learning uses teaching models and practices that influence positive learning outcomes and lifelong success.

The following sections provide an overview of the SEL lessons in the new Pearson Curriculum as well as links to resources to help you prepare for these lessons and share them with your students.

SEL in the New Pearson Curriculum Courses

Each unit in all of the new Pearson Curriculum courses begins with a social and emotional learning lesson designed to help students develop healthy relationships, model positive social behaviors, and effectively manage stress and anxiety. These include real-world examples and scenarios to help students reflect on past experiences and think through new ones.



The examples below display samples of SEL lesson activities in the beginning of each unit. Review them prior to students to prepare for supporting your students with SEL.

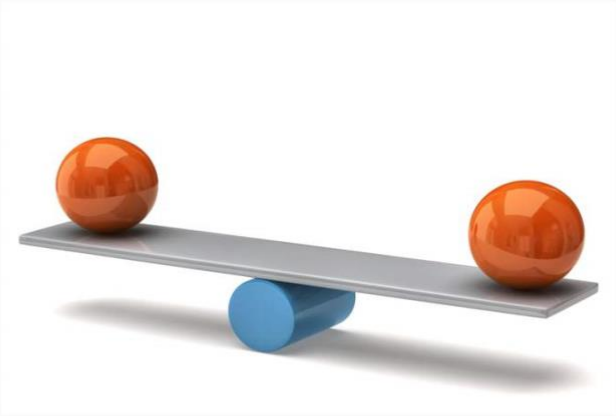
Example 1

Economics: Introduction to Economics

Introduction to Economics Intro
21/22 P: Economics / Introduction to Economics

How to Find a Balance?

page 1 of 4



This lesson uses the Wheel of Wellness. Before starting this lesson, you may want to do a safe Internet search to find an image of the Wheel of Wellness.

Damon is a high school student and is finding that he is having a hard time juggling his course workload, sports, a weekend job, and time with his family and friends. Damon knows that all are important but has to find an alternative path to finding a balance.

< PREVIOUS ACTIVITY NEXT ACTIVITY >

INTRODUCTION TO ECONOMICS SCARCE RESOURCES AND OPPORTUNITY ...

Example 2

Language Arts 8 B: Writing a Narrative

Writing a Narrative Introduction


Language Arts 8 B / Writing a Narrative

Viewing as: Teacher One

page 1 of 4

Do Misgivings Make You Hesitate?

Dana was cleaning out a desk drawer that held her sister's old school papers. She was about to throw them in the recycle bin, and then she noticed the grades—all As and Bs. These must be some of her sister's best papers, Dana thought. Maybe she could reuse some of her sister's ideas, and maybe these papers could save her some time. As soon as Dana considered reusing her sister's papers, she had some **misgivings**, feelings that maybe this wasn't the right thing to do.



< PREVIOUS ACTIVITY

WRITING A NARRATIVE

NEXT ACTIVITY >

WRITING AN INTRODUCTION

Benefits of SEL for Teachers

- The new Pearson Curriculum provides teachers with the opportunity to support the whole student—not only academically but also socially and emotionally—with SEL lessons at the start of every unit across all new Pearson Curriculum courses.
- Teachers can build and deepen relationships with students through the various SEL lessons and activities.
- Teachers can help set students up for success at school and beyond by helping them grow their social emotional awareness and skills.

Teacher Preparation and Knowledge of SEL

Teachers can prepare by referring to the SEL lesson in an upcoming unit. Use these SEL resources throughout the school year to help you prepare for these lessons with your students.

More information about SEL competencies can be found on the [CASEL SEL Framework website](#). These competencies include the following:

- Increased Academic Success – Stronger emotional and social skills can improve academics.
- Healthier Relationships – Student behavior will likely improve as students get better at problem-solving, working with others, and managing their emotions.
- Positive Social Behaviors – Students interact better with others after being exposed to SEL activities.
- Less Emotional Distress – Increase skills and knowledge gained through social emotional learning leads to fewer occurrences of depression, stress, anxiety, and social withdrawal.



Review the [Virtual Dynamic Classroom Instructional Model Playbook for District Partners](#) for an overview of SEL in the new Pearson Curriculum.

Sample Communication for Families



Hello!

Each unit in every new Pearson Curriculum course begins with a social and emotional learning (SEL) lesson designed to help students develop healthy relationships, model positive social behaviors, and effectively manage stress and anxiety. We believe that this is important as SEL uses practices that influence positive learning outcomes and lifelong success.

Below are some examples of SEL competencies used in the new Pearson Curriculum:

- self-awareness
- self-management
- social awareness
- relationship skills
- responsible decision-making skills

Thank you for partnering with us in this important area that is key to your student's growth and success.

Key Takeaways

The new Pearson Curriculum provides teachers with the opportunity to support the whole student—not only academically but also socially and emotionally—with SEL lessons at the start of every unit across all the new Pearson Curriculum courses.

Resources

- [CASEL SEL Framework website](#)
- [Virtual Dynamic Classroom Instructional Model Playbook for District Partners](#)

For additional support, contact the Help Desk at 844-597-3224, Option 2.