

Clear Learning Targets

Learning Target Types

Knowledge Targets

Knowledge targets represent the factual information, procedural knowledge, and conceptual understandings that underpin each discipline.

Examples:

- Recognizes acute, obtuse, and right angles
- Describes how organisms interact with each other to transfer energy and matter in an ecosystem.

Reasoning Targets

Reasoning targets specify thought processes students are to learn to do well within a range of subjects.

Examples:

- Uses data from a random sample to draw inferences about a population with an unknown characteristic of interest.
- Draws conclusions from experiment results.

Skill Targets

Skill targets are those where a demonstration of physical skill-based performance is at the heart of the learning.

Examples:

- Integrates voice into character development (theater).
- Measures properties of objects using balances and thermometers.

Product Targets

Product targets describe learning in terms of artifacts where creation of a product is the focus of the learning target. With product targets, the specifications for quality of the product itself are the focus of teaching and assessment.

Examples:

- Creates an accurate, complete, and organized display of data obtained through scientific investigation.
- Writes opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information.

Activity

Classifying Learning Targets

Mark each learning target with one of the following letters to indicate what types of target it is: K (knowledge), R (reasoning), S (skill), P (product).

1. Recognizes similes, metaphors, and analogies. _____
2. Measures cardiorespiratory fitness accurately. _____
3. Distinguishes between historical fact and opinion. _____
4. Knows that the pitch of a sound depends on the frequency of the vibration producing it. _____
5. Produces maps, charts, and graphs to scale. _____
6. Participates in civic discussions with the aim of solving current problems. _____
7. Identifies design elements in a work of art. _____
8. Substantiates main points with examples, facts, and anecdotes. _____

Classifying Target Type and Content Standards Key Words

Target Type	Content Standards Key Words
Knowledge/ Understanding	explain, understand, describe, identify, tell, name, list identify, define, label, match, choose, recall, recognize, select
Reasoning	<i>Analyze:</i> components, parts, ingredients, logical sequence, steps, determine, dissect, examine, order <i>Compare/Contrast:</i> discriminate between, alike and different, distinguish between, similarities and differences, juxtapose <i>Synthesize:</i> combine into, blend, formulate, adapt, modify <i>Classify:</i> categorize, sort, group, give examples <i>Infer/ Deduce:</i> interpret, state implications, draw conclusions, predict, determine main idea, generalize <i>Evaluate:</i> justify, support opinion, think critically, appraise, critique, debate, defend, dispute, evaluate, judge, prove
Skills	observe, focus attention, listen, perform, do, question, conduct, work, read, speak, assemble, operate, use, demonstrate, measure, investigate, model, collect, dramatize, explore
Products	design, produce, create, develop, make, write, draw, represent, display, model, constructs

- All content standards can minimally be classified as a **knowledge** target.
- If a content standard is classified as a **reasoning** target, then it is also a **knowledge** target.
- If a content standard is classified as a **skill** target, then it is also a **reasoning** target, and a **knowledge** target.
- If a content standard is classified as a **product** target, then it **MAY** or **MAY NOT** be a **skill** target, but it will also be a **reasoning** and a **knowledge** target.