



# COMMON CORE AND POPULATION EDUCATION

## COMMON CORE: COMMON THEMES

*One of the goals of the Common Core is to create a standardized curriculum that prepares students for college and success in a 21<sup>st</sup> century work environment. The Common Core curriculum aims at teaching students to:*

- *USE TECHNOLOGY TO ACQUIRE KNOWLEDGE*
- *ANALYZE AND EVALUATE INFORMATION*
- *EXPLORE*
- *AND DRAW CONNECTIONS AND CONCLUSIONS BY THINKING CRITICALLY*

## HOW DOES POPULATION EDUCATION ALIGN WITH THE COMMON CORE STANDARDS?

There is considerable amount of overlap and alignment between the goals of Population Education and the Common Core standards. Population Education and Environmental Education (EE) provide a context for learning the objectives of Common Core standards by promoting higher-order thinking about real-world issues. For example, In English Language Arts (ELA), there is an increased emphasis on reading informational and technical material as well as informal and argumentative writing. In mathematics, students are expected to use reasoning and proof, communication, adaptive reasoning, and procedural fluency. In both subjects, students are required to extend their thinking and apply it to the world around them. Population Education curricula provides teachers with lesson plans full of relevant and contemporary issues that will allow students to take what they have learned in class and apply the concepts to contextual real-world problems.

## WHAT CONCEPTS RELATED TO POPULATION EDUCATION ALIGN WITH COMMON CORE?

Population Education gives students an opportunity to see real-world application of ELA and math. For example, a student can apply principles of exponential growth and percentages to a word problem about a nation's population growth trends. Or a student can construct an argument relating population trends and the status of women.

### Population Education provides students with experiences that are:

- **Hands-on:** *Interactive and engaging.*
- **Relevant:** *Relates to real-world issues and solutions.*
- **Interdisciplinary:** *Cross-cut a variety of subjects.*
- **Action Driven:** *Inspires and empowers students to take action in solving environmental issues.*

## WHAT POPULATION EDUCATION RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE THAT ADDRESS THE COMMON CORE STANDARDS?

Population Education offers a variety of classroom resources, lessons, and professional development opportunities to help teachers effectively implement environmental education in the classroom. In Population Education hands-on activities, students partake in scenarios that apply concepts of math, science, social studies, and English language arts to experience and explore contemporary environmental challenges while developing strong critical thinking skills. Resources are available on the Population Education website and through professional development opportunities offered nationwide each year.

**POPULATION EDUCATION**

A PROJECT OF POPULATION CONNECTION

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