



# Broken Arrow Math Update



Monday, March 3, 2014

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## Resources

The state of Oklahoma has released several different links to gain access to assessment tools for the 2014 -15 testing schedule. Item specs are also available for the upcoming testing in April/May.

### **Assessments**

- Beginning in 2014-2015, students in 3<sup>rd</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> grade, Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2 will be assessed over the new Oklahoma Academic Standards for Math, the Common Core State Standards ([CCSS](#)).

- [Blueprints](#)
- [Calculator Policy](#)
- Performance Level Descriptors\*
- Item Specifications\*
- [Reference Sheets](#) \*\*
- [Released Items](#)
- [Pathway Table for High School Courses](#)

\* These items are currently under development (Feb. 2014) and are expected to be available by the end of March 2014.

\*\* The teachers and curriculum directors who participated in the Item Review based on Common Core standards made recommendations to adjust the reference sheets so that only one grade would appear on the student version as to reduce possible confusion. This change is not able to be completed by this spring's field testing, but will take place for operational CCSS assessments during the 2014-2015 school year.

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### **Lesson Planning:**

The state of Alabama has created a free lesson plan database containing access to different areas of mathematics which are aligned to standards. The search engine is easy to use and offers a large set of sources to choose from. Visit this website to explore.

If you are a member of Teachers Pay Teachers, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Math Projects offer hands-on interactive activities to implement curriculum the students have learned while aligning to state standards. There are several resources available that apply to the different content areas of mathematics.

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With common core coming into play, students will be exposed to more extensive statistics curriculum than has been traditionally included in our classrooms thus far. Additional common core aligned resources including probability are available for [6th](#) , [7th](#) , [8th](#) , [Geometry](#) , [Algebra 2](#) , and [High School](#) that include activities you could utilize with your instruction. [Shodor](#) also offers numerous interactive and engagement activities for different aspects of statistics

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**Nepris** is an online platform that makes it easy for teachers to **connect with industry experts** to bring the real world to the classroom. Teachers create a session request based on a topic in the curriculum that can benefit from an industry connection. Nepris finds the right industry professional(s) with skills that match the topic requested. Industry professionals virtually connect with the classroom to deliver an interactive presentation on the chosen topic. Teachers and other education professionals can sign up to the Nepris platform for *free*. Once they sign up, they will have access to all published sessions/topics.

Click [here](#) to access the website.

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Who knew that behind the towering frame of one of basketball's greatest point guards lies a math geek? Earvin "Magic" Johnson and ASPIRE TV network have helped to launch "STEM in Sports," that aims to connect youth to science and math through the sports they love. On the campaign's website, students can watch "The Magic Man" as he shares his love of math and relates how math positively influenced his education and career. In addition to the videos, the site provides a *free* downloadable **learning guide**, featuring student-friendly games and activities for connecting **science and math to basketball**—from the physics of a chest pass to the geometry involved in laying out a good offensive and defensive strategy.

Click [here](#) to visit STEM In Sports page. Click [here](#) to download **FREE** learning guide.

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## Grant Opportunities:

Cox Communications has extended a grant opportunity to educators in the Tulsa area: The Innovation in Education program awards grants to fund classroom, school-wide or larger collaborative educational programs that encourage and promote students' innovation and imagination in public and private schools (grades PreK-12).

Individual classroom grants range from \$1,000-\$5,000 and requests ranging from \$5,000-\$10,000 must promote student learning through a school-wide or collaborative teaching program which incorporates multiple classrooms or grades, course disciplines, or engages other schools.

All requests for Innovation in Education grants must be submitted through an online process by **April 1, 2014** at [www.coxconnectsok.com](http://www.coxconnectsok.com). Applications submitted by e-mail will not be considered.

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The [Harlan Krumme Memorial Energy Education](#) grant is intended to reward innovative teaching techniques and to develop energy education resources for Oklahoma educators. The winning entry will receive a \$500 classroom grant and will be awarded a check for an additional \$500 for the teachers use. The winning lesson will be promoted as a classroom resource for all educators to see and use via OERB's new educator website [www.OERBHOMEROOM.com](http://www.OERBHOMEROOM.com).

**Harlan Krumme Grant Deadline: April 25, 2014.**

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## **Teacher Vision Grants**

Teachers motivate youth to learn to think creatively, to step into leadership roles and to address the challenges of the future. If adequate funding is all that stands between you and a new classroom adventure, American Electric Power's Teacher Vision Grant program may help.

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## Announcements

Interested in **problem-based learning**? Encourage students to find a solution to a real-world problem for the third annual global **Spark!Lab Invent IT Challenge**, sponsored by the **Smithsonian Institution** and **ePals**. Individuals or groups and teams may participate in the challenge organized around four age groups: 5–7, 8–10, 11–13, 14 and above. The real-world problem may be one that everyone in students' neighborhood faces, something that all their friends complain about or an issue they talk about where they live, or a bigger, global problem that affects many people. The entry must describe how students help to solve the problem by inventing something new.

**Deadlines:** April 11, 2014, for submissions; May 2, 2014, announcement of winners.

Click [here](#) for additional information

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## **Student Summer Camp Opportunities**

Universities throughout the state of Oklahoma are offering amazing learning opportunities for our students who are interested in learning more about the areas of math and science. Workshops covering all areas of mathematics and science are available for students to explore and create while experiencing real-life applications.

The attached [list](#) provides the different options accessible to our students for the summer of 2014.