|  |
| --- |
| INSTRUCTIONAL SOFTWARE |
| Title | Basic Description | Content Area/ Standards | Grade Level(s) | Learning Theories | Thinking Skills |
| Skills Tutor | * Drill/Practice
* Tutorial
* Self-paced, student centered
* Assessment
* Reporting

Commercial For Profit; [www.myskillstutor.com](http://www.myskillstutor.com); password: Cobb; site griffin02. | English/Language Arts: Conventions and Reading Comprehension | 8th grade | Direct Instruction | [ ]  Knowledge/ Comprehension[ ]  Application/ Analysis[ ]  Synthesis/ Evaluation |
| Prentice Hall Literature On-line | * Student edition selections on line featuring interactive reading, vocabulary, and literary skills support
* Embedded audio including featured selections and Spanish/English Summaries
* Video segments featuring unit authors
 | English/Language Arts: Reading Comprehension | 8th grade | Direct InstructionSome Constructivist Ideas | [ ]  Knowledge/ Comprehension[ ]  Application/ Analysis[ ]  Synthesis/ Evaluation |
| Perfect Copy | * Editing Program in which students can correct sentences which contain errors
* Self-paced, Student-centered.
* Can be done as a whole class, or used for differentiation with individual students.
* Password: admin
 | English/Language Arts: Writing Standards, esp. in Conventions and Grammar | 8th Grade (all middle school grades available) | Constructivist | [ ]  Knowledge/ Comprehension[ ]  Application/ Analysis[ ]  Synthesis/ Evaluation |
| Inspiration | * Student paced, student centered
* Software application to assist students in mapping their thinking on graphic organizers
* Presentation software
* Great for student differentiation for those students who prefer working on computers than creating their own written graphic organizers
 | English/Language Arts: Writing Standards (directly), Reading Standards (indirectly)  | 8th Grade (all middle school grades available) | Constructivist | [ ]  Knowledge/ Comprehension[ ] Application/ Analysis[ ]  Synthesis/ Evaluation |

1. Use the table below to list the Instructional Software titles available for your grade level(s)/content area(s) and provide a brief description of what learning standards could be addressed by each. You may include free web-based games, tutorials, drills, and simulations that are appropriate to your grade level/content area. Identify the learning theories that undergird the design of each title.
2. Use the table below to list available e-books and e-reference materials for your grade level(s)/content area(s) and provide a brief description of what learning standards could be addressed by each.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Title | Basic Description | Content Area/ Standards | Grade Level(s) |
| Net Trekker (Cobb Virtual Library) | Web sites that have been reviewed by teachers for credibility, depth, and readability. Includes special search tools for images and famous persons, as well as a "read aloud" feature. | ELA Research standards | All Grade Levels; Divided by Elementary, Middle, and High School levels. |
| Opposing Viewpoints in Context (CVL) | News articles, editorials, reference articles, graphics, primary source materials and web sites on controversial issues in science, politics, health, economics, and other areas.  Many leading issues are presented on "Topic Overview" pages which include a description of the controversy and "featured" content that is most relevant to the topic. | ELA Research Standards; ELA Persuasive Writing Standards | All Grade Levels |
| World Book Student Encyclopedia (CVL) | An online encyclopedia including more than 26,000 articles, more than 12,000 pictures and maps, and 7,000 links to editor-approved Web sites useful for exploring topics in more detail.  | ELA Research Standards | All Grade Levels |
| McDougal Littell On-line Textbooks | Provides the same 20 pound textbook we have in class, but is located online. Students must have an access code to get into the books, but very helpful aide to lugging a big book around. ACTIVATION CODE: 3532040-30Product Name: McDougal Littell Literature Grade 8 - eEditionISBN #: 9780618965823 | ELA All Standards | 8th Grade, although all three grade levels have their own access codes. |
| EBSCO Student Research Center (CVL) | Magazines, Newspapers, Biographies, Country Reports, and Videos. | ELA Research Standards; ELA Reading Comprehension Standards | All Grade Levels |
| On-line newspapers (in general) | The same newspaper you would get delivered to your driveway, you can get online (Atlanta Journal Constitution, USA Today, Washington Post, etc.) | ELA Reading Standards/ Expository, Persuasive, and Research Standards | All Grade Levels |

1. Choose one Instructional Software title and describe how you could use this piece of software to help students in your school learn required learning standards in your certification area.

|  |
| --- |
| Software: Skills Tutor |
| Standards Addressed: Reading Comprehension, Vocabulary Development, Conventions Mastery |
| Grade Level/Content Area: 8th Grade/ELA |
| Description of how to implement in the class: I have an interesting situation this year which I have never experienced in my 13 years of teaching. I have 4 ELL students who were just released from the IEL program. Two are really coming along nicely, but there are two girls, who despite their time in the IEL program, still can’t understand a word I am saying in class. They have no grasp of even simple vocabulary. I am not experienced in dealing with ESOL students at this level, so I have been thrust into a difficult situation. This past week, I put the girls on Skills Tutor at the lowest level of reading comprehension. I gave them a pre-test. One girl scored a 17% and the other scored a 33%. Seemingly, the lowest level of Skills Tutor may be too high. But this software program is a good starting place for them, and I will continue to see if they can build their scores. Just as an interesting note, I did try to connect these two students with some on-line games. I was shooting for K-1 levels. What I found was that a lot of on-line games are at the appropriate level once you get into the game, but the directions are very difficult for ESOL low level students to understand. Thought that was an interesting tidbit of information. |