

- 1. Background about LearnZillion
- 2. Ways to use LearnZillion
- 3. Bringing LearnZillion to your district





LearnZillion started as a solution to a problem at E.L. Haynes Public Charter in DC.

Despite great student performance and a talented staff, problems remained:

- How can teachers improve their own content knowledge and improve their practice?
- How can teachers create high-quality, deeply conceptual lessons every day of the year?
- How can we use those same high-quality lessons to provide differentiated instruction?



LearnZillion's

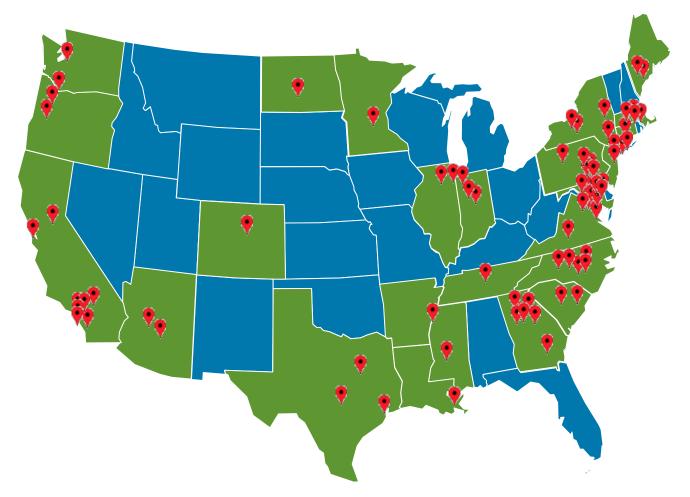


Dream

Team

With the help of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, we recruited a dream team of teachers to help us solve those problems!





We selected 123 excellent public and private school teachers from nearly 1000 applicants. Our Dream Team came to our "TeachFest" in Atlanta from across the country and represented more than 100 districts.



For 3 long (and nerdy) days our Dream Team worked with each other and with top content coaches to break down and research four Common Core standards each.





Over the remainder of the summer and with the help of their expert coaches, our teachers then created ~20 lessons each that provided scaffolded instruction to address their standards in highly conceptual ways.

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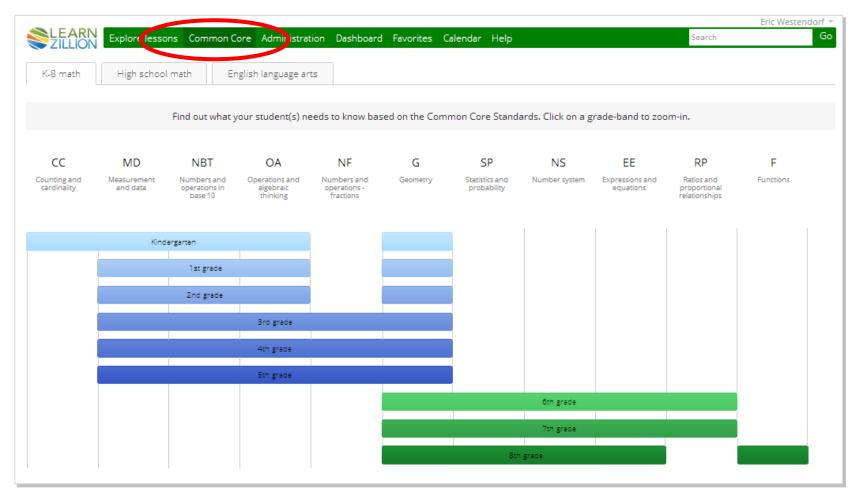
3. Bringing LearnZillion to your district



1. LearnZillion site orientation

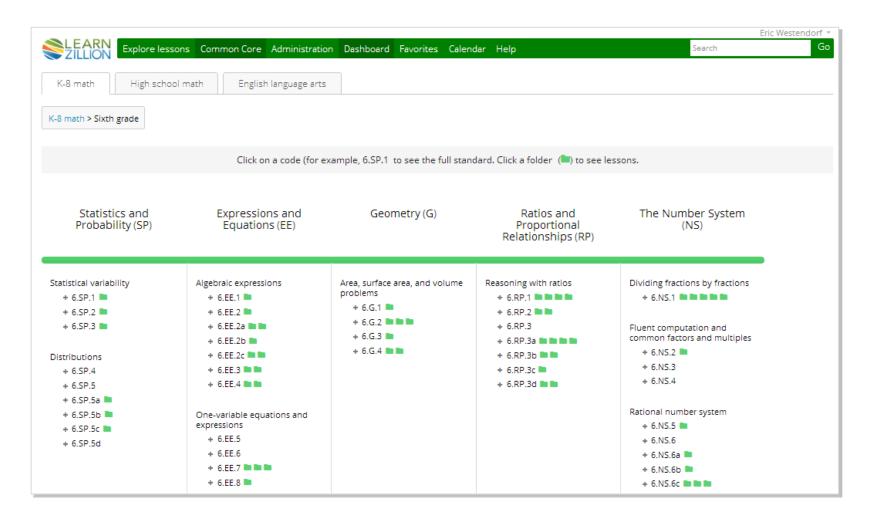
- 2. Four easy ways to use LearnZillion
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 - Assign playlists and mastery quizzes to students
 - Lead professional development with colleagues
 - Better engage parents



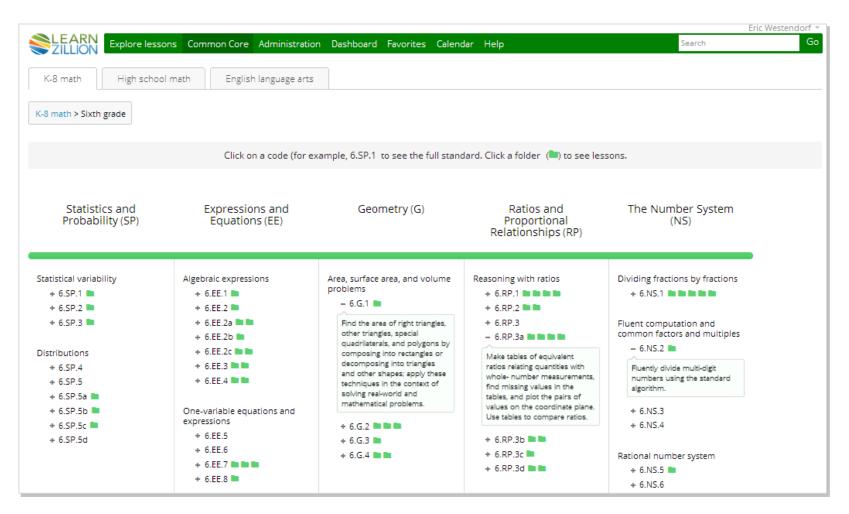


You can search for LearnZillon lessons on our search pages by using keywords or the drop-down menus for domain or standard. You can also search for lessons using our Common Core Navigator tool. This is also a helpful way for teachers to build their understanding of the new standards. By fall 2013, LearnZillion will have 5,000 math and ELA lessons for grades 2-12.



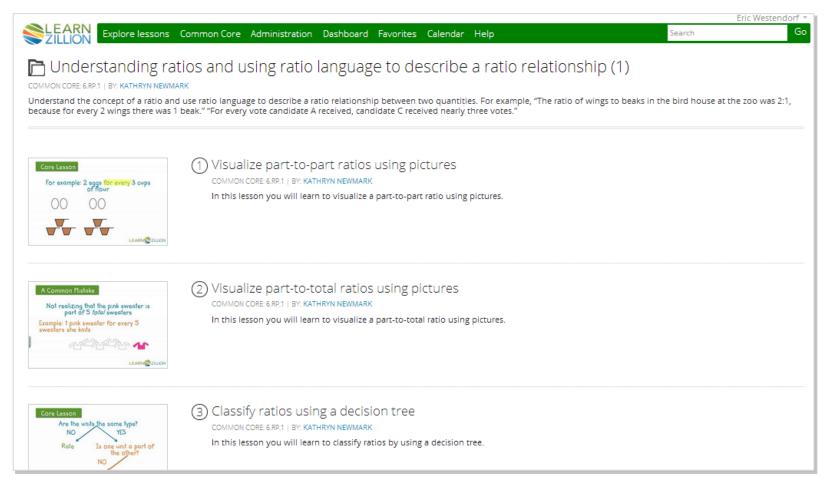


By clicking on a grade band in the Navigator (in this case 6th grade math), you can see the domains, clusters and standards that are covered in that grade. This is a helpful way to get a birds-eye view of what your students need to know each year and to plan standards-based units.

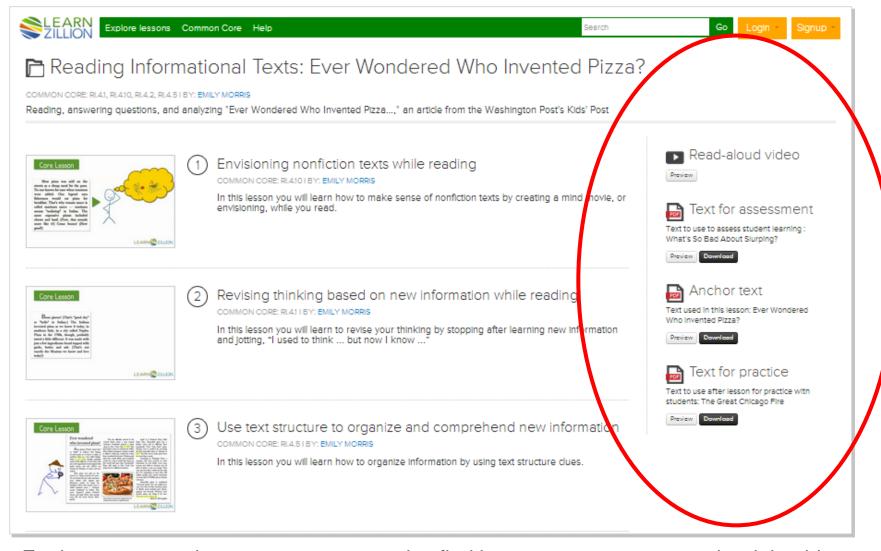


Click on the plus sign (+) to see the language of each standard. The folders next to each standard represent LearnZillion lesson sets. Click on a folder to see a set of lessons that address that standard.



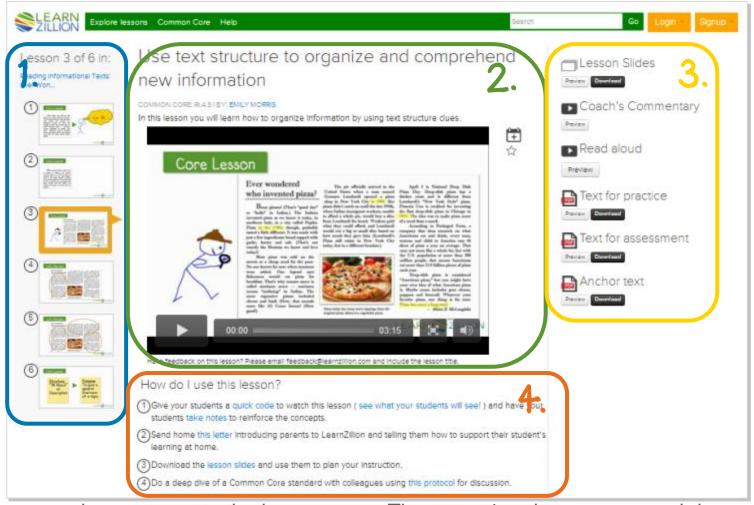


Remember how our Dream Team teachers broke down each standard into multiple lessons? The result is a "lesson set." This is a set of lessons that collectively scaffold to cover the content of that specific standard in highly conceptual ways. No procedures, gimmicks or tricks. Most lesson sets have between 4-10 lessons.



For language arts lesson sets you may also find lesson set resources on the right side. In this example, there is a video of a read-aloud of the text as well as downloadable texts you can use in class, for practice, or for a final assessment.



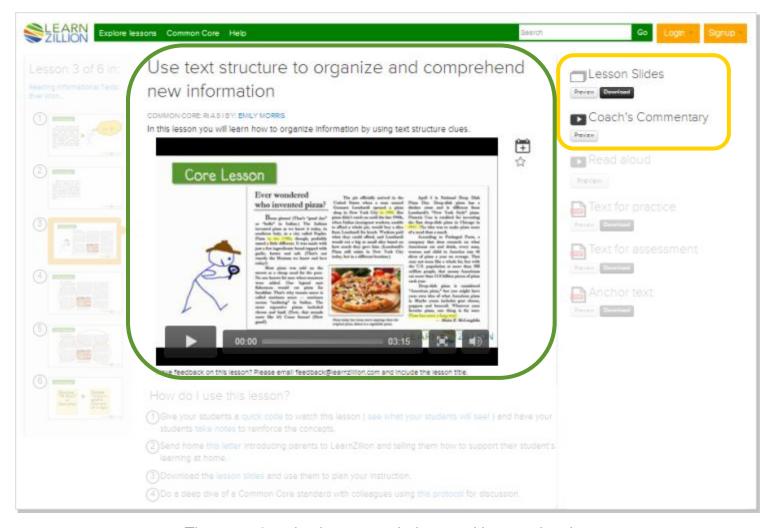


Click on any lesson to go to the lesson page. There are 4 main areas on each lesson page.

- 1) Lesson set overview—this page shows you how this lesson fits within the larger set.
- 2) Core lesson—This is the main video that anchors the lesson.
- 3) Lesson resources—everything from downloadable slides/texts to additional videos.
- 4) Usage ideas—resources for the 4 main LearnZillion usage cases.

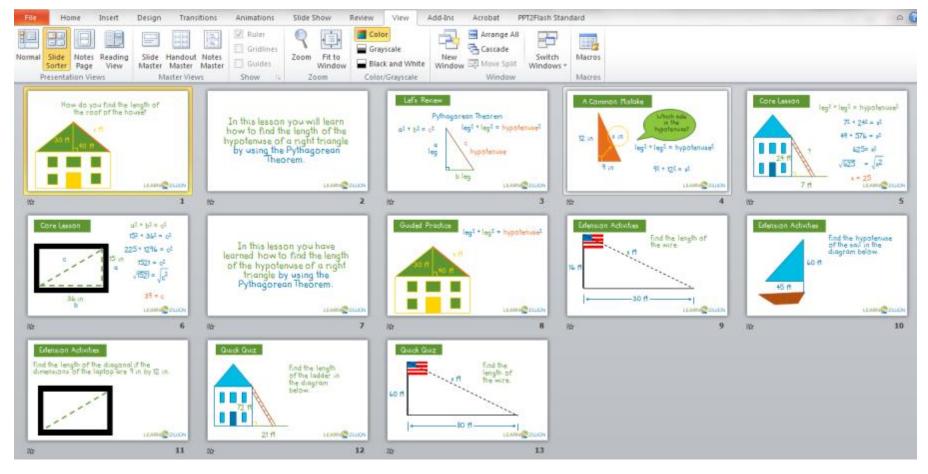
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There are 3 main elements to help you with your planning.

- 1) Core Lesson video—Watch our short core lesson videos to see highly conceptual ways to present your lessons. Even if don't have computers in your classroom, this can be a helpful tool to see examples of high-quality lessons.
- 2) Coach's Commentary video—This is a short video lesson made by the teacher who created this lesson. It is a teacher-to-teacher conversation in which the lesson author explains his or her pedagogical choices, key points, common misconceptions etc. This is a great tool to get some pre-lesson coaching.
- 3) Lesson slides—Download the slides used for this lesson!



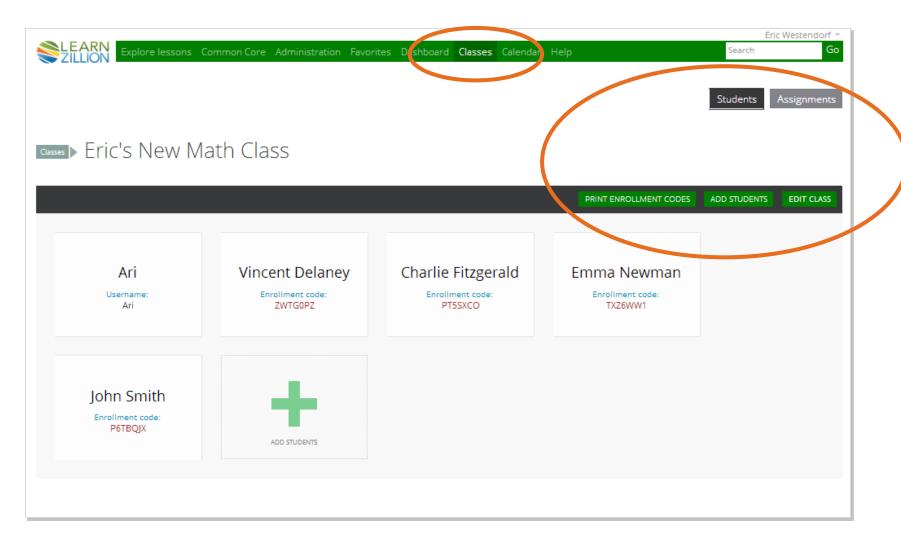
The lesson slides are PowerPoint files that include all the necessary animation. They can also be edited to meet your specific lesson needs. Each set of slides includes the hook, objective, review, "common mistake" and core lesson slides that you see in our videos. However, they also include a guided practice example (for math) as well as extension activities and a quick quiz that can be used as a final check for understanding.

Download and present our lessons as part of your direct instruction or just use them to plan complete Common Core lessons.



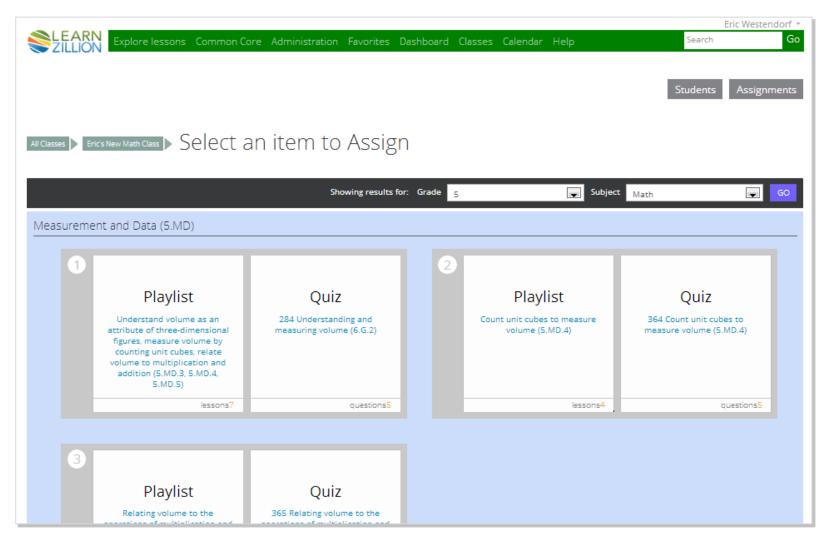
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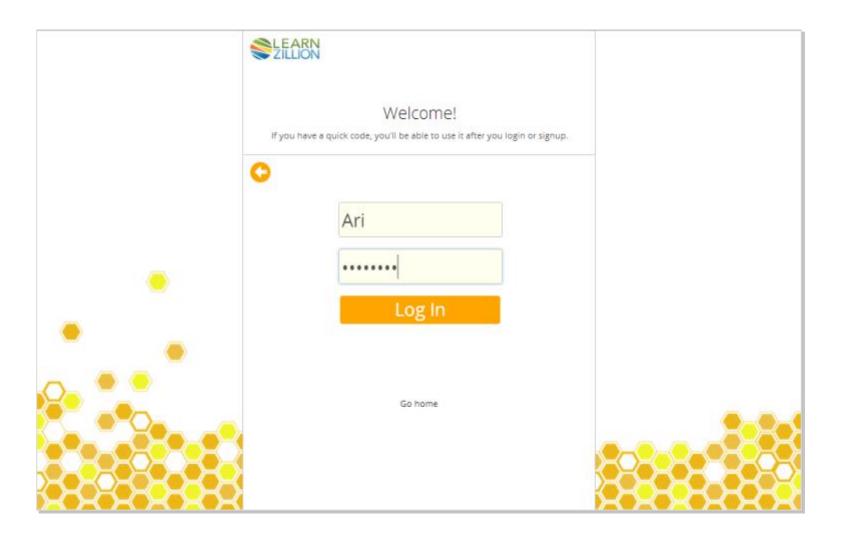
It's easy to assign lesson playlists and mastery quizzes directly to students. On the "Classes" tab you can create a class and add students and assignments in just a few quick steps.





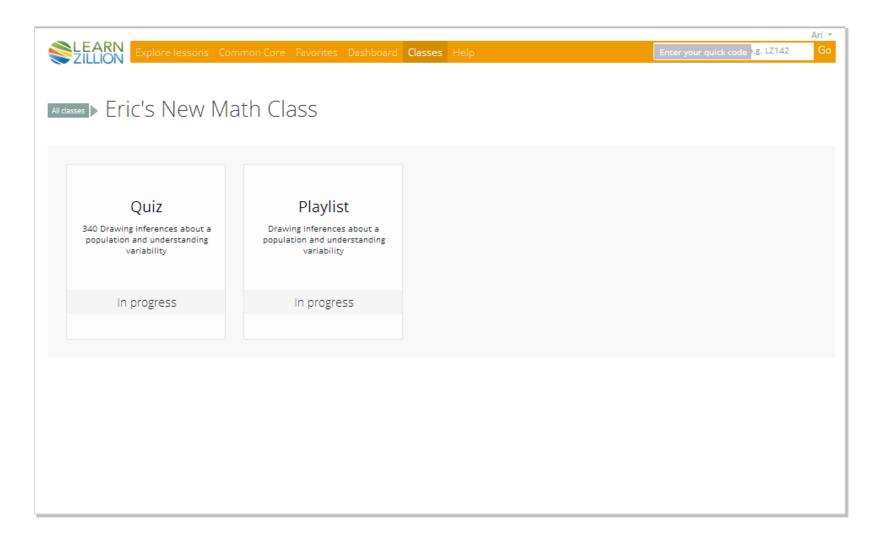
Each playlist includes the lesson videos from a specific lesson set. There is also a corresponding mastery quiz that can be assigned as well.





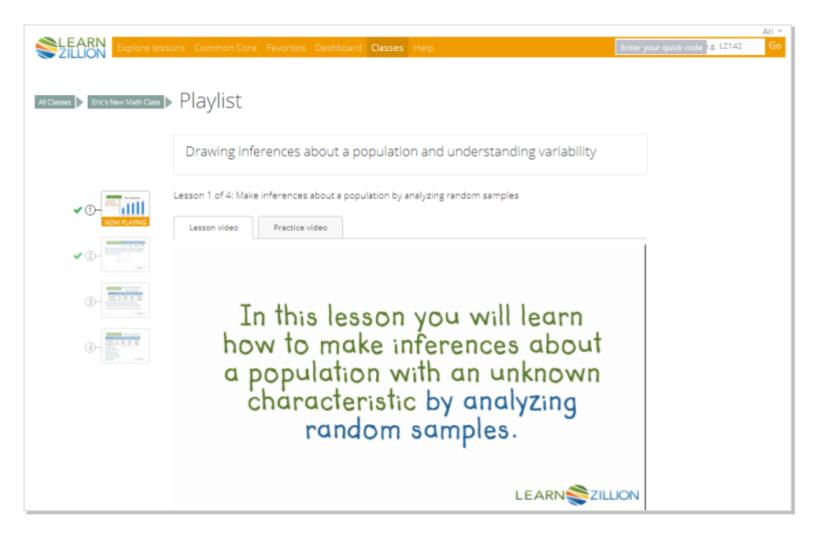
Students log-in to a student-friendly version of the site to access their assignments.





Students can quickly and easily access their assignments and jump into their lessons.





The student viewing page has limited distractions or confusing buttons. Just high-quality lessons.



0	In the entire school, there are probably fewer students whose birth month is in April than students whose birth
	In the entire school, there are probably lewer students whose birth month is in April than students whose birth
	month is in February

There are 5 students whose birth month is April.

4 John wants to learn about the study-habits of students in his school. He recorded the amount of time 35 randomly-selected students spent in studying over the weekend. The data is represented in the table below:

Amount of Time Spent by Student

Amount of time spent on studying (in hours)	No. of Students
2 - 3	10
3 - 4	7
5 - 6	8
7 - 8	0
8 - 10	10

Which of these statements is best supported by the data?

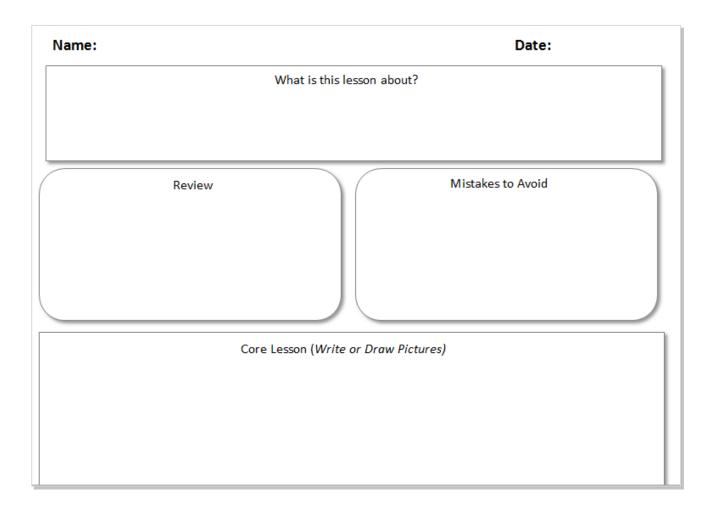
- In the entire school, there are probably more students who spend 3-4 hours of time than 5-6 hours, in studying.
- There are 10 students who spend 7-8 hours of time in studying.
- In the whole school, there are probably less students who spend 2-3 hours of time than 7-8 hours, in studying.
- Exactly 20% of the students surveyed spent 3-4 hours of time in studying.

Save and finish later

I'm done. Submit

After viewing the lesson playlist, students can take a mastery quiz (if the teacher assigned it). These assessment items were pulled from the most rigorous state tests and more closely resemble the types of questions students will see on PARCC and Smarter Balanced assessments.



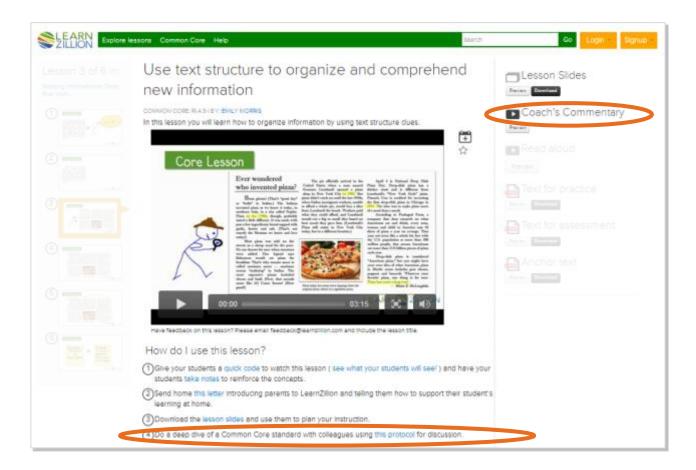


We've also created a very simple "notes" page that you can download from each of our lesson pages. These are basic Word documents that can be adapted to fit your needs. Many teachers like to provide note-taking templates when assigning lessons to help their students track their learning.



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Teachers can develop their practice independently by watching our video lessons or our coach's commentary videos, but LearnZillion can also be used to enhance professional development conversations at the grade level, school or district levels.

Below each lesson there is an option to download our Professional Development Protocol.



Professional Learning Community Common Core Deep Dive

(can be adapted to meet your team's needs)

Preparation

- Facilitator chooses a standard for focus
- · Facilitator prints out standard
- Facilitator finds the lesson set on LearnZillion.com and chooses one of the lessons for focus
- Facilitator completes and prints optional discussion worksheet for participants
- · Facilitator reminds teachers to bring any student data/work related to this standard

Discussion

Step 1: Protocol Review (10 minutes)

- · Facilitator sets the context; reviewing the protocol with participants
- Facilitator asks for a notetaker and timekeeper
- · Faciltiator hands out a copy of the standard and worksheet

Step 2: Standard Review - Individual Reflection (5 min)

- Participants read the standard and reflect on the questions, "What are the key components of this standard? What questions do you have about this standard?"
- · Participants respond independently to the questions, writing their thoughts on a piece of paper

Step 3: Standard Discussion (5-10 min)

- Participants discuss the standard and their answers to the two questions.
- Participants should strive for substantive discourse. They should not engage in a round-robin discussion, but rather focus on and develop one idea at a time.

Step 3b: Individual Data Reflection (if applicable) (5-10 minutes)

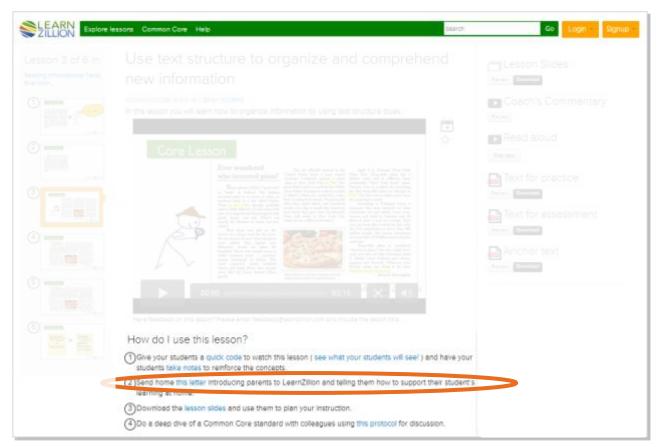
Participants review student data/work related to the standard answer the question, "What do my

This Word document can be adapted to meet your professional development needs. In its current form, it provides for a deep dive on an individual standard. Using student assessment data or anecdotal evidence, teachers select a standard of focus. The protocol then asks teachers to review the standard language and discuss how it applies to student gaps in understanding or assessment performance. Then, using LearnZillion videos and lesson slides as a guide, teachers can collaborate to create a new strategy to fill learning gaps in a deliberate and precise manner.



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The last way LearnZillion is frequently used is to better engage parents. Parents want to help their students learn, but often are uncomfortable with the content themselves. When they do understand the content, many teach it in a way that is incongruous with that of the teacher, relaying on tricks or gimmicks rather than developing their child's conceptual understanding. By sharing LearnZillion lessons with parents, you can help them engage with their child's learning using the same methods teachers use in class. Download our parent letter to introduce parents to LearnZillion.

Many LearnZillion lessons are available in Spanish and we'll soon be releasing a free mobile app to make our lessons even more accessible in the home.

Parents and Guardians,

Many of you have asked how you can support your student's learning at home. Here is an important way you can do that.

Go to www.learnzillion.com. LearnZillion is a website that provides teachers and parents with video lessons showing what your student needs to learn each year. The videos include a 3-5 minute "teaching" video and a short "practice" video where students can see if they understand the lesson.

When you get to the site, type the following lesson codes into any search bar on the site. The codes will bring you directly to the lessons for your student.

Place LearnZillion Codes here (You can find the LZ Codes on each lesson page when you click on "assign"). It's recommended that you include 2-3 codes for the upcoming week.

Your student can watch the videos alone or with you. Have your student take notes while watching. I have provided a notes sheet to help. If your student doesn't have the notes sheet, he/she can recreate it by taking a piece of paper and breaking the front page into the following sections:

Choose the standards you'll be covering that day, week or month and send home this letter to parents. In the coming months we'll be building additional features and tools to help parents better engage with their teacher and with their child's learning.



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Common Core Professional Development



Data driven



Content focused



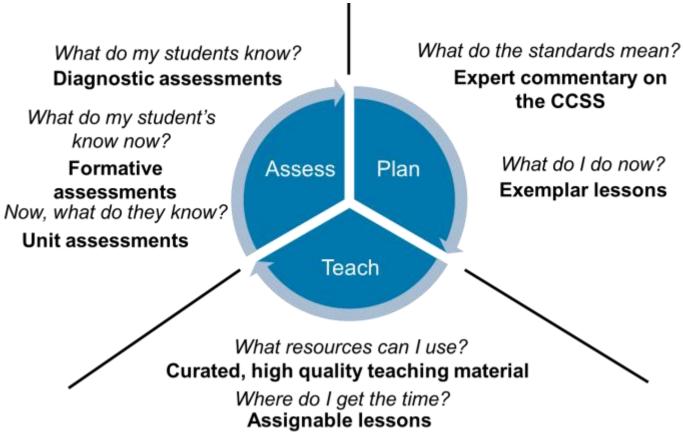
Practical

Everything you've seen thus far is and always will be free to teachers. However, we recognize that the transition to the Common Core is difficult and that many districts are looking for ways to better support their teachers. LearnZillion is launching a professional development pilot program in the fall of 2013 to help districts with those efforts.

We believe good professional development should be data driven, content-focused, and practical for teachers.



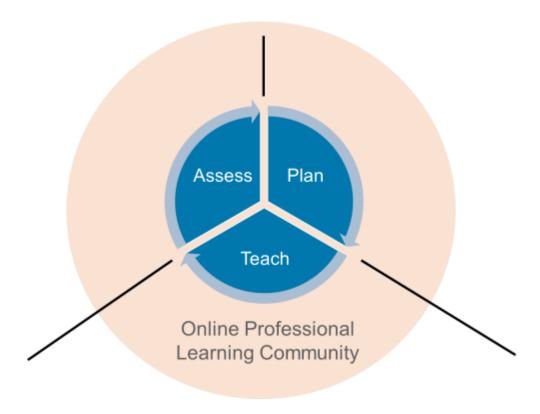
Curricular Unit



When you think about a strong curricular unit, there is a repeating cycle of assessment, planning, and teaching. Through our pilot program, LearnZillion supports teachers at each step with practical resources and "just-in-time" professional development. We think professional development can be more meaningful when it is job-embedded and that is likely to better stick with teachers when they are supported at just the right moment.

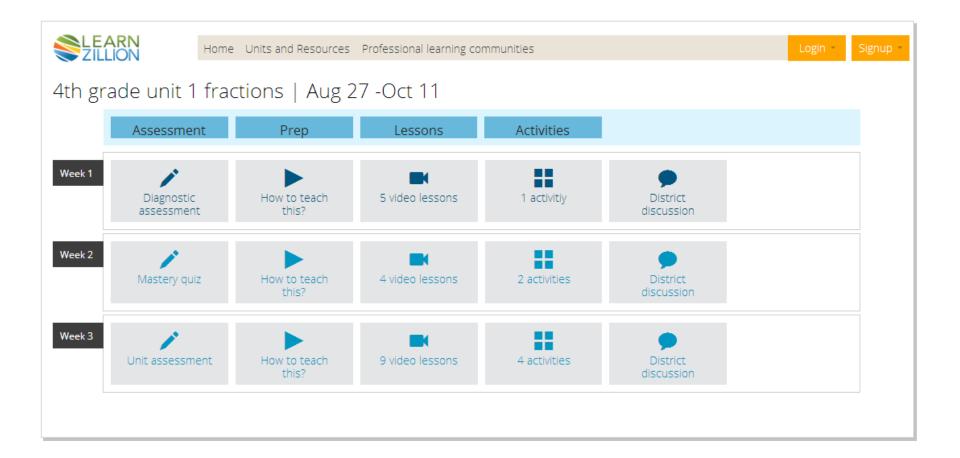
To do that, we provide diagnostic, formative, and summative unit assessments; expert commentary on the CCSS and on lesson-specific pedagogical content knowledge; exemplar lessons and resources, and assignable options to improve differentiation and reteaching.

Curricular Unit



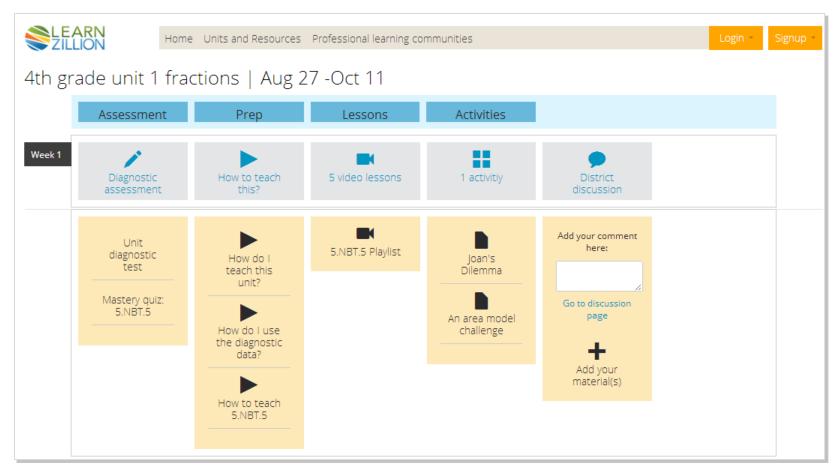
We also believe that collaboration leads to better learning for both students and adults. That's why our pilot also offers a customizable platform for online professional learning communities. Through these PLCs, teachers can work together to better understand the CCSS and to deliver stronger lessons to their students.





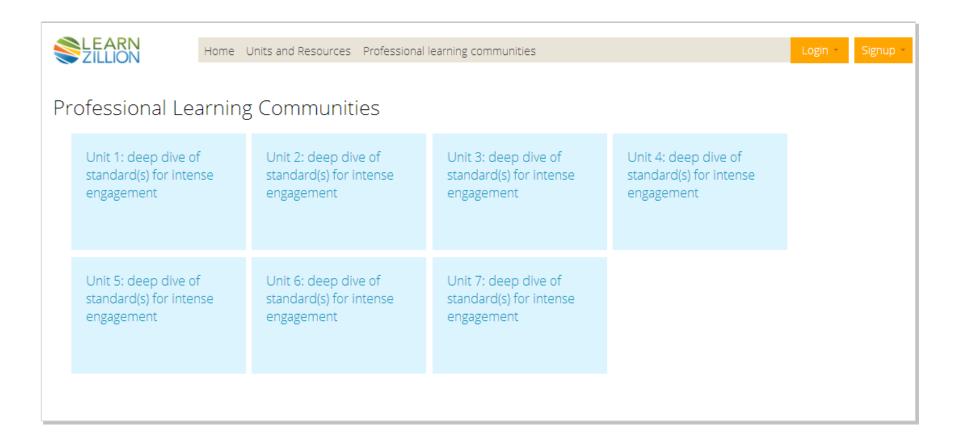
Here's a mock-up of what it might look like. Teachers log in to their district version of LearnZillion (for example, LearnZillion.com/DCPS) and they immediately see unit plans that have been customized to match the scope and sequence for their district.





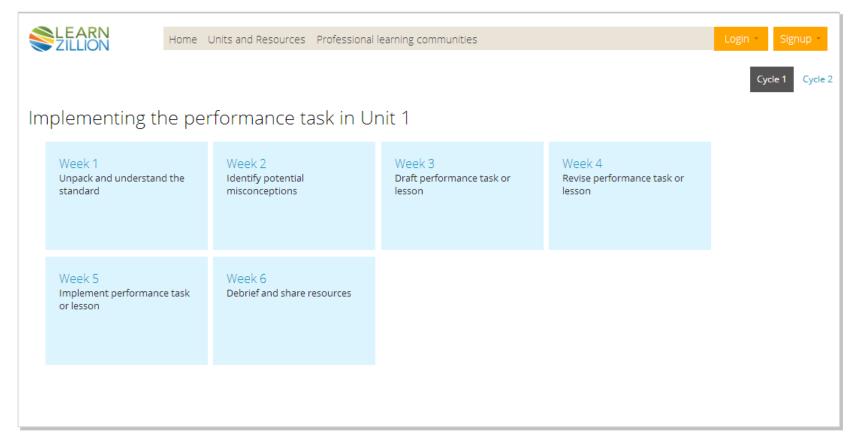
When they dive into each unit plan they see all the elements of that assess—plan—teach cycle at their fingertips: diagnostic, formative and summative assessments; just-in-time professional development resources to help them prepare for the lessons of that unit; high-quality lesson resources and activities; and even an opportunity to share their own resources and further collaborate with their peers across the district.





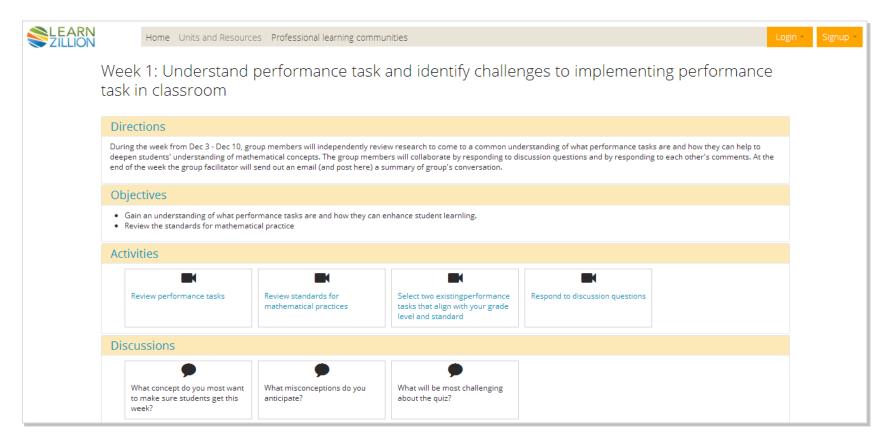
Those resources provide for very rich professional development in an extremely practical approach—all of which enhances the current efforts of a district. Teachers can further develop their content expertise by following the protocol outlined in our professional learning communities. In this mock-up, we see there are 7 units over the course of the year, each with a specific PLC goal.





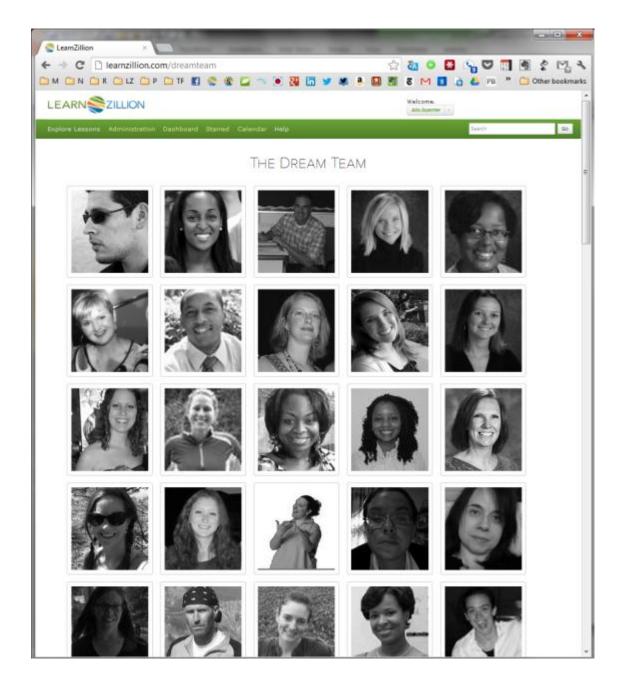
When we zoom in on Unit 1, we see a 6 week PLC in the lesson study format. By the end of this 6 week cycle, teachers who participate in this PLC will have created a performance task for a specific standard after multiple weeks of collaboration and investigation on the nuances of the content.





Each week during that process, teachers are given explicit instructions on how to collaborate with their PLC. These PLC topics can be customized to enhance the current areas of focus for each district.





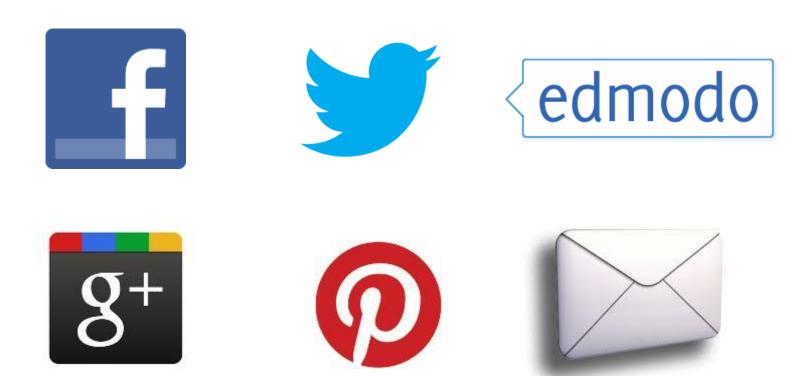
So that's LearnZillion in a nutshell.

Let us close by saying that we believe in the power of teacher voice and teachers as change agents. We want to thank our Dream Team of teachers for helping us create our first set of lessons!

Our 2013 Dream Team will help us fill content gaps in grades 3-8 and will also help us create new content for 2nd grade and for high school math and language arts.

If you know a great teacher who wants to scale his/her impact across the country by creating lessons with us, please send them to LearnZillion!





One final plug: LearnZillion is a small team (only 11 people!). If you like our lessons and find our content valuable, please help us spread the word! You can share us on your favorite social network or email your colleagues, but the best method is word of mouth! If you like our lessons and are finding them helpful, tell your friends and encourage them to check us out!

Districts:

If you want to help your teachers develop high-quality and highly conceptual lessons, we'd love to talk with you about our pilot program. Please email Nick Lewis at nicklewis@learnzillion.com if interested!



Thank you!

