

The Core Knowledge Foundation recognizes that technology and media¹ tools can greatly enhance student learning while helping teachers deliver meaningful instruction. However, as with other resources used to present Core Knowledge content, tools should be used to address specific, measurable objectives derived from the content and skill guidelines in the *Core Knowledge Sequence*.

The following questions can help you identify and select high quality media resources:

1. Media present rich content that is aligned with the *Core Knowledge Sequence*

- a. *Does the tool support the acquisition of knowledge and skills that are outlined in the Core Knowledge Sequence? How?*
- b. *Does the tool utilize domain-specific and general academic vocabulary to support acquisition of knowledge and skills? How?*
- c. *Is the content factually accurate?*

2. Media enable students to learn or participate in practice that helps them achieve stated, measurable objectives

- a. *Does the tool engage the learner with content rather than with features of the medium or platform on which it is presented? How?*
- b. *Does the tool include illustrations, diagrams, primary source documents, and/or videos that enhance understanding of Core Knowledge content? How?*
- c. *Is the text displayed by the tool within the student's reading ability (i.e., decodable at an attainable level of text complexity)?*
- d. *Is the audio narration presented by the tool aligned with the student's level of listening comprehension (i.e., above the student's own reading ability, but within their comprehension ability)?*
- e. *Does the tool encourage or create opportunities for student use of domain-specific and general academic vocabulary aligned with the Core Knowledge content and skill guidelines? How?*

3. Media provide a bridge between resources that are currently available to teachers and those needed to enable student success

- a. *Does the tool increase student access to rich content? How?*
- b. *Does the tool allow for immediate teacher feedback? How?*
- c. *Does the tool enable just-in-time interventions to assist student learning? How?*
- d. *Does the tool encourage meaningful and content-rich collaboration among students? How?*
- e. *Does the tool differentiate the learning experience while maintaining common objectives for all users? How?*
- f. *Does the tool promote higher-order comprehension and skill? How?*

¹For the purposes of this job aid, *media* are defined as any digital learning tool that utilizes audio, video, pictures, and/or text to assist the building of knowledge and skill. Implementation of digital media in CK Schools may include—but is not limited to—software applications, virtual/e-learning environments, instructional videos, websites, etc. Please note that quality implementation depends upon many factors including these guidelines—to build greater capacity for meaningful activity selection and implementation, schools should consider scheduling a [Meaningful Instruction](#) workshop facilitated by a Core Knowledge consultant.