



*from* the South Carolina Education Oversight Committee  
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## **News – For Immediate for Release**

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# **Family-Friendly Guides to the Standards available at [www.scfriendlystandards.org](http://www.scfriendlystandards.org)**

**Columbia** – The South Carolina Education Oversight Committee (EOC), in partnership with the South Carolina Department of Education, has published a guide for parents and families on the academic content standards that drive the curriculum in South Carolina public schools.

The website, [www.scfriendlystandards.org](http://www.scfriendlystandards.org), provides information for the 2013-14 school year for four content areas: English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. Guides are available in grades K-12 and are provided in English and Spanish. Each section includes suggested activities to reinforce and support a child’s learning outside of school as well as suggested books for additional reading and websites. The information on the site also incorporates information produced by the Council of the Great City Schools concerning the new Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy and Mathematics.

“We hope this resource provides a good set of tools for families to help their children during the summer and during the school year,” said Neil Robinson, Chairman of the EOC. “Research has documented that parental and family involvement has a strong, positive effect on student achievement. In fact, a 2008 study found that schools would have to increase their per-pupil spending by more than \$1,000 to achieve the same results that are gained with active parental involvement.”

The Family-Friendly Guides to the Standards have been produced collaboratively since 2001 and fulfill State law that requires the EOC and the State Superintendent of Education “develop and publish jointly informational materials for distribution to all public school parents and to teachers that provide an explanation of the grade-level academic content standards.”

*The SC Education Oversight Committee is an independent, non-partisan group made up of 18 educators, business persons, and elected leaders. Created in 1998, the committee is dedicated to reporting facts, measuring change, and promoting progress within South Carolina’s education system.*