KEY IDEAS FOR PARENTS about the Common 5

Thinking Deeply

The Common Core emphasizes critical thinking. It requires students to analyze more, discuss more, evaluate more, justify more and explain their thinking & understanding deeply, especially in writing. *Take-Away*: Really thinking deeply is hard. Let it BE hard, help them talk it out.

Integrating Learning
The Common Core emphasizes learning across disciplines (reading with math & social studies standards combined into one task). Students spend more time working together with different settings, structures & tools. Take-Away: Problems & solutions happen everyday in the real world.

Showing How Thry Know
The Common Core emphasizes proof & evidence. Long gone are the days of worksheets, fact memorizations and skill & drill. Students are not taught this way and they are not assessed this way. Takeaway: The new tests will require students to explain how they know.

Supporting The Common Core at Home

• Ask *why* when children tell you they want something or want to do or not do something. ② Use the word *because * after "No" or "Not tonight..." @ Give reasons-you to them and them to you.

• Encourage questions & explore answers (especially questions whose answers are not yes or no.)

© Explain & discuss issues or problems in your house, neighborhood, & community. Brainstorm solutions. © Compare how things are alike and different-videos, movies, food. Dook for patterns Describe & categorize stuff. Tell your children what you value & why. Encourage & celebrate opinions.

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