Sensible Assessment Practices Webinar Series: Beginning with Units Designed for Success Resources

This document provides an annotated list of resources included in the Sensible Assessment Practices Webinar Series: *Beginning with Units Designed for Success*. Foundational resources are categorized first, followed by resources referenced in the webinar. Additional relevant ancillary materials related to webinar topics are also provided.

Foundational Resources:

▶ Sensible Assessment Practices for 2020-21 and Beyond This document offers guidance to educators on how they can "assess" their incoming students when schools re-open without necessarily having to "test" them. The assessment and instructional practices in this document are intended to apply to all students, including students with disabilities and English learners.

▶ Plan for Reimagining CT Classrooms for Continuous Learning The purpose of this document is to provide a framework for developing local Continuous Learning Plans to support the reopening of schools, allowing for continuity of learning.

▶ Adapt, Advance, Achieve: Connecticut's Plan to Learn and Grow Together This is intended to be a fluid document that will evolve based on the public health data trends as well as an understanding of the best way to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

▶ To close the digital divide in Connecticut and empower students across the state to learn from home, Governor Lamont recently announced this initiative Everybody Learns Initiative to fill any device and/or connectivity gaps that may still remain.
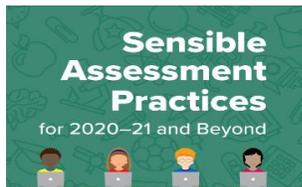
Webinar Specific Resources:

Webpages

▶ The CT Learning Hub: This free and interactive site, located on the CSDE main page, provides access to curated tools and resources to accelerate learning and advance equity, in both on-line and off-line learning.

▶ Smithsonian Learning Lab - Design it Yourself: This lesson shows students how to design a mini-exhibit about themselves using items they own.

▶ Universal Design Guidelines: This document, offered by CAST, includes descriptions of possible activities and the research associated with Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles.

Articles

▶ Student Perspectives: the pros and cons of distance learning EdSource, June 3, 2020. Sixteen students from the West Contra Costa school district in Richmond, California, share their opinions on distance learning during the pandemic. (Lexile 1010L-1200L)

▶ Making It Relevant: Helping Students Connect Their Studies to the World Today New York Times, December 6, 2018. This article includes lessons written to accompany New York Time's articles, with engaging ideas for authentic research and project based learning activities.

▶ Students share thoughts on learning from home Cumberland Times News, May 1, 2020. This article includes student accounts of their at-home learning experiences during the pandemic. With a Lexile Range of 1210L-1400L, this text could be paired with *The Fun They Had* by Isaac Asimov, an anchor text used to illustrate a beginner lesson for Grade 5 in the Sensible Assessment Practices webinar *Beginning with Units Designed for Success*.

Videos

▶ The Fun They Had: The video of the story by Isaac Asimov being read aloud. There are no captions available for this video.

▶ The Fun They Had: A video of the story by Isaac Asimov being read aloud that shows the text during the reading.

▶ The Contrasting Realities of Reopening Schools: Understanding Inequities to Support the Whole Child, Sanford Inspires Webinars, July 20, 2020. This webinar is a panel discussion about how to be an inspiring educator while facing challenges during this pandemic.

▶ Antiques Roadshow—Show and Tell: (teachingchannel.org). Exemplary video lesson samples to support getting to know your students. (Kindergarten)

▶ Star Student of the Day: (teachingchannel.org). Exemplary video lesson samples to support getting to know your students. (Grades K-2)

▶ Our Selves, Our Classroom, Our Families: (teaching channel.org). Exemplary video lesson samples to support getting to know your students. (Grade 1)

▶ "Today I am Here:" (Smithsonian Learning Lab) This video project is available in multiple languages, can be customized across all grade levels, and can be completed in-person or remotely. This collection contains assets and resources designed to help teachers (art, English, ESOL, social studies, and media technology), museum educators, and community-based informal learning educators recreate their own "Today I Am Here" project, based on the specific needs of their classroom or learning community.

Other

▶ Text Complexity Placemat: The Fun They Had by Isaac Asimov: This document, created by the Connecticut State Department of Education, provides qualitative and quantitative information on *The Fun They Had* by Isaac Asimov, an anchor text used to illustrate a beginner lesson for Grade 5 in the Sensible Assessment Practices webinar *Beginning with Units Designed for Success*.

▶ This ThinkAlong activity provides an opportunity for students to explore and debate the topic "Should Schools Provide a Laptop and Internet Access for All Students" using a variety of modalities ranging from an NPR audio on How Limited Internet Access can Subtract from Kid's Education, an article on Online Classes for students without the internet or computers, and a PBS video "Eliminating the Digital Divide." The topics investigated in this lesson can be aligned to other articles or paired with the anchor text suggested in the *Beginning with Units Designed for Success* webinar *The Fun They Had* by Isaac Asimov.

▶ Making a "Kitchen Memories" Family Recipe and Storybook: (Smithsonian Learning Lab) This collection includes an easy-to-do book project designed to get families talking, creating, and enjoying food together. It can be used as a home project, in the classroom (English, art, social studies), or in an informal learning setting, and can be combined with a family interviewing video project.