



English Language Arts Materials Collections 2026 Instructionally Embedded Model Spring Window

Dynamic Learning Maps® (DLM®) testlets sometimes call for the use of specific materials. The Testlet Information Page (TIP) for each testlet identifies these materials. Sometimes materials are required and cannot be substituted, but substitutes are allowed in most cases. If a testlet requires materials, the TIP will state the specific materials mentioned in the testlet and describe their attributes so that test administrators can find appropriate substitutions. For more information about substituting materials, see the TEST ADMINISTRATION MANUAL sections titled Teacher-Administered Testlets and Prepare to Administer a Testlet.

The TIP is provided in the Instruction and Assessment Planner in Kite® Educator Portal when each testlet is assigned. Since the teacher chooses which Essential Elements and linkage levels to assess during instructionally embedded assessments, the materials needed or recommended to assess each student are unknown before the testlet is assigned. However, the materials used in different testlets often have common traits, giving teachers the ability to identify commonly available objects ahead of time that are likely to be useful when administering English language arts (ELA) testlets. Teachers may collect these materials and use them during instruction. The most useful materials are familiar to the student and available before the teacher begins assigning testlets in the Instruction and Assessment Planner.

The following list contains commonly needed materials in ELA testlets and gives test administrators more opportunity to prepare for the ELA alternate assessment prior to the opening of the assessment window. The tables in this document summarize lists of materials per grade level for general testlets and, where appropriate, for students who are blind or have visual impairments. **Materials may be substituted unless the TIP specifically states “No substitutions allowed.”**

Hints for using this list:

- Look at the whole list for each grade and find materials that can meet multiple purposes. Note the types of materials mentioned more than once.
- Find materials that already exist in the classroom or are easily found somewhere in the school building.
- Pick materials that are familiar to the student.
- Remember that in most cases, materials can be substituted if they have the same attributes as those on the list. Examples of possible substitutions are found in Table 1.
- Materials substitutions are listed for individual testlets on the corresponding TIP.
- The student’s safety should be the primary concern when choosing materials or substitutions.

Table 1

Example ELA Materials Substitutions

Example Materials Description	Possible Substitution
Two books and one magazine, all of which have pages, words, and a cover.	Two objects that belong to the same subgroup (e.g., two backpacks) and a third object that belongs to a different subgroup within the broader category (e.g., one purse from the broader category of bags).
The person associated with teaching the student art.	The person associated with a different familiar routine (e.g., person who teaches reading).

Contained in this document:

- Lists by grade of materials commonly used in ELA testlets
- Lists by grade of materials that may be used to administer testlets to students who are blind or have visual impairments. Some ELA testlets are special forms designed for these students, while others are general testlets that have been adapted to make them accessible for students who are blind or have visual impairments.

Common Materials Used to Administer Testlets for Grade 3

- any symbol representations needed that represent an action associated with cleanup time
- any symbol representations needed that represent an action associated with game time
- any symbol representations needed that represent an action associated with homework time
- any writing tools used by the student during instruction
- examples of informational topics
- five different objects
- five familiar objects
- five new objects
- four familiar objects that can be easily removed from the student's view
- four selected objects
- one bag with pockets, zippers, and straps
- one boot with shoestrings and a sole
- one coat with sleeves, pockets, and a collar
- one colored pencil with a tip
- one hairbrush with a handle and bristles
- one large book with pictures
- one magazine with pages, text, and a cover
- one mitten with a thumb and a cuff
- one notebook with pages and ringed binding
- one object that relates to clothing
- one object that relates to kindergarten
- one pair of eyeglasses with lenses
- one pen with a tip and a cap
- one purse with pockets, straps, and zippers
- one sun visor with a visor, closure, and sweatband
- one symbolic representation of an action associated with art time
- one symbolic representation of an action associated with lunch
- one symbolic representation of an action associated with recess
- one textbook with words
- one toy cat with a tail and ears
- one water bottle with an open top
- one wide paintbrush with handles
- one wooden pencil with an eraser

- resource materials for the topic the student selects
- resource materials used during instruction
- two backpacks with pockets, straps, and zippers
- two baseball hats with visors, closures, and sweatbands
- two books with covers, pages, and text
- two coats with sleeves, pockets, zippers, and hoods
- two crayons with tips
- two cups with open tops
- two familiar, identical objects
- two gloves with thumbs and cuffs
- two jackets with sleeves, pockets, and collars
- two jackets with zippers, pockets, sleeves, and hoods
- two markers with tips and caps
- two mechanical pencils with erasers
- two notepads with pages and ringed bindings
- two pairs of identical objects
- two pairs of similar (but not identical) objects
- two pairs of sunglasses with lenses
- two photographs of familiar people
- two photographs of familiar places
- two photographs of unfamiliar people
- two photographs of unfamiliar places
- two picture books with words
- two regular pencils with erasers
- two shoes with shoestrings and soles
- two small books with pictures
- two small paintbrushes with handles
- two toothbrushes with bristles and handles
- two toy dogs with tails and ears
- two unfamiliar objects

Common Materials Used to Administer Testlets for Grade 3 Students Who Are Blind or Have Visual Impairments

- five familiar objects that belong to the student
- five new objects
- five objects or pictures that are unassociated with the chores category
- five objects or pictures that belong to the chores category
- five objects that are tactually different
- one backpack or backpack represented in a tactile graphic
- one blanket
- one book or book represented in a tactile graphic
- one box or box represented in a tactile graphic
- one bus stop sign or bus stop sign represented in a tactile graphic
- one cup or cup represented in a tactile graphic
- one paper bag or paper bag represented in a tactile graphic
- one pillow
- one shoe or shoe represented in a tactile graphic
- one sock
- one symbolic representation of a blanket
- one symbolic representation of a pillow
- one symbolic representation of a sock
- one toy bus or bus represented in a tactile graphic
- three objects or objects represented in tactile graphics
- three pairs of tactually similar (but not identical) objects
- two familiar, identical objects
- two pairs of tactually identical objects
- two unfamiliar objects

Common Materials Used to Administer Testlets for Grade 4

- any writing tools used by the student during instruction
- examples of informational topics used during instruction
- five different objects
- five new objects
- five objects or pictures that belong to the clothes category
- five objects or pictures unassociated with the clothes category
- four photographs of unfamiliar people
- four unfamiliar objects
- nine selected objects
- one letter card or notecard with the first letter of the student's name written lowercase
- one letter card or notecard with the first letter of the student's name written uppercase
- one photograph of a familiar place
- three familiar objects that belong to the student
- three objects or pictures that belong to the cup category
- three objects or pictures that belong to the hat category
- three objects or pictures unassociated with the cup category
- three objects or pictures unassociated with the hat category
- three pairs of similar (but not identical) objects
- two or more familiar objects used during instruction
- two pairs of identical objects
- two photographs of familiar people
- two photographs of unfamiliar places

Common Materials Used to Administer Testlets for Grade 4 Students Who Are Blind or Have Visual Impairments

- five familiar objects that belong to the student
- five new objects
- five tactually different objects
- one bandage or bandage represented in a tactile graphic
- one bird or bird represented in a tactile graphic
- one blanket or blanket represented in a tactile graphic
- one block or block represented in a tactile graphic
- one book or book represented in a tactile graphic
- one book with a cover
- one broom or broom represented in a tactile graphic
- one chair with a seat
- one eraser or eraser represented in a tactile graphic
- one hat or hat represented in a tactile graphic
- one jacket with sleeves
- one notebook or notebook represented in a tactile graphic
- one pair of pants or pants represented in a tactile graphic
- one pair of shorts or shorts represented in a tactile graphic
- one pencil or pencil represented in a tactile graphic
- one pencil with an eraser
- one photograph of a familiar place
- one piece of paper or paper represented in a tactile graphic
- one plant with at least one leaf
- one plate or plate represented in a tactile graphic
- one ruler or ruler represented in a tactile graphic
- one shoe or shoe represented in a tactile graphic
- one spoon with a handle
- one table with legs
- one toothbrush or toothbrush represented in a tactile graphic
- one towel or towel represented in a tactile graphic
- one toy or toy represented in a tactile graphic
- one umbrella with a handle
- three pairs of tactually similar (but not identical) objects
- two familiar, identical objects
- two pairs of tactually identical objects

- two photographs of familiar people
- two photographs of unfamiliar people
- two photographs of unfamiliar places
- two unfamiliar objects

Common Materials Used to Administer Testlets for Grade 5

- any writing tools used by the student during instruction
- examples of informational topics about the student's personal experiences
- five different objects
- five pairs of similar (but not identical) objects that are the same except for one property, such as color, size, shape, or texture
- four photographs of unfamiliar people
- four unfamiliar objects
- nine selected objects
- one ball
- one book
- one boot
- one crayon
- one cup
- one eraser
- one hat
- one jacket that has a hood, sleeves, and zipper
- one lump of clay
- one marker
- one mitten
- one napkin
- one pencil
- one photograph of a familiar place
- one piece of paper
- one ruler
- one shoe
- one sweater
- one toy truck with wheels, doors, windows, a roof, and headlights or tail lights
- three familiar objects that belong to the student
- three objects or pictures that are unassociated with the clothes category
- three objects or pictures that are unassociated with the food category
- three objects or pictures that belong to the clothes category
- three objects or pictures that belong to the food category
- three pairs of familiar, identical objects
- three preferred objects
- three similar objects

- two coats that have hoods, sleeves, and zippers
- two familiar objects used during instruction
- two non-preferred objects
- two photographs of familiar people
- two photographs of unfamiliar places
- two toy cars with wheels, doors, windows, roofs, and headlights or tail lights

Common Materials Used to Administer Testlets for Grade 5 Students Who Are Blind or Have Visual Impairments

- five familiar objects that belong to the student
- one ball or ball graphic
- one book or book graphic
- one boot or boot graphic
- one boot or boot represented in a tactile graphic
- one box or box graphic
- one cup or cup graphic
- one hairbrush or hairbrush graphic
- one hat or hat graphic
- one mitten or mitten represented in a tactile graphic
- one pencil or pencil graphic
- one plant or plant represented in a tactile graphic
- one scarf or scarf represented in a tactile graphic
- one seed or seed represented in a tactile graphic
- one shirt or shirt graphic
- one sweater or sweater represented in a tactile graphic
- one toy baby or baby represented in a tactile graphic
- one toy car or car graphic
- one toy cat or cat graphic
- one toy dog or dog represented in a tactile graphic
- one toy duck or duck represented in a tactile graphic
- one toy house or house graphic
- one toy sheep or sheep represented in a tactile graphic
- three objects or object graphics
- two unfamiliar objects

Common Materials Used to Administer Testlets for Grade 6

- any objects the student uses to eat lunch
- any objects the student uses to turn in homework
- any objects the student uses to wash hands
- any symbol representations for an action associated with arriving at school
- any symbol representations for an action associated with art class
- any symbol representations for an action associated with hand washing
- any symbol representations for an action associated with library time
- any symbol representations for an action associated with lunch
- any symbol representations for an action associated with packing a bag
- any writing tools used by the student during instruction
- examples of informational topics used during instruction
- fifteen notecards
- five different objects
- five objects or pictures that are unassociated with the book category
- five objects or pictures that belong to the book category
- five pairs of similar (but not identical) objects that are the same except for one property, such as color, size, shape, or texture
- four photographs of unfamiliar people
- four unfamiliar objects
- one ball
- one bell
- one blanket
- one flower
- one jacket with a zipper
- one notecard with any letter not in student's first name
- one notecard with first letter of student's first name
- one shoe with laces
- one slipper
- resource materials
- three objects from the familiar going outside routine, all of which should be from the same routine but have unique properties (e.g., color, size, shape, texture) that distinguish them from each other
- three objects from the familiar packing a backpack routine, all of which should be from the same routine but have unique properties (e.g., color, size, shape, texture) that distinguish them from each other

- three objects from the familiar packing a bag routine that have unique properties
- three objects from the familiar routine about writing
- three objects or pictures that belong to the clothing category
- three objects or pictures unassociated with the clothing category
- two familiar objects that belong to the student
- two familiar objects used during instruction
- two pairs of identical objects
- two photographs of familiar people
- two photographs of familiar places
- two photographs of unfamiliar places

Common Materials Used to Administer Testlets for Grade 6 Students Who Are Blind or Have Visual Impairments

- five familiar objects that belong to the student
- five tactually different objects
- one bag
- one bag represented in a tactile graphic
- one ball
- one balloon or ballon represented in a tactile graphic
- one bar of soap or bar of soap represented in a tactile graphic
- one blanket
- one book
- one book represented in a tactile graphic
- one brush
- one chalkboard eraser or dry eraser
- one cup
- one flower
- one hat or hat represented in a tactile graphic
- one houseplant
- one jacket
- one jacket represented in a tactile graphic
- one napkin
- one pair of slippers
- one pair of tennis shoes
- one pen
- one pen represented in a tactile graphic
- one plate
- one rock or rock represented in a tactile graphic
- one shirt
- one shoe represented in a tactile graphic
- one spoon
- one symbolic representation of a bag
- one symbolic representation of a ball
- one symbolic representation of a blanket
- one symbolic representation of a brush
- one symbolic representation of a chalkboard eraser or dry eraser
- one symbolic representation of a cup

- one symbolic representation of a flower
- one symbolic representation of a houseplant
- one symbolic representation of a jacket
- one symbolic representation of a napkin
- one symbolic representation of a pair of slippers
- one symbolic representation of a pair of tennis shoes
- one symbolic representation of a plate
- one symbolic representation of a shirt
- one symbolic representation of a spoon
- one towel or towel represented in a tactile graphic
- one toy bird or bird represented in a tactile graphic
- one toy dog or dog represented in a tactile graphic
- one toy house or house represented in a tactile graphic
- three pairs of tactually similar (but not identical) objects
- two pairs of tactually identical objects
- two unfamiliar objects

Common Materials Used to Administer Testlets for Grade 7

- any writing tools used by the student during instruction
- examples of informational topics and related resource materials
- five different objects
- five objects or pictures that are unassociated with the ball category
- five objects or pictures that belong to the ball category
- five pairs of similar (but not identical) objects that are the same except for one property, such as color, size, shape, or texture
- one backpack
- one baseball
- one colored pencil
- one crayon
- one cup
- one familiar book used during instruction
- one glove
- one hat
- one jar
- one marker
- one notebook
- one object that can serve as a screen (i.e., bandana, box, piece of cardboard, etc.)
- one paintbrush
- one pen
- one pencil
- one spoon
- one stocking cap
- six familiar objects that can be easily removed from the student's view
- the person associated with giving the student lunch
- the person associated with reading to the student
- the person associated with teaching the student art
- the person associated with teaching the student physical education
- the person associated with visiting the nurse
- three familiar objects; two of which come from a first category and one that is from a second category
- three objects or pictures not of a sport
- three objects or pictures of a sport
- three objects or pictures that are unassociated with the art supplies category

- three objects or pictures that are unassociated with the cup category
- three objects or pictures that belong to the art supplies category
- three objects or pictures that belong to the cup category

Common Materials Used to Administer Testlets for Grade 7 Students Who Are Blind or Have Visual Impairments

- one bag
- one ball
- one ball or ball represented in a tactile graphic
- one beetle
- one blade of grass
- one book
- one book or book represented in a tactile graphic
- one bottle of water
- one bowl
- one brush
- one crayon
- one cup
- one cup or cup represented in a tactile graphic
- one glove or glove represented in a tactile graphic
- one hat
- one jar
- one leaf
- one marker
- one notebook
- one pen or pen represented in a tactile graphic
- one pencil
- one plate
- one ribbon
- one rock
- one sock
- one spoon or spoon represented in a tactile graphic
- one symbolic representation of a bag
- one symbolic representation of a ball
- one symbolic representation of a beetle
- one symbolic representation of a blade of grass
- one symbolic representation of a book
- one symbolic representation of a bottle of water
- one symbolic representation of a bowl
- one symbolic representation of a brush

- one symbolic representation of a crayon
- one symbolic representation of a cup
- one symbolic representation of a hat
- one symbolic representation of a jar
- one symbolic representation of a leaf
- one symbolic representation of a marker
- one symbolic representation of a notebook
- one symbolic representation of a pencil
- one symbolic representation of a plate
- one symbolic representation of a ribbon
- one symbolic representation of a rock
- one symbolic representation of a sock
- one symbolic representation of a toy bug
- one symbolic representation of a vase
- one symbolic representation of a whistle
- one toy bug
- one vase
- one whistle
- three objects or objects represented in tactile graphics

Common Materials Used to Administer Testlets for Grade 8

- examples of informational topics used during instruction
- five different objects
- five pairs of similar (but not identical) objects that are the same except for one property, such as color, size, shape, or texture
- one backpack
- one book
- one hat
- one object needed to complete doing classwork
- one object needed to complete eating
- one object needed to complete packing your backpack
- one object needed to complete reading
- one object needed to complete washing your face
- one object or picture that belongs to the hat category
- one object or picture that belongs to the money category
- one object or picture unassociated with the hat category
- one object or picture unassociated with the money category
- one object that is needed to complete arriving to school
- one object that is needed to complete checking out a book
- one object that is needed to complete cleaning
- one object that is needed to complete cooking
- one object that is needed to complete filling out a planner
- one object that is needed to complete homework
- one object that is needed to complete leaving school
- one object that is needed to complete packing a bag
- one object that is needed to complete saying goodbye
- one object that is unassociated with arriving to school
- one object that is unassociated with checking out a book
- one object that is unassociated with cleaning
- one object that is unassociated with cooking
- one object that is unassociated with filling out a planner
- one object that is unassociated with homework
- one object that is unassociated with leaving school
- one object that is unassociated with packing a bag
- one object that is unassociated with reading
- one object that is unassociated with saying goodbye

- one object unassociated with packing your backpack
- one object unassociated with doing classwork
- one object unassociated with eating
- one object unassociated with washing your face
- one pair of sunglasses
- one pen
- one pencil
- one spoon
- one toothbrush
- ten notecards
- the person associated with checking out books
- the person associated with greeting the student
- the person associated with helping the student fill out a planner
- the person associated with helping the student pack a bag
- the person associated with taking the student to the bus
- the person associated with teaching art class
- the person associated with teaching music class
- the person associated with teaching the student to read
- three familiar objects; two of which are used as part of a first familiar routine from a specific category and one that is used as part of a second familiar routine from a different category
- two balls
- two cups
- two shirts
- two towels
- two writing utensils

Common Materials Used to Administer Testlets for Grades 9–10

- any writing tools used by the student during instruction
- examples of informational topics used during instruction
- fifteen notecards
- five objects or pictures that are unassociated with the chores category
- five objects or pictures that are unassociated with the clothing category
- five objects or pictures that belong to the chores category
- five objects or pictures that belong to the clothing category
- one notecard with any letter not in student's first name
- one notecard with first letter of student's first name
- one symbolic representation of an action associated with cleaning up
- one symbolic representation of an action associated with computer time
- one symbolic representation of an action associated with doing schoolwork
- one symbolic representation of an action associated with free time
- one symbolic representation of an action associated with going outside
- one symbolic representation of an action associated with reading time
- resource material that includes vocabulary words used during instruction
- six objects or pictures from the broad category of animals; four of which come from the farm animals subgroup and two of which come from the zoo animals subgroup
- ten objects or pictures from the broad category of school; four of which come from the writing utensils subgroup, four of which come from the textbooks subgroup, and two of which come from the rulers subgroup
- three familiar objects from a familiar routine; two of which come from a first subgroup and one that is from a second subgroup
- three objects from the familiar homework routine
- three objects from the familiar math class routine, all of which should be from the same routine but have unique properties (e.g., color, size, shape, texture) that distinguish them from each other
- three objects or pictures not from the cups category
- three objects or pictures not of a toy
- three objects or pictures of a toy
- three objects or pictures that belong to the cups category

Common Materials Used to Administer Testlets for Grades 11–12

- any symbol representations needed that represent an action associated with getting the mail
- any symbol representations needed that represent an action associated with greeting a friend
- any symbol representations needed that represent an action associated with library time
- any symbol representations needed that represent an action associated with making a phone call
- any symbol representations needed that represent an action associated with PE class
- any symbol representations needed that represent an action associated with washing your hands
- examples of informational topics used during instruction
- fifteen optional notecards
- five objects or pictures that are unassociated with the plant category
- five objects or pictures that belong to the plant category
- nine symbolic representations
- one notecard with any letter not in student's first name
- one notecard with first letter of student's first name
- one symbolic representation of an action associated with class time
- one symbolic representation of an action associated with field trips
- one symbolic representation of an action associated with shopping time
- resource materials that include some vocabulary words used in instruction
- three familiar objects; two which are from a first familiar routine and one that is from a second familiar routine
- three objects from a familiar shopping routine with unique properties
- three objects from the familiar homework routine, all of which should be from the same routine but have unique properties (e.g., color, size, shape, texture) that distinguish them from each other
- three objects or pictures from the cups category
- three objects or pictures that are not from the cups category
- two or more resource materials that include some vocabulary words used in instruction
- writing tools