### **Elementary Education Study Plan** | Overview

#### **About Your Study Plan**

This Study Plan comprises the full spectrum of materials and resources available to a candidate. We encourage you to use the recommended resources to target preparation to your needs and goals. There will be hyperlinks throughout this document. Please make sure that you visit the relevant pages to access all of the resources. Your commitment to great teaching begins here.

#### **Preparing to Pass**

American Board is committed to making sure you are the best possible teacher

We will provide you with study tips to get ready for the exam and the content and resources to review the material.

Think of the Snapshot below as an overview for what you need to know. For more detail in each topic, review the exam <u>standards</u>. The ABCTE exams are based on this blueprint, so consider the syllabus for what you want to study.

#### The American Board Community:

Become a part of the American Board community by participating in our Facebook community!

You can discuss the program, ask questions, and learn what other candidates have done to succeed in their classrooms.

https://www.facebook.com/ABCTE

#### **Multiple Subject Exam Snapshot**

Time Allowed	240 minutes		
Format	Multiple Choice		
# of Questions	150		
On-Screen Exhibits	None		
Passing Score	Proficient: 271/500 Distinguished: 325/500		
	Areas of Study	Percentage of Exam	
Exam Summary	Reading and English Language Arts	32%	
	History and Social Science	20%	
	Mathematics	28%	
	Science	20%	

#### **About This Exam**

The American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence believes that highly skilled teachers should possess a comprehensive body of knowledge that is research-based and promotes student achievement. The Multiple Subject Exam is designed for prospective teachers of students in grades K-6. The topics assessed are Reading and English Language Arts, History and Social Science, Mathematics, and Science. Use of a calculator is not permitted.

#### **How to use American Board Practice Tests**

If you have chosen to use our practice tests, you may have already used the quizzes to get a better idea of where your strengths and weaknesses are. There are two full-length exams that we suggest you use in *testing mode* as a mid-term and final to work on your timing and endurance. You can use them again in *explore mode* to identify distractors.

# Elementary Education Study Plan | Alphabetics & Fluency

#### **The Study Plan:**

Your study plan includes direction on how to use ABCTE's resources. We also include recommended resources to aid in your mastery. This plan was designed for a 9 month period (4 months for Professional Teaching Knowledge (PTK); 4 months for the subject matter; 2 weeks to take each test) in which most people are able to complete the program. Many have completed the program in a shorter amount of time.

Area of Study	Required Resources	<b>Recommended Resources</b>
Domains 1 and 2 (Standards 1.1.01-2.1.11)  ☐ Alphabetic Basics and Phonemic Awareness ☐ Phonics Instruction ☐ Fluency	Complete the following readings and watch the following videos in the Multiple Subject Area Refresher Course (PDF or Online version):	Web Resources  ☐ Read Right From the Start ☐ Improving the Reading Achievement of America's Children ☐ Dynamics Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills ☐ Free Reading
	Alphabetics & Fluency  ☐ Alphabetics ☐ Phonics Instruction I ☐ Phonics Instruction II ☐ Fluency	Books  Direct Instruction Reading Phonics from A to Z Phonics They Use: Words for Reading and Writing

Your Notes:			

## **Elementary Education Study Plan** | Comprehension of Text

#### **Study Tip:**

One effective way of using the practice quizzes is to look at the incorrect answer choice before looking at the correct explanation to see if you can understand why those options are wrong. If you can understand how a test maker uses distractors, you will be able to eliminate wrong answer choices faster on test day.

Area of Study	Required Resources	<b>Recommended Resources</b>
Domain 3 (Standards 3.1.01-3.3.14)  Uocabulary Development Interpretation and	Complete the following readings and watch the following videos in the Multiple Subject Area Refresher Course (PDF or Online version):	Web Resources  ☐ Reading Rockets ☐ Read Write Think ☐ Questioning That Deepens Comprehension
Evaluation of Informational Texts		<u>Comprehension</u>
□ Interpretation and Evaluation of Literacy Texts	Comprehension of Text  ☐ Word Comprehension ☐ Comprehension Strategies ☐ Putting It Together ☐ Comprehension of Texts	Books  ☐ Reading Instruction that ☐ Works ☐ Best Practices in Literacy ☐ Instruction ☐ Bringing Words to Life

Your Notes:	

"I can give children the inspiration and encouragement to confront their own challenges, surpass negativity and perserve... Without this program, I wouldn't have had the opportunity to pursue teaching."

- Traci Brown, ABCTE Teacher, FL

## **Elementary Education Study Plan** Oral & Written Language Development

#### **Testing on the Computer:**

This may be your first time taking a test on a computer. On average, people read 20% slower on a screen vs. paper. Because of this and other issues, practice as much as you can on the computer to become comfortable working in that environment. Familiarity with the test and its standards will go a long way towards you ABCTE success. The online practice tests are great practice to get a feel for the testing environment.

Area of Study	Required Resources	<b>Recommended Resources</b>
Domain 4 (Standards 4.1.01-4.5.14)  Standard English Language Conventions	Complete the following readings and watch the following videos in the Multiple Subject Area Refresher Course (PDF or Online version):	Web Resources  ☐ English Grammar Guide ☐ Purdue Online Writing Lab ☐ Low-Stakes Writing
<ul> <li>□ Language Acquisition and Development</li> <li>□ Comprehension and Delivery of Spoken Messages</li> <li>□ Writing Strategies and Application</li> <li>□ Research Strategies</li> </ul>	Oral & Written Language Development  Building Blocks of Language I Building Blocks of Language II Building Blocks of Language III Building Blocks of Language IV Building Blocks of Language IV Building Blocks of Language V	□ Thirty Million Word Initiative □ How Media Literacy Can Help Students Discern Fake News  ■ Words Their Way □ Best Practices in Writing Instruction

Your Notes:			

# **Elementary Education Study Plan** United States History

#### **Study Tip:**

Websites like Wikipedia and other unverified sources of information are NOT a good source of study. Much information found on the World Wide Web consists of unverified sources. Stick to verified sources with full citations. Many resources selected for study by our experts can be found on ABCTE's resource pages.

Area of Study	Required Resources	<b>Recommended Resources</b>
Area of Study  Domain 2 (Standards 2.1.01-2.5.08)  □ Early Exploration, Colonial Era, and the War for Independence □ The Development of the Constitution and the Early Republic □ Civil War and Reconstruction □ The Rise of Industrial America □ Modern Times	Complete the following readings and watch the following videos in the Multiple Subject Area Refresher Course (PDF or Online version):  United States History  United States History	Web Resources  America: The Story of US  National Archives  Stanford History Education Group  The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History  National Endowment for the Humanities
	☐ The War for Independence☐ Growth and Strife☐ Industrialization and Rise to Power	☐ <u>The American Past: A</u> Survey of American History ☐ <u>Historical Thinking Skills</u>

Your Notes:		· ·

## **Elementary Education Study Plan** | World History

"In old Rome the public roads beginning at the Forum proceeded north, south, east, west, to the center of every province of the empire, making each market-town of Persia, Spain, and Britain previous to the soldiers of the capital; so out of the human heart go, as it were, highways to the heart of every object in nature, to reduce it under the dominion of man. A man is a bundle of relations, a knot of roots, whose flowers and fruitage is the world. His faculties refer to natures out of him, and predict the world he is to in habit, as the fins of the fish foreshow that water exists, or the wings of an eagle in the egg presuppose air. He cannot live without a world."

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

Area of Study	Required Resources	Recommended Resources
Domain 1 (Standards 1.1.01-1.3.12)  ☐ Ancient Civilizations ☐ Medieval and Early Modern Times ☐ Modern Times	Complete the following readings and watch the following videos in the Multiple Subject Area Refresher Course (PDF or Online version):	Web Resources  □ Standford Education History Group □ Smithsonian Learning Lab □ PBS Learning Media
	World History  ☐ Ancient Cultures ☐ Ethics, Law, and Religion ☐ The Medieval Era ☐ Renaissance Through Enlightenment ☐ The Modern Era	Books  ☐ Teaching World History in the Twenty-first Century ☐ Traditions & Encounters: A Global Perspective on the Past ☐ World History Workbook: Volume 1 ☐ World History Workbook: Volume 2

Your Notes:		

## **Elementary Education Study Plan** Civics & Government

"Democracy is the government of the people, by the people, for the people."

- Abraham Lincoln

Area of Study	Required Resources	<b>Recommended Resources</b>
Domain 3-6 (Standards 3.1.01-6.1.09)  Civics/Government Geography Economics Reasoning Skills	Complete the following readings and watch the following videos in the Multiple Subject Area Refresher Course (PDF or Online version):	Web Resources  □ Bill of Rights Institute □ iCivics □ Google Earth □ Annenberg Classroom □ Resources for Teaching Financial Literacy
	Civics & Government  ☐ The US Constitution ☐ Civics and Government ☐ Geography ☐ Economics: The Basics ☐ Through History's Lens	Books  US Government/Civics SparkCharts National Geographic Concise Atlas of the World The Economics Books

Your Notes:

"Every resource American Board provided was helpful in gaining the knowledge needed to succeed as a teacher. The refresher courses were well organized and easy to follow and was really helpful in plotting a course for success as a teacher."

- Mark Peniston, American Board Teacher, FL

## **Elementary Education Study Plan** Number Sense

### **Test Day Tip:**

Familiarity with the exam is one of the most important ways to get prepared. Start with the standards and the domains and make sure to study hard, but don't underestimate the importance of being familiar with test day. Visit your testing location before you have the test. Know what to expect by way of writing boards, computers, and waiting rooms. Realize that there will be administrative parts of the test you will have to complete in addition to the exam itself.

Area of Study	Required Resources	<b>Recommended Resources</b>
Domain 1 (Standards 1.1.01-1.2.18)  ☐ Numbers, Relationships Among Numbers and Number Systems ☐ Computational Tools,	Complete the following readings and watch the following videos in the Multiple Subject Area Refresher Course (PDF or Online version):	Web Resources  ☐ Khan Academy ☐ National Council for Teaching Mathematics ☐ Math Dude Podcast
Procedures and Strategies	Number Sense  ☐ Numbers ☐ Numbers in Their Prime ☐ Calculating with Rational Numbers ☐ Fractions	Books  ☐ Mathematics Made Simple ☐ Math Smart

Your Notes:		`

## **Elementary Education Study Plan** | Geometry

#### **Test Day Tip:**

Did you know that the most important night to get a good night's sleep is not the night before but rather two nights before your exam? If you have ever pulled an all nighter, you will remember feeling pretty good the next day, though you end up falling asleep early. Get plenty of rest and take care of yourself the entire week for your exam.

Area of Study	Required Resources	<b>Recommended Resources</b>
Domain 3 (Standards 3.1.01-3.3.07)  ☐ Two and Three Dimensional Geometric Objects ☐ Representational Systems	Complete the following readings and watch the following videos in the Multiple Subject Area Refresher Course (PDF or Online version):	Web Resources  ☐ Khan Academy ☐ National Council for Teaching Mathematics
<ul> <li>□ Representational Systems, Including Concrete Models, Drawings and Coordinate Geometry</li> <li>□ Techniques, Tools and Formulas for Determining Measurements</li> </ul>	Geometry  □ Numbers □ Numbers in Their Prime □ Calculating with Rational Numbers □ Fractions □ Polygons □ Properties of Polygons □ Transformations □ Three-Dimensional Figures, or Solids □ Proofs □ Representational Systems □ Measuring Triangles □ Measuring Quadrilaterals □ Measuring Circles	Books  Schaum's Outline of Geometry Mathematics Made Simple Math Smart

Your Notes:			`

## **Elementary Education Study Plan** | Statistics

#### **Test Day Tip:**

Don't underestimate nutrition and fitness when taking standardized tests! This is a four hour event and much like sporting events, it is necessary to eat right, hydrate well, and manage your energy. You want to avoid sugars; instead jumpstart your brain with a carbohydrate like toast or a bagel and follow with a protein for long term energy. Fruits or energy bars are good snacks but avoid stimulants if possible.

Area of Study	Required Resources	<b>Recommended Resources</b>
Domain 4 and 5 (Standards 4.1.01-5.1.27)  Collection, Organization, and Representation of Data Inferences, Predictions, and Arguments Based on Data	Complete the following readings and watch the following videos in the Multiple Subject Area Refresher Course (PDF or Online version):	Web Resources  ☐ Khan Academy ☐ Carnegie Mellon University OLI: Probability & Statistics ☐ How to Write Proofs
<ul><li>□ Basic Notions of Change and Probability</li><li>□ Mathematical Reasoning and Problem Solving</li></ul>	Statistics  ☐ Frequency Tables and Histograms ☐ Probability, Permutation, and More ☐ Mathematical Reasoning and Problem Solving ☐ Mathematics Instruction	Books  Statistics for People Who (Think They) Hate Statistics Barron's E-Z Math Mathematics Made Simple Math Smart

Your Notes:		

## **Elementary Education Study Plan** Life Science

### **Resource Tip:**

Though our Candidate Services staff are not tutors, they are there to answer questions on how the program works and direct you to resources to aid in your studying. Candidate Service's job is to help you and hundreds of other candidates make it through the program. Candidate Services will take your questions when you call in, but if your question requires more discussion, they may book an appointment with you.

Area of Study	Required Resources	<b>Recommended Resources</b>
Domain 1 (Standards 1.1.01-1.3.11)  ☐ Structure of Living Organisms and Their Function (Physiology and Cell Biology)	Complete the following readings and watch the following videos in the Multiple Subject Area Refresher Course (PDF or Online version):	Web Resources  □ NOVA Education □ National Science Teachers Association: Resources
<ul> <li>□ Living and Nonliving         Components in         Environments (Ecology)</li> <li>□ Life Cycle, Reproduction, and         Evolution (Genetics and         Evolution)</li> </ul>	Life Science  □ Life Science □ Natural Cycles □ Genetics and Heredity	Books  □ Biology SparkChart □ Barron's E-Z Biology

Your Notes:		

## Elementary Education Study Plan | Earth & Space Science

"The Cosmos is all that is or was or ever will be. Our feeblest contemplations of the Cosmos stir us — there is a tingling in the spine, a catch in the voice, a faint sensation, as if a distant memory, of falling from a height. We know we are approaching the greatest of mysteries."

- Carl Sagan

Area of Study	Required Resources	<b>Recommended Resources</b>
Domain 2 (Standards 2.1.01-2.5.04)  The Solar System and the Universe The Structure and	Complete the following readings and watch the following videos in the Multiple Subject Area Refresher Course (PDF or Online version):	Web Resources  □ NOVA Education □ National Science Teachers Association: Resources
Composition of the Earth (Geology)  The Earth's Atmosphere (Meteorology)  The Earth's Water (Oceanography and Fresh Water Bodies)  The Earth's Resources	Earth & Space Science  ☐ The Solor System and The Universe ☐ Structure and Composition of the Earth	Books  ☐ Geology and Earth Science SparkNotes ☐ Barron's E-Z Earth Science

(	Your Notes:

# **Elementary Education Study Plan** | Physical Science

Questions and concerns can be directed to the Help Desk on your Dashboard at <a href="http://newmypass.abcte.org/">http://newmypass.abcte.org/</a>
Or contact Candidate Services at: <a href="mailto:cs@americanboard.org">cs@americanboard.org</a>

Area of Study	Required Resources	<b>Recommended Resources</b>
Domain 3 and 4 (Standards 3.1.01-4.1.14)  Structure and Properties of Matter  Principles of Motion and Energy	Complete the following readings and watch the following videos in the Multiple Subject Area Refresher Course (PDF or Online version):	Web Resources  □ NOVA Education □ National Science Teachers Association: Resources
□ Scientific Investigation Skills	Physical Science  □ Structure and Properties of Matter □ Principles of Motion and Energy □ Electricity and Magnetism □ Scientific Investigation Skills	Books  □ EZ 101 Physics Study Keys □ Barron's E-Z Physics □ Developing Assessment for the Next Generation Science Standards

Your Notes:		

# **American Board's Stepwise Method**

#### The Right Way to Get Started: using the Standards as your syllabus

The Standards are your study lifeline; you can find with your study materials. Throughout the course of your study, you will learn all of them. How to begin? Here is the American Board's Standards Stepwise method:

1) Approach in bite-sized chunks:

don't be overwhelmed or paralyzed by how many stardards there are, simply pick a topic of a domain and get started.

2 **Define the terms:** take the first three items in the topic and make sure you know all the terms. Look up any you do not recognize. After all, you cannot answer a question definitively if you don't even know the terms.

Topic 1: Selects, Organizes, Plans, and Designs Content Writes measurable objectives for both individual or classroom performance based on student data and subject 1.1.01 Guides curricular planning (e.g., content clusters, instructional methods, learning activities and assessment

Guides curricular planning (e.g., content clusters, instructional methods, learning activities and assessment tools) based on goals of the instruction.

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entral concepts.

1.1.05	Juxtaposes examples that differ in many ways but are the same in defining features, so that students can generalize to new examples and learn to discriminate same/different when faced with new examples.
1.1.06	Plans lessons, depending on size and content of unit, so that important ideas or skills are studied occasions rather than all
1.1.07	Selects lesson

Professional Teaching Knowledge Study Plan | Effective Instructional Delivery

Area of Study Domain 2 (Standards 2.1.01-2.5.01) Effective Instructional

These standards cover: □ Communicating effectively

- □ Presenting clear and focused instruction □ Effective questioning
- Making efficient use of learning time ☐ Applications
  ☐ Research Strategies

The Characteristics of

- □ Characteristics 1-8 □ Characteristics 9-16 □ VIDEO CASE STUDIES: Characteristics of Successful Teachers
- - Practice
    The First Days of School:
    How to be an Effective How to be an american Teacher Teaching in Today's Teaching in Today's Teaching to Teaching to Teaching Teaching

eaching for the 21st

☐ Inclusive Education Checkl

Your Notes:

3 Use the required resources in your Study Plan or a broad survey text to refresh your memory on the topic.

4 Use the appropriate recommended **resources** to probe deeper if you need better understanding. Use the Standards to target the sections you need to read.

5 Your Notes: identify additional resources to use as needed.

6 Check for understanding and reflect:

think about how you would use this in a classroom or how you would teach the subject. Use your quizzes to check for understanding and move on.

7 Wash, rinse, and repeat: once you finish a chunk of three, go back and attack the next three.

#### **Have a Plan**

It is important to have a plan of attack to study. Block out set times to study and if you slip and miss a session, restart your plan instead of letting yourself get paralyzed and procrastinate.

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