

## TEAMS Process Protocol for Deconstructing Essential Standards

Teams engage in the following actions. Use the "TEAMS Process Template: Deconstructing Essential Standards" and "Deconstructing and Reconstructing Essential Learning Targets: Critical Question One (Know)" tools to support your work.

1. **Label** the unit by genre or focus, and list the essential standards that align with this unit. Then copy and paste the primary essential standard into the Essential Standard to Deconstruct box.
2. **Look** at the essential standard vertically. What can we learn about the standard in the grade level below us? Above us? What prerequisite skills will students need to access?
3. **Read** any explanations about the standard in the state or provincial standards document or other curriculum guides. Discuss and record understandings.
4. **Consider** what the team can learn from assessment blueprints or released assessment items.
5. **Pull** nouns and related vocabulary from the standard to list common language teachers will use in instruction and accountable language students will use to share their thinking and learning.
6. **Pull** verbs and related vocabulary from the standard to list skills or behaviors students will demonstrate to show their understanding.
7. **Generate** sentence frames or vocabulary stems around academic vocabulary.
8. **Use** the nouns and verbs list to build learning targets shared as *I can* statements, breaking the essential standard into bite-size pieces for student-friendly learning goals. Start with the simplest targets, and build to the more complex or difficult ones, ending with the overall grade-level task that puts all the pieces together.
9. **Create** questions to assist students in guiding their own thinking and to deepen understanding of each *I can* statement.
10. **Group** *I can* statements into related learning goals to guide instruction and informal assessment or feedback to put some of the smaller pieces together in a way that will make sense in the teaching and learning cycle. Use brackets or highlight in a different color for each grouping.