

Developing Relevance Statements for a Unit of Study

Helping students find value in education is an essential first step toward engaging them as full partners in the learning process. Answer the following questions below with your learning team to develop a shared answer to the question that every student has at the beginning of a unit of study: *Why do we have to learn this?*

Name of Unit:	
Essential Concepts and Skills Covered During This Unit:	
Questions to Consider	Your Team's Response
<p>How do adults use these concepts and skills?</p> <p>When do adults use these concepts and skills?</p> <p>How do the teachers on your team use these concepts and skills?</p> <p>How do other influential adults in your school community use these concepts and skills?</p>	
<p>Where are students likely to apply these skills in their academic lives?</p> <p>Where are students likely to apply these skills in their personal lives?</p>	
<p>How will mastering these skills help students be successful both within and beyond school?</p>	
<p>Now, use the tool on page 45 to craft a short relevance statement that you can share with students at the beginning of your next unit of instruction. Remember that a good relevance statement should:</p> <p>Be written in student-friendly language</p> <p>Include specific examples of ways that students will use essential concepts and skills in their everyday life</p> <p>Leave space for students to both summarize what they are supposed to be learning and to rate the progress they are making toward mastery</p>	