Standard vs. Learning Progression

Standards

A standard is a mandated expectation for students at a specific grade level. They define what students should understand and be able to do in their study of a content area.

Learning Progressions (LPs)

A learning progression is a description of the ways of thinking about a topic that is not grade level specific. It is a pathway in which students may learn a concept.

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(CCII Report, 2011)

Standard vs. Learning Progression

Standards	Learning Progressions
Tell teachers what is expected for them to teach and what students should learn	Help to design a diagnostic and support tool for teachers to use to identify learning gaps
Define common content and performance expectations for all students in particular grades	Represent hypotheses about *how* students' understanding actually *develops* over many grades

Moving forward, using both standards and learning progressions can help you support your struggling students at a more comprehensive level.

Standards and Learning Progressions

Take a moment to choose a standard from the TEKS. Reflect on all of the concepts that support that TEKS that could represent a learning progression. When standards are bridged with a learning progression, what information can you expect to gain about your students?

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