

Using the EdReports Reviews with California Editions: Educator Analysis of Math Expressions Elementary

A frequently asked question is how to best use EdReports reviews of instructional materials available nationwide when gathering information about California editions of the same program.

To help answer that question and ensure the validity of the EdReports reviews when applied to the California product, California educators analyzed both the California and national editions along with the EdReports review of the national edition. Their analysis is provided below.

Materials Reviewed

CA Math Expressions Teacher Edition, Grade 1

CA Math Expressions Teacher Edition, Grade 3

CA Math Expressions Teacher Edition, Grade 5

EdReports.org [Review of Math Expressions Grade 1](#)

EdReports.org [Review of Math Expressions Grade 3](#)

EdReports.org [Review of Math Expressions Grade 5](#)

Math Expressions Teacher Edition, Grade 1

Math Expressions Teacher Edition, Grade 3

Math Expressions Teacher Edition, Grade 5

Educator Summary and Review Tips

The EdReports reviews for *Math Expressions* can be applied when considering *California Math Expressions*. The majority of the material is similar enough in format and content to use the EdReports review as a guide for understanding the alignment and quality of the CA edition. Notably, the end-of-unit assessment items are different in the two editions, and educators should closely review the assessments to determine the appropriateness of those items.

Review Tips:

When using the EdReports review for *Math Expressions* to evaluate *California Math Expressions* consider the following:

- The pacing guide, allotment of lessons to topics, and table of contents are identical.
- In Grade 1, all evidence within the EdReports review applies to the *CA Math Expressions* edition.
- In Grades 3 and 5, there are substantial differences between the end-of-unit assessments across versions. The scoring and evidence for Indicator 1A: *The instructional material assesses the grade-level content and, if applicable, content from earlier grades. Content from future grades may be introduced but students should not be held accountable on assessments for future expectations* may not match the end-of-unit assessment items in the California edition of *Math*

Expressions. Educators can use the EdReports.org [evidence guides](#) and [review tool](#) to conduct their own reviews of the assessments to ensure that the materials assess grade-level content.

Educator Comparison of the Editions

Comparison of the Editions: Format

The formats of the California and national editions are largely the same. There are differences in language and labeling, including:

- The CA edition has added a cluster listing before each Big Idea for every unit topic. For example, whereas the national edition says, “Big Idea 1: Numbers 1 Through 10,” the CA edition adds the phrase “Cluster: Represent and solve problems involving addition and subtraction above the Big Idea.”
- In the national edition standards are labeled as “CC.1.OA.1” and “CC.1.OA.5,” and in the CA edition, the standards are labeled as “1.OA.1” and “1.OA.5.”
- Another language change occurs before each Quick Quiz listed in the CA edition. The heading “Assessment Guide” has been added. Specifically, in the national edition one sees the label “Quick Quiz 1,” but in the CA edition, one sees “Assessment Guide: Quick Quiz 1.”
- The term “Fluency Check” is listed in the Table of Contents for the CA Edition, but a page number is never listed. In the national edition, the Fluency Check is not listed in the Table of Contents; rather, it is listed in the left-hand side-bar of each unit on the same page as the CA Edition.

Comparisons of the Editions: Content

With the notable exception of the end of unit assessments, the evidence cited in the EdReports review is applicable across the versions. The teacher edition, student pages, pacing guide, and lessons allotted to topics are the same across both versions. The unit numbers and lessons cited are the same in both the national and CA editions. For example, in the EdReports review, this evidence is cited: “In unit 4, lesson 4, students are asked to make a drawing to prove that $10+3$ is the same as $9+4$.” This same lesson is found on unit 4, lesson 4 of the CA edition.

The end-of-unit assessments are different in the two versions.

- Grade 1: In Units 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, the national edition has more assessment items. In Units 6, 7, and 8, the CA edition has more items. The content of the tests do not differ; there are simply more items testing the same concept. While both editions use math mountains in the student pages, only the CA edition shows a math mountain on a test. All of the unit tests of both editions end with an “Extended Response.” These items are identical across unit tests with the exception of units 2, 3, and 4 where the extended response problem has different numbers.

- Grade 3 and 5: Review of the end-of-unit assessments found more differences in the content and the format for these grades than what was found in Grade 1. Since the items are different, educators should look closely at the evidence and scores for indicator 1A and consider conducting their own analysis.