

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) for [California Textbook Adoption](#)

Email additional questions to orders@DramaEd.net

CONTENT

How is Drama Works! different from The Drama Game File 2nd Edition CD-ROM?

It is very different. We've moved to the online delivery method, no longer using CD-ROM. The content is completely redone including an all-new lesson plan format, completely rewritten lessons (including dozens of brand new titles), new posters, new chapters...all designed to meet the new California Theatre Standards for grades PK-12. The Vocabulary Cards is an all-new product. The Creativity Cards are completely redone and have expanded from 6 to 10 categories for 500 cards. We still use the features DGF users love, such as multiple cross indexing to look up lessons by ages, subjects, topics, skills, and learning styles. There is much more for assessment, classroom management, quality questions, high school level material, arts integration, theatre elements, production, and technical theatre.

[Compare Drama Works! to Drama Game File](#)

Is Drama Works! just theatre games?

No. It is rooted in a game-based and creative drama approach to teaching, but includes much more than a collection of games. There are detailed lesson plans, activities, and projects. DW also includes curriculum planning guides such as model lessons, units, and scope and sequence mapping. Research, pedagogy, and practice contributed to the development of the complete classroom management system, teaching strategies, and thousands of ideas for integrating drama across the curriculum. DW is a comprehensive teaching system for all ages, subjects, and learning styles.

Does Drama Works! include scenes, scripts, or monologues?

No. There are no pre-written scenes, scripts, or monologues included. Instead, we have lessons that can be applied to any script the teacher or students are using. These lessons help students explore the characters, situation, setting, conflicts, relationships, objectives, and tactics to bring the script to life, add detail, or improve believability. Or, use the Creativity Cards and our improvisational storytelling activities to generate new material that can be turned into a written monologue, scene, or script.

What material is included for theatre history?

The glossary in DW Online and the Vocabulary Cards print component include terms, definitions, and examples for a variety of theatre history genres (see the Vocabulary Cards for a digital tour). The index of lessons for Social Studies include dozens of activities ideal for dramatizing historical figures, events, and vocabulary -- all of which can be used to reenact theatre history genres, cultures, playwrights, performers, and events.

What material is included for technical theatre?

The glossary in DW Online and the Vocabulary Cards print component include a variety of technical theatre terms and definitions including set design, lighting, costuming, and makeup (see the Vocabulary Cards for a digital tour). The index of lessons for Elements of Theatre include activities that explore the creative use of sound, music, props, costumes, and set pieces to portray character, setting, and plot. DW is not a program that teaches step-by-step design or construction of sets, lights, props, or costumes; however, DW does teach vocabulary and technical theatre concepts. It also includes prepared lists of recommended versatile props, costumes, set pieces, sound effects, and music playlists for tempos and moods that can be used in the lesson plans, story dramatization, or theatre productions.

Are there prepared rubrics for assessment?

Yes and no. DW includes detailed instructions in assessment and a step-by-step process for designing a model assessment rubric. It also included beginner, intermediate, and advanced concepts in each lesson plan to use to design a rubric for the level of the students. There is no such thing as a one-size-fits-all assessment rubric, so DW guides the teacher and students in how to create an effective rubric and provides the specific criteria from which to build the performance assessment.

Will the DW Online content change or evolve?

Yes. DW Online includes annual updates to content, features, and videos based on user feedback and need. Licensed teachers will have input into shaping the evolving content, features, and professional development videos.

Is DW Online the same content for grades PK-12?

Yes and no. All teachers at all grade levels receive access to the same content, but will use the index by grade levels and other organizational structures within DW Online to find age-appropriate content. We have built in many more instances of scaffolding by beginner, intermediate, and advanced levels to allow teachers to scale down, scale up, or move progressively through a lesson plan or other content. In some cases there are alternate versions of visual aids for elementary and secondary. Much more has been added in the program for high school level and for differentiating levels of experience or complexity.

What percentage of DW content is for high school?

All teachers have access to the entire DW curriculum. Sorting by grade levels can be done with indexes, standards alignments, and other content built into the curriculum. Most content applies to a range of grade levels, while some is designed specifically for younger students and other content is designed specifically for older students. The following are rough approximations:

DW content geared towards elementary school: 90%

DW content geared towards middle school: 90%

DW content geared towards high school: 90%



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What percentage of the California Theatre Standards are met?

We have built in alignment to the new California Theatre Standards for all grades, PK-12 (adopted by the California Department of Education in 2019). Drama Works! has content, lesson plans, posters, flash cards, and other resources to help teach the concepts and skills in the California Theatre Standards. Links to applicable content are provided for each individual standard.

Elementary school grades PK-5 theatre standards covered: 100%

Middle school grades 6-8 theatre standards covered: 100%

High school grades 9-12 theatre standards covered: 100%

**Note: for middle school and high school, DW has content that partially covers certain standards, particularly in the areas of technical theatre.*

COMPONENTS: DIGITAL AND PRINT

How are the DW digital and print components different?

DW Online has everything in digital form, including electronic versions of the lesson and cards. The print components are high quality versions of certain aspects of the curriculum such as lesson plans and cards. They save the time and money of printing from online and provide higher quality versions than printing from the digital. The print components also include bonus material and additional details compared to the digital. The cards are easier to read and handle, motivating students, and engaging our “see it- hear it-do it” method of developing vocabulary.

[Compare Components Chart](#)

Is the Companion Book the same as DW Online?

Yes and no. The book has all of the lesson plans, indexes, and many handouts and curriculum planning documents from DW Online. The teacher will find much more material by logging into DW Online, however the book allows the teacher to quickly look up the 101 lessons by the 75 indexes in the back, then flip to the front section to “read it and lead it.” The Companion Book is the “offline” version of the lesson planning portions of the online curriculum. Should technology fail or not be available, the teacher still can access all of the lessons and indexes. Plus, the durable, flexible plastic cover, binding, and tabs make it easy to flip around, hold for reading, photocopy flat, and store notes and additional printouts in the rear pocket.

[Companion Book of Lesson Plans](#)

Are the Creativity Cards the same as in DW Online?

The content is the same, but the presentation is improved in the box set with cards that are bigger (3x5), stronger, and more colorful than the online version - a PDF to project or print- and-cut into flash cards (business card size). Plus, the box set version includes the bonus ideas on the bottom of many cards (turning 500 cards into 1300 ideas provided), tabs, wild cards, instructions booklet, and durable portable box.

[Drama Works! Creativity Cards](#)

Are the Vocabulary Cards the same as in DW Online?

The content is the same, but the presentation is improved in the box set with cards that are bigger (3x5), stronger, and more colorful than the online version - a PDF to project or print- and-cut into flash cards (business card size). Plus, the box set version includes the definitions and examples on back, tabs, instructions booklet, and durable portable box.

[Drama Works! Vocabulary Cards](#)

TECHNOLOGY

What programs are required to access DW content?

Internet browser and PDF reader (Adobe preferred).

What platforms and OS are supported?

Mac, Windows, iOS, Android

Can the teacher login from home or other location?

Yes. The Licensed teacher can login at any time from any location or any device with Internet connection and a web browser.

Will students have their own logins?

No. The teacher will have a username and password and can project, print, or push to student screens in a one-to-one technology setup. The teacher is responsible for deciding what content to show and share with students.

What will happen if a teacher shares login credentials with another teacher?

The system will detect unauthorized sharing and the account may be triggered for a security freeze, which will deny access for that login profile. We have the ability to manually release a frozen account if contacted by the district or licensed user.

How can the district update usernames/passwords?

The district must select an individual to serve as the Login Administrator. We provide instructions and communications with the Login Administrator for updating the logins when needed.

Is there an E-version of the textbook?

No. The Licensed teacher must login to view content.

Can DW documents or content be downloaded for working offline?

No. Content and documents can be viewed, printed, or displayed digitally via projection, smartboard, or screen sharing with student devices, but cannot be downloaded and stored offline. Licensed users are allowed to download PDF files for printing or making physical posters.

Can DW documents or content be shared in Google Classroom?

Yes, DW material may be posted to a class website with access restricted to those students via secure login. DW documents cannot be posted to any site or digital platform that is available to unlicensed individuals. All downloaded PDFs and all DW content must be completely erased and destroyed for all users who are no longer licensed to use DW content.

Can DW documents or content be formatted or changed?

No. All content and documents are copyright protected and cannot be altered in any way.

LICENSING

What is meant by a Single Teacher License?

For use by 1 teacher and all of his or her students. There are no restrictions as to number of computers or devices or students. The license cannot be shared with another teacher.

Do we have to purchase a license for every student?

No. You purchase a Single Teacher License, which includes all of that teacher's students.

Can 2 or more theatre teachers at the same school share one license?

No. Pricing and technology for DW is setup for one teacher at a time. A separate license must be purchased for every teacher that will use any portion of DW.

Do we have to pay to renew licenses every year?

Yes for standard licenses which are valid for 1 year of access to DW Online for 1 teacher. However, we offer the extended digital access option, which is valid for the full textbook adoption cycle (through school year 2028-2029). This saves you time and money, as you will not need to arrange to pay for renewals each year. These licenses can be updated with a change in user information when new teachers are hired to the licensed positions (at no additional charge).

Are students allowed to access DW Online?

Yes, but they will not have a separate login (username and password). They are included in the teacher's license and must have the teacher login to provide them access.

Can the teacher copy and paste DW content?

Yes, a Licensed teacher is allowed to copy and paste from DW into any district required documents, lesson plans, etc., but must be sure to include a reference to the source material and website address. No content, lesson plan, poster, or other DW material may be altered in any way or be shared with any other teacher. DW material may be posted to a class website with access restricted to those students via secure login.

Can a license be transferred to another teacher?

Yes and no. Each license is for one teacher position. If a new teacher is hired, then the license transfers to that new teacher (the Login Administrator contacts us to change the user information and password) and will no longer be valid for the outgoing teacher. However, you cannot share one license among more than one teacher or rotate it to different teachers in different years. Only district-purchased licenses can be transferred to a newly hired teacher; a license purchased by an individual is not transferrable.

Can licensed teachers share print components?

Yes. For example, an elementary school can purchase licenses for all teachers, then 1 set of print components to share by grade level to start, then gradually add more print components.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TEACHER SUPPORT

What support do you provide for teachers?

Drama Works! Online will include free on-demand PD videos. In addition, our Professional Development services include teacher-only trainings in person, model demonstration lessons with students, and video conferencing sessions from distance. Contact us for details and for guidance in putting together a PD plan to support your teachers' use of DW.

[Staff Development](#)

What kinds of videos will be included on DW Online?

Professional development videos (on demand, available any time for licensed users) showing ways to use the DW suite of products for different subjects, grade levels, and topics. Some PD videos will be geared towards theatre specialists and others will be for non-drama teachers such as elementary classroom, music, or English teachers. Over time, we will add videos of activities and lessons in action with students. We plan to work with licensed users to discover their needs and respond with videos to address those needs and help them get more out of Drama Works!

What is covered during in-person PD trainings?

Common topics include: the complete classroom management system for creative expression, arts integration across the curriculum, drama and literacy, model lesson plan structure, meeting the state theatre standards, and curriculum planning. We customize PD to fit your needs, objectives, topics, and district initiatives.

ADOPTION OPTIONS, PACKAGES, AND PRICING

What if we don't have elementary theatre teachers?

Most districts do not. However, there are theatre standards for grades PK-5 that are supposed to be taught to all students. The question is who will be responsible for meeting those standards? Most districts choose to designate the classroom teacher. In some cases, the elementary music teachers may combine music and drama instruction. We have the materials and PD expertise to help you equip and train elementary classroom and/or music teachers to meet the theatre standards and integrate drama pedagogy across the curriculum. This fits well with arts integration and STEM to STEAM initiatives.

Do we have to purchase print materials every year?

No. You purchase the print components once, but must renew the licenses for digital access each year, unless you purchased an extended digital access option. You will have the option to purchase replacement components (book or cards products) if needed.

Can we purchase digital access to DW for the entire textbook adoption time frame?

Yes. We do offer extended digital access options for textbook adoption, allowing you to purchase licenses that will be valid for the full textbook adoption time period. This saves you time and money, and you will not need to arrange to pay for renewals each year. The extended access licenses can be updated with a change in user information and password when new teachers are hired to the licensed positions. Your IMA state funds can therefore be used to purchase DW access for the entire textbook adoption time frame. See the price sheet for details.

Can we put together a customized package different from your price sheet listings?

Yes. [Contact us](#) for a customized price quote of digital and print components and/or PD teacher training services.