

Middle School Debate Meets the Common Core Standards

Reading Comprehension:

Students of debate will need to read text of increasing difficulty when researching topics. Reading critically and evaluating the text will build knowledge and broaden their perspectives.

Writing:

Students of debate will use their research to write short summaries for each topic. These summaries will be used to help prepare logical arguments for debate. Arguments form the basis of persuasive essays.

Speaking and Listening:

Students of debate are able to absorb information and evaluate its usefulness. They present the ideas and back them up with evidence. Being on a team forces them to collaborate with others to better understand and solve their case.

Language:

Students of debate are able to increase their vocabulary by being exposed to topics in various fields of study. Acquiring new words will help students extend their choices in writing.

Media and Technology:

Students of debate are able to use critical analysis to search for information to defend their points. They listen to reports on television and evaluate the sources to determine bias.

Bridging Gaps:

Students of debate get excited about arguing. They come prepared to defend their side and knock down the opposing points. The majority of communication in life is oral and debate helps students excel.