



# OERCOLORADO

## Open Educational Resources

# Colorado Learns with Shared Knowledge

**We are:** An openly licensed digital library of free curriculum and educational resources for Colorado's PK-12+ education community.  
**On our sites, you can:** Explore · Search · Save · Use · Connect · Retain · Reuse · Revise · Remix · Redistribute · Create · Share · Learn · Discuss · Collaborate · Tag · Adapt · Contribute · Review · Belong

## Two sites, one goal: To bring quality open educational resources to Colorado's PK-12 teachers

**OER means:** Open Educational Resources. These are education materials in the public domain or with Creative Commons (CC) licensing that specifically permits educational use at no cost.

**Goals:** Inform on the benefits of Open Education § Advise educational institutions on OER adoption to reduce costs § Instruct personnel on OER creation, use and collaboration spaces § Collaborate with CDE, CTE, CDHE, Libraries & other educational stakeholders on mutually beneficial platform uses § Identify & develop niche "Made in Colorado" curriculum



Discover Hubs Groups Learn More Add OER Sign In/Register



## Welcome to OERColorado!

What are you looking for?  Subject  Education Level  Standard  Search

Fine tune your search with our Advanced Search



The Great State of Colorado



Subjects



Career & Technical Education



Communities of Practice



Administrative Units



OER User & Maker

OERColorado Stand Alone State Microsite: [OERColorado.org](https://OERColorado.org)

- Membership for Public Education Institutions (Public Schools, Charter Schools, Higher Ed, CDE, BOCES, & Support Services)
- Extensive "Made in Colorado" and Colorado focused and selected OER resources.
- Highlights Colorado based OER providers like CU Boulder PhET & CIRES collections
- Publicly available quality free resources, most from institutional providers
- Built-in Tools for reviewing, rating, and tagging. CC-Math, CC ELA, NextGen Sci Standards mapping, Shares to Google Classroom and other LMS systems
- OER Textbooks, full curriculums & full courses for many subjects
- Group collaboration tools to share and adapt OER
- Create and share OER with Open Author and other OER creations tools.

OERColorado Hub on OERCommons: [oercommons.org/hubs/OERColorado](https://oercommons.org/hubs/OERColorado)

- Membership for Private Schools, Homeschool and general public
- 10K+ Publicly available quality free resources, most from institutional providers
- OER Commons administered by Institute for Shared Knowledge Management in Education (ISKME)
- Tools for standards alignment, review, rating and tagging of resources
- Groups to share and collaborate

Colorado's OER Teaching & Learning Community

Explore. Collaborate. Create. Inspire.

Search hub resources





### What is OER?

OER stands for Open Educational Resources. Our collections house lessons, classes, simulations, games, rubrics, icebreakers, and many other educational tools, free for teachers to use in their classrooms. OER describes teaching, learning, and research resources that reside in the public domain or have been released under an intellectual property license like Creative Commons copyright licenses (CC) that permits reuse by others.

Our OER platforms hold a broad repository of resources. The platform supports several tools where organizational and hub administrators can curate resources for their users, including endorsements, review/rating/tagging tools, standards alignment tools (CC-ELA, CC-Math, Next Gen Sci) and more. Users are encouraged to consult with district curriculum specialists for additional guidance and protocols.

### Our Mission and Directive

The mission of OERColorado is to support Colorado educators, administrators, and other educational stakeholders in PK-12+ in using Open Educational Resources (OER) materials, share ideas, and create collaborative spaces and high quality learning resources at no cost to educators.

OERColorado is a Colorado Empowered Learning (CEL) initiative administered by the Colorado River Board of Cooperative Educational Services (CR BOCES) that provides digital collections of openly licensed resources for PK-12+ educators. Pursuant to *Colorado Revised Statute (C.R.S. § 22-5-119)*, the CR BOCES was designated to administer the statewide supplemental and blended learning program and ensure public access to a digital repository of content and resources for Colorado educators.

OER encourages the "Five R's" of shared use, allowing educators to:

- Retain,
- Reuse,
- Revise,
- Remix and, Redistribute

### Why Open Educational Resources (OER)?

- Cost Effective - reduces cost for curriculum. Textbooks, and full courses available for most subjects with standards alignment for Common Core. For example: Libretext, OpenStax, MyOpenMath, Colorado's OpenSciEd, etc
- Customizable for Individual Learners - can provide for multiple learning levels in one lesson or classroom
- Accessibility & Inclusion - resources are editable to allow for changing content or presentation to meet accessibility guidelines or to show representation as needed.
- Fosters Collegiality - OERColorado groups tools allows for teachers to collaborate on shared curriculum at school, district and statewide levels on shared interests. The platform tools promote interaction.
- Shared Knowledge - promotes a culture of knowledge sharing, where teachers can share what "works" for them.
- Fills Gaps in Curriculum - Custom curriculum for special subjects where typical curriculum is not available. For example emerging CTE fields, Affective Learning, AI, etc.
- High quality Institutional providers create many resources. For example: PBS, National Archives, CU Boulder, Utah Math Vision Project, Khan Academy, TED, Smithsonian, History Colorado, Colorado Parks & Wildlife, etc

### Long Term Outcomes

Thriving Open Education shared knowledge community in Colorado § Reduced curriculum costs free up funds for innovative education practices § Increased collegiality & collaboration § Robust use of collaboration space for curriculum initiatives § Colorado a leader in OER curriculum development § Provider Grants for "Made in Colorado" curriculum

### OERColorado Staff

- Administers the OERColorado Platforms (Hub and Microsite), ListServ and outreach/updates to users and providers.
- Curates resources, collections and maintains infrastructure and relationship with Institute for Shared Knowledge Management in Education (ISKME) partner
- Provides professional development around Open Educational Materials
- Designs outreach and training materials to educate users on Open Education practices

