



TEACH TOMORROW: OER LESSONS TODAY

SPRING 2026
DORANN AVEY - NDE





HELLO!

I am Dorann Avey

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GET A COPY OF THIS
PRESENTATION



<https://bit.ly/NeOER2026>

PRESENTATION OBJECTIVES

- × OER Basics
- × Creative Commons Licensing/Site
- × How to create an account
- × Searching for Content in the Hub
- × How to save content & use content today
- × OER outside the Nebraska OER hub



"IN TOO MANY SCHOOL DISTRICTS, WE STILL HAVE SCHOOLS THAT, DESPITE THE HEROIC EFFORTS OF A LOT OF GREAT TEACHERS, ARE NOT FULLY PREPARING OUR KIDS FOR SUCCESS BECAUSE THEY JUST DON'T HAVE THE RESOURCES TO DO IT OR THE STRUCTURE TO DO IT"

~BARACK OBAMA

WHY OER?

- ✘ Limited Planning time
- ✘ Outdated or rigid materials
- ✘ BUDGET Constraints
- ✘ FLEXible solutions
- ✘ Breaks Silos



BENEFITS OF OPEN EDUCATION RESOURCES (OER)

- ✘ Increased access to high-quality educational resources
- ✘ Students have equitable access to up-to-date, relevant content
- ✘ Teachers can tailor learning materials to student needs
- ✘ Education systems are able to reallocate dollars to other pressing needs
- ✘ Flexible when budgets are tight



FREE VS. OPEN

- ✘ Free = no cost
- ✘ Open = customizable + shareable
- ✘ OER is both!



OER FREE & REUSE RIGHTS

Retain

❖ **Make and own copies**

Reuse

❖ **Use in a wide range of ways**

Revise

❖ **Adapt, modify and improve**

Remix

❖ **Combine two or more**

Redistribute

❖ **Share with others**



COPYRIGHT VS. CREATIVE COMMONS/OPEN LICENSES



CREATIVE COMMONS/OPEN LICENSES



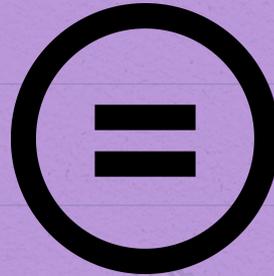
BY = Credit must be given to the creator (IN ALL)



Non-Commercial = Only noncommercial uses of the work are permitted



Share Alike = Adaptations must be shared under the same terms



No Derivatives = No derivatives or adaptations of the work are permitted

CREATIVE COMMONS LICENSES

MOST FREEDOM



LEAST FREEDOM



PUBLIC
DOMAIN



BY



BY

SA



BY

NC



BY

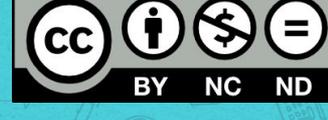
NC

SA



BY

ND



BY

NC

ND

OER



NOT
OER



WAYS OER CAN SUPPORT TODAY'S CLASSROOMS

- **1:1 Users**
- **Constructivist Learning Models**
- **LMS Users/Google Classroom**
- **Blended Learning**
- **Flipped Classrooms**
- **Supplementing Learning**
- **Self-Teaching/Homeschooling**
- **Online Schools and courses**
- **Remote Learning**
- **Synchronous/Asynchronous**

WHAT TYPES OF CONTENT CAN BE OER?

- **Entire Courses**
- **Course modules**
- **E-textbooks**
- Streaming video of lectures
- Professional Development
- **Units of Study**
- Assessments
- Software
- Video
- Activities
- Lesson Plans
- A Photograph
- Rubrics
- Charts
- Journals
- Practice Exercises

Explore. Create. Collaborate.

OER Commons is a public digital library of open educational resources. Explore, create, and collaborate with educators around the world to improve curriculum.

What are you looking for? Subject ▾ Education Level ▾ Standard ▾ [Search](#)

[Fine tune your search with our advanced search.](#)

Interested in working with us?

OER Commons is free for everyone, forever.

We offer tailored and context-specific services for individual institutions, consortia, and organizations looking to have a more intentional impact. As a nonprofit, we're first and foremost committed to our mission of participatory, equitable, and open education for all. These at-cost services help us further our mission in a sustainable way.

[View Our Services](#)



Introducing Open Author

Create OER with Open Author

Open Author helps you build and publish Open Educational Resources for you and for the benefit of educators.

[Get Started](#)

[Learn more about creating OER](#)

OER COMMONS.ORG

NOTE!

Need a valid email account
(some districts firewalls are
too strict so you may want to
use a personal account)



CREATE A FREE ACCOUNT

Start finding the resources you need,
saving them, using them and modifying
them

USING GROUPS

- ✘ Look at FCS Group Discussion
- ✘ Sends you an email when topic added
- ✘ Share new resources
- ✘ Get feedback on your work
- ✘ Ask for resources
- ✘ SAVE FOR INCLUSION TO COLLECTION

HOW TO JOIN A GROUP



Hawaii ELA Common Core

Organize ELA Common Core State Standards aligned and evaluated OER

138 members | 164 affiliated resources

Request to join group



Click Here!

Shared Resources

Discussions

Members

Information

Recent Activity

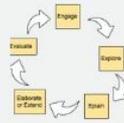
Members of this Group

View 

Search Group Members



user27845



A HIDEO



Adam LoRusso



alexandra padilla



Alexbaster baster



Allyson Doherty

GROUPS



- Groups serve different functions in different hubs
- For NE we use them as working groups for workshops and paid summer work
- Gives you access to NE standards
- Makes you a member of NE hub
- Can join multiple groups

EXPLORING THE OER COMMON'S SITE

OER COMMONS
OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

Discover ▾ Hubs ▾ Groups ▾ Our Services ▾ Add OER

Search 🔍 Notification 🔔 User Profile 👤

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OER Commons is a public digital library of open educational resources. Explore, create, and collaborate with educators around the world to improve curriculum.

What are you looking for? 🔍 Subject ▾ Education Level ▾ Standard ▾ Search

Fine tune your search with our [advanced search](#).

Support a vibrant, educator-focused Commons

The tens of thousands of open resources on OER Commons are free - and they will be forever - but building communities to support them, developing new collections, and creating infrastructure to grow the open community isn't. Grassroots donations from people like you can help us transform teaching and learning.

[Make a Donation Today!](#) [Help](#)

DISCOVER DROP DOWN



- Resources - Explore by Subject area or material type
- Collections - Some of the many available collections (most are in the NDE Hub)
- Providers - Colleges, nonprofits and other education resource providers ie. Khanmigo, CK12, NASA, Federal Reserve

RESOURCES

The screenshot displays the OER Commons website interface. At the top, there is a dark navigation bar with the OER Commons logo on the left and navigation links for 'Discover', 'Hubs', 'Groups', and 'Learn More' in the center. A green 'Add OER' button is on the right, along with search, notification, and user profile icons.

Below the navigation bar, the page is divided into three main sections:

- Providers**: A section with a heading and a sub-heading 'Collections', but no content is visible.
- Subject Areas**: A list of subject categories with their respective counts:
 - Applied Science (14274)
 - Arts and Humanities (10498)
 - Business and Communication (3339)
 - Career and Technical Education (5310)
 - Education (10204)
 - English Language Arts (5355)
 - History (9631)
 - Law (478)
 - Life Science (13535)
 - Mathematics (8251)
 - Physical Science (10741)
 - Research and Scholarship (292)
 - Social Science (9404)
- Materials Types**: A list of material types arranged in two columns:
 - Activity/Lab (19267)
 - Assessment (4523)
 - Case Study (1812)
 - Data Set (1676)
 - Diagram/Illustration (8027)
 - Full Course (5362)
 - Game (629)
 - Homework/Assignment (4095)
 - Interactive (2791)
 - Lecture (7376)
 - Lecture Notes (1893)
 - Lesson (10403)
 - Lesson Plan (13830)
 - Module (4612)
 - Primary Source (5239)
 - Reading (11243)
 - Simulation (1065)
 - Student Guide (1421)
 - Syllabus (950)
 - Teaching/Learning Strategy (4153)
 - Textbook (7888)
 - Unit of Study (3469)

Curated Collections

Digital librarians develop our curated collections to bring you the best of our digital library offerings.

OER Commons Collections



Career and Technical Education

163 Resources



Common Core Social Studies Aligned
English Language Arts

2000 Resources



Common Core Social Studies Aligned
Mathematics

3125 Resources



NEXT GENERATION
SCIENCE
STANDARDS
Next Generation Science Standards
Aligned Resources
For States, By States

2606 Resources



Open Textbook
Library

Open Textbook Library

1701 Resources



PB
Pressbooks

3892 Resources



OEWEEK
2026
Open Education Week 2026

63 Resources



Mozilla
Foundation
Mozilla Foundation

37 Resources

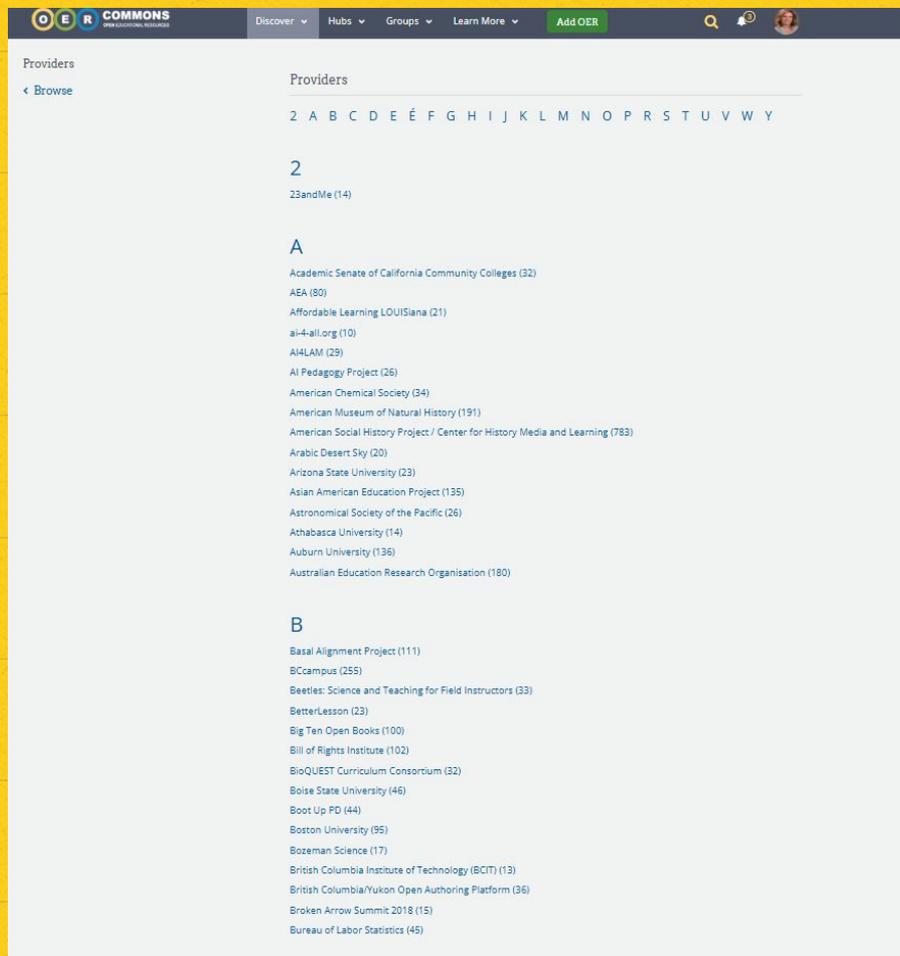


Adult Education

349 Resources

COLLECTIONS

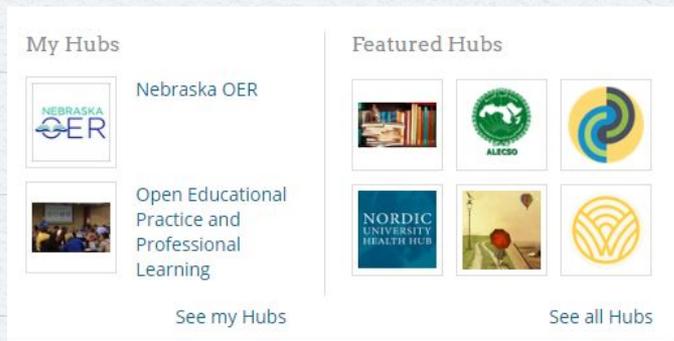
PROVIDERS



The screenshot shows the OER Commons website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the OER Commons logo, a search bar, and several menu items: Discover, Hubs, Groups, Learn More, and Add OER. Below the navigation bar, the page is titled "Providers" and includes a "Browse" link. The main content area displays a list of providers, organized by letter. The visible providers are:

- 2**
 - 23andMe (14)
- A**
 - Academic Senate of California Community Colleges (32)
 - AEA (80)
 - Affordable Learning LOUISiana (21)
 - ai-4-all.org (10)
 - AHLAM (29)
 - AI Pedagogy Project (26)
 - American Chemical Society (34)
 - American Museum of Natural History (191)
 - American Social History Project / Center for History Media and Learning (783)
 - Arabic Desert Sky (20)
 - Arizona State University (23)
 - Asian American Education Project (135)
 - Astronomical Society of the Pacific (26)
 - Athabasca University (14)
 - Auburn University (136)
 - Australian Education Research Organisation (180)
- B**
 - Basal Alignment Project (111)
 - BCcampus (255)
 - Beetles: Science and Teaching for Field Instructors (33)
 - BetterLesson (23)
 - Big Ten Open Books (100)
 - Bill of Rights Institute (102)
 - BioQUEST Curriculum Consortium (32)
 - Boise State University (46)
 - Boot Up PD (44)
 - Boston University (95)
 - Bozeman Science (17)
 - British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT) (13)
 - British Columbia/Yukon Open Authoring Platform (36)
 - Broken Arrow Summic 2018 (15)
 - Bureau of Labor Statistics (45)

HUBS



The screenshot displays a user interface for 'Hubs'. It is divided into two main sections: 'My Hubs' and 'Featured Hubs'.
My Hubs: This section contains two items. The first is 'Nebraska OER' with a logo featuring the word 'NEBRASKA' above 'OER'. The second is 'Open Educational Practice and Professional Learning' with a photo of a group of people. Below these items is a link that says 'See my Hubs'.
Featured Hubs: This section contains six items arranged in a 2x3 grid. The top row includes a bookshelf icon, the 'ALECSO' logo (a green globe), and a blue and yellow circular logo. The bottom row includes the 'NORDIC UNIVERSITY HEALTH HUB' logo, a photo of a person in a red shirt, and a yellow circular logo with a stylized 'V' shape. Below this grid is a link that says 'See all Hubs'.

- State Hubs
 - NE, IA, NH, MD, OR, WA . . .
- College Hubs
 - MI, MA, CA, UC-Davis . . .
- Non- Profit Hubs
 - UNESCO, OpenStax . . .
- Like minded Hubs
 - AI, School Librarians, STEM . . .

NEBRASKA OER HUB



Discover ▾

Hubs ▾

Groups ▾

Learn More ▾

Add OER



 Nebraska OER

[Hub Settings](#)



Nebraska's statewide repository where educators collaborate to discover, create and share openly licensed content

Search hub resources



[Nebraska OER Vision and Collaboration](#)

[Nebraska Instructional Materials](#)

[OER Commons Collections](#)

[Nebraska Working Groups](#)

[OER Tools](#)

[Getting Started](#)

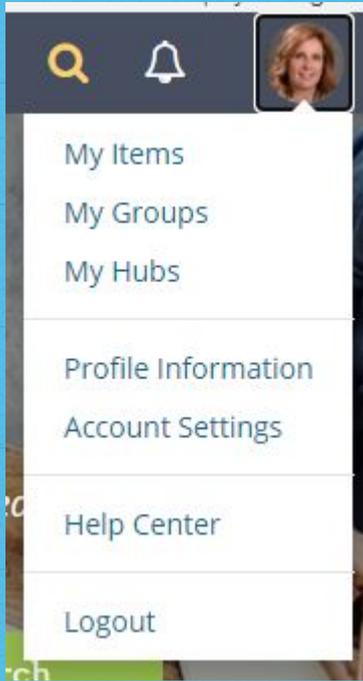
Nebraska OER Vision and Collaboration

The vision for Nebraska Open Educational Resources (OER) is to promote statewide OER awareness, provide access to valuable resources, and offer ongoing support and training for educators. This initiative represents a collaborative effort among the Nebraska Department of Education, Educational Service Units, school districts, and educators. Together, the goal is to curate and create high-quality open educational resources that align with Nebraska's curriculum standards, enhancing teaching and learning opportunities across the state.

NEBRASKA OER HUB OVERVIEW & FEATURES

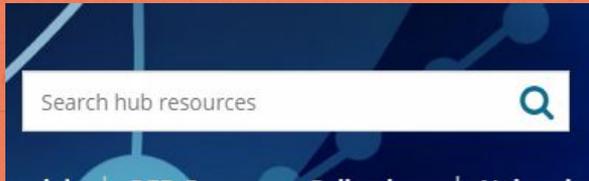
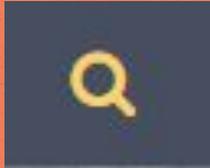
- NE Standards ready to align (must be in working group)
- Popular Collections are localized (need aligned to standards)
- NE approved and aligned collections being developed
- NE groups working to vet and curate content
- SSO within the Nebraska Cloud
- Canvas LMS and Google Classroom Integration
- NE Repository begin populated with other content over time

UPDATING YOUR PROFILE



- My items - has all your saved and created content, can make folders
- Another way to access groups you join
- Another way to access hubs your a member of
- Profile - need to update for ease of approving your work
- Logout- if you don't log out you will stay logged in for quite a while

FINDING CONTENT



- Multiple ways to search and refine your search
- Gold spyglass or main Commons page will find everything
- Search bar with blue spyglass in NE hub will look through only items within the hub

NARROWING YOUR SEARCH

Filter By

Education Standards



Subject Area



Education Level



Material Type



License Types



Content Source



Primary User



Media Format



Educational Use



Language



Providers



REMOVING SEARCH PARAMETERS

Search Results (18)

Per page Sort By View

Selected filters: High School Lesson Plan

Shakespeare the Player: Illustrating Elizabethan Theatre through A Midsummer Night's Dream
Rating ★★★★★
In this activity, you and your students will explore Elizabethan stage practices ...
More
Conditions of Use: [Subject: Arts and Humanities](#)

To remove a search parameter just click on the cancel button at the top of the search page

SAVING TO "MY ITEMS"

Shakespeare the Player: Illustrating El
Midsummer Night's Dream

☆☆☆☆☆

[View Resource](#) [Save ▾](#)

- My Items
- Chemistry
- Unit 1
- Culinary Skills
- Elementary English
- Nutrition
- OER Training



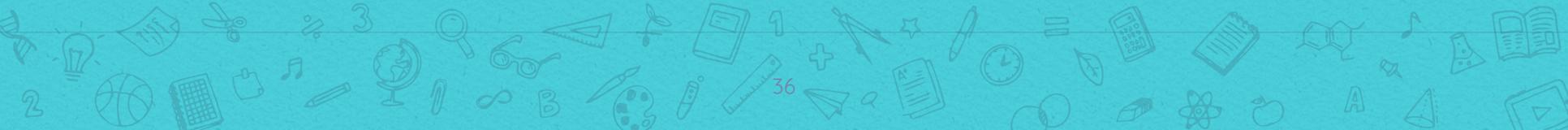
- Search and collect items for a lesson, unit or course
- Save these items to “My Items” or folder within
- Vet and align the items later

SIMPLE WORKFLOW

1. Find
2. Evaluate
3. Adapt
4. Teach
5. Save

START SMALL

- Try one lesson this week
- Replace one activity or worksheet
- Fill a gap



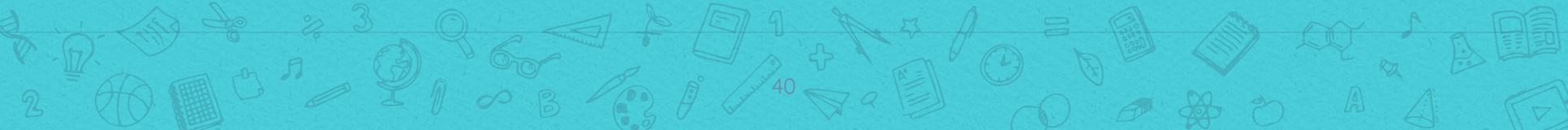
STEP 1 - FIND

- ✗ Pick a standard
- ✗ Search one OER site
- ✗ Choose one resource



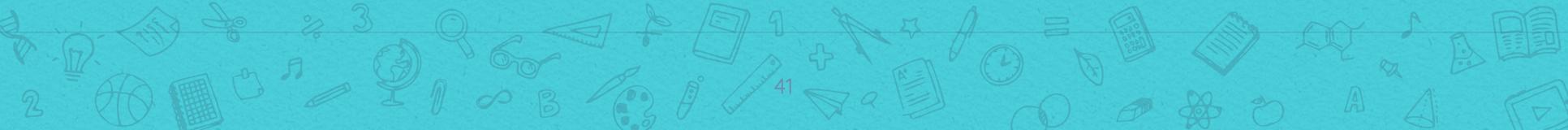
STEP 4 - TEACH

- ✗ Try it in class
- ✗ Note what worked
- ✗ Make Adaptations



STEP 5 - BUILD YOUR LIBRARY

- ✘ Save for reuse
- ✘ Organize resources
- ✘ Reuse, update and refine (continuous)
- ✘ Share with colleagues



OER RESOURCES FOR CURATION

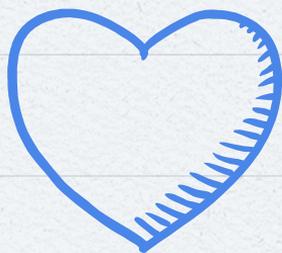
Download Creative Commons License Logos | Creative Commons

<https://creativecommons.org/about/downloads>



Help also in OER Commons Hub - OER information group





THANKS!

Any questions?

You can find me at dorann.avey@nebraska.gov