

Visual Literacy: Standards

Does your [state's teaching standards](#) include the ability of students to be able to

read, analyze, deconstruct visual images? Many states do include it in their visual arts standards. But the phrase “new literacies” (being found in the English Language Arts) implies understanding how photographs, for example, can also be interpreted or read, just as we might read a book or a poem.

[DRAFT](#) National Board of Professional Teaching Standards
Early Childhood Middle Grades ELA (2011)

Standard IX: Viewing and Visual Literacy

“Reading language arts teachers know, value, and teach viewing and visual literacy as essential components of literacy instruction is necessary to prepare students to interpret and interact with an increasingly visual world.” (pg 34)

“Being literate...means being active, critical, and creative users not only of print and spoken language, but also of the visual language of film and television, commercial and political advertising, photography, and more. Teaching students how to interpret and create visual texts...is another essential component of the

ELA curriculum.” Source: [Standards for English Language Arts](#), IRA/NCTE, 1996, p. 5

“It would be a breach of our duties as teachers for us to ignore the rhetorical power of visual forms of media in combination with text and sound...the critical media literacy we need to teach must include evaluation of these media, lest our students fail to see, understand, and learn to harness the persuasive power of visual media.” NCTE Resolution on Visual Literacy



Language Arts Standard 9: VIEWING

Uses viewing skills and strategies to understand and interpret visual

media

links to some national verbiage relating to understanding images

Film	Photography	Viewing
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