Georgia Standards of Excellence for K-8 Computer Science

Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) for Computer Science (CS) were created in response to the growing ubiquity of computing devices and their impact on every aspect of society. If Georgia’s students are to participate effectively in society, a shift in K-12 education must correspond. In Georgia, Computer Science is understood as the study of computers and algorithmic processes, including their principles, their hardware and software designs, their implementation, and their impact on society. The standards blend the core concepts of computer science (i.e., what students should know) and computer science practices (i.e., what students should do). These core concepts and practices should be taught in an integrated way to provide authentic learning experiences for students.

The GSE for Computer Science immerse students in the practices of Computer Science from Kindergarten through grade 12, effectively transitioning Computer Science from a high school elective to a comprehensive K-12 discipline for all students. Some skills or concepts are emphasized more in particular grade bands in conjunction with research on how students learn and other knowledge and skills taught at those levels. Any curriculum aligned to these GSE should revisit domains and concepts over time as students apply their learning by creating computational artifacts. Creating computational artifacts can be as simple as writing socially responsible electronic messages (e.g., email and social media posts) and as complex as designing an app for a drone or a self-driving vehicle.

The standards are organized in grade bands rather than grade levels to afford schools flexibility in presenting the content while maintaining a structured, developmental progression from one band to another. Teachers can scaffold instruction from simple familiarization in the K-2 grade band to deeper involvement in the 3-5 and more thorough treatment in the 6-8 grade band. In addition, the 6-8 grade band standards are designed to feed directly into the high school CS pathways which are, in turn, designed to meet the dynamic needs of industry and post-secondary study of computer science.

Georgia-owned and Georgia-grown, the GSE for Computer Science relate broadly to national and international frameworks. The grade bands follow the structure set forth by the K12 CS Framework; they develop a comprehensive conceptual framework that grows over the years. The K-8 GSE for Computer Science also correspond to the ISTE standards for students as organizational domains. These domains are intended to be cross-curricular. The ISTE domains (e.g. Empowered Learner) define a high-level perspective on the characteristics of a 21st century student. These characteristics are couched in a digital society but are not restricted to computer science content. Likewise, the GSE for Computer Science can be integrated into other content areas and support enduring characteristics for learning (e.g., collaborative, communicative, creative, and critical thinking). Ultimately, the GSE for Computer Science support and inspire Georgia’s students as they grow and learn, empowering students to be successful, responsible, and engaged citizens.
The Standards are written in the following format:

**CSS** = Computer Science Standard  
**EL** = Empowered Learner (Domain)  
**6-8** = Grade band 6 through 8  
**1.** = is the standard number  
**1..** = Element of the standard

**Cluster**  6-8  
**Empowered Learner**  
**CSS, EL 6-8.1**

Use technology resources to increase self-direction and self-regulation in learning, including for problem solving and collaboration (e.g., using the Internet to access online resources, edit documents collaboratively)

1. **Understand the difference between editing a shared document and suggesting edits (e.g., track changes)**  
2. **Use digital tools or platforms to organize, display, annotate, and/or share a curated collection**  
3. **Complete an individual project (e.g., research or design) using technology resources**
# Table of Contents

- Second Grade Standards  
  Pg. 4
- Glossary of Computer Science Terms  
  Pg. 25
Empowered Learner
CSS.EL.K-2.1
Recognize that technology provides the opportunity to enhance relevance, increase confidence, offer authentic choice, and produce positive impacts in learning. (Clarifying statement: This is a general statement and should not be taught in isolation from the other standards.)

Knowledge Constructor
CSS.KC.K-2.2
Use digital tools (e.g. computers, tablets, cameras, software, 3D printers, etc.) to build knowledge, produce creative artifacts, and make meaningful learning experiences for themselves and others.

3. Identify and use the home row of the keyboard effectively.
4. Build (use, modify and/or create) collections of digital images and words to communicate learning using a variety of media types.
5. Analyze collections of digital images and words for how well each collection communicates learning.
6. Identify a problem of interest to the learner and create a solution using digital tools.

Digital Citizen
CSS.DC.K-2.3
Identify the rights, responsibilities, and opportunities of living, learning, and working in an interconnected society and model behaviors that are safe, legal, and ethical.

7. Recognize work that is created by others.
8. Recognize that credit is given for the work of others found online.
9. Create an artifact that demonstrates a positive personal digital identity. (Clarifying statement: For example, students can draw a “selfie” and analyze how others might make assumptions based on what they see. Given that feedback, students can revise their portrait.)
Innovative Designer and Creator
CSS.IDC.K-2.4
Use the Design Process (use, modify, create) with a variety of tools to identify and solve problems by creating new, modified, or imaginative solutions.

2. Modify an existing model for a specific purpose or for a specific group of users.
3. Create and test a model and analyze it from the perspective of an end user.
5. Understand that innovation follows a process such as system life cycle, engineering design (use, modify, create) or design thinking (empathize, define, ideate, prototype and test).

(Clarifying statement: Types of tools that could be used include, but are limited to, photo editing, sound recording, and programming languages like Blockly.)

Computational Thinker
CSS.CT.K-2.5
Develop and employ Computational Thinking strategies (break-down, find patterns, and create algorithms) to identify and solve problems.

1. Recognize that problems can be broken down into smaller parts in order to create a solution. Vocabulary Term: Decompose (to break down)
5. Identify multiple ways solutions can be applied to solve problems. Vocabulary Term: Abstraction
6. Analyze and debug (identify and fix) with or without a computing device.

(Clarifying statement: Associating these vocabulary terms with plugged or unplugged instructional activities will build familiarity with the language of computational thinking to prepare students for in-depth application in later grades.)

Creative Communicator
CSS.CC.K-2.6
Use digital tools to creatively share and express ideas.

1. Create a variety of artifacts.
2. Exchange information or ideas clearly and creatively using digital tools while considering audience and intended purpose.
3. Present information using a digital device.
4. Create artifacts for specific purposes that give and receive feedback.

(Clarifying statement: Examples of artifacts could include digital images, audio recordings, and storyboards.)
Global Collaborator
CSS.GC.K-2.7
Use digital tools to collaborate with others both locally and globally.

1. Identify technology (hardware and software) that allows collaboration with others.
2. Use digital tools to connect with individuals from different backgrounds and cultures.
3. Understand features of online environments.
4. Participate in various roles on a team to work on a common goal and create an inclusive environment.
5. Participate in an online collaborative learning environment.
   *(Clarifying statement: Examples of global interaction could include comments on Scratch projects from other students around the world.)*

Reflective Researcher
CSS.RR.K-2.8
Select appropriate sources to conduct authentic research to produce a relevant and credible product.

4. Progress from using a teacher developed list of resources, to selecting resources independently.
5. Select digital and analog resources, explain why a source was selected, and describe why it was the best source.
6. Collect and organize data.
7. Create a product of research collaboratively or independently. (e.g., table of data, writing assignment, collection of resources).
8. Create and share a research project reflecting and crediting a variety of quality resources.
   *(Clarifying statement: In this grade band, research skills should be developed in the context of simple problems, such as how seeds grow in a school garden or how to clean a bedroom. Students can find information from two or three sources. Evaluating the accuracy of sources will be taught in later grade levels.)*

Digital Awareness
CSS.DA.K-2.9
Understand how people can use technology.

10. Use devices appropriately.
11. Choose and use appropriate hardware and software tools for a given purpose using accurate terminology.
   *(Clarifying statement: Appropriate hardware and software for this age group could include robots, block-based programming platforms such as Scratch, and digital pictures, audio, and animation.)*
**Glossary of Computer Science Terms**

These terms are used throughout the standards. They are content-specific vocabulary for Computer Science.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abstraction</td>
<td>The process of taking away or removing characteristics from something in order to make it less complex. The product should be a new representation of essential characteristics. The new representation hides details that are irrelevant to the problem at hand.</td>
<td>To represent a person, an abstraction may include two arms, two legs, a head, and a torso but no hair or toes. This representation gives enough information to show a person without being too complex.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algorithm</td>
<td>Detailed, step-by-step instructions for solving a problem or completing a task.</td>
<td>The set of steps used to solve a long division problem is an example of an algorithm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analog</td>
<td>A defining characteristic of data; analog data are stored in a continuous transmission of a signal. It is often contrasted with digital, which is how computers store and process data as a set of individual symbols.</td>
<td>A compact disc is digital; a vinyl record is analog.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artifact</td>
<td>Anything created by a human using a computer.</td>
<td>A word processing document, an app, and a webpage are all computational artifacts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(computational)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Binary</td>
<td>A number system using only on the numerals 0 and 1.</td>
<td>The binary number 01011 converts to 11 in decimal numbers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biometric</td>
<td>The measurement and analysis of unique physical or behavioral characteristics (such as fingerprint or voice patterns) especially as a means of verifying personal identity.</td>
<td>Fingerprint scanners utilize a biometric evaluation to grant access.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Block-based programming language</strong></td>
<td>A visual representation of common sets of instructions for coding that can be organized to create computer programs; block-based programming is often used to teach coding to younger or novice learners.</td>
<td>A popular block-based coding language is Blockly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Coding</strong></td>
<td>Creating a computer program.</td>
<td>Writing directions for a computer using a computer language such as Java, Python, or Blockly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Computational Thinking</strong></td>
<td>A problem-solving process used to formulate problems in a way that a computer and other tools could be used to help solve.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Conditional**                     | A programming statement, often starting with "if", in which one half expresses something that depends on the other half. | If student's grade is greater than or equal to 60
Print "passed"
else
Print "failed"
endif |
| **Curate**                          | Collect, organize, and present information typically using professional or expert knowledge. | Selecting a set of pictures to share or add to a photo album. |
| **Debug**                           | The process of finding and removing errors from computer programs.                             | Correcting errors.                                |
| **Decomposition**                   | Specific to computer science, decomposition means breaking a complex problem or system into parts that are easier understand. | To create an app that calculates an ideal heart rate, the program would break down the process to input of information from a patient, calculation of that information, and output of the ideal heart rate. |
| **Design Process**                  | A formal approach used by architects, engineers, and scientists for breaking down a large project into manageable chunks. |                                                    |
### Georgia Standards of Excellence for K-8 Computer Science

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drone</td>
<td>A remote-controlled pilotless aircraft or missile.</td>
<td>A photographer can use a drone to take aerial pictures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event</td>
<td>An action or occurrence recognized by software, often originating from the external environment, that may be handled by the software.</td>
<td>Accepting input from a user is an event that may be followed up by some processing activity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hexadecimal</td>
<td>Relating to or using a system of numerical notation that has 16 digits rather than 10 as its base.</td>
<td>The number 15 in our common base ten decimal system is represented with the letter ‘F’ in hexadecimal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ideate</td>
<td>The process of generating ideas and solutions.</td>
<td>Sketching, prototyping, or brainstorming can be processes for ideation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loop</td>
<td>A sequence of instructions that is continually repeated until a certain condition is reached.</td>
<td>An action that is performed again and again by a computer program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Model</td>
<td>Constructing a representation of some part of a problem or system.</td>
<td>A budget is a model for how money is spent and earned.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordinal</td>
<td>Relating to an ordinal number; representing a position in a series.</td>
<td>1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phishing</td>
<td>The fraudulent practice of sending emails purporting to be from reputable sources in order to entice individuals to reveal personal information, such as passwords and credit card numbers.</td>
<td>A phishing email is a fake message from a place like the Internal Revenue Service requesting a social security number.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prototype</td>
<td>A model of something from which other forms are developed or copied.</td>
<td>At an auto show, a &quot;concept car&quot; is a prototype of a car that may go into mass production.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remix</td>
<td>To change a set of code by adding or rearranging smaller code segments to create a different outcome.</td>
<td>A computer program that uses segments of other programs to solve a problem.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scratch</td>
<td>A block-based programming platform commonly used for novice programmers.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sequence</td>
<td>An ordered, step-by-step process of an action or event proceeding in a pattern.</td>
<td>5, 10, 15, 20 is a sequence that relies on a pattern of +5.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unplugged</td>
<td>Activities used for teaching computational thinking or computer science without a computing device.</td>
<td>Using playing cards to teach sorting is an unplugged activity to teach how computers sort data.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>