



ISTE Seal Review Findings Report

TCI

2025



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ABOUT

ABOUT ISTE

The International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) is home to a community of global educators and solution providers who are passionate about using technology to revolutionize learning. Our vision is to create a bold community where education innovators are supported in reimagining and redesigning learning with a focus on using technology to create transformational and equitable experiences for learners. We're making this vision a reality by delivering practical guidance, evidence-based professional learning, virtual networks, thought-provoking events and the ISTE Standards.

ISTE SEAL

The ISTE Seal serves as a mark of high-quality product design for solutions that enable and guide high-quality learning. By choosing to demonstrate their commitment to supporting best practices for teaching and learning, these products show a purposeful and meaningful dedication to practical usability, digital pedagogical implementation, and the ISTE Standards. With a focus on user experience, product usability, and the most essential elements of instructional technology today, the ISTE Seal provides a set of criteria and simple indicators to guide educators, students, and technology directors toward the very best products on the market.

ISTE awards a seal only after an extensive analysis conducted by trained ISTE reviewers that ensures a product meets all critical elements under specific review criteria.



By earning an ISTE Seal, ISTE verifies that this product:

- Promotes critical technology skills.
- Supports the use of technology in appropriate ways.
- Incorporates digital pedagogy and the learning sciences.
- Addresses key elements of tech usability, user experience and user interface.
- Aligns to ISTE Standards in specific ways.



RESOURCE DESCRIPTION

WHAT IS TCI?

TCI is a K-12 curriculum provider specializing in social studies and science programs designed to engage students through interactive, inquiry-based learning experiences. TCI's curriculum combines print and digital materials to create a blended learning environment where students actively participate through hands-on activities, multimedia content, and collaborative projects. The curriculum aligns with state-specific standards and integrates proven teaching strategies that accommodate diverse learning needs. TCI's platform features digital tools such as slideshows, videos, games, and assessment resources to foster critical thinking, problem-solving, and student engagement.

HOW IS TCI IMPLEMENTED?

TCI is implemented through a flexible combination of whole-class activities and independent learning, which supports a deep understanding of the content. Teachers access TCI's materials through a digital platform that includes lesson plans, interactive presentations, digital textbooks, and assessment tools. Each lesson follows a structured format that begins with setting learning objectives, followed by engaging students through multimedia content and hands-on activities. Students participate in a range of learning experiences, including collaborative projects, discussions, and interactive digital assignments.

ISTE SEAL REVIEW

Product: TCI

Product Type: Curriculum

Organization: Teachers' Curriculum Institute

Date of Award: April 2025

REVIEW METHODOLOGY

ISTE Seal reviews are conducted by a distinguished panel of experts in education, instruction, and technology. These experts utilize the most up-to-date data provided by the organization to conduct thorough evaluations of each solution. The evaluations focus on assessing the solution's performance in addressing specific elements outlined in the technical and pedagogical usability framework and the ISTE Standards.

To complete their rigorous evaluations, the reviewers utilize a comprehensive rating system, categorizing each solution as either "meets expectations" or "does not meet expectations." This assessment covers both the required and optional "Look Fors" outlined in the application. To ensure the validity and reliability of their results, the reviewers regularly engage in calibrations. Final review findings are then analyzed and combined, providing an overall score for alignment with each indicator.

At ISTE, we take great pride in our unwavering commitment to delivering results that schools and districts can have full confidence in. To be deemed education-ready learning solutions, products must meet the high standards in learning sciences, user experience and interface, accessibility, and content quality.



SCOPE OF REVIEW

TCI was reviewed against the technical, pedagogical usability framework and the ISTE Standards to determine whether **the solution is education-ready**. ISTE reviewers examined all evidence provided by the organization and interacted directly with the product.

REVIEW FINDINGS

ISTE STANDARDS: The ISTE Standards provide the competencies for learning, teaching, and leading in the digital age, providing a comprehensive roadmap for the effective use of technology in schools worldwide. Grounded in learning science research and based on practitioner experience, the ISTE Standards ensure that using technology for learning can create high-impact, sustainable, scalable, and equitable learning experiences for all learners.

Knowledge Constructor 1.3.a

Students use effective research strategies to find resources that support their learning needs, personal interests and creative pursuits.

Knowledge Constructor 1.3.b

Students evaluate the accuracy, validity, bias, origin, and relevance of digital content.

Creative Communicator 1.6.d

Students publish or present content that customizes the message and medium for their intended audiences.


Global Collaborator 1.7.c

Students contribute constructively to project teams, assuming various roles and responsibilities to work effectively toward a common goal.

FEEDBACK


OUTCOME




<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inquiry projects within each unit support students in developing effective research practices. • The curriculum establishes specific routines within lessons to develop research skills through curated content, providing ongoing support and clear scaffolds. • Students select problems and activities of their own choosing and share results in personally meaningful formats. • The product offers structured activities designed for collaborative project teams working toward common goals. 	
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DIMENSION 1: USER INTERFACE AND AGENCY

Definition: The design of the product interface and user experience helps teachers quickly and reliably achieve instructional goals. This dimension includes features related to interface design, learnability, navigation, maximizing time on task, control over actions, and general usability.

FEEDBACK	OUTCOME
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The product has a clear and easy-to-use login process. • The user interface maintains a consistent, organized flow throughout the site. • The global search tool appears prominently, featuring the standard magnifier icon, and allowing keyword searching with refinement options. 	




<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The help link on the top menu opens a comprehensive “Help Center” with searchable support articles and related resources. • The product clearly communicates supported integrations and includes professional learning modules for successful implementation. 	
<p>DIMENSION 2: LEARNING DESIGN</p> <p>Definition: The product has features that exhibit and promote design and customization of learning episodes in ways that align with research-based best practices, including those rooted in the learning sciences.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">FEEDBACK</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">OUTCOME</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each unit begins with a "Lesson Overview" section that contains essential questions and objectives. • Lessons incorporate diverse range of media, including slides, readings, handouts, videos, and audio. • Activities throughout lessons regularly include review and reflection sections with various assessment formats. • Social studies content provides opportunities within the units where students are asked to consider concrete examples tied to their own lives and experiences as they learn about the content. 	<div style="text-align: center;">  </div>



DIMENSION 3: DIGITAL PEDAGOGY

Definition: The product is designed to support the development of digital age learning skills, capacities and knowledge. This dimension focuses on how technology can help students and teachers experience the best possible learning experiences, including the social and learning affordances that digital educational products uniquely offer.



FEEDBACK	OUTCOME
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students solve real-life problems through essays, journaling, and inquiry-based projects. • Problem-solving activities appear throughout units with structured organizers that facilitate breaking down complex thinking processes. • Each inquiry activity includes a call-to-action section that encourages students to apply their learning in their communities. 	

DIMENSION 4: INCLUSIVITY

Definition: The product helps teachers provide learning experiences that are relevant to students of many cultures, backgrounds, and abilities, and support learner motivation and agency in the learning process. The product meets current guidelines around accessibility, and supports a positive classroom culture.

FEEDBACK	OUTCOME
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The product includes diverse people and cultures throughout its content and activities. • Throughout the lessons, students consider themselves, their cultures, and their experiences as they learn concepts. • The “Collaborative Classroom Booklet” emphasizes a strengths-based approach to learner variability. • The product focuses on making content accessible through various options for learners and teachers. 	
<p>DIMENSION 5: ASSESSMENT AND DATA</p> <p>Definition: The product uses formative assessments – learning experiences that help make visible what students know and don’t yet know – to generate data that inform teachers about student knowledge and skill gaps, and provide students assessment feedback that is specific, actionable, and constructive. As such, it guides teachers’ instructional decisions and students’ learning journeys.</p>	
FEEDBACK	OUTCOME
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The product provides structured formative and summative assessments at various levels tied to unit goals and standards. • Assessment types include drag and drop, fill-in-the-blank, multiple choice, and open-ended writing. 	



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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students can submit open-ended assignments and upload artifacts to show their learning.• The platform delivers immediate feedback for formative assessments and includes sections for teachers to provide direct feedback. | |
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CONCLUSION

TCI offers educators a comprehensive, standards-aligned curriculum for social studies and science that effectively engages students through interactive, inquiry-based learning experiences. The platform's intuitive interface allows teachers to navigate content effortlessly, with universal search functionality and extensive help resources readily available. Each unit provides clear learning objectives, essential questions, and a variety of multimedia content that supports different learning styles.

The curriculum excels in promoting active learning through real-world problem-solving activities, collaborative projects, and community-focused inquiries. Students regularly engage with content through varied assessment formats that encourage reflection and critical thinking. TCI's structured approach to developing research skills guides students to evaluate sources and draw evidence-based conclusions through scaffolded activities.

TCI demonstrates a commitment to inclusivity through diverse representation in content, accessibility features, and a strengths-based approach to learning. The platform supports differentiation with tools like reading supports, multimedia presentations, and flexible assessment options.

This approach to curriculum delivery creates an engaging learning environment that develops students' critical thinking skills while providing teachers with the necessary resources for successful implementation. By integrating hands-on activities with digital tools, TCI creates learning experiences that connect academic content to students' lives and communities, fostering deeper understanding and engagement.

