Explora for Grades PreK-5 Trainer Guide
2 Contact Hours (2 Ohio Approved hours)

Optional Training Activities
- Optional training activities are estimated to add 55 minutes to the original training time and include the minutes indicated for the original activity.

Learning Objectives

Participants in the Explora for Grades PreK-5 class will achieve eight objectives
- Understand the importance of using digital text, print, and other media in early learning curriculum.
- Find Explora for Grades PreK-5 on the INFOhio website: www.infohio.org.
- Use the navigational tools to search and browse content to find the best content for students and instruction.
- Find the instructional supports available in the resource.
- Identify strategies for integrating Explora for Grades PreK-5 in the classroom.
- Consider methods for sharing Explora for Grades PreK-5 with parents.
- Create a lesson plan to integrate Explora for Grades PreK-5 into instruction.
- Reflect on learning by sharing information with others.

In this course, you will work through several lessons to learn how to access INFOhio's subscription to Explora for Grades PreK-5, how to use the resource, and how to integrate it into your classroom teaching. Below is a description of each lesson and the amount of time it should take for you to complete each one.

Getting Started

Pre-test

- **Lesson Content**
    Take a quiz to find out what you know or need to know about Explora for Grades PreK-5.
    (5 minutes)

Questions? Contact support@infohio.org.

Welcome to the Explora for Grades PreK-5 Class

- **Lesson Content**

   Review the course objectives and the course overview. (5 minutes)

> **Optional Training Activity**
> - Use a web based word cloud generator like Answer Garden or Poll Everywhere to generate ideas for ways Explora for Grades PreK-5 can fulfill instructional and technical needs in the classroom.   (5 minutes)
> - Create a "Parking Lot" for questions that arise throughout the training. Place your "Parking Lot" on chart paper or track in a shared digital document like Google Docs. (5 minutes)

Using Open Space Groups

- **Lesson Content**

   Join the Explora Resources group in Open Space. In this group, discuss and reflect on the integration of this resource into the classroom with like-minded educators. (5 minutes)

> **Optional Training Activity**
> - Take time to explore the Explora Resources group in Open Space. Ask each participant to join the group and review the Discussion questions. (5 minutes)

How to Use Explora for Grades PreK-5

Getting Started with Explora for Grades PreK-5

- **Lesson Content**

   Read facts about Explora for Grades PreK-5, practice the steps needed to access the resource on www.infohio.org, and watch a short video to understand some of the features found in the resource. Think about what you learned by answering questions. (20 minutes)

> **Optional Training Activity**
> - Distribute the **Explora K-5 Checklist and Notes** document and instruct participants to use it during this lesson as well as Using Explora for Grades PreK-5: Searching, Using Explora for Grades PreK-5: Browsing, and Using the Instructional Supports lessons. (Time included in lesson)
> - Answer the discussion questions using the Snowball Discussion method. (15 minutes)
> - Answer the reflection questions from the class in the Explora Resources group in Open Space. Navigate to the Discussions tab in the group and find the *Features of Explora Resources* question.

K-5 Digital Content Learning Pathway: Explora for Grades PreK-5 Trainer Guide

Using Explora for Grades PreK-5: Searching

- **Lesson Content**

  Learn the navigational tools and features found on Explora for Grades PreK-5. (5 minutes)

Using Explora for Grades PreK-5: Browsing

- **Lesson Content**

  Learn the navigational tools and features found on Explora for Grades PreK-5. (5 minutes)

Optional Training Activity
- Discuss the differences between searching and browsing. Ask participants to brainstorm strategies that can be used in instruction for both. How will the grade level taught affect instruction? (5 minutes)

Using the Instructional Supports

- **Lesson Content**

  Learn about the instructional supports available on Explora for Grades PreK-5. (5 minutes)

Tools for Reading Digital Text

- **Lesson Content**

  Learn more about the tools available for reading digital text. (5 minutes)

What Have You Learned So Far?

- **Lesson Content**

  Take a short quiz to check what you know. (5 minutes)

Applying What You Have Learned

- **Lesson Content**

  Complete an activity to practice using Explora for Grades PreK-5. (10 minutes)

Optional Training Activity
- Encourage participants to post In the Discussion tab of the Explora Resources Open Space group, sharing the text they found and how they will use it in its PDF or Online Full Text formats. Look for the *Text from Explora Resources* question. (5 minutes)

Integrating Explora for Grades PreK-5 into Classroom Instruction

Teaching with Explora for Grades PreK-5

- **Lesson Content**

  Read strategies for using Explora for Grades PreK-5. Reflect on the practices by answering questions. (20 minutes

Optional Training Activity
- Divide participants up and ask each group to read a different blog post from this lesson. Each group will shares the key ideas from the post with the rest of the participants using an interactive document, post-it notes, or Chalkboard Splash. (20 minutes)
- Share the **Best Practices for Digital Reading**. Discuss how these can be integrated into instruction. (15 minutes)
- Answer the discussion questions using a method found in this blog post.
- Direct participants to the Explora resources Open Space group and suggest they answer the *Integrating Explora Resources* question.

Creating Lessons Using Explora for Grades PreK-5

- **Lesson Content**

  Review lesson plans featuring Explora for Grades PreK-5. Create your own using a lesson plan template. (30 minutes)

Optional Training Activity
- In the **Creating Lessons using Explora for Grades PreK-5** lesson, review the sample lesson plans as a group. Point out the best practices in the lesson and ask participants to identify any other practices or activities they find that seem effective or have worked for them in the past. Ask them to evaluate the lessons based on their own classes, and to suggest ideas that might make the lessons better. Record these best practices and ideas to make the lessons better in a shared space (i.e. Google Doc, Padlet, white board, chart paper, etc.). (15 minutes)
- Lesson Plan Template – Each participant should find another person whose teaching situation is similar to their own. Give each pair a copy of the **lesson plan template** found in the Exercise Files of this Trainer Guide and direct them to begin drafting a lesson using content from Explora for Grades PreK-5. Begin by identifying the standards to address, and then find content from the resource that fits in with a current theme in the classroom. Encourage the participants to consider the Best Practices, discussions, and the recently brainstormed ideas about the sample lessons to include in their lesson plan. If they have identified limitations to using technology in their classroom before, encourage them to find solutions and steps to move beyond these obstacles. (30 minutes)
- Ask participants to find the *Explora Lesson Plans and Educator Tools* post in the Explora Resources Open Space group and describe the lessons created. (5 minutes)

Sharing Explora for Grades PreK-5 with Parents

- **Lesson Content**

  Learn about ways to let parents know more about Explora for Grades PreK-5 to keep kids reading wherever, whenever. (5 minutes)

Checking your Learning

Self-Assessments

- **Lesson Content**

  Answer questions to reflect on what you learned. (15 minutes)

> **Optional Training Activity**
> - Take a few minutes to review any Parking Lot questions or questions related to Explora for Grades PreK-5 instructional use. (5 minutes)
> - Ask participants to find the *What Did You Learn from the Explora Class?* thread in the Discussion tab of the Open Space group and post answers to the reflection questions.

Contact Hour Quiz and Certificate

- **Lesson Content**

  Take a quiz to earn a certificate for 2 contact hours. (2 Ohio Approved hours) (5 minutes)