



PARTNERSHIP FOR  
21ST CENTURY SKILLS

# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills: How can you prepare students for the new Global Economy?

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OECD/CERI  
Paris, May 2008



# Agenda

- What is the Partnership for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills ?
- Why are 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills so important?
- What is the Framework for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills?
- What can we do?

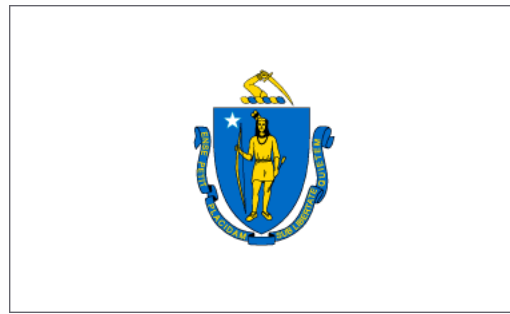
# P21 Members



# Success to Date



Iowa, North Carolina, Maine,  
Massachusetts, South Dakota,  
West Virginia, Wisconsin



# The Press gets it



“This is a story about ... whether an entire generation of kids will fail to make the grade in the global economy because they can’t think their way through abstract problems, work in teams, distinguish good information from bad, or speak a language other than [their own].”

*How to Build a Student for the 21st Century,*  
TIME Magazine, December 18, 2006

# Of interest across the world

RSA

working to remove the barriers to social progress





# Why are 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills so important?

# Workforce Requirements Survey

## Basic Knowledge/Skills

English Language (spoken)  
Reading Comprehension (in English)  
Writing in English (grammar, spelling, etc.)  
Mathematics  
Science  
Government/Economics  
Humanities/Arts  
Foreign Languages  
History/Geography

## Applied Skills

Critical Thinking/Problem Solving  
Oral Communications  
Written Communications  
Teamwork/Collaboration  
Diversity  
Information Technology Application  
Leadership  
Creativity/Innovation  
Lifelong Learning/Self Direction  
Professionalism/Work Ethic  
Ethics/Social Responsibility

Source: "Are they really ready to work ?" report by the Conference Board, P21 et al



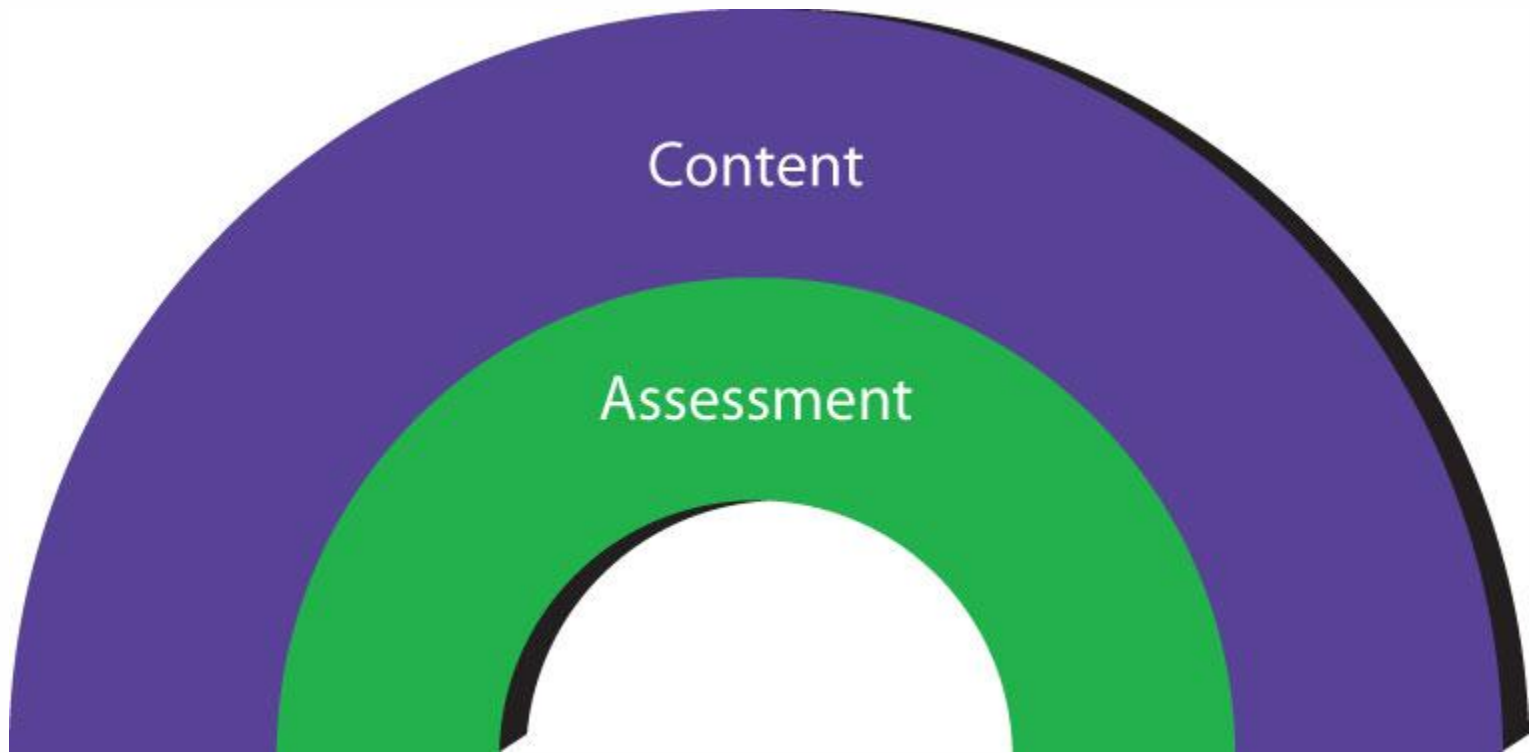
“We are currently preparing students for jobs and technologies that don’t yet exist... in order to solve problems that we don’t even know are problems yet.”

*“Did you know”*, widely circulated YouTube posting

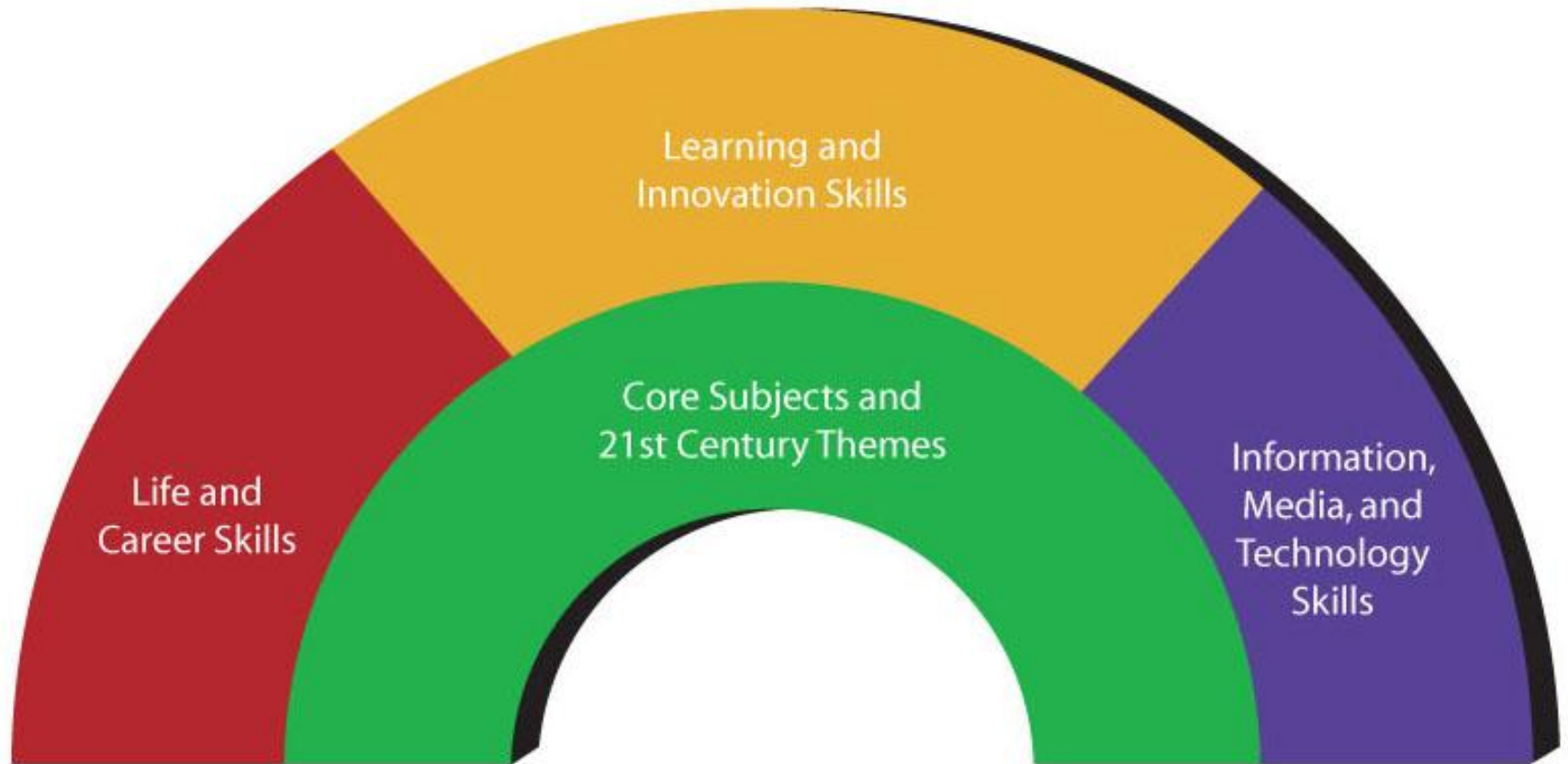


# What is the Framework for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills?

# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills Framework



# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills Framework



# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills Framework

## Core Subjects

- Native Language/Reading
- World Language(s) incl. English
- Arts
- Geography
- History
- Mathematics
- Science
- Government/Civics

## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Themes

- Global Awareness
- Financial, Economic, Business and Entrepreneurial literacy
- Civic Literacy
- Health Literacy

# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills Framework

## Learning & Innovation Skills

- Critical Thinking & Problem Solving
- Creativity & Innovation
- Communication & Collaboration

# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills Framework

## Information, Media & Technology Skills

- Information Literacy
- Media Literacy
- ICT (Information, Communications & Technology) Literacy

# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills Framework

## Life & Career Skills

- Flexibility & Adaptability
- Initiative & Self-Direction
- Social & Cross-Cultural Skills
- Productivity & Accountability
- Leadership & Responsibility



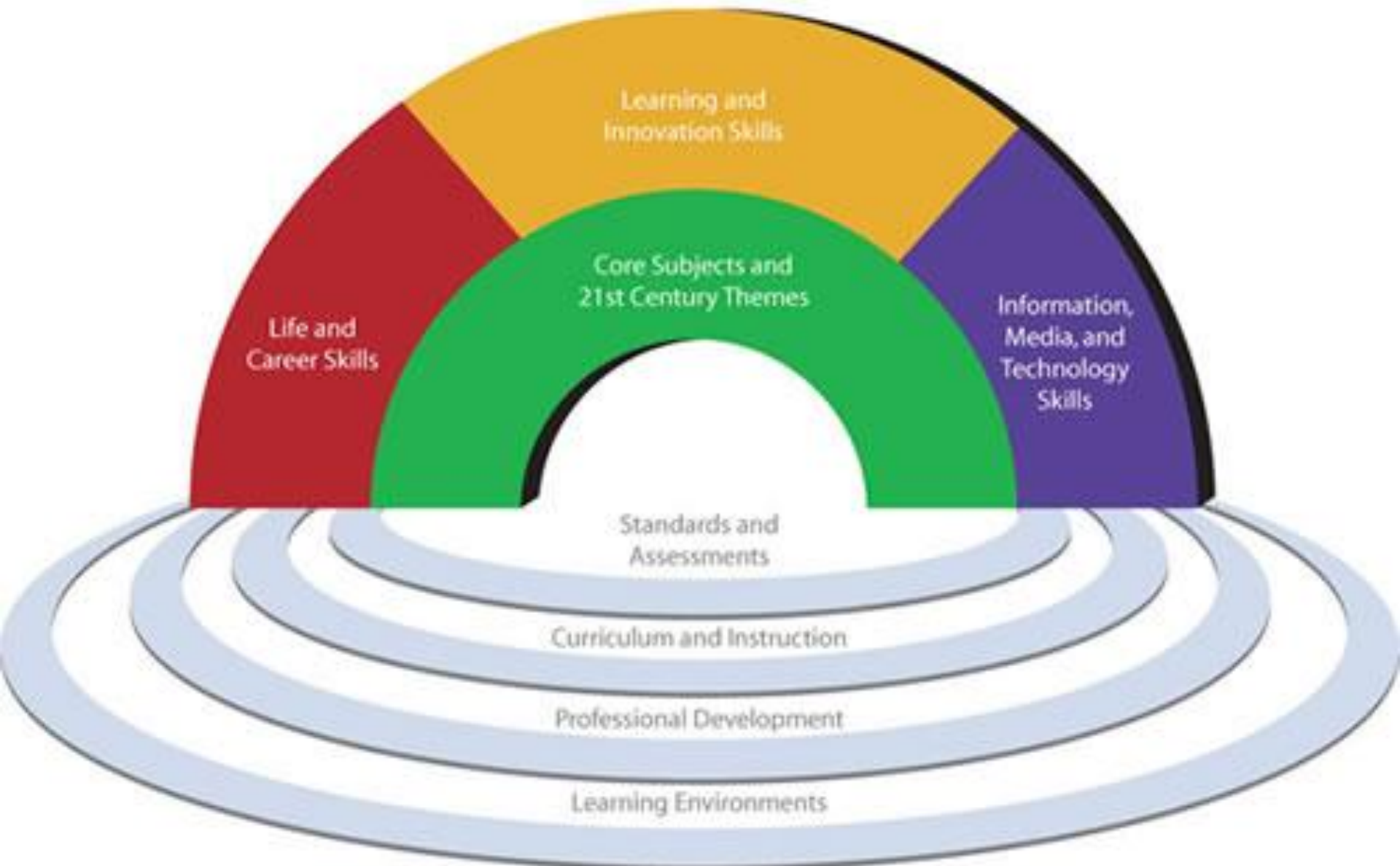
# What's new about 21st Century Skills?

New Understanding of Coverage

New Areas of Emphasis

<p>Critical Thinking and Problem Solving Skills for EVERYONE</p>	<p>Innovation and Creativity Skills</p>
<p>Life and Career Skills for EVERYONE</p>	<p>Information, Media and Technology Skills</p>

# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Support Systems





What can we do?

# “Think Globally, Act Locally”

René Dubos

1. Develop or Support your Country's initiatives
2. Stay current on P21 via <http://www.21stcenturyskills.org/>
3. Contribute and participate via <http://www.21stcenturyskills.org/Route21>

# What is Cisco doing for Education ?



- Cisco Networking Academies: 165+ countries, 10,000 academies, 2M graduates
- 21S program: Mississippi, Louisiana
- Global Education Initiatives: Jordan, Rwanda

To learn more, and to access Cisco's white paper:  
<http://newsroom.cisco.com/education/>

Also, see paper on Education and Economic Growth at  
<http://www.cisco.com/web/strategy/docs/education/Education-and-Economic-Growth.pdf>



# *The Internet Is Changing the Way We Work, Live, Play, and Learn<sup>SM</sup>*

