

What does a school staff need to know about Learning through Competencies?

This learning guide is designed for use by instructional leaders and learning communities or as a self-paced study to explore competencies.



Use this learning guide after viewing the *Competencies in Action* video clip: [Shark Lake Development Project—Michael Strembitsky School](#).

In this brief video, students at an Alberta school demonstrate how they discover, develop and apply competencies by using an allocated budget to bid on a lot in the fictitious Shark Lake Development, and then work in collaborative groups to construct a scale-model home.

Key understandings:

- Every student develops competencies every grade and across every subject and discipline area for learning, work and life.
- The following cross-curricular competencies are described in the *Ministerial Order on Student Learning (#001/2013)*:



- *The Ministerial Order on Student Learning (#001/2013)* and the *Education Act* guide the development of curriculum.

Questions for reflection and discussion:

- What competencies are the students applying and developing through the project shown in the video?
- How might authentic learning opportunities for students enable the development of competencies?
- What opportunities for student learning might a focus on competencies present?
- How will a focus on competencies impact planning for student learning and assessment?
- How do the ideas in this video link to the way you currently plan for student learning?

For more information:

Support for awareness and understanding of [Cross-Curricular Competencies](#) (ARPDC)

[Ministerial Order on Student Learning \(#001/2013\)](#) (Alberta Education)

Learn more about essential conditions that support implementation planning for new educational policies and initiatives at <http://www.essentialconditions.ca>

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