



## FAQs

### **What is the rationale for AV2?**

www.av2books.com has been developed to accompany Weigl books. The site includes audio, videos, web links, quizzes, key words, slide shows, interactive activities, core activities, plus activities for differentiated learning, through which students explore the covered subject. These features can be used for group work, research, and interdisciplinary projects that will help students meet important knowledge and skill outcomes in U.S. curricula from grades K to 12.

### **What educational standards does AV2 meet?**

AV2 media enhanced books will help students meet key National Education Standards for grades K to 12, as set out by the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA), The National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE), in addition to curriculum standards defined by the National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS).

### **How can I use AV2 books in the classroom?**

AV2 media enhanced books are based on national curriculum standards. Content found online at www.av2books.com helps make the books come alive with audio and visual features. There are many potential approaches for teachers who choose to take advantage of AV2's learning materials.

- Teachers can use a single book to prepare a class presentation, making use of the provided class activities and videos to supplement the book's content. Teachers can then print off provided quizzes and individual activities for students to complete on their own or in a group.
- Teachers can distribute a different book from the same series to each student. AV2 titles belonging to the same series share a set of features, which allows a group of students to complete matching activities and then consolidate their findings.
- All AV2 activities note the page spread where the answers to the activity can be found. This provides teachers with the flexibility to use the activities however they see fit. Students can perform a self-assessment, at home or in class, or teachers can grade the assignments and use them as course work.

In addition, at the end of each book a glossary of terms is provided so that students can better comprehend the content.

### **How can AV2 be used for skills development?**

All supplementary materials focus on higher level thinking skills as outlined by Bloom's Taxonomy. The AV2 activities provide opportunities for students to analyze, synthesize, and evaluate information and concepts covered in the corresponding book. Using AV2, teachers can prepare lessons that emphasize collaborative learning, the development of effective research skills, synthesizing information, and engaging students in evaluating information and assessing their work. Activities are based on best practices as outlined by the NSTA, NCTE, and NCSS.

The activities are designed to promote comprehension and strengthen these core skills:

- Recognizing the main idea
- Identifying a sequence
- Understanding cause and effect
- Comparing and contrasting
- Differentiating fact from opinion
- Recognizing problems and solutions
- Drawing conclusions

- Making inferences

In addition students will have opportunities to use reading strategies such as:

- Predicting
- Clarifying
- Questioning

### **How does AV2 incorporate differentiated learning strategies?**

All activities encourage verbal, written, and artistic expression by students. Hands-on activities involve kinesthetic learning or creative thinking, and can be used to support struggling learners.

### **What are AV2 comprehension strategies?**

AV2's activities can be used for guided reading instruction for small student-groups reading the same texts. Guided reading encourages students with similar reading levels to use problem-solving skills to construct meaning from text. Specific comprehension strategies are integrated into activities. These comprehension strategies fall into five categories.

- Students make predictions after viewing photographs, graphs, and other images.
- Students summarize their knowledge.
- Students suggest questions they have about a topic.
- Students infer, based on obvious clues provided in written text or images.
- Students use imaging to picture what a written word looks like or what it means.

Have students use the following questions to help them evaluate which resources to choose.

- Will this resource answer my questions?
- Can I read and understand this information?
- How old is this information?
- Who wrote the information?
- Can I believe it? What makes this person an expert?

### **What are AV2 assessment strategies?**

Each AV2 title includes a quiz that can be downloaded and completed by sites users. The quiz can be used for self-assessment after reading the book. In addition, all AV2 activities note the page spread where the answers to the activity can be found. This provides teachers with the flexibility to use the activities however they see fit. Students can perform a self-assessment, at home or in class, or teachers can grade the assignments and use them as course work.

### **How is Content Selected for AV2?**

AV2 is committed to providing a safe learning environment for children to explore. Every reasonable effort is taken to ensure high-quality content standards are upheld. As an online learning environment, AV2 produces new content and organizes already-available content that is found to be ideal for teaching a given topic. This mixture of produced and collected content ensures a higher standard of quality.

AV2 uses integrated resources that reflect the latest curriculum standards. The content provided fits the best pedagogical strategies used by teachers in today's classrooms. With a focus on creating inspired learning, AV2 resources engage young students through eye-catching visuals and well-researched, trustworthy content. AV2 content covers multiple learning styles with a variety of activities, including videos, quizzes, writing assignments, and charts. Children of varying learning styles and abilities will benefit from AV2's content.

Each image, video, web link, and activity is evaluated by an editor for appropriateness. The content is thoroughly appraised in its entirety to ensure that it meets strict content guidelines. AV2 takes great effort to ensure that content hosted on our site does not contain:

- Discrimination

- Drugs
- Graphic violence
- Nudity
- Profanity
- Racism
- Sexual themes

### **What Sensitivity Guidelines does AV2 Follow?**

In addition to strict content standards, we observe the following sensitivity guidelines:

#### **Gender References**

The content must

- a) recognize the contributions of both men and women to society
- b) portray men and women in ways that accurately reflect society at the time being studied
- c) portray decisions made by males and females relative to career choices, roles, etc. in ways that reflect a range of options available in contemporary society.

#### **Race/Ethnicity References**

Materials incorporate race, ethnicity, color and/or nationality in ways that

- a) portray lifestyles, institutions, and society so that they reflect racial and ethnic diversity
- b) portray racial, ethnic, and national groups so as to reflect current knowledge in the social sciences (as opposed to negative myths, stereotypes, and patronizing overtones for example)
- c) represent racial, ethnic, and national groups within literature, art, history, and other areas in ways that reflect accurately the norms and context of the time period being studied
- d) Reflect the positive, creative contribution of racial and ethnic minority groups to cultural life including economics, arts, politics, and community life for example

#### **Religious References**

The content must

- a) present the elements of religious belief and practice, such as spiritualism, belief, creation, worship, deity, in sensitive and respectful ways
- b) present the religious beliefs of minority groups, such as fundamentalist views of creation, in sensitive and respectful ways;
- c) present the religious practices of minority groups such as non-Christian worship and celebrations, in sensitive and respectful ways
- d) present the views of those who profess no religious belief in sensitive and respectful ways

#### **References to People with Disabilities**

The content must

- a) depict people with disabilities in ways that do not overemphasize their differences, and in ways that do not demean or patronize them, either through description or label
- b) present people with disabilities in a variety of professional or executive roles, vocations, trades, or other gainful occupations, as well as being recipients of social services
- c) portray authentically those persons with disabilities within the setting and period of history being presented
- d) assist students to recognize the basic similarities and worth among all people and the uniqueness of every individual, including those with differences.

#### **Political and/or Belief References**

In their portrayal of various political groups, the materials

- a) reflect the existence of many political beliefs in society
- b) present the right of individuals in a democratic society to hold whatever political beliefs they choose provided the rights of others are not infringed upon
- c) accurately reflect the society being studied at a given point in time

### **How Does AV2 Monitor Website and Video Content?**

In order to provide the highest-quality content, AV2 by Weigl sometimes links to outside sources. The links provided are included for one or more of the following reasons:

They contain

- relevant information or key source material
- background information
- useful practical information
- informed comment

All links are put through a rigorous evaluation process to ensure their content is age-appropriate, credible, and engaging. However, we cannot guarantee the content of web links or external videos. Due to the dynamic nature of the Internet, some of the URLs provided as part of AV2 by Weigl may have changed or ceased to exist. AV2 by Weigl accepts no responsibility for any such changes. This is because AV2 by Weigl does not

- produce the links and videos or maintain and update them
- have the ability to change the content on these links/videos
- receive notification when these links and videos are changed

In addition, some of the links and videos may offer products or services for purchase. AV2 does not endorse the products or services available for purchase through these links.

All media enhanced books are regularly monitored to update addresses and sites in a timely manner. However, AV2 by Weigl does not monitor entire sites. Users may navigate away from the specific link provided. Content in other areas of a site may not be suitable for the user. As a standard, links and videos included on [www.av2books.com](http://www.av2books.com) is suitable for children. We aim to ensure that the links and videos accessed through AV2 do not lead directly to information that is unsuitable for children.

Contact AV2 by Weigl at 1-866-649-3445 or [av2books@weigl.com](mailto:av2books@weigl.com) with any questions, comments, or feedback.

#### **What is proprietary in AV2?**

- All video, content, images, and design are proprietary and are owned and designed by Weigl Publishers Inc. or licensed suppliers.
- A custom, proprietary login verification system, using the existing printed books and questions to the books provides additional learning opportunities for the student as well as providing security for the content.
- A custom, propriety user interface has been designed and tested through various user and focus groups to allow simple navigation and to tie print content with digital content. The interface has been designed to allow teachers to use the site on interactive whiteboards, computers, or any other computing device mentioned above.
- The user interface allows multiple forms of input, such as keyboard, mouse, or touch. All interface elements have been custom designed to support multiple input methods.
- Proprietary navigation and presentation concepts have been designed and integrated into the website to allow the user to access, view, and use all information on the screen at one time without scrolling or accessing nested menus, tabs, or buttons. These concepts simplify and enhance learning for students and ease presentation and teaching for the teacher.
- These proprietary concepts and design elements have been created to allow the student and teacher to concentrate on learning and using the content within AV2, instead of learning how to use the technology behind AV2.