Spotlight on Digital Library Forums  
**CBAL Series  May 4 – May 8**

The purpose of the Digital Library Spotlight Forums is to connect state, district, and building leaders and teachers across Smarter Balanced member states to discuss timely topics facilitated by national experts and innovative practitioners.

Authors of two Cognitively Based Assessment of, for, and as Learning (CBAL) resources share information about the modules in the following recorded webinars:

- The *Using Learning Progressions to Formatively Assess Students’ Ability to Analyze Arguments* webinar is intended for middle school English language arts teachers. Viewers learn how the classroom tasks - in particular, *Taking a Position* and *Using Claims and Evidence* - connect to argumentation learning progressions and inform instructional decisions based on students’ performance.

- The *Using a Learning Progression to Formatively Assess the Concept of Slope* webinar is intended for teachers of first-year algebra. This webinar provides an example of a CBAL formative digital assessment task in the *Linear Functions and Nonlinearity* module that incorporates a learning progression to develop students’ deep understanding of the concept of slope. Viewers hear how the learning progression, its application in the task, and ancillary resources support the teacher’s use of the task in the classroom.

From **May 4-8**, the authors will facilitate conversations about these modules in two Spotlight Forums. Information on how to access the CBAL modules and the recorded webinars, as well as how to join the Spotlight Forum discussions is found below.

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<tr>
<th><strong>Access the CBAL Modules and the Spotlight Forums in the Digital Library</strong></th>
<th><strong>Access the Recorded Webinars</strong></th>
<th><strong>Webinar and Forum Facilitators</strong></th>
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| **Using Learning Progressions to Formatively Assess Students’ Ability to Analyze Arguments**  
[https://www.smarterbalancedlibrary.org/content/analyzing-arguments-cbal-tm-formative-activity-set-and-teacher-handbook](https://www.smarterbalancedlibrary.org/content/analyzing-arguments-cbal-tm-formative-activity-set-and-teacher-handbook)  
*Play recording*  
(53 min) | **Katherine Jueds**  
**Amanda Roth**  
**Mary Fowles** | **May 4 - May 8** |
| **Using a Learning Progression to Formatively Assess the Concept of Slope**  
*Play recording*  
(1 hr 2 mins) | **Jeff Haberstroh**  
**Liz Marquez** | **May 4 - May 8** |

### How to Join the Spotlight Forum Conversations

- Access the CBAL module by clicking on the URL in the chart above. This will take you to the Smarter Balanced single sign-on page.
- Log in to your Smarter Balanced Digital Library account. For assistance with a login contact your state coordinator or Help Desk.
- Once you log in, you will be on the module page where you can view the complete resource.
- To join the Spotlight Forum discussion, click on the Collaboration tab directly below the module preview window and select the Spotlight Forum. Share your experiences and questions with the authors and colleagues around the country.
**A Balanced Assessment System**

The Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium is committed to ensuring that all students leave high school prepared for postsecondary success. A balanced assessment system — which includes the formative assessment process as well as interim and summative assessments — provides tools to improve teaching and learning. The formative assessment process is an essential component of a balanced assessment system.

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**Digital Library**

The Digital Library is an online collection of instructional and professional learning resources contributed by educators for educators. These resources are aligned with the intent of the Common Core State Standards and will help educators implement the formative assessment process to improve teaching and learning. The Digital Library incorporates collaboration features providing educators opportunities to review resources using a rating system and share their expertise with colleagues across the country in online forums.

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**Formative Assessment Process**

Formative assessment is a deliberate process used by teachers and students during instruction that provides actionable feedback that is used to adjust ongoing teaching and learning strategies to improve students' attainment of curricular learning targets/goals.