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The standards are not necessarily the problem, but how they were rolled out was. They were rushed to be implemented without any time to fully learn about them and prepare for them. It was extremely haphazard. Some of the standards are extremely rigorous and not developmentally appropriate, which has changed the tone of our classrooms. Teaching has become frustrating and disheartening, for both teachers and students. The focus on testing has taken away from real and meaningful experiences that our students would be getting, rather than preparing them for the tests (which are unfair and unreliable). The focus has gone from the actual students and onto data and scores. The educational reforms have taken the joy out of teaching. There is little time to connect with your students on a personal level anymore because everyone is so overwhelmed about staying in line with standards and data deadlines.