SOAR® Study Skills
21st Century Skills & WorkKeys Alignment

SOAR® was originally designed and developed simply to respond to critical, yet common problems students were facing. Based on "foundational skills" for organizing and learning, Susan Kruger pulled skills together that would serve students for a lifetime. So, it is no surprise that SOAR® correlates very nicely with 21st Century Skills and ACT's WorkKeys®. This correlation is illustrated below.

21st Century Skills		WorkKeys	Correlating SOAR® Study Skills Chapters
Core Subjects & 21st Century Themes	Learning & Innovation Skills	Reading for Information	• Reading Textbooks
		Applied Mathematics	• Co$t of Disorganization • Grade Tracking • Goal Monitoring
		Writing	• Writing a Research Paper
		Business Writing	• Working with Teachers – Writing effective emails and memos
		Observation	• Ask Questions Section– Developing an awareness of details, making connections, and drawing conclusions
	Information, Media, & Technology Skills	Locating Information	• Multiple Intelligences – Bar & Pie Graphs • Reading Textbooks – Using pictures, graphs, charts, illustrations
		Applied Technology	• Multiple Intelligences • Reading Textbooks • Writing a Research Paper – Internet research, using the computer to organize research • Grade Tracking • Goal Monitoring
	Life & Career Skills	Listening	• Interacting with Teachers
		Teamwork	• Prioritize Your Time • Schedule Time to Take Action • Interacting with Teachers • SOAR Outcomes: Empowerment, Respect, Initiative, Leadership, Assertiveness as a result of student confidence
		Additional Employability Skills* *The entire foundation of SOAR® is to foster "Self-Directed Learning," one of the main objectives for 21st Century Skills	• All of SOAR® fosters "self-directed" learning • Multiple Intelligences: Identifying careers that match personal skills • Identify Your Goals: Demonstrate initiatve • Prioritize Your Time: Juggling many priorities • Schedule Time to Take Action: Managing time, overcoming procrastination • Organize Section: Organize papers, space, & time • Asking Questions: Asking good questions, developing critical analysis & problem-solving skills • Interacting with Teachers: Demonstrate positive attitude, responsibility, initiative, pride in work, interacting with your boss • Writing a Research Paper: Internet search skills • Recording your Progress Section: Developing a work ethic, holding yourself accountable

21st Century Support Systems Correlation to SOAR® Study Skills	
21st Century Support System	**SOAR® Study Skills**
Standards & Assessments	"We are currently preparing our students for careers that do not exist, to solve problems that we do not even know are problems yet, using technologies that have not yet been invented." - Karl Fisch, Author of "Did You Know?" Traditional K-12 curriculum standards focus on CONTENT. In our technologically advanced society, however, content becomes outdated by the hour. Our students need to develop processing skills in order to be flexible and adaptable in the global economy of their future. Like the 21st Century Skills, the entire premise of SOAR® Study Skills is to help students more efficiently access information. We present simple, student-friendly strategies for organizing papers, resources, and information, managing time, and accessing information. We also explain the science and reasoning behind these strategies. We promote the notion of *real* understanding, not memorization or rehearsal, and are focused on developing real-world skills. In fact, every time we do a SOAR® presentation to parents and students, parents will approach us afterwards and make comments like, "I can use this stuff at work!" Or, "Do you have a program like 'SOAR® for the Workplace?'" (The answer is, yes, in development.) These comments are proof of the real-world relevance that our program provides to students. To accurately monitor students' mastery and progress of these 'soft skills,' we have created an innovative "triangulation" assessment matrix. With five different *types* of assessments, you can monitor: pre/post self-assessment, content knowledge, behavior/habit development, long-term applications, and long-term impact of grades. Being able to monitor multiple angles of a students' development with these skills will help ensure maximum impact on student achievement.
21st Century Curriculum & Instruction	SOAR® is a business run by educators. As business-people, we are acutely aware of the skills necessary to run a business in the 21st century. We are always learning new technologies to help us execute our goals of providing a superior program with superior service. We also see the deficits of the workforce as we struggle to hire highly qualified people. As educators, we understand how to identify core skills that are necessary to pass on to students, we understand how to present them, and we are not intimated by incorporating technology. Our program is intentionally designed to be applicable across content areas and develop higher-level thinking skills to cultivate independent learners. Our Multi-Media Teacher's Guide provides several free and relevant technology resources. Every strategy is presented with an explanation of the real-world relevance, which is critical for student motivation.

Professional Development	Live professional development is available through SOAR® Study Skills, but we recognize that many schools do not have resources for live PD. As an alternative, our Multi-Media Teacher's Guide presents a comprehensive resource for teachers. It includes slides with visuals and demonstrations to illustrate principles and strategies, as well as teaching tips and instructor notes. The companion web page provides supplementary and technological resources. In accordance with 21st Century objectives, these features allow teachers to make informed decisions about the projects and activities in which to focus their attention and which should be de-emphasized. There is a balance between direct instruction and project/application oriented activities.
Learning Environments	At SOAR®, our mission is to be your partner in providing quality education to students. Individual districts/schools are responsible to manage logistics, scheduling, and technology access. Teachers provide the warm-hearted encouragement, compassion, and professional judgment to support students. SOAR® provides tools to pull from the "Instructional Toolbox." We are dedicated to providing teacher and student-friendly resources that are easily accessible, realistic to execute, and relevant to daily academic needs and future career development.