

Build Almost Anything With Claude

Two videos. Ten steps.
Keep this open while you work.

PART 1 · SETUP & YOUR FIRST LESSON

Watch video 1, then do this

1	Click on the TEACHERS toolbar	Left toolbar of the Claude desktop app.
2	Connect Learning Commons	Type this and Claude gives you a Connect button: What do you see from Learning Commons? To make sure it's connected
3	Make a New PROJECT & Choose a folder	Click PROJECTS - name it. Then make an empty folder on your computer , name it the same as your project and point Claude at it. Click CONTEXT in the right toolbar and the PLUS SIGN - then connect. Everything it builds saves there and stays after you close the app.
4	Start to YAP - Describe what you teach	Click on the microphone and tell Claude exactly what you need. Your Grade and subject, the type of lesson, how much time you have, how your students actually read, and why you want it the way you want it.
5	Answer Claude's question	It will ask you something before it builds. Answer it, then choose "quick draft first" so you can see the plan before any files exist.

PRO TIP

Why the Learning Commons connector matters.

Without it, Claude paraphrases standards from memory — usually close. With it, you get your state's exact wording. That's the difference between a nice document and a citable one.

PRO TIP

Always ask Claude for a quick draft before it builds - so you can hone.

Changing a lesson in conversation costs you twenty seconds. Changing a finished Word document costs a rebuild. Get it right before the files exist.

PART 2 · THE DASHBOARD & YOUR MATERIALS

Watch video 2, then do this

6	Ask for a dashboard	Once Claude builds you ideas - ask for a dashboard (one living page instead of a folder of separate documents) — clickable, rearrangeable, and it saves how you left it.
7	Add this line to the ask	It turns the dashboard into something that checks your work: ...I love to ask Claude "show me what I'm still missing."
8	Check the standards panel. Ask for one if it wasn't built.	Anything marked "not yet" still needs a day. That's not a glitch — it's the tool flagging a gap only you can fill.
9	BEST Part! Ask for the <i>real files</i>	Slide deck, handout, worksheet, rubric, letter, spreadsheet. Name the days or the audience and say where it's going.
10	Ask for changes	As many rounds as you need. Name the student, the class, or the exact moment that isn't working.

PRO TIP

Say why, not just what.

"Make it simpler" gets shorter sentences. "Make it simpler because four of my students arrived last month" gets language supports, visuals, and a glossary. The reason does the work.

PRO TIP

Never hand-edit the file.

Your edits get overwritten the next time you ask for a change. Send every fix back to Claude instead — the file updates itself.

Read it before you use it.

Claude pulls the real standard wording, so that part is accurate. But it has never met your students. Read the lesson the way you'd read one a colleague handed you — and change what doesn't fit. You're the teacher; this is a draft.

Keep using the same conversation.

Don't open a new chat next time. Scroll back to this one. It still remembers your unit, your dashboard, and how you like things to look — so you can pick up mid-sentence instead of explaining everything again. A new chat starts from zero.

Use something you actually have to teach.

Don't practice on a pretend lesson. Pick the thing that's due this week. Practice projects never get finished, and you'll walk away with nothing you can use Monday.