



THE GUIDE TO YOUR STAR STUDENT REPORT

THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

This guide helps you follow your child's report and the recommendations that are provided. Some sections of your child's report are translated word for word and other sections are translated more generally.

1 Introductory Letter

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Each year, California's STAR Program measures your child's progress in meeting California's Content Standards, which describe what all students should know and be able to do at each grade level.

This report shows your child's scores on the California Standards Tests, as well as on the California Achievement Tests, Sixth Edition Survey (CAT/6 Survey). The report also gives suggestions for how you can continue to help your child learn.

2 Your child's information

Here you find: your child's student number, date of birth, grade, test date, school, and district. If available, your mailing address also appears.

3 Your child's overall results on the California Standards Tests

Your child's scores and performance levels

See how your child did on the California Standards Tests by looking at the vertical black bars below each subject heading. The number at the top of each bar is your child's exact score on the test. The colored boxes to the left and the text at the bottom of each black bar provide your child's performance level in each subject. There are five performance levels:

Advanced, Proficient, Basic, Below Basic, and Far Below Basic.

English-Language Arts and Mathematics are tested for most students in Grades 2–11. History-Social Science is tested for all students in Grades 8, 10, and 11. Science is tested for all students in Grade 5 and for some students in Grades 9, 10, and 11. Scores are provided for all of the tests your child took. If your child did not take one or more of these tests or if a score was not to be reported, this is noted.

If your child was tested under special circumstances, then one of the following appear: "Braille Test Used" or "Your Child Was Tested Below Grade Level."

- 4 You can use these web addresses to find complete STAR results (<http://star.cde.ca.gov>) and your school's Accountability Report Card (www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/sa). You can also request a copy of the School Accountability Report Card (SARC) at your child's school.

5 How to help your child

This section provides ways you can help your child in school. These include the following:

- 1 Review this report with your child and your child's teacher.
- 2 Provide your child with a quiet place to study each day.
- 3 Show an interest in your child's progress throughout the school year.

The STAR Student Report

USING ASSESSMENT TO HELP STUDENTS LEARN

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Each year, California's STAR Program measures your child's progress in meeting California's Content Standards, which describe what all students should know and be able to do at each grade level.

This report shows your child's scores on the California Standards Tests, as well as on the California Achievement Tests, Sixth Edition Survey (CAT/6 Survey). The report also gives suggestions for how you can continue to help your child learn.

STUDENT #: _____ DATE OF BIRTH: _____
GRADE: _____ TEST DATE: _____

FOR THE PARENT/GUARDIAN OF: _____

SCHOOL: _____ DISTRICT: _____

Your child's overall results on the California Standards Tests

Your child's scores and performance levels

Advanced _____
Proficient _____
Basic _____
Below Basic _____
Far Below Basic _____

Depending on your child's grade level, the content of this section will vary.

How to help your child

- 1 Review this report with your child and your child's teacher.
- 2 Provide your child with a quiet place to study each day.
- 3 Show an interest in your child's progress throughout the school year.

6 Your child's strengths and needs based on these tests

These charts show how your child did in the different content areas for each test taken. The subject for each test is listed at the top of each chart. Most reports for students in Grades 2–11 include English-Language Arts and Mathematics. Reports for students in Grades 5, 9, 10, and 11 include Science. Reports for students in Grades 8, 10, 11 include History-Social Science.

The items on the California Standards Test (CST) are grouped into the content areas on the left of each chart. These content areas are based on the California Content Standards, which describe what your child should know and be able to do at each grade level. (If your child did not take any of the tests expected for his/her grade level or if a score was unavailable to be reported, this is noted.)

On the right side of the chart, your child's score in each content area is compared to the scores of students whose overall performance level on the test was Proficient. Proficient is the state target for all students.

Below the chart is additional information about your child's performance on each test.

7 This section contains one of the following:

- Reports for students in Grades 2–4, 6, and 7 include more information about the English-Language Arts Standards and the Mathematics Standards.
- Reports for students in Grades 5, 8, and 9 include three subject areas plus a section of additional resources.
 - Grades 5 and 9 include English-Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science.
 - Grade 8 includes English-Language Arts, Mathematics, and History-Social Science.
- Reports for students in Grades 10 and 11 include score information about both the History-Social Science and Science tests.

8 Released test items (questions from previous tests) are available at www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sr/resources.asp and complete copies of the content standards are available at www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss on the Internet.

9 California Reading List

This box provides your child's California Reading List Number. To find recommended books based on your child's reading performance on the CAT 6 Survey, go to the STAR website (<http://star.cde.ca.gov>) and click on "California Reading List." The list provides titles of books that your child should be able to read independently. It includes different types of books, such as fiction, nonfiction, plays, and poetry.

Encourage your child to read at home and help your child find books of interest. Strong reading skills are critical for success in all school subjects.

10 National comparison

This box provides national comparison information. As part of the STAR Program, your child took a test called the CAT/6 Survey, which shows how your child performed in basic skills as compared to a sample of students tested throughout the United States. The graphs in this box present "percentile ranks" to show your child's performance. For example, a percentile rank of 40 in reading means that your child scored as well as or better than 40% of students tested in the sample. The lowest possible percentile rank is 1, and the highest possible percentile rank is 99. (If your child was tested with accommodations or modifications, this is noted.)

