



THE GUIDE TO YOUR STAR STUDENT REPORT CALIFORNIA STANDARDS TESTS

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

This guide will help 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 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 in this section.

2 Introductory Letter from the State Superintendent of Public Instruction

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Each year, the state's Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Program tests measure students' progress in meeting California's academic content standards that describe what all students should know and be able to do at each grade level.

This report shows your child's scores on the STAR tests. I encourage you to discuss these results with your child and your child's teacher(s). STAR test scores provide additional information about your child's academic strengths and weaknesses, are an indication of how well our schools are doing, and help us understand how we might do better in the most important job of all – preparing students to succeed in school and beyond.

3 Your child's scale scores and performance levels

See how your child did on the California Standards Tests (CSTs) by looking at the vertical black bars below each subject heading. The number at the top of each bar is your child's exact test score in that subject. 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. The goal in California is to have all students perform at the proficient or advanced level.

Students in grades two through eleven are tested in English–language arts and mathematics. Students in grades five, eight, and ten are tested in science, and some high school students also may take end-of-course science tests. All students in grades eight and eleven are tested in history–social science, and some high school students take an end-of-course world history test. 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 on your child's report.

4 You can find complete STAR Program results on the California Department of Education (CDE) STAR Results Web page at <http://star.cde.ca.gov> and your school's accountability report card on the CDE School Accountability Report Card (SARC) Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/sa/>. You can also request a copy of the SARC from your child's school.

5 How should I use these STAR Program results?

This section suggests ways to monitor your child's educational progress, including through classroom tests, assignments, and grades. You can use these sources of information to talk with your child's teacher about specific areas for improvement.

STAR Student Report

LOCAL ID # 0000000000 STUDENT # 0000000000 GRADE: 5 DATE OF BIRTH: 06/10/01 TEST DATE: Spring 2012

FOR THE PARENT/GUARDIAN OF:
SUSAN LINDS
1234 Main Street
City, CA 12345

SCHOOL: CALIFORNIA Elementary School
DISTRICT: CALIFORNIA Unified

Dear Parent/Guardian,
Each year, the state's Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Program tests measure students' progress in meeting California's academic content standards that describe what all students should know and be able to do at each grade level.
This report shows your child's scores on the STAR tests. I encourage you to discuss these results with your child and your child's teacher(s). STAR test scores provide additional information about your child's academic strengths and weaknesses, are an indication of how well our schools are doing, and help us understand how we might do better in the most important job of all – preparing students to succeed in school and beyond.
Sincerely,
Tom Torlakson
State Superintendent of Public Instruction

Your child's overall results on the California Standards Tests

Your child's scale scores and performance levels

Subject	Scale Score	Performance Level
English Language Arts	350	Basic
Mathematics	340	Basic
Science	330	Basic

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

Find complete STAR results at <http://star.cde.ca.gov> and your school's Accountability Report Card (SARC) at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/sa/> or ask for a copy of the SARC at your child's school.

How should I use these STAR Program results?

These results are one of several tools used to follow your child's educational progress. While the results provide one important measure, they should be viewed with other available information about your child's achievement, such as classroom tests, assignments, and grades.

If your child is not performing at the level you would like, your child's results can help guide a conversation with your child's teacher by helping to focus on specific areas for improvement, and, as a result, ensure the best possible education for your child.

Transitioning to New Common Core State Standards

The current STAR tests will continue through 2014 to measure students' progress in meeting California's content standards adopted in 1997 and 1998. In August 2010, the State Board of Education (SBE) adopted new Common Core State Standards (CCSS) in English–language arts and mathematics that would better prepare students to succeed in college, career, and the competitive global economy. The SBE and the CDE are working with districts and schools now to transition curriculum, professional development, and student testing to the CCSS. For more information on the CCSS, please visit the CDE's Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss>.

6 A note on using this information

A single test can provide only limited information. A student taking the same test more than once might score higher or lower within a small range in each content area tested. You should confirm your child's strengths and needs in these topics by reviewing classroom work, standards-based assessments, and progress reports during the year.

7 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 two through eleven include English–language arts and mathematics. Reports for students in grades five, eight, and ten include science. Reports for students in grades eight and eleven include history–social science. Reports for high school students may include results for end-of-course tests in science and world history.

The questions on the CSTs are grouped into the content areas shown 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. (If your child did not take any of the CSTs expected for his or her grade or if a score was unable to be reported, this is noted on the report.)

Next to the name of each content area are the number and percentage of questions your child answered correctly in that content area, represented by a diamond on the chart. The bar shows the percent-correct range of scores for students in the state who scored at the proficient level on the CST for that subject.

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

8 This section contains one of the following types of information:

- More information about the English–language arts content standards and the grade-level mathematics content standards (grades two through four, six, and seven) or Algebra I standards (grade seven)
- Content area results in science (grades five, eight, and ten), history–social science (grades eight and eleven), and end-of-course CSTs
- Additional resources (grade five)

9 California Reading List (CRL) and/or More about the STAR Program or Early Assessment Program (EAP) (for grade eleven)

CRL — This recommended reading list number is based on your child's California English–Language Arts Standards Test score. Your child should be able to read titles within the list independently. Of course, no single test will tell you what books your child can or should read—encourage your child to explore other reading list numbers to find books of interest. Strong reading skills are critical for success in all school subjects. Encourage your child to read at home.

To access the California Reading List:

1. Visit the CDE STAR Results Web page at <http://star.cde.ca.gov> and select the "California Reading List" link.
2. Select "Search for a Reading List" to find books for your child.

EAP — If your child is in grade eleven and took the California State University (CSU) Early Assessment Program (EAP), this section also provides the EAP status. EAP statuses are used to provide an early indication of a student's readiness for college-level English and/or mathematics courses at the CSU or participating California Community Colleges (CCC). Additional information regarding the EAP can be found on the EAP Web site at <http://www.collegeEAP.org>.

10 More about the STAR Program

This section provides information about how you can find answers to your questions about the STAR Program and your child's STAR test results.

