

Parent and Student Guide to STAR360 Assessments

Q: What are STAR Assessments?

A: STAR Assessments are short tests that provide teachers with learning data. STAR tests are computer adaptive, which means they adjust to each answer your child provides. This helps teachers get the best data to help your child in the shortest amount of testing time.

Q: Which tests will my student take?

A: Grades 3-12 will take the STAR Reading and the STAR Math. Your teacher may give you additional or modified instructions on which tests to take and when to take them.

Q: What do teachers do with STAR Assessments?

A: Teachers analyze the data they get from STAR Assessments to learn what students already know and what they are ready to learn next, to monitor student growth, and to determine which students may need additional help. STAR Assessments are heavily researched and scientifically proven to help teachers guide each student on his or her unique path to mastery. For accuracy, it is extremely important that your students take these assessments with no assistance.

Q: What do STAR Assessments do for my child?

A: By pinpointing exactly what your child knows, teachers can personalize your child's practice to keep them growing. Plus, short test times ensure your child spends more time learning and less time testing.

Q: How many questions are on the tests?

A: STAR Reading and STAR Math will have around 30-35 questions.

Q: Is the test timed?

A: Each question is timed. The tests attempt to find out what the student knows, now what the student can figure out. When you see a small clock appear at the top of the screen, you have 30 seconds left before it goes to the next question. Students can pick an answer before it changes questions or let it change to the next question. Test questions get easier or harder depending on if they get it right, wrong or leave blank.

Q: How can I help my child with their STAR Assessments?

A: The best way to help your child with STAR Assessments is to help them understand why they are taking the test - so their teachers know exactly how to help them learn! For anxious children, it may be important to tell that that they cannot fail a STAR test - just do their best!

Q: How do we get the results of the test?

A: You will receive an email with instructions on how to sign up for Home Connect to be notified of your child's test results. You must sign up before your child tests in order to receive the results, so be sure to check with their teacher before they begin testing.

Q: What do we need to take the test?

1. Be sure your Mozilla Firefox or Chrome browsers have the most recent version.
2. Your teachers will provide you with the STAR360 web address. Each school has its own specific address.
3. Your student has a username and password which will be emailed to you. You can also check with their teacher if you lost or forgot the information.

Q: Where do I go if I have questions?

A: Your child's teacher is the best source of additional information about your child's progress with Star Assessments. Renaissance is committed to protecting student privacy and will not share data with anyone outside your child's authorized school staff.