

5 TOOLS TO MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR CHILD'S ANNUAL STATE TEST SCORES



Every spring, your child takes an annual state test in English language arts and math to measure how well he or she is progressing against the expectations of the grade level. These tests are just one of several measures including report card grades, classroom performance, and teacher feedback that when combined give you a more complete picture of your child's academic progress. As a parent, you are the most important actor in your child's academic success. Results from the state test provide you with valuable information about your child's academic strengths and weaknesses that can be used to help you advocate for your child's academic needs at school and better support your child at home.

- **MAKE THE MOST OF THE INFORMATION.** The score report contains a lot of information and may even look different from past reports. Visit <http://understandthescore.org/score-report-guide/> to see a parent guide and find answers to parents' Frequently Asked Questions about what the information on the report means for your child.
- **TALK TO YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER.** Take the score report to your child's parent-teacher conference, and use it as a springboard to discuss where your child needs more support and the progress he or she has made. You can also ask your child's teacher(s) for additional ways to provide support at home. Visit <http://www.parenttoolkit.com> for tips on having a meaningful conference with your child's teacher.
- **GET TO KNOW THE SKILLS AND GRADE-LEVEL EXPECTATIONS.** Your child's score is broken down into different categories in English and math. To better understand the skills and content in each category, visit <http://www.greatschools.org/gk/common-core-test-guide/>. For additional information including descriptions of grade-level expectations, sample work in each grade, and tips for parent-teacher conferences, visit <http://bealearninghero.org/readinessroadmap>.
- **TAKE A LOOK AT A PRACTICE TEST.** This will help you see how the test matches everyday classroom work. It also shares the types of reading, math and writing questions your child answered on the test. To see a practice test, visit <http://www.parconline.org/assessments/practice-tests>.
- **USE YOUR CHILD'S SCORE TO LOCATE SUPPLEMENTAL ACTIVITIES.** Enter your child's grade, subject, and test category into the Learning Heroes Skill Builder at <http://bealearninghero.org/skill-builder> to find resources that match your child's performance in both subjects.