



STAR360: Parent Guide

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 (about one-third of the time other tests take).

Your child may take a Star test for early literacy, math, and/or reading.

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. **This is the reason why it is important that your student completes the assessments with no assistance. That way, teachers can accurately identify where students are academically and what they need to move forward.**

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 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 teacher knows exactly how to help them learn! For anxious children, it may be important to tell them that they cannot fail a Star test—as long as they do their best, the data generated from the test will help their teacher teach them more great things! As a parent, you can help your child by not helping them answer questions.

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.

Q: Can my student stop in the middle of the assessment?

A: Yes, your student can stop and restart the assessment as many times as they need to. You will be asked to enter a password, see question below.

Q: If I am asked for a MONITOR password, what do I enter?

A: If you choose to stop an assessment in the middle, you may be asked to enter a password. Please enter ADMIN and this will allow you access.

Q: What do I do if our UN/PW doesn't work?

A: Clear your internet history. Then try again. If it still doesn't work, email your teacher. Every time you log in, clear your history first!

Q: Is this test timed?

A: The test is not timed but students do have a certain amount of time to answer each question (varies depending on the assessment). A warning clock appears in all assessments when 15 seconds remain for the item.