

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: For Reading, all Kindergarten and 1st grade students should take the STAR Early Literacy test while Grades 2-12 will take the STAR Reading. For Math, all student should take STAR Math tests. 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 Early Literacy tests have about 20-25 questions while 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: Your teacher will provide you with the test results or an option to retrieve your child's test results.

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
 - a. Username: This is the student's K12 student id number
 - b. Password: Passwords are now case sensitive. If students used STAR360 last year, they will have the same password this year **except all letters are now lower case**. Passwords are the student's first name as shown in Totalview (lower case) followed by the last three digits of the student id. (Example: username: 123566 password: jonathan566)

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.