STAR 360 Assessment

Missoula County Public Schools
215 South 6th Street West
Missoula, MT 59801
(406)728-2400
www.mcpsmt.org

Elise Guest, Ed.D
Executive Director of
Teaching and Learning
eguest@mcps.k12.mt.us

What are the STAR assessments?

STAR 360 features three computer-adaptive assessments-STAR Early Literacy, STAR Reading, and STAR Math-designed to measure students' overall achievement in early literacy, reading, and math. Also included is STAR Custom, which allows teachers to create customized tests to assess student mastery of specific skills.

Computer-adaptive tests continually adjust the difficulty of your child's test by choosing each test question based on responses to previous questions. This saves testing time and spares your child the frustration of items that are too difficult and the boredom of items that are too easy.

What are the STAR assements used for?

The STAR 360 assessments are often used to screen students for their reading and math achievement levels. STAR Early Literacy assessments help educators monitor students' growing literacy skills and students' progress toward becoming independent readers. The STAR 360 assessments can also be used to monitor student growth throughout the year, to estimate students' understanding of state standards, and predict students' performance on the state test. In addition, STAR 360 can help teachers determine appropriate instructional levels and skills that are ready to learn.

What is the goal for my student?

Benchmarks are the minimum performance levels students are expected to reach by certain points of the year in order to meet end-of-year performance goals. The end-of-year benchmark typically represents the minimum level of performance required by state or local standards. Benchmarks are always grade specific, e.g., the 3rd grade benchmark.

Grade Level Benchmarks

Early Literacy for Kindergarten
Fall   499   Winter 570   Spring 644

Early Literacy for 1st grade
Fall   612   Winter 681   Spring 743
 • Students who are achieving above a 775 and can recognize 100 sight words will also take the Reading and Math assessments.

Reading for 2nd grade
Fall   182   Winter 230   Spring 279

Math for 2nd grade
Fall   396   Winter 435   Spring 476

Reading for 3rd grade
Fall   323   Winter 360   Spring 392

Math for 3rd grade
Fall   482   Winter 523   Spring 565

Reading for 4th grade
Fall   424   Winter 455   Spring 479

Math for 4th grade
Fall   567   Winter 598   Spring 627

Reading for 5th grade
Fall   525   Winter 555   Spring 584

Math for 5th grade
Fall   634   Winter 660   Spring 684