

STAR360 Assessment FAQs

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. Your teacher will provide you and your student with your school's specific website address to access the tests.

Q: When will my student take the tests?

A: The tests will be taken three times a year (Fall, Winter and Spring) and your teacher will inform you of when to have your students take them. They will either invite them to a Class Connect session to administer the tests or ask you to proctor (administer) the test.

Q: Which tests will my student take?

A: Your students will complete two assessments – STAR Reading and STAR Math.

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: Each assessment will have between 30-35 questions.

Q: How much time should I set aside for my student to complete their STAR360 growth assessments?

A: You should set aside 45min-1 hour of test time for each assessment – STAR Reading and STAR Math.

Q: Is the test timed?

A: Each question is timed, but a sufficient amount of time is provided for each question. The tests attempt to find out what the student knows, not what the student can figure out. When your student sees a small clock appear at the top of the screen, they 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: Can my student start/stop while the assessment is in progress?

A: Yes, but this is not recommended. If your student must pause the assessment while in progress, be sure they hit the "Resume test later" button and not the "Stop test" button. They must return to and complete the assessment by the deadline given.

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 them 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 the results of the beginning-of-year assessments around the end of the first quarter then middle-of-year and end-of-year assessment results will be on semester progress reports.

Q: What do we need to take the test?

A:

1. Be sure your Mozilla Firefox or Chrome browsers are up to date.
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: Student ID
 - b. Password: the student's first name (**typed in lower case**) followed by the last three digits of the Student ID. (Example: username: 123566 password: jonathan566)