



THE GUIDE TO YOUR STAR STUDENT REPORT

CALIFORNIA ALTERNATE PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

This guide will help you follow your child's report and the recommendations that are provided. Some sections of your child's report are translated word for word, and other sections are translated more generally.

1 Your child's information

Here you find your child's student number, date of birth, grade, CAPA level, test date, school, and district. If available, your mailing address also appears in this section.

2 Introductory Letter from the State Superintendent of Public Instruction

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Each year, the Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Program measures your child's progress in meeting California's Content Standards that describe what all students should know and be able to do at each grade level. Your child participated in the STAR Program by taking the California Alternate Performance Assessment (CAPA). The CAPA measures your child's understanding of selected California content standards.

This report shows your child's scores on the CAPA test. I encourage you to discuss these results with your child and your child's teacher(s). Besides giving you valuable information about monitoring your child's academic progress, test scores help us understand how well our schools are doing and how we might do better in the most important job of all – preparing students to succeed in school and beyond.

3 Your child's results on the CAPA

See how your child did on the CAPA by looking at the vertical black bars below each subject heading. The number at the top of each bar is your child's exact test score in that subject. The colored boxes to the left and the text at the bottom of each black bar provide your child's performance level in each subject: English–language arts and mathematics for all students and science for students in grades five, eight, and ten. There are five performance levels: advanced, proficient, basic, below basic, and far below basic. The goal in California is to have all students perform at the proficient or advanced level. CAPA performance levels are not equivalent to performance levels on other STAR Program tests.

4 You can find complete STAR Program results on the California Department of Education (CDE) STAR Results Web page at <http://star.cde.ca.gov/> and your school's accountability report card on the CDE School Accountability Report Card (SARC) Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/sa/>. You can also request a copy of the SARC from your child's school.

5 How should I use these STAR Program results?

This section suggests ways to monitor your child's educational progress, including through classroom tests, assignments, and grades. You can use these sources of information to talk with your child's teacher about specific areas for improvement.

STAR Student Report

USING ASSESSMENTS TO HELP STUDENTS LEARN

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Each year, the Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Program measures your child's progress in meeting California's content standards that describe what all students should know and be able to do at each grade level. Your child participated in the STAR Program by taking the California Alternate Performance Assessment (CAPA). The CAPA measures your child's understanding of selected California content standards.

This report shows your child's scores on the CAPA test. I encourage you to discuss these results with your child and your child's teacher(s). Besides giving you valuable information about monitoring your child's academic progress, test scores help us understand how well our schools are doing and how we might do better in the most important job of all – preparing students to succeed in school and beyond.

FOR THE PARENT/GUARDIAN OF
JANELYN BROWN
1234 Main Street
City, CA 12345

LOCAL ID# 999999999
STUDENT # 999999999
GRADE: 5
CAPA LEVEL: III

DATE OF BIRTH: 11/12/1998
TEST DATE: Spring 2009

SCHOOL: CALIFORNIA Elementary School
DISTRICT: CALIFORNIA Unified

Sincerely,
Jack O'Connell
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Your child's results on the CAPA

Your child's scale scores and performance levels

| Performance Level | English-Language Arts CAPA LEVEL III | Mathematics CAPA LEVEL III | Science CAPA LEVEL III |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Advanced | 49-60 | 49-60 | 49-60 |
| Proficient | 39-59 | 39-59 | 39-59 |
| Basic | 29-38 | 30-34 | 30-34 |
| Below Basic | 23-28 | 19-29 | 23-29 |
| Far Below Basic | 19-22 | 15 | 19-21 |

Your child's scale score is 35 which is at the Proficient level in English-Language Arts.

Your child's scale score is 16 which is at the Below Basic level in Mathematics.

Your child's scale score is 67 which is at the Advanced level in Science.

Find complete STAR results at <http://star.cde.ca.gov> and your school's Accountability Report Card (SARC) at www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/sa/.

How should I use these STAR Program results?

These results are one of several tools used to follow your child's educational progress. While they provide an important measure, these results should be viewed with other available information about your child's achievement, such as classroom tests, assignments, and grades.

These results are also intended to help ensure your child is getting the best possible education. If your child is not performing at the level you would like, these results can help guide a conversation with your child's teacher in order to help focus on specific areas for improvement.

6 About the CAPA

This section gives more information about the CAPA and how it is administered. It shows the CAPA levels and subjects tested and provides a link to the standards on which students are tested by the CAPA.

Most students eligible for the CAPA take the assessment level that corresponds with their current school grade, but some students with complex and profound disabilities take the Level I assessment. The assigned level is not related to individual ability in a particular subject. English–language arts, mathematics, and science are always given at the same assessment level.

7 More about the STAR Program

This section gives an overview of the STAR program and provides the Web address of the CDE's STAR Program Web page.

While your child may be able to complete tasks administered in the test, the performance level achieved is based on how your child scored on the particular test. Talk with your child's teacher for a more complete understanding of your child's progress.

JAMILYN MONROE

About the CAPA **6**

The California Alternate Performance Assessment (CAPA) is a standards-based test for students with significant cognitive disabilities who are unable to take California standards tests even with accommodations or modifications. Your child's individualized education program (IEP) team decided that the CAPA was appropriate for your child.

The CAPA is administered one-on-one, that is, an examiner, usually the child's teacher, administered the CAPA to each child individually. The CAPA is a performance test; the examiner set up objects or pictures and asked the child to do or say something related to the objects. The examiner then recorded the child's score based on the child's response.

The CAPA is organized into five assessment levels. Most children eligible for the CAPA take the assessment that corresponds with their current school grade. The levels are as follows:

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Level I, grades 2 - 11 | (Note: Eligibility for Level I is determined by the child's IEP team. Children who take CAPA Level I are receiving curriculum and instruction aligned to Level I blueprints.) |
| Level II, grades 2 - 3 | |
| Level III, grades 4 - 5 | |
| Level IV, grades 6 - 8 | |
| Level V, grades 9 - 11 | |

English-language arts and mathematics are administered at all CAPA levels. Science is administered to children taking the test for levels I, III, IV, and V. Each subject has twelve tasks for the child to perform. The assigned level is not related to individual ability in a particular subject. Your child was tested on all subjects at the same level.

Each level has its own standards or blueprints that indicate what the student is expected to know. You can see the CAPA blueprints on the CDE Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sr/capablueprints.asp>.

More about the STAR Program **7**

Questions about the STAR Program or your child's test results should first be directed to your child's teacher(s). Additional information may be available through the school principal or counselor or on the CDE's STAR Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sr/>.