

## STAR (STAR Early Literacy and STAR Reading)

Assessments provide valuable information for students, parents and educators on whether students have mastered grade level and content standards and are on track to graduate prepared for the 21st century. These assessment results are intended to provide one measure in a body of evidence of your child's academic progress.



### WHAT IS THIS ASSESSMENT?

The STAR (Standardized Test for the Assessment of Reading) literacy assessments are computer-adaptive assessments administered in individual, small group, or whole class settings. DPS uses two STAR testing platforms to measure English reading achievement levels:

1. STAR Early Literacy - administered to and nationally normed for Kindergarten through 3rd grade
2. STAR Reading - administered to and nationally normed for 1st through 12th grade

STAR Early Literacy and STAR Reading fulfill the requirements of the Colorado READ Act and are used to measure students' reading achievement levels and progress, screen students for reading deficits, and differentiate instruction. STAR's diagnostic data can be used to create targeted reading intervention plans (READ Plans) for students reading significantly below grade level.



### WHEN IS MY CHILD BEING TESTED?

Per the Colorado READ Act, all students in grades K-3 must be assessed with a State Board approved interim reading assessment during specific testing windows. The READ Act testing windows occur for six weeks in the fall, midyear, and spring. Kindergarten students have an additional 30 calendar days to complete their fall assessment. Schools have the entire window to test students. Per state law, Kindergarten through third grade students who score below a minimum competency level will need one to two additional assessments to verify reading status.

#### READ Act Testing Windows:

Grades K – 12	Late August – Late October	Fall
Grades K – 12	December – Mid-February	Midyear
Grades K – 12	Mid-May	Spring

Testing dates may vary by school. For specific testing dates for your student, please check with your child's teacher.



### WHAT SCORE(S) WILL MY CHILD RECEIVE?

Here are two of the key scores STAR assessments provide:

The Scaled Score (SS) is based on the difficulty of items and the number of correct responses. It is useful for comparing performance across grades. Scaled scores range from 300 – 900 in STAR Early Literacy and 0 – 1400 in STAR Reading.

The Percentile Rank (PR) indicates the percentage of students nationally who obtained a scaled score equal to or lower than the score of a particular student. PRs are norm-referenced scores and range from 1–99. A student with a PR of 75 performed as well as or better than 75% of same-grade students nationwide. A student's percentile rank will correspond to following proficiency categories:

- At/Above Benchmark: Students performing at grade level
- On Watch: Students performing below grade level and in need of intervention
- Intervention and Urgent Intervention: Students performing significantly below grade level and in need of intensive intervention

For specific score information for your student, please check with your child's teacher.



## HOW WILL THESE SCORES BE USED?

STAR assessments provide valuable data points for teachers to guide and modify their instruction. STAR scores can be used to identify the level at which your child is reading, set reading goals regarding student strengths and weaknesses, monitor reading progress, create targeted reading interventions, and decide if your child is in need of additional support in reading.



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We encourage you to be involved in your child's education. Please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher for ways you can help your child at home and availability of testing accommodations.

### **More Information: Assessments**

Visit:

- [assessments.dpsk12.org](https://assessments.dpsk12.org)

If you have questions or concerns about assessments, please contact your child's school directly or call Family Constituency Services at (720) 423-3054.