



Paulding County School District
2017-2018
Elementary
Parent Presentation

Powerpoint information has been adapted from resources available at
<http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Assessment/Pages/Georgia-Milestones-Assessment-System.aspx>

Understanding the Georgia Milestones Assessment Student Reports

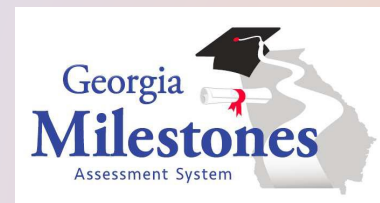
Georgia Milestones Assessments overview

Goals of the Georgia Milestone Assessments System

Purpose of the Georgia Milestones Assessments

Information provided in the Georgia Milestone Assessments

Supporting students



Georgia Milestones Assessments

The Georgia Milestones Assessments are a yearly end-of-grade measure of student achievement taking place in grades 3-8

- English Language Arts (ELA)
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies

All students must participate in the assessments with the exception of students who qualify for GAA.

High School students participate in End-of-Course Georgia Milestones Assessments.

What is the goal of the Georgia Milestone Assessments System?

The ultimate goal is to ensure that all students are provided the opportunity to engage with high-quality content standards (a description of what students should know, and be able to do), receive high-quality instruction based on these standards, and are able to meet high academic expectations.

What is the purpose of the Georgia Milestones Assessment System?

The Georgia Milestones Assessments provide a measurement of student achievement: what they have learned and are able to do at the end of their grade level year as described in the expectations stated in the Georgia Performance Standards.

The main purpose of Georgia Milestones is to improve student achievement by providing information that guides plans for improving teaching and learning.

What information do the Georgia Milestone Assessments provide?

The assessments provide:

- An official measure of student accomplishment of achieving the learning expectations for his/her grade level
- Information on students' readiness for the next grade level
- A measurement of how much progress is made from one grade level to the next
- Information on teacher effectiveness
- Information on school, district, and state accountability: is what students know, and are able to do, in line with the expectation of what needs to be taught (Georgia Performance Standards)

How are results of the Georgia Milestone Assessments used?

The results are used to

- Provide educators with feedback about instructional practice
- Provide parents with information on student progress
- Identify students not achieving mastery of the learning expectations
- Assist school districts in identifying strengths and weaknesses in order to establish priorities in planning educational programs
- Student achievement in *reading* (part of the ELA assessment) is used in promotion & retention decisions for grade 3
- Student Achievement in *reading* and *math* is considered in promotion & retention decisions for grades 5 & 8

What types of questions are on the Georgia Milestones Assessments?

Georgia Milestones include:

- Open-ended (constructed response) items in English Language Arts and Math
- A writing component within the English Language Arts Assessments (in response to passages read by students)
- Nationally norm-referenced items to provide a national comparison, alongside criterion-referenced items
- Multiple choice items

Georgia Milestones is transitioning to online testing. Online will be the primary way of testing, and paper-and-pencil tests will be available until the transition is complete.

Is the Georgia Milestones harder than previous tests?

Fewer students in Georgia will score as proficient in Georgia Milestones, compared to past scores on past state tests.

This does not mean that students know less or are performing worse than recent years.

The results reflect the greater demands of today's academic, college and career settings.

What will my child's test report include?

Georgia Milestones reports student achievement in four levels:

- Beginning Learners
- Developing Learners
- Proficient Learners
- Distinguished Learners

Beginning Learners

These students do not yet demonstrate proficiency (skills & abilities) in the knowledge and skills necessary as described in Georgia's content standards (what students need to know & be able to do).

Substantial academic support is needed for these students to be prepared for the next grade level.

Developing Learners

Students demonstrate partial proficiency in the knowledge and skills necessary.

These students need additional academic support to ensure success in the next grade.

Proficient Learners

These students demonstrate proficiency (meet expectations) in knowledge and skills expected at their grade level.

Distinguished Learners

These students demonstrate advanced proficiency in the knowledge & skills expected at their grade level.

They are well prepared for their next grade level.

What is the Lexile Framework?

This is an educational tool that links text complexity (how easy or difficult a piece of writing is to read) to readers' ability on something known as the Lexile scale.

Lexile Score

Students receive a score on the reading portion of the test—the score describes the student's reading ability. The measure is based on the reading portion of the ELA test.

Lexile Bands

These “stretch” Lexile bands are the basis for determining at what text complexity level students should be reading—and at which grades—to make sure they are ultimately prepared for the reading demands of college and careers.

K-1	N/A
2-3	420-820L
4-5	740-1010L
6-8	925L-1185L
9-10	1050L-1335L
11-CCR	1185L-1385L

Domain Category & Domain Mastery

Domain Categories are made up of test items that measure concepts and skills that are similar to one another.

Student performance in these areas help determine the level of support or enrichment your student may need, and these skills and concepts can be targeted.

What is the National Percentile Range?

This provides a general understanding of how your student's performance compares to a national sample of his/her peers.

It serves to provide a fuller picture of student performance.

Supporting Students

Georgia Milestones provide excellent information that can be used to know what to provide your student next.

Talk with your child's teacher about specific skills that can be supported to promote continued progress, and about resources that are available!

How can I support my child in preparing for the Georgia Milestones Assessments?

There are many excellent resources available!

- **Video Presentation**

<http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Assessment/Pages/Georgia-Milestones-Assessment-System.aspx>

- **Information for Parents (hand-out)**

<http://www.gadoe.org/CurriculumInstructionandAssessment/Assessment/Documents/Parent%20Brochure%20GA%20Milestones%20Q%20and%20A%202014-2015.pdf>

- **Experience Student Tests**

<http://learnoas.ctb.com/GA/>

- **Parent Guide**

http://www.pta.org/files/Advocacy/CCSSIToolkit/Common%20Core%20State%20Standards%20Resources/Assessments%20Resouces/PTA_GA_6PG_17DEC13_FINAL.pdf

- **Assessment Guides**

<http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Assessment/Pages/Georgia-Milestones-End-of-Grade-Assessment-Guides.aspx>

highly recommended 😊