

Grade 3 – Understanding Your Child’s Performance: Below is a summary of skills and knowledge students must demonstrate to achieve each performance level. A student should demonstrate mastery of knowledge and skills within his/her achievement level *as well as* all content and skills that precede it. For example, a Proficient Learner should also possess the knowledge and skills of a Developing Learner *and* a Beginning Learner.

	Beginning Learner	Developing Learner	Proficient Learner	Distinguished Learner
English Language Arts	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • read texts below grade level • write simple narrative, opinion, or informative/explanatory pieces • conduct simple, short research projects 	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • read and explain texts near grade level • write loosely organized narrative, opinion, or informative/explanatory pieces with limited details or reasons • conduct simple, short research projects, building limited knowledge about topics 	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • read and explain complex texts at grade level • write narrative, opinion, or informative/explanatory pieces with supporting details or reasons and clear organization that links information together • conduct short research projects, building knowledge about topics 	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • read and analyze complex texts at grade level or above • write multi-paragraph narrative, opinion, or informative/explanatory pieces using effective details or reasons • conduct complex research projects, building extensive knowledge about topics
Mathematics	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • add and subtract whole numbers • solve one-step word problems using addition and subtraction • find the next number in a pattern • understand place value • tell and write time to the nearest 5 minutes • recognize quadrilaterals and partition shapes into halves • recognize standard units of measure • recognize fractions as part of a whole 	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • add and subtract numbers to 1,000 • solve one-step problems using addition, subtraction, and multiplication • extend number patterns • tell and write time to the minute • measure length to the whole unit • identify features of two-dimensional objects • represent unit fractions as equal parts of a whole • interpret data in picture and bar graphs to solve problems • find the area and perimeter of rectangles with given side lengths • recognize that shapes fit into different categories • partition shapes into equal parts 	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • add and subtract fluently • multiply whole numbers by multiples of ten • solve two-step word problems using addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division • find unknowns in multiplication and division equations • use place value relationships to round numbers • compare fractions with the same numerator or denominator • measure length to the nearest quarter of a unit • create bar graphs, pictographs, and line plots from given data • categorize shapes 	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify arithmetic patterns with multiple rules • recognize that each place value, left to right, is ten times the one before it • multiply multiples of ten by each other • understand fractions that are equal, compare fractions, and add and subtract fractions • measure elapsed time • measure and estimate length, volume, and mass • interpret line plots • recognize patterns between area and perimeter • recognize characteristics of two-dimensional objects

Grade 4 – Understanding Your Child’s Performance: Below is a summary of skills and knowledge students must demonstrate to achieve each performance level. A student should demonstrate mastery of knowledge and skills within his/her achievement level *as well as* all content and skills that precede it. For example, a Proficient Learner should also possess the knowledge and skills of a Developing Learner *and* a Beginning Learner.

	Beginning Learner	Developing Learner	Proficient Learner	Distinguished Learner
English Language Arts	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • read texts below grade level • write simple narrative, opinion, or informative/explanatory pieces • conduct research, providing irrelevant evidence or categorizing evidence incorrectly 	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • read and explain texts near grade level • write loosely organized narrative, opinion, or informative/explanatory pieces using limited facts, details, or reasons • conduct research, providing and categorizing some evidence correctly 	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • read and explain complex texts at grade level • write opinion and informative/explanatory pieces that clearly link ideas, facts, or reasons • write narratives with developed characters and descriptive details • conduct short research projects, categorizing relevant evidence into provided categories 	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • read and analyze complex texts at grade level or above • write multi-paragraph opinion and informative/explanatory pieces with many relevant facts, reasons, or details • write engaging narratives with effective details and a strong sense of closure • conduct short research projects, analyzing and categorizing relevant evidence into proper categories
Mathematics	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • add and subtract up to three digits • solve simple, one-step word problems by adding, subtracting, or multiplying • find all factor pairs up to 24 • read and write numbers using place value • distinguish between larger and smaller units of measure • compare fractions with like denominators • identify data in line plots • recognize angles • draw points and line segments • identify two-dimensional shapes • recognize shapes with symmetry 	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • add and subtract fluently • solve one-step word problems by multiplying and dividing • find all factor pairs up to 48 • find two-digit, whole number quotients • compare numbers using place value • read and write numbers in expanded form • add and subtract fractions with like denominators • convert units of measurement by multiplying • find area of rectangles • draw line plots to show data • draw and identify points, lines, and angles • classify two-dimensional shapes • identify lines of symmetry 	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • add, subtract, and multiply fluently • solve multistep word problems • find factor pairs • interpret remainders when dividing • find rules of number and shape patterns • use place value to order and compare numbers • solve word problems involving fractions, angles, converting measurement, or using data • find equivalent fractions • compare two decimals • draw and recognize parallel and perpendicular lines in shapes • draw lines of symmetry 	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • add, subtract, multiply, and divide fluently • create number and shape patterns that follow a given rule • recognize remainders as fractional parts • write numbers in expanded form • explain number patterns • round to specific place value • understand, represent, order, and compare fractions • add and subtract mixed numbers with like denominators • order decimals • solve multistep problems in measurement conversion and interpretation of data • recognize right triangles

Grade 5 – Understanding Your Child’s Performance: Below is a summary of skills and knowledge students must demonstrate to achieve each performance level. A student should demonstrate mastery of knowledge and skills within his/her achievement level *as well as* all content and skills that precede it. For example, a Proficient Learner should also possess the knowledge and skills of a Developing Learner *and* a Beginning Learner.

	Beginning Learner	Developing Learner	Proficient Learner	Distinguished Learner
English Language Arts	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • read texts below grade level • write simple narrative, opinion, and informative/explanatory pieces using irrelevant facts, reasons, or details • conduct research using two sources to investigate a topic 	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • summarize texts near grade level • write loosely organized opinion and informative/explanatory pieces using limited facts, reasons, or details • write narratives with simple characters and few details • conduct research using several sources to investigate a topic 	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • determine a theme or main ideas and summarize complex, grade-level texts • write opinion and informative/explanatory pieces that clearly link ideas, reasons, facts, or details • write narratives with descriptive details and developed characters • conduct short research projects to investigate different aspects of a topic 	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • determine a theme or main ideas and summarize complex, above-grade-level texts • write multiparagraph opinion and informative/explanatory pieces with effectively supportive ideas, reasons, facts, or details • write well-developed narratives that convey characters, experiences, and events precisely • conduct research projects using several sources to analyze information and provide evidence supporting different aspects of a topic
Mathematics	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify the next number in a pattern • write one-step numerical expressions • recognize place value names • add and subtract decimals • add and subtract fractions with like denominators • perform simple measurement conversions of length • find volume of rectangular prisms by counting unit cubes • plot points on the coordinate plane • identify two-dimensional figures 	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify patterns • write simple numerical expressions • use grouping symbols • read, write, and compare decimals to the tenths • multiply multidigit numbers • add, subtract, and multiply decimals • add and subtract fractions with unlike denominators • multiply a fraction by a whole • create line plots • find volume of rectangular prisms • identify ordered pairs • create line plots • classify shapes 	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • create a pattern from a rule • evaluate numerical expressions • graph ordered pairs • read, write, and compare decimals to the thousandths • multiply and divide multidigit numbers • add and subtract mixed numbers • add, subtract, multiply, and divide decimals • find the area of rectangles with fractional sides • divide unit fractions and whole numbers • calculate simple conversions of time, volume, and mass • interpret line plots • classify shapes by hierarchy 	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • explain patterns and relationships • solve multistep word problems involving numerical expressions, adding and subtracting fractions, finding area of rectangles, multiplying mixed numbers, and dividing fractions • round decimals • fluently add, subtract, multiply, and divide decimals • calculate multistep conversions of time, length, volume, and mass • find side lengths, given volume • graph and interpret real-world data in the first quadrant

	Beginning Learner	Developing Learner	Proficient Learner	Distinguished Learner
Social Studies	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify key figures from major events in American history (1860-present) • locate important physical features • recognize some citizens' rights and responsibilities • identify some elements of a personal budget • define some economic concepts 	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify the causes and origins of major events in American history (1860-present) • identify the economic impact of important physical features • describe how a citizen's rights are protected by the Constitution • describe the elements of a personal budget • illustrate historical events using economic concepts 	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • describe the consequences of major events in American history (1860-present) • describe important physical features and explain their impact on economics • explain due process in protecting citizens' rights • explain spending and saving decisions as they relate to a personal budget • explain historical events and interactions among consumers, businesses, and government using economic concepts 	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • explain and analyze the causes and consequences of major events in American history (1860-present) • analyze the economic impact of important physical features • evaluate spending and saving decisions as they relate to a personal budget • analyze historical events and interactions among consumers, businesses, and government using economic concepts
Science	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify surface features of Earth • recognize a physical change in a substance • recognize that common objects are made of smaller parts • identify static electricity and recognize that magnets attract and repel • identify an object as a conductor or an insulator • recognize that organisms can be grouped as plants or animals • identify a cell • recognize that offspring can resemble parents • record observations, analyze numeric data and analyze simple scientific experiments 	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • differentiate between constructive and destructive processes • identify characteristics of physical and chemical changes • investigate properties of electricity and magnetism • recognize that living things can be classified by similarities • recognize a cell as the basic unit of life and recognize some parts of the cell • understand that microorganisms can be both harmful and beneficial • recognize inherited traits • record scientific investigations, analyze investigations and communicate information 	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify surface features of Earth formed by constructive and destructive processes • explain the differences between physical and chemical changes • identify properties of electricity and magnetism and their relationship to each other • classify organisms by characteristics and similarities • recognize learned and inherited traits • label parts of plants and cells • explain differences in single- and multi-celled organisms • explain why microorganisms can be harmful and beneficial • accurately record and analyze data and use reasoning to explain observations of scientific events 	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • analyze the formation of surface features • recognize mass as the sum of an object's parts • analyze the differences between physical and chemical changes before, during, and after a change • compare, contrast, and explain the relationship between electricity and magnetism • provide supporting evidence when classifying organisms • recognize the role of genes in inherited traits • compare cells and cellular parts • describe how microorganisms benefit or harm other organisms • describe observations using various methods

What is the Georgia Milestones Assessment System?

The Georgia Milestones Assessment System (Georgia Milestones) is a comprehensive assessment system spanning grades 3 through high school. Georgia Milestones measures how well students have learned the knowledge and skills outlined in the state-adopted content standards in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. Students in grades 3 through 8 will take End-of-Grade (EOG) assessments in English Language Arts and Mathematics, while grades 5 and 8 students will also take the EOG Science and Social Studies assessments. High school students will take End-of-Course (EOC) assessments for each of the ten courses in which they are enrolled, as designated by the State Board of Education.

What is the purpose of Georgia Milestones?

Georgia Milestones is designed to provide information about how well students are mastering the state-adopted content standards in the core content areas of English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. Importantly, Georgia Milestones is designed to provide students with critical information about their own achievement and their readiness for their next level of learning—be it the next grade, the next course, or the next endeavor (college or career).

What types of questions will a student see on the Georgia Milestones assessments?

Georgia Milestones includes the item types described below:

- open-ended (constructed-response) items in English Language Arts and Mathematics (all grades and courses);
- a writing component (in response to passages read by students) at every grade level and course within the English Language Arts assessments;
- nationally norm-referenced items in all content areas and courses to complement the Georgia criterion-referenced information and to provide a national comparison; and
- multiple-choice items in all content areas and courses.

The mode of administration for the Georgia Milestones program is online. Paper/pencil test materials, such as Braille forms, are available for the small number of students who cannot interact with a computer or device due to their disability.



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Where can I find more information about Georgia Milestones?

Talk with your student's teacher or school principal. They can provide specific information about the dates your student will be taking the assessments this year. Resources to help your student prepare for Georgia Milestones are available on the Georgia Department of Education's website at <http://testing.gadoe.org>. To see what online testing is like, you and your student may visit the Experience Online Testing Georgia website at <http://gaexperienceonline.com>. The items on the demonstration tests are general and represent multiple grade levels. They do not assess student achievement.

What can I do to help my student?

Students who are prepared, calm, and rested perform better on tests. Here are some of the many ways to help your student approach Georgia Milestones in a relaxed, positive way:

- Encourage your student to employ good study and test-taking skills. These skills include following directions carefully, avoiding careless errors, and reviewing work.
- Explain the purpose of the tests. The assessments give students an opportunity to show what they have learned in school. They also give teachers information that helps them plan instruction.
- Point out that some items may be more difficult than others.
- Be certain your student gets plenty of sleep and has a healthy breakfast and lunch. Taking tests is hard work for many students and can require a lot of energy.
- Be certain your student is at school on time. Rushing and worrying about being late could affect performance on the tests.
- Remember to ask your student about the testing at the end of each day.



When do students take the assessments?

Students will take the assessments on days specified by their local school system within designated state testing windows.

The EOC Main Winter administration will occur from late November through early January. The Spring Main administration will occur from late April through early June, with the Summer Main administration taking place in June and July. In addition, Mid-Month administrations are available during designated months of the year for students who require testing at a time other than the Main administrations.

Students in grades 3 through 8 will participate in the EOG assessments from early April through early May. The Retest administration will occur from May through July.

What scores do students receive on Georgia Milestones?

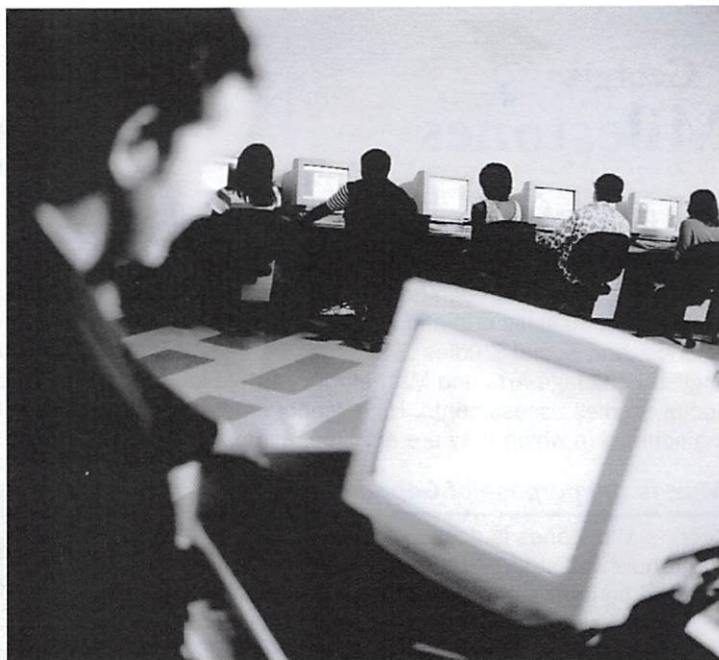
The state-adopted content standards set specific academic benchmarks and expectations for all students in Georgia's public schools. Georgia Milestones measures how well a student has acquired the knowledge and skills outlined in the standards for his or her grade level. Students are not compared to each other but are measured instead on how well they are meeting the standards. Student achievement in each content area is classified into four performance levels. Student test results are provided to parents and schools.

Georgia Milestones includes a limited sample of nationally norm-referenced items to provide a signal of how Georgia students are achieving relative to their peers nationally. Only approved norm-referenced items aligned to Georgia standards will contribute to a student's criterion-referenced achievement level, scale score, and grade conversion score.

In grades 3, 5, and 8, Georgia Milestones results inform local district promotion/retention decisions in the areas of reading (grades 3, 5, and 8) and mathematics (grades 5 and 8). If needed, students are afforded a retest opportunity in the summer. School systems and charter systems may have local policies governing student promotion to the next grade and may or may not require a retest administration. For high school students, the EOC measures serve as their final exam with the resulting score counting as 20 percent of their final course grade.

Performance on the English Language Arts portion of Georgia Milestones is linked to the Lexile scale, a national reading measure that matches students to appropriately challenging reading materials. An abundance of books and articles are assigned Lexile measures by publishers. All major standardized tests can report student reading scores in Lexiles.

For more information about the Lexile scale, as well as resources to help select literature for your student, visit www.gadoe.org/lexile.aspx on the Georgia Department of Education website.



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Are students with disabilities or students who are English Learners required to take Georgia Milestones?

State rules, federal requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) mandate that all students participate in the state assessment program. All students must be tested in all Georgia Milestones content areas at their respective grade levels or courses.

Specified accommodations are allowed on state assessments for students who require them. Neither an Individualized Education Program (IEP) team nor a parent can request that a student be exempted from the assessment program. However, if an IEP team determines regular state testing is inappropriate for a student, even with accommodations, the student may participate in the Georgia Alternate Assessment 2.0 (GAA 2.0).

While Georgia Milestones' primary mode of testing is online, paper-and-pencil tests will be available for students who require that mode of testing (e.g., Braille) due to a disability that interferes with a student's ability to interact with a computer or device.

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