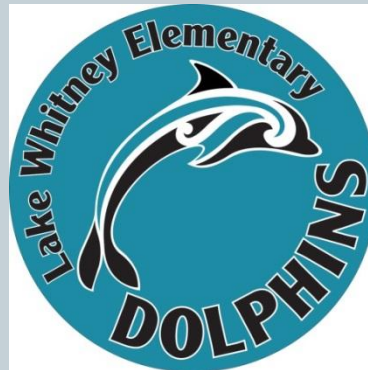


FSA Testing Information Session for Parents

March 2019



LAKE WHITNEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Kim Smirti, Testing Coordinator & Curriculum Resource Teacher

What is FSA?



- All Florida schools teach the Florida Standards. The Florida Standards Assessments (FSA) provide parents and families, teachers, policy makers and the general public with information regarding how well students are learning the Florida Standards.
- FSA is a test that measures student achievement of higher order thinking skills for reading, writing, math and science.



How long are the tests?



Elementary

Writing – 1 session of 120 minutes

Reading – 2 sessions at 80 minutes each

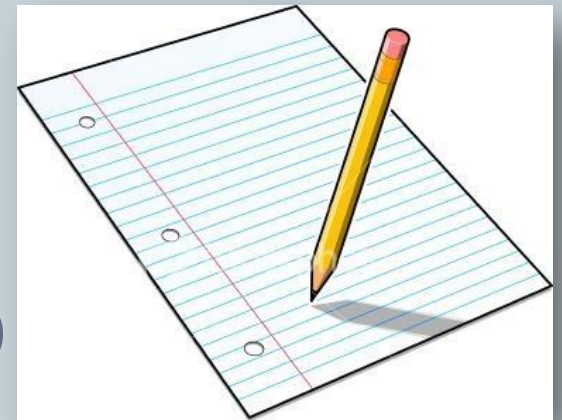
Math – 2 sessions at 80 minutes each

Science – 2 sessions at 80 minutes each

What is the test like?

FSA ELA – Writing (Grades 4-5)

- 1 day of a 120-minute session
 - Students will be asked to read one or more texts.
 - Students will respond to the text based on a writing task/prompt.
 - The writing response should be in an essay format and **must use text-evidence to support the response**.
 - The response may either be *informative* or *opinion*.
- Paper-based
- 10-Point Scoring Rubric
 - Purpose, Focus, Organization (4 points)
 - Evidence and Elaboration (4 points)
 - Conventions of Standard English (2 points)



FSA ELA - Writing Example



Write an informative essay about the effects wild animals and humans have on each other when they live in the same area. Use information from the passages in your essay.

Manage your time carefully so that you can

- read the passages;
- plan your response;
- write your response; and
- revise and edit your response.

Be sure to include

- an introduction;
- information from the passages as support; and
- a conclusion that is related to the information presented.

Your response should be in the form of a multiparagraph essay. Write your response in the space provided.

FSA ELA - Writing Example

- A planning sheet is also provided. This sheet is used to take notes and plan the writing.
- The information on this sheet will be turned in but will **not** be scored.



STUDENT NAME _____

PLANNING SHEET

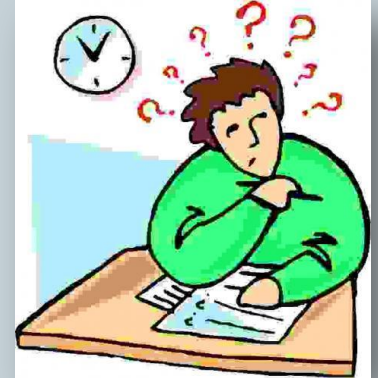
Use this sheet to plan what you will write. The writing on this sheet will NOT be scored.

A rectangular box containing 15 horizontal lines for writing. A large, light gray, diagonal watermark with the word "SAMPLE" is overlaid across the center of the box.

What is the test like?

FSA ELA – Reading (Grades 3-5)

- 2 days of 80-minute sessions
- 56-66 items over the two sessions
 - Grades 3, 4 & 5: Paper-based



Students will read texts and answer questions using details and information from them.

- Multiple-choice
- Multiselect (one or more correct answers for the same question)

FSA ELA - Reading Example



This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

Which sentence describes the man's feelings at the end of Passage 2?

- Ⓐ He is pleased with his decision.
- Ⓑ He is excited to be traveling for his work.
- Ⓒ He is angry that he has to go to the market.
- Ⓓ He is unhappy about his choices in the story.

Part B

What happens in the passage because of the man's feelings in Part A?

- Ⓐ The man has nothing to sell at the market.
- Ⓑ The man arrives at the market well-rested.
- Ⓒ The man's cheeses get to the market on time.
- Ⓓ The man's cheeses become famous in the town.

FSA ELA - Reading Example



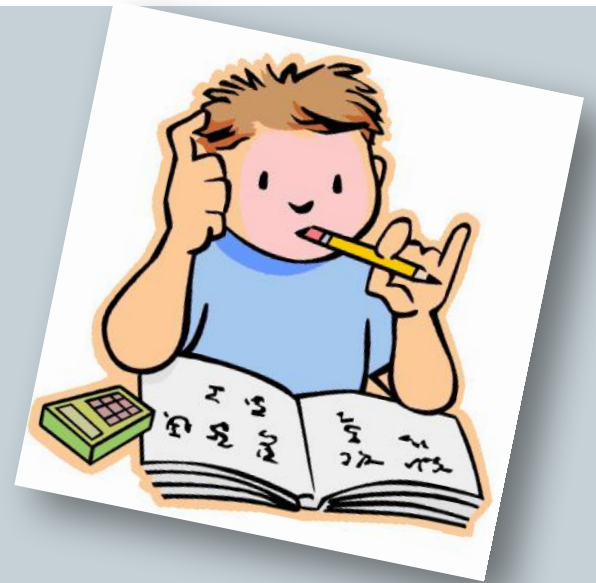
What are **two** ways that Tyrannosaurus Sue's skeleton is used?

- Ⓐ as an interesting *Tyrannosaurus rex* display that brings visitors into the museum
- Ⓑ as evidence to prove that *Tyrannosaurus rexes* were warm-blooded creatures
- Ⓒ as an example of how to make missing *Tyrannosaurus rex* bones
- Ⓓ as a tool that allows scientists to study *Tyrannosaurus rex* fossils
- Ⓔ as a demonstration of the daily activities of *Tyrannosaurus rexes*

What is the test like?

FSA Math (Grades 3-5)

- 2 days of 80-minute sessions
- 56-66 items over the two sessions
 - Grade 3, 4 & 5: Paper-based
- Response Items
 - Multiple-choice (one correct answer)
 - Multiselect (one or more correct answers for the same question)
 - Gridded response



FSA Math Example



Fill in circles to match the value of each expression to the correct description.

	Less than 3,827	Equal to 3,827	Greater than 3,827
$3,827 \times \frac{5}{8}$	(A)	(B)	(C)
$3,827 \times \frac{8}{3}$	(D)	(E)	(F)
$3,827 \times \frac{8}{8}$	(G)	(H)	(I)
$3,827 \times \frac{3}{5}$	(J)	(K)	(L)

FSA Math Example



An art teacher gives a total of 35 pounds of clay to her students. She gives each of her 16 students the same amount of clay.

How many pounds of clay does each student get?

	/	/	/	/	/	
.
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4	4	4	4
5	5	5	5	5	5	5
6	6	6	6	6	6	6
7	7	7	7	7	7	7
8	8	8	8	8	8	8
9	9	9	9	9	9	9

Science (Grade 5)

- 2 days of 80-minute sessions
- 60-66 Questions over 2 sessions
 - Grade 5 : Paper based
- Response items:
 - Multiple-choice



Science Example



Erosion and weathering can both cause changes to the surface of Earth. Which of the following happens **only** because of erosion and NOT because of weathering?

- A. Rocks form deep underground.
- B. Rocks become smooth and round.
- C. Rocks are broken apart into small pieces.
- D. Rocks are moved from one place to another.

When does FSA take place?

- ELA – Writing (Grades 4-5)
 - Tuesday, April 2
- ELA – Reading (Grade 3)
 - Session 1 - Tuesday, April 2
 - Session 2 – Wednesday, April 3*

**Extended Wednesday = No
Early Release*



When does FSA take place?

- ELA – Reading (Grades 4-5)

- Wednesday, May 1*
- Thursday, May 2

**Extended Wednesday = No
Early Release*

- Math (Grades 3, 4 & 5)

- Session 1 - Monday, May 6
- Session 2 – Tuesday, May 7

- Science (Grade 5)

- Session 1 - Wednesday, May 8*
- Session 2 – Thursday, May 9



Can I ask my student about the test after he or she has finished?



- We encourage parents and families to ask how their child's day went and continue to promote student success by offering positive support and feedback. Because the content of statewide assessments is secure, students are asked not to talk about the test questions, passages, or their responses. Students are asked to sign a Testing Rules Acknowledgement, which states: "Because the content in all statewide assessments is secure, you may not reveal details about the writing prompt or passages to anyone. This includes any type of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, or posting online, for example, on websites like Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat or Instagram." **While students may not share information about secure test content after testing, this policy is not intended to prevent students from discussing their testing experiences with their parents and families.**

How Are We Helping Your Child?



- Rigorous classroom lessons and activities
- Classroom assessments based on the types of questions students will see on the FSA
- iReady Reading and Math
- Text based writing assignments
- Requiring students to explain and defend their reasoning

How can I support my student?



- Stay involved and connected!
 - Communicate with your child's teacher regularly about his/her progress.
 - Be sure homework assignments are completed nightly.
 - Ask for ideas to help support learning at home.
- Ask your child to tell you about the books he/she is reading or the math concepts he/she is learning. Use the words **WHY**, **PROOF** and **EVIDENCE** often. Talk about vocabulary words.
- Offer positive support to your child.
 - A positive frame of mind will have a positive effect with learning.
 - Encourage your child to do his or her best on all homework, classwork and tests.
- Take advantage of online resources, particularly iReady and the FSA Portal Student and Family page.

How can I support my student on test days?



- Encourage your child to RELAX and do his/her best.
- Be at school every day and ***on time!!***
 - If you must make a doctor's appointment, please make it for a non-testing day.
 - Make-up tests are offered but students generally perform better with their regular group.
- Be sure your child is well rested all testing days.
 - Try to reorganize after-school activities so that your child is attentive and has the energy to perform to his/her best ability on FSA.
- Eat a good breakfast on mornings of tests.
- If your child wears a hearing aid or glasses, be sure he/she remembers to use them during all testing sessions.

Can my student practice taking the test?



- Prior to administering an assessment, teachers conduct a practice test that contains sample test items to prepare students for the item types they will encounter during testing. [Practice tests](#) are available in the FSA Portal for students to practice on their own. Parent and students may access the FSA Practice tests using the link below:

<http://fsassessments.org/students-and-families/practice-tests/>

How are the FSA tests scored?



Achievement Levels and FSA Scale Scores

Student performance on Florida's statewide assessments is categorized into five achievement levels. Table 1 provides information regarding student performance at each achievement level; this information is provided on student reports so that students, parents, and educators may interpret student results in a meaningful way.

Table 1. Achievement Levels



Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Inadequate: Highly likely to need substantial support for the next grade	Below Satisfactory: Likely to need substantial support for the next grade	Satisfactory: May need additional support for the next grade	Proficient: Likely to excel in the next grade	Mastery: Highly likely to excel in the next grade

- Students who score a Level 3 or higher are considered to be “on grade level” in that subject area.
- Grade 3 students must earn an FSA Reading score of Level 2 or higher in order to be promoted to grade 4. Certain “Good Cause” exemptions apply.

When will I know how my student performed on the assessment?



- Scores for 3rd grade reading will be released electronically to the schools by the end of May 2019.
- Scores for the other 2018–2019 assessments will be released in July 2019. Parents/families will receive a paper score report after scores are distributed to the districts. Districts will report scores to schools and students and will notify parents/families. Paper score reports will include an overall score for each subject of the test, an achievement level, a percentile rank for comparison to other similar students in Florida, and more specific content-area scores on the material assessed within each subject.

When will I know how my student performed on the assessment?



- Since scores arrive over the summer, at Lake Whitney, we ask parents to provide a self addressed, business sized, stamped envelope before the end of the school year if you would like your scores.
- Scores will also be available for pick up in person during summer office hours.
- Scores not mailed out or picked up will be sent home with the student at the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year.

Resources to Use at Home

- FSA Website

- www.fsassessments.org
- Sample tests
- Question types
- Information for Parents & Students

- 5th Grade Science Website

- <http://www.fldoe.org/accountability/assessments/k-12-student-assessment/science.stml>

- iReady

- <https://launch.ocps.net>
- The username is your child's student number and the password is their date of birth -YYYYMMDD.



Additional Websites



- For resources to help students succeed on their coursework and assessments:

https://www.ocps.net/students_and_parents

- For historical school grades and more information on statewide accountability:

<http://schoolgrades.fldoe.org/>

Thank You



Thank you for your continued support and taking the time to join us today!

