The First PARCC Parent Score Report

The PARCC tests measure whether students are meeting new, higher academic standards and mastering the knowledge and skills they need to progress in their K-12 education and beyond. They test more complex skills like critical-thinking, persuasive writing, and problem-solving. Scores may look different and lower on this new test. That does not mean students are learning less, it means the tests have changed and ask students to meet a higher bar.

Score reports for the first year of the PARCC test are coming out in the fall. This is a transition year and extra time was required to set the threshold scores and prepare the first score reports. Performance levels, the levels that indicate how well students met grade level expectations, and the score ranges that make up each of the five levels, had to be established based on actual student results. Next year, the results will come much sooner – close to the end of the school year. Parents receive two reports for each child – one for the English language arts/literacy test and one for mathematics.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS / LITERACY PERFORMANCE

Key Information Provided in the Score Report

1. Overall Student Performance – This section of the report shows your student’s overall numerical score and the performance level achieved based on that score. Level 1 indicates a student is not yet meeting grade level expectations and Level 5 indicates the student has a strong understanding of grade level material.

Page two of the score report provides additional information about your child’s score and level of performance. Level 4 and above indicates that a student meets or exceeds grade level expectations and is well prepared for the next grade level.

2. Score Graph – The colored graph shows the score ranges for each performance level and where your child’s score falls within that range. This gives you an indication of how close your child is to achieving the next level.

3. Score Comparisons: Unlike many previous state test score reports, PARCC score reports show how your student is performing compared to students in the same grade at the same school, across the school district, around the state, and across the states administering the PARCC test.

Additional Resources:

- For more information about the PARCC score report and to view sample test questions, visit understandthescore.org.
- To learn more about grade level expectations, view the PTA’s Parents’ Guide to Student Success at pta.org/parents/.
- For tips and tools to help your child succeed in school, visit belearninghero.org.
Parent Guide to the PARCC Score Report

Reading and Writing Performance – The report for the English language arts test will show your student’s overall performance in two main sub-categories: reading and writing. It will show your child’s numerical score for a sub-set of questions in those categories. This section includes the average reading and writing scores of students who achieved an overall performance of Level 4 on the test, as well as average scores for the school, district, and state.

Detailed Breakdowns – The score report also provides information about your child’s performance on specific skills within English language arts, so you can see where your student is excelling or needs additional support. Each area includes a description of the skills needed to demonstrate a clear understanding of grade-level standards.

Explanatory Icons – This is a guide to the icons used above, so you can quickly see how your child’s performance in each area of the test compares with that of students who met grade level expectations.

What now? How the PARCC score report can be used to enhance your child’s education:

- Schools and districts can use the report information to better plan instruction, support, and enrichment for students.
- Teachers can use this information to personalize instruction to meet individual student needs.
- Parents can use this information to understand their child’s needs and strengths and work with their teachers and school to support their child at home. Find resources at UnderstandTheScore.org
- It is important to have regular check-ins with teachers to help ensure your child is learning the skills necessary to remain on track.
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS / LITERACY
Grade 6 Assessment Report, 2014–2015

This report provides information about how your child performed on the PARCC English language arts/literacy assessment. It shows whether your child met grade-level expectations and if your child is on track for the next grade level.

This test is just one measure of how well your child is performing academically. Other information, such as grades, teacher feedback and scores on other tests will help determine your child's academic strengths and needs.

To learn more about the test, and to view sample questions and practice tests, visit understandthescore.org.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS / LITERACY PERFORMANCE

Level 3
Your child performed at Level 3 and earned a score of 739

Children performing at levels 4 and 5 met or exceeded expectations. For a description of each performance level, see page 2.

Reading score range
10 to 60
Your child’s score
44

Writing score range
10 to 60
Your child’s score:
30

LITERARY TEXT
In this area, your child did not do as well as students who met the expectations.

Students meet expectations by showing they can read and analyze grade-appropriate fiction, drama and poetry.

INFORMATIONAL TEXT
In this area, your child did almost as well as students who met the expectations.

Students meet expectations by showing they can read and analyze grade-appropriate non-fiction, including texts about history, science, art, and music.

VOCABULARY
In this area, your child did as well as or better than students who met the expectations.

Students meet expectations by showing they can use context to determine what words and phrases mean in grade-appropriate texts.

To see selected questions from the test, visit understandthescore.org.
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS / LITERACY

Grade 6 Assessment Report, 2014–2015

HOW CAN I USE THIS REPORT TO HELP MY CHILD?

Use the report to start a discussion with your child’s teacher(s) about his/her academic strengths and areas for improvement. You could ask:

- What can we do at home, in class and at school to help continue building my child’s knowledge and skills in areas where he/she exceeds the expectations?
- What can we do at home, in class and at school to help support my child, where the expectations of the grade level were not met?

What are the PARCC tests? The tests measure how well students have learned grade-level material in English language arts/literacy and mathematics. Students who meet or exceed expectations are on track for the next grade level and, ultimately, for college and careers. The tests include questions that measure your child’s fundamental skills and knowledge, and require students to think critically, solve problems and support or explain their answers. The test is one of several ways to help parents and teachers understand how well children are learning.

What do the performance levels mean? The performance levels listed below describe how well students met the academic expectations for their grade level.

- Level 1: Did not yet meet expectations
- Level 2: Partially met expectations
- Level 3: Approached expectations
- Level 4: Met expectations
- Level 5: Exceeded expectations

How do the test scores this year compare to those in past years? The knowledge and skills tested this year are different - and in some cases more rigorous - than in the past. If your child’s score is different than you expected, meet with your child’s teacher to understand what that means and how you can help your child improve his or her performance.

How will my child’s school use the test results? Results from the test give your child’s teacher information about his/her academic performance. The results also give your school and school district important information to make improvements to the education program and to teaching.

How can I use the reading and writing scores? The best way to make sense of these scores is to compare them to the average for students who met the expectations and the average for students in your child’s school, district, and state. Also, look at the information below the scores. How is your child doing in each area of reading and writing? Ask your child’s teacher how you can give your child more opportunities to be challenged and how you can support his/her academic needs.

Probable range. The probable range in the score on this test is plus or minus 4 points. This is the amount of change that would be expected in your child’s score if he/she were to take the test many times. Small differences in scores should not be over interpreted.

For information and resources, including sample PARCC test questions and the PTA’s Guide to Student Success, visit understandthescore.org.
MATHMATICS


This report provides information about how your child performed on the PARCC mathematics assessment. It shows whether your child met grade-level expectations and if your child is on track for college and careers.

This test is just one measure of how well your child is performing academically. Other information, such as grades, teacher feedback and scores on other tests will help determine your child's academic strengths and needs.

To learn more about the test, and to view sample questions and practice tests, visit understandthescore.org.

MATHMATICS PERFORMANCE

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<th>Level 5</th>
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Child's Score: 839

Students performing at levels 4 and 5 met or exceeded expectations. For a description of each performance level, see page 2.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S MATHMATICS SCORE

MAJOR CONTENT

In this area, your child did as well as or better than students who met the expectations.

Students meet expectations by solving problems involving rational exponents, writing and interpreting algebraic expressions, rational and radical equations, graphs of functions, creating linear, quadratic, and exponential functions, and making inferences and justifying conclusions from data.

ADDITIONAL & SUPPORTING CONTENT

In this area, your child did almost as well as students who met the expectations.

Students meet expectations by solving problems involving the complex number system, rational expressions and functions, systems of equations, trigonometric functions, interpreting data, and probability.

EXPRESSING MATHEMATICAL REASONING

In this area, your child did as well as or better than students who met the expectations.

Students meet expectations by creating and justifying logical mathematical solutions and analyzing and correcting the reasoning of others.

MODELING & APPLICATION

In this area, your child did as well as or better than students who met the expectations.

Students meet expectations by solving real-world problems, representing and solving problems with symbols, reasoning quantitatively and strategically using appropriate tools.

To see selected questions from the test, visit understandthescore.org.
MATHEMATICS

HOW CAN I USE THIS REPORT TO HELP MY CHILD?

Use the report to start a discussion with your child's teacher(s) about his/her academic strengths and areas for improvement. You could ask:

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How will my child's school use the test results? Results from the test give your child's teacher information about his/her academic performance. The results also give your school and school district important information to make improvements to the education program and to teaching.

How can I use the mathematics scores? The best way to make sense of these scores is to compare them to the average for students who met the expectations and the average for students in your child's school, district, and state. Also, look at the information below the scores. How is your child doing in each area of mathematics? Ask your child's teacher how you can give your child more opportunities to be challenged and how you can support his/her academic needs.

Probable range. The probable range in the score on this test is plus or minus 3 points. This is the amount of change that would be expected in your child's score if he/she were to take the test many times. Small differences in scores should not be over interpreted.

For information and resources, including sample PARCC test questions and the PTA's Guide to Student Success, visit understandthescore.org.