



A Parent's Guide to Performance Series

Your district has adopted Performance Series® by Scantron as its diagnostic and placement tool.

The Performance Series assessment makes it easy for your child's teacher(s) to identify his or her progress—and find the diagnostic information they need to place your child academically and manage his or her instruction.

Performance Series is a web-based, computer-adaptive test that your school uses to:

- identify your child's ability levels
- demonstrate academic growth over time
- place your child in the correct instructional programs



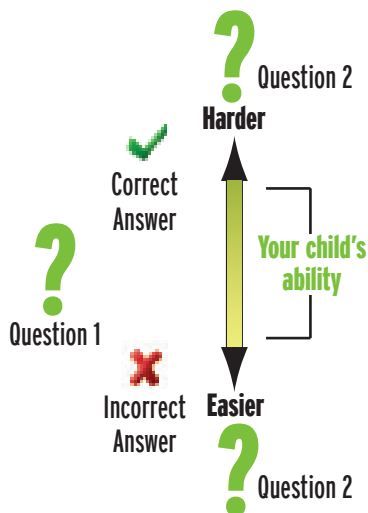
What is Performance Series®?

An exciting new assessment tool, Scantron's Performance Series, has been adopted for use as one of the tools to help identify your child's abilities. You may be familiar with the paper-and-pencil bubble tests from Scantron—this assessment tool is from Scantron as well, but a different type of assessment. Because it is online and adapts, Performance Series adjusts to your child's abilities.

Unlike other forms of assessment, Performance Series tests are completely computer-based and adjust to each child's ability level. All tests begin in relation to your child's current grade. As your child answers each question, however, the test adapts according to his or her response. Questions get easier when your child answers incorrectly and get more challenging when he or she answers correctly. This individualizes every testing experience and more accurately measures your child's ability.

Why is this helpful to me?

- Unique tests matched to your child's abilities more accurately determine his or her next steps in the classroom.
- Results from these tests provide information to help you understand your child's growth academically, through this year and across years.



Why is this helpful to my child's teacher?

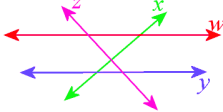
- Immediate results mean they can adjust instruction more quickly to help your child master important concepts.
- Educational materials can be customized (based on the results for each student and group), which helps teachers improve learning.
- Detailed reports allow teachers to evaluate current or new teaching strategies and programs.

For additional information on the computer-adaptive testing model, see:
http://www.scantron.com/downloads/Performance_Series_White_Paper.pdf.

What Subject Areas Are Covered?

Mathematics*

Look at the diagram, then answer the question.



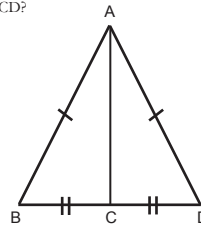
Which lines appear to be parallel?

Clasifica el siguiente triángulo.



Geometry

Given $\overline{AB} \approx \overline{AD}$ and $\overline{BC} \approx \overline{CD}$, what statement below allows the SSS Postulate to directly prove that $\triangle ABC \approx \triangle ACD$?



Reading

Braille is one of the most commonly used systems of reading and writing for people who are blind. Louis Braille invented it in 1834, when he was only fifteen years old. Louis had been blind since he was three. He learned to read by touching letters engraved in wood. It was a very slow process and people could not use it to write. He had heard of the army using a twelve-dot system punched on cardboard to send communication to battlefields during the night. He adapted that system and created Braille, a six-dot system.



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The six dots are arranged in a cell, which is three dots long and two dots wide. Each character is a different combination of those six dots. There

What do the following three events have in common?

1. Braille used in the United States
2. Braille officially adopted by the United States
3. Braille adopted as universal code for English

Reading Foundations

Read the word. Then choose the picture that matches the word.

hat



Language Arts

Which word fits best in this sentence?

I was very hungry, _____ I could not eat the squid.

- A. yet
- B. and
- C. or
- D. for



Life Science & Inquiry

This is the diagram of a plant cell.



Which part of the cell is indicated by the arrow?

Algebra

Solve the following equation for c_2 .

$$R = \frac{c_2 - c_1}{3}$$

Solve for x . Round to the nearest tenth.

$$|6.2x + 0.6| = 19.2$$

* Some schools also offer the Mathematics test in Spanish; contact your school for details.

What Do the Scores Mean to Me and My Child?

Scaled Score

The Scaled Score (SS) is a reliable estimate of your child's ability* and is independent of grade level. Use this score to track progress over time, from fall to spring or year after year, as a type of educational yardstick. The following are average score ranges for different testing sessions in the various subject areas.

Math K-1

	Fall	Winter	Spring
K	1501-1733	1601-1823	1701-1913
1	1707-1933	1810-2043	1913-2152

Mathematics

	Fall	Winter	Spring
2	1881-2127	1980-2222	2079-2318
3	2075-2305	2167-2393	2258-2480
4	2242-2456	2309-2531	2376-2606
5	2352-2573	2414-2653	2475-2732
6	2452-2701	2505-2768	2558-2834
7	2522-2788	2564-2840	2605-2891
8	2578-2874	2618-2920	2657-2965
9	2651-2948	2668-2977	2684-3005
10	2661-2969	2677-3005	2693-3041

Algebra

	Fall	Winter	Spring
8-12	5317-5425	5342-5461	5350-5481

Geometry

	Fall	Winter	Spring
8-12	5338-5454	5364-5491	5372-5506

Life Science & Inquiry

	Fall	Winter	Spring
2	1973-2276	2091-2359	2209-2442
3	2182-2455	2252-2513	2321-2570
4	2297-2558	2347-2602	2396-2645
5	2399-2643	2437-2675	2474-2708
6	2452-2702	2484-2729	2515-2756
7	2514-2746	2547-2783	2579-2820
8	2546-2788	2571-2812	2595-2835

Language Arts

	Fall	Winter	Spring
2	1871-2215	1996-2299	2121-2383
3	2131-2406	2205-2466	2278-2525
4	2248-2518	2306-2563	2363-2608
5	2347-2606	2396-2638	2445-2669
6	2423-2660	2455-2687	2486-2714
7	2485-2707	2516-2742	2547-2777
8	2511-2735	2535-2765	2560-2794

* using the statistical Rasch model.

Reading Foundations K-2

	Fall	Winter	Spring
K	1374-1613	1468-1798	1563-1984
1	1524-1844	1667-1980	1811-2116
2	1797-2134	1887-2216	1976-2299

Reading

	Fall	Winter	Spring
2	1781 - 2220	1900-2353	2019-2486
3	2039 - 2521	2157-2611	2275-2700
4	2276 - 2715	2360-2785	2444-2854
5	2457 - 2859	2524-2904	2590-2949
6	2589 - 2964	2640-3002	2690-3039
7	2686 - 3043	2727-3076	2767-3109
8	2778 - 3085	2810-3129	2842-3172
9	2876 - 3149	2890-3189	2903-3228
10	2894 - 3196	2912-3239	2929-3281
11	2898 - 3220	2914-3259	2930-3299

Standards Item Pool (SIP)

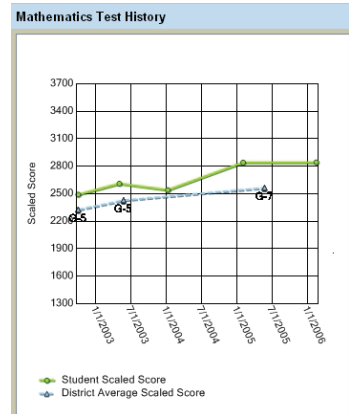
SIP scores are a grade-specific translation of the Scaled Score, in relation to state and national standards. The overall SIP score represents your child's projected understanding of grade level testing material.

Unit Score Ranges (USRs)

Unit Score Ranges identify your child's ability on a specific unit within a subject. The center line in the USR bar shows your child's unit ability estimate, and the green bar shows the highest and lowest scores your child might get if he or she took the test again.

Gains

Gains are simply the number of Scaled Score points by which your child has improved over time. Through the year, this can be used to gauge if he or she is 'on track' or not.



Performance Rating

The Performance Rating represents your child's rating in the context of a *district-defined* set of performance bands. This grouping may show your child's probable placement against national peers or another test, if your district has commissioned a custom research report from

National Percentile Ranking (NPR)

The NPR uses the SS to compare the student to members of the Performance Series National Norm Group within the same grade level. For example, an NPR of 74 means that your child's score is above 74% of his or her peers in the national norm group.

Reading Rate

Reading Rate is a silent reading rate, calculated by dividing the number of words in the passages by the time it took your child to read those passages. Certain test-taking techniques may alter the accuracy of this rate. This score is accurate only if your child reads the story before answering questions.

Lexile Measure

The Lexile Measure identifies your child's place on a developmental scale that matches his or her reading ability to appropriate books. You can use this score to locate books online at your child's level at www.lexile.com.

Find additional information on Lexiles and Performance Series at http://www.scantron.com/downloads/Lexile_FINAL.pdf.

What Else Should I Know?

Does Performance Series align to my state standards?

Yes, your district worked with Scantron to ensure that your state standards are used as the guide to assess your child.

What units are covered?

Reading Foundations

- Phonics
- Phonological Awareness
- Vocabulary
- Text Comprehension

Reading

- Vocabulary
- Fiction
- Nonfiction
- Long Passage

Language Arts

- Capitalization
- Parts of Speech
- Punctuation
- Sentence Structure

Life Science & Inquiry

- Living Things
- Ecology
- Science Processes

Math (English and Spanish)

- Algebra
- Geometry
- Measurement
- Data Analysis & Probability
- Number & Operations
- Seeing Structure in Expressions
- Trigonometric Functions

Algebra

- Polynomials and Rational Expressions
- Building Functions
- Creating Equations
- Interpreting Functions
- Linear and Exponential Models
- Reasoning with Equations and Inequalities

Geometry

- Circles
- Congruence
- Expressing Properties with Equations
- Measurement and Dimension
- Modeling with Geometry
- Similarity, Right Triangles and Trigonometry



Do all students see the same test?

All children see the same topic areas, but all children do not see the same test questions, because Performance Series is computer-adaptive—each test is unique for each child.

How many test items does each student receive?

The test is online and computer-adaptive, so each child receives a unique test and the number of items may vary. There is no set number of questions. The average number of questions in a testing session is about 50.

Are the tests timed?

No, children are allowed as much time as needed to take the test.

More **Frequently Asked Questions** about Performance Series are available online at <http://www.scantron.com/performanceseries>.





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