

Georgia Milestones

2018-2019



What is the Georgia Milestones Assessment System?

The Georgia Milestones Assessments are a yearly end-of-grade measure of student achievement in grades 3-8 in the following areas:

Grades 3, 4, and 5

- English Language Arts (ELA)
- Mathematics

5th grade only

- Science
- Social Studies



What is the purpose of the Georgia Milestones?

- It is designed to show how well a student has met the learning expectations at his or her grade level.
- It provides information on students' readiness for the next grade level.
- It shows how much progress is made from one grade level to the next.



In grades 3, 5 and 8, the Georgia Milestones results inform 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 May.

Online Testing and Dates

Georgia Milestones will be administered online to grades 3-5 using Chromebooks and desktop computers.

AM Session	PM Session
April 9 Grade 3 and 5 ELA Section 1	
April 10 Grade 3 and 5 ELA Section 2	
April 11 Grade 3 and 5 ELA Section 3	
April 12 Grade 4 ELA Section 1	
April 15 Grade 4 ELA Section 2	
April 16 Grade 4 ELA Section 3	
April 17 Grade 3 and 5 Math Section 1	
April 18 Grade 3 and 5 Math Section 2	
April 19 Grade 5 Science Sections 1&2	
April 22 Grade 5 Social Studies Sections 1&2	
April 23 Grade 4 Math Section 1	
April 24 Grade 4 Math Section 2	

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

- Open ended (constructed response) items in English Language Arts and Mathematics.
- A writing component in response to pages read by students at every grade level.
- Nationally norm-referenced items in all content areas to complement the Georgia criterion-referenced information and to provide a national comparison.
- Multiple Choice items in all content areas.



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. 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:

- 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.
- 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 as described in Georgia's content standards.
- 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.
- They are prepared for the next grade level and are considered to be on track for college and career readiness.







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 and are well prepared for college and career readiness.

The Individual Student Report (ISR) provides information on your student's overall performance for the content areas tested at the end of the grade for grades 3-8.

**Your student's performance on the Georgia Milestones
End-of-Grade Assessment for Grade 3**

1	CONTENT AREA	ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	MATHEMATICS	SCIENCE	SOCIAL STUDIES
2	ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL	LEVEL 3 PROFICIENT LEARNER 	LEVEL 3 PROFICIENT LEARNER 	LEVEL 3 PROFICIENT LEARNER 	LEVEL 3 PROFICIENT LEARNER 
3	SCALE SCORE	547 Scale Score Range 525-580	554 Scale Score Range 525-579	530 Scale Score Range 525-565	530 Scale Score Range 525-559

- 1 **CONTENT AREA:** This shows you the subject area(s) in which your student was tested.
- 2 **ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL:** Milestones results are reported using four categories of achievement that are represented with bar stacks. In previous state tests, achievement was reported in three categories (Does Not Meet, Meets, and Exceeds). Under the new system of reporting, proficiency is the target.
- 3 **SCALE SCORE:** A scale score is the total number of correct answers converted to a consistent and standardized scale across different forms of the test. Within each range of scores, achievement will fall in one of four achievement levels. The scale score range varies from subject to subject and grade to grade based on the actual test.

English Language Arts



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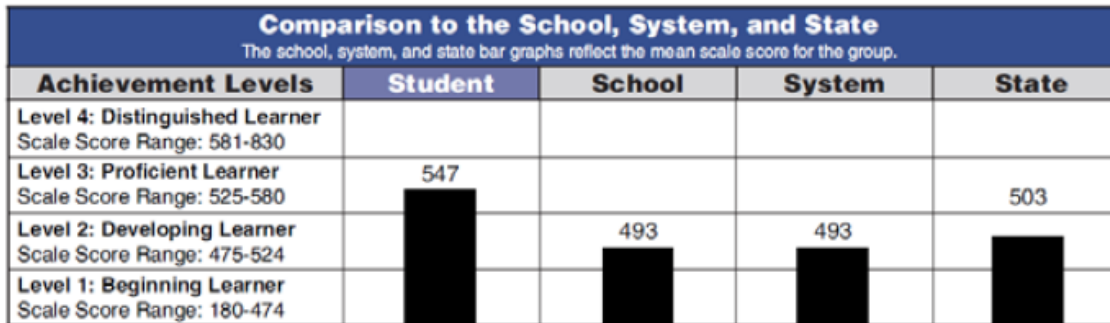
Grade 3

Achievement Level	
✓ Level 3: Proficient Learner	Scale Score
Proficient Learners demonstrate proficiency in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level/course of learning, as specified in Georgia's content standards. The students are prepared for the next grade level or course and are on track for college and career readiness.	547

Domain Category	Performance	
Reading and Vocabulary	Grade Level or Above 5	
6 Writing and Language¹	Extended Writing informational/explanatory essay score:	
	Idea Development, Organization and Coherence	2 out of 4 points
	Language Usage and Conventions	2 out of 3 points
	Narrative Writing Response score:	2 out of 4 points

Standard Error of Measurement (SEM): A scale score of **547** indicates your student's achievement on the day of testing. If your student were to take the same test again, it is likely that his or her score would be within the standard error of measurement range of **520-566**.

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- 4 This section gives a **summary** of your student's achievement in ELA.
- 5 This section details your student's performance on the **Reading and Vocabulary** portions of the test.
- 6 This section details your student's performance on the **Writing and Language** portions of the test. This section shows how many points a student earned out of a total for the different components assessed in the essay.
- 7 The **Comparison** chart shows scale score ranges for each achievement level and how your student's score compares to averages for the school, the school district, and the state.

Lexiles

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.

Lexiles

- 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.
- 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

8 Lexile information measures a student's reading ability. Please note that when looking for suggested titles based on a Lexile score, you should factor in a student's age and interests. Your student's teacher can provide additional age-appropriate suggestions to match and to stretch your student as a reader.

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Your Student's Lexile Information
Lexile Measure: 810L
Lexile Range: 710L-860L
<small>The Lexile Framework® for Reading matches a student's reading ability with the difficulty of text material. When selecting books, it is important to consider that Lexiles do not address age-appropriateness, student interest, or text quality. Suggested titles are not necessarily endorsed by the Georgia Department of Education. Books within the student's Lexile range can be found at the local library or by using the Find-a-Book database at www.lexile.com. For more information, visit www.gadoe.org/lexile.aspx.</small>

Leisure Reading: 710L-810L		
Suggested Titles	Author	Lexile
The Confessions and Secrets of Howard J. Fingerhut	Hershenhorn, Esther	710L
The Girlhood Diary of Louisa May Alcott	Alcott, Louisa May	760L
The Treasure of Alpheus Winterborn	Bellairs, John	800L
Motivating Challenge: 810L-860L		
Suggested Titles	Author	Lexile
Outside and Inside Rats and Mice	Markle, Sandra	820L
The Outcasts of 19 Schuyler Place	Konigsburg, E. L.	840L
Who's Afraid of the Dark?	Bonsall, Crosby	860L

Mathematics

Grade 3



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Achievement Level	
✓ Level 3: Proficient Learner	Scale Score
Proficient Learners demonstrate proficiency in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level/course of learning, as specified in Georgia's content standards. The students are prepared for the next grade level or course and are on track for college and career readiness.	554

Standard Error of Measurement (SEM): A scale score of **554** indicates your student's achievement on the day of testing. If your student were to take the same test again, it is likely that his or her score would be within the standard error of measurement range of **541-567**.

Domain Category	Performance
Operations and Algebraic Thinking	Monitor Learning
Numbers and Operations	Monitor Learning
Measurement and Data	Accelerate Learning
Geometry	Monitor Learning

Domain Mastery
Remediate Learning Monitor Learning Accelerate Learning

9 This section gives a **summary** of your student's achievement in the subject tested. In this example, it is a summary of Mathematics for a 3rd grader.

10 The **"Domain Category"** is the area of focus tested in the subject area for a particular grade level, for example, Geometry in Mathematics, Geography in Social Studies, or Cells in Science.

11 The **"Performance"** information lets you know how your student did in that area of focus. The level of fill in the circle indicates your student's level of mastery. For Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies, these results are reported as:

- Remediate Learning** (lowest level of performance)
- Monitor Learning** (acceptable level of performance)
- Accelerate Learning** (highest level of performance)

Teachers will use this information to determine if a student needs additional time and opportunities to master a topic or if the student has mastered it and is ready to tackle more advanced concepts.

National Percentile

The Georgia Milestones assessment includes a small number of questions in each content area that are used on a nationally norm-referenced test, TerraNova. 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.

This information provides a general snapshot of how a student's answers compare to a national sample of students in the same grade.

Comparison to a National Sample of Students			
National Percentile		National Percentile Range	
Your student's performance can be compared to other students nationally in Mathematics. A subset of items in the End-of-Grade assessment is from <i>TerraNova</i> , a nationally normed achievement test.	62	A national percentile of 62 means that your student performed as well as or better than 62 percent of the national norming group. If the student were to take the test again, he or she would be expected to obtain a national percentile rank within the National Percentile Range.	48-75

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

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.
- Explain to your child that these tests give students the opportunity to show what they have learned in school.
- Point out that some items may be more difficult than others.



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

- Be certain that your child gets plenty of sleep and has a healthy breakfast and lunch.
- Be certain your student is at school on time. Rushing and worrying about being late can affect performance on the tests.
- Ask your child about the testing at the end of each day.
- Remind your student to charge their Chromebook each night and bring it to school each day.

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

- **Video Presentation**

<http://tinyurl.com/pe7yep4>

- **Experience Student Tests**

<http://www.gaexperienceonline.com/>

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

- **Assessment Guides**

<http://tinyurl.com/k456ktz> highly recommended 😊