# 2024–25 Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) Fact Sheet
# K–2 Early Literacy, Reading, and Mathematics

**FAST Overview**
Florida's English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics Coordinated Screening and Progress Monitoring System, also called the Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST), required in section 1008.25(8), Florida Statutes, was administered for the first time during the 2022–2023 school year. This fact sheet provides an overview of the FAST system for grades K–2 Reading and Mathematics.

**Kindergarten–Grade 2 Star Early Literacy, Star Reading, and Star Mathematics Overview**
FAST for students in grades K–2 is administered three times a year using Renaissance Learning's Star assessments, as shown in the table below.

| Grade | Star Early Literacy | Star Reading | Star Mathematics |
|---|---|---|---|
| Kindergarten | PM1, PM2, PM3 | | PM1, PM2, PM3 |
| First Grade | PM1, PM2 | PM3 | PM1, PM2, PM3 |
| Second Grade | | PM1, PM2, PM3 | PM1, PM2, PM3 |

**Additional Considerations:**
- Students who earn a scale score of 852 or higher on Star Early Literacy are considered "probable readers." Any kindergarten or first grade student who scores 852 on Star Early Literacy may take Star Reading in the next PM. This includes PM1 for first graders who scored an 852 in kindergarten.
  - Students who move to Star Reading in PM2 and/or PM3 may also continue to take Star Early Literacy for consistent data points.
- All first grade students must attempt Star Reading in PM3. All second grade students must attempt Star Reading in all three PM windows.
  - If a student does not pass the practice items after two attempts, the district should administer Star Early Literacy to the student to gain additional instructional information.
  - Districts may direct schools to administer Star Reading to first grade students for all three PM windows.

**Administration Windows**
FAST is administered during three windows in the school year (PM1, PM2, and PM3). The following windows have been established to provide schools with maximum scheduling flexibility; they do not reflect the amount of time one school will spend administering tests.
- PM1: August 5–September 27, 2024
- PM2: December 2, 2024–January 24, 2025
- PM3: April 14–May 30, 2025

Per state statute, K–2 assessments must be administered in the first 30 instructional days of the school year (PM1), mid-year (PM2), and within the last 30 days of the school year (PM3).

**Testing Systems**

All FAST assessments are computer-adaptive and are administered and reported using the following systems:

| Testing System | Use |
|---|---|
| **Renaissance Growth Platform (RGP)** | Online Management/Student Data/Score Reports |
| **Supported web browser** | Online Test Delivery |
| **Family Portal*** | Family Access to Individual Student Reports |

*K–2 results will be available in the Family Portal after the first week of testing during each PM window.

Please note the following:
- Headphones are required for Star Early Literacy, Star Mathematics, and for Star Reading PM3.
- Students must be provided with blank scratch paper for all FAST Mathematics tests.

**Session Lengths**

All FAST assessments are administered in one session in one day, and it is recommended that students only take one subject test per day. Students may be assigned extended time if indicated on their Individual Education Plan (IEP) or Section 504 Plan. The K–2 testing platform allows for the following item time limits and average length of assessments without extended time:

| Subject | Item Time Limit | Items per Test | Average Test Length |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Star Early Literacy** | 150 seconds per item | 27 | 10–20 minutes |
| **Star Reading** | 120 seconds per item (first 10 items) 180 seconds per item (remaining skill items) | 34 | 15–20 minutes |
| **Star Math** | 4 minutes per item | 34 | 20–30 minutes |

**Accommodations**

The K–2 testing platform allows for the following assistive tools and technologies for any student who requires them, per an Individual Educational Plan (IEP) or Section 504 Plan:
- Response Masking
- Color Contrast
- Font Size/Zoom
- Highlighter
- Line Reader

Audio is enabled for all items on Star Early Literacy and for items with text that may be difficult for some students on Star Math. Beginning with field test items in Spring 2025, Star Reading will contain audio items that require students to listen to an audio clip and respond to a question about it. Oral presentation is allowable on Star Math and Star Reading for students with this accommodation and is administered by a human reader for test questions and response options only. More information about accommodations can be found in the K–2 Accommodations Guide.

**FAST Grades K–2 Reporting**

The following K–2 Reading and Mathematics information is reported for PM1, PM2, and PM3:

- **Unified Scale Score:** The Star Unified Scale provides scores on a consistent, common scale across all Star computer-adaptive assessments: Star Early Literacy, Star Reading, and Star Mathematics.
- **Percentile Rank:** The Percentile Rank ranges from 1–99 and compares student performance to other students in the same grade nationwide. The rank indicates the percentage of students a student outperformed on a test attempt.
- **FAST Equivalent Score:** K–2 FAST Star Assessments are reported on the Star Unified Scale. FAST Equivalent Scores link the B.E.S.T. scale with the Unified scale to show how a student is performing relative to the FAST Grades 3–10 assessments. This score can also be used to show growth over time on the B.E.S.T. scale once students move to grade 3 and beyond.
- **State Benchmark/B.E.S.T. Achievement Level:** Similar to the FAST equivalent score, this information shows where a student's performance falls on the B.E.S.T. reporting scale using the five Achievement Levels reported for FAST Grades 3–10 assessments.

Additional resources and guides for Star reporting resources can be found on the portal.

**Sample Test Materials**

Sample test materials contain sample test items aligned to the B.E.S.T. Standards and allow teachers, parents/guardians, and students to become familiar with the various item types that may be encountered on the assessments. Please note the following:

- Online sample items can be found on the Students and Families page of the portal.
- Students must successfully answer practice questions at the beginning of each session before they can enter the actual test. The purpose of these practice items is to familiarize students with the testing platform and marking responses to test items and to ensure the assessment is appropriate for them.

**Remote Testing**

Remote testing is available for K–2 FAST assessments for students enrolled full-time in a virtual school program or for those students who are hospital/homebound. Resources for administering tests remotely can be found at: https://renaissance.widen.net/s/nfqshkzc5z/remote-testing-quick-reference_220726.

Please visit the FDOE website and the Florida Statewide Assessments Portal for more information about the statewide assessment program.

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