



The Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (F.A.S.T.)

The Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (F.A.S.T.) is a progress monitoring assessment that is administered three times per year, which measures student success with the Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Standards. It includes assessments in English Language Arts (VPK through grade 10) and Mathematics (VPK through grade eight). Progress monitoring provides real-time data that will inform students, teachers, and parents about individual student growth.

Students in Algebra 1, Geometry, Biology, U.S. History, and Civics will take the state End-of-Course (EOC) assessment that will constitute 30% of the final course grade. Students in grades five and eight will continue to take the statewide Science Assessment in the spring.

Achievement Levels

Achievement levels describe the success a student has achieved on the B.E.S.T. Standards which are tested on the F.A.S.T. Achievement Levels range from 1 to 5, with Level 1 being the lowest and Level 5 being the highest.

Testing Tips

- Show your child you are supportive
- Discuss materials sent home with your child
- Ensure your child gets a good night's sleep
- Make sure your child eats a good breakfast
- Have your child at school on time

[Volusia County Schools Assessments Calendar](#)



Academic Proficiency and Promotion Requirements

Report cards are provided at regular intervals to keep parents fully informed of their child's academic proficiency. If your child has not demonstrated mastery/proficiency (grade C or better) in a reading, language arts, mathematics, or science course, he/she is not meeting minimum state and district expectations. Promotion is based on how well students are performing according to the B.E.S.T. Standards. The Volusia County School Board has established criteria for student progression, which includes state and district requirements. The Student Progression Plan can be accessed on the district's website at www.vcsedu.org/directory/departments/student-services/school-counseling/student-progression-plan.