In Pursuit of Exceptional

Core Belief #1
We believe each student can learn at or above grade level and will have an equal opportunity to do so.

Commitment #1
Each student will learn at or above grade level and have an equal opportunity to do so.

Core Belief #2
We believe family and community involvement is critical to student success.

Commitment #2
We will foster connections for families and community to support student learning.

Core Belief #3
We believe all learning environments should be supportive, safe, and secure.

Commitment #3
All school environments will be supportive, safe, and secure.

Core Belief #4
We believe effective teachers and leaders produce excellent results.

Commitment #4
We will recruit, support, retain, and recognize results-driven teachers and leaders.

HENRY COUNTY SCHOOLS

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A PARENT'S GUIDE to GEORGIA MILESTONES ASSESSMENT

What is Georgia Milestones Assessment?

The Georgia Milestones Assessment System (Georgia Milestones) is a state required comprehensive assessment system spanning grades 3 through high school. Georgia Milestones measures your students mastery of the state standards in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. Students in grades 3 through 8 will take End-of-Grade (EOG) assessments in English Language Arts and Mathematics, while grade 5 and 8 students will also take the EOG Science assessments and grade 8 students will take a social studies EOG. High school students will take End-of-Course (EOC) assessments for each of the four EOC associated courses in which they are enrolled, as designated by the State Board of Education.



What is the purpose of the Georgia Milestones Assessment?

Georgia Milestones is designed to provide information about how well students are mastering the state adopted content standards. Georgia Milestones is designed to provide students and teachers with critical information about a students individual achievement and his/her readiness for their next level of learning — be it the next grade, the next course, or the next endeavor (college or career).



What types of questions will on the Georgia Milestones Assessment?

The Georgia Milestones assessment is conducted online and encompasses the following item types:

- Students in grades 3, 5, 8, and those enrolled in Literature and Composition II are required to complete a writing component, which involves composing an essay that cites evidence from the texts they have read.
- In grades 4, 6, and 7, students engage in a peer revision task, where they provide constructive feedback on writing samples appropriate for their grade level.
- The assessment includes technology-enhanced items that present multi-step problems through interactive components.
- Additionally, there are multiple-choice items included in the assessment.

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A PARENT'S GUIDE TO GMAS

When do students take the assessment?



For students in grades 3 to 8, testing will occur annually between April and May.

For students in grades 9 to 12, assessments will be administered in May. This schedule also applies to middle school students enrolled in high school courses that include an End-of-Course (EOC) assessment. Furthermore, high school students attending schools that operate on a block schedule will take the EOC Milestones in December and May.

Students will complete different sections of the test each day, with an estimated total testing duration of approximately two hours per day.

What can I do to help my student be prepared for the test?

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. These skills include following directions carefully, avoiding careless errors, and reviewing work.
- Explain the purpose of the tests. The assessments give students an opportunity to show what they have learned in school. They also give teachers information that helps them plan instruction.
- Point out that some items may be more difficult than others.
- Be certain your student gets plenty of sleep and has a healthy breakfast and lunch. Taking tests is hard work for many students and can require a lot of energy.
- Be certain your student is at school on time. Rushing and worrying about being late could affect performance on the tests.
- Remember to ask your student about the testing at the end of each day.
- Remember to always be positive during this period and offer encouraging words.

What resources are available for my child to prepare for GMAS?

There are 2 main online resources to help you and your child become familiar with the assessment content and the assessment platform:

- **Experience Online Georgia** provides students with an opportunity to become familiar with the online testing platform through the Test Practice link. This practice site does not require a log-in and is available 7 days a week.



http://www.gaexperienceonline.com/

- **Georgia Milestones Parent Resource Guide**

A variety of resources are available to acquaint parents with the Georgia Milestones assessments.

- Parent Q&A
- Practice Tests
- Score Interpretation Guidance
- Test Blueprints
- Study/Resource Guides
- Achievement Level Descriptors (ALDs)

tinyurl.com/Parent-Resource-Guide

