

Parents'

Tips for Testing

Every year, Oregon students in grades three through eight and in grade eleven take state tests in reading, writing and math. Students in grades five, eight and eleven also take a science test. Tests are given in the spring.

Reading, writing and math are tested by the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBAC test). Science is tested by the Oregon Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (OAKS). The tests provide the state with information about how schools are doing in preparing students for college and career.

If you have questions about tests, please contact our school office. Thank you!



Tip #1: Keep it positive

Students are naturally anxious about taking tests. When thinking about tests, it's important to remember that state tests are important, but they aren't the only way schools gauge student learning.

Some students from Salem-Keizer and other districts in Oregon participated in a field test of the Smarter Balanced test. They commented that the test was more challenging than OAKS, but also said it was more interesting because it made them think and was interactive. Some even said they enjoyed the experience!

When talking with your students about state tests, **please encourage them to relax and give it their best effort.**

Approaching the test with a minimum of anxiety, a positive attitude, and openness to the new experience will make a difference.

Visit the Parents' Guide website for more information about helping your student succeed in school:

www.skgradguide.com

