

# GCPS 4th graders show what they know this spring...

## 2018–19 Georgia Milestones Online

The 4th Grade Georgia Milestones Assessment is part of the Georgia Milestones assessment system, spanning 3rd grade to high school. This state assessment measures how well 4th grade students have learned knowledge and skills in the core areas of language arts and mathematics. This assessment provides information about student achievement and readiness to move on to the next level of learning.

For the spring 2019 administration of the Milestones assessment, all Georgia students will take the assessment online. New this year, students will answer technology-enhanced questions as part of the assessment. *(See the back of this flyer for more about the types of questions on the Milestones assessment.)* Here in Gwinnett County Public Schools (GCPS), adjustments to the testing calendar and an increase in capacity for computers used for testing will ensure a smooth testing experience for students and allow for a normal instructional day for students who are not in testing.

### So, what's new?

**One Subject, One Grade.** On any given day during the testing window, only students in one grade at a school will participate in assessments in a single subject. This change has several benefits. With just one grade in testing, instruction can continue in other grades and subjects. This schedule also gives students more time between test days, reducing "test fatigue" and helping students who may have testing anxiety. With the adjusted testing schedule (one subject/one grade per day), Milestones will seem less like a testing event—Milestones Week—and more like a regular school day. **Remember, if you have students in different grades, they will test on different days.**

### 4th Grade Milestones Dates

Language Arts Section 1	Monday	April 22, 2019
Language Arts Section 2	Tuesday	April 23, 2019
Language Arts Section 3	Wednesday	April 24, 2019
Mathematics Section 1	Monday	April 29, 2019
Mathematics Section 2	Tuesday	April 30, 2019



**Access to Computers for Testing.** The technology-enhanced questions require higher technology specifications on computers used for testing. Your child's school will have enough computers with adequate capacity so that every student in a grade level will be able to take a Milestones exam on the designated day, using morning and afternoon sessions if needed. As much as possible, computers in the media center and productivity labs will not be used for testing so that students in other grades and subjects have continued access to these technology resources on testing days.

### Milestones is not an "all day" event.

Times for each assessment range from 60 minutes up to 90 minutes on any given day. Students will continue instruction and normal school activities the rest of the day.

### And, what's the same?

**Your student will be ready!** Gwinnett's Academic Knowledge and Skills (AKS) curriculum includes all of the state standards, so the teaching and learning that goes on in the classroom every day prepares students for the rigorous assessments of Georgia Milestones. In addition, classwork, homework, quizzes, and tests throughout the school year prepare students for the assessment. Of course, regular school attendance and participation in the classroom is critical to a student's academic success as well.

**You can support your student.** Remind your child that the tests will cover material learned in class. Check the "Testing" section at <http://bit.ly/GCPSparenttips> for tips on how you can support your child.



**Your student can practice.** Help your student become familiar with the online testing environment and the tools that will be used for testing. Visit [GAExamineOnline.com](http://GAExamineOnline.com), select "Test Practice," and follow the prompts to see the types of questions and tools available.

### Types of Questions for 4th Grade Milestones

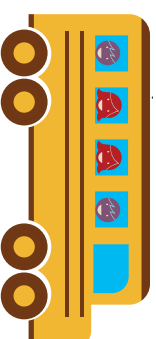
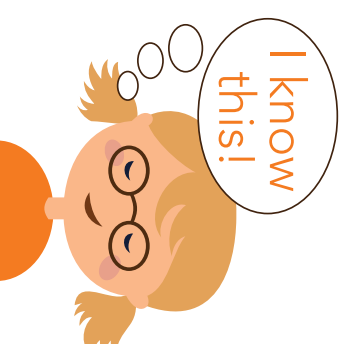
**Georgia Milestones includes four types of questions:**

**Selected Response:** These multiple-choice questions in the language arts and mathematics assessments require students to select an answer from a set of options.

**Constructed Response:** Used for both the language arts and mathematics exams, these open-ended questions require students to generate a response that both answers the question and provides an explanation.

**Extended Response:** In the writing component of the language arts assessment, students answer questions with more in-depth answers and extensive explanation.

**Technology-Enhanced Response:** These items are more interactive, requiring students to use technology to answer the question. Examples include a "drag and drop" response, editing text, shading an object, or classifying items. These items are part of both assessments.



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# MAD AS A MARCH HARE!

**New Life Academy of  
Excellence**  
Where Educating is Our  
Number One Goal



## 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Newsletter

March 4 - 8, 2019

### Reminders:

- Please make sure that your child is **picked up by 3:30** everyday.
- Please have your child **read for at least 30 minutes** every day!
- Pizza Hut Book has begun, so students can earn a free individualized pizza if they complete their reading log indicating that they have read for the entire month of March.



<http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Assessment/Pages/Georgia-Milestones-Assessment-System.aspx>

### Resource Guide

<http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Assessment/Pages/Georgia-Milestones-End-of-Grade-Assessment-Guides.aspx>

## WHAT'S GOING ON?

### GA Milestones Online Practice Site

<https://wbte.drccdirect.com/GA/portals/ga>

Once students go on the website, they should click Online Tools Training underneath End of Grade (EOG) Spring. Then, they will click on EOG Test Practice. Afterwards, click on Standard Online Tools and then click on Grades 3-5. The username and password will be listed above the username and password boxes. There is no answer key for the questions. Students need to be familiarized with the online tools and how to answer the questions. Typing will be an essential skill they need to practice.

### We'll Be So Busy!

**Math** - Students will learn how to apply the perimeter and area formulas for rectangles in real world and mathematical problems.

**Social Studies** - Students will continue to learn about the important figures that contributed to the abolitionist and suffrage movements. They will also review for the Abolition and Suffrage test scheduled for Friday, March 8.

**Language Arts** - In reading, students will compare and contrast the text of a story with a visual representation of a text. In grammar, students will identify the rhyme scheme and write rhyming words to the given words. In writing, students will create subtopics of their chosen informational topic, learn how to paraphrase information they read in their texts or on websites, and write notes based on their research.

**Science** - Students will review for the Light test scheduled for Friday, March 8.

## Important Dates:

\*Test dates are tentative and may change \*

**Mar 4 ~ 8** – Book Fair

**Mar 8** - Abolition and Suffrage Test

**Mar 8** - Light Test

**Mar 8** - Spring Picture Day – Dress Your Best

**Mar 11** – ELA 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester Interim District Assessment

**Mar 12** – Math 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester Interim District Assessment

**Mar 13** – Science 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester Interim District Assessment

**Mar 14** – Social Studies 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester Interim District Assessment

**Mar 21** – SWCC Town Hall Meeting @ 5:30 pm

**Mar 26** – High Museum of Art Field Trip

**Mar 28** – YCT Testing

### Wish list

**Hyon** – tissue boxes

**Nguyen** – pencils

**Baker** – pencils

### Our contact information:

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We will do our best to respond within 24 hours.