

## When are the STAAR tests?

Students are scheduled to take the STAAR test in April and May.

Fifth graders who do not meet Proficiency Levels in **Math and Reading** will have two additional opportunities to take and pass these exams in May\* and June\*.

### 20& STAAR ADMINISTRATION DATES FOR GRADES 3<sup>RD</sup> – 5<sup>TH</sup>

DATE	3RD GRADE
May 1&	Math
May 1'	Reading

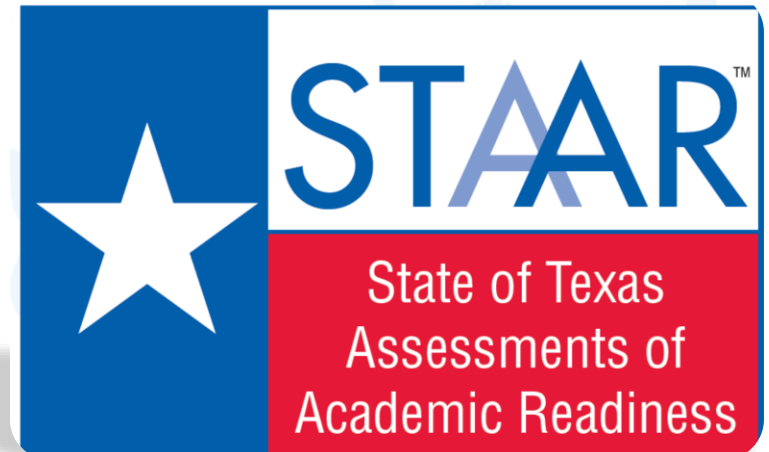
DATE	4TH GRADE
April +	Writing
May 1&	Math
May 1'	Reading

DATE	5TH GRADE
April +	Math
April ,	Reading
<b>May 12</b>	<b>Math*</b>
<b>May 13</b>	<b>Reading*</b>
May 1(	Science
<b>June 2 3</b>	<b>Math*</b>
<b>June 2 4</b>	<b>Reading*</b>

*\* Additional opportunity for 5th graders*

# Understanding the **STAAR** test

## 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade



### For additional information about STAAR

- Visit the Texas Education Agency, Student Assessment webpage at: <http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/>
- Call the Assessment Department at: 956-554-2806
- Contact your child's school at: \_\_\_\_\_



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**ASSESSMENT, RESEARCH &  
EVALUATION DEPARTMENT**  
956-554-2806



## Who takes the STAAR test?

Beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, students in grades 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grades have been taking the new state exam titled **State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness** (STAAR). This evaluation includes assessments in the following subjects:

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- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Math & Reading
  - 4<sup>th</sup> – Math, Reading and Writing
  - 5<sup>th</sup> – Math, Reading and Science
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## How is this test different?

The STAAR assessments are more rigorous than previous state tests. In addition, the STAAR test has a four-hour time limit, and it has more open-ended questions in math and science.

## Will students who receive special education services take the STAAR?

The admission, review & dismissal (ARD) committee will determine the appropriate test for a student who receives special education services. Some students will take the general STAAR. Others will take the STAAR Alternate 2. The STAAR Alternate 2, however, is only available for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities.



## How do I know if my child passed the test?

Student performance on the STAAR test is described by one of these four proficiency levels:



- **Masters grade level** - shows mastery of the course content. Student is on track for college and career readiness.
- **Meets grade level** - shows strong knowledge of course content. Student is prepared to progress to the next grade.
- **Approaches grade level** - shows some knowledge of course content but may be missing critical elements. Student needs additional support
- **Did not meet grade level** - shows lack of basic understanding of course content. Student needs significant support.

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**Promotion to the next grade level for students in 5th grade is dependent upon achieving a score at the Approaches Grade Level, or better, in Math and Reading.**

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