



What Parents Need to Know

About Province-Wide Testing

**EQAO Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics,  
Primary Division (Grades 1–3) and Junior Division (Grades 4–6)**

## Why Ontario conducts province-wide tests

- To identify trends in student learning
- To identify curriculum areas that need more attention
- To target resources where they are needed
- To give an indication of how each child is learning
- To strengthen accountability

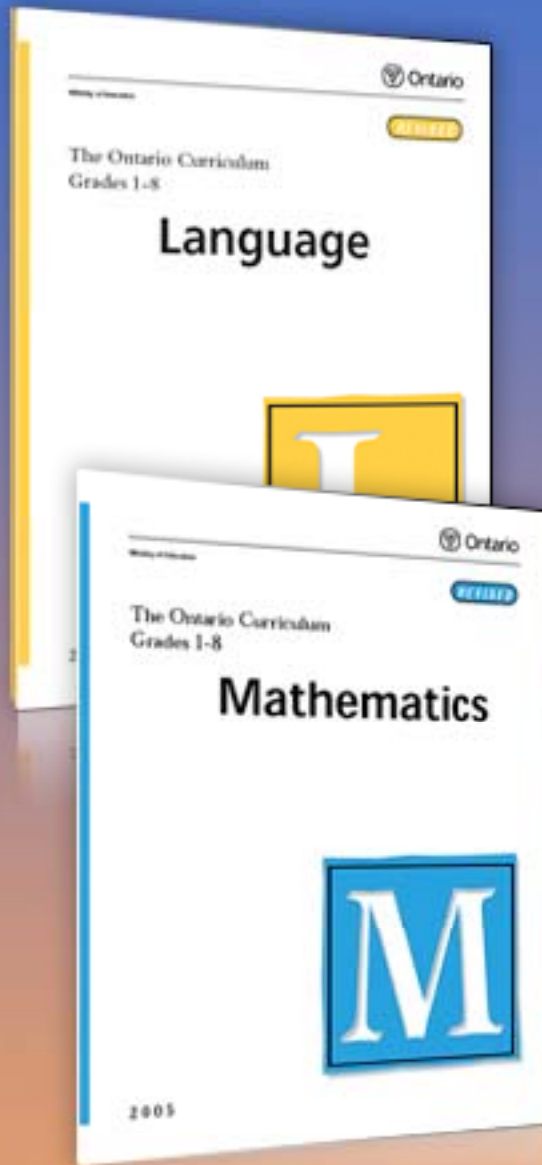


## About the tests

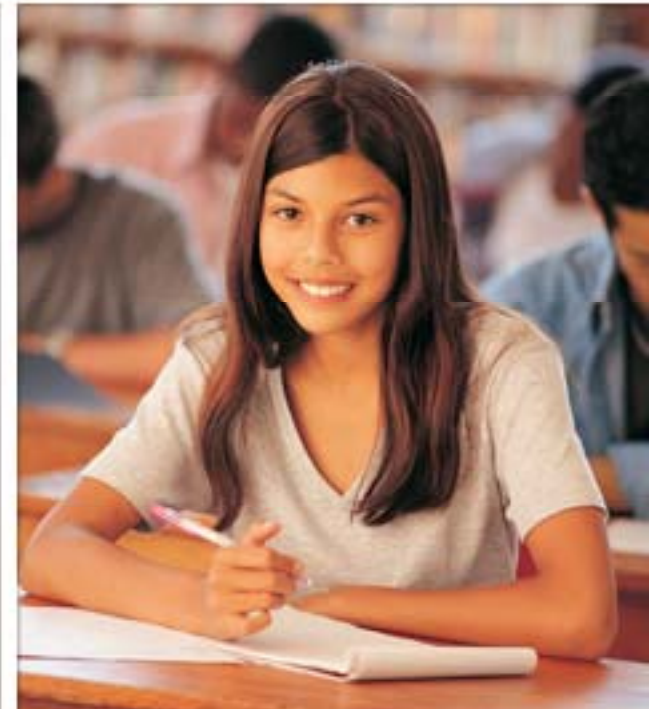
### The tests

- are taken at key stages: Grades 3, 6, 9 and 10;
- assess cumulative knowledge and skills and
- are based on The Ontario Curriculum.

The tests aren't intended to require special preparation. Students demonstrate the reading, writing and math skills they have developed through regular classroom work.



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## Ensuring the tests are valid and fair

The tests are

- based on The Ontario Curriculum;
- developed and reviewed by Ontario educators;
- field tested with Ontario students;
- administered consistently and
- scored by Ontario teachers.





## When the testing occurs

- Testing occurs in late May and early June.
- Schools determine their exact testing dates.



## Your child's results

- You will get your child's results in September.
- EQAO's Individual Student Report (ISR) will be sent home.



## Achievement levels

- As on your child's school report card, achievement on these tests is reported according to the province's four achievement levels.



**LEVEL 4**

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**LEVEL 3**

**THE PROVINCIAL STANDARD**

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**LEVEL 2**

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**LEVEL 1**

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Results do not affect your child's report card.

## What EQAO results tell you about your child

EQAO results are

- a snapshot of your child's achievement in relation to the provincial standard and
- an objective, reliable indicator of how well your child is meeting the reading, writing and math expectations defined in The Ontario Curriculum.

Remember:

- It is important to consider a wide variety of achievement information.
- EQAO results are one objective indicator of achievement.





## Importance of tracking results over time

- Research shows a clear relationship between early achievement and achievement in secondary school.
- Early recognition and support at school and at home can make all the difference.
- Together as a school community, we can help all students maintain or improve to higher levels of achievement.



## How to make the best use of your child's results

### Discuss with your child's teacher

- how the results relate to classroom tests, assignments and projects;
- which specific skills you should focus on and
- how you can offer support at home.



## How schools use the results

- To identify how well students are meeting the curriculum expectations
- To identify strengths and areas for improvement
- To guide school improvement initiatives
- To help pinpoint where resources are needed
- To support effective teaching practices
- To determine whether improvement initiatives are working
- To talk with parents about student achievement



# Brought to you by

**Education Quality and  
Accountability Office**



The independent agency of the Government of Ontario that administers provincial reading, writing and math tests.

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