



Parent Reports Available for STAR Assessments in the Parent Portal

Each Fall, Winter and Spring, all students in Howell Township participate in diagnostic assessments known as the Renaissance STAR Assessments, which were developed by Renaissance Learning. Based on academic program and individual readiness, students participate in one or more of the STAR assessments, which include Early Literacy, Reading, and Mathematics. These tests are unique in that they are diagnostic, and adapt for your child's level of learning. Beginning this year, results will be reported using what is called a Unified Scale Score, which allows teachers to analyze results between tests, such as when considering growth shown by a student who has progressed from the STAR Early Literacy test to the STAR Reading. Parents can find additional information about the Unified Scale at: <https://doc.renlearn.com/KMNet/R63526.pdf>.

The Parent Reports for your child's most recent STAR Assessment are now available through the Parent Portal. There is no need to print, sign or return the reports to the school. They are provided for your information only.

Each Parent Report contains explanations to assist you in understanding the score reports. In reviewing the score report, it is important to remember that any assessment provides only one measure utilized to monitor student progress. Since no test can provide a complete picture of any one student's achievement, scores should be considered in conjunction with multiple measures, including a teacher's professional evaluation of student progress and grades.

The STAR Assessments are designed to determine your child's current instructional level; to monitor your child's academic growth; and to provide teachers with additional information to support instructional planning for their students. As they have in the past, our teachers continue to be deeply engaged in using the data from the STAR assessments, as well as other measures used within the district, to identify individual students' needs, and to strategically design learning experiences to meet those specific needs within the classroom.

Additional information about the Renaissance STAR Assessments is available through the Curriculum-Assessment page on the school district website at www.howell.k12.nj.us; through the Renaissance Learning parent resources document at <http://doc.renlearn.com/KMNet/R0054872491706A8.pdf>; and through your child's school. Parents and teachers partnering to help all kids learn can have a profound positive effect on the lives of our children. We appreciate the support you provide throughout your child's educational program.