

Strategies for solving word problems:

1. Underline the question – you need to know what is being asked
2. Think about how to solve the problem – which process, operations, equations, or formulas you’ll need to use
3. Re-read the problem completely.
4. Draw a picture or diagram if appropriate.
5. Circle key words that will help guide your problem solving process.
6. Solve the problem and determine if the solution makes sense.
7. Check your work.

Test taking strategies:

1. Practice using the online tools.
2. Organize your work folder and work out problems completely.
3. Don’t stay on a question too long. If you can’t think about how to begin, flag the question and move to another question. Often a different question will help you remember how to solve one you’ve flagged.
4. Don’t leave questions blank.

Resources

Florida Standards Assessments Portal: www.fsassessments.org (Use Chrome or Firefox)

FSA Training Tests: <http://fsassessments.org/students-and-families/training-tests/> (Use Chrome or Firefox)

FSA Frequently Asked Questions: <http://fsassessments.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/2014-2015-Assessment-Accommodations-FAQ.pdf>

FSA Blueprints: www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/depts/is/math/ (Use Internet Explorer)

About the Florida Standards (FLDOE): <http://www.fldoe.org/academics/standards/florida-standards/about.stml>

PARCC Practice Test: www.parcconline.org/take-the-test

Khan Academy Core: www.khanacademy.org/commoncore/

Florida Students: www.floridastudents.org

Just Take: 20: www.justtake20.org

SJCSD Testing Task Force: <http://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/testing/>

SJCSD Year – at – a – Glance: <http://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/year-at-a-glance/>

Reference and Formula Sheets: http://fsassessments.org/wpcontent/uploads/2015/01/FSAMathematicsReferenceSheetsPacket1_Updated-January-8_2015.pdf

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SJCSD FSA Information Night
Elementary Presentation
Fall 2015



2016 FSA Testing Dates				
Grade Level	Date	Duration	Number of Sessions	Delivery Method
3 rd	Mar 28 – Apr 8	80 minutes	2 2	ELA: Paper Based (PBT) Math: Paper Based (PBT)
4 th	Apr 11 – May 6	80 minutes	2 2	ELA: Computer Based (CBT) Math: Paper Based (PBT)
5 th	Apr 11 – May 6	80 minutes	2 2	ELA: Computer Based (CBT) Math: Computer Based (CBT)
FSA Writing				
4 th & 5 th	Feb 29 – Mar 11	90 minutes	1	Paper Based (PBT)

Online Learning

1 Learning new things is an exciting part of life. Learning can happen anywhere. There are kids who learn at a school, kids who learn at home and some kids who learn online. Students who learn this way use their computers and the Internet to connect to online classrooms. They use a camera connected to their home computer to let the teacher and other students see them. They can see their teacher and classmates on their screens because their classmates and teacher use a camera, too.

2 Before the Internet, children in remote places sometimes had classes over the radio or used the mail to get lessons and return them. For example, in the past, children who lived in distant parts of Australia were taught using the radio. Every day at a certain time, they tuned in to a special radio station. All the children could hear their teacher at the same time, but they were hundreds of miles apart. They got their lessons in the mail, did their homework, and mailed it back to the teacher.

3 Today, students who live far away from their teacher have classes on the Internet. In some online classrooms, a classroom full of kids can use a special computer program at the same time as the teacher. The students can live in one country, and the teacher can be located in a different country. Still, it’s just like a classroom at your school. The teacher can teach the kids. The kids can ask questions. Everyone can see and hear everything that’s being said as it happens.

4 It is also possible for students to live in different places and be a part of an online class together. Each person goes to a website for the class he or she is taking. Thousands of people can watch and listen to this class at the same time. When they want to speak, they can use a microphone to ask and answer questions. When the lesson is completed and all good-byes have been said, the students and teacher in the online class log out. The connection over the Internet is broken, and the online class disappears.

5 Online classes can be held whenever is best for the teacher and students. Sometimes, they don’t have to have a class where everyone is together all at once. There are classes where all the materials are posted on the website and students can use them whenever they need to. They can write questions and turn in their assignments. They can check back later to see if the teacher has left answers or comments on their work. No one ever actually “meets” anyone face-to-face, even if it’s just with a web-camera. Many college classes are taught this way.

6 Internet classes can fit thousands of people, or just one person. It is a powerful way to let students everywhere learn. A student in Alaska and a student in China can go to the same class. That class can be taught by a teacher in Russia. You don’t need a building, desks, lights, or enough chairs to fit everyone. Students who live far apart, students who can’t leave home, students who want to take a class they can’t take nearby-all they need is a computer and Internet connection and they are good to go!

How can you help your child with reading?

- Read.
- Read newspapers, periodicals, fairy tales, and biographies. Encourage your child to read every night.
 - o Use other content sources (science, math, social studies text) as reading resources.
- Talk about what you've read. Write about what you've read.
- Stop at unknown words. Discuss what the words might mean and if the text helps understand the unknown word.
- Summarization is one of the most difficult tasks; provide relevant practice.
- Read.

How can you help your child with writing?

- Write.
- Write thank you notes, letters, shopping lists, poems, or captions to family photos.
- Use other content sources (science, math, social studies text) as writing resources. For example, during math homework have your child write one sentence explaining what he or she is solving.
- Summarization is one of the most difficult tasks; provide relevant practice.
- Write.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA)

The Florida Standards reflect several important changes to previous standards. These changes are called shifts. The chart below shows what these shifts change, what you might see in your child's backpack and what you can do to help your child. [If you have questions or concerns about your child's assignments or progress, please contact the teacher.](http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/12087/urlt/Backpack-Guide.pdf)

What's Shifting?	What to Look for in the Backpack?	What Can You Do?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your child will now read more non-fiction in each grade level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look for your child to have more reading assignments based on real-life events, such as biographies, articles and historical stories. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read non-fiction books with your children. Find ways to make reading fun and exciting.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading more non-fiction texts will help your child learn about the world through reading. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look for your child to bring home more fact-based books about the world. For instance, your 1st grader or kindergartener might read Clyde Robert Bulla's <i>A Tree is a Plant</i>. This book lets students read and learn about science. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Know what non-fiction books are grade-level appropriate and make sure your children have access to such books.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your child will read challenging texts very closely so they can make sense of what they read and draw their own conclusions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your child will have reading and writing assignments that might ask them to retell or write about key parts of a story or book. For example, your 2nd or 3rd grader might be asked to read aloud Faith D'Aluisio's non-fiction book titled <i>What the World Eats</i> and retell facts from the story. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide more challenging texts for your child to read. Show them how to dig deeper into difficult pieces.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When it comes to writing or retelling a story, your child will use "evidence" gathered from the text to support what they say. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look for written assignments that ask your child to draw on concrete examples from the text that serve as evidence. Evidence means examples from the book that your child will use to support a response or conclusion. This is different from the opinion questions that have been used in the past. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask your child to provide evidence in everyday discussions and disagreements.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your child will learn how to write from what they read. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look for writing assignments that ask your child to make arguments in writing using evidence. For 4th and 5th graders, this might mean reading and writing about <i>The Kid's Guide to Money</i>, a non-fiction book by Steve Ottinoski. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage writing at home. Write together using evidence and details.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your child will have an increased academic vocabulary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look for assignments that stretch your children's vocabulary and teach them that "language is power". 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read often to babies, toddlers, preschoolers and children.

Table adapted from FLDOE document: **Parent's Backpack Guide to the Florida Standards**
<http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/12087/urlt/Backpack-Guide.pdf>

Mathematics

1. Using the multiplication table shown on the slide answer the following.

Which statement correctly describes how to use the multiplication table to find the multiples of 6?

- Find all the numbers that end with 6.
- Find all the numbers that start with 6.
- Find all the shaded numbers that would meet at an unshaded 6.
- Find all the numbers in the same row or the same column as a shaded 6.

	5	6
5.06	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.53	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.92	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.47	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Select the value of each decimal number when it is rounded to the nearest whole number.

MATHEMATICS

To improve student learning, the Florida Standards are different from previous standards. These changes are called shifts. The chart below shows what is shifting, what you might see in your child's backpack and what you can do to help your child.

What's Shifting?	What to Look for in the Backpack?	What Can You Do?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your child will work more deeply in fewer topics, which will ensure full understanding. (Less is more!) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look for assignments that require students to show their work and explain how they arrived at an answer. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Know what concepts are important for your child based on their grade level and spend time working on those concepts.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your child will keep building on learning year after year, starting with a strong foundation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look for assignments that build on one another. For example, students will focus on adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing. Once these areas are mastered, they will focus on fractions. Building on that, they will then focus on Algebra. You should be able to see the progression in the topics they learn. Mastery and fluency of all operations with all sets of numbers is expected. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be aware of what concepts your child struggled with last year and support your child in those challenge areas moving forward.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your child will spend time practicing and memorizing math facts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look for assignments that ask your child to master math facts such as addition groupings up to 20 or multiplication tables. Students will be expected to use formulas learned in previous years. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Help your child know and memorize basic math facts. Ask your child to "do the math" that pops up in daily life.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your child will understand math processes and be asked to talk about and prove their understanding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your children might have assignments that ask them to show or explain their mathematical thinking - to SAY why they think their answer is the right one. Students will be expected to support their thinking both verbally and mathematically. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talk to your children about their math homework and ask them to teach you new concepts. Help them figure out ways to explain their thinking.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your child will now be asked to use math in real-world situations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look for math assignments that are based on the real world. For instance, homework for 5th graders might include adding fractions as part of a dessert recipe or determining how much pizza friends ate based on fractions. Students will learn and create models that define real world situations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide time every day for your child to work on math at home.

Table adapted from FLDOE document: **Parent's Backpack Guide to the Florida Standards**
<http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/12087/urlt/Backpack-Guide.pdf>