A Parent's Guide to Performance Series

Your district has adopted Performance Series® by Scantron as its diagnostic and placement tool.

The Performance Series assessment makes it easy for your child's teacher(s) to identify his or her progress—and find the diagnostic information they need to place your child academically and manage his or her instruction.

Performance Series is a web-based, computer-adaptive test that your school uses to:

- identify your child's ability levels
- demonstrate academic growth over time
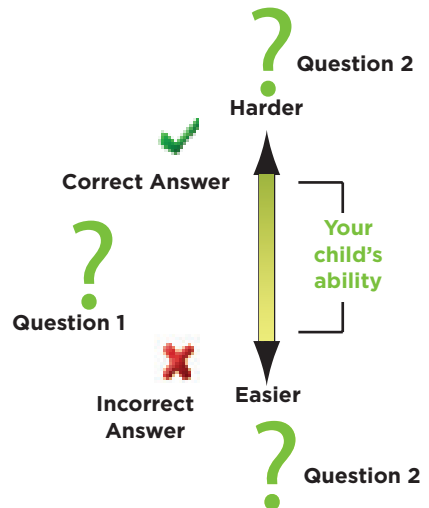- place your child in the correct instructional programs

What is Performance Series®?

An exciting assessment tool, Scantron's Performance Series, has been adopted for use as one of the tools to help identify your child's abilities. You may be familiar with the paper-and-pencil bubble tests from Scantron—this assessment tool is from Scantron as well, but a different type of assessment. Because it is online and adapts, Performance Series adjusts to your child's abilities.

Unlike other forms of assessment, Performance Series tests are completely computer-based and adjust to each child's ability level.

All tests begin in relation to your child's current grade. As your child answers each question, however, the test adapts according to his or her response. Questions get easier when your child answers incorrectly and get more challenging when he or she answers correctly. This individualizes every testing experience and more accurately measures your child's ability.

Why is this helpful to me?

- Unique tests matched to your child's abilities more accurately determine his or her next steps in the classroom.

- Results from these tests provide information to help you understand your child's growth academically, through this year and across years.

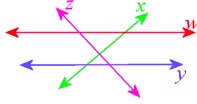## Why is this helpful to my child's teacher?

- Immediate results mean they can adjust instruction more quickly to help your child master important concepts.

- Educational materials can be customized (based on the results for each student and group), which helps teachers improve learning.

- Detailed reports allow teachers to evaluate current or new teaching strategies and programs.

For additional information on the computer-adaptive testing model, see: www.scantron.com/performanceseries.

What Subject Areas Are Covered?

Mathematics*
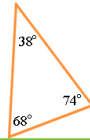
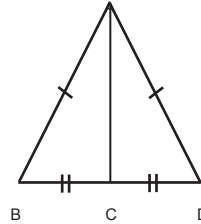Look at the diagram, then answer the question.

Which lines appear to be parallel?

Clasifica el siguiente triágulo.

Qué lineas parecen ser perpendicular?

38°
74°
68°

Geometry

Given $\overline{AB} \approx \overline{AD}$ and $\overline{BC} \approx \overline{CD}$, what statement below allows the SSS Postulate to directly prove that $\triangle ABC \approx \triangle ACD$?

B   C   D

Reading

Braille is one of the most commonly used systems of reading and writing for people who are blind. Louis Braille invented it in in 1834, when he was only fifteen years old. Louis had been blind since he was three. He learned to read by touching letters engraved in wood. It was a very slow process and people could not use it to write. He had heard of the army using a twelve-dot system punched on cardboard to send communication to battlefields during the night. He adapted that system and created Braille, a six-dot system.

The six dots are arranged in a cell, which it three dots long and two dots

What do the following three events have in common?
* Braille used in the United States

* Braille officially adopted by the United States

* Braille adopted as universal code for English

Language Arts

Which word fits best in this sentence?

I was very hungry, _____ I could not eat the squid.

○ A. yet
○ B. and
○ C. or
○ D. for

Reading Foundations

Read the word. Then choose the picture that matches the word.

hat

Comprehensive Science

wires
motor
solar panel
belt
tires

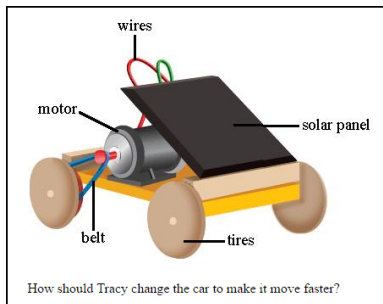How should Tracy change the car to make it move faster?

Algebra

Solve the following equation for c_2.

$$R = \frac{c_2 - c_1}{3}$$

Solve for x. Round to the nearest tenth.

$$| 6.2x + 0.6 | = 19.2$$

General Science

This is a diagram of a plant cell.

Plant Cell

?

Which part of the cell is indicated by the arrow?

*Some schools also offer the Mathematics test in Spanish; contact your school for details.

What Do the Scores Mean to Me and My Child?

Scaled Score

The Scaled Score (SS) is a reliable estimate of your child's ability[*] and is independent of grade level. Use this score to track progress over time, from fall to spring or year after year, as a type of educational yardstick. The following are average score ranges for different testing sessions in the various subject areas.

Mathematics

	Fall	Winter	Spring
K	1519-1727	1623-1855	1715-1936
1	1713-1922	1847-2041	1926-2159
2	1932-2165	2042-2282	2137-2348
3	2111-2343	2221-2420	2291-2500
4	2263-2477	2335-2540	2381-2604
5	2355-2576	2416-2638	2467-2706
6	2437-2670	2495-2731	2540-2803
7	2516-2776	2562-2832	2590-2892
8	2556-2855	2599-2914	2630-2962
9	2579-2879	2603-2929	2626-2961
10	2564-2868	2598-2919	2603-2951

Algebra

	Fall	Winter	Spring
8-12	5319-5427	5344-5463	5353-5482

Geometry

	Fall	Winter	Spring
8-12	5340-5456	5367-5494	5374-5509

General Science

	Fall	Winter	Spring
2	1981-2284	2099-2365	2216-2445
3	2189-2459	2257-2517	2325-2575
4	2304-2563	2353-2605	2402-2648
5	2405-2646	2442-2678	2478-2710
6	2458-2706	2489-2733	2520-2760
7	2520-2750	2553-2787	2585-2824
8	2552-2790	2577-2816	2601-2842

Reading Foundations K–2

	Fall	Winter	Spring
K	1303-1560	1458-1754	1592-1952
1	1536-1844	1700-2037	1828-2143
2	1762-2118	1909-2230	1959-2282

Reading

	Fall	Winter	Spring
2	1807-2265	1969-2430	2061-2523
3	2037-2529	2196-2649	2262-2714
4	2260-2731	2390-2825	2439-2879
5	2435-2866	2538-2926	2585-2964
6	2567-2970	2637-3018	2670-3053
7	2670-3054	2718-3093	2746-3119
8	2736-3114	2795-3158	2820-3178
9	2783-3147	2814-3170	2823-3193
10	2798-3171	2824-3187	2831-3212
11	2793-3204	2822-3225	2834-3234

Language Arts

	Fall	Winter	Spring
2	1873-2209	2061-2310	2150-2387
3	2122-2410	2228-2499	2266-2548
4	2225-2513	2299-2578	2330-2603
5	2304-2607	2384-2649	2401-2677
6	2389-2670	2445-2702	2470-2720
7	2437-2714	2469-2742	2483-2761
8	2471-2719	2491-2754	2508-2773

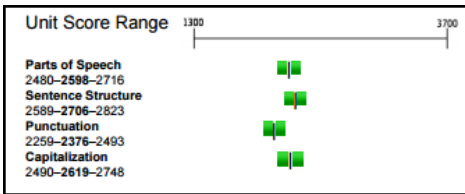**NOTE:** Norm data is not yet available for Comprehensive Science.

[*] using the statistical Rasch model

Performance Rating

The Performance Rating represents your child's rating in the context of a *district-defined* set of performance bands. This grouping may show your child's probable placement against national peers or another test, if your district has commissioned a custom research report from Scantron.

Unit Score Ranges (USRs)

Unit Score Ranges identify your child's ability on a specific unit within a subject. The center line in the USR bar shows your child's unit ability estimate, and the green bar shows the highest and lowest scores your child might get if he or she took the test again.

National Percentile Ranking (NPR)

The NPR uses the SS to compare the student to members of the Performance Series National Norm Group within the same grade level. For example, an NPR of 74 means that your child's score is above 74% of his or her peers in the national norm group.

Reading Rate

Reading Rate is a silent reading rate, calculated by dividing the number of words in the passages by the time it took your child to read those passages. Certain test-taking techniques may alter the accuracy of this rate. This score is accurate only if your child reads the story before answering questions.
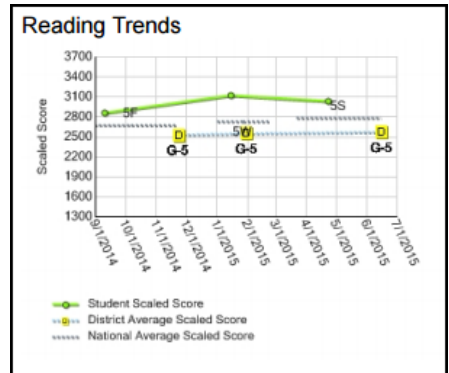
Lexile Measure

The Lexile Measure identifies your child's place on a developmental scale that matches his or her reading ability to appropriate books. You can use this score to locate books online at your child's level at www.lexile.com.

Find additional information on Lexiles and Performance Series at www.scantron.com/performanceseries.

Gains

Gains are the number of Scaled Score points by which your child has improved over time. Throughout the year, this can be used to gauge whether or not he or she is on track.

What Else Should I Know?
Does Performance Series align to my state standards?
Yes, your district worked with Scantron to ensure that your state standards are used as the guide to assess your child.

What units are covered?

Reading Foundations
- Phonological Awareness
- Phonics
- Text Comprehension
- Vocabulary

Reading
- Vocabulary
- Fiction
- Nonfiction
- Long Passage

Language Arts
- Capitalization
- Parts of Speech
- Punctuation
- Sentence Structure

General Science
- Living Things
- Ecology
- Science Processes

Comprehensive Science
- Physical Science
- Life Science
- Earth Science

Math (English and Spanish)
- Number & Operations
- Geometry
- Data Analysis & Probability
- Algebra
- Measurement

Algebra
- Seeing Structure in Expression
- Polynomials and Rational Expressions
- Creating Equations
- Reasoning with Equations and Inequalities
- Interpreting Functions
- Building Functions
- Linear and Exponential Models
- Trigonometric Functions

Geometry
- Congruence
- Similiarity, Right Triangles, and Trigonometry
- Circles
- Expressing Properties with Equations
- Measurement and Dimension
- Modeling with Geometry

Do all students see the same test?

All children see the same topic areas, but all children do not see the same test questions, because Performance Series is computer-adaptive—each test is unique for each child.

How many test items does each student receive?

The test is online and computer-adaptive, so each child receives a unique test and the number of items may vary. The average number of questions in a testing session is about 50.

Are the tests timed?

No, children are allowed as much time as needed to take the test.