

This document provides suggested questions and answers to help guide parent-teacher conferences or conversations about the 2016 LEAP assessment results and how those results will be used to make adjustments to instruction to meet individual student needs this school year. The list of questions is not exhaustive, but reflects evidence-based answers to questions that parents have frequently asked about our statewide assessment results.

Q. WHAT DO THE RESULTS TELL ME ABOUT MY CHILD'S PERFORMANCE?

- Your child's overall score provides a **summary of how your child is performing in each subject** and whether he or she needs additional support moving forward.
- The overall score is reported in one of five achievement levels, with 5 being the highest:
 - Students who score at Level 4 or Level 5 have met or exceeded the expectations for that grade level and subject.
 - Students scoring in Level 3 are approaching the expectations for that grade level and subject.
 - Students scoring at Level 2 partially met the expectations for that grade level and subject.
 - Students scoring at Level 1 did not meet the expectations for that grade level and subject.
- The test results also include a breakdown of your child's performance in more specific categories within each subject.

Q. HOW CAN I USE THE RESULTS TO HELP MY CHILD IMPROVE?

- Student performance is broken down into subcategories within each subject. This information will help you understand where your child may need additional practice or more challenging work in a particular area. You can use this information to ask about additional supports or challenges that may be needed in class and how you can support your child at home. The [Parent Guide to the LEAP Student Reports](#) included with the reports, provides some great resources that you can access online to support learning at home.

Q. HOW WILL MY CHILD'S SCORE BE USED?

- Scores are used to identify where a child excels and can be challenged to go deeper into the subject matter or where he or she needs extra support or practice. The scores are also used to measure how well schools and districts are preparing students to meet the higher expectations.
- This test is just one measure of how well your child is performing academically. Other information, such as grades, teacher feedback, and scores on other tests, will help determine your child's academic strengths and needs.
- **Results on the tests will not be used to determine student promotion** and will not negatively impact teacher evaluations.

Q. HOW CAN WE ENSURE THAT MY CHILD CONTINUES TO PROGRESS?

- As students and teachers spend more time implementing the increased expectations, the scores are expected to improve, especially for younger students.
- There are many online resources that can provide you with examples of what your child should be learning, and tools to support that learning at home. These resources are available in the Louisiana Department of Education's Family Support Toolbox on their website. Additional online resources you can access are:
 - **"Be a Learning Hero" Learning Tools:** Search by state, grade, and subject to find learning activities in math and English you can use at home with your child. <http://bealearninghero.org/learning-tools>
 - **Great Kids Milestones:** A free online collection of videos that shows what success looks like in reading, writing, and math for students in grades K-5. <http://www.greatschools.org/gk/milestones/>
 - **Common Sense Media:** A collection of the best apps, websites, and games in English and math at different grade levels. <https://www.common Sense Media.org/>

Q. HOW WAS THIS YEAR'S TEST ADMINISTERED?

- The spring LEAP ELA and mathematics assessments were administered during **one** testing window and were available to students online and on paper.
- The tests were strictly timed, except for students who have an IEP allowing them to have extra time to take the tests.

Q. WHAT TYPES OF QUESTIONS WERE ASKED ON THE TESTS?

- The LEAP assessment strives to reflect what happens in an effective classroom every day. Towards that goal, it includes performance-based tasks, which are complex, multi-step writing assignments that ask students to apply their knowledge and skills to address real-world problems. For example, for one of the English language arts tasks, students apply their research and writing skills, and in math, students solve complex problems and then describe and defend their reasoning.
- The LEAP assessment includes traditional multiple-choice questions, along with questions that ask students to choose more than one correct answer or to fill in their own answers and questions that ask students to identify evidence to support their answers.

ONLINE RESOURCE TO SUPPORT THE PREPARATION OF PARENT CONVERSATIONS

- [Great Kids Milestones](#): A free online collection of videos that shows parents what success looks like in reading, writing, and math for students in Kindergarten through high school.
- [LEAP Released and Sample Test Items](#): provide parents with examples of what test questions and student work on the LEAP and EOC tests look like
- [Practice Tests](#): provide parents with a sample test, so that they can know what their child will experience on this year's test