

2010–11

Gwinnett County Public Schools

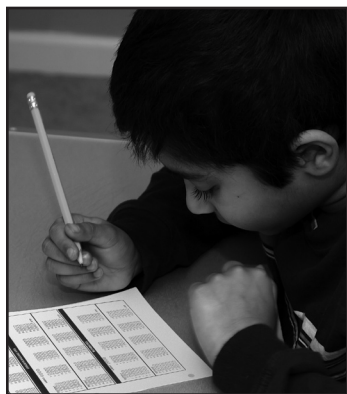
Testing Calendar



Regular attendance has a direct influence on student achievement. That's why it is important that students be in school every day, and especially on test days. Attendance on test days gives students an opportunity to show what they know, providing teachers with important information about each student's learning. Below is a list of dates when Gwinnett elementary school students will take national, state, and system assessments during the 2010–11 school year. While these days have been set aside for test administration, it is important to remember that only a small amount of time—ranging from as little as one hour up to two hours—is actually spent testing on a given day. Please use this for reference when planning appointments or time away from school.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TESTING DATES

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Sept. 20–24, 2010 | Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) <i>Grades 1, 3, and 5</i> |
| Oct. 18–27, 2010 | Iowa Tests of Basic Skills (ITBS) <i>Grades 3 and 5</i> |
| Jan. 24–March 4, 2011 | ACCESS for ELLs Test Administration Window <i>English Language Learners</i> |
| March 2, 2011 | Georgia Writing Assessment <i>Grade 5</i> |
| March 21–April 1, 2011 | Georgia Writing Evaluation Window <i>Grade 3</i> |
| April 18–21 and April 25, 2011 | Georgia Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests (CRCT) <i>Grades 3–5</i> |



On the back of this flyer, find test-time tips for parents.

Gwinnett County Public Schools
437 Old Peachtree Rd., NW,
Suwanee, GA 30024-2978
678-301-6000
www.gwinnett.k12.ga.us
8/10

Suggestions for supporting your student at test time

You want your child to do his best on important tests, and you can help. Here are a few suggestions on ways to support your child during test time:

- **Keep to your regular routine.** Experts say that dramatic shifts from a child's routine can have a negative impact on performance. That's especially true for younger students who take comfort in regular bedtime rituals and meal routines.
- **Encourage your child to do her best.** Encouraging words and a positive attitude about your child's test performance will go a long way toward calming test jitters. If you are anxious about your child's performance, you may send the message that you think she is not capable or is unprepared to do well.
- **Help your child prepare for testing** with a good night's sleep, a nutritious breakfast, and a positive attitude.
- **Make sure your child is in attendance and on time on test days.** Attendance is important every school day, but especially on test days when students get the opportunity to "show what they know."
- **After the test, let your child know that you appreciate that he did his best.** Your encouragement will help your child gain confidence and encourage his or her best work.
- **Contact your child's teacher if special circumstances may have affected test performance.** A child's or parent's illness or a family crisis may keep a student from doing her best work on a test. Communicate your concerns to your child's teacher.
- **Be familiar with the testing schedule for your child's grade.** Review the testing calendar on the other side of this flyer. Remember that, while days have been set aside for test administration, only a small amount of time—ranging from as little as one hour up to two hours—is actually spent testing on a given day.
- **Most importantly, be an active partner with your child's teacher throughout the school year.** Research shows that when parents are involved in their children's education at home, their children do better in school. Teachable moments are everywhere. Connect in meaningful ways and your simple actions will reap immense rewards at home, play, and school!
Look for more tips and ways to "Be There" for your child on the parents pages of the GCPS website.



**Together, we will be there
for our students—
Gwinnett County Public Schools and YOU!**