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K-2 FAST Resource Guide

2025-2026

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K-2 FAST Resource Guide

This guide provides a list of resources available to Test Administrators, School Assessment Coordinators, and District Assessment Coordinators on how to use the Renaissance Growth Platform (RGP) to administer K–2 Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) Star assessments. Resources are also provided to familiarize students with Star Assessments. Many of the documents linked in this guide are also available within the Star Assessment Help Center and Renaissance Manage Apps & Users resources. For more information about K–2 FAST Star assessments, visit the Florida Statewide Assessments Portal.

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Administration Policies and Procedures

District and school assessment coordinators, technology coordinators, and test administrators are responsible for reading and becoming familiar with all administration guidelines and procedures to administer K–2 FAST Star assessments using the Renaissance Growth Platform. The resources below provide policies and procedures specific to the statewide administration of the K–2 FAST Star assessments.

<u>K–2 FAST Test Administration Manual</u>: This manual provides general information and specific guidelines for administering K–2 FAST Star Early Literacy, Star Reading, and Star Mathematics Assessments. Test administrators and all staff involved with the administration of K–2 FAST assessments should carefully read and review the contents of this manual prior to testing to ensure the highest levels of test fidelity.

Renaissance Star Implementation Guide: This guide describes the testing experience and explains the data it provides to assist in planning your implementation. While not specific to K–2 FAST administrations, it provides suggestions on how to utilize Star assessments to enhance student development.

<u>K–2 FAST Guidance for Transitioning from Star Early Literacy to Star Reading</u>: This guide directs school and district assessment coordinators regarding which test to administer during state progress monitoring windows and answers frequently asked questions about transitioning between Star Early Literacy and Star Reading.

2025–2026 K–2 Progress Monitoring Statewide Assessments Accommodations Guide: This guide provides information and resources for the administration of statewide Grades K–2 FAST Star progress monitoring (PM) assessments to students with allowable accommodations.

<u>K–2 FAST Paper-Based Star Assessments User Guide</u>: This guide describes the process for entering K–2 FAST paper-based responses into the Renaissance Growth Platform and procedures for returning paper-based test materials.

Administering K–2 FAST Star Assessments Training Course: Designed to support test administrators, this course includes an overview of Star Assessments and K–2 FAST administration policies, procedures, and resources for before, during, and after testing. This course may be used as test administration training.

Technical Recommendations

<u>Technical Recommendations</u>: Share these technical guidelines with your district and school technology staff to ensure a successful implementation of K–2 FAST assessments.

Before Testing Activities

These Star resources and Help articles guide users step-by-step through reviewing settings in the Renaissance Growth Platform prior to testing.

Preferences

Preferences can be set for individual students who may need extra tools and accommodations to use while taking K–2 FAST tests. Below are Star Help articles that include instructions for adjusting settings for students with allowable accommodations. For K–2 FAST specific information about accommodations, please see the 2025-2026 K-2 FAST Progress Monitoring Statewide Assessments Accommodations Guide.

In general, District Assessment Coordinators and School Assessment Coordinators are responsible for setting these preferences. However, they can also be set by users with the following access levels unless their access is restricted.

- District Level Admins any student in the district
- School Level Admins any student in their own school
- Teachers any student in their own class

<u>Accommodations Preference</u>: Students who are blind/visually impaired or have other special needs may find it difficult to take the standard Star assessments. By setting this preference, students receive access to assistive tools and technologies which can help them take the K–2 FAST tests.

Star Math Audio Preference: Students should use headphones when taking K–2 FAST tests as the Star Math Audio preference is enabled for all students through CDI; however, for students with other accommodations enabled in the Renaissance platform (e.g., response masking, color contrast, font size/zoom, highlighter, line reader, screen reader or unlimited time), Accommodation Audio support must be turned on in the Accommodations Toolbar.

<u>Extended Question Time Limit Preference</u>: Use extended question time limits for students with special needs who need more time to read or answer test questions. Star tests do not have overall time limits, but each test question has a standard time limit.

Usernames and Passwords

These Manage Apps & Users articles describe login password requirements, instruct on how to create the Student Password Report, and detail both personnel login credential assistance as well as steps to set and edit the monitor password.

<u>Usernames and Passwords</u>: All students have a unique username and password. View this Help article for password strength requirements and other general information about usernames and passwords.

<u>Student Password Report</u>: The Student Password Report lists students' usernames and passwords. Please note, passwords are not included if a site is integrated with SSO. For security and data integrity reasons, printing out usernames and passwords is not recommended.

This report can be run by District Level Administrators, District Staff, School Level Administrators, School Staff, and Teachers, unless their access is restricted.

<u>Monitor Password Preference</u>: The Monitor Password preference provides the option to require a monitor password. This preference is also used to set the monitor password. The monitor password is required to stop a K–2 FAST test.

Steps for Logging In

<u>Steps for Logging into the K–2 FAST Assessments</u>: Test administrators should follow these steps to ensure that students are taking their FAST assessment using the FAST Tests tile.

Preparing Students for Testing

These videos and sample test items are intended to orient teachers and students to the test delivery platform and the types of items they might see on the test. The Student Images in the Test Administration Manual can also be used to familiarize students with item types.

<u>Student Introductory Video</u>: This training video can be used with students to show them how to use the mouse or keyboard to answer test questions.

<u>Student Introductory Video – Tablet</u>: This training video can be used with students to show them how to use a tablet to answer test questions.

Renaissance Star Sample Test Items: These Sample test items are intended to orient teachers and students to the types of items they might see on the K–2 FAST assessments.

Day of Testing Activities

Below are Star Help articles that explain how to stop and resume a test as well as a comprehensive guide of messages that students may encounter while taking FAST Star Assessments.

Student Messages

<u>Student Messages While Taking Star Assessments</u>: This guide shows messages that students may encounter while taking FAST Star Assessments. It describes what each message means and next steps to take.

Stopping and Resuming a Test

Use the following resources if there is a need to stop a test or resume an interrupted test.

<u>Stopping a Test</u>: Situations may arise in the classroom which interrupt a test. If this happens, the teacher or test monitor can stop the test. Pausing a test will allow the student to resume later. Stopping it entirely will require the student to start a new test.

Stopping an Accommodated Test: For students taking a Star test with any of the Accommodations Preferences set, excluding Unlimited time and Accommodation Audio (Star Math), the procedure for pausing, stopping, or resuming a test differs from the "usual" method (there is not Stop Test button on the screen).

Resuming an Interrupted Test: A test can be resumed if the test was interrupted in one of the following ways:

- If the test was intentionally paused by the teacher or test monitor.
- If the student lost connection to the server or accidentally closed the browser or app during the test.

The test must be resumed within eight calendar days of its original starting date and time.

Monitoring Participation

Use the following resources to monitor participation and ensure all assessments are taken on the FAST Tests tile.

<u>Star Data Insights</u>: Star Data Insights shows how many students are being screened using Star assessments during a specific district screening window. For each assessment type, data can be explored further, breaking it down by school or grade.

<u>Consolidated Status Report</u>: The Consolidated Status Report shows how students in each class performed on selected assessments in the reporting periods selected.

<u>Test Activity Report</u>: The Star Test Activity Report shows students who have and have not tested during a specific date range. This report can be run by District Level Administrators, District Staff, School Level Administrators, School Staff, and Teachers, unless their access is restricted.

After Testing Activities

Below are Star Help articles and K–2 FAST documents that assist with navigating Renaissance Growth Platform as needed after administration.

<u>A Teacher's Guide to Taking Action with Star</u>: This teacher action plan provides practical next steps to use after screening students. Use this comprehensive guide to make the most of your Star data.

<u>Test Activity Report</u>: The Star Test Activity Report shows students who have and have not tested during a specific date range. This report can be run by District Level Administrators, District Staff, School Level Administrators, School Staff, and Teachers, unless their access is restricted.

<u>Star Summary Report</u>: This report summarizes student test results for a specific date range. For each class or group, individual student data is provided as well as a summary of Percentile Rank (PR) distribution and a summary of Grade Equivalent (GE) distribution. This report can be run by District Level Administrators, District Staff, School Level Administrators, School Staff, and Teachers, unless their access is restricted.

<u>Star Student Report</u>: Use the Star Student Report to help students understand their performance: how where they *are* relates to where they *need to be*. It also gives teachers an opportunity to motivate and encourage their students.

<u>Understanding K–2 FAST Student Reports for Families</u>: This guide focuses on the Star Student Report, Family Portal, and the Individual Student Report (ISR) and the information provided in these resources.

School Assessment Coordinator Resources

The resources provided below are specific to the School Assessment Coordinator role.

<u>Accommodations Report</u>: The Accommodations Report identifies students with accommodations preferences set and what those accommodations are. The report can also be used to list students with a non-participation status. Users can select which accommodations and statuses to include when running this report.

Non-Participation Status: This document shows the steps to enter a Non-Participation Status for students that are unable to take an assessment. This can only be entered by district- and school-level users and must be entered each FAST Progress Monitoring (PM) window.

Setting the FAST Paper-Based Form Alternate Response Accommodation: The FAST Paper-Based Form Alternate Response accommodation only applies to grade K–2 students taking a paper-based accommodated version of the Star Reading or Star Math assessment. Student responses must be manually entered after testing. For more information, view the K–2 FAST Paper-Based Star Assessments User Guide.

K–2 FAST Paper-Based Star Assessments User Guide: This user guide provides instructions for using the Star Record Book in the Renaissance Growth Platform (RGP) to enter student responses for K–2 FAST paper-based Star Reading and Star Math assessments and submit them for scoring and immediate reporting. This guide also outlines the return instructions for paper-based K–2 materials.

<u>Star Assessments Data and Reporting Guidance for Administrators</u>: Data from Star Assessments can help answer a wide variety of questions about student performance. This resource provides K–2 FAST-specific reporting resources and summarizes additional reports available.

District Assessment Coordinator Resources

The resources provided below are specific to the District Assessment Coordinator role.

<u>Getting Ready for a New School Year</u>: This Help article guides you through the steps you need to take to get ready for a new school year.

<u>Star Technical Manuals</u>: Star assessment technical manuals provide information regarding reliability, validity, norming, blueprints, content, and item development. There is a technical manual provided for Star Early Literacy, Star Reading, and Star Math.

<u>Creating District Screening Windows</u>: District screening windows are used to view assessment data in the Renaissance Growth Platform and Renaissance Next for Leaders. District screening windows do not affect the FAST Test Tiles, which use the State screening windows. Screening windows can be customized for district and school use.

<u>Assigning Products to Classes</u>: Follow the steps in this Help article for assigning products to classes that are missing them. This is necessary when:

- · Classes are imported.
- Your district is using a system or service that integrates information from your school information system with Renaissance.
- Classes are added without products being assigned.

Teachers and students cannot use Renaissance products until the products have been assigned to their classes.

Blocking the Universal Star Assessments: This preference is used to temporarily prevent students in Florida in grades K–2 from taking the standard (or "universal") Star Early Literacy, Star Reading, and Star Math assessments when they should be taking the Florida FAST versions of those tests. When this preference is set to block access, students will still see the Star Early Literacy, Star Reading, and Star Math tiles on their home page, but if they select one of these tiles, they will not be allowed to take the test. View the Block Universal Test Tile video for more information.

<u>Guidance for Identifying FAST Student Tests</u>: This document outlines how to locate records to determine if a student has tested on the FAST Tests tile, or if there is a test record taken on the universal Star Assessments tile that must be transferred for FAST reporting. This document also outlines the steps to requesting a FAST test move.

<u>Submitting a FAST Test Move</u>: This document outlines how to locate the student assessment data required for a FAST Test Move and how to complete and submit the Test Move Template.

<u>Deactivating Tests</u>: Provides instructions to deactivate a Star test. Please note: K–2 FAST Assessments (taken with the FAST Test tiles) cannot be reactivated. Deactivating assessments is permanent for K–2 FAST.

Resources in ShareFile

FDOE provides additional, customizable resources such as a parent letter template and training resources. These resources are available for district-level staff with access to FDOE ShareFile K-12 Test Administration folders.