



GEORGIA MILESTONES MINUTE

Designed Especially for TMS Seventh-Grade Students and Families



Spotlight: Language Arts

In a few weeks, your student will be taking the Georgia Milestones Assessments (GMAS) in **two** academic areas: Language Arts and Math. This state assessment measures how well seventh-grade students have learned the knowledge and skills in each area, and provides information about student achievement and readiness to move onto the next level of learning.

In Language Arts, this means that students must read and comprehend high-level texts, and write well-developed responses in a relatively short amount of time. The chart to the right shows some of the skills that students must demonstrate:

NEVER FEAR-
OUR STUDENTS WILL BE READY!

Teachers are working with students daily, unpacking assessment data and providing targeted support for students who have not yet mastered the required content. eCLASS pages are updated with tons of resources, including practice assessments and writing prompts -- all as part of regular instruction! (Additional resources can be found on the back of this page.)

Proficient Learner	Distinguished Learner
<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• determine multiple themes or central ideas and summarize complex, grade-level text• write arguments with clear reasons and relevant evidences, acknowledging alternate or opposing claims• write informational texts with analysis of relevant facts and examples• write well-structured narratives with relevant details• conduct short research projects, generating additional related, focused questions to investigate	<p>In general, your child can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• evaluate complex themes or central ideas and provide thorough summaries of above-grade-level text• write thoughtful arguments evaluating alternate or opposing claims• write precise, well-developed informational texts with analysis of relevant facts and examples• write elaborate narratives using a variety of effective techniques• conduct short research projects, generating higher-level questions for investigation

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP YOUR CHILD EXCEL?

- **Mark your calendars!** Attendance is crucial during the weeks leading up to and during the GMAS exams.
- **Know the numbers!** If your student has failed to meet grade-level expectations in past years, help them prepare at home. Challenge your proficient student to move to distinguished!
- **Ask questions!** Ask your student how they are preparing and how you can help. Remind them of resources!
- **Believe!** The GMAS is one indicator of student learning in GCPS – and it is powerful. Talk to your child’s teacher if you have questions.

2022 7ELA TESTING DATES:

MONDAY, APRIL 25	7ELA SECTION I
MONDAY, APRIL 26	7ELA SECTIONS 2 & 3





In seventh grade, students must score at least 525+ for Proficient OR 581+ for Distinguished on the Language Arts GMAS. Students are also expected to demonstrate a Lexile score of 1120L or higher. In addition to meeting scoring requirements, ALL students are expected to show growth from the previous year's testing.

WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Check out these resources from the Georgia Department of Education regarding the Georgia Milestones Assessment System:

- *a printable [GMAS Grade 7 Study/Resource Guide for Students and Parents](#)
- *information about the [Lexile framework for reading](#)
- *an explanation about [GMAS achievement levels](#)



WANT TO HELP YOUR STUDENT BE THEIR BEST?

Use these resources to continue learning at home!

*AMPLIFY

*HMH

... and be sure to check out your student's eCLASS pages for additional resources!

Remember, one of the biggest predictors of academic success is **Independent Reading!** Talk to your child about IR – and make sure they are reading **EVERY DAY!**

Percentile Rank	Variation In Amount Of Independent Reading			
	Minutes of Reading per Day	Books	Books	Text
98	65.0	67.3	4,358,000	4,733,000
90	21.2	33.4	1,823,000	2,357,000
80	14.2	24.6	1,146,000	1,697,000
70	9.6	16.9	622,000	1,168,000
60	6.5	13.1	432,000	722,000
50	4.6	9.2	282,000	601,000
40	3.2	6.2	200,000	421,000
30	1.8	4.3	106,000	251,000
20	.7	2.4	21,000	134,000
10	.1	1.0	8,000	51,000
2	.0	0	0	8,000



Want to see what the GMAS testing platform looks like? [Click here](#) to experience the online testing platform and explore some of the tools students will have available!