# **STAR Assessment Explainer**

Every year, your child takes standardized tests that tell us how well they do in math and reading. We give these tests three times yearly, in September, February, and May. The STAR Assessment is taken on the computer. It consists of 34 questions and takes about 20 minutes to complete.

# **STAR Reading**

#### What is it?

STAR Reading assesses your child's higher-level reading skills.

### What does it tell me?

This assessment tells you how well your child is using advanced reading skills in

**Vocabulary** - how well your child can figure out the meaning of words

**Comprehension** - how well your child understands what they read

**Analysis** - how well your child can figure out what an author is saying

### **STAR Math**

#### What is it?

STAR Math assesses your child's skill in solving grade-level math

### What does it tell me?

**Numbers and Operations**- how well your child can add, subtract, multiply, and divide whole numbers, fractions, and decimals

Algebra - how well your child can graph points and functions, evaluate variables, solve linear and nonlinear equations, and simplify expressions Geometry - How well your child can identify shapes, lines, and angles; determine and convert measurements; tell time; calculate the perimeter, area, volume, and surface area of shapes Statistics - How well your child can read charts, tables, and graphs; calculate mean and median;

make estimates and determine probabilities

# What does the school do with this information?

Your child's teacher gets a report that looks similar to the one you have. They then use the report to determine which skills your child needs to work on. Teachers then provide specific activities they will use with your child to help them improve their reading skills.

# Should you be concerned if your child is not progressing as they are expected to

You should be concerned but not panic or blame your child for not doing well. Learning to read and do math is challenging. You can ask your child's teacher which skills your child needs to work on. You can also ask them to explain the activities they will use to help your child improve.

# How you can help

STAR Assessments are really for teachers to use with their students. However, you can tell your child you value these assessments and want them to do well.