



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
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Understanding
FAST K–2 Student Reports Families

April 2025

Introduction

The FAST coordinated screening and progress monitoring program includes grades VPK through 10 English Language Arts (ELA) Reading and grades K through 8 Mathematics assessments that are aligned to the Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Standards and are administered three times per year. Students in K–2 participate in FAST Star Early Literacy or Star Reading and Star Mathematics.

FAST is comprised of three progress monitoring (PM) windows:

- **PM1** – This administration occurs at the beginning of the school year and provides teachers with baseline scores that allow them to track their students’ progress learning the B.E.S.T. Standards from PM1 through PM3.
- **PM2** – This administration provides teachers with mid-year scores to compare to their students’ baseline scores from PM1.
- **PM3** – This administration provides summative scores that accurately measure students’ mastery of the B.E.S.T. Standards at the end of the school year.

Information about VPK assessments can be found [here](#). Information about K–2 assessments can be found in the [FAST Grades K–2 Fact Sheet](#). The dates for each assessment window can be found in the [2024–2025 Statewide Assessment Schedule](#).

Most students, including English Language Learners (ELLs) and exceptional student education (ESE) students, enrolled in the tested grade levels or courses participate in FAST test administrations. Allowable accommodations are provided to ELL and ESE students with accommodations documented on their Individual Education Plans (IEPs) or Section 504 Plans.

Testing Format

The FAST K–2 assessments are computer-adaptive tests (CATs) delivered in the Renaissance testing platform. [Sample items](#) are available on the [Florida Statewide Assessments Portal](#). For more information about Florida’s K–2 CATs, please see the [FAQ](#).

Paper-based accommodated test forms are provided for students with that accommodation listed on their IEPs or Section 504 Plans. Accommodated paper-based forms include regular print, large print, braille, and one-item-per-page; and computer-based accommodations include response masking, highlighter, line reader, color contrast, zoom, and extended time. For more information about accommodations available on FAST K–2 assessments, see the [2024–2025 K–2 Progress Monitoring Statewide Assessments Accommodations Guide](#).

Florida Assessment Scores

The FAST grades K–2 Star Early Literacy, Reading, and Mathematics results are reported in Florida’s Family Portal. Also, parents may receive a printed Star Student Report.

The following information is reported for the 2024–2025 school year:

- Unified Scale Score
- Percentile Rank
- FAST Equivalent Score
- State Benchmark Classification/B.E.S.T. Achievement Level

This guide will focus on the Star Student Report, Family Portal, and the Individual Student Report (ISR) and the information

provided on these resources.

Unified Scale Scores

The Star Unified Scale provides scores on a consistent, common scale across all Star computer-adaptive assessments: Star Early Literacy, Star Reading, and Star Mathematics. The Star Unified Scale spans the entire range of skills measured by both Star Early Literacy and Star Reading, making it easier for educators to measure student achievement and growth as students transition from emergent readers to independent readers.

Percentile Rank

The Percentile Rank (PR) ranges from 1-99 and compares student performance to other students in the same grade nationwide. For a particular student, this score indicates the percentage of students in the norms group who obtained lower scores. For example, if your student earned a Percentile Rank of 65 in PM1, your student performed better on that assessment than 65% of other students who took the same assessment within the same timeframe (at the beginning of the school year).

FAST Equivalent Scores

The FAST progress monitoring system is coordinated from grades VPK–10. The FAST Equivalent Scores show where a student's K–2 Unified Scale score falls when reported on the B.E.S.T. scale. FAST Equivalent Scores are generated using **static** or **state** benchmarks. These benchmarks are not time-adjusted but show student performance based on static end-of-year goals, regardless of when a test is administered in the school year.

FAST Equivalent Scores link the B.E.S.T. scale with the Unified scale to show how your student is performing relative to the FAST Grades 3–10 assessments. It is important to note that, for PM1 and PM2, your student may not yet be at grade level on the B.E.S.T. scale; however, this does not necessarily indicate that a student is not on track to succeed. These results provide baseline (PM1) and mid-year (PM2) results for informational purposes only.

Please note, the Star Unified scale is wider than the B.E.S.T. scale and has a greater range of scores. As a result, when these two scales were linked, there are cases where multiple Star Unified scores map to a single FAST Equivalent Score. Because of this, some scores on the lower end of the scale map to a FAST Equivalent Score of zero. Similarly, some Star Unified scores map to the maximum possible FAST Equivalent Score. For score interpretation, a zero FAST Equivalent Score does not mean a student has not learned anything; likewise, a student scoring the maximum FAST Equivalent Score does not necessarily mean a student has full mastery of content.

Another important use for FAST Equivalent Scores is for longitudinal reporting or showing student performance over time. For instance, if you have a student taking FAST PM3 Grade 3 ELA Reading who also took FAST Grades 1–2 Star Reading, you will be able to compare performance for those previous years on the same FAST score scale.

State Benchmark Classifications

State benchmarks presented in the FAST Star Student Report and Family Portal are static and not time-adjusted, meaning they are compared to end-of-school-year expectations. The state benchmarks place student performance within the five [achievement levels](#) on the B.E.S.T. scale. Similar to the FAST equivalent score, this information helps teachers and families determine where a student's performance falls on the B.E.S.T. reporting scale.



**Well Below
Grade Level:**
Likely to need
substantial
support for
the next
grade/course

**Below Grade
Level:**
Likely to need
substantial
support for the
next grade/
course

On Grade Level:
May need
additional
support for the
next grade/
course

Proficient:
Likely to excel in
the next grade/
course

Exemplary:
Highly likely to
excel in the
next grade/
course

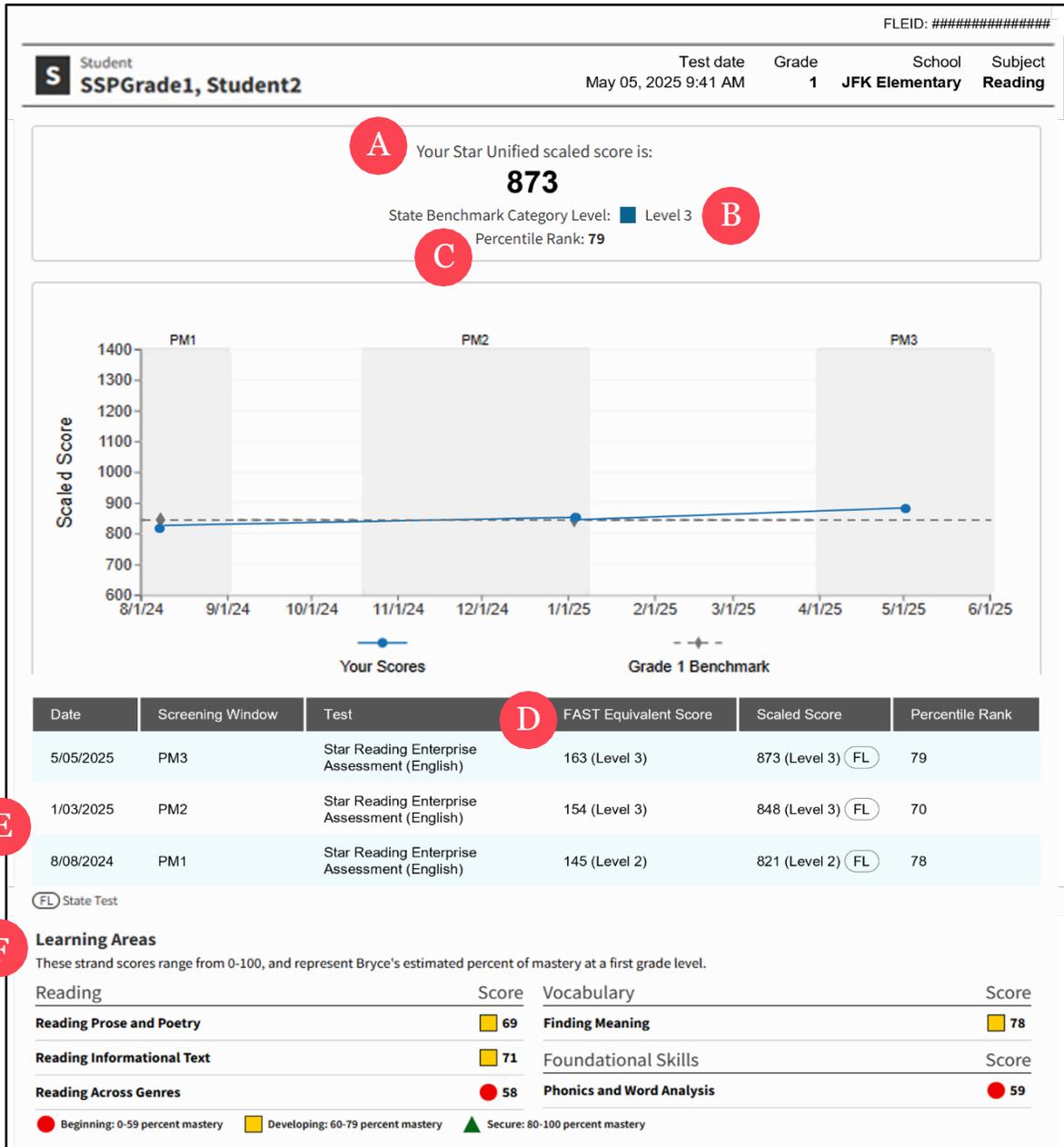
Sample Reports

This section will review the information found on the following resources:

- **FAST Star Student Report** – printed by your student’s teacher.
- **Family Portal Dashboard** – found in Family Portal.
- **Individual Student Reports** – found in Family Portal or printed by your student’s teacher.

FAST Star Student Report

This is a sample FAST Star Student Report for PM3 Reading. The reported elements are explained on the next page.



A **Unified Scale Score** - this score is calculated considering the item difficulty and number of correct responses. Scaled Score is useful for comparing student performance across grade levels.

B **State Benchmark Category Level** - When the static state benchmark is used to generate this report, the benchmark category level represents how students are expected to perform on the end-of-school-year test if taken on the date the student tested. This represents the achievement level in which the student's FAST Equivalent Score falls.

C **Percentile Rank** - Percentile Rank (PR) ranges from 1–99 and compares student performance to other students in

the same grade nationwide. In this example, the student has a higher score than 79% of students in their grade. This information is always calculated using the **district** benchmark.

- D FAST Equivalent Score** - The FAST Equivalent Score represents a student's Star Unified Scaled Score on the Florida Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) scale.
- E Past Tests** - The chart and table show a record of all tests taken within a selected time period. On the chart, each testing window is labeled and shaded. The gray dashed line represents the expected performance benchmark for all students in the same grade when they take the end-of-school-year test. The blue dots represent the student's past and current Scaled Scores.
- F Learning Areas** - Strand mastery scores range from 0–100 and show performance in each reading skill domain on the student's most recent STAR test. For example, a Strand score of 53 for a 1st grader means the student would be expected to correctly answer 53% of the first-grade items in that Strand.

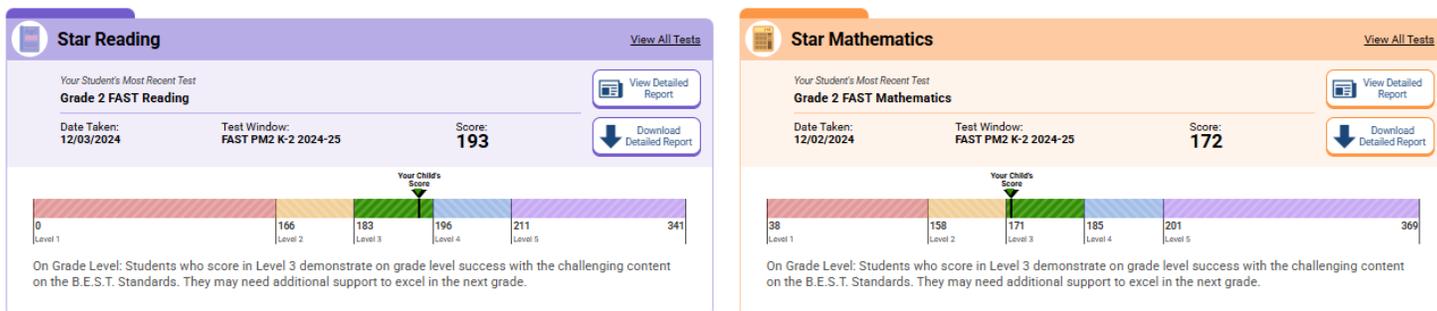
Family Portal

Families can access their student's Florida Statewide Assessment results in the [Family Portal](#) using the login information provided by the student's school. Families will need their student's six-digit access code (provided by the school), date of birth, and first name, as it appears on school records. Families can access the portal directly from the FAST portal or through their district's Student Information System (SIS). Some districts have partnered with Cambium to include a link to the Family Portal as part of their district parent portal. If this is the case in your district, then it will not be necessary to have the access code. You will only need the login information for the district portal. Please speak to your school if you are not sure if this applies to you.

On the Dashboard, families can see the FAST Equivalent Score and achievement level for their student's most recent tests, as well as a chart indicating the student's scale score and where it falls in the achievement level ([Figure 1](#)).

Figure 1. Family Portal Dashboard

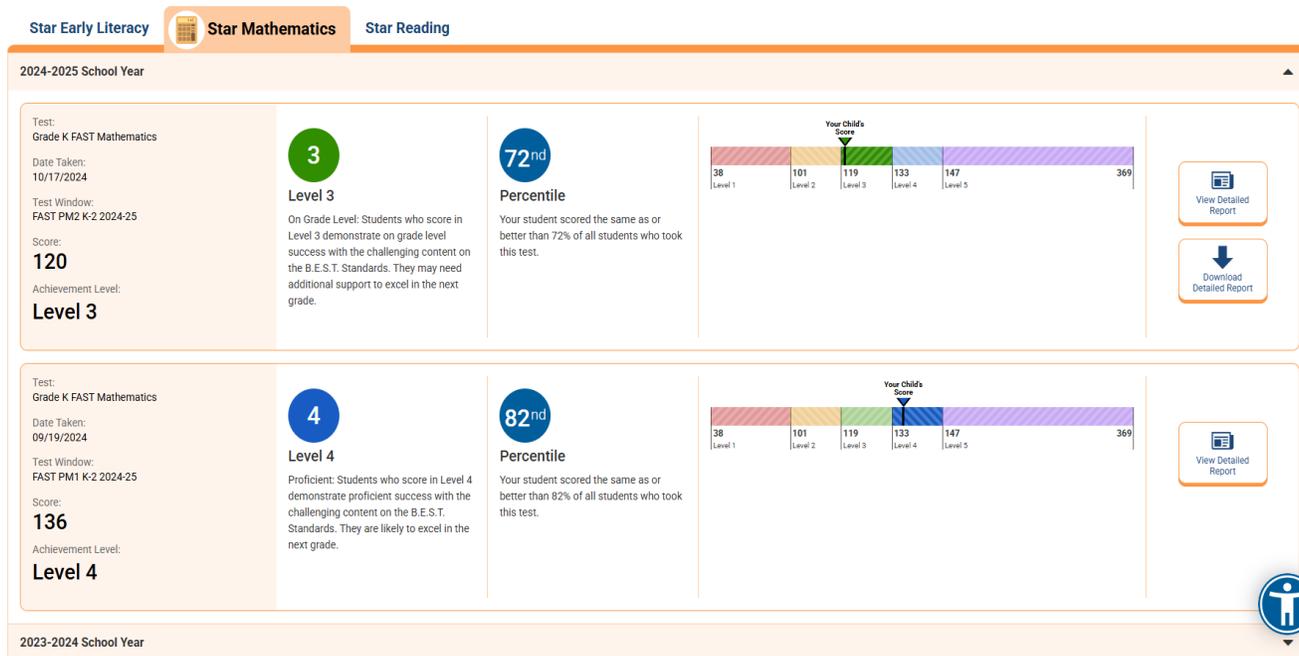
Currently Viewing: The most recent test in all subjects for the 2024–2025 school year



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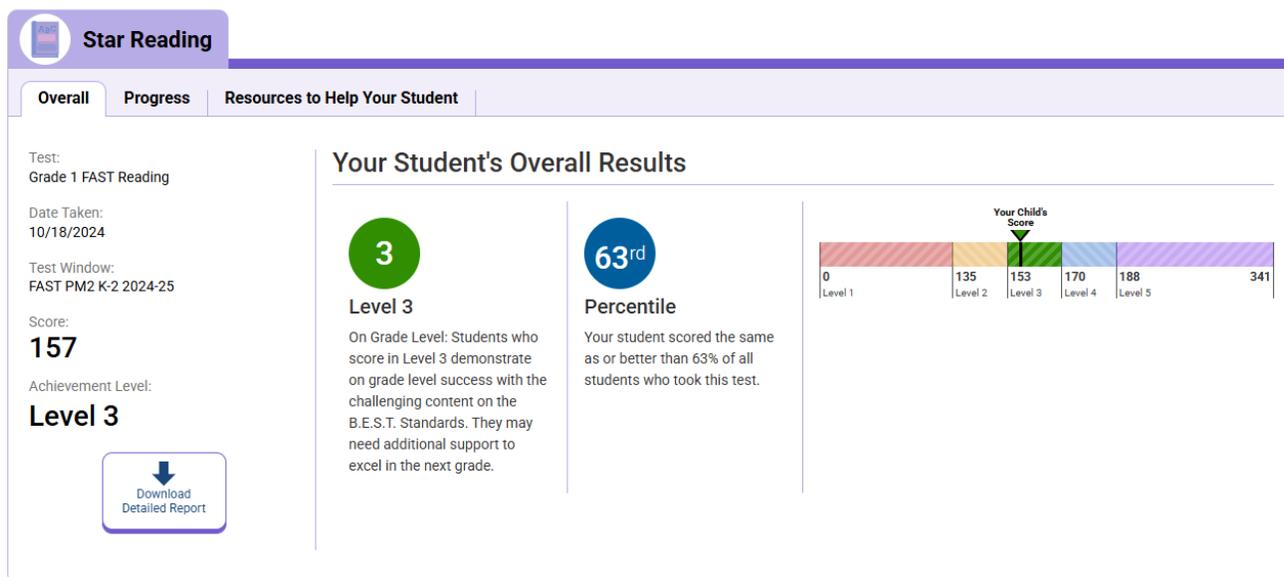
On the main dashboard screen, you can also select View All Tests on a specific subject to see any test your student has taken. Each subject is listed on a separate tab ([Figure 2](#)).

Figure 2. View All Tests



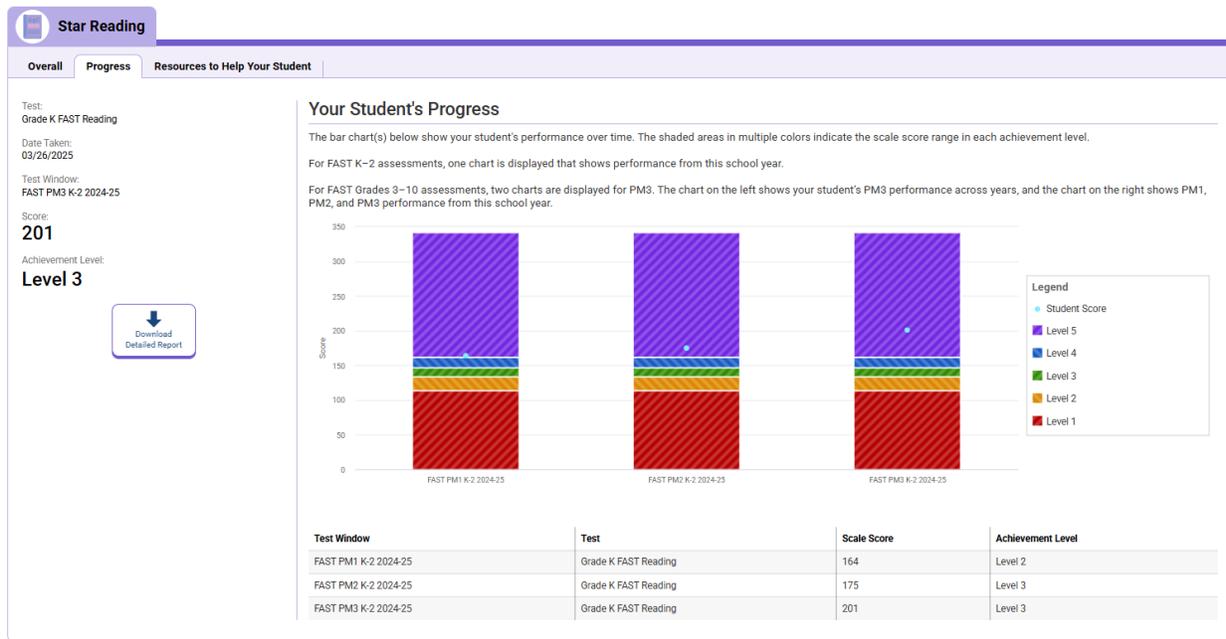
Clicking on the View Detailed Report button will show descriptions of the Level and Percentile Rank for your student's Overall results ([Figure 3](#)).

Figure 3. View Detailed Report



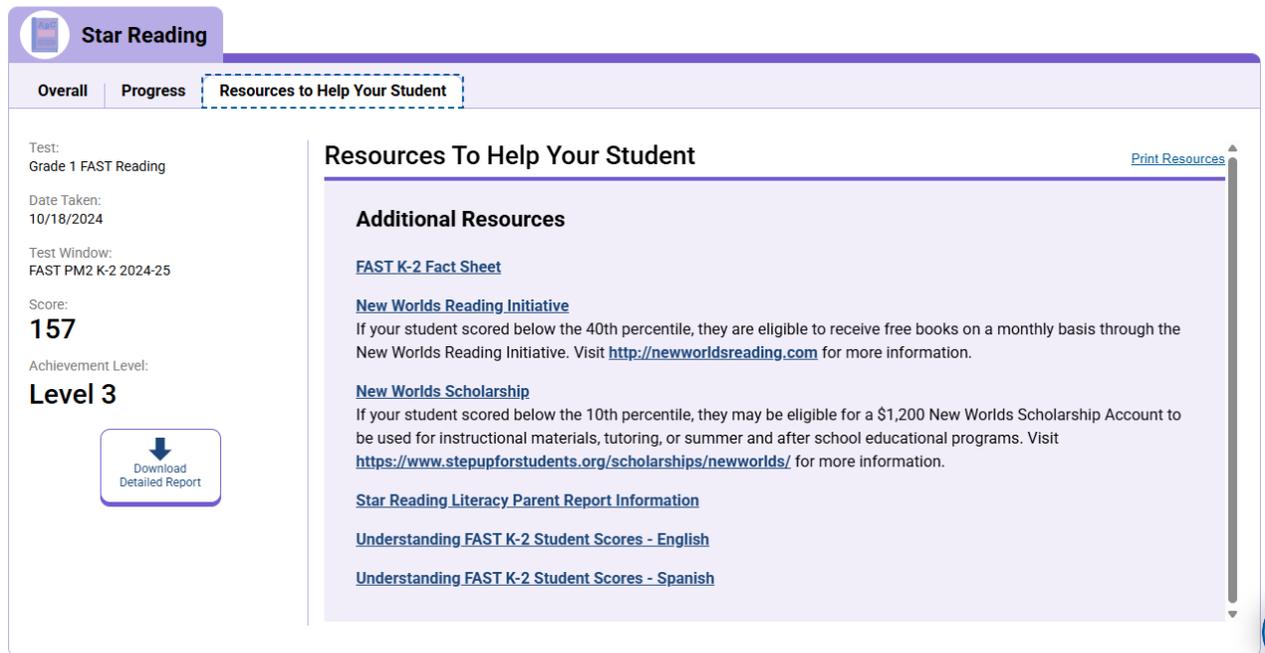
Selecting the Progress Tab on the View Detailed Report page will show your student's progress across multiple tests ([Figure 4](#)), and selecting the Resources to Help Your Student tab will display additional information and links to help your student succeed ([Figure 5](#)).

Figure 4. Progress Tab



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Figure 5. Resources Tab: Additional Resources



Individual Student Reports (ISR)

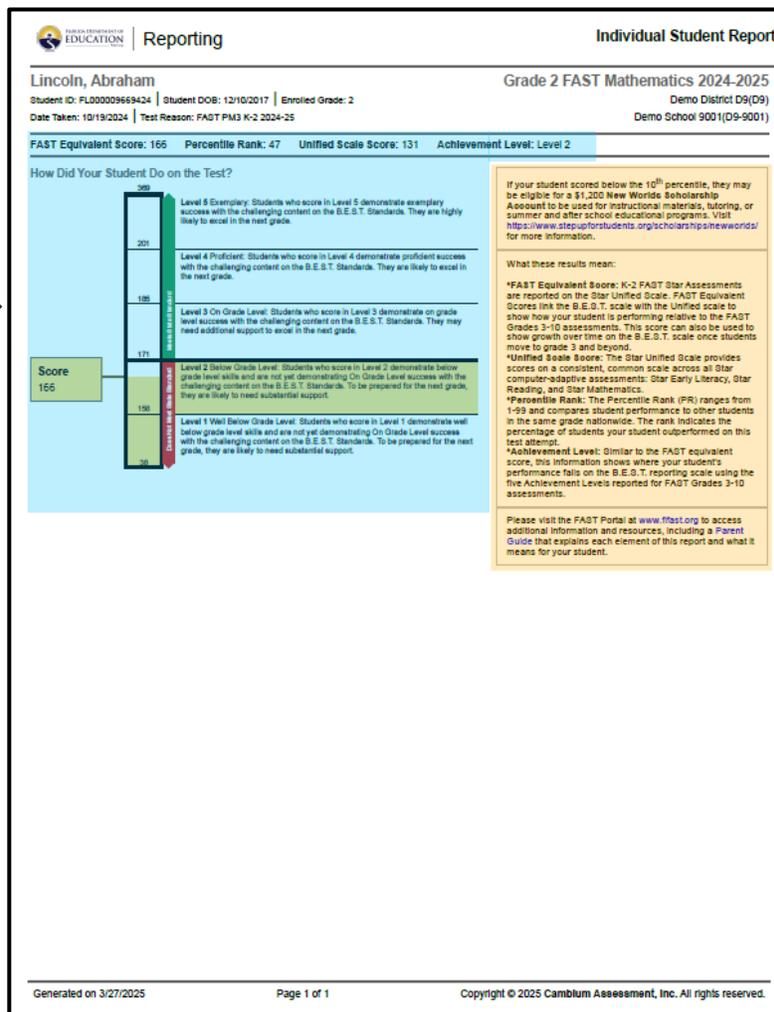
On the following pages, we provide explanations for the different sections included in the Individual Student Report (ISR) for FAST K–2 Assessments. The student’s school may provide this report electronically through the district’s parent portal or a printed copy may be provided by your student’s teacher. The ISR is also available on the Family Portal by selecting **Download Detailed Report** from one of the detailed report tabs (see figures 1 and 3 above).



The top of the ISR contains student, school, and district information and the grade level/subject assessment the student took. The example shown in the following graphic ([Figure 6](#)) is for a grade 2 FAST Mathematics test:

- **Score information:** The **blue**-shaded area displays the student’s Fast Equivalent score, Unified Scale Score, percentile rank, achievement level, and a chart indicating the student’s FAST Equivalent score and where it falls in the achievement level.
- **Notes for families:** The **orange**-shaded area contains important notes for families. This information may change between administrations and subjects.

Figure 6. Individual Student Report - Mathematics

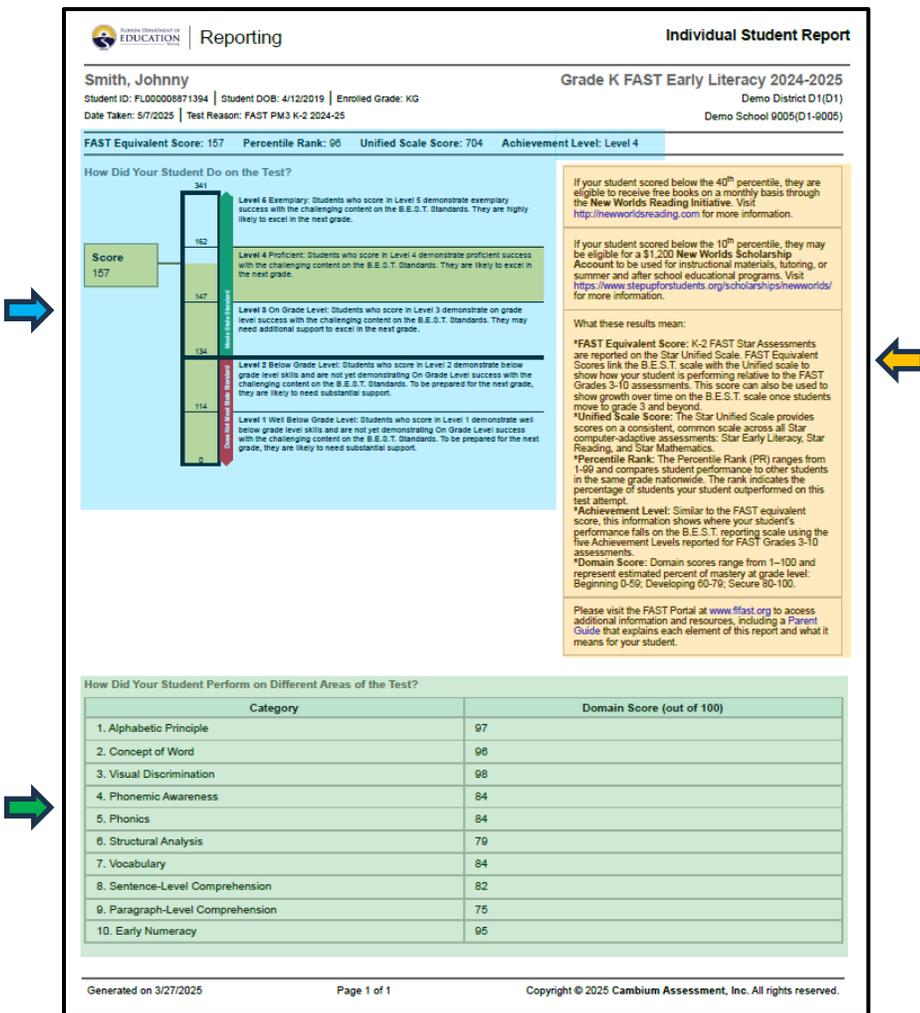


Individual Student Report – Early Literacy

The top of the ISR contains student, school, and district information and the grade level/subject assessment the student took. The example shown in the following graphic ([Figure 7](#)) is for a grade K Early Literacy test:

- **Score information:** The **blue**-shaded area displays the student’s Fast Equivalent score, Unified Scale Score, percentile rank, achievement level, and a chart indicating the student’s FAST Equivalent score and where it falls in the achievement level.
- **Notes for families:** The **orange**-shaded area contains important notes for families. This information may change between administrations and subjects.
- **Category Scores:** The **green**-shaded area allows parents to see how their student performed on different areas of the test for Star Early Literacy.

Figure 7. Individual Student Report – Early Literacy

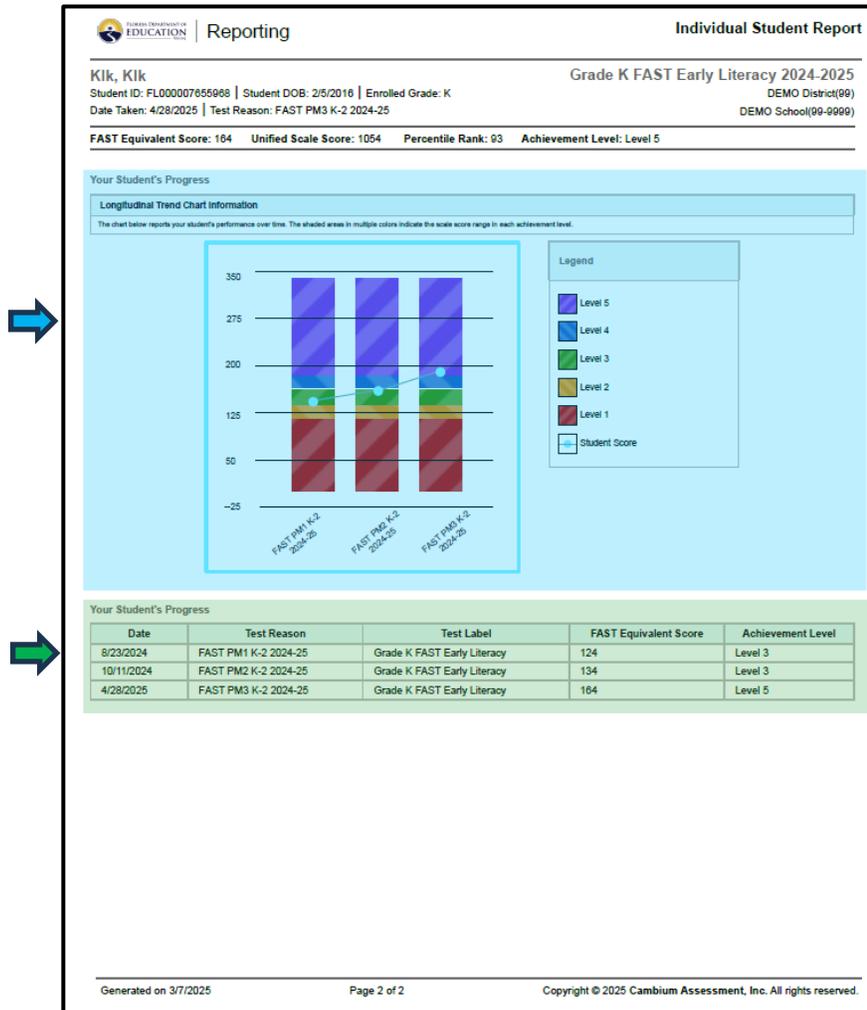


Page 2 of the Individual Student Report

The second page of the Detailed ISR (Figure 8) contains additional information that will be more meaningful once a student has participated in more than one PM window for the current school year.

- **Longitudinal Trend Chart:** The blue-shaded area displays the student's achievement level over time. The bottom of the chart indicates the PM window in which the student took each test, allowing the user to compare the student's performance between administrations.
- **Progress Table:** The green-shaded area contains the same information as the trend chart and lists the date of each test, the PM window (Test Reason), the test name (Test Label), the Fast Equivalent score, and the achievement level.

Figure 8. Page 2 of the Detailed Individual Student Report



Additional Support

If your student scored below the 40th percentile on FAST Reading, they are eligible to receive free books on a monthly basis through the **New Worlds Reading Initiative**. Visit <http://newworldsreading.com> for more information.

If your student scored below the 10th percentile on FAST Reading or the 5th percentile on FAST Mathematics, they may be eligible for a \$1,200 **New Worlds Scholarship Account** to be used for instructional materials, tutoring, or summer and after school educational programs. Visit <https://www.stepupforstudents.org/scholarships/newworlds/> for more information.

Glossary

Achievement Levels—The achievement levels are helpful in interpreting what a student’s score represents. Achievement levels range from 1 to 5, with Level 1 being the lowest and Level 5 being the highest.

Benchmark—A specific statement that describes what students should know and be able to do. It is the minimum proficiency level a student should reach.

B.E.S.T. Content Standards—The Florida Benchmark for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) are the core content of the Reading and Mathematics curricula taught in Florida. The FAST assessments measure whether students made progress on the B.E.S.T. ELA Reading and Mathematics standards.

Computer-Adaptive Test (CAT)—This type of assessment adjusts the difficulty of questions as the student progresses in the test and adapts to student responses to measure their content proficiency.

Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST)—This is a progress monitoring assessment aligned with the B.E.S.T. standards that is administered three times a year for ELA Reading and Mathematics.

Longitudinal Trend Chart—This chart reports the student’s performance over time. The shaded areas in multiple colors indicate the scale score range in each achievement level for the student’s current grade. Each mark on the graph represents the student’s score and indicates whether the student met the standards that year.

Percentile Rank—A norm-referenced score that provides a measure of a student's reading ability compared to other students in the same grade.

Reporting Category—Each reporting category corresponds to the broad content areas into which assessed student knowledge and skills are grouped.

Scale Score—A scale score is used to report student results on the entire test on the applicable scale. It is calculated based on the difficulty of Star assessment questions and the number of correct responses. Can be used to compare student performance across grade levels.

Standard Setting—Standard setting is the process of selecting cut scores on an assessment. A cut score is the score that defines the minimum performance required for a particular level of achievement on an assessment.

Unified Scale Score—The Star Unified Scale provides scores on a consistent, common scale across all Star computer-adaptive assessments: Star Early Literacy, Star Reading, and Star Mathematics. The Star Unified Scale spans the entire range of skills measured by both Star Early Literacy and Star Reading, making it easier for educators to measure student achievement and growth as students transition from emergent readers to independent readers.

Change Log

Location	Change	Date

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