

## EQAO

(Education Quality and Accountability Office)

[www.eqao.com](http://www.eqao.com)

Grade 3 and Grade 6 Assessments:

- Reading, Writing, Mathematics
- administered every May
- completed by all students in Grades 3 and 6

Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics:

- administered in January and June
- completed by all students in academic and applied courses
- may be used as part of the final evaluation for the Grade 9 Mathematics course

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT)/Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course (OSSLC)

- students must successfully pass one to receive their Ontario Secondary School Diploma

## PARTNERSHIP

It is important to maintain communication among the student, parent(s)/guardian(s) and teacher(s). We **all** play a role in a child's academic success and can help support the child in making wise choices that impact his/her learning. Your child must accept responsibility for learning and review his/her strengths and weaknesses in order to set attainable goals. Please support your child in understanding this role and how behaviour impacts success.

## LEARNING SKILLS

The Conference Board of Canada states that there are essential skills you need to enter, stay in, and progress in the world of work – whether you work on your own or as a part of a team.

The Conference Board of Canada:  
[www.conferenceboard.ca/nbec](http://www.conferenceboard.ca/nbec)

- ~ The key to success at school, home and in the workplace is a positive attitude and personal best effort.
- ~ Students must establish and maintain good work habits so that homework is completed and assignments are handed in on time.
- ~ Learning skills, as shown on the report card, are extremely important for success in and out of school. However, they are not included when determining the report card grade.



## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Please visit the Simcoe County District School Board web site at <http://www.scdsb.on.ca> for valuable information and links to many important educational web sites. Access to the Internet is available at your public library.



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## UNDERSTANDING ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING



## A Parent/Guardian Guide

Revised May 2003

## ACHIEVEMENT CHARTS

- Students are assessed on 4 categories of achievement, not just on the memorization of facts.
- The 4 categories of the achievement chart can be summarized as:
  - Knowledge/Understanding
  - Thinking/Inquiry/Problem Solving
  - Communication
  - Application

*The primary purpose of assessment and reporting is to improve student learning.*

## RUBRICS

- A rubric is a chart indicating **what will be assessed** and **what achievement looks like** at each of the 4 levels.
- Rubrics provide information for students on how to improve their work to achieve the next level.
- Rubrics are not used for all assessments, as they are only one of the many tools that teachers use.

## MINISTRY EXEMPLARS

Ministry exemplars are available in all schools, in most subjects. Exemplars contain classroom activities including samples of student work at each of the 4 achievement levels. They can be accessed through the Ministry web site at:

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/document/curricul/elemcurric.html>



## WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE GRADE?

Your child is assessed on **demonstrated** achievement of Ministry of Education curriculum expectations. As students work through the learning process, teachers will use pieces of work to provide information about the child's progress and coach him/her on ways to improve. Following this feedback, classroom assessments, including assignments, tests, presentations, etc., will give students opportunities to demonstrate their learning and provide information for report card grades.

The following chart links percentages, letter grades and levels:

80-100%	A	Level 4	is beyond the provincial standard and indicates that the student is able to demonstrate a thorough and complete understanding of the required knowledge and skills.
70-79%	B	Level 3	is at the provincial standard and indicates that the student is able to demonstrate most of the required knowledge and skills. The student should succeed in the next grade.
60-69%	C	Level 2	is approaching the provincial standard and indicates that the student is able to demonstrate some of the required knowledge and skills.
50-59%	D	Level 1	is below the provincial standard and indicates that the student is able to demonstrate the required knowledge and skills in a limited way. The student is working <b>at grade level</b> .

## REPORT CARDS



You are encouraged to work with your child to complete and return the last page of the report card. This provides an important opportunity for students and parents/ guardians to reflect on **student learning** and set goals for future improvement.

### Ideas – Comment Starters

I am pleased with...

We have talked about improving...

We have set goals to...

I would like more information on...

### STUDENT LED OR STUDENT INVOLVED CONFERENCES

- used in various formats in all elementary schools
- involves student, teacher and parent in a meaningful discussion centred on student achievement

### ACCOMMODATIONS/MODIFICATIONS/ALTERNATIVE EXPECTATIONS

Accommodations are changes to the environment – available to all students

Modifications are changes to the number or grade level of expectations – available to students with an IEP

Alternative expectations are not taken from provincial curriculum – available to students with an IEP