

Elliot B. Stewart

Grade: 5
Date of Birth: 3/25/2005
Student ID: 123456789
School District: AIR District (15)
School: AIR Academy (12345)
Test Date: Spring 2016



Smarter ELA/Literacy, Mathematics, and DCAS Science Assessment

Dear Parent/Guardian,

This report is provided to share information on the progress Elliot made in English language arts/literacy and mathematics this past school year. Delaware's goal is for all students to make progress each year so they graduate from high school ready to succeed in college or careers of their choosing. This year students in grades 3-8 took the Smarter Assessments that provide you, your child and your child's teachers with valuable information about their strengths and areas needing attention. These assessments provide an "academic checkup," measuring academic progress and whether they are on track to meet that goal.

This report also describes the content of the tests. Unlike multiple choice tests of the past, these assessments put more emphasis on writing, solving problems and critical thinking. They were created specifically to measure students' progress toward mastery of Delaware's academic standards.

In addition, your child took either a computer-based science or social studies assessment and this report describes the knowledge being assessed and ideas for activities that will support continued learning. I encourage you to read this report closely and discuss with your child what he is learning in class. I also urge you to talk to your child's teachers about how you can support your child's continued learning. You can visit www.DelExcels.org to find out more about the Smarter Assessments and link to practice tests.

Sincerely,

Steven H. Godowsky, Secretary of Education

Smarter Assessment Information

What is the Smarter Assessment?

The Smarter Assessments measure students' mastery of the Common Core State Standards in English Language Arts/Literacy and Mathematics for grades 3-8.

The assessments include:

- Writing at every grade.
- New question types that require students to think more deeply and solve more complex problems.
- Performance tasks such as reading several different documents and writing short essays based on them.
- Computer-adaptive technology that makes the assessments more accurate.

The Smarter Assessment represents only one of several measures to gauge academic progress.

What are some of the key features of the Smarter Assessment?

Measures critical thinking with questions that ask students to demonstrate their research, writing, and problem solving skills.

Assessments are untimed and students can take breaks so that they can do their best.

Accessibility resources are available for all students and accommodations – such as Braille – for those who need them. Developed with input from K-12 teachers, higher education faculty, and other experts.

DCAS Assessment Information

What is the purpose of the DCAS?

The Delaware Comprehensive Assessment System (DCAS) is a statewide standardized testing program tied to the Delaware content standards, which define the knowledge and skills required for our children to succeed beyond high school. DCAS is designed to

- help schools and districts determine whether children are making progress on meeting standards; and
- help the state learn how schools and districts are ensuring that children are meeting the standards.

What do the results of the DCAS mean, and how are they used?

DCAS results summarize a student's abilities as they relate to Delaware content standards. DCAS is one of the many tools used by teachers to help identify each child's strengths and weaknesses so that they can focus their instruction to meet the specific needs of their students.

For help in understanding Elliot's scores and this report, contact Elliot's teacher or school principal.

Visit <http://delexcels.org> to find resources and information about how you can support your child's learning at home.



How did Elliot do on the English Language Arts/Literacy Assessment?

2600

How does this compare?

Elliot's ELA/Literacy score is 2600. This score is **higher** than the average score of fifth graders in his school, **higher** than fifth graders in his district, and **higher** than fifth graders statewide.

	Average Score
State Average	2500
District Average	2540
School Average	2580



How Did Elliot Do in the Different Areas of the Assessment?

Reading



Below Standard for this Area

Student has difficulty reading closely and analytically to comprehend a range of increasingly complex literary and informational texts.

Listening



At/Near Standard for this Area

Student may be able to employ effective listening skills for a range of purposes and audiences.

Writing



Above Standard for this Area

Student can produce effective and well-grounded writing for a range of purposes and audiences.

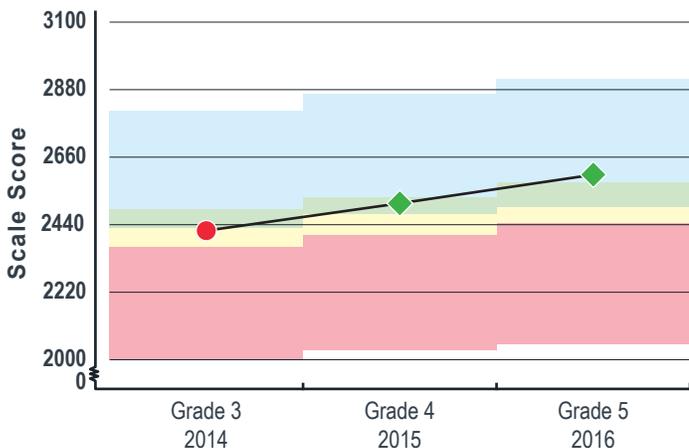
Research/Inquiry



Below Standard for this Area

Student has difficulty engaging in research and inquiry to investigate topics, and to analyze, integrate, and present information.

Elliot's ELA/Literacy Progress



Legend

- Level 4
- Level 3
- Level 2
- Level 1
- Student Score Met Standards
- Student Score Did Not Meet Standards

This chart reports your student's performance for each school year. The shaded areas in multiple colors indicate the scale score range in each achievement level. Each mark on the graph represents your student's score and indicates whether they met the standards that year.

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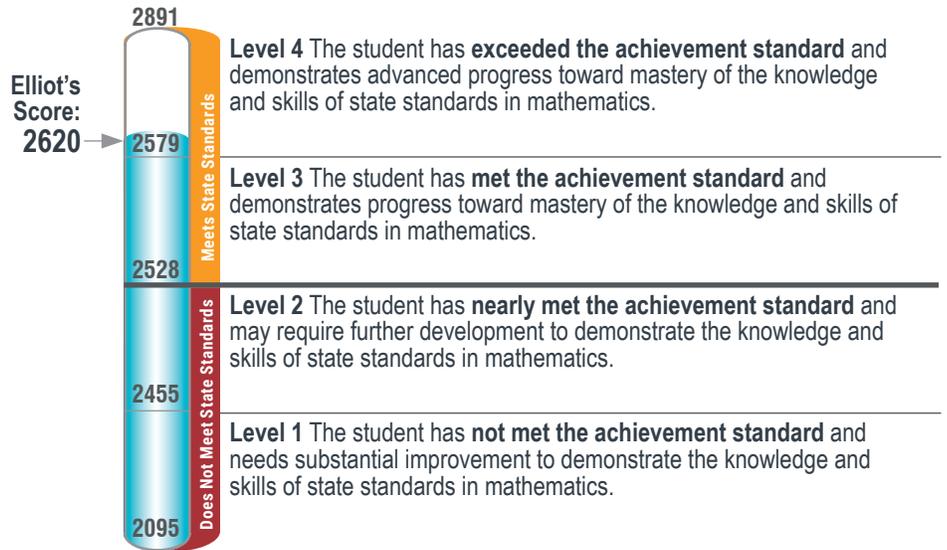
How did Elliot do on the **Mathematics Assessment**?

2620

How does this compare?

Elliot's Mathematics score is 2620. This score is **higher** than the average score of fifth graders in his school, **higher** than fifth graders in his district, and **higher** than fifth graders statewide.

	Average Score
State Average	2500
District Average	2540
School Average	2580



How Did Elliot Do in the Different Areas of the Assessment?

Concepts & Procedures



Below Standard for this Area

Student has difficulty explaining and applying mathematical concepts and interpreting and carrying out mathematical procedures with precision and fluency.

Problem Solving/Modeling and Data Analysis



At/Near Standard for this Area

Student may be able to solve a range of complex well-posed problems in pure and applied mathematics, making productive use of knowledge and problem solving strategies. Student may be able to analyze complex, real-world scenarios and may be able to construct and use mathematical models to interpret and solve problems.

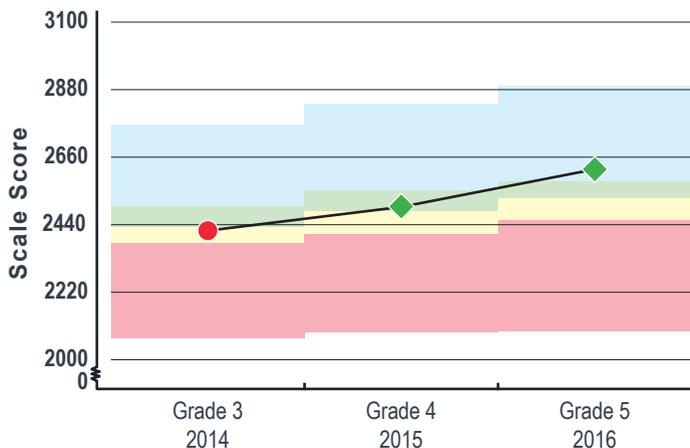
Communicating Reasoning



Above Standard for this Area

Student can clearly and precisely construct viable arguments to support their own reasoning and to critique the reasoning of others.

Elliot's Mathematics Progress



Legend

- Level 4
- Level 3
- Level 2
- Level 1
- ◆ Student Score Met Standards
- Student Score Did Not Meet Standards

This chart reports your student's performance for each school year. The shaded areas in multiple colors indicate the scale score range in each achievement level. Each mark on the graph represents your student's score and indicates whether they met the standards that year.

Visit <http://delexcels.org> to find resources and information about how you can support your child's learning at home.



How did Elliot do on the Science Assessment?

600

How does this compare?

Elliot's Science score is 600. This score is **higher** than the average score of fifth graders in his school, **higher** than fifth graders in his district, and **higher** than fifth graders statewide.

	Average Score
State Average	409
District Average	390
School Average	415

Elliot's Score:
600

620

435

400

352

100

Meets State Standards

Does Not Meet State Standards

Advanced – Students consistently demonstrate understanding of fifth grade Science concepts including scientific investigations, forces and energy, and ecology.

Meets Standard – Students frequently demonstrate understanding of fifth grade Science concepts including scientific investigations, forces and energy, and ecology.

Below Standard – Students partially demonstrate understanding of fifth grade Science concepts including scientific investigation, forces and energy, and ecology.

Well Below Standard – Students minimally demonstrate understanding of fifth grade Science concepts including scientific investigations, forces and energy, and ecology.

To see the complete grade-specific performance level descriptions and expectations, please view Science PLDs at <http://de.portal.airast.org/resources>.

Science Score Information

Students took DCAS Science once during the spring testing window; it is not tested in the fall testing window. DCAS Science is not tested in the previous grade, so no comparison is available with the previous year.

Science Categories Being Assessed in Grade Five

Earth Science

Earth Science focuses on the solar system, cycles related to the motion of the Earth and Moon, components of Earth, and changes to Earth's surface.

Life Science

Life Science focuses on structure and function relationships, matter and energy transformations, life cycles, heredity, and ecology.

Physical Science

Physical Science focuses on properties of materials, mixtures and solutions, conservation of matter, forms of energy, energy transfer, and forces.

Next Steps for Elliot Based on His Performance This Year

The following activities may help improve your child's knowledge and skills:

- Have your child design an experiment that examines unbalanced and balanced forces. Have him use materials that show push and pull forces or the effect of the force of gravity.
- Have your child design an experiment that shows the states of matter at different temperatures. Ask him to explain how particle arrangement and energy affect the state of matter.
- Have your child illustrate common structures found in plants or animals and explain what functions those structures provide for the life of the organism.
- Discuss with your child different scenarios that may affect a population of plants or animals. Ask him to predict the outcomes for that population.
- Have your child design a model that shows the orbital and rotational motion of the Earth and Moon. Ask him to describe how these motions affect the appearance of the Moon from Earth.
- Have your child design an experiment that shows how weathering, erosion, or deposition occurs. Ask him to explain how human activity can contribute to shaping Earth.



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Resources & FAQs

Are my child's scores good enough?

While it is the goal of the school to have your child achieve at the highest level possible, at a minimum, children are expected to perform at the Meets Standard level in each subject at each grade level.

How are students prepared for online testing?

A practice test is available for families to try out the online testing system at <http://de.portal.airast.org>. To use the practice test, you will need to install a free Mozilla Firefox browser on your home computer. The latest version of Adobe Flash must also be installed on the computer. A link to download the browser can be found on the website with the practice test.

How are accommodations provided for students with disabilities and English language learners?

Most accommodations that are provided to students with disabilities and English language learners in classes are also available for the Delaware System of Student Assessments (DeSSA). Therefore, decisions for your child concerning accommodations that were chosen by ELL, 504, and IEP teams during the school year will continue to be used for the administration of the DeSSA. For more information, please contact your child's school.

Visit <http://de.portal.airast.org/>
for more information on DE reports.

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