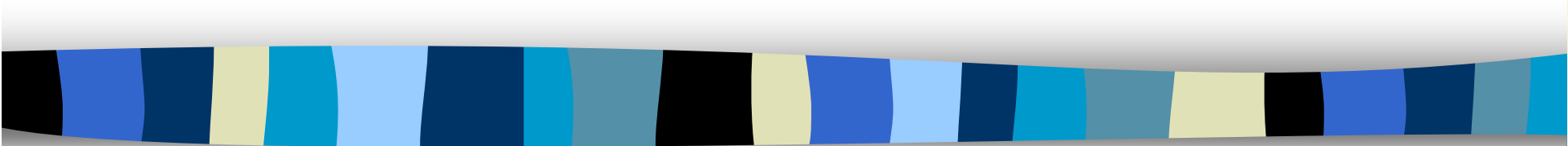


Welcome



Colonies North Elementary
PTA Meeting
January 13, 2009



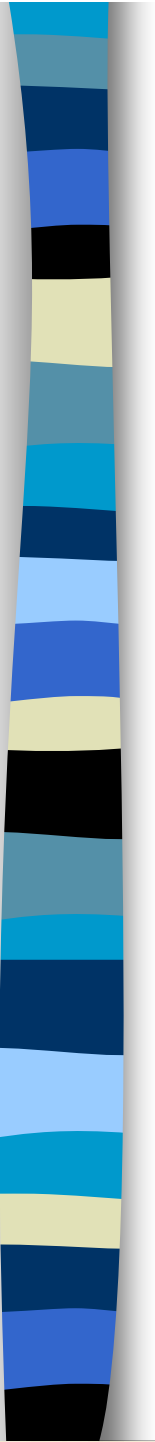


Agenda

- TAKS Testing Overview
- Reading for grades 3-5
- Math for grades 3-5
- Science for grade 5
- Writing for grade 4

TAKS Testing Overview

What Parents Need to Know!!



History of Texas Testing 1980-2008

- **TABS** (Texas Assessment of Basic Skills)
- **TEAMS** (Texas Educational Assessment of Minimum Skills)
- **TAAS** (Texas Assessment of Academic Skills)
- **TAKS** (Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills)



What is the TAKS test?

- Criterion-reference test measuring the State mandated curriculum (TEKS)
- Untimed (NO clocks timing the test)
- Passing Standard set by raw score converted to a scale score
- ‘Met Standard’ (“Cut Score”) established by State Board of Education in Austin



TEKS

What does TEKS stand for?

- TEKS is the acronym for the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills.
- The TEKS represent the basic curriculum for each subject area at each grade level in Texas.



TEKS

What is the purpose of the TEKS?

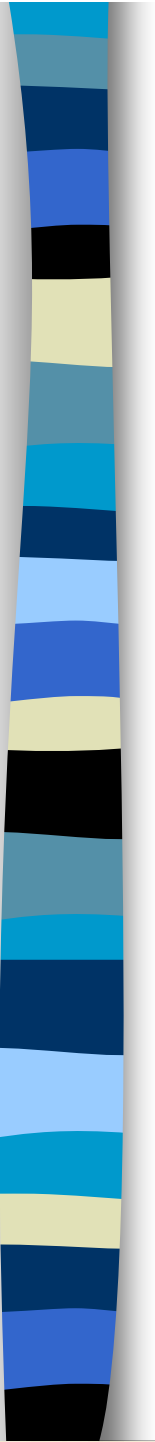
- The TEKS outline the "scope and sequence" of what students are supposed to learn at each grade level.
- The TEKS indicate **what** students should learn and **when** they should learn it.



TEKS and TAKS

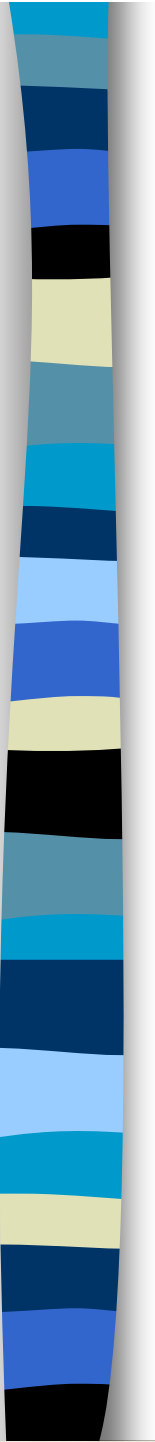
How do the TEKS relate to TAKS objectives and the TAKS test?

- The TAKS objectives are drawn from the TEKS.
- Not all TEKS are tested in the yearly TAKS test.
- The TAKS test focuses on the TEKS that the state has deemed appropriate for pencil-paper tests.



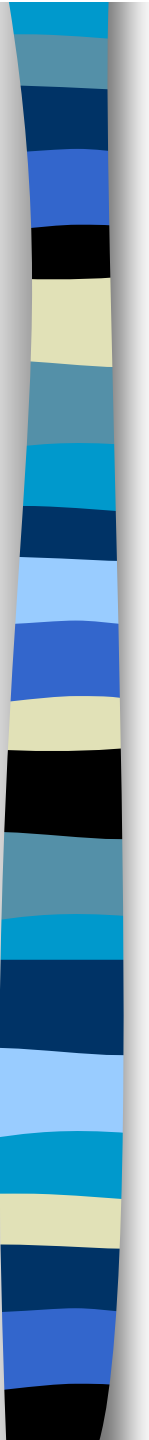
What does “Met Standard” mean?

- Sometimes called the ‘cut score’
- The number of items correct on each test which equals approximately **70%** of the items on each test
- The ‘cut score’ varies:
 - From test to test
 - Each testing session
 - From subject to subject



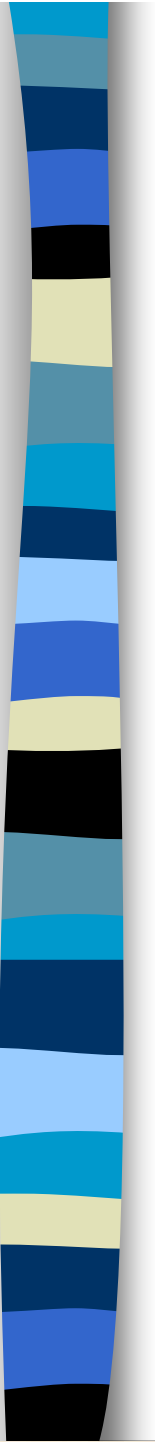
What is SSI?

- **SSI = Student Success Initiative**
- Sometimes called: “No Pass, No Promote”
- Applies to these grades:
 - **3rd Reading ONLY (Began in 2003)**
 - **5th Reading AND Math (Began in 2005)**
 - **8th Reading AND Math (Began in 2008)**
- Three (3) testing opportunities provided
- Grade Placement Committee decides if a student is promoted/placed/retained



Grades 3, 4 & 5 TAKS Testing Dates

- * **READING 3rd & 5th**: Tuesday, March 3, 2009
- **WRITING 4th**: Tuesday, March 3, 2009
- * **MATH 5th**: Tuesday, April 7, 2009
- **MATH 3rd & 4th**: Tuesday, April 28, 2009
- **READING 4th**: Wednesday, April 29, 2009
- **SCIENCE 5th**: Thursday, April 30, 2009
 - * SSI Required Test Subjects



Make-Up Tests for Reading (3,5) & Math (5) ONLY

- Make-Up ONLY if student is “absent”
- Make-Ups available for the rest of that week ONLY
- May not make-up if test is started but not completed on the same day!
- May not make-up if parent needs to take the student out of school (example: doctor’s appointment)



Re-Test Schedule for Reading & Math

- **READING Re-Tests for 3rd & 5th:**

 - 2nd Test is Wednesday, April 29th

 - 3rd Test is Wednesday, July 1st

- **MATH Re-Tests for 5th:**

 - 2nd Test is Tuesday, May 19th

 - 3rd Test is Tuesday, June 30th

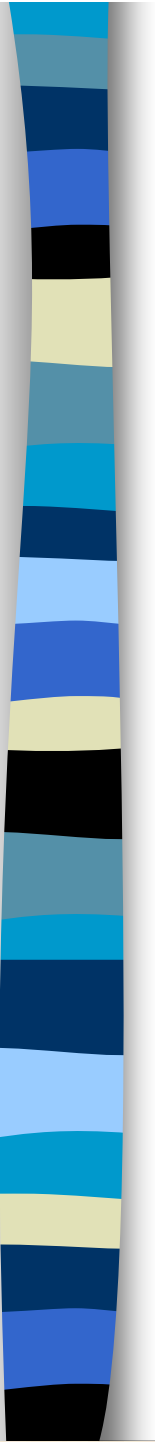


AND NOW.... Our Campus Instructional Staff

- Math Specialist: Mrs. Weimeschkirch
- Science Facilitator/5th Grade: Ms. Noack
- 3rd Grade: Mrs. Fariss, Mrs. Gutierrez, Mrs. Saenz & Ms. Sommers
- 4th Grade: Mrs. Andrews, Ms. Doebbler, Mrs. Fall, Mrs. Groff, & Mrs. Pinedo
- 5th Grade: Mr. Lumbreras, Mrs. Soucie, Mrs. Vincent & Mrs. Zahodnik

READING

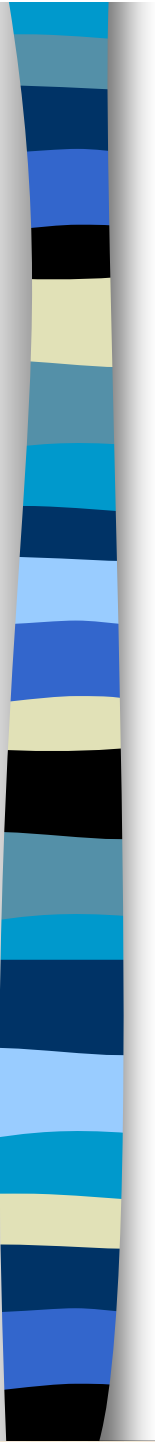




TAKS

Reading Objectives

- Obj. 1: The student will demonstrate a basic understanding of culturally diverse written texts. (Main Idea, Context Clues, Summarizing, Visualizing)
- Obj. 2: The student will apply knowledge of literary elements to understand culturally diverse written texts. (Character, Setting, Plot, Problem/Solution)
- Obj. 3: The student will use a variety of strategies to analyze culturally diverse written texts. (Sequence, Author's Purpose, Cause and Effect, Graphic Sources, Steps in a Process, Text Structure, Making Judgments)
- Obj. 4: The student will apply critical thinking skills to analyze culturally diverse written texts. (Drawing Conclusions, Inferring, Realism and Fantasy, Fact and Opinion, Generalizing, Theme, Compare/Contrast, Predicting)

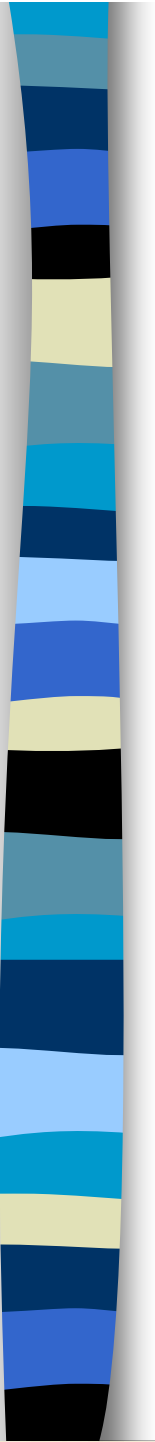


See packet for a
complete reading
passage and
questions that are
appropriate for
your child's grade.



TAKS Information

- Notice how long the passage is.
- Stamina is something we work on in class. Students sometimes run out of steam towards the end.



What We Do To Help Your Student

- Reading Strategy Card (see example)
- Tutoring during or after school
- Small groups during reading time
- Regrouping based on student's needs



What YOU Can Do To Help Your Student

- Read and discuss a variety of materials with your child. Help your child to understand the meaning of new words. Ask who, what, when, where, and *why* questions to help your child understand the main idea, purpose, and implied meaning of what is read.



What YOU Can Do To Help Your Student

- Work with the teacher to identify appropriate reading materials that will interest your child.
- Help your child make connections between personal experience and the events and characters in a story. Ask if a story is similar to other stories and why.



Encourage your student to...

READ 20 minutes per night,
then

READ 30 minutes per night,
then

READ 45 minutes per night,
to build stamina!

MATH

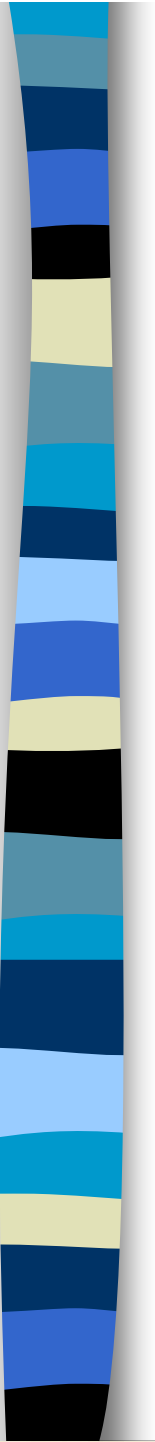




TAKS Math Objectives

The student will demonstrate an understanding of

- Obj. 1: numbers, operations, and quantitative reasoning.
- Obj. 2: patterns, relationships, and algebraic reasoning.
- Obj. 3: geometry and spatial reasoning.
- Obj. 4: the concepts and uses of measurement.
- Obj. 5: probability and statistics.
- Obj. 6: the mathematical processes and tools used in problem solving.



See packet for
sample math
problems for each
objective that are
appropriate for your
child's grade.



3rd Grade Example

Ken made 90 copies of a 4-page newsletter and 80 copies of a 6-page newspaper insert. How many pages did he copy in all?

- A. 360
- B. 480
- C. 840
- D. 740

TAKS Objective 6 TEKS 3.14C

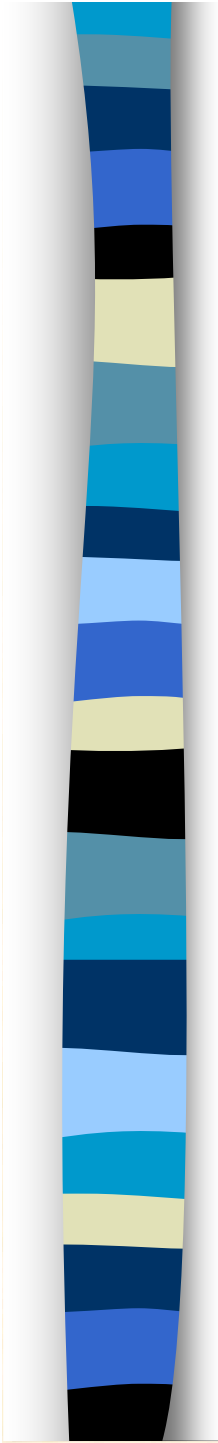


5th Grade Example

Marina buys 9 liters of soda from the grocery store for a party. She also buys 1 cup for each guest. Each cup can hold 400 milliliters of liquid. What should Marina do to find the number of cups she can fill with the amount of soda she bought?

- A. Multiply 1,000 by 9 and then multiply the product by 400
- B. Divide 400 by 9
- C. Divide 1,000 by 400
- D. Multiply 1,000 by 9, and then divide the product by 400

TAKS Objective 6 TEKS 5.14C



What We Do To Help Your Student

- FAST Freddy Problem Solving Strategies Card (see example)
- Students must show work on every problem.
- Our math specialist, Mrs. Weimeschkirch, tutors students during the school day.
- Tutoring before or after school
- Small group remediation



What YOU Can Do To Help Your Student

- Instill in your child an interest in math by doing math together.
- Ask questions that invoke thinking in terms of numbers and amounts and playing games that deal with such things as logic, reason, estimation, direction, classification, and time.
- Encourage your child to be persistent and to discuss problem-solving ideas, to think of math problems as puzzles or games.



What YOU Can Do To Help Your Student

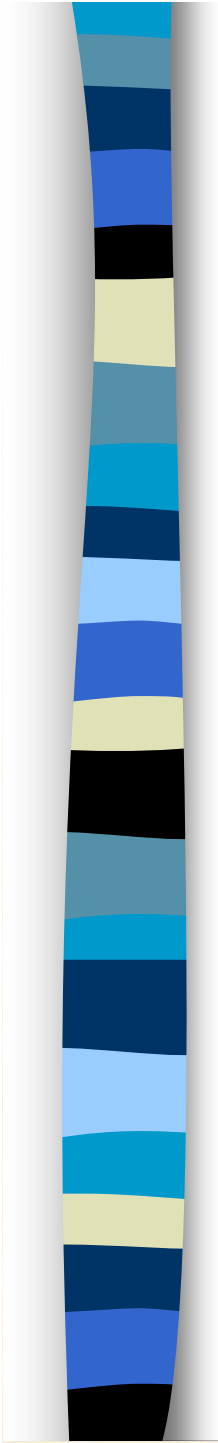
- When your child gets “stuck” on a problem, don’t just provide a solution. Instead, suggest trying again or using another strategy to find the answer.
- Let your child know that he/she can be successful in mathematics.
- Be sure your child is “fact proficient” --- that is, they know their basic math facts.



Science and Writing TAKS

Next,

- Ms. Doebbler and Mrs. Pinedo will be sharing writing information with the 4th grade parents.
- Ms. Noack and Mrs. Vincent will be sharing science information with the 5th grade parents in the back of the cafeteria.



Thank you for
attending our
TAKS Parent
Night!