

## **Family Guide to Student Reports Spring 2022 AK STAR Assessments English Language Arts and Mathematics**

### **The Purpose of the AK STAR Assessments**

Alaska has implemented an innovative approach to a balanced assessment system called the Alaska System of Academic Readiness (AK STAR). The system includes the MAP Growth interim assessments administered in the fall and winter as well as the AK STAR English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics summative assessments administered each spring.

The AK STAR summative assessments are administered each spring to students in grades 3-9. The AK STAR assessments were developed to provide information on student achievement, areas of strength and need, and progress toward mastery of the skills and concepts outlined in the Alaska English Language Arts and Mathematics Standards. The AK STAR assessments also provide information to parents, educators, policy makers, and communities about how Alaska's schools and districts are performing. They provide information to help schools improve and to meet the State Board of Education's Mission, "An excellent education for every student every day."

### **What's Next? - Next Steps in ELA Learning and Mathematics**

The ELA assessment encompasses reading, writing, and language. Items in the reading portion of the AK STAR assessment are derived from the reading passages that represent various genres of both literary and informational texts at a student's grade level. The mathematics assessment encompasses content and argumentation & modeling at the student's grade level.

The full list of performance expectations and achievement examples is available on the [AK STAR Results webpage](#).

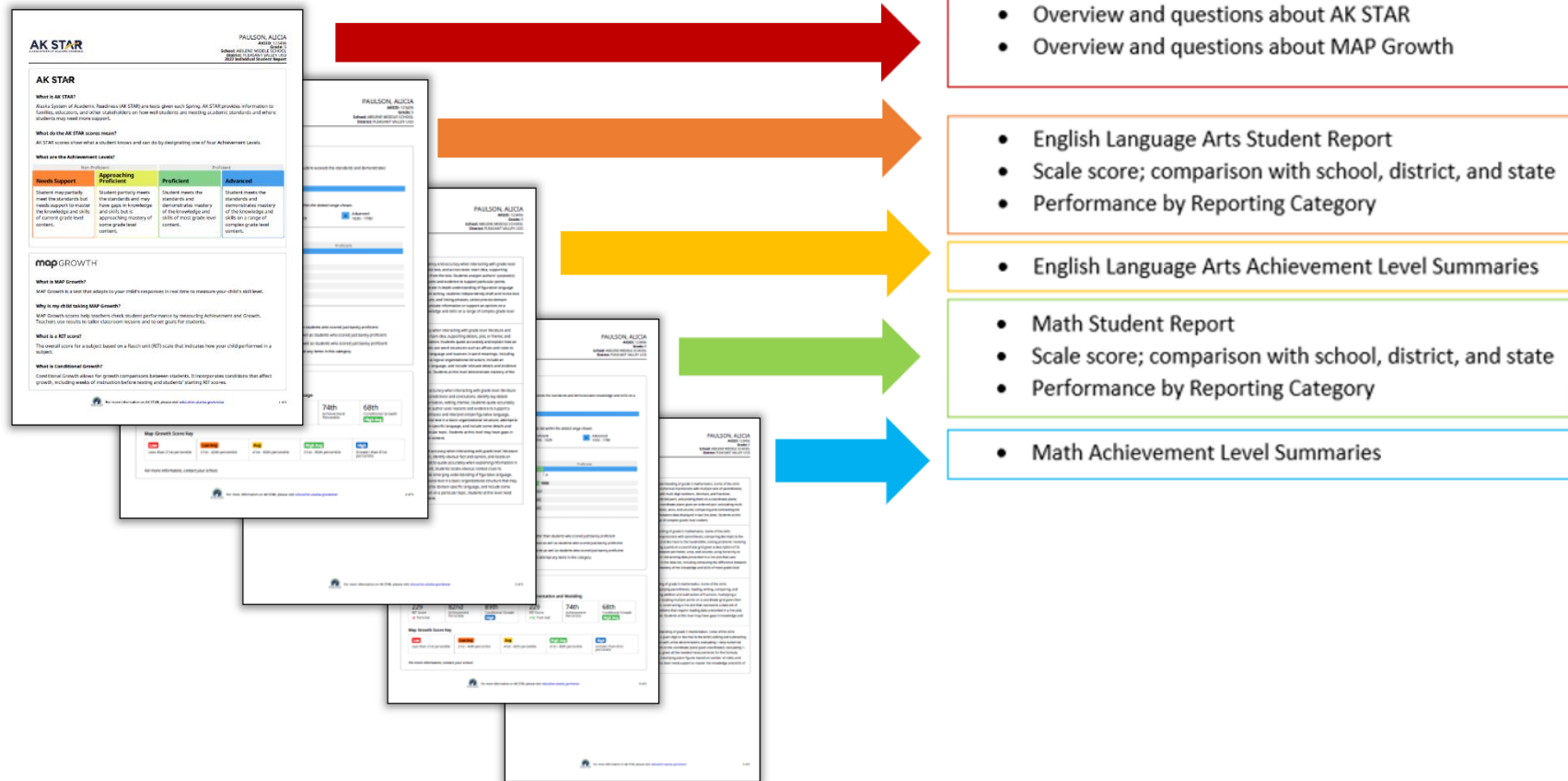
As a family member, you can connect with your student's teacher to identify and discuss areas of strength or areas of need. The Individual Student Report provides student-level data to support student's progress, performance, and identify content domains for which students were able to successfully answer related questions. It can help to answer, "is my student on track?" and "what are my student's relative strengths and suggested areas of focus?"

You may also want to visit the DEED (Department of Education and Early Development) website for resources such as the [AK STAR practice tests](#) and the [Alaska English Language Arts and Mathematics Standards](#) – these standards provide information on what your student should know and be able to do.

Learn more about Alaska's statewide assessments at the [AK STAR Families and Community](#) and [AK STAR Results](#) webpages.

## What will I see on the AK STAR Reports?

The following is a brief description of what is included in the student report. A detailed annotated description is provided on page 3.



## AK STAR Sample Report



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PAULSON, ALICIA  
AKSID: 123456  
Grade: 5  
School: ABILENE MIDDLE SCHOOL  
District: PLEASANT VALLEY USD  
2022 Individual Student Report

### AK STAR

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#### What is AK STAR?

Alaska System of Academic Readiness (AK STAR) are tests given each Spring. AK STAR provides information to families, educators, and other stakeholders on how well students are meeting academic standards and where students may need more support.

#### What do the AK STAR scores mean?

AK STAR scores show what a student knows and can do by designating one of four Achievement Levels.

#### What are the Achievement Levels?

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Non-Proficient		Proficient	
Needs Support	Approaching Proficient	Proficient	Advanced
Student may partially meet the standards but needs support to master the knowledge and skills of current grade level content.	Student partially meets the standards and may have gaps in knowledge and skills but is approaching mastery of some grade level content.	Student meets the standards and demonstrates mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.	Student meets the standards and demonstrates mastery of the knowledge and skills on a range of complex grade level content.

### mapGROWTH

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#### What is MAP Growth?

MAP Growth is a test that adapts to your child's responses in real time to measure your child's skill level.

#### Why is my child taking MAP Growth?

MAP Growth scores help teachers check student performance by measuring Achievement and Growth. Teachers use results to tailor classroom lessons and to set goals for students.

#### What is a RIT score?

The overall score for a subject based on a Rasch unit (RIT) scale that indicates how your child performed in a subject.

#### What is Conditional Growth?

Conditional Growth allows for growth comparisons between students. It incorporates conditions that affect growth, including weeks of instruction before testing and students' starting RIT scores.



For more information on AK STAR, please visit [education.alaska.gov/akstar](https://education.alaska.gov/akstar)

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## Reading the AK STAR Individual Student Report

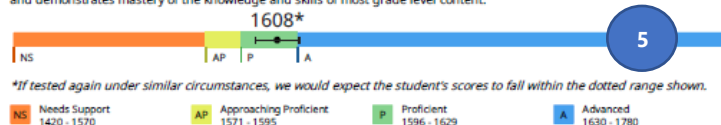
- Report Information:** Student, school, and district information along with the term of administration  
*Note:* this report is confidential and not for distribution to anyone not authorized to have access to the information.
- AK STAR Introduction:** A short summary of the summative assessment and additional context for interpretation
- AK STAR Achievement Levels:** A breakdown and generic description of each achievement level applicable to all grade levels
- Map Growth Introduction:** A short description of the MAP Growth assessments, links for more information, and additional context for interpretation
- Scale Score section:** A short description of the student's achievement level along with a visual representation of the student's score - the student's scale score is above the bar
- Median Comparison Table:** A comparison of the student's score to the median scores at school, district, and state levels
- Reporting Category Performance:** Student performance measurements in separate reporting categories on a three-star scale (including 0 for not enough items taken)
- MAP Growth:** MAP Growth RIT scores (if available) for related instructional areas, and comparison to the previously taken MAP Growth RIT score
- Grade Achievement Level Summaries:** These describe the pre-determined levels of achievement for each tested grade level.

*Note:* The descriptions above are true for both ELA and Math pages of the Individual Student Report (ISR).

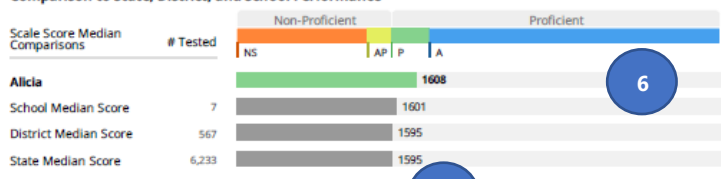
## English Language Arts

### AK STAR ALICIA's ELA Score: Proficient

This score falls in the **Proficient** ranges for English Language Arts, which indicates that the student meets the standards and demonstrates mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.



### Comparison to State, District, and School Performance



### Performance by Reporting Category

Reporting Category	Performance
Reading	★★★
Writing and Language	★★★

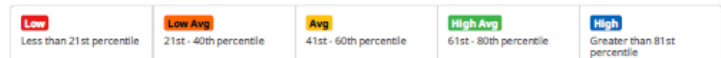
### Performance Key

- ★★★ did better than students who scored just barely proficient
- ★★★ did about as well as students who scored just barely proficient
- ★★★ did not do as well as students who scored just barely proficient
- ★★★ did not attempt any items in this category

### mapGROWTH Spring 2022 Scores



### Map Growth Score Key



For more information, contact your student's school.



For more information on AK STAR, please visit [education.alaska.gov/akstar](https://education.alaska.gov/akstar)

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## Grade 5 Achievement Level Summaries - English Language Arts

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Advanced 1630 - 1780	Students who score at this level demonstrate a high degree of consistency and accuracy when interacting with grade level literature and informational text. They paraphrase from a section, whole text, and across texts: main idea, supporting details, plot, or theme; quote accurately and draw complex inferences from the text. Students analyze authors' purpose(s) within and across text(s) and explain in depth how an author uses reasons and evidence to support particular points. Students clarify the meaning of unknown words and phrases, demonstrate in depth understanding of figurative language and nuances in word meanings, including similes and metaphors. When writing, students independently draft and revise text using advanced organizational structure, include an introduction, closure, and linking phrases, select precise domain-specific language, and include relevant details and evidence to communicate information or support an opinion on a particular topic. Students at this level demonstrate mastery of the knowledge and skills on a range of complex grade level content.
Proficient 1596-1629	Students who score at this level demonstrate consistency and accuracy when interacting with grade level literature and informational text. They summarize from a section or text as a whole: main idea, supporting details, plot, or theme; and refer to details when drawing inferences and explaining explicit information. Students quote accurately and explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support particular points. Students use word structures such as affixes and roots to understand word meanings, demonstrate understanding of figurative language and nuances in word meanings, including similes and metaphors. When writing, students draft and revise text in a logical organizational structure, include an introduction, closure, and linking phrases, use precise domain-specific language, and include relevant details and evidence to communicate information or support an opinion on a particular topic. Students at this level demonstrate mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.
Approaching Proficient 1571 - 1595	Students who score at this level demonstrate limited consistency and accuracy when interacting with grade level literature and informational text. They use explicit text evidence to make logical predictions and conclusions, identify key details related to text, and identify some literary elements (e.g., plot, characterization, setting, theme). Students quote accurately when making basic inferences and they explain in simple terms how an author uses reasons and evidence to support a point. Students determine the meaning of some unknown words and phrases and interpret simple figurative language, including similes and metaphors. When writing, students draft and revise text in a basic organizational structure, attempt to include an introduction, closure, and linking phrases, use some domain-specific language, and include some details and evidence to communicate information or support an opinion on a particular topic. Students at this level may have gaps in knowledge and skills but are approaching mastery of some grade level content.
Needs Support 1420 - 1570	Students who score at this level demonstrate minimal consistency and accuracy when interacting with grade level literature and informational text. They recall details and make simple predictions, identify obvious fact and opinion, and locate an explicit main idea. Students state authors' obvious purpose and attempt to quote accurately when explaining information in the text. Students identify some reasons and evidence to support a point. Students locate obvious context clues to determine or clarify the meaning of basic unknown words, demonstrate emerging understanding of figurative language. When writing, students require guidance and resources to draft and revise text in a basic organizational structure that may include an introduction, closure, and linking phrases, attempt to use some domain-specific language, and include some details and evidence to communicate information or support an opinion on a particular topic. Students at this level need support to master the knowledge and skills of current grade level content.



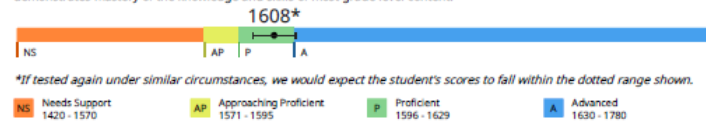
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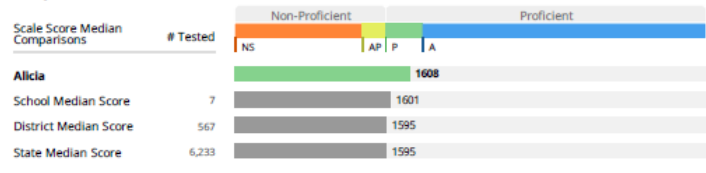
## Mathematics

### AK STAR ALICIA's Math Score: Proficient

This score falls in the **Proficient** ranges for Mathematics, which indicates that the student meets the standards and demonstrates mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.



### Comparison to State, District, and School Performance



### Performance by Reporting Category

Reporting Category	Performance
Content	★★★
Argumentation and Modeling	★★★

#### Performance Key

- ★★★★ did better than students who scored just barely proficient
- ★★★ did about as well as students who scored just barely proficient
- ★★ did not do as well as students who scored just barely proficient
- ★ did not attempt any items in this category

### mapGROWTH Spring 2022 Scores

Content			Argumentation and Modeling		
229 RIT Score -2 from Fall	82nd Achievement Percentile	89th Conditional Growth High	229 RIT Score +12 from Fall	74th Achievement Percentile	68th Conditional Growth High Avg

Low	Low Avg	Avg	High Avg	High
Less than 21st percentile	21st - 40th percentile	41st - 60th percentile	61st - 80th percentile	Greater than 81st percentile

For more information, contact your student's school.

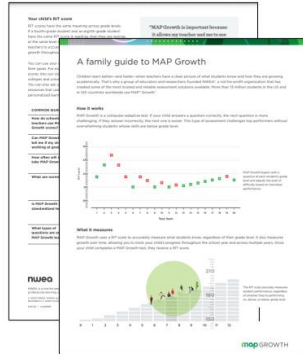
## Grade 5 Achievement Level Summaries - Mathematics

Advanced 1630 - 1780	Students who score at this level demonstrate comprehensive understanding of grade 5 mathematics. Some of the skills demonstrated may include: writing, evaluating, and interpreting numerical expressions with multiple sets of parentheses; reading, writing, comparing, and performing all four operations with multi-digit numbers, decimals, and fractions; generating complex numerical patterns, translating them into ordered pairs, and plotting them on a coordinate plane; identifying and explaining errors in the placement of points on a coordinate plane given an ordered pair; calculating multi-step measurement conversions; identifying applications of perimeter, area, and volume; comparing and contrasting the attributes of two-dimensional figures; and making comparisons between data displayed in two line plots. Students at this level demonstrate mastery of the knowledge and skills on a range of complex grade level content.
Proficient 1596-1629	Students who score at this level demonstrate thorough understanding of grade 5 mathematics. Some of the skills demonstrated may include: writing, evaluating, and interpreting expressions with parentheses; comparing decimals to the thousandths; multiplying and dividing multi-digit whole numbers and decimals to the hundredths; solving problems involving fractions; generating numerical patterns from given rules; locating a point on a coordinate grid given a description of its location; calculating measurement conversions; distinguishing between perimeter, area, and volume; using hierarchy to identify properties of quadrilaterals; solving problems that require interpreting data presented in a line plot that uses fractions of a unit; and making calculations using multiple values in the data set, including computing the difference between the greatest and least value. Students at this level demonstrate mastery of the knowledge and skills of most grade level content.
Approaching Proficient 1571 - 1595	Students who score at this level demonstrate partial understanding of grade 5 mathematics. Some of the skills demonstrated may include: writing numerical expressions and applying parentheses; reading, writing, comparing, and multiplying decimals to the hundredths; solving problems involving addition and subtraction of fractions; multiplying a fraction by a whole number; identifying a rule for a given pattern; locating multiple points on a coordinate grid given their coordinates or a description of their location relative to the origin; constructing a line plot that represents a data set of measurements in fractions or mixed numbers; solving simple problems that require reading data presented in a line plot; and identifying the type of data that can be displayed on a line plot. Students at this level may have gaps in knowledge and skills but are approaching mastery of some grade level content.
Needs Support 1420 - 1570	Students who score at this level demonstrate inconsistent understanding of grade 5 mathematics. Some of the skills demonstrated may include: identifying the place value name for a given digit or decimal to the tenth; adding and subtracting decimals to the hundredth; using models to subtract unit fractions with unlike denominators; evaluating 1-step numerical expressions; identifying the next term in a pattern; locating a point on the coordinate plane given coordinates; calculating 1-step conversions of length; calculating a quantity using a formula, given all the needed measurements for the formula; finding the volume of rectangular prisms by counting unit cubes; classifying plane figures based on number of sides; and identifying a line plot among several data displays. Students at this level need support to master the knowledge and skills of current grade level content.



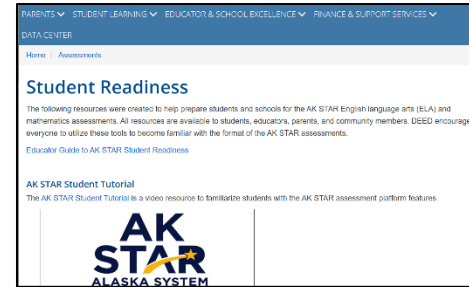
## Resources

### [MAP Suite Family Toolkit](#)



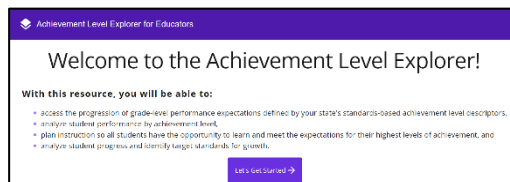
Resources include videos, fact sheets, guides, and an FAQ to help families understand the basics of the MAP Growth assessment: what it is, what it measures, how it works, and what a RIT score is.

### [AK STAR Student Readiness resources](#)



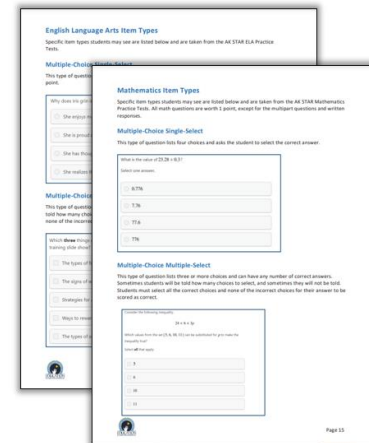
The AK STAR Student Readiness resources include the Educator Guide to Student Readiness, the AK STAR Student Video Tutorial, and Student Readiness support resources by grade as well as the AK STAR Practice Test.

### [Achievement Level Explorer Tool](#)



The ALE tool will allow families to access the progression of grade-level performance expectations defined by your state's standards-based achievement level descriptors

### [Item Types](#)



Specific item types students may see are outlined in the document linked above and are taken from the AK STAR ELA and math Practice Tests.

**\* Please click the title in blue to be directed to a link for each resource**

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