

The purpose of ACALETICS® **PARENTAL NOTES** is to provide parents with important information concerning education that promotes success for all students.

WHAT IS THE FCAT?

The FCAT is the **Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test**. The test is designed to measure Florida students' achievement of the Sunshine State Standards. The Sunshine State Standards represent what students should know and be able to do in **reading** and **mathematics** in order to be contributing members of society in life beyond high school. The standards also include other subjects.

WHAT DOES THE MATH PORTION OF THE FCAT COVER?

The **mathematics** portion of the FCAT assesses 5 math content **strands**. Let's briefly go over each strand.

1. The **Number Sense, Concepts and Operations** strand includes addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, place value, fractions, decimals, percents, etc.
2. The **Measurement** strand includes metric units of measurement (grams, meters, liters, etc.), customary units of measurement (pounds, inches, yards, gallons, etc.), time, money, etc.
3. The **Geometry and Spatial Sense** strand includes concepts such flat vs. solid shapes, symmetry, polygons, congruence, etc.
4. The **Algebraic Thinking** strand includes variables, patterns, expressions, equations, etc.
5. The **Data Analysis and Probability** strand includes mean, median, mode, range, charts, tables, graphs, permutations, etc.

Grades **3** through **10** are tested on all 5 math strands. The difficulty of the questions varies by grade. Students are tested on different subjects depending on their grade level.

SUBJECT	GRADES TESTED
Reading	Grades 3 - 10
Math	Grades 3 - 10
Writing	Grades 4, 8, and 10
Science	To be added as a component in calculating school performance grades in 2007 (Grades 5 and 11).

For a complete list of the Sunshine State Standards for your child's grade, contact us at **(305) 362-8887**.

(OVER)

HOW DO FLORIDA'S HOT FCAT TOPICS AFFECT YOUR CHILD?

3rd grade reading promotion and retention continues to be a concern. Students who do not score a Level 2 or above on the 3rd grade FCAT for reading are considered behind and cannot be promoted to the 4th grade. Only a few cases are exempt from mandatory retention.

Passing the 10th grade FCAT is a requirement for high school graduation. Students must score at least a 300 (**or equivalent**) on both the **reading** and **math** portion of the FCAT as one of the requirements for receiving a regular high school diploma.

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