Understanding Interim Tests

A Simple Guide for Families

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Oregon achieves . . . together!

Short check-ins. Helpful Information. Better learning opportunities

1. What Are Interim Tests?

- ✓ Short check-ins are given 3 times during the school year. (Fall, Winter, Spring)
- ✓ Sometimes called benchmark or interim tests
- ✓ One part of a school's balanced assessment system for language arts and mathematics. We also use classroom learning every day and statewide tests.

2. Why Schools Use Them

- ❖ See how instruction is working and support your student
- ❖ Celebrate what your child is doing well
- ❖ Find skills that may need more support
- ❖ Plan next steps for learning

3. What Results Show

- ➢ A snapshot of learning right now
- ➢ Another piece to add to the learning puzzle to support your student's growth
- ➢ An opportunity to connect results alongside classwork and other measures of learning

4. What Interim Tests Should NOT Do

- ▪ Define your student's permanent ability in academics
- ▪ Be used alone to make decisions about your student's education
- ▪ Limit learning or enrichment opportunities

5. Students, Families, and Schools Working Together

- ○ Students participate in setting learning goals
- ○ Families ask questions to better understand patterns over time
- ○ Teachers adjust instruction and partner with students and families on next steps



6. Students, Families, and Schools Working Together

What does this test measure?	What do the scores mean?	How does this connect to learning?	What supports or enrichment comes next?	What can we do to support at home?