

UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD'S SCIENCE TEST: GRADE 5, 8, AND 11



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- ❖ Students are required to take the OSAS Science Test in Grades 5, 8, and 11. (HS students may test early in Grade 10.*)
- ❖ The test is made up of test items aligned to the [Oregon Science Standards](#), which include physical science, life science, earth science, science and engineering practices, and crosscutting scientific concepts.
- ❖ Each test item is **three-dimensional**, representing (1) a *Disciplinary Core Idea*, (2) a *Science and Engineering Practice* (for example, Asking Questions), and (3) a *Crosscutting Concept* (for example, Energy and Matter).
- ❖ Once a student begins the OSAS Science Test they have 20 calendar days to finish, after which the student's test expires.
- ❖ Individual student test scores will be available from your child's school in Spring or Fall of 2024.
- ❖ Students are not required to demonstrate proficiency in science as a graduation requirement.

* Students who are ready to take the test in Grade 10 are allowed to take it early, but will be required to take it again in Grade 11 if they do not achieve a proficient score.

OREGON STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM 2023-24 OSAS SCIENCE TEST

The mission of the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) is to foster equity and excellence for every learner through collaboration with educators, partners, and communities. ODE, along with your district and local school board, help ensure that your child has every advantage to reach their full potential.

The need for high-quality science education is essential. Students need the kind of preparation that not only supports their learning now, but also gives them the tools and skills necessary to succeed in a rapidly and continuously changing world.

Your child's school has been preparing and transitioning science instruction to support the [2022 Oregon Science Standards](#). These standards are also called [the Next Generation Science Standards \(NGSS\)](#) and serve as a set of expectations for what all students should know and be able to do at each grade level.

To measure your student's progress toward these standards, the state of Oregon tests students using [Oregon's Statewide Assessment System \(OSAS\)](#) Science Test. This test requires students to engage with tasks that are based in real-life scientific scenarios.

For the 2023-24 school year, your district will select testing dates between February 6 and June 14, 2024 for students in Grade 11, and between March 5 and June 14, 2024 for students in Grades 5 and 8.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

MY CHILD IS A NATIVE SPANISH SPEAKER. IS THE OSAS SCIENCE TEST AVAILABLE IN SPANISH?

Yes, items on the OSAS Science Test are available in Spanish. The test administrator in your child's school can enable Spanish presentation for your child. Once enabled, your child will be able to toggle between Spanish and English throughout the test.

HOW CAN I BETTER UNDERSTAND WHAT MY CHILD WILL BE TESTED ON?

You and your child can take an OSAS Science Sample Test on the [OSAS Portal](#). **(1)** Click "Sample and Training Tests" in the Quick Access menu. **(2)** Click "Sign In". **(3)** Select Grade 5, 8, or 11. **(4)** Click on "OSAS Summative ELA, Math, and Science". **(5)** Click "Start Grade X Science Sample Test". **(6)** Click on "Select" to accept the general settings, or change any setting in the lists of Universal Tools, or Embedded Designated Supports (for example, Spanish presentation or Text-to-Speech). **(7)** Complete the Audio/Video Checks and click the "I could play the video" button. **(8)** Click "Continue," and **(9)** Click "Begin Test Now."

WHAT TOOLS ARE AVAILABLE TO MY CHILD WHILE TAKING THE OSAS SCIENCE TEST?

All students have access to a set of accessibility features to use on the OSAS Science Test. Some "Universal Tools" include a highlighter, line reader, and strikethrough text to eliminate answer choices. Scratch paper is also available to all students taking the OSAS Science Test. Scratch paper used for notes can be kept and used again on a future test session.

MY CHILD HAS SPECIAL NEEDS. WILL THEY TAKE THE OSAS SCIENCE TEST OR THE ALTERNATE (EXTENDED) ASSESSMENT?

The decision to administer Oregon's Alternate (Extended) Assessment can only be made by a child's IEP team, including the parent or guardian. Contact your child's teacher to discuss your child's testing options. It may be helpful to know that some students access the OSAS Science Test through Designated Supports or Accommodations that are similar to support they receive regularly in class.



CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact your child's school for more information about the OSAS Science Test.

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