

Testing Tips

Preparing the Learning Center

Determine which areas in your Learning Centers will be used for *Iowa Assessments*. Make sure the conditions in the test areas are satisfactory.

- Provide adequate lighting for all students.
- Make sure students' hands reach the computer keys comfortably (online testing only).
- Provide one assistant for every twenty-five students in a group.
- Remove posters containing facts or information from walls.
- Eliminate or reduce distracting noises.
- Ensure that non-testing students behave courteously with no disruptions.
- Prepare a "Testing - Do Not Disturb" sign for the door.
- Provide a supply of scratch paper and pencils.
- Don't allow food or drink in the testing areas.
- Remove clutter from desks or computers in testing areas.
- Make sure computers are numbered (online testing only).
- Place American and Christian flags at each testing desk or computer station.

Preparing the Student

Make sure students are adequately prepared physically and mentally to do their best. Here are a few suggestions:

- Send reminders to parents regarding the testing dates. Ask parents to ensure their students get a good night's rest (at least 8 hours) and eat a healthy breakfast that morning.
- Tell students to read and follow all the directions in the subtests and to raise their flags if they have questions.
- Encourage students to do their best, and advise them not to spend too much time on any one question.
- Explain testing rules:
 - The tests are timed.
 - Review answers if finished testing early.
 - Tell them how and when to use flags.
 - Restroom breaks will be taken between tests, not during testing.
- Be sure students are comfortable with the Practice Test before they begin the actual assessment.