

Theory of Action: Academic standards represent a collective commitment around what students should learn each year. The state assessment asks students to demonstrate their knowledge, skills, and understanding related to these standards using a common measure. The resulting data allows us to see patterns in performance that should guide school and district improvement, helping identify areas of strength and opportunity.

Role of Performance Level Descriptors in Defining Proficiency: Performance level descriptors bridge the state assessment to classroom instruction and the systems of formative assessments that guide local instruction and choices about individual students. *Academic proficiency represents a range of observable student performance characteristics.* There are multiple pathways to proficiency, and students rely upon their strengths differently within that range of performance.

Proficiency and Difficulty: A student’s ability to demonstrate proficiency is influenced by the complexity of the texts or stimuli presented, tasks they’re asked to complete, and the contexts in which they are engaged. As student performance improves, students are typically able to handle more challenging texts/stimuli, tasks, and contexts, and are able to demonstrate their skills and knowledge more accurately and consistently.

Claim 1: Operations and Algebraic Thinkingⁱ *Student performance indicates the ability to ...*

Above Proficient	Analyze multiplication and division in real-world contexts, solve multi-step problems within 100, identify unknown values in equations, and explain arithmetic patterns to solve two-step word problems.
Proficient	Interpret multiplication and division through groups and equal distribution, solve real-world problems within 100, represent equations with symbols and drawings, use properties of operations, solve two-step word problems, and explain arithmetic patterns in addition and multiplication.
Approaching Proficient	Use multiplication and division in real-world contexts, solve problems within 100, represent equations, apply single properties of operations, and identify arithmetic patterns in addition and multiplication.
Below Proficient	Recognize multiplication and division of whole numbers, solve basic one-step problems within 100, represent problems with drawings, apply single properties of operations, use memorized facts, and recognize arithmetic patterns.

Claim 2: Numbers and Operations in Base Tenⁱⁱ *Student performance indicates the ability to ...*

Above Proficient	Explain and interpret place value and properties of operations (commutative, associative, identity) to justify strategies and algorithms for fluently performing multi-digit arithmetic, including addition, subtraction, and multiplying one-digit numbers by multiples of 10.
Proficient	Use place value and properties of operations to fluently perform multi-digit arithmetic, including addition, subtraction, and multiplying one-digit numbers by multiples of 10, using various strategies and algorithms.
Approaching Proficient	Use place value and properties of operations to add, subtract, and multiply within 1,000, including multiplying one-digit numbers by multiples of 10.
Below Proficient	Perform multi-digit addition and subtraction within 100, and multiply one-digit numbers by multiples of 10 without fully recognizing the role of place value.

Claim 3: Fractionsⁱⁱⁱ *Student performance indicates the ability to ...*

Above Proficient	Apply unit fractions to real-world problems, represent, and compare fractions on number lines, identify equivalent fractions, and generate fractions greater than 1.
Proficient	Identify fractions as parts of a whole; represent them on a number line with denominators of 2, 3, 4, 6, or 8; describe equivalent fractions; express whole numbers as fractions; and compare fractions with the same numerator or denominator by reasoning about their size.
Approaching Proficient	Recognize fractions as parts of a whole; represent them on a number line with denominators of 2, 4, and 8; identify and compare equivalent fractions; and recognize whole numbers as fractions.
Below Proficient	Recognize basic fractions as parts of a whole, identify unit fractions on a number line, recognize equivalent fractions using denominators 2 or 4, and compare fractions with the same numerator or denominator.

Claim 4: Measurement and Data^{iv} *Student performance indicates the ability to ...*

Above Proficient	Analyze multi-step word problems involving time and measurements, create and interpret graphs, explain area and perimeter through unit squares and polygons, and apply mathematical reasoning to real-world problems using area models and the distributive property.
Proficient	Tell and write time using digital and analog clocks, measure and estimate volumes and masses, create graphs and line plots, compute area and perimeter, and solve related word problems.
Approaching Proficient	Use time, basic measurements, graphs, and area concepts, including measurement with unit squares, to solve basic problems. Solve area problems involving rectangles and irregular shapes. Describe attributes of perimeter.
Below Proficient	Read a clock; recognize standard units for liquid volumes and masses; identify data from graphs; and understand area concepts including counting square units and determining perimeters of regular shapes.

Claim 5: Geometry^v *Student performance indicates the ability to ...*

Above Proficient	Interpret and classify quadrilaterals based on attributes, partition shapes into equal areas, and express those areas as unit fractions.
Proficient	Classify quadrilaterals; recognize shared attributes; and identify subcategories like rhombuses, rectangles, and squares. Partition shapes into equal areas, representing each part as a unit fraction.
Approaching Proficient	Identify quadrilateral properties, identify similarities and differences among four-sided shapes, recognize and draw examples (including squares and rectangles), partition shapes into equal areas, and represent shapes as basic unit fractions (halves, quarters, and eighths).
Below Proficient	Recognize square properties, draw four-sided shapes (like squares and rectangles), divide shapes into equal areas represented as halves and quarters, and partition shapes into unequal areas.

ⁱ Includes standards 3.OA.1, 3.OA.2, 3.OA.3, 3.OA.4, 3.OA.5, 3.OA.6, 3.OA.7, 3.OA.8, 3.OA.9

ⁱⁱ Includes standards 3.NBT.2, 3.NBT.3

ⁱⁱⁱ Includes standards 3.NF.1, 3.NF.2, 3.NF.3a, 3.NF.3b, 3.NF.3c, 3.NF.3d, 3.NF.1, 3.NF.1

^{iv} Includes standards 3.MD.1, 3.MD.2, 3.MD.3, 3.MD.4, 3.MD.5, 3.MD.6, 3.MD.7b, 3.MD.7d, 3.MD.8

^v Includes standards 3.G.1, 3.G.2