

**Department of Accountability
Standardized Tests
2011-2012**

The Alexandria City Public Schools’ (ACPS) Department of Accountability holds the responsibility of managing all aspects of a wide-ranging standardized assessment system. This document summarizes the standardized assessments administered within the ACPS. Standardized assessment of student learning provides various stakeholders with appropriate evidence to make decisions about instruction, budgeting, and programming. Standardized tests are those that all students respond to in the same manner and under the same conditions, which permit group comparisons. Certain standardized tests are required by the Virginia Department of Education, U.S. Department of Education, and ACPS. To view the complete ACPS testing calendar visit <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/mes/testcalendar.pdf>.

TABLE 1: TESTS ADMINISTERED IN ACPS BY GRADE LEVEL

Kg	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th
ACCESS (WIDA)	ACCESS (WIDA)	ACCESS (WIDA)	ACCESS (WIDA)	ACCESS (WIDA)	ACCESS (WIDA)	ACCESS (WIDA)	ACCESS (WIDA)	ACCESS (WIDA)	ACCESS (WIDA)	ACCESS (WIDA)	ACCESS (WIDA)	ACCESS (WIDA)
PALS	PALS	PALS	PALS	SOL Rdg.	SDRT	SOL Rdg.	SOL Rdg.	SDRT	*EOC SOL	*EOC SOL	*EOC SOL	*EOC SOL
KDA		CogAT	SOL Rdg.	SOL Math	SOL Writ.	SOL Math	SOL Math	SOL Writ.		AP	SOL Writing	AP
			SOL Math	SOL Hist.	SOL Rdg.	SOL Hist.	SOL Hist.	SOL Rdg.			AP	SAT
			SOL Hist.	Quarterly CRT	SOL Math.	Quarterly CRT	*EOC SOL	SOL Math.			PSAT	
			SOL Science Quarterly CRT		SOL Science Quarterly CRT			SOL Science SOL Hist. *EOC SOL			SAT	

Kindergarten Math Diagnostic Assessment (KDA): Visit <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/mes/kda/> for KDA reports. The KDA is a locally constructed and required eleven item mathematics assessment administered orally to entering kindergarteners by classroom teachers. Most of the objectives relate to number sense.

Phonological Awareness Learning Screening (PALS): Visit <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/mes/pals/> for PALS reports. The PALS assessment is the State-provided screening tool for the Virginia Early Intervention Reading Initiative. It measures young children’s understanding of important fundamentals of literacy, including phonological awareness (awareness of the sounds of spoken words), knowledge of the alphabet, letter sounds, spelling, word concepts, recognition of words in isolation, and oral passage reading. It is administered in grades kindergarten through 3rd and is required by ACPS and VA.

Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT): The purpose of the CogAT is to assess students’ abilities in reasoning and problem solving using verbal, quantitative, and nonverbal (spatial) symbols. The CogAT is required by ACPS and is administered to 2nd grade students during the spring-semester of the school year.

Criterion Referenced Tests: ACPS Criterion Referenced Tests (CRTs) are administered to all ACPS students at grades 3 through 8 at the end of the each quarter, in designated SOL tested subject areas.

Stanford Diagnostic Reading Test (SDRT): Visit <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/mes/sdrt/> for SDRT reports. The SDRT provides group administered diagnostic assessment of the essential components of reading to determine students' strengths and needs. The SDRT is ACPS required for students in grades 5 and 8.

ACCESS for ELLS (ACCESS): Visit <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/mes/access/> for reports. ACCESS is the state-required English language proficiency (ELP) assessment, for Limited English Proficient (LEP) students. ACCESS is administered to all LEP students in grades kindergarten through 12. The six language proficiency Levels outline the ELP progression from 1, **Entering** the process, to 6, **Reaching** the end of the continuum.

Standards of Learning (SOL): Visit <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/mes/sol/> for SOL reports. Multiple-choice SOL assessments are designed to measure students' proficiency in Virginia approved curricula. Portfolio based assessments such as **VGLA**, **VAAP**, and **VSEP** enable measurement of the achievement and progress of students with special needs. Students are assessed in reading, mathematics, science, history, and writing as a part of the state accountability system.

Advanced Placement (AP): See <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/mes/ap/> for AP Reports. AP courses give students the chance to try college-level work in high school. AP course enrollment is optional for students in grades 10-12. The AP exam is required and costs are covered by ACPS for all students enrolled in an AP course.

SAT and SAT Subject Tests: Visit <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/mes/sat/> for SAT reports.

Standardized Tests Administered at John Adams Elementary School 2011-2012

John Adams Elementary School will be administering standardized assessment tools for students in Kindergarten through 5th grade in order to provide differentiated instruction and support interventions for students. Using standardized testing measures allows all students to respond in the same manner and under the same conditions, which then permits group comparisons and allows appropriate interventions to be implemented. Listed below are the tests that will be administered to each grade level and a description of the assessment tool.

Tests Administered by John Adams by Grade Level

K & 1 st Grades	2 nd Grade	3 rd Grade	4 th grade	5 th Grade
AIMS Web	SMI	SMI	SMI	SMI
	SRI	SRI	SRI	SRI

AIMS Web: A tool that assesses student oral counting, number discrimination, quantity discrimination, and missing number knowledge. It is used to identify students who would benefit from early numeracy interventions. It is administered in the fall, winter and spring to monitor student improvement.

Scholastic Reading Inventory (SRI): An online reading assessment tool that is given three times a year to show student reading growth over time. It is measured on The Lexile Framework for Reading which predicts how difficult a text is to comprehend based on word frequency and sentence strength. Scores for the Lexile Framework can range from below 200L (L for Lexile) to above 1700L.

Scholastic Math Inventory (SMI): An online mathematic assessment tool which allows educators to evaluate curriculum needs based on each student's performance. It is measured on The Quantile Framework for Mathematics which assesses students' math concepts and skills at his or her grade level. The results allow educators to tailor curriculum instruction for each student to provide material that is at the level where successful learning and growth can occur.

**John Adams Elementary
Testing Schedule
2011-2012**

Kindergarten	VA PALS	10/17-11/02/11
	Math Diagnostic	01/03 – 01/13/12
	AIMS Web: Early Numeracy	01/03 – 01/12/12
	VA PALS Midyear	01/04 – 01/13/12
	WIDA (ACCESS) (English Language Proficiency)	01/30 – 03/02/12
	VA PALS – Spring	04/30 – 05/11/12
	AIMS Web: Early Numeracy	05/01 – 05/31/12
Grade 1	AIMS Web: Early Numeracy	01/03 – 01/12/12
	VA PALS Midyear	01/03 – 01/27/12
	WIDA (ACCESS) (English Language Proficiency)	01/30 – 03/02/12
	WIDA Speaking	TBD (Within testing window)
	VA PALS – Spring	04/30 – 05/24/12
	AIMS Web: Early Numeracy	05/01 – 05/31/12
Grade 2	VA PALS Midyear (For identified students only)	01/03 – 01/27/12
	Scholastic Math Inventory	01/03 – 01/27/12
	Scholastic Reading Inventory	01/03 – 01/27/12
	WIDA (ACCESS) (English Language Proficiency)	01/30 – 03/02/12
	WIDA Speaking	TBD (Within testing window)
	Cognitive Abilities Test	02/07 – 02/10/12
	VA PALS – Spring	04/30 – 05/24/12
	Scholastic Math Inventory	05/01 – 06/15/12
	Scholastic Reading Inventory	05/01 – 06/16/12

**John Adams Elementary
Testing Schedule
2011-2012**

Grade 3

First Quarterly Test	11/03 - 11/09/11
VA PALS – Midyear	12/12 – 12/20/11
(For identified students only)	
Scholastic Math Inventory	01/03 – 01/27/12
Scholastic Reading Inventory	01/03 – 01/27/12
Second Quarterly Test	01/18 – 01/27/12
WIDA (ACCESS)	01/30 – 03/02/12
(English Language Proficiency)	
WIDA Speaking	TBA (Within testing window)
VA PALS – Spring	04/30 – 05/18/12
(For identified students only)	
Scholastic Math Inventory	05/01 – 06/15/12
Scholastic Reading Inventory	05/01 – 06/16/12
Third Quarterly Test	04/10 – 04/17/12
SOL Assessments	05/22 – 06/06/12
(Reading, Math, History & Science)	
Fourth Quarterly Test	06/11 -06/15/12

Grade 4

First Quarterly Test	11/03 -11/09/11
Scholastic Math Inventory	01/03 – 01/27/12
Scholastic Reading Inventory	01/03 – 01/27/12
Second Quarterly Test	01/18 – 01/27/12
WIDA (ACCESS)	01/30 – 03/02/12
(English Language Proficiency)	
WIDA Speaking	TBD (Within the testing window)
Third Quarterly Test	04/10 – 04/17/12
Scholastic Math Inventory	05/01 – 06/15/12
Scholastic Reading Inventory	05/01 – 06/16/12
SOL Assessments	05/22 – 06/06/12
(Reading, Math & History)	
Fourth Quarterly Test	06/11 -06/15/12

