What are Common Formative Assessments?

Common Formative Assessments are administered in 1st - 12th grade as a way of assessing students' understanding of each essential standard. The assessments are available in Math and Reading. They are five questions each, the first three questions are multiple choice and the last two are open-ended.

Teachers typically administer the assessment at the end of teaching the standard, the assessment is scored and students are grouped based on their score. Typically, students who scored 5/5 or 4/5 are placed in an enrichment group the following week and students who score a 3/5 or below are placed in a reteach group the following week. This varies by school, so please talk with your child's teacher for more information.

Common Formative Assessments are not sent home, but many teachers use this as part of the student's final grade. Again, this varies by school, so please talk with your child's teacher for more information.

Samples of a 2nd grade Math Common Formative Assessment and 7th grade Reading Common Formative Assessment can be viewed below.

Click on the images below to view a sample Math and Reading Formative Assessment.
Grade 5 Math District Formative Assessment - Extended Response

Name: ____________________________ Date: __________

Teacher: ____________________________

ER DF-A.2.3.NEF a.43. Read and write numbers to 1000 using base ten numerals, number names, and expanded form.

1. 700 + 80 + 4 = __________
   a) 774
   b) 784
   c) 742
   d) 704

2. Which measure shows the larger number?
   a) 6 ft
   b) 30 ft
   c) 6 in
   d) 30 in

3. Which measure shows the number in expanded form?
   a) 500 + 30
   b) 50 + 30 + 4
   c) 500 + 200
   d) 800 + 8 + 2

Grade 5 Reading District Formative Assessment - Extended Response

Name: ____________________________ Date: __________

Teacher: ____________________________

SF DF-A.7.R.44. Describe and evaluate thematic or central ideas of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text. Provide an objective summary of the text.

ReadWorks: Abraham

Abraham, a 13-year-old, 72,000-pound elephant, was the largest, but not the only, member of the herd. At Santa Cruz and Caring Center, the herd had been kept and treated with care. The goal was to bring the herd back together with the wild, but the herd was never again to be seen.

Despite the efforts of Abraham’s keepers, he refused to return to his enclosure. His body grew weaker, and his health declined. In December, he was granted permission to return to the wild.

Abraham’s pride was not over, however. He still refused to move, and there was little sign that he would change his mind. The keepers were not willing to give up on him, and they continued to work with him.

The keepers hoped that Abraham would eventually change his mind, but they were not willing to wait. They continued to try to get him to move, and they eventually succeeded.

Abraham’s return to the wild was a sign of the strides being made in the care of these large and powerful animals. It was also a sign of the difficulties that remain. Abraham’s return to the wild was a significant step forward, but there is still much work to be done.