STAR Reading Checklist

R13554—Preparation for STAR Reading Testing

Intended Usage: External

Updated On: 3/11/2009

• STAR Reading™ testing should take place in a quiet, non-disruptive environment. Students should

not watch each other or talk to each other during testing.

• STAR Reading is a computer-adaptive test, which means that the level of difficulty of the questions

administered to each student depends on the student’s previous answers. It is also a standardized test,

which means that specific procedures should be followed to administer the test to every student every

time.

• Teachers or test administrators should read the STAR Reading Pretest Instructions directly to

students before their first test each school year. These instructions can be found by clicking on the

Resources tab located under the STAR Reading tab in Renaissance Place or in the Extras folder in the

desktop version. The instructions should not be modified in any way.

• Teachers should answer questions about the test before the test begins and during the practice

session. They should not read questions aloud, explain questions, or help in other ways during the

test.

• A monitor’s password may be required before each student can begin taking the test. Teachers and

test administrators should not share this password with the students.

• Tests will take approximately 10 minutes.

• Each student will receive twenty-five questions. Kindergarten, first and second graders receive

twenty-five short, vocabulary-in-context questions. Third through twelfth graders receive twenty

short, vocabulary-in-context questions and then five longer, authentic text passage questions.

Students must use the number keys (1, 2, 3, and 4) on the keyboard to select their answers. When

they’re sure of their answer to each question, they must press the <Enter> or <return> key. They do

not use the mouse to select answers.

• Although each question has a time limit, scores are not based on how quickly students answer the

questions. Students in kindergarten, first and second grade have sixty seconds to answer each of their

twenty-five questions. Students in third through twelfth grade have forty-five seconds to answer each

of their twenty shorter questions and ninety seconds to answer each of their five longer questions. The

time limits can be extended by selecting “Edit Student Settings” found in Student Settings. The time

limit will be tripled.

• Fifteen seconds before the time limit is up, the program flashes a picture of a clock in the top right

corner of the question screen. Unanswered questions are counted as incorrect.

• If absolutely necessary, it is possible to stop a STAR Reading test by pressing the <Ctrl> and “A” keys

simultaneously. The test will be aborted and no results will be stored for the student.

• While STAR Reading results help determine a student’s Zone of Proximal Development, teachers

should also use their professional judgment to set the reading level of each student.

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