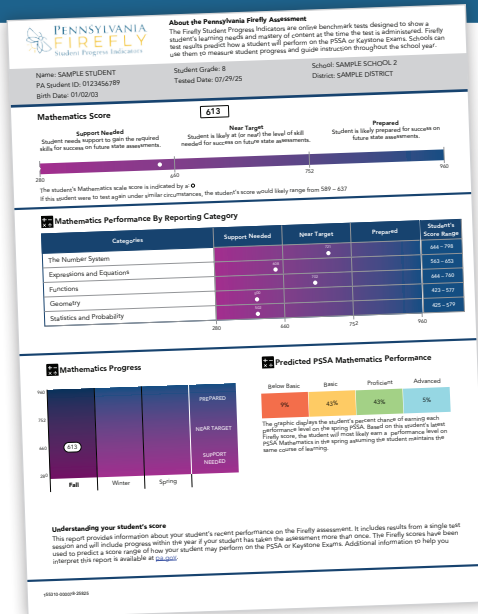


PENNSYLVANIA FIREFLY STUDENT PROGRESS INDICATORS REPORT INTERPRETATION GUIDE



The Pennsylvania Firefly Student Progress Indicators (PA Firefly) is a new component of Pennsylvania's assessment system designed to help schools and teachers support student learning throughout the school year. PA Firefly is aligned to Pennsylvania standards and is designed to signal a student's readiness for the end-of-year PSSA or end-of-course Keystone Exams. The Student Report displays how a student performed on each Firefly test and is one component of the reporting system available to schools. This interpretation guide helps explain the scores on your student's report.

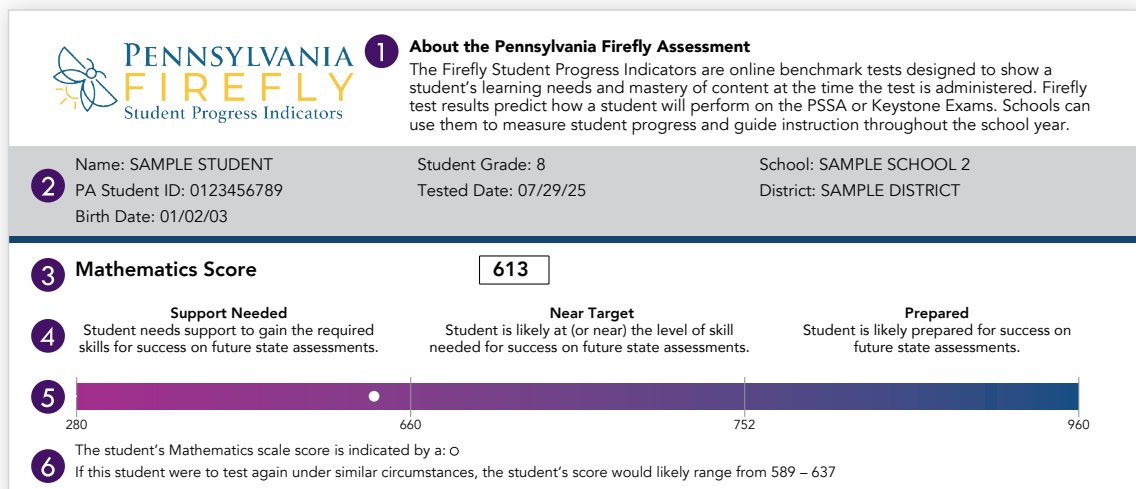
DESCRIPTIONS OF THE TOP PORTION OF THE STUDENT REPORT

1 ABOUT THE ASSESSMENT

This section provides a brief summary of the Pennsylvania Firefly Student Progress Indicators.

2 STUDENT INFORMATION

This section identifies the student's name, state ID, date of birth, grade, most recent date of testing, school, and district.



3 CONTENT AREA AND TEST RESULT

This is the course or subject matter covered on the Firefly assessment and your student's score on the test.

4 PERFORMANCE LEVELS

These are brief descriptions of the PA Firefly Performance Levels. Student performance on the Firefly falls into three Performance Levels: Support Needed, Near Target, or Prepared.

5 PERFORMANCE LEVEL ON THE TEST

The dot on the shaded bar indicates the Performance Level into which your student's score falls.

6 STANDARD ERROR OF MEASUREMENT

The lines extending out from the dot reflect the standard error of measurement (SEM) for your student's Firefly score. Specifically, the SEM provides reasonable bounds for the range of scores your student might receive if an equivalent version of the test were administered without additional instruction.

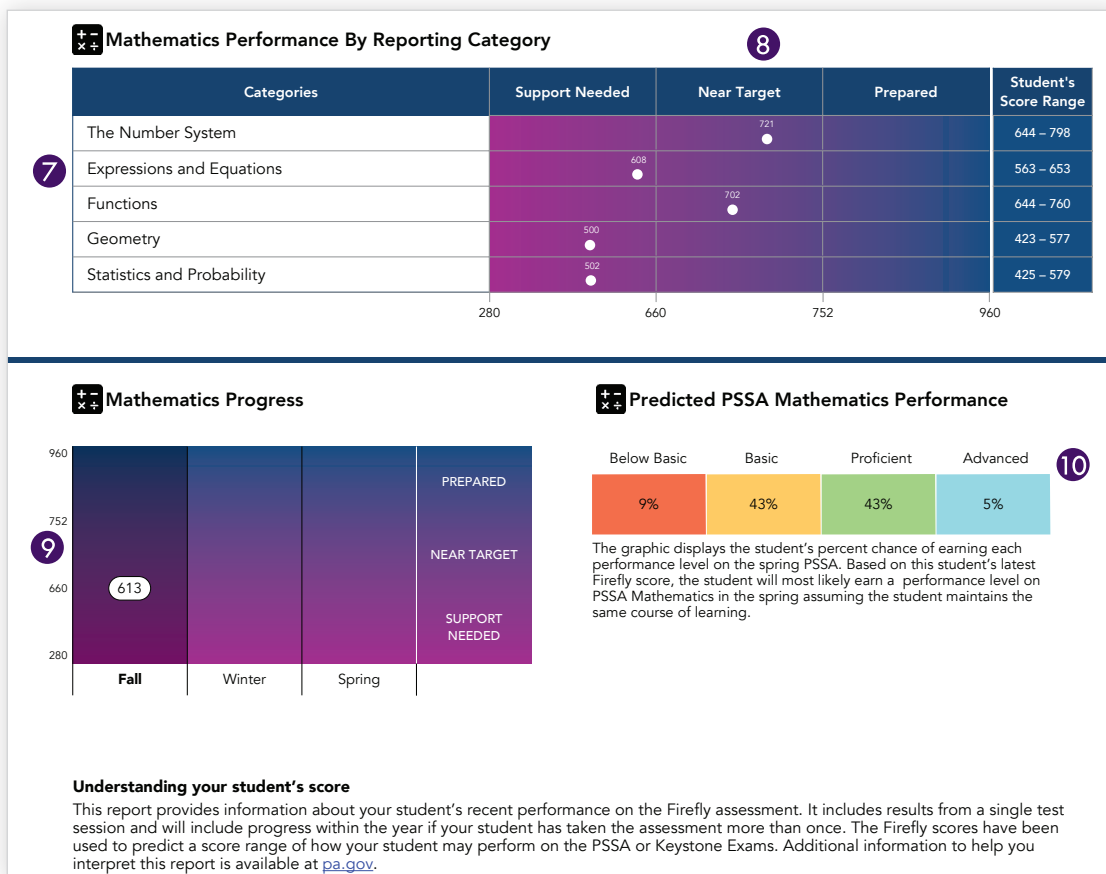
DESCRIPTIONS OF THE BOTTOM PORTION OF THE STUDENT REPORT

7 REPORTING CATEGORIES

These are the specific Reporting Categories (sub-scores) that apply to the subject matter of the Firefly assessment.

8 PERFORMANCE BY REPORTING CATEGORY

For each Reporting Category, the dots on the shaded bars indicate your student's Performance Level and score, and the "Student's Score Range" displays the SEM for the corresponding score. The designation for each Reporting Category can be interpreted as the student's demonstration of understanding of the content at the time the Firefly test was administered. Depending on when the Firefly is administered, teachers may expect that students demonstrate limited knowledge of concepts which students have not yet learned. As such, educators should focus on the Reporting Category performance that relates to concepts that have already been taught in the academic year.



9 PROGRESS

If your student takes Firefly multiple times within the same school year, this section provides your student's score for each administration by season (for grades 3-8) or by test sequence (for High School). Seasons are defined by specific date ranges within each school year. As such, if a student takes Firefly multiple times within the same season, the score shown reflects the most recent administration. The figure allows you to track your student's progress toward the "Prepared" Performance Level. Progress is calculated as the change in scale scores between two administrations and is reported as "Not Yet, Low, Medium, or High." Note, "Not Yet" progressing is reported for a decrease in scale scores or a small increase that is not statistically significant.

10 PREDICTIONS

This section provides a prediction of how your student is likely to perform in the spring on the corresponding end-of-year PSSA or end-of-course Keystone Exam based on the most recent Firefly performance. It is not a prediction of how your student would perform if a PSSA or Keystone Exam were given at the same time as the Firefly. Your student's prediction is translated into the percent chance of the spring summative-assessment score falling into each of the four PSSA and Keystone Exams Performance Levels: Below Basic, Basic, Proficient, and Advanced. NOTE: The prediction assumes your student maintains the same course of learning throughout the school year. Other factors or experiences in your student's education prior to or during the summative test could positively or negatively influence the predicted performance.

