

Preparing for the CRCT

Test-Taking Strategies

Weeks Before the Test

The following are study skills and test-taking tips to share with students:

Keep on top of material as you learn it in school. Don't leave everything until the last minute!

Ask questions in class when you don't understand something.

Set academic goals for the upcoming weeks and months (short and long term).

Choose a quiet place to work that is free of distractions.

Find out as much as you can about the test.

Build in time to review what you learned in your last study session.

Divide assignments into smaller pieces. It's easier to remember information this way.

Take breaks! Studying for a long time non-stop is not productive.

Consider reviewing materials with others after you've studied on your own. This helps reinforce what you already know and reminds you of things you've forgotten.

Actively take notes while you read. This forces you to think about what you are reading.

Try sample test questions for practice.

At the end of each study session, evaluate what you have accomplished.

**Day Before
the Test**

Get a good night's rest.

If you are feeling nervous, talk to a teacher or parent.

Remember that this test is only one measure of your knowledge.

Eat a good breakfast before the test; it will give you energy to stay alert.

**During
the Test**

Remind students of the following strategies to use during the test:

Relax by taking slow, deep breaths.

Make sure you understand the directions. If you are not sure, ask the teacher for clarification.

Read each question carefully.

When you use scratch paper, make sure that you copy the problem correctly from the test onto your paper.

You can underline and make marks on your test to help you while you work, but the only answers that will be scored are those in the correct place on your answer sheet.

Try to come up with your own answer before seeing the choices. This will help in choosing the best answer choice available.

Eliminate answer choices that you know cannot be right.

Leave a question blank if you are unsure of the answer, then return to it at the end.

Manage your time. Don't let the pace of others make you nervous. However, don't spend too much time on one question.

Be sure to answer all of the questions.

Review your answers when you have finished the test.

Try to stay calm during the test. Remember, this is a chance for you to show what you know.