



Ponus Ridge Middle School

Connecticut Mastery Test Parent Information



General Information

- i Introduced in 1985 to measure achievement for Connecticut students in Grades 4,6,8
- i Three major content area are assessed on each grade level
Reading, Writing, Mathematics
- i Beginning Spring 2008, Science was added to Grade 8

Test Assessment

- i Three major content area are assessed on each grade level
- i Reading
- i Writing
- i Mathematics



Reading

- i Reading has two sections
- i Degrees of Reading Power (DRP)
- i Reading Comprehension



Reading

- i DRP is a holistic subtest, with multiple choice questions that measure reading ability
- i Reading Comprehension consist of narrative and informational passages on a variety of topics. Includes passages with multiple choice and open ended questions





Reading

Reading Comprehension

measures students ability to:

- i To form a general understanding
- i Develop interpretation
- i Make reader text connection
- i Examine the content structure of the piece

Writing

Writing has two subtests

- i Direct assessment of Writing (DAW)
- i Subtest that requires student to respond to a prompt within 45 minutes



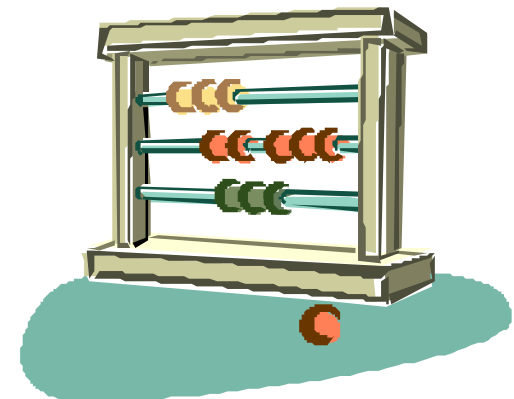
Writing

- i Direct assessment of Writing, Editing and Revising
- i Test ability to convey idea effectively
- i 60 minute test that measures the writing process



Mathematics

- i Math ability is assessed through word problems and basic math functions
- i Measures ability in areas such as, calculations, estimation, fractions, word problems and patterns
- i Math is administered in three sessions



CMT Student Requirements

- i Participate in 45 to 70 minute test session
- i Follow multiple step direction as presented by test examiner or as written in test booklet
- i Accurately shade in an answer bubble
- i Write eligibly in cursive or manuscript on lines provided in the test booklet for open ended questions
- i Use a calculator and ruler





Why do our students take the CMTS

- i For Students, Parents and Staff to have knowledge of students achievement
- i Testing can show parent and students how they performed locally and statewide
- i Learn more about their aptitudes in content areas
- i To identify strengths and weakness
- i To begin to conceptualize career choice

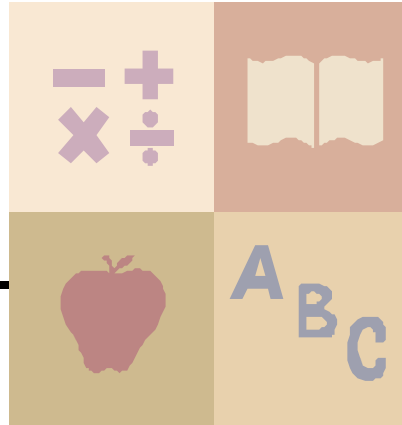
How can I help my Child do the best they can on the CMTS

Have your Child:

- i Be aware of test dates and times
- i Get a good night sleep
- i Eat a good breakfast
- i Be on time to school

Avoid scheduling appointments and adding extra curriculum activities to your child's schedule during CMT schedule





- i Encourage your child to do their best
- i Reinforce that they must answer every question to the best of their knowledge
(do not leave any blanks)
- i Encourage your child to use their time wisely by not spending too much time on any given question



Read, Read, Read, Read

- i Encourage your child to read every night for at least 30 minutes
- i Have your child report to you what they have read
- i Have your child read to you
- i Read to your child



For more information

- i www.ct.gov/sde
- i www.csde.state.ct.us/public/cedar/assessment/capt/resources/htm
- i WWW.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2618&q=321696
- i www.studyisland.com