

Helping Your Child with Standardized Testing

Standardized testing can be difficult for some children, but it is a skill they can master.

Here are some pointers to help your child do his or her best when tested.

1. Talk to your child in advance about what the experience will be like. Will talking be permitted? Can questions be asked during the testing? Are breaks offered? Explain how many tests will be administered and how long each will take.
2. Provide practice materials or tests if your child is unfamiliar with the standardized testing format and offer suggestions on how to "attack" standardized test questions. For example, you can explain that if the answer is not clear, the questions can be skipped, and returned to later. If the answer is simply unknown, and educated guess can be ventured.
3. Make sure that your child is well-rested and has a healthy meal before testing. If your child is ill, try to reschedule the test.
4. Help your child find encouraging Scripture verses to memorize, such as Isaiah 26:3 or Philippians 4:13. Remember to pray before the test.
5. Announce plans for a special event or treat after the testing. Make the experience as positive as possible!
6. Stress the importance of the test and encourage your child to put forth best efforts, but emphasize that God will bring about the results He desires.