

Test-Taking Tips for the ISTEP+

Students

Test-taking strategies: Extended response, Math

- Make charts to organize your thoughts
- Show all of your work
- Label everything
- Write down anything that you can. Remember that partial credit is given.
- Write answers in complete sentences
- Pretend that you are explaining your answer to someone who has no idea how to solve the problem. Be clear and as detailed as you can. Do not assume that they will know what you meant to say.

Test-taking strategies: Extended response, writing:

- Read the question first. By doing this you will know what you are looking for as you read.
- Read the article or story twice so that you are sure that you found all of the clues.
- Make sure that you have answered all questions in your answer.
- Write with pizzazz. Use strong adjectives in your writing.

Parents

1. Be sure your children are present every day and all day for ISTEP testing.
2. It is important for students to be well rested during testing. Please have your child to bed early during ISTEP testing so they can achieve their optimal performance level.
3. Students need a good dinner the night before and a good breakfast for the added thinking power and energy required to take the test. Make sure they eat before they leave for school in the morning.
4. Encourage your child to do their best. Let them know you will be proud of them whatever they score... as long as they try to do their very best!