

Understanding your child's PAT report

Your student's PAT report is a rich source of information about their achievement on their test. While PAT is primarily intended to support teachers in understanding students' progress and needs within a learning area, research shows that students benefit hugely when there is support for their learning at home.

Use the information below and the example report on the next page to understand your own student's report.

1 Details of student and test

- Your student's achieved scale score and correlating achievement band
- Percentile ranking of your student's scale score against the scale scores achieved by students nationally in the displayed year level. The percentile rank of a score is the percentage of students who achieve less than that score. For example, a student with a percentile rank of 75th compared to year 3 has a scale score that is higher than 75 per cent of Australian year 3 students.
- Your student's most recent previous scale score in the same learning area (ACER Data Explorer only)

2 Report chart

- Your student's estimated scale score achievement is represented in the chart by the dashed horizontal line (see the scale at the left).
- The horizontal orange line represents the mean (average) achievement of Australian students in the selected year level (ACER Data Explorer only)
- Each icon in the chart represents an item (question) your student saw during their test. The difficulty of items can be measured on the same scale as students' achievement because the more a student understands, the more difficult the items they are likely to be able to answer correctly.
- By comparing the student's achievement to the difficulty of the items, you can analyse their responses. You might expect to see more correct responses to items whose difficulty is **lower** than the student's achievement, and fewer correct responses amongst items **above** your student's achievement.

3 Item details

- The item position refers to the order in which the items were presented to your student during the test.
- The result column indicates your student's response to each item (if multiple-choice), and whether they responded correctly or incorrectly. The table also shows if an item was skipped (i.e. not seen) or if your student saw the item but did not respond.
- The items' strands, sub-strands, strand processes (Reading) and proficiencies (Maths) provide more information about the types of skills and content being assessed.
- The item description provides more detail about the skill or understanding the item requires the student to demonstrate.
- The item difficulty and correlating band is expressed in scale score points. The higher the item difficulty scale score, the more difficult the item.

Example PAT student report (ACER Data Explorer)

