



Studying for Math Assessments **In Middle School**

DETERMINE YOUR STRATEGY FOR SUCCESS

Quick fact: Test preparation doesn't just happen. You will want to set clear goals and deadlines for yourself along the way. Otherwise, you may not feel ready and confident on test day!

1. LEARN WHAT THE ASSESSMENT COVERS

The test has different questions covering the subject area, but measures the skills and content knowledge you have learned in this unit. Review your notes and look over the unit to see what material you have learned!

2. ASSESS HOW WELL YOU KNOW THE CONTENT

Research shows that test takers tend to overestimate their preparedness-this is why some test takers assume they did well and then find out they did not pass. The more effectively you prepare for the test, the great effort you put into preparing for the test, the better your results will be!

3. COLLECT STUDY MATERIALS

Gathering and organizing your materials for review are critical steps in preparing for your math assessment. Consider the following sources as you plan your study:

- I. Are your notes written accurately enough to be a good study source?
- II. Do you have previous homework and quizzes you can review before the test as a way to practice the skills?
- III. Have you checked-in with teacher and his/her open office hours?
- IV. Does khan academy have an online source to help you review the material?
- V. Have you checked the last Math Blast for review/practice materials?

4. PLAN AND ORGANIZE YOUR TIME

You can begin to plan and organize your time while you are still collecting materials. Allow yourself plenty of review time to avoid cramming material right before the assessment date. Here are a few tips:

- I. Check with your teacher for the test date (email or in-person)
- II. Work backward from that date and figure out how much time you will need for the review
- III. Set a realistic schedule-and stick to it! (30 min. a day maximum)

5. PRACTICE EXPLAINING THE KEY CONCEPTS TO SOMEONE...ANYONE

Research shows if you can teach the material to someone else, then you have a better chance of mastering the skills! Teach practice problems to your parents/guardians, siblings, classmates, stuffed animals, real pets, anyone!

If you have any questions about study skills, please reach out to the school counselor, Ms. Shanelle Muse at smuse@lccsnj.org or 201.332.0900 x.20.