Overview

- The South Carolina Gifted and Talented Grade 2 Assessment is a statewide assessment used to identify students for district gifted and talented programs. Students are identified for this program by demonstrating high performance ability or potential in academic and/or artistic areas.

- In accordance with State Board of Education Regulation 43-220, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) provides aptitude and achievement assessments for this purpose.

- Although the primary purpose of these assessments is to identify students for the gifted and talented programs, the student results can also help teachers identify teaching strategies for all students.

- All students in Grade 2, including students with disabilities and multilingual learners (MLs), must be administered *CogAT®* (the *Cognitive Abilities Test*) and the *Iowa Assessments™* except those students who qualify for the alternate test as determined by their IEPs (Individualized Education Plans).

Testing Window

- State Testing Window: October 9–27, 2023
- Make-up Testing Window: January 4–12, 2024

Test Format

- *CogAT* and the *Iowa Assessments* each offer two administration options: either through paper-based or online modes.
- The tests consist of items presented in the multiple-choice format.
- Both the *CogAT* and the *Iowa Assessments* are intended for group administration. Teachers utilize scripts provided in the respective *Directions for Administration* manuals or the testing platform to guide students through each assessment.
- The tests are **not timed**.

Subjects Tested:

CogAT

- **Verbal**—Picture Analogies, Sentence Completion, Picture Classification
- **Quantitative**—Number Analogies, Number Puzzles, Number Series
- **Nonverbal**—Figure Matrices, Paper Folding, Figure Classification

Iowa Assessments

- **Reading**—Picture Stories, Sentences, and Stories
- **Mathematics**—Part 1 and Part 2

Nature of the Questions

In **Level 8 of CogAT**, every question is presented in a multiple-choice style. Except for in the Sentence Completion subtest, the questions are entirely pictorial, eliminating the need for students to read. Following the students' responses to the sample questions, the test administrator employs general prompts for items to guide students through all subtests besides Sentence Completion.