



Online Assessments & Digital Literacy

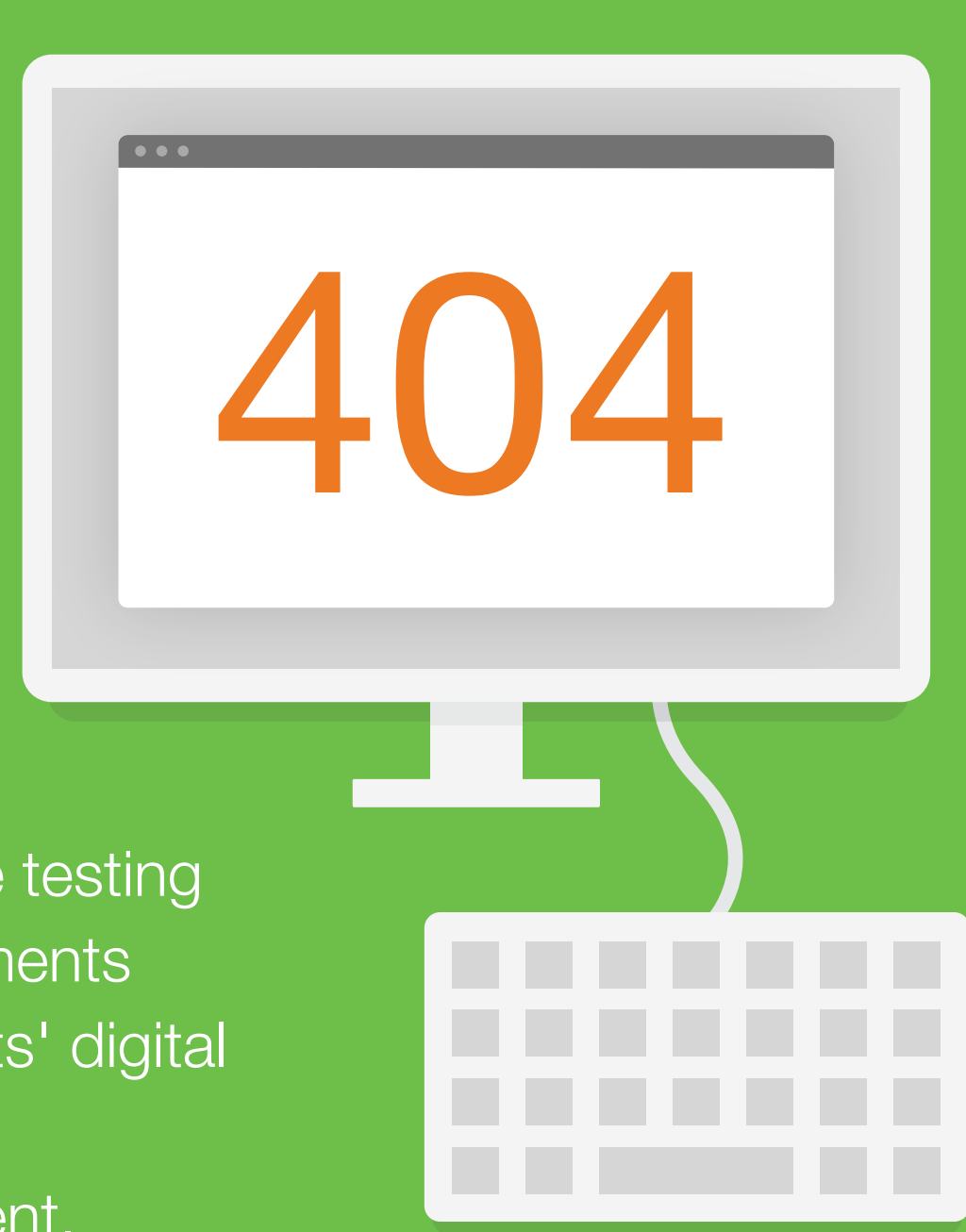
THE KEY TO DEMONSTRATING ACADEMIC PROFICIENCY



In 2015-16 approximately **87 percent** of PARCC tests were administered on a computer¹.

Students Are Unprepared

Over 70 percent of elementary school teachers feel their students are “not well prepared” with the technology skills needed to be successful on online tests.²



A major concern throughout the testing season was that online assessments would be more a test of students' digital literacy skills, rather than their understanding of the core content.

5,000,000

students around the country took PARCC exams last year³

61%

of educators said the number one gap was keyboarding⁴

Do Pencils Make Students Smarter?

56%
BETTER WITH PAPER & PENCIL

Illinois students who took **paper-and-pencil PARCC exams performed 56 percent better** than students who took the exact same test online.⁵

25%
MORE PROFICIENT

Rhode Island officials found that 42.5 percent of students who took the PARCC ELA exam on paper scored proficient, while 34 percent of those who took the test online scored proficient.⁶

35pts
LOWER FOR ONLINE TESTS

In Baltimore County, the percentage of students scoring proficient on the ELA test was **35 points lower for online test takers**, opposed to those who took the test on paper.⁷

Digital natives – the concept that today’s students are born with digital proficiency – is a myth.

If we ignore students’ digital literacy skills, they will fall short when it comes to the demands of online assessments.

Digital Literacy in Action

Here are some of the skills students are expected to use during online assessments:



Fundamental computer and mouse skills



Keyboarding skills and word processing



Creating and analyzing charts and graphs



Conducting and organizing online research



Evaluating ethical sources of information



Presenting information using digital tools

Focusing on Digital Literacy Works



A recent comparison performed by Flagstaff United School District looking at online assessment results showed that **students who utilized Learning.com’s digital literacy curriculum achieved state proficiency at a rate 4.3 times higher** – or 430 percent – than those who did not use the curriculum.⁸

Learning.com
EXCEL IN A DIGITAL WORLD

sources

¹ Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers, www.parcconline.org/files/210/New%20category/744/2015-2016%20Cross-State%20Tables.pdf

² Education Week, <http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2016/02/23/comparing-paper-and-computer-testing-7-key.html?qs=assessments>

³ Learning.com, <http://www.learning.com/news/early-analysis-of-parcc-re-sults-shows-some-students-lack-the-digital-literacy-skills-for-success-in-online-testing>

⁴ Learning.com, <http://www.learning.com/news/iste-survey-shows-concerns-remain-student-readiness-online-testing>

⁵ Education Week, <http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2016/02/03/parcc-scores-lower-on-computer.html>

⁶ Education Week, <http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2016/02/23/comparing-paper-and-computer-testing-7-key.html?qs=assessments>

⁷ Education Week, <http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2016/02/03/parcc-scores-lower-on-computer.html>

⁸ Learning.com, http://info.learning.com/hubs/Articles/AZMerit_Flagstaff_OnePageStudy_Jan17.pdf