

FRED ROBERTS

MIDDLE SCHOOL

FACTS ABOUT STAAR

SCHOOL-WIDE TESTING STRATEGY

RUBIES

R

Read and re-read everything.

Read the question carefully but don't forget to look closely at the pictures and graphs, read the titles and captions. Don't get in a hurry to jump to the end, clues to the answer could be anywhere!

U

Underline the question.

Make sure that you understand **exactly** what the question is asking. It is easy to rush through a problem and try to answer the question that you think is going to be asked **NOT** the question that is actually being asked!

B

Box the key words and phrases.

Bracket science vocabulary words, words you don't know, and the words that give unusual directions (such as **NOT** or **Least Likely**). This will help you understand what the question is really about and help you avoid any pitfalls in the answers.

I

Illustrate or Draw the key concept.

Is the question really asking you about ecosystems or is it asking you to read a diagram? Is it asking you about electrical conductivity or is it asking you about to interpret data in a graph? It is not always easy to tell but it is important to know if you are being asked about science content or about a science skill.

E

Eliminate the wrong answer choices.

You can almost always eliminate at least 1 or 2 of the wrong answer choices (sometimes you can eliminate **all three!**) **BUT** only eliminate those answer choices that you can **prove** are wrong and **explain** how you **know** that they are wrong. If you can't explain it you can't prove it!

S

Select the correct answer.

Most of the time you can't eliminate all of the wrong answers so you will have to choose the best answer from the two or three choices that are left. Science tests will often have two or three answers that could be right the trick is to select the best answer and **explain** why it is better than the others.

TESTING DATES

5 th Grade	Mock STAAR	STAAR
Math	February 12 th	April 9 th
Reading	February 13 th	April 10 th
Science	March 27 th	May 15 th

6 th Grade	Mock STAAR	STAAR
Math	March 26 th	May 13 th
Reading	March 27 th	May 14 th