



March 16, 2022

**UPCOMING SCHOOL CALENDAR EVENTS**

- March 28 - April 1 SPRING BREAK
- Wednesday, April 20 - STUDENT LED CONFERENCES (No School for Students)

The background of the poster is a photograph of a person's legs and feet walking on a dirt path. The person is wearing black leggings and grey and white sneakers. The path is covered in dry pine needles, and the background is a soft-focus view of a forest with sunlight filtering through the trees.

**RPSA WALKATHON**  
**SAVE THE DATE!**

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR TO WALK  
ON APRIL 29TH, 30TH, OR MAY 1ST.  
LOOK FOR MORE INFORMATION COMING  
AFTER SPRING BREAK**

**WHEN: APRIL 29-MAY 1**  
**WHERE: YOUR CHOICE!**  
**WHY: A PTO FUNDRAISER**

QUESTIONS? CONTACT: [RENAISSANCERAMSPTO@GMAIL.COM](mailto:RENAISSANCERAMSPTO@GMAIL.COM)

# Asking Questions

## Reading Makes Everything Better

Intellectual development is the way that children make sense of their world. Children are more likely to think in increasingly advanced ways when they are encouraged to:

- Observe
- Explore
- Manipulate
- Listen
- Make predictions
- Reflect
- Identify the characteristics of objects and events
- Classify items
- Experiment
- Make connections to past experiences
- Use different strategies to solve problems
- Ask questions

Readers practice stopping to think and asking questions as they read until they do it automatically.



**SEE**

What do you see?



**THINK**

What does what I see make me think about?



**WONDER**

What do I wonder about?  
What do I want to learn next?

Simple tools can help monitor practice. Try this:

## See, Think, Wonder Routine



**I see**

"What do you see?"



**I think**

"What does what I see make me think about?"



**I wonder**

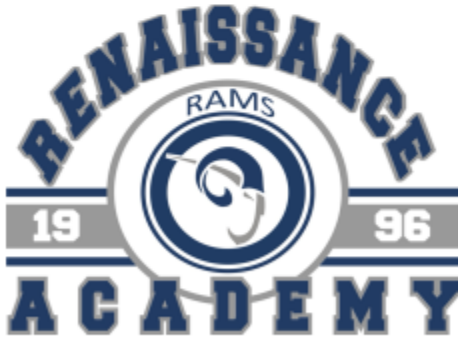
"What do I wonder about?  
What do I want to learn next? "

## How Can I Practice This at Home?

1. Select a book to read with your family.
2. Stop several times as you read the book together and practice the See, Think, Wonder routine for asking questions.
3. Discuss how asking these questions and using this thinking routine helps you understand the book better.

## **RAMS GEAR ORDER**

This is the last chance to order Rams Gear until fall. The deadline for submitting orders is Friday morning, March 25. View and print the order form below:

<b>Renaissance Public School Academy 2021-22 Apparel Sale</b>																																															
Student: _____				Teacher: _____																																											
Parent: _____				Contact phone: _____																																											
<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;"><b>Short-sleeved T-shirts</b></td> <td style="width: 5%; text-align: right;"><b>\$10</b></td> <td style="width: 5%;">YS</td> <td style="width: 5%;">YM</td> <td style="width: 5%;">YL</td> <td style="width: 5%;">AS</td> <td style="width: 5%;">AM</td> <td style="width: 5%;">AL</td> <td style="width: 5%;">AXL</td> <td style="width: 10%;">A2X (+ \$3)</td> <td style="width: 10%;">A3X (+ \$5)</td> <td style="width: 10%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Navy</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grey</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ _____</td> </tr> </table>												<b>Short-sleeved T-shirts</b>	<b>\$10</b>	YS	YM	YL	AS	AM	AL	AXL	A2X (+ \$3)	A3X (+ \$5)		Navy												Grey											\$ _____
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GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

March 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian:

This spring, your school district will administer state tests designed to provide important information on student knowledge and their progress toward being career- and college-ready upon graduation. These tests are required by federal and state laws. Schools and districts use these test results for school improvement initiatives that benefit all students. The data gathered from this year's state assessments will help educators support students when they return to school in the fall and move forward with their education.

**Students in grades 3-10 will participate in the following assessments:**

- M-STEP English language arts (ELA) and mathematics (grades 3-7)
- PSAT 8/9 (grade 8)
- M-STEP science and social studies (grades 5 and 8)
- PSAT 8/9 (grade 9)
- PSAT 10 (grade 10)

**Grade 11 students will participate in the Michigan Merit Examination (MME), which has three required components:**

- SAT with Essay college entrance exam that also measures student knowledge on Michigan's ELA and mathematics standards
- ACT WorkKeys work skills assessment
- M-STEP science and social studies

We want your child's state testing experience to be as stress-free as possible. Your positive outlook will support your child's experience. State assessment results do not affect your student's grades in any way.

On average, a student will spend no more than three hours on M-STEP mathematics and ELA tests. Students in grades 5, 8, and 11 will spend an additional two hours on science and social studies testing.

While we support parents in making choices for their children, there is no acceptable way under state or federal law to allow an "opt-out" of state assessments. Last year, requirements for 95 percent participation in state assessments were waived by the U.S. Department of Education due to COVID-19 restrictions. However, this is no longer the case for 2022. Students who are not assessed this year will count against their school's required 95 percent participation rate, which will create an incomplete picture of their school's performance.

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608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909  
[www.michigan.gov/mde](http://www.michigan.gov/mde) • 833-633-5788

Parent/Guardian  
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March 2022

Annual assessments provide information on how Michigan students perform and how well our schools and districts are teaching students compared to those in other communities, states, and nations. Assessment results help target support and resources to students and schools that need them most. The test results may also inform future state education programs and policies to help Michigan students catch up on learning that was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

You can find information about Michigan's state assessment system on our website, [www.michigan.gov/oeaa](http://www.michigan.gov/oeaa). An excellent place to start is with the handout "Michigan's State Assessment System: What It Is, What It Means, and What It Offers." Additional information, including how to help your child prepare for M-STEP testing, is available at [www.michigan.gov/mstep](http://www.michigan.gov/mstep).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael F. Rice". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael F. Rice, Ph.D.  
State Superintendent