

## Content Reporting Categories

Grade	Category	%
5	Nature of Science	17
	Earth and Space Science	29
	Physical Science	29
	Life Science	25
8	Nature of Science	19
	Earth and Space Science	27
	Physical Science	27
	Life Science	27

## Cognitive Complexity Levels

### Percentage of Points by Cognitive Complexity Level for FCAT 2.0 Science

Grade	Low	Moderate	High
5	10 - 20	60 - 80	10 - 20
8	10 - 20	60 - 80	10 - 20

Source: Florida Department of Education

## Test Administration Schedule

**Wednesday, April 17, 2013:**

- Grade 5 Science Session 1

**Thursday, April 18, 2013:**

- Grade 5 Science Session 2
- Grade 8 Science (Session 1 and 2)



Miami-Dade County Public Schools  
Office of Academics and Transformation  
Division of Academics, Accountability,  
& School Improvement

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Miami-Dade County Public Schools

## Preparing for Science FCAT 2.0 Grades 5 and 8



## Test Administration Information

### About FCAT 2.0

- Grades 5 and 8 FCAT 2.0 Science will be administered in two 80-minute sessions with a break in the middle of each session. Grade 5 sessions are administered over two days. Grade 8 sessions are administered on the same day.
- Students in grade 8 will receive a hand-held four-function calculator and a Periodic Table of the Elements for use during the FCAT 2.0 Science sessions.

Source: Florida Department of Education

# TIPS for Taking FCAT 2.0

Here are some hints to help you do your best when you take the FCAT 2.0 science test. Keep these hints in mind when you answer the sample questions:

- Sleep well the night before and eat a balanced and nutritious breakfast
- Read each question carefully and think about ways to answer or solve the problem before you try to answer the question.
- Use reading text marking strategies (underline, circle, margin notes, etc.)
- Answer the questions you are sure about first. If a question seems too difficult, skip it and go back to it later.
- Think positively. Some questions may seem hard to you, but you may be able to figure out what to do if you read each question carefully.
- When you have finished each question, re-read it to make sure your answer is reasonable.
- Relax. Some people get nervous about tests. It's natural. Just do your best.

# Grade 8 Periodic Table of Elements

Periodic Table of the Elements  
(based on  $^{12}_6\text{C} = 12.0000$ )

**Legend:**  
 14 — Atomic number  
 Si — Symbol  
 Silicon — Name  
 28.086 — Average Atomic Mass

**Representative Elements:** Groups 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A, 6A, 7A, 8A.

**Inner Transition Metals:**  
 Lanthanide series (Ce to Lu)  
 Actinide series (Th to Lr)

Florida Department of Education

## FCAT 2.0 Achievement Level Descriptions (ALD)

- Achievement Level Descriptions (ALD) indicate what a child should be able to do at each achievement level
- Grade 5 and 8 FCAT 2.0 Science ALD can be accessed at:  
<http://fcat.fldoe.org/fcat2/alds.asp>

Grade	Item Types and Numbers
5	60 – 66 MC
8	60 – 66 MC

Grade	Duration of Tests (minutes)
5	160
8	160

**Key**  
**MC – Multiple Choice**