

Got the Report Card Blues?

Don't stress! Oxford Learning is here to help.



Here are some helpful tips to keep in mind while reading your child's report card from **Grade 3 through Grade 8:**

- The middle elementary years are about progressing properly and meeting curriculum expectations.
- Academics are increasingly important with each grade.
- Students are building on the basic skills with each passing grade.
- In-class behaviour and learning skills are still very important.
- Consistency is key to report cards. Children should not be going down in grade points from report to report.
- Students are aware that academic performance is important, and this can cause school stress, which in turn can have an impact on grades.
- During these years, students encounter standardized testing for the first time. School skills such as studying, work habits, and organization are important and can affect grades.
- Even if grades are not high, be sure to look for incremental improvement since the last report card. This shows progress, which is important.
- Each grade builds on previous skills. If there are skill gaps, it's necessary to get help as soon as possible.

After reviewing the report card, do these things:

- Have a report card discussion with your child.
- Be cool, calm, and collected. Start with positive comments, and then identify areas of concern.
- Make a plan to work on problem areas as soon as possible.
- State and write down academic goals. This becomes increasingly important with each grade.
- Contact your local Oxford Learning for more report card tips.

See also: Growing Success: Assessment, Reporting and Evaluation in Ontario Schools, 2010

