

A good teacher can inspire hope, ignite the imagination, and instill a love of learning.

– Brad Henry

Therakids

ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF EDUCATORS AND PLANTING THE SEEDS OF CLASSROOM WELLNESS.

Preparing Students for the PARCC Test

The PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers) test is being introduced to more than 4 million students in 36 states. This new testing is being used to measure the effectiveness of Common Core Standards in the areas of Mathematics and English/Language Arts.

What skills are needed for students to effectively take the PARCC test?

- **Keyboarding** – Students need to have a basic knowledge of where alphabet and number keys are located.
- **Basic computer skills** – Students need to be familiar with basic use of a mouse - drag and drop, highlighting, playing a video, etc. Also, make sure the students are familiar with computer vocabulary such as cut, copy, and paste along with using delete, tab, and insert keys. Speed and accuracy are also a component of completing this test.
- **Stamina** – The PARCC test requires students to sit for an extended amount of time typing. Make sure students are able to keep focus while sitting at the computer.
- **Problem solving** – Have students comfortable with fixing simple technical problems such as the caps lock won't turn on, or the document froze. Stand by as a resource, but encourage the students to problem solve.

Suggested websites:

Sample PARCC test

<http://www.parcconline.org/computer-based-samples>

Dance Mat Typing

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/guides/z3c6tfr>

PARCC games

<http://parccgames.com/>

Ways to practice the above skills

- Typing games at home
- Type out responses to short answer questions, keep a journal in Word to work on stamina, getting thoughts from their head to their paper
- General exposure to a computer (not an Ipad). Let the student become familiar with where the keys are located, what each function key does, and using the mouse.

Therakids P.C. provides specialized occupational, physical and speech therapy services to help children overcome developmental concerns. Services are provided in the school setting throughout southwestern Illinois by licensed occupational therapists, occupational therapy assistants, physical therapists, physical therapist assistants and speech-language pathologists. Email: www.Therakids.org

