



# **ISTAR Item Samplers**

## **English/Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies**

**Grades 3-8 & 10**

**Updated November 2016**



# ISTAR Item Samplers

The following items are samples, designed for use with

- teachers, as part of professional development and
- students, to familiarize them with items aligned to the college-and-career-ready 2014 Indiana Academic Standards.



# Tiers

- **Tier 1** - Tier 1 questions use simple and direct language. Graphics are provided for most answer choices, along with text, which give students a visual support to answer the questions.
- **Tier 2** - Tier 2 questions are more complex than those in Tier 1. More introductory phrases may be included in the questions and fewer graphics in the answer choices than in Tier 1. There is a greater level of complexity in how students respond to the questions than in Tier 1.
- **Tier 3** - Tier 3 includes more detailed directions and questions. There is more text and few to no graphics in the answer choices. There may be more abstract ideas and inferencing in Tier 3. There is more complexity in how students respond to the questions than in Tier 2.



# Item Information

## Sample Item Information for Teachers

**Grade:** 3

**Tier:** 1

**Key:** C

**DOK:** 2 [Link to DOK Wheel](#)

**Indiana Academic Standard: MA.3.AT.1**

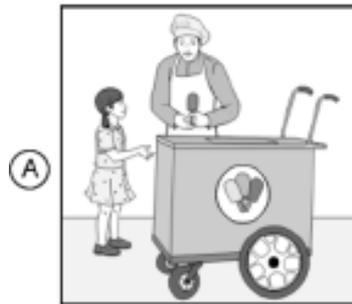
Solve real-world problems involving addition and subtraction of whole numbers within 1000 (e.g., by using drawings and equations with a symbol for the unknown number).

**Content Connector: 3.AT.1.a.1:**

Use pictures and/or manipulatives to solve real-world one-step addition and subtraction word problems.

# Samples for Each Tier

What does a chef do?



A chef sells food.

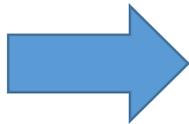


A chef cleans up.



A chef prepares food.

Tier 1



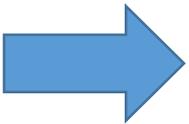
Which sentence from the passage shows why you should not feed wild animals?

- (A) "The geese in the pond look friendly, so you throw a piece of popcorn or some bread at them."
- (B) "A squirrel looks cute, so you toss more of your snack at the squirrel."
- (C) "Feeding wild animals can make a park less safe."

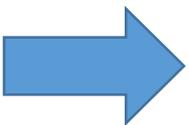
Which sentence from the passage explains why caves are important to people?

- (A) "There is a secret world under the ground there."
- (B) "Many unusual plants and animals live in Indiana's caves."
- (C) "They carry and store water that we need to live."

Tier 2



Tier 3





# English/Language Arts

Grade Bands (3-4, 5-6, 7-8 and 10)

Includes:

- Sample passages for each tier
- Passage-based items aligned to reading standards
- Stand-alone items aligned to writing standards

ELA sampler is written to grade bands and all items are multiple choice.



# Math

Grades 3 -8 and 10

Samples show the range of item types:

- Multiple Choice
- Two Part
- Multiple Select
- Drop Down



# Science (4, 6 and 10) and Social Studies (5 and 7)

Samples show the range of item types:

- Multiple Choice
- Two Part
- Multiple Select
- Drop Down



# Resources

<http://www.doe.in.gov/assessment/alternate-assessments>

- Blueprints
- Instructional and Assessment Guidance including the Aligned Content Connectors
- Standards and Assessment Vocabulary

# Questions

For general information and policy questions about Alternate Assessment/ISTAR, contact Karen Stein @ [istar@doe.in.gov](mailto:istar@doe.in.gov) or visit our website @

<http://www.doe.in.gov/assessment/alternate-assessments>



**IMAGINING**  
the possibilities.  
MAKING THEM HAPPEN.



**Indiana**  
**Department of Education**

**Glenda Ritz, NBCT**

Indiana Superintendent of Public Instruction