

Cross of Hope Elementary School participates in the ITBS, a national standardized test, administered to 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades every April. A standardized test is an assessment tool that has a “sameness” to it in terms of the tasks students are asked to complete, the procedures used to administer it, and the methods used to score it. “Standard” simply means that it is the same for everyone: no student or class group is given an advantage, and none is put at a disadvantage because of the procedures used. The ITBS is a norm-referenced assessment which compares a student’s score with the scores other students obtained on the same test. Below you will find out how Cross of Hope students score using **national norms**. It is important to understand that percentages on normed tests are not equivalent to grades...i.e. 70% does not mean the school got a C grade. It means that the school is performing ABOVE 70% of schools in the nation. In other words, a school that receives a 70% in reading is performing in the **top 30% of the nation in reading**.

The following academic areas are assessed during the ITBS:

- Reading (vocabulary and comprehension)
- Language (spelling, capitalization, punctuation, usage and expression)
- Word Analysis
- Listening
- Mathematics (concepts, estimation, problem-solving, data, and computation)
- Social Studies
- Science
- Sources of Information (Maps, diagrams, and reference materials)

For the 2010-11 year our students’ ITBS composite scores were:

- 3rd Grade: 97% (Our 3rd graders are performing in the top 3% of the nation)
- 4th Grade: 96% (Our 4th graders are performing in the top 4% of the nation)
- 5th Grade: 89% (Our 5th graders are performing in the top 11% of the nation)

A breakdown of subject area scores in each grade level can be found below.

Percentile Rank of Average National School Norms 2010-2011			
	3rd Grade	4th Grade	5th Grade
Reading	99% (top 1 %)	98% (top 2%)	92% (top 8%)
Language Arts	75% (top 25%)	61% (top 39%)	99% (top 1%)
Math	90% (top 10%)	79% (top 21%)	65% (top 35%)
Social Studies	99% (top 1%)	99% (top 1%)	82% (top 18%)
Science	99% (top 1%)	99% (top 1%)	92% (top 8%)
Sources of Information	99% (top 1%)	97% (top 3%)	86% (top 14%)