THE WRITING ACADEMY®, LLC | TEACH BIG®

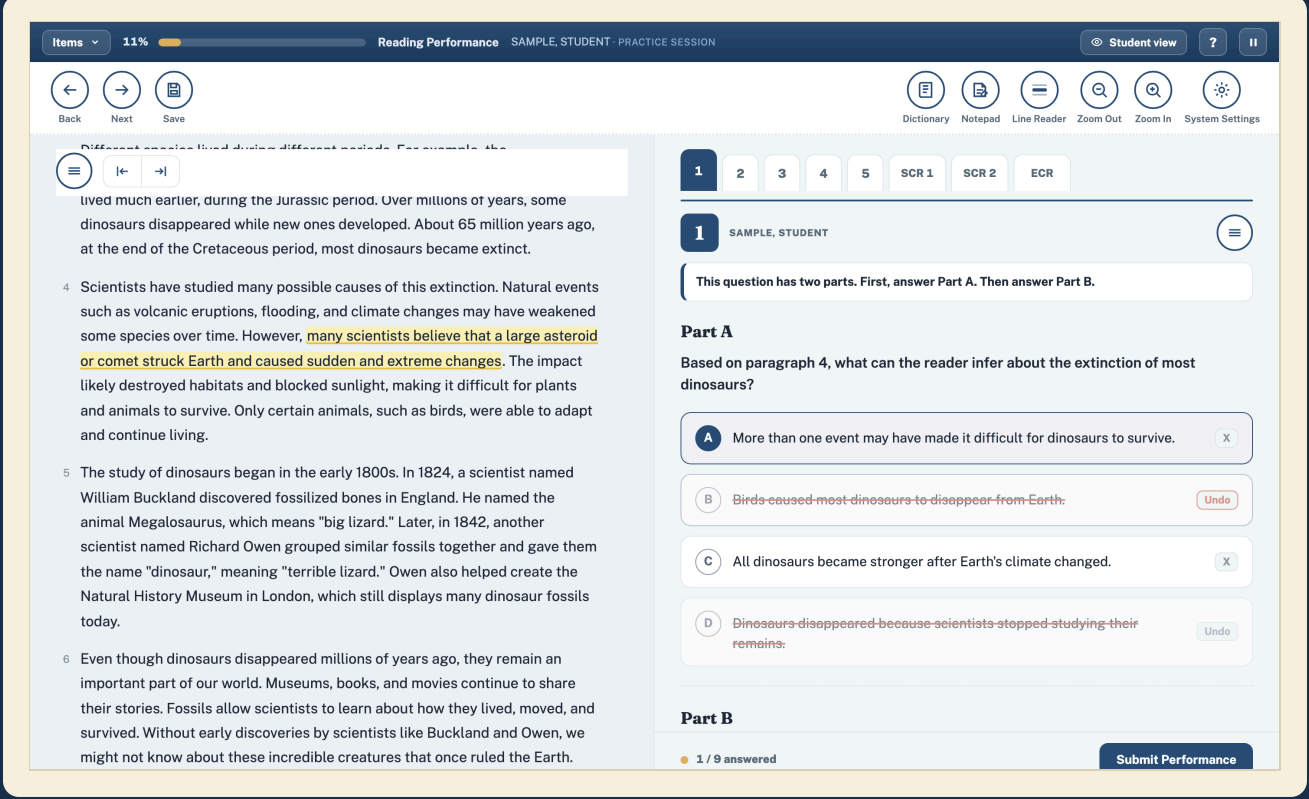
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# OnSTAGE

## Online Reading Student Testing and Growth Evaluation

## Understand what students can do with a text, and what they need to learn next.

OnSTAGE is our TEKS-based reading practice assessment platform: real assessment wording, the exact types of distractors, and the same layout as the real test, with student supports built in and reports that point to the next small group.




Screens show demo content.

# What OnSTAGE Is

OnSTAGE is the reading assessment service in the Teach BIG® digital system, and everything in it is based on the TEKS. Students practice in a setting that looks and works like the real test, with student supports built into the process. The instructional question does not stop at "Did the student answer correctly?" It extends to "Which part of this reading task needs attention?"

A student might recognize a reasonable inference but select evidence that does not support it. Another might locate a true detail without deciding whether it answers the question. Those needs call for different follow up instruction, and OnSTAGE is designed to organize evidence of performance so teachers can set priorities, choose instruction, and revisit the skill.

## How it works in a week

**MONDAY**
**Assess**
Students take a short TEKS-based reading practice assessment in the familiar test layout.

**TUESDAY**
**Review**
The teacher sees results by TEKS and by student, built from many responses, not one missed question.

**WEDNESDAY**
**Group**
Small groups form around the TEKS that need attention, each tied to matching TEKS games.

**THURSDAY**
**Reteach**
The group revisits the question and the passage, and talks about why a tempting answer is not enough.

**FRIDAY**
**Check**
A fresh task, not a repeated item, checks whether the reading decision is stronger.

### Four Digital Services. One Connected Path to Stronger Reading and Writing.

**Assess the need. Teach the standard. Practice with purpose. Check for growth.** OnSTAGE is the reading half of the assess step: it reveals the reading need. These are not four unrelated purchases. They are four complementary services from The Writing Academy®, LLC, designed to connect what assessment reveals with what teachers teach and what students practice next. Each service has value on its own.

## Why one missed question is not a diagnosis

A single wrong answer can come from a careless click, an unfamiliar word in the passage, or a real gap in a reading skill. Treating every miss as a gap sends students to reteaching they do not need, and hides the students who need it most.

OnSTAGE looks for patterns across many responses on the same TEKS before it points to a need. In the TBASE TEKS Tracker, a TEKS earns an OnSTAGE level only after three items. When the same reading decision goes wrong again and again, the teacher knows it is worth a small group.

FROM THE TEACH BIG BLOG

## Three Questions to Ask After Every Practice Test

**Which answer did they choose?** A class that misses a question is rarely split evenly. When most of the wrong answers land on the same choice, that choice tells you what the students were thinking.

**Why was it tempting?** On released STAAR items, wrong answers follow patterns: a true detail that does not answer the question, a statement too broad for the text, or an idea that sounds reasonable but has no support in the passage. Naming the pattern gives students a tool they can use on the next passage.

**What will we practice next?** The follow up should be one reading decision, taught with a fresh passage. When the class meets the same trap in new text and avoids it, that is growth that shows up on test day.

> **"What the child can do in cooperation today he can do alone tomorrow."**
>
> Lev Vygotsky, *Thought and Language* (English translation, 1962)

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# Inside the Platform

### TEKS-based everything

Every passage, question, and report is tied to a named TEKS student expectation.

### Real assessment wording

Questions and answer choices use the same wording students see on the state assessment.

### The exact types of distractors

Wrong answer choices are built from the exact types of distractors students see on the test, with an explanation of each.

### Same functionality and layout

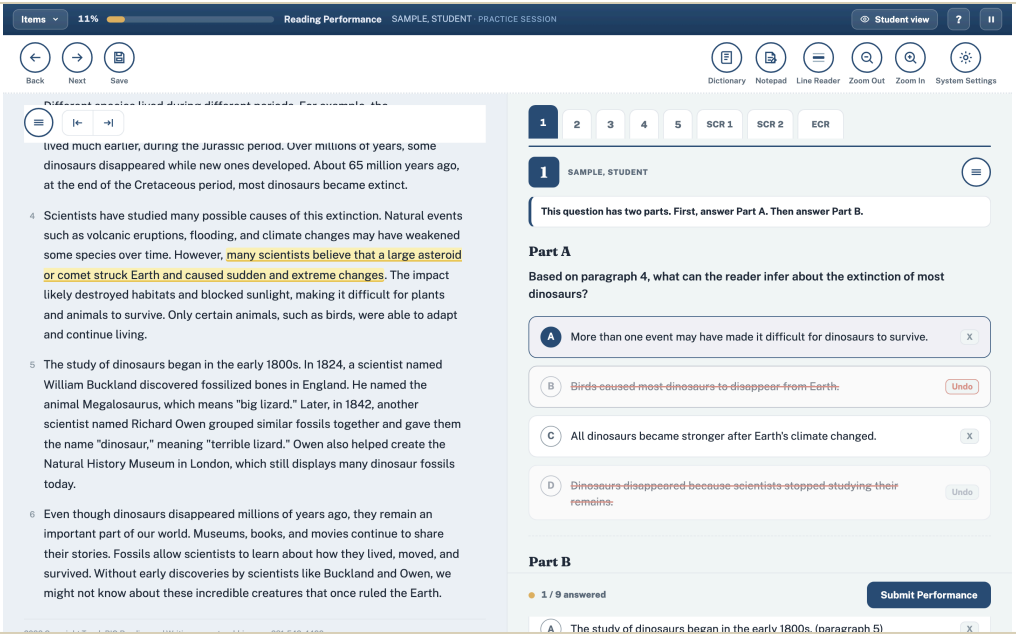
The same tools and layout as the real testing system, so students are familiar with it before test day.

### Student supports

Read aloud, highlight, notes, and answer elimination are part of the process, because this is practice, not a high-stakes test.

### Reports and exportable data

Multiple reports from student answers, with data ready to place into Eduphoria, lead4ward, or DMAC.




**What students see: the OnSTAGE test screen, built to match the STAAR online testing tools (highlighter, answer eliminator, question navigator). The passage sits on the left, the question on the right, and the question numbers across the top. Demo content.**

### Real STAAR question stems: Inference (TEKS 6.F)

- "What can the reader infer about the crows based on their actions after Father Crow talks to the fox?" Grade 3
- "What can the reader infer about the results of the research study described in paragraph 5?" Grade 4
- "In paragraphs 2 through 6, what can the reader infer about Baatar?" Grade 5

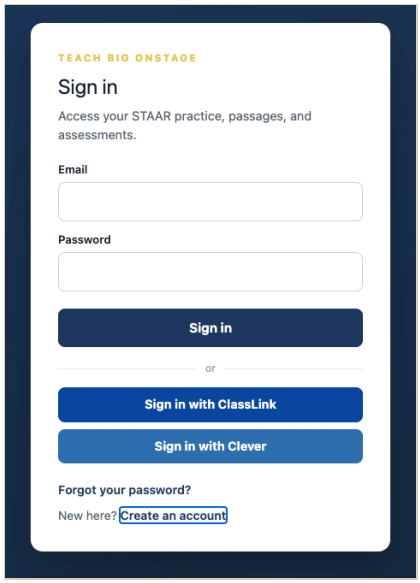
Source: Texas Education Agency, released STAAR Reading Language Arts tests, Grades 3 to 5, May 2022. TEKS from the official answer keys.

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# The Student Experience

Students sign in with a teacher assigned identifier or through ClassLink or Clever, choose an assigned passage, and test in the same layout as the state assessment.

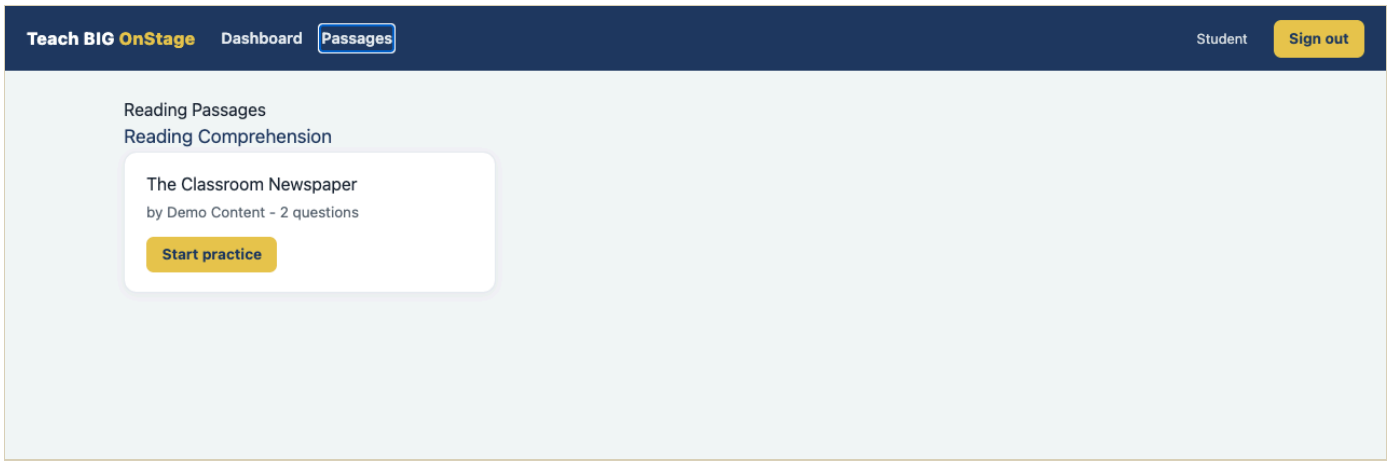
**Demo content.** These are real OnSTAGE screens shown with demo content.




Sign in with an email, ClassLink, or Clever.

## What students do

- **Choose a passage.** Assigned reading passages wait on the Passages screen.
- **Read with tools.** Highlight, erase, read aloud, and notes sit in the test tool bar.
- **Answer and mark.** Mark any question for review and return before submitting.
- **Strike out choices.** The S button eliminates an answer choice, just as students do on test day.
- **Submit.** Results go to the teacher by TEKS.




The student Passages screen in the OnSTAGE build.

### Familiar before test day

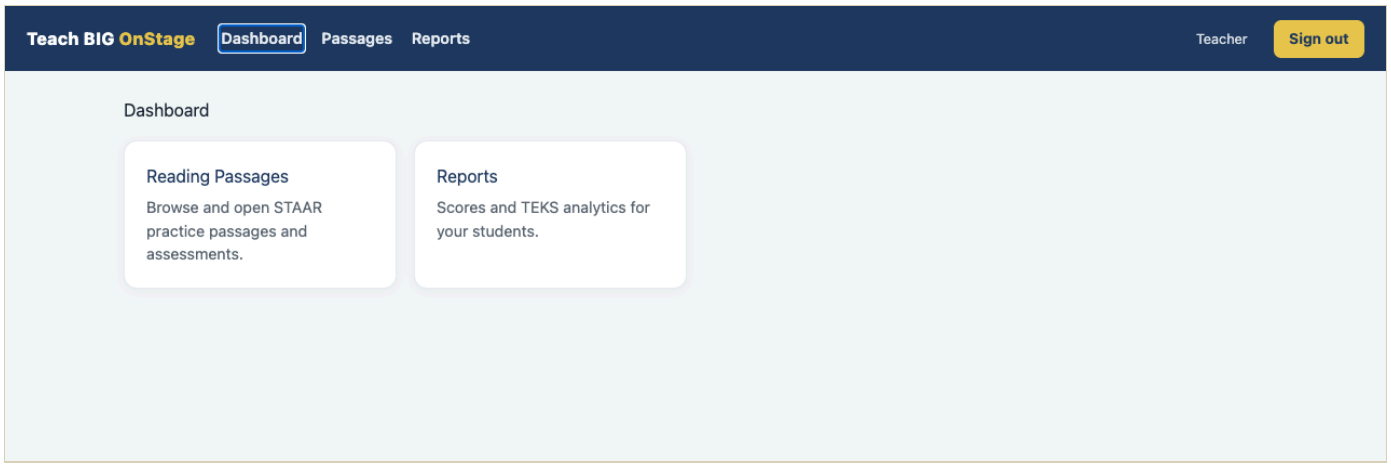
Because OnSTAGE uses the same tools and layout as the state testing system, the first time a student sees a highlighter, a notes box, or a mark for review flag is not on test day. Practice time goes to the reading, not to learning the screen.

> **"I believe that education, therefore, is a process of living and not a preparation for future living."**
>
> John Dewey, *My Pedagogic Creed* (1897)

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# The Teacher View

Teachers see the same passages their students see, then review scores and TEKS analytics for the class.




The OnSTAGE teacher dashboard: Reading Passages and Reports.

### Scores by student

Each student identifier with a score for every passage taken.

### Most missed TEKS

The TEKS the class missed most, so the next small group is clear.

### Distractor review

Which wrong answer students chose, and the type of distractor it was.

### Data ready to export

Results formatted for Eduphoria, lead4ward, and DMAC.

### What a teacher does after a test

Open the most missed TEKS, read which wrong answer the class chose, and pull a small group around that one reading decision. The next practice uses a fresh passage, so growth reflects stronger reading, not a remembered answer.

### What the test asks for: STAAR Grade 4 Reading Language Arts

| 41 | 52 | 10 | 24 to 26 | 55 to 75% |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| questions on the test | total points | points from one extended constructed response (the essay) | points from the Writing reporting category | of points come from readiness standards |

Almost half of the points are writing, and one essay alone is worth 10 of 52 points. A student who reads well but cannot explain evidence in writing leaves points on the table. That is why every Teach BIG service practices the thinking students must show in writing.

Source: Texas Education Agency, STAAR Grade 4 Reading Language Arts Blueprint, effective school year 2022 to 2023 (published August 2022). Grades 3 and 5 blueprints are available from TEA.

> **"We begin with the hypothesis that any subject can be taught effectively in some intellectually honest form to any child at any stage of development."**
>
> Jerome Bruner, *The Process of Education* (1960)

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# Why Tempting Answers Tempt: Reading the Wrong Answers

On a reading test, the wrong answer choices are not random. A well written wrong answer is tempting for a reason, and the reason tells the teacher what the student needs next. OnSTAGE explains each wrong answer so the follow up can target the thinking, not just the score.

**True, but not the answer.** The choice states something the passage really says, but it does not answer this question. The student needs to return to the question.

**Too narrow or too broad.** The choice names one detail when the question asks for the central idea, or reaches past what the text supports.

**From the wrong part of the text.** The words appear in the passage, but in a part that does not connect to the question. The student needs to locate before choosing.

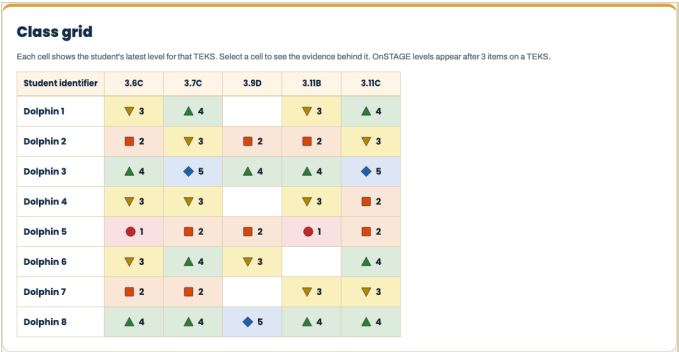
**Sounds right, unsupported.** The choice is reasonable from life experience but has no evidence in this passage. The student needs to prove it with the text.

These are Teach BIG instructional categories for talking about wrong answers with students, not an official TEA classification.

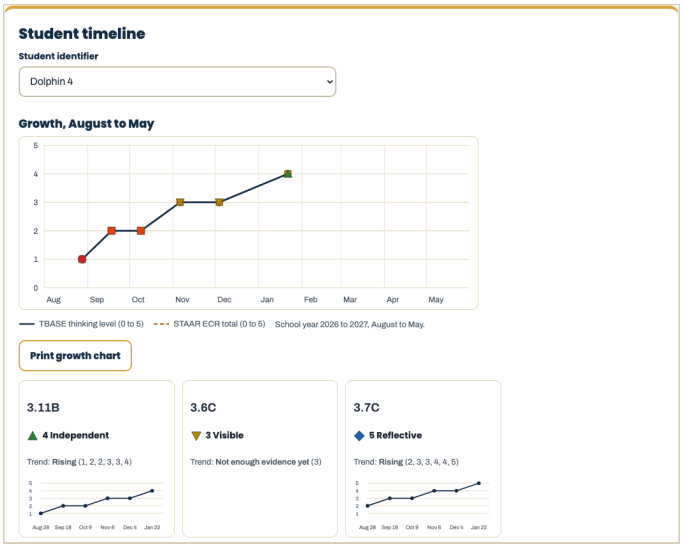
## One student, every TEKS: OnSTAGE results in the TBASE TEKS Tracker

OnSTAGE results import into the TBASE Student TEKS Tracker, so reading results and essay scores sit side by side for each student identifier. A TEKS earns an OnSTAGE level after three items, so one missed question never defines a student.

SAMPLE DATA. STUDENTS APPEAR ONLY BY IDENTIFIERS SUCH AS DOLPHIN 1.




Student TEKS Tracker: each student by TEKS. OnSTAGE and TBASE evidence together.




Student timeline, including an imported OnSTAGE result for 3.6C.

FROM THE TEACH BIG BLOG

## Small Groups That Change Week to Week

A small group built from one test score tends to stay the same all year. A group built from one reading decision can change every week. When results are organized by TEKS and by the type of wrong answer chosen, a teacher can pull the four students who chose a true detail that did not answer the question, teach that one decision, and release them when they show it on a fresh passage.

That is the purpose of OnSTAGE reports: not a ranking, but a short list of who needs what next, with a matching activity ready to use.

> **"Education then, beyond all other devices of human origin, is the great equalizer of the conditions of men, the balance-wheel of the social machinery."**
>
> Horace Mann, *Twelfth Annual Report to the Massachusetts Board of Education* (1848)

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# Reports, Small Groups, and TEKS Alignment

### Results by TEKS

Teachers see performance on specific reading expectations rather than only an overall percentage.

### Small group guidance

When a student or group struggles with a TEKS, results point to the matching RLA Learning LAB game and small group activities for that standard.

### District data systems

Exports formatted for Eduphoria, lead4ward, and DMAC, so results join the data your district already uses.

### Value on its own

Teachers can use results to guide lessons, small groups, tutorials, and enrichment without purchasing the other services.

### From data to the next small group

Student growth comes through the follow up: examining the question, revisiting the passage, discussing why an answer is supported, and understanding why another answer is tempting but not enough. The purpose is not simply to repeat assessment items. It is to strengthen the reading decisions students make.

### Connected across the complete system

An identified reading need leads to the matching Daily Decks Triplet and RLA Learning LAB practice within the same content level, cluster, module, and passage set.

# Privacy and Accessibility

### No personal student data

We do not collect personal data or email addresses from any student at any time. Students use teacher assigned identifiers, such as Dolphin 1, never names.

### US hosted

Student work is processed and hosted in the United States.

### Accessible for every learner

Tested against WCAG 2.1 AA, with read aloud where it fits the skill and captions on our videos.

### Teacher controlled

Teachers create classes and assign identifiers. No student account needs an email address.

### Real STAAR question stems: Theme (TEKS 8.A) and Message (TEKS 10.A)

- “What theme does the poet express in the poem?” Grade 4, 8.A
- “What is the main theme of the play?” Grade 5, 8.A
- “Which sentence best states a message in the selection?” Grade 4, 10.A

Source: Texas Education Agency, released STAAR Reading Language Arts tests, Grades 3 to 5, May 2022. TEKS from the official answer keys.

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# Pricing and Purchasing

| Plan | Price | What it includes |
|---|---|---|
| **RLA Learning LAB** | **$99 per year** | Reading and writing TEKS-based interactive games for the teacher and 25 students. |
| **Daily Decks** | **$99 per year** | TEKS-based bell ringer Triplets: daily thinking-leveled slides, a teacher script for every slide, and student tracking pages. |
| **TBASE** | **$149 per year** | Teach BIG Automated Scoring Engine: essay scoring with teacher, class, student, and family reports for the teacher and 25 students. |
| **OnSTAGE (this magazine)** | **$149 per year** | Online Reading Student Testing and Growth Evaluation: the reading practice assessment platform for the teacher and 25 students. |
| **Additional students** | **+$5 each** | Per additional student for RLA Learning LAB, TBASE, and OnSTAGE. |
| **Additional adult** | **+$49** | Adds an administrator, specialist, or second teacher. One price covers all registered services. |
| **Complete Set** | **$479 per year** | All four digital platforms for one teacher and 25 students, with one administrator FREE, for one year from purchase. |

**OnSTAGE:** Adds students at +$5 each. The Trifecta curriculum (Teacher Lesson Plans, interactive student workbooks, and daily lesson slides) is sold separately.

### Budget codes

Districts commonly purchase from **RLA**, **Social Studies**, or **Technology** budgets. Every passage is built on social studies and science content.

### IMRA documentation

We are also in the midst of the IMRA process and have all the appropriate documentation for districts to self-approve based on our TEKS correlations, accommodation adaptability, privacy, and family communication requirements.

### The Complete Set at a glance

**$496**
if all four platforms are bought individually

**$479**
for the Complete Set, one teacher and 25 students

**$49**
administrator seat included FREE with the Complete Set

**4**
services: assess, teach, practice, and check for growth

## Support the learner. Preserve the rigor. Keep the learning connected.

## See it for yourself

Scan the code or visit **tbase.teachbig.com/try** to try the Teach BIG tools, and call the office to see an OnSTAGE demo.

**Office:** 281-549-4466 | **Web:** teachbig.com | **Try:** tbase.teachbig.com/try

Relieving stress. Raising scores.

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