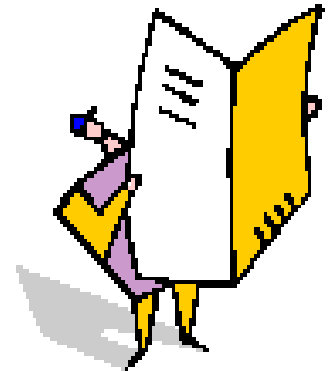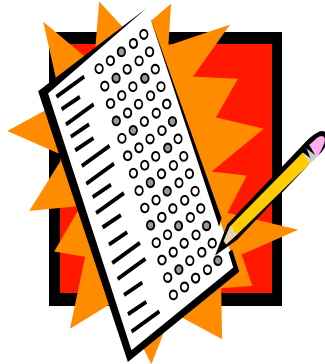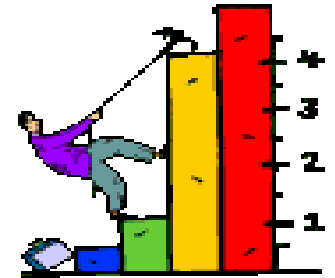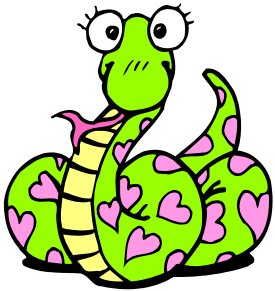# Computer-Based Test-Taking Strategies

Adapted from Matt Guffey, Longridge Elementary School's original presentation

By Danielle Delgado, Technology Coach, Pine School for the Visual and Performing Arts for use with the Indiana ISTEP+ computer-based tests.

"Jail" the Detail!

- Use the "**Highlighter**" tool to help you focus on exactly what the question is asking you to do.

Mr. Detail

Slash the Trash!

- Read ALL of the answer choices. Use the **"Option (Answer Choice) Eliminator"** tool to eliminate the choices you know are wrong. If you need to remove a red "X" – just use the "**Eraser**" tool!
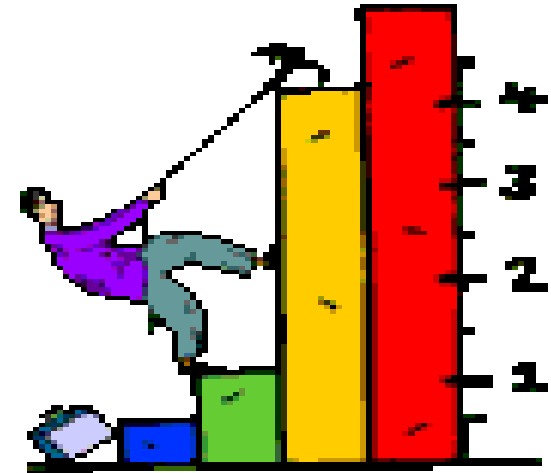
Plug it in, Plug it in!

- Once you have chosen your answer, plug it in and make sure that it makes sense! (this works really well with vocabulary and math questions).
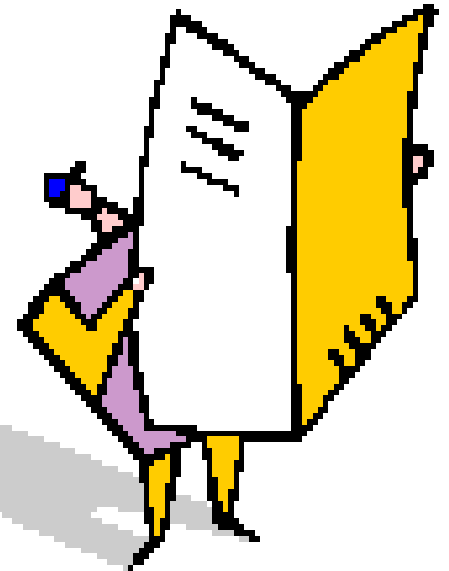
Be Smart With Charts & Zap the Maps!

- Charts and Maps provide information that you can use to answer questions! Analyze **ALL** information provided before answering the questions!

Extra! Extra! Read All About It!

- If the directions say read…. READ! Pay close attention to signal words in the directions, such as *explain*, *interpret*, and *compare*.
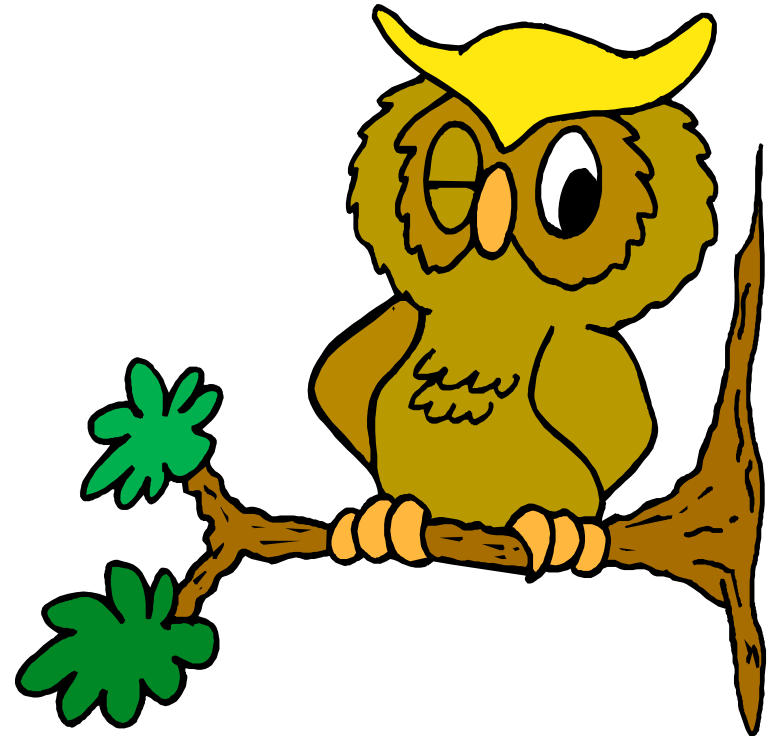
Watch Out! for words like:

"all" "now" always" "never"
"only" "exactly"

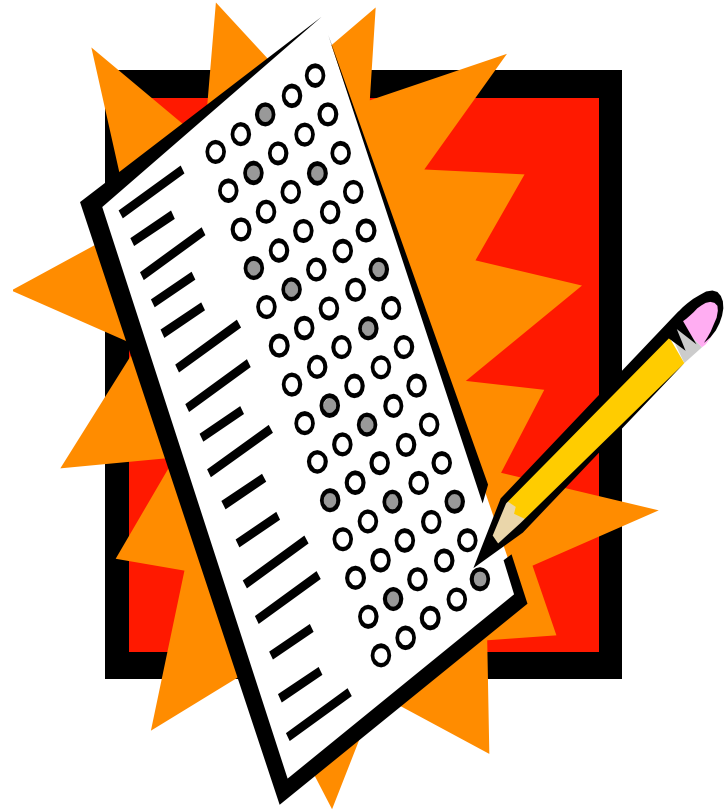# If you SNOOZE, You will LOSE!

- Take your time! Don't click so fast, you have no chance of getting the question right! Click only after you've read carefully!

Be a Whiz…with the Grid and Click It!

- Beware! If the answer is not marked, it will not count. So make sure to click it!

Keep On Keeping On!

- If you get to a couple of questions that you just don't know, don't give up! Use the **"Mark for Later Review"** tool and come back to it later!

Rule with the Tools!

Do you have to measure something? Then make sure you Rule with the Tools! Click on the "½ inch Ruler and Centimeter (cm) Ruler" tool to use the ruler for all the questions that need to be measured just right!

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Check, Check, Check It Out!

- When you have completed the test, go back and check your work (at least twice)!