

Bringing Learning to Life



Q&A for NWEA MAP Testing

What is the NWEA MAP?

You may be familiar with paper and pencil tests where all students are asked the same questions and spend a certain amount of time taking the test. Measures of Academic Progress® (MAP®), created by Northwest Evaluation Association™ (NWEA™), is different. MAP is a computer adaptive test, which means every student gets a unique set of test questions based on responses to previous questions. As the student answers correctly, questions get harder. If the student answers incorrectly, the questions get easier. This means your child will get a test designed specifically for them and gives information on their strengths and needs. Schools give MAP tests in the beginning, middle, and end of the school year for all students in grades KG-10.

What does MAP measure?

MAP results are provided as a numerical score. This score is used to measure a student's achievement level at different times of the school year and compute growth. Think of this like marking height on a growth chart. You can tell how tall your child is at various points in time and how much they have grown between one time and another.

How do schools and teachers use MAP scores?

The testing data helps teachers monitor their students' progress throughout the year. MAP provides data around the typical growth for students who are in the same grade, subject, and have the same starting achievement level. This data is often used to help students set individual goals and understand what they need to learn to achieve their goals.

What types of questions are used on the MAP tests? Are there sample tests?

The MAP tests include multiple choice, drag and drop, and other types of questions. The questions on MAP are similar to questions your child would see in their classroom or on ISTEP. You can access some short sample tests to get an idea of what MAP questions look like.

Why did the EVSC choose NWEA MAP Assessments?

The NWEA MAP Assessments now serve as one test that provides information for high ability identification, RTI (Response to Intervention) identification, recommended areas for individual skill development and yearly growth information for students. Fewer assessments result in more instructional time for teachers and less testing time for students.