

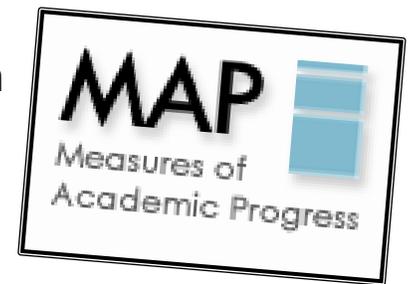
What is MAP?

Measures of Academic Progress

Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) is a computerized adaptive assessment program that provides educators with the information they need to improve teaching and learning. During the next few weeks, all students in grades K through 5th will be scheduled to take the MAP assessment for reading and math. Using the data from the testing reports, teachers can make student-focused, data-driven decisions for individualized instruction. The growth and achievement data from MAP is used to develop targeted instructional strategies and to plan school improvement. This year, the entire district has adopted MAP as their universal screener for students. All students will be tested three times per year (fall, winter, and spring) in reading and math.

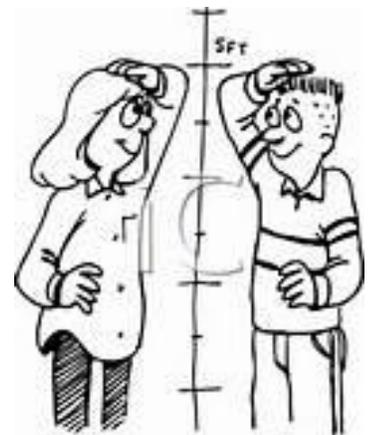
MAP:

- ❖ is a universal screener
- ❖ adjusts to a student's skill level so that each student takes an individualized test
- ❖ generates test questions based on student responses
- ❖ is administered utilizing the computers with adult supervision
- ❖ reports student results in RIT scores and percentile rankings
- ❖ gives immediate results
- ❖ measures growth over time
- ❖ provides information used to target individual instruction
- ❖ provides teachers and parents with information about skills student know (independent level), current learning (instructional level), and next steps for future instruction



Student MAP Scores

Student MAP testing results are reported in RIT scores (short for Rasch Unit). A RIT score is an estimation of a student's instructional level and also measures student progress or growth in school. Parents often create a chart at home where your child's height is measured at certain times, such as on his/her birthday. The RIT score is a growth chart to show how much your child has grown from one year to the next. MAP assessments do the same sort of thing, except it measures your child's growth in reading and mathematics. The RIT scale is an equal-interval scale much like feet and inches on a yardstick. It is used to chart your child's academic growth throughout the year and from one school year to the next. More importantly, it enables teachers to pinpoint exact skills individual students have mastered and what students are ready to learn.



Understanding the RIT Score

It is important to understand that the MAP test is one test at one point in time. It does not measure intelligence or a student's capacity for learning. It allows us to determine if your student is performing at, above, or below grade level compared to students across the district and the nation. When making important decisions about students, teachers will consider the MAP test results along with other data such as classroom performance, anecdotal notes, formative assessments, and summative assessments.



Growth Over Time

We expect RIT scores to increase over time. Typically, younger students show more growth in one year than older students. Students who test above grade level often show less growth from one testing period to another. Sometimes RIT scores may decline from one testing period to the next. One low test score is not cause for immediate concern. Like adults, students have good and bad days and their test results do not always indicate what they know. Students' attitudes toward the test can also affect their score. Therefore, growth over time is a better measure of student learning.

Parents and guardians should become comfortable with the understanding that individuals will grow at different rates. Anticipated growth rates for each student are based on national norms and should be viewed as "typical" growth, not *expected* growth. Our staff has participated in trainings to learn what the MAP test results mean and how to best utilize the information. Our goal is for teachers to use the data to differentiate and adjust instruction so that all students grow at levels appropriate for each individual.



More Information

We are truly excited to implement MAP testing in order to focus on every child's individual growth and achievement. By partnering to help all kids learn, parents and teachers can have a profound, positive effect on the lives of our children. For more information and resources for parents, download the **Parent Toolkit** at <https://www.nwea.org/resources/a-parents-guide-to-map/>