Measures of Academic Progress
Interim Assessments
for Grades K – 12

Your comprehensive guide to MAP from NWEA
MAP assessments at a glance

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<th>MAP (2 – 12)</th>
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<th>MAP for Primary Grades (K – 2)</th>
<th>MAP for SCIENCE (3 – 9)</th>
<th>END OF COURSE ASSESSMENT (upper-level mathematics)</th>
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Standards alignment

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<td>MAP and MAP for Primary Grades</td>
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<td>ALIGNED TO NATIONAL SCIENCE STANDARDS</td>
<td>MAP for Science</td>
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<td>LINKING STUDIES FOR PREDICTING PROFICIENCY</td>
<td>MAP and MAP for Primary Grades</td>
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MAP empowers educators to identify:

- Students in need of intervention
- Talented and gifted students
- Students requiring targeted instruction
- Students ready for enrichment activities
- Students ready to group by ability
It’s all about growth. And we see tremendous growth every year, which is wonderful. We’ve taken MAP and we’ve used it to the point of excellence.

Dean Cunningham, Principal, Nenahnezad Community School, New Mexico

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Overview of MAP Assessments
Measure growth to support every student’s unique learning path

Measures of Academic Progress® (MAP®) K – 12 interim assessments provide essential information about a student’s continuum of learning and growth trajectory. Discover why educators around the globe trust MAP to deliver instructional insights that help them accelerate student learning.

The many uses of MAP data

MAP assessments provide real-time information that helps teachers teach, students learn, and administrators lead.

TEACHERS
Personalize instruction in order to maximize every student’s academic growth.

PRINCIPALS
Track the achievement and growth of individual students and classrooms in order to help evaluate the success of programs.

EDUCATIONAL LEADERS
Understand the progress of every student, classroom, and school in your district.
Discover data that help you make a difference in every student’s learning and growth

To quickly reveal the precise achievement of every student, use our computer adaptive MAP interim assessments. Based on over 30 years of solid research, MAP adapts to each student’s learning level, creating personalized assessment experiences.

Within 24 hours of assessing, you’ll have essential information about what your K – 12 students know—and are ready to learn—on rigorous new state standards.

“\nWe want a year’s growth for every child in the district no matter where they are. And that gets at the heart of why we are involved in MAP. Through MAP, we’ve been able to pinpoint what skills are needed to make sure they get that year’s progress.\n
Dr. Lewis Holloway, Superintendent, Bulloch County Schools, Georgia

The unique design of MAP produces valid, reliable student growth data

- Inform in-the-moment instructional practices.
- Measure the growth of every student over time regardless of on, above, or below grade level performance—and even if standards change.
- Engage students and families with goal setting.
- Create and reinforce evidence-informed instructional practices.
- Evaluate programs and identify professional development needs.
- Compare and predict student achievement and growth over time via exclusive normative and growth information.

Test in fall, winter, and spring for a consistent longitudinal measure of student growth. It’s an ideal way to get a clear picture of your students’ learning, proficiency, and college readiness regardless of whether scores on your state summative assessment show drops in proficiency.

Each year, educators around the globe trust MAP data to deliver instructional insights that help them accelerate student learning for nearly eight million students. Read on to learn more about how MAP student growth data can help you support each of your students’ unique learning paths.
How we offer MAP users support at every step

Our *by educators, for educators* heritage drives us to create and maintain great experiences for those who partner with us. No matter how new or long-term the relationship, choosing NWEA means gaining our focused attention.

**OUR 360 DEGREE SUPPORT**

**Implementation manager**
Get A–Z support from the start so you’re up and running quickly.

**Account manager**
Enjoy streamlined service thanks to your personal contact.

**Technical support staff**
Reach out by phone, email, or click-to-chat when you need help.

**Professional development specialists**
Lay a strong foundation for student success.

**DISCOVER 5 KEY PLACES FOR SUPPORT**

**Destination PD**
Access free, flexible online training.

**Support documentation**
Find help right within your product.

**Monthly newsletters**
Enjoy resources hand-picked for educators.

**Online user community**
Exchange tips and best practices with your education peers.

**User events and conferences**
Learn and share at regional events and Fusion, our education conference.
Inform K – 12 instruction with MAP

MAP delivers powerful student growth data when educators need them the most—when there’s still time to make a difference. Use its real-time data to create targeted instructional plans. Benefit from its ability to track every student’s growth and achievement within and across the years. And see how its valid, reliable results support growth measurement and benefit students, teachers, and parents.

“Our parents really like MAP testing. They understand it and appreciate how it’s helping their children grow. And involving students in their learning targets made a huge difference for us. Even high school students are excited about MAP. They have a sense of control and ownership over their learning, whereas state-mandated tests are an unknown.”

Barbara Campbell, Former Staff Development Coordinator, Mt. Vernon Schools, Indiana

Quick facts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSESSMENT TYPE</th>
<th>Computer adaptive interim assessment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GRADE RANGE</td>
<td>MAP for Primary Grades: K – 2; MAP: 2 – 12; MAP for Science: 3 – 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>STRUCTURE</td>
<td>Cross-grade; provides measurement of students who perform on, above, and below grade level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUBJECTS</td>
<td>MAP for Primary Grades: reading and mathematics; MAP: reading, language usage, and mathematics; MAP for Science: life, earth, and space sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RECOMMENDED USE</td>
<td>3-4/year (with fall, winter, spring, and summer intervals)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEST TIME</td>
<td>Untimed; times for typical student completion follow. MAP for Primary Grades: under 30 minutes/subject area; MAP and MAP for Science: under 60 minutes/subject area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCREENER USE</td>
<td>Recognized by National Center on Response to Intervention (NCRTI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROFESSIONAL LEARNING OPTIONS</td>
<td>Initial training available online or onsite; ongoing learning available via onsite workshops or coaching (please refer to page 32)</td>
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MAP subjects

MAP for Mathematics, Reading, and Language Usage (grades 2 – 12)

MAP includes three types of assessments:

- Survey with Goals: broad surveys of reading, language usage, and mathematics achievement scored on the RIT scale
- Survey assessments: shorter versions of the Survey with Goals tests that provide overall scores only; use to quickly place incoming students
- End of Course Mathematics tests: five tests for upper-level math students

Use MAP Survey with Goals interim assessments to uncover each student’s learning level on core concepts and receive information you can use to promote student growth every day. Sample goal areas include:

- Reading: Word Recognition, Structure and Vocabulary, and Reading Informational Texts
- Language usage: Craft Structure and Evaluation, Grammar and Usage, and Writing Conventions
- Mathematics: Algebra, Geometry, Measurement, Problem Solving, Reasoning, and Proofs

Our five End of Course Mathematics tests allow teachers to measure students’ understanding of specific content after a year of instruction. Please note End of Course tests aren’t pretests or mastery tests. Content covers:

- Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2
- Integrated Mathematics 1 and 2
- Integrated Mathematics 3

MAP for Primary Grades for Reading and Mathematics (grades K – 2)

Use MAP for Primary Grades (MPG) to gain insights that inform instructional decisions and ensure your youngest students are on track well before high-stakes testing begins in 3rd grade.

MPG includes three types of assessments:

- Survey with Goals: broad surveys of reading and mathematics achievement scored on the RIT scale
- Screening Tests: entry level tests of pre-literacy and number skills
- Skills Checklists: brief tests of single skills such as phonological awareness, phonics, numeracy, and computation

To help keep students immersed in the assessment experience, all include audio instructions and engaging visuals.
Common Core MAP for Mathematics, Reading, and Language Usage (grades 2 – 12) and Common Core MPG for Mathematics and Reading (grades K – 2)

Common Core State Standards use Depth of Knowledge (DOK) levels to reflect more rigorous college readiness standards. We assign each MAP item with a DOK level in order to rate its cognitive complexity.

MAP for Science (grades 3 – 9)

Support your Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) efforts with MAP for Science, a single assessment that covers the three key domains of science: life sciences, earth and space sciences, and physical sciences. You’ll gain in-depth understanding of your students’ science knowledge prior to their exposure to more specialized science curricula in upper high school. We align content to:

- state standards
- national standards established by The American Association for the Advancement of Science Benchmarks for Science Literacy and the National Research Council’s National Science Education Standards
Tablet-compatible: A MAP delivery alternative

MAP supports the widespread use of tablets in U.S. classrooms with tablet-compatible versions of MAP (excluding MPG) for iPad® and mobile devices. Administer tablet-optimized MAP assessments right in your classrooms to free up computer labs for instruction.

“As an assessment director, what I value most is the research incorporated into the whole MAP system. Especially for our youngest students, MAP for Primary Grades data help us more than any other tool with guiding grouping decisions. We have a wide variety of abilities in each class, yet our focus is on what each individual child needs. With MAP and MPG, we have a great deal of confidence in our decision making.”

Elizabeth Parks, Director of Assessment and Research, Blue Valley School District, Kansas

Goal structures: Your state, your MAP

Goal structures, a key part of MAP assessments, differ by state and change over time. Because individual states want to know how their students perform on key concepts, we align all our MAP test items and goal structures to specific state content standards—including rigorous new state and Common Core standards.
Valid, Reliable Data
Identify each student’s performance level with pinpoint precision

Computer adaptive assessment

MAP tests begin with a question appropriate for each student, then dynamically adapt throughout the test in response to student performance. A correct answer generates a more difficult test item; an incorrect answer, an easier one. This progressive refinement allows MAP to challenge top performers without overwhelming students whose skills are below grade level.

Explore how MAP produces precise data that you can use to help differentiate instruction—and students can use to better connect with their learning goals.

Our mature, stable, and reliable RIT scale

After every MAP assessment, each student receives a score that helps illuminate what he or she knows, is ready to learn, and is projected to achieve. And thanks to something no other interim assessment offers—a mature, reliable, and stable scale—you can trust that the scores you see are both accurate and fair.

How it works: MAP assessments use the RIT scale to create a grade-independent RIT score, which indicates the level of question difficulty a given student is capable of answering correctly about 50% of the time. RIT scores help educators understand every student’s current achievement level based on their zone of proximal development.

Regardless of the standards alignment of a particular MAP test, a given item has a single RIT value associated with it. This underlying design of MAP tests permits RIT scores to carry the same meaning, in terms of student ability, regardless of which test or set of standards was used to obtain them.

Additionally, the RIT scale remains continuous across grades, making it ideal to track student achievement growth both within a school year and across adjacent school years.
Why the RIT scale and MAP data accuracy go hand in hand: NWEA developed the RIT scale more than 30 years ago according to Item Response Theory principles. Today, we continue to obtain the RIT value of each test item using a rigorous calibration process that ensures our assessments’ integrity. Before we include an item in MAP tests, we field test it with thousands of students across the nation and calibrate it to a measurement scale to ensure accuracy.

The computer adaptive test process. MAP tests begin with a question appropriate for each student, then adapt throughout the test in response to student performance. Correct answers trigger a more challenging item to be presented next; if a student misses a question, the follow-up item is easier.

“"To be honest, there was no contest. It’s the most well-researched test out there. I’m continually impressed by the norm studies and other research NWEA publishes. I feel good about the quality of the results. When I’m asked about the credibility of the test, I know what I’m saying is research-based.

Colleen Lennon, Curriculum Specialist, Stepstone Academy, Cleveland, Ohio
MAP and the Standard Error of Measurement (SEM). The SEM reflects the precision with which MAP measures a student’s score. Several factors—including the match between item difficulty and student proficiency level—influence the size of the SEM.

Each time a student responds to a MAP test item, SEM decreases. When a typical student reaches the test’s final item, MAP has pinpointed his or her performance level. In 60 minutes or less, MAP delivers data that let educators create real-time and targeted instructional plans.

Standard fixed-form test data can’t match up to cross-grade, computer adaptive MAP. By adjusting the difficulty of items up or down, MAP precisely measures a student’s current achievement, providing greater sensitivity to detect growth over time for students of all achievement levels. Because the test is tightly targeted, the error of measurement is very low. MAP also owes its ability to produce accurate and fair results to something no other interim assessment offers: a mature, reliable, and stable scale.

Did you know?

Because MAP adapts to each student, its results are more precise and reliable than fixed-form tests of comparable length.
Standards alignment

All MAP test items have a single associated RIT value, and items are aligned to specific state or Common Core content standards within the MAP tests. Our alignment process enables you to meaningfully interpret student achievement.

Predictive abilities

NWEA conducts regular linking studies that analyze students' performance on MAP as compared to other assessments.

These include:

- state-specific linking studies that predict proficiency on state accountability assessments
- college readiness linking studies that predict college readiness for grade 8+ students as measured by ACT® benchmarks

We will also be conducting future linking studies to Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) and Smarter Balanced summative assessments in order to predict proficiency on rigorous new standards.

Predict students' college readiness

Our NWEA Research team analyzed student performance on MAP against ACT benchmarks. Their findings: MAP scores can predict college readiness for your grade 8+ students. You'll find all the details in our NWEA College Readiness Linking Study.

NWEA.org/MAPCollegeReadiness
How MAP test items graduate to production status

By asking the right questions, our assessments create better test experiences for students—and more accurate results for educators. Each MAP test item must:

- measure what it claims to measure (align to a standard)
- make sense to students
- eliminate barriers and be accessible to all students—regardless of socioeconomic status, race or ethnicity, most special needs, English language development levels, and more
- mirror the classroom experience as closely as possible
- meet all industry standards*

*Industry standards say that a dichotomously scored item (test question) uses clear, concise wording; contains grammatically parallel options; lacks outlier options; and meets any other subject—and standard-specific—requirements.
Compare and contrast student performance with MAP Norms

NWEA Research produces norms based on a nationally representative sample of MAP test scores from over five million students. From a single classroom to the entire nation, you can see how each student’s performance compares to his or her peers’.

MAP achievement and growth norms

Norms help educators see if a student is growing at an expected pace, regardless of where the student started.

NWEA norms allow you to compare your students’ academic performance relative to:

- national achievement and growth norms
- state standards, including Common Core and other college and career readiness standards

While MAP achievement norms show you a student’s percentile ranking in a nationally representative student population, MAP growth norms allow you to compare a student’s growth to that of his or her academic peers. As part of our commitment to giving educators high-quality data, we conduct regular norming that determines mean growth based on each student’s starting position on the RIT scale and the amount of instructional time offered.

Our 2015 NWEA norming study, currently in development, will include students whose districts or states have adopted and implemented the Common Core as well as those who have not.
How our RIT scale and robust national norms support efforts to boost every student’s learning and growth

- Allow seamless measuring and monitoring of K – 12 student growth term-to-term and year-over-year, a feature no other interim assessment provides.
- Support the rigor and strength of MAP assessments and include valid, reliable assessment data from more than 35 million students.
- Ensure educators have accurate information for differentiating instruction.
- Produce a precise measurement of a student’s achievement that can be used to project proficiency on state standards.
- Provide linking study data that accurately projects college readiness for students in grades 8+ (as measured by ACT benchmarks).
- Permit creation of norms based on a nationally representative sample of MAP test scores.

Growth analysis simplified

NWEA offers educators who use MAP the opportunity to order customized norms-based reports. These reports are typically requested by district and school leaders who require easy-to-access comparative data to inform decisions about program planning, professional development, and curriculum.

Standard Comparison Groups (SCGs) reporting is created with your selected student growth data and provides a view of growth by school, achievement level, grade, ethnicity, or gender. Virtual Comparison Groups (VCGs) reporting takes leaders beyond local or regional comparisons to see how their students are growing compared to similar student groups across the country.

### MATHEMATICS

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MAP norms allow for comparative data to inform instructional decisions and are available for Math, Language, Reading, and Science. The information can be used at all levels to guide decisions concerning differentiated instruction, flexible grouping, or tiered instruction.
The Benefits of Measuring Growth
Accelerate growth with actionable data

MAP reports provide educators a window into every student’s achievement and growth. In addition to helping inform individual student and classroom instruction, they enable better decision making at the programmatic level. When armed with MAP data and our comprehensive reporting suite, you can meet students when and where they need you the most.

**Use MAP reports for:**

- planning individual or group instruction
- measuring student growth and achievement
- diagnosing student strengths and opportunities
- engaging students and parents
- predicting state assessment performance
- analyzing school or district performance
- planning school improvement

"It’s the perfect marriage. NWEA gives you the what and where, and it tells you exactly where your students are functioning. You have to develop the how: How are you going to address your data concerns? How are you going to meet your overall school goals? How are you going to focus on your student achievement?"

*Jonathan Strong, Reading Coach and RTI Counselor, Confluence Academy, Missouri*

**Access reports instantly**

Within 24 hours of assessing, MAP provides you with essential information about what your K – 12 students know—and are ready to learn—on your state standards. You can access most reports instantly, with the balance available within a day.

Your reports illuminate every student’s learning level and can serve as the basis for sound decision making in and out of the classroom. Use them to:

- establish a student’s precise instructional level
- identify which areas to focus on for academic growth
- compare a student’s academic progress with other students in the class, grade, school, or district
- track academic growth with precision over a school year or over several years, even through the transition to the Common Core State Standards
Sample reports

Student Progress Report: Mathematics

Student Progress Reports help students and parents deepen their engagement in the learning process by illustrating individual performance over time in various subject areas. Together, students and parents can review the student’s progress in mathematics, reading, language usage, and science.

Class Breakdown Reports help teachers and school administrators recognize and respond to academic diversity within the classroom. Useful data include the distribution of student scores for all subjects and schools tested. From links within this Goal Report, teachers can drill down and access powerful learning statements, a MAP report that provides detailed information about specific skills and concepts students are ready to learn.
Projected Proficiency Summary Report: Mathematics

Projected Proficiency Summary Reports allow district leaders to see systemic strengths and weaknesses, identify positive trends, and plan for changes at any grade level or school within the district.

MAP for Primary Grades: Class Report by RIT: Reading

MAP for Primary Grades Reports give teachers insight into the capacity of their youngest students in the areas of mathematics and reading. These reports, including the MAP for Primary Grades Class Report, provide teachers with student performance data that can help guide strategy and lesson plans.

For a complete set of sample reports, please visit NWEA.org/MAPReports
MAP assessments and rigorous new standards

MAP assessments serve a critical role as educators bridge from prior performance standards to performance under new college and career readiness standards, Common Core standards, or more rigorous state standards. At any stage in your transition, MAP assessment data provide insight into students’ progress toward demonstrating evidence of their learning. They also play a key role in terms of gap analysis, allowing you to be strategic about rewriting curricula and instituting professional development programs.

**Accurately measure growth in transitional times**

- Measure instructional readiness and student growth on rigorous new standards (including college and career, Common Core, and state-specific standards).
- Compare and predict student achievement and growth over time via research-based normative and growth information.
- Predict your grade 8+ students’ college readiness with data that align to ACT benchmarks.
- Create and reinforce data-informed instructional practices.
- Evaluate academic programs and identify professional development needs.

**The new standards and shifts in content**

New standards around college and career readiness create new expectations for student learning and instructional approaches. The changes challenge educators to discover—then close—any gaps between old and new requirements.

**These new standards ask students to:**

- demonstrate greater depth of knowledge about core subjects
- use technology in their answers
- provide evidence of learning

In mathematics, standards now include a deep focus on conceptual understanding, procedural skills and fluency, and application of skills in problem solving situations. In English language arts, the new standards include more content-rich non-fiction and regular practice with complex text and its academic language. The new standards also place increased emphasis on application of critical thinking and problem solving skills in a real-world context and synthesis and integration of knowledge and skills across domain subjects and disciplines.
How MAP addresses the new standards

Common Core MAP reflects changes to more rigorous college readiness standards by using the DOK system to rate the cognitive demand of each of our assessment items. Our test items correspond to the depth and breadth of the new standards.

For those states adopting the CCSS and opting to add their own standards content, known as Common Core + 15%, we developed CCSS + 15% MAP tests aligned to the needs of individual states.

As with all MAP assessments, Common Core MAP supports a stable, valid, and reliable measure of student academic growth. Regardless of changes in standards, students’ Common Core MAP RIT scores effectively measure their growth over time.

In order to use MAP data in a meaningful way, though, your instructional content must align with the content of MAP test questions. To ensure a better match between curriculum and assessment content, we recommend that educators implement or transition to Common Core MAP/MPG between academic years.

RIT Reference Brochure

Our RIT reference charts show RIT scores grouped by band ranges. For each band range, you’ll see sample questions.

MAP and MAP for Science

NWEA.org/RITReference

Common Core MAP and MAP for Science

NWEA.org/RITReference-CC
Technology-Enhanced Items (TEIs) in MAP

Along with test items in multiple-choice format, MAP and MPG assessments include technology-enhanced and common stimulus items. In combination, these item types help measure the depth and breadth of student comprehension as required by rigorous new state standards, including the Common Core. You'll also find our scientific and graphing calculator, which allows students to demonstrate proficiency with technology and solve higher-order problems.

Aligned to standards for 3rd grade reading, this enhanced MAP test item has a DOK rating of 3.

Describe the logical connection between particular sentences and paragraphs in a text (e.g., comparison, cause/effect, first/second/third in a sequence).

Students are asked to plot points on a graph in this enhanced MAP item aligned to 8th grade standards for mathematics. The DOK rating for this item is 2.

Graph proportional relationships, interpreting the unit rate as the slope of the graph. Compare two different proportional relationships represented in different ways. For example, compare a distance-time graph to a distance-time equation to determine which of two moving objects has greater speed.

This technology-enhanced mathematics item from our MPG assessment is aligned to standards for 3rd grade mathematics. The item has a DOK rating of 2.

Draw a scaled picture graph and a scaled bar graph to represent a data set with several categories. Solve one- and two-step “how many more” and “how many less” problems using information presented in scaled bar graphs. For example, draw a bar graph in which each square in the bar graph might represent 5 pets.
MAP and the Consortia assessments

As part of their college and career readiness efforts, many states have joined one of two Consortia—the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (Smarter Balanced) or the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC). Both require summative assessments that will measure students’ on-grade proficiency on Common Core State Standards.

While Smarter Balanced and PARCC summative assessments will assess student understanding of on-grade Common Core standards, Common Core MAP helps you identify instructional needs for students performing at, above, and below grade level. By pairing MAP with your PARCC or Smarter Balanced summative test, you’ll receive a more well-rounded view of student achievement and growth—even if you experience proficiency level drops on your summative assessment.

During and after your transition to CCSS, you’ll find that MAP continues to fill an important need: to provide useful, instructionally relevant, and reliable data that can measure student learning growth during a school year, and across school years, on a stable scale.

Access the white paper, Common Core MAP: Supporting Your Transition to the Common Core
NWEA.org/TransitionSupport

Read Better Together: How SBAC Districts Can Gain Critical Teaching and Learning Data with MAP – Today and Beyond
NWEA.org/BetterTogether

Read A Powerful Pairing: How PARCC Districts Can Gain Critical Teaching and Learning Data with MAP
NWEA.org/PowerfulPairing
Drive growth with MAP: six powerful approaches

Educators use MAP assessment data to better understand the learning needs of every student. Here are six ways MAP data help promote a positive educational experience—and significant student growth—throughout the year.

**School and district leaders** use MAP reports to evaluate programs and monitor school and student performance relative to growth, proficiency, and norms.

**District decision makers** rely on MAP reports to aid in resource management, help determine performance trends by grade and school, and compare local student achievement to the national scale.

**Teachers** depend on MAP reports to help them create teaching strategies and provide differentiated instruction, and to create flexible grouping across the classroom.

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### 1. Differentiating instruction

Students within the same class often perform at different grade levels, and educators face the challenge of ensuring that every child—from the highest to the lowest achievers—continues to grow. MAP data make it easy to identify learning levels so teachers can engage in differentiated instruction and ability grouping that leads to positive results for every student.

"Instead of teaching to the whole class, the teachers are able to challenge them at the appropriate level within that skill set. And MAP scores form the baseline. It’s the first of several data points used to determine where they are instructionally on that skill."

*Frank Reliford, Principal, Dee-Mack Intermediate School, Illinois*

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Read NWEA partner case studies on these topics, and more

[NWEA.org/CaseStudies](http://NWEA.org/CaseStudies)
2. Using MAP as a Universal Screener/RTI placement tool

A foundational component to a response to intervention (RTI) system is the use of universal screening tools that can be used to both identify those students at risk of academic failure and inform a learning plan. Grade-independent MAP assessments received the highest possible rating for classification accuracy and high ratings in all other categories from the National Center on Response to Intervention (NCRTI).

“Before using MAP, we were missing the full picture of how to teach kids who were gifted and talented, or struggling to learn, or were English language learners....But now that we know what our students are ready to learn before we even begin teaching them, growth is inevitable—even for our gifted and talented and Title I students.

Linda Foote, Instructional Technology Specialist, Poway Unified School District, California

3. Evaluating programs

With tightening budgets and expanding student populations, MAP data have become a key component in assessing the impact of specific programs. MAP scores contribute to understanding what works, so when special programs are instituted, educators can see precisely how much growth has occurred with participating students.

“It’s refined what we’re doing. We are doing a better job of looking at what makes a difference with students. And if we have a program that’s not showing results on MAP, then we’d get rid of it. It helps us utilize our resources better.

Dr. Lewis Holloway, Superintendent, Bulloch County Schools, Georgia

4. Setting student goals

Students become more committed to the learning process when they can set goals and see results. Using the Student Goal Setting worksheet and other NWEA tools, it’s easy for teachers and students to build an action plan together and for parents to become engaged in the process.

“Students can see how much they need to grow in each area, and that adds a lot to the ownership. After a child finishes, they can see their MAP test results immediately, so that in turn helps that student take part in the whole process. It’s right there for them.

Marlin Baker, Principal, Brooklet Elementary School, Georgia
5. Predicting college readiness

To help educators build an educational foundation for college success—years in advance—our researchers created the NWEA College Readiness Linking Study. For students in grade 8 and above, the study conclusively shows high predictive relationships between MAP assessment scores and the college readiness benchmarks of ACT achievement tests.

“NWEA has done the correlation work to say, ‘If you plan to attend an Ivy League school, a good indicator is a MAP score of 249 at the end of eighth grade.’ These kinds of conversations about career choices and college readiness really have to start in middle school. So MAP data have become a wonderful conversation piece.”

_Steve Miller, Executive Director of Assessment and Accountability, Racine Unified School District, Wisconsin_

6. Projecting proficiency on state tests

MAP assessment items have a single associated RIT value. This enables NWEA Research to analyze students’ performance on MAP as compared to other assessments; from there, they create state-specific linking studies that predict proficiency on state accountability assessments as well as college readiness linking studies that predict college readiness for grade 8+ students as measured by ACT benchmarks.

Future linking studies will predict proficiency on high-stakes summative assessments that cover college and career readiness standards, including Common Core standards.

“If we didn’t have MAP, we’d have no idea what to expect from and how to prepare for ISTEP+ [the Indiana state-mandated test]. Teachers gain valuable insights into the way students learn, so they can best support them in meeting growth targets and passing important tests.”

_Barbara Campbell, Staff Development Coordinator, Mt. Vernon Schools, Indiana_
Make the Most of MAP Data
Empower educators with professional learning

NWEA professional development offerings help educators create cultures where quality data informs day-to-day teacher practice, student learning, and curriculum. See how proven strategies—plus delivery options designed for busy lives—make it easier to do more with data.

MAP Foundation Series

WORKSHOPS

Use our MAP Foundation Series workshops to boost expertise in data-informed decision making, support strategic planning, and improve learning outcomes for every student. Choose from three key themes: applying reports, informing instruction, and focusing on growth. Our workshops immerse your teachers and leaders in key issues—including how to use MAP data to support your transition to more rigorous state standards.

How it works: Schedule a full day (six hours) to focus on one theme, mix and match two three-hour modules from different themes, or collaborate with us to create a more specific plan.

MAP Administration Workshop

This training is a first step for partners new to MAP. Prepare teachers, proctors, and your leadership team to set up your implementation for success, administer the assessment for the first time, and use the data to optimize learning. By default, receive this content in an online format to help every staff member get up to speed quickly. For the entire duration of your MAP license, enjoy access to live webinars and 24/7 on-demand resources for an unlimited number of participants through our online learning platform. Alternatively, a full-day onsite option is also available.

Applying Reports Workshop

Once you are comfortable with the basics of administering MAP, get hands-on with the rich data in your reports in this onsite workshop. Ensure informed use of MAP data among teachers, administrators, and instructional specialists. Gain strategies for using the reports to engage in high-impact goal setting that will help each student grow. Available three-hour modules to choose from:

- Essential Reports for Teachers
- Student Goal Setting and Growth
- Essential Reports for Primary Teachers
- Essential Reports for Administrators
Informing Instruction Workshop
Enable teachers and instructional leaders to dive deeper into classroom applications of MAP reports in this onsite workshop. Support differentiated instruction and meet the needs of every student through the use of flexible groupings and instructional ladders based on your MAP results. Available three-hour modules to choose from:

- Instructional Ladders
- Differentiated Instruction

Focusing on Growth Workshop
Once you have a full year of MAP data under your belt, help administrators and instructional leaders explore longitudinal growth to identify significant trends, strengths, and areas of concern in this onsite workshop. Use this analysis to set goals at all levels (district, school, grade, class, and student) to support school or district improvement plans. Available three-hour modules to choose from:

- Investigating Growth
- District and School Goal Setting

Data Coaching

COACHING FOR MAP PARTNERS
NWEA professional development takes your unique data challenges and opportunities into account. We’ll start by helping you analyze a wide range of your local data—including student records, examples of student work, and results from different types of assessments. Then we’ll hone your data strengths and work to construct and implement plans focused on making a positive difference in student learning.

Boost your team's data confidence to benefit every student's academic growth
Our data coaches quickly energize and empower your teams to move beyond common barriers to student learning.

- Grasp how to effectively use data from multiple assessments.
- Align educators’ use of data with district goals.
- Integrate assessment data into instructional and programmatic decision making.
- Build assessment literacy district-wide.
- Support teams’ transition to—and long-term success with—more rigorous state standards (including college and career/Common Core).
Choose from the recommended topics below or work with us to tailor a solution.

**Assessment Program Alignment**

Make essential connections between your assessments and the actions they inform. Our data coaches will help you develop district-wide assessment literacy and ensure a cohesive approach to your overall assessment plan. Participants will take stock of their assessment practices, identify time and resource efficiencies, clarify assessment priorities, and align specific assessments with their appropriate uses.

**Data Conversations**

Master constructive, practical techniques for regularly analyzing, discussing, and applying your data. Let our data coaches help you strengthen your culture of data use. Participants will learn to use regular, structured data conversations to systematically embed data use into instructional decisions and organizational planning.

**Goal-Focused Planning**

Build comprehensive and integrated district plans centered around student learning needs. Work with our data coaches to determine the best way to use multiple data sets to inform the development of your professional learning, assessment choices, and instructional plans. We’ll ensure your plans align with student needs and district goals as well as available district resources.

**Destination PD**

**Online Learning**

To make the most of MAP, take advantage of your complimentary access to Destination PD™ (formerly Knowledge Academy), our exclusive online learning platform. We’ve designed our on-demand tutorials, recorded webinars, videos, and courses to help you create seamless assessment experiences—and to help your teachers and leaders use MAP data to enhance student learning and growth.

With an abundance of free resources plus supplementary resources for your paid onsite workshops, Destination PD is your one-stop shop for 24/7 online learning from NWEA. Whether your staff members want to spend a few minutes with a refresher tutorial or immerse themselves in an hour-long course, any computer with internet access allows them to meet their professional learning goals.

**Support diverse staff learning needs with targeted, role-based resources**

- Help sustain and extend face-to-face workshop learning for all participants.
- Provide new teachers with important information about the value of MAP for instruction.
- Give teachers tools for using MAP data to meet both daily and seasonal needs.
- Prepare proctors to offer an optimal assessment experience for students.
- Elevate prep time for Professional Learning Community (PLC) meetings with “small bite” learning options.
Keeping Learning on Track

FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

If you’re seeking to maximize student growth and engagement while strengthening your school community, turn to Keeping Learning on Track® (KLT™), a proven, multi-year curriculum focused on classroom formative assessment practice. Using KLT district wide prepares all your educators (regardless of grade level or subject area) to continuously gather evidence of student learning, adjust classroom instruction in the moment, and build local capacity to sustain those instructional shifts over time.

Skip the wasteful and go for WOW

KLT supplies educators with more than just practical classroom strategies: it provides a process for applying those strategies over time.

- Rely on 100+ proven formative assessment techniques gleaned from decades of research.
- Help teachers cultivate students’ college- and career-readiness skills, including critical thinking and problem solving.
- Complement existing Professional Learning Communities (PLCs).
- Receive resources and support to empower teachers to transfer new strategies into sustained practice.

Discover how this powerful complement to MAP interim assessments helps drive student learning minute by minute.

Plan your perfect professional learning experience

When you purchase a minimum of three days’ worth of data coaching and/or onsite MAP Foundation Series workshops (beyond your initial required MAP Administration training), you qualify for a Customized MAP Professional Development Package. With the customized package, you receive planning guidance and ongoing support from a dedicated coach who tailors professional learning to your needs, the needs of your students, and the goals of your district; at a granular level, and within your schedule.
Extend your data to promote individual learning

At NWEA, we offer educators several ways to make the most of their MAP data, including the interactive Learning Continuum, RIT to Resource, MAP to Khan Academy, and NWEA instructional content providers.

The Learning Continuum

DISCOVER HOW THE LEARNING CONTINUUM EMPOWERS YOU TO CREATE STUDENT-SPECIFIC LEARNING LADDERS

MAP includes our proprietary interactive tool for teachers, the Learning Continuum. Teachers can use the Learning Continuum’s information to streamline instructional planning, differentiate instruction for both individual students and skill-based activity groups, and better engage students in their learning. It’s a powerful shortcut to understanding which skills students are ready to learn.

A DATA-INFORMED CONTINUUM OF LEARNING THAT’S BASED ON DIFFICULTY, NOT SCOPE AND SEQUENCE

The Learning Continuum lets teachers see what students performing at a given RIT level on MAP assessments are typically ready to learn. From there, they can use the learning statements within the continuum to drive instruction.

- Learning statements provide you with an instructional starting point by describing the skills and concepts that are most ready to be introduced, developed, or reinforced along a continuum of learning.
- Test and Class Views supply global and student-specific information for tailoring instruction.
- MAP RIT scores get connected to skills and concepts students are ready to learn, helping you identify learning goals and targets so you can both share them with your students and parents plus create more personalized lesson plans.
CLASS VIEW: STUDENTS ORGANIZED INTO SKILL-BASED ACTIVITY GROUPS
This view groups students by RIT score bands to clearly show where students are and what they’re ready to learn. By seeing the skills and concepts students need to develop in each goal and sub-goal area, you can inform your decisions for grouping, differentiating instruction, and targeted interventions.

TEST VIEW: LEARNING STATEMENTS ORGANIZED ALONG A CONTINUUM
Use this view for easy navigation through the learning statements. You’ll see skills and concepts to reinforce, develop, and introduce with students based on their RIT score for each goal and sub-goal.

Please note: Images have been modified to demonstrate functionality. Actual in-product screens will be slightly different.
Leverage your data with NWEA instructional content providers

To extend the benefits of MAP, NWEA partners with leading providers of electronic curriculum and instruction. With these partnerships, MAP scores have been aligned with content so that test results may be used to match each student with appropriate learning activities.

MAP scores are used by Compass Learning®, Study Island®, Triumph Learning™, and other instructional content providers that offer direct supplemental instruction aligned to the students’ performance levels and needs.

NWEA also partners with MetaMetrics®. Students who take MAP Reading tests receive a Lexile® measure correlated to the student’s RIT score, and that Lexile measure can be used by educators to select texts appropriate to a student’s comprehension level.

MAP to Khan Academy

NWEA offers educators who use MAP complimentary access to MAP to Khan Academy. Because MAP RIT scores correlate to free Khan Academy math practice exercises, teachers can quickly and easily support each student’s learning path. Both students and teachers can access the no-cost practice activities online, making them ideal for independent classroom work, skill-based small group instruction, or at-home learning.

We’ve based the standards alignments in MAP to Khan Academy on the CCSS alignment Khan Academy provided. Teachers whose districts aren’t implementing CCSS can relate the goals or sub-goals on their state MAP test to similar goals and sub-goals used in these documents.

RIT to Resource

For convenient access to key MAP student performance indicators while on-the-go in the classroom, educators can turn to RIT to Resource (RITtoResource.org).

Use this information to:

- understand how a student is performing in relation to the NWEA norm group
- identify appropriate reading materials based on a student’s Lexile range
- find appropriate resources (via provided links) whose content aligns to CCSS, then easily share resources through email
- gain insights as to whether or not a student is on track for college readiness as measured by the ACT benchmarks
- project how a student may perform on their state summative test
RIT to Resource at-a-glance

After entering your state plus a student’s RIT score, subject, grade level, and test term, you’ll see student performance indicators, including:

- percentile rank
- fall-to-spring growth projections
- projected proficiency on state summative tests
- college readiness projection (for grade 8+ students) as measured by ACT benchmarks
- Lexile scores (Reading only)

Search by RIT goal score and standards to find free, appropriate Open Educational Resources (OERs) matched to individual Common Core State Standards.

Find links to thousands of free open educational resources whose content aligns to CCSS. Gooru Learning assembles and curates the resources, which you can share with others via email.
Visit NWEA.org or call 866-654-3246 to find out how NWEA can partner with you to help all kids learn.

Founded by educators nearly 40 years ago, Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) is a global not–for–profit educational services organization known for our flagship interim assessment, Measures of Academic Progress (MAP). More than 7,400 partners in U.S. schools, school districts, education agencies, and international schools trust us to offer pre–kindergarten through grade 12 assessments that accurately measure student growth and learning needs, professional development that fosters educators’ abilities to accelerate student learning, and research that supports assessment validity and informed policy. To better inform instruction and maximize every learner’s academic growth, educators currently use NWEA assessments with nearly 8 million students.