



MAP Growth Testing and NWEA Frequently Asked Questions



Why MAP Growth?

MAP Growth allows schools to differentiate and adjust instruction for individual students, groups of students, or entire classes based on results of the assessment. The results can be used by students, parents, teachers, grade levels, subject areas, schools, and the school district for a variety of purposes. Students take the MAP Growth assessment three times per year, which provides a timely measure of growth, in addition to proficiency.

- Proficiency = Do you know the content? Do you know what we expect students in your grade level to know?
- Growth = Are you learning? Did your knowledge increase an appropriate amount since the last test?

What is MAP Growth?

The Measures of Academic Progress (MAP Growth) is an adaptive online assessment that is aligned to the Common Core standards. When taking a MAP Growth test, the difficulty of each question is based on how well a student answers all of the previous questions. As the student answers correctly, questions become more difficult. If the student answers incorrectly, the questions become easier. This allows us to more accurately pinpoint student learning. In addition, MAP Growth incorporates Technology-Enhanced Items so students solve “real world” scenarios.

How long does it take to complete a test?

- Approximately one hour to complete each MAP Growth test-students that are scoring higher will take longer to complete testing
- MAP Growth K-2 tests take approximately 30 minutes

How often will students be tested?

- Fall, winter, and spring

What is NWEA?

- Non-profit organization
- Assessed over 4.5 million students in 49 foreign countries, 50 states, and 3400 districts

Commonly Used Terms

RIT score: a scale score to measure student achievement and growth. RIT stands for Rausch unit, which is a measurement scale developed to simplify the interpretation of test scores. The RIT score indicates the level at which the student was answering questions correctly 50% of the time. It allows students to be accurately measured regardless of their grade level.

Growth Projection: the average growth the students who were in the same grade, tested in the same subject, were tested in the same initial time and began with a similar RIT score.

For more information about NWEA, visit www.nwea.org.