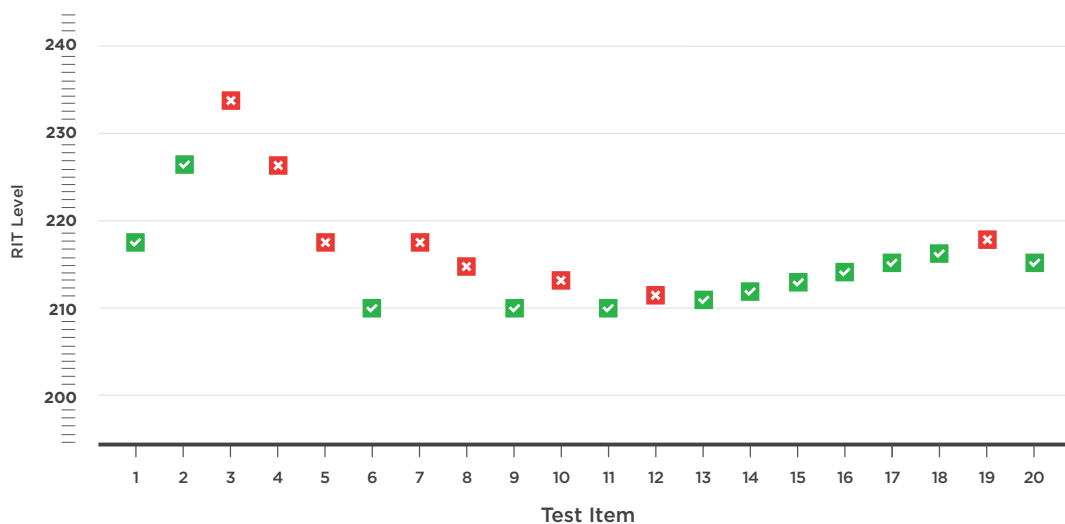


Parent's Guide to MAP Growth

Children learn better—and faster—when teachers have a clear picture of what each student knows and is ready to learn next. That's why a group of educators and researchers founded NWEA®, a not-for-profit organization that has created some of the most trusted and reliable assessment solutions available. More than 9 million students in the US and in 140 countries worldwide use MAP® Growth™.

How it Works

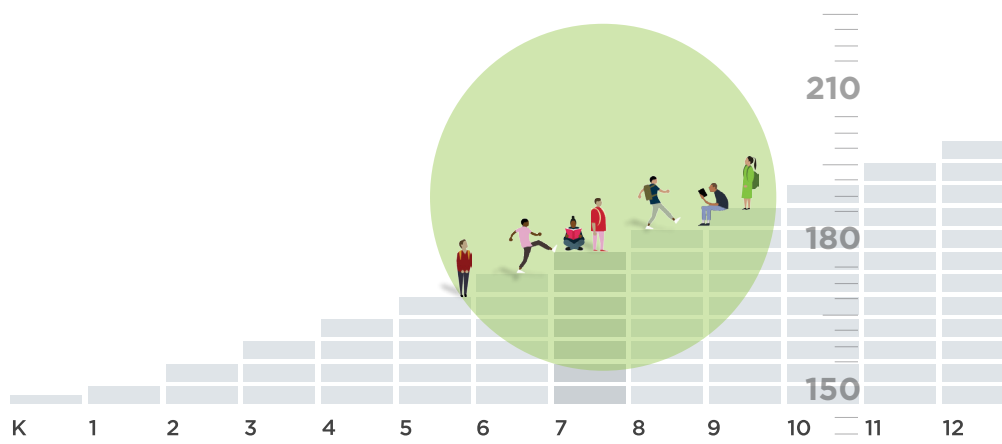
MAP Growth is a computer-adaptive test. If your child answers a question correctly, the next question is more challenging. If they answer incorrectly, the next one is easier. This type of assessment challenges top performers without overwhelming students whose skills are below grade level.



MAP Growth begins with a question at each student's grade level and adjusts the level of difficulty based on individual performance.

What it Measures

MAP Growth uses a RIT scale to accurately measure what students know, regardless of their grade level. It also measures growth over time, allowing you to track your child's progress throughout the school year and across multiple years. Once your child completes a MAP Growth test, they receive a RIT score.



The RIT scale precisely measures student performance, regardless of whether they're performing on, above, or below grade level.

The Results: Your Child's RIT Score

RIT scores have the same meaning across grade levels. If a fourth-grade student and an eighth-grade student have the same RIT score in reading, then they are testing at the same level in that subject.

You can use your child's RIT score to help them meet their goals. For example, students can enter their RIT scores into our college explorer tool to see which colleges and universities they're on track to enter. You can also check out online resources that use RIT scores to provide students with book recommendations and web-based exercises, such as yourreadingpath.com and khanacademy.org.

“MAP Growth is important because it allows my teacher and me to see how much I know and my percentile growth. In math, my score used to be 227 (70th percentile), but it is now 240 (87th percentile). I didn't know I was capable of so much growth, but in the end I was.”

Kayla, 6th grade
Santa Ana, CA

COMMON QUESTIONS

How do schools and teachers use MAP Growth scores?	Teachers can use the score to inform instruction, personalize learning, and monitor the growth of individual students. Principals and administrators can use the scores to see the performance and progress of a grade level, school, or the entire district.
Can MAP Growth tell me if my child is working at grade level?	Yes, but please note that MAP Growth scores are just one data point that teachers use to determine how a student is performing. Please discuss any questions that you have about your child's performance with your child's teacher.
How often will my child take MAP Growth tests?	Most schools give MAP Growth tests to students at the beginning, middle, and end of the school year (in the fall, winter, and spring). Some schools choose to administer tests only twice a year.
What are norms?	NWEA provides schools with norms every three years. This is anonymous data from more than 10 million students around the country. Knowing the top, middle, and bottom scores of all these students combined allows teachers to compare where your child is to other students and help them grow.
Is MAP Growth a standardized test?	Unlike a standardized test, MAP Growth is administered periodically during the school year. Instead of asking all students the same questions, it adjusts to each child's performance—giving a more accurate measure of what they know. Teachers also receive results right away, which enables them to react more quickly.
What types of questions are on MAP Growth tests?	The MAP Growth tests include multiple choice, drag-and-drop, and other types of questions. For sample tests, visit warmup.nwea.org .

**For tips on getting ready for MAP Growth testing, check out our blog:
nwea.org/blog/category/parents**

Find more parent resources at nwea.org/parent-toolkit



NWEA® is a not-for-profit organization that supports students and educators worldwide by providing assessment solutions, insightful reports, professional learning offerings, and research services. Visit NWEA.org to find out how NWEA can partner with you to help all kids learn.

© NWEA 2017. MAP and NWEA are registered trademarks, and MAP Skills, MAP Growth, and Measuring What Matters are trademarks, of NWEA in the US and in other countries. Illustrations © Adam Simpson and Heart 2017. The names of other companies and their products mentioned are the trademarks of their respective owners.

What is Map?

Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) is a standards-aligned computerized adaptive assessment program that provides our teachers with the information they need to improve teaching and learning and make student-focused, data-driven decisions. Students in grades Kinder through ten are tested two times per year in math, reading, language usage, and science. Teachers use the growth and achievement data from MAP to develop targeted instructional strategies and to plan school improvement.

Understanding the RIT Score

The NWEA MAP test uses a scale called RIT to measure student achievement and growth. RIT stands for Rasch UnIT, which is a measurement scale developed to simplify the interpretation of test scores. It is an equal-interval scale used to calculate accurate class or school averages. RIT scores range from about 100 to 300. Students typically start at the 180 to 200 level in the third grade and progress to the 220 to 260 level by high school. RIT scores make it possible to follow a student's educational growth from year to year.

The chart shows the median scores for grades K-10 in a typical English instruction school throughout the world. You may use this chart to determine if your child is performing at, above, or below grade level. We share the MAP data with our students for progress monitoring and goal setting. Teachers have begun using the data and they will share the information to set a students individual goals for academic achievement and success.

What about the Lexile Score?

When a student takes NWEA's MAP Growth reading assessment they also receive a Lexile® range score, based on the RIT score data generated from the individual student's MAP Growth reading assessment.

The Lexile® score can be used to evaluate reading levels of all students in a class for differentiated instruction or to select appropriate reading materials. More details on how to use the Lexile score in an educational setting can be found here: Lexile.com.

Our library can help you select books and materials that will be in your student's Lexile range.