



About the NWEA Assessments

– What is NWEA?

NWEA™ (Northwest Evaluation Association) is a global not-for-profit educational services organization in Portland, Oregon. NWEA partners with over 3,500 educational organizations worldwide to provide research-based adaptive assessments, professional development, and research services. NWEA's mission is partnering to help all kids learn. As a result of NWEA tests, educators can make informed decisions to promote your child's academic growth.

– What is the MAP?

NWEA's assessments are called Measures of Academic Progress (MAP®). When taking these computerized adaptive tests, the difficulty of each question is based on how well a student answers all the previous questions. As the student answers correctly, questions become more difficult. If the student answers incorrectly, the questions become easier. In an optimal test, a student answers approximately half the items correctly and half incorrectly. The final score is an estimate of the student's achievement level.

– What subjects does MAP assess?

The Archdiocese uses the MAP tests in Fluency, Reading, Language, Math, and Science. NWEA MAP will replace the IOWA test for students in grades K-8.

– Do all students in the same grade take the same test?

No. MAP® assessments are designed to target a student's academic performance in mathematics, reading, language usage, and science. These tests are tailored to an individual's current achievement level. The computer adjusts the difficulty of the questions so that each student takes a unique test. This gives each student a fair opportunity to show what he or she knows and can do.

– When will my child be tested and how often?

The Archdiocese has three testing windows – fall, winter, and spring.

– When and how do I get my child's results?

Schools will have results after all students have taken the tests. In addition, we will begin to see longitudinal results after the January administration so we can better measure growth trends.

– How to read the MAP report?

See the report guide on the back of this paper to help you interpret the scores. In addition, your child's teacher will be available during conferences to discuss the results.

– What are MAP assessments used for?

MAP® assessments are used to measure your student's progress or growth in school. You may have a chart in your home on which you mark your child's height at certain times, such as on his or her birthday. This is a growth chart. It shows how much he or she has grown from one year to the next. MAP assessments do the same sort of thing, except they measure your child's progress by the RIT scale (Rasch unit). 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 from year to year.

– How do teachers use the test scores?

MAP tests are important to teachers because they keep track of progress and growth in basic skills. They let teachers know where a student's strengths are and if help is needed in any specific areas. Teachers use this information to help them guide instruction in the classroom.

For more detailed information, visit the following site.

<https://www.nwea.org/parent-toolkit/>

MAP® Reports

Online Individual Student Progress Report (Graph Format)

Displays student scores as compared to district average and NWEA norm group average in text and graphical format.

- 1 **Gx:** The text above each vertical line on the graph represents the student's grade at the time the test event occurred.
- 2 **Student RIT Score Line:** The RIT score the student received on each growth test. This line may contain a dashed portion following the most recent test event to represent projected target growth over the next instructional year. Projected growth is the average fall-to-fall or spring-to-spring RIT growth of students who were in the same grade and began the growth comparison period at a similar achievement level as observed in the most recent NWEA norming study.
- 3 **District Average RIT Line:** This line represents the average score for all students in the school district in the grade who were tested at the same time.
- 4 **Norm Group Average Line:** This line represents the average score for students who were in the same grade and tested in the same term as observed in the most recent NWEA norming study.
- 5 **Goal Performance:** Each goal area included in the test is listed along with a goal strand RIT range or descriptive adjective of the students score.
- 6 **RIT to Reading Range:** A score resulting from a correlation between NWEA's RIT score and the MetaMetrics® Lexile® scale. Lexile is a registered trademark of MetaMetrics, Inc. NWEA is neither affiliated nor associated with MetaMetrics, Inc.

