

How important is MAPs to me?

MAP is important because of the way it keeps track of your progress in Reading, Math, and Language. If you need extra help with something, your teacher will know how to help you.

MAP is just one look at how you are doing. Your teacher sets up projects, has you complete tasks, gives you tests, discusses your work, and assigns grades. These are all very important ways of looking at your progress.



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Please share this brochure with your parents. If they need more information about MAPs, or any other test, have them call the Office of Research and Planning at 804-652-3830.

A Student Guide to MAP Testing 2011-2012

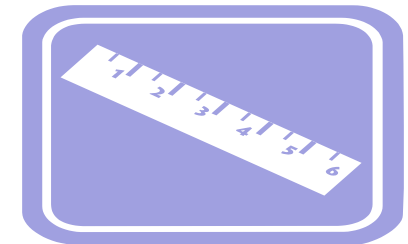
MAP stands for "Measures of Academic Progress."

It is a test that covers Mathematics, Reading, and, at some schools, Language Usage. Using a computer, you will take MAPs in the fall and the spring and sometimes in the winter.

What Does MAP do?

You may have a chart in your home on which you mark your height at certain times like on your birthday. This is called a growth chart. It shows how you have grown from one year to the next.

MAP does the same sort of thing, except that it measures how you have grown in Reading, Mathematics, and sometimes, Language Usage.



How Does It Do That?

The growth chart for your height measures you in inches or centimeters. MAP uses RITs—or a RIT score (growth score). When you take MAP, you will answer many questions. Some of your answers may be right, and others will not. Your RIT scores depend on two things: Which questions you answer correctly and how difficult each question is.

What should my RIT score be?

Your RIT score will give you and your teacher information about where you are in Reading, Math, and Language. You will set growth goals in order to keep improving in these areas. Where you are isn't as important as how much you grow in the future.

How long does it take to complete a RIT test?

Although the RIT tests are not timed, they usually take about an hour on the computer to complete.

How will we know what to do?

If you had a bicycle that was not working well, it might be because of just one or two parts.

Each MAP test is made up of “parts” which we call goal areas. Take a look at the goal areas for each MAP test.

Reading

- Word Origins, Vocabulary, Semantics
- Comprehension of Fiction
- Comprehension of Nonfiction

Math

- Number and Number Sense
- Computation and Estimation
- Measurement
- Geometry
- Probability and Statistics
- Patterns, Functions, and Algebra

Does everyone take the same test?

Your teacher will decide which subjects you will be tested on. Every student will take Reading and Math and some of you will also take a Language test. Not everyone will get the same questions. The computer selects each question based upon your previous answer, thereby creating a test that is unique to you. Your achievement level is determined by how many questions you answer correctly, in addition to the difficulty of the questions. Expect to answer about half of the questions correctly.

Fall 8th grade MAP results will be used for Specialty Center applications. Fall 5th and 6th grade MAP results will be used for IB Middle Years applications.

