



SCHOOL PARENTS LEARNING LAB

NWEA MAP Assessments

Overview

As OLGC Parish School works to attain academic excellence, we have embraced a computer-adaptive assessment (CAA) to provide strong differentiated instruction to all students. This is in alignment with the announcement from the AOD to replace the IOWA assessment with a CAA. OLGC Parish School was chosen as a pilot school for a MAP® Growth™ test from NWEA® during the 2018-19 school year. Students in grades K-8 were administered the assessment in the Winter and Spring on a computer or tablet. Students are continuing the MAP Growth tests this year to determine their instructional level and to measure academic growth throughout the school year (and from year to year) in Reading, Mathematics, and Science (Grades 5 and 7). Students will take the tests in Fall, Winter and Spring.

NWEA MAP assessments are research-based, standardized computer adaptive tests. Teachers may use the data to personalize instruction within the classroom by differentiating learning to a student's level (below, at, or above grade level.) Data can also be used to help students formulate personal goals for growth and create a plan to help them achieve their goals.

Supporting Research

Over 9 million students in the U.S. and in over 140 countries worldwide take MAP Growth Assessments. NWEA, in addition to third party researchers, have conducted studies with top scientists and scholars from across the country, on the efficacy of the assessments. NWEA has also partnered with school systems in applying the research. Much of this research can be viewed on their website at www.nwea.org.

National **Norms** were created from anonymous assessment data from over 10.2 million students. All test questions are calibrated to these norms.

Well-constructed test score norms can inform many education-related activities. Educators find RIT Scale Norms especially **useful in four key areas:**

- 1) Individualizing instruction
- 2) Setting achievement goals for students or entire schools
- 3) Understanding achievement patterns
- 4) Evaluating student performance

Students MAP scores **accurately predict** state test proficiency and track college readiness.

Home Connection

Provide a supportive environment for homework. Focusing on one's normal coursework, will provide natural growth and teach a desire to learn more.

The "Goals" section on a Student Progress Report provides individualized strengths and areas of growth. Extra educational resources may be found on our school website: iamolgc.com > Curriculum > Home Connection: Parent Resources

Students grow in many ways, not just on a test. Celebrate growth & improvement, rather than on specific scores. Find the Parent Toolkit on our school website: iamolgc.com > Assessment > Resources for Parents About NWEA