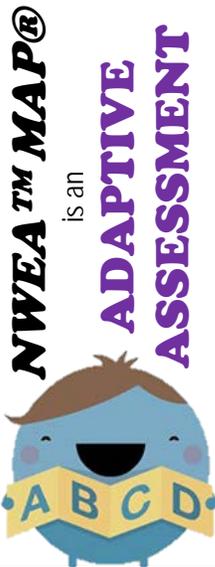


## What is NWEA™ MAP®?

MAP® is short for Measures of Academic Progress®, a **computer-based assessment** put together by the not-for-profit organization Northwest Evaluation Association™ (NWEA™). This test helps assess foundational skills and concepts in the subject areas of Reading and Mathematics, and it is **given three times a year** in Cook County School District 130.



- **Individualized to each student.**  
*If a student answers questions correctly, the test becomes more difficult. If the student answers incorrectly, the questions become easier. The test adjusts to the current achievement level of the student.*
- **No time limit.**  
*Though the average student finishes a single session in 40 minutes or less, students can take their time to think through the questions in order to showcase their individual capabilities.*
- **A fair opportunity.**  
*Because the test has no time limit and the question complexity adapts to the given responses, students can show what they can and cannot do within the foundational skills and concepts of Reading and Mathematics.*



## NWEA™ MAP® measures ACADEMIC GROWTH:

Like a ruler measures height in equal interval units (feet, inches), NWEA™ MAP® measures academic growth using an equal interval **RIT scale**.

Each RIT score is associated with **specific skills and concepts** that an individual student is academically progressing towards.

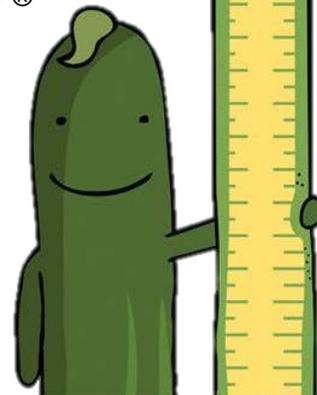
Across our district, our staff members think of RIT scores as what a student is “Ready for Instruction Today” (RIT).

In other words, RIT scores **help guide our instruction** of individual students. This is because RIT scores tell us what the student:

- Already knows and is able to do.
- Is ready to learn today.
- Is progressing towards once they master their current level.

Many assessments focus on students reaching specific scores to be considered proficient, which does not emphasize the growth or abilities of individuals.

NWEA™ MAP® data, on the other hand, allows us to **focus on growth** and helping all individual students reach their fullest academic potential.



Does the testing interrupt my student's learning?

- Each session is scheduled for two class periods, but a majority of students finish the test in 40 minutes or less. This leaves a majority of the day for regular learning opportunities and instruction.
- Students are scheduled to take just one session a day in Cook County School District 130
- Each testing window, students sit down for two testing sessions (1 Reading, 1 Math)
- There are three testing windows in a school year:
  - Beginning of Year (August/September)
  - Middle of Year (January/February)
  - End of Year (April/May)



**Important Information for PARENTS**  
*from reports provided by*  
**NWEA™ MAP®:**  
National norm comparisons  
Individualized annual growth expectations  
Identified areas of relative strength in both Reading & Math  
Identified areas that need additional support in both Reading & Math  
A running record of past NWEA™ MAP® overall results

*“Learning is a treasure which accompanies its owner everywhere.”*  
- Chinese proverb




Do you have additional questions about NWEA™ MAP® or any other tests? Please feel free to contact your child's principal or our Director for Assessment & Data, Mr. Graig Mason at: [gmason@district130.org](mailto:gmason@district130.org)