Primary Grades Test Selection

Using MAP® for Primary Grades (MPG) tests for mathematics and reading may greatly reduce the time you spend performing one-on-one assessments. They can help you:

- Evaluate needs before teaching a unit or lesson
- Group students for instruction
- Assess the need for intervention
- Communicate progress to parents

MPG tests are for second graders or below. The tests include audio support to assess foundational skills and assist students who are not fully literate.

Three MPG Test Types

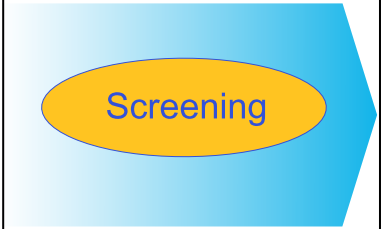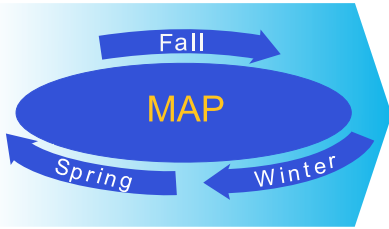|	
Screening:	Get **baseline information** for a new student who is in the earliest stages of learning, particularly a kindergarten or pre-K student
Skills Checklist:	Assess **knowledge of a specific skill** before or after teaching it (38 skills to choose from in mathematics and reading)
MAP for Primary Grades	Adaptive test to assess **growth** from one term to the next and obtain learning statements to identify what the student is ready to learn

MPG Test Type Comparison

	MPG Test Types		
	Screening	**Skills Checklist**	**MAP for Primary Grades**
Skill Level	Foundational literacy and numeracy skills	Varies based on the skill selected	A range that adapts to the student's knowledge
Considered for Growth*	No	No	Yes
Reported Results	Percent correct, found in **MAP for Primary Grades reports** (student, class, and sub-skill reports)		RIT score and Lexile® range for reading, found in **MAP reports** (including student progress and class reports) Learning statements, found in **Primary Grades Instructional Data**
When to Administer	Anytime, as often as needed	Anytime, as often as needed	During school test window, once per term
Test Form	Same initial questions each time, but the second half may present different questions (in random order)	Same questions each time, in random order	Adaptive test that does not repeat a question to the student within a year†
Number of Questions†	30	10 to 35 for math, 14 to 52 for reading	52 (NWEA standard) or 48 (common core)

***Only the adaptive MAP and MPG tests administered during the school test window are used as growth measurements on reports.**

†Not including familiarization questions.

Typical MPG Test Usage

Test usage decisions should be driven by the data needs of the instructor and the readiness of the individual student. The following table indicates typical usage, but your needs may vary.

	New Kindergartner	Repeated Testing Over Time		Transition to MAP Testing
	Screening	Skills Checklists + MAP for Primary Grades (Fall, Spring, Winter)		MAP (Fall, Spring, Winter)
Typical Time	Early to mid-K	K-2, while audio support is needed		Grade 2 fall to grade 3 fall
Test	Screening	Skills Checklists	MAP for Primary Grades	MAP
Purpose	**Assess foundational skills** of new kindergarteners, unless they have a good grasp already	**Get details** about a certain skill, perhaps after seeing results from a Screening test, or as a pre- or post-test for a unit you teach	**Gather growth data** and get learning statements to inform instruction	**Gather growth data aligned to state goals** and get learning statements to inform instruction
First Testing	Early K (or pre-K)	Early to mid-K	K fall to grade 1 fall during test window	Grade 2 fall to grade 3 fall during test window
Testing Frequency	Whenever helpful, while learning foundational skills	Whenever helpful	Once each term during test window, until ready for MAP tests*	Once each term during test window into high school

*NWEA does not recommend giving MPG tests to students beyond the second grade because the test content is not appropriate.

Tips for Choosing Tests for Individual Students

Test readiness varies student-by-student based on **attention span, fine motor skill development, and academic readiness.**

Use test warm-ups and observe student readiness:

Observe how the students interact with the test questions and navigation during the test warm-ups, and during any Screening tests or short Skills Checklist tests you administer. If they struggle, wait for these students to improve their fine motor skills or attention span before administering the longer, adaptive MAP for Primary Grades test.

> ☆ **Important!** Do not let students struggle for long periods if they have trouble interacting with tests. Be quick to pause, suspend, or terminate a student's test to avoid bad experiences.

Handle short attention spans:

Work around short attention spans by pausing tests after brief periods. The adaptive MAP for Primary Grades tests typically take about 50 minutes, so suspend the tests after 25 minutes (or sooner if needed).

Promote students when they are ready:

Be aware of students who can read independently and no longer need audio support. They may remove their headphones or express frustration with the audio.

Before transitioning a student to MAP tests (which are intended for grade 2 and above), ask yourself these questions to make sure the student meets all the criteria:

1. Can the student interact well with MAP test questions?
2. Can the student read independently?
3. Has the student been exposed to grade 2 content?

Note: Do not use RIT score as a criterion in determining when to transition students to MAP tests. RIT score is not a proven indicator of student readiness for MAP tests.

MPG Math Test Selection Worksheet

Instructor:	Screening	Skills Checklist																									Adaptive MPG
	Math Early Numeracy	Math Computation													Math NumberSense												Math Primary Grades
		To 10			To 20			To 100						To 1000			To 10		To 20			To 100				To 1000		
Class:		Manipulatives	Numbers	Problem Solving	Manipulatives	Numbers	Problem Solving	Manipulatives	Manipulatives Regroup	Numbers	Numbers Regroup	Problem Solving	Problem Solving Regroup	Manipulatives	Numbers	Problem Solving	Count-Order-PlaceValue	Representation	Count-Order-PlaceValue	Ordering	Representation	Counting	Ordering	Place Value	Representation	Counting	Ordering	Place Value	Representation	
Students:																														

Example test names seen in the Web-based MAP software: **Screening: Math Early Numeracy, Skills Checklist: Math Computation-10 Manipulatives, MAP: Math Primary Grades**

MPG Reading Test Selection Worksheet

Instructor:	Screening	Skills Checklist											Adaptive MPG
	Reading Early Literacy	Reading											Reading Primary Grades
		Consonant Blends-Digraphs	Decoding Multi-Syllable Words	Decoding Patterns-Word Families	Letter Identification	Manipulation of Sounds	Matching Letters to Sounds	Phoneme Identification	Phonological Awareness	Syllable Types-CVC-CVCe-R-Controlled	Vowel-Digraphs-Diphthongs		
Class:													
Students:													

Example test names seen in the Web-based MAP software: **Screening: Reading Early Literacy,
Skills Checklist: Reading Consonant Blends-Digraphs**, **MAP: Reading Primary Grades**

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