Frequently Asked Questions

What is MAP?
MAP is an adaptive assessment that provides information for all students regardless if they are currently below, at, or above grade level. The difficulty of each question is based on how well a student answers previous questions. As the student answers correctly, questions become more difficult. If the student answers incorrectly, the questions become easier.

What information does MAP provide?
MAP provides teachers with real-time data that is aligned to the Colorado Academic Standards. MAP reports performance using a RIT score. This score ranges from about 100 to 300 and can be used across grade levels. In addition to current performance, MAP also provides several measures of growth that show how the student’s score changed and how that change compares to similar students.

How much should my child grow?
RIT scores should increase over time. Younger students, on average, experience more growth in one year than older students. Students who perform above grade level may show less growth.

Each child has unique learning needs and individual students will grow at different rates. Growth projections for each student are based on national norms and should be viewed as typical growth, not expected growth.

RIT scores may decline from one test to the next. One low test score is not cause for immediate concern. Performance over time is a better indicator of progress and classroom data collected by your child’s teacher can provide additional information about your student’s success.

If you have questions or concerns about your child’s academic progress, please reach out to his/her teachers so we can work together to provide the best methods of support.

What Parents Can Do:

- Use the results to establish goals with your child and reinforce a growth mindset.
- Connect with your child’s teacher to identify concepts and skills for your child to work on outside of the classroom.

Online Resources

Jeffco FAQ for parents:

NWEA Parent Toolkit:
https://www.nwea.org/resources/parent-toolkit/

Reading Resources:
www.lexile.com
www.vocabulary.com

Math Resources:
https://sites.google.com/a/jeffcoschools.us/math-expressions-family-support/

Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) is an efficient, online assessment that provides valuable information related to students’ performance in English Language Arts and mathematics (science is also available in some grades).

This guide is intended to:
- Help you understand the MAP assessment;
- Assist you in understanding how to read parent reports; and
- Provide you with tips for discussing MAP results with your child and his/her teacher.
Understanding Your Child’s MAP Results

Interpreting the MAP Results

MAP provides a snapshot of your child’s performance in each content area in which s/he tested. Like adults, students have good and bad days and their test results do not always indicate exactly what they know. Therefore, growth over time is a better measure of student learning. The MAP results are a part of a larger and more comprehensive body of evidence teachers use to support your child.

Compare your child’s results to how they have performed on other assessments in previous years:

- Are there surprises?
- Do you see areas of celebration?
- Do you see potential areas for growth?

Discuss the MAP results with your child. What stands out as a potential area to set a goal? What skills can you practice together at home?

Questions to Ask Teachers

- How is my child doing?
- Does the MAP data match what you’re seeing in class?
- What other information should we look at together to better understand my child’s current learning needs?
- What can we work on at home to help my child to be more successful with his/her learning?

Common MAP Terms

Here are the most used terms you will likely encounter as you analyze your child’s MAP results:

**RIT Score:** MAP tests use a scale called RIT to measure student achievement and growth. RIT scores range from about 100 to 300. Students typically start at the 180 to 200 level in the third grade and progress to the 220 to 260 level by high school, depending on the subject. RIT scores make it possible to follow a student’s educational growth from year to year.

**Goal Area:** A group of related concepts and skills aligned to the Colorado Academic Standards.

**Percentile Rank:** The percentile rank describes how well a student performed in comparison to the students in the norm group. A student’s percentile rank indicates that the student scored as well as, or higher than, the percent of students in the norm group. For example, a student with a percentile rank of 72 scored as well as, or higher than 72 percent of the students in the norm group.

**Lexile Range:** The Lexile Range appears when a student has taken a reading test. It represents the difficulty range of text that can be understood by your child and can be used to help select books to be read at home.

**District Average:** The average RIT score for all students in the school district in the same grade who were tested at the same time as your child.

**Norm Group Average:** The average score of students who were in the same grade and tested in the same term as observed in the latest NWEA norming study.

Report Examples for Parents

**Student Progress Report**

The Student Progress Report provides a comparison of your child’s overall RIT score to both district and national norms. A RIT growth projection, based on historical performance from the norm group, is also included.

**Goal Setting Worksheet**

The Student Goal Setting Worksheet includes your child’s overall RIT score as well as his/her performance in each Goal Area. If a goal area is highlighted in green, this is a relative area of strength. If a goal area is highlighted in yellow, this is a potential area for further investigation and academic support.