

Poway Unified School District

The richest and most reliable source of information concerning your child's growth is the classroom teacher. The teacher monitors performance daily using a variety of tools and strategies including assignments, projects, observations, and assessments. Any state or district assessment score represents estimated performance at a single point in time.

It takes many tools to measure the academic growth of a child. MAPs is one of our district's tools.

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Measures of Academic Progress MAPs

A Parent Guide



It takes more than a yardstick
to measure your child's growth.



How can I use MAPs to
help my child?

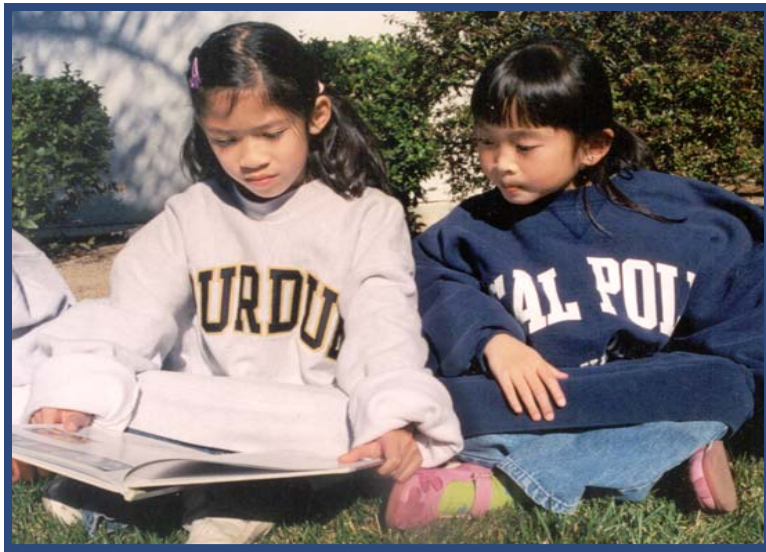


Your child's scores are reported in ranges. Every RIT score range is associated with a specific set of skills. When parents, teachers, and most importantly students, understand which skills in the set need to be learned by the student, plans can be made and learning can be accelerated.

Parents can visit a Poway Unified School District website to determine which skills are to be learned next.
<http://www.pusdmap.com>.

Lexiles match readers to text. Lexiles allows parents and students to select appropriate reading materials. For more information visit the Lexile Framework website at:
<http://www.lexile.com>.

Learn more about NWEA: www.NWEA.org



How will MAPs improve my child's education?



Measures of Academic Progress will...

- g # Provide meaningful information to parents and students regarding student progress in the areas of reading, language arts, and mathematics.
- g # Inform the instructional decisions of teachers.
- g # Measure and report student growth over time using a consistent scale.
- g # Motivate students to achieve clear, specific goals.
- g # Allow multiple opportunities for students to show growth.
- g # Facilitate program evaluation at the school and district levels.

As a parent, you probably use more than a yardstick to measure your child's growth. You may use bathroom scales, school photographs, or clothing sizes to measure physical growth. As your child matures, you may employ other measures of growth such as changing bedtimes, adding new responsibilities, or getting a driver's license. Likewise, the Poway Unified School District uses different measures to monitor and manage your child's academic growth. These include progress report grades, collections of work, and a variety of tests. However, just as no single measure of physical growth is completely adequate, no single test provides a complete accounting of a child's knowledge and skills. Each test administered by the state and district and each test that the teacher uses in the classroom provides part of a complete picture.

This booklet describes one of the tests developed by our district to manage, report, and plan your child's educational progress. As part of a comprehensive assessment program, students in Grades 2-8 take Poway's **Measures of Academic Progress** or "**MAPs**" in the fall and spring of each school year. Many also take it mid year to measure growth and, if needed, adjust instructional targets during the year.

The Purpose of MAPs

- o Accelerate student learning
- o Measure academic growth during the year
- o Monitor student progress over several years
- o Evaluate the effectiveness of instructional programs
- o Inform students, teachers, and parents

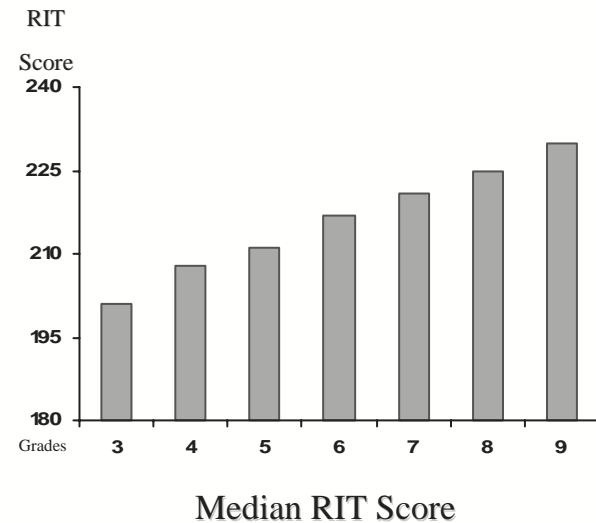
How is MAPs Different?



Scores are reported using two scales...

Percentiles ~ used to compare a student to a large group of students of similar age or grade level. These scores are useful to compare students in other schools around the country.

RIT (Rauch Units) ~ used to show a student's current achievement level along a curriculum scale. These scores show the progress a student is making toward mastery of the curriculum.



How do I interpret the results?



Desired RIT Scores for Grades 2-9

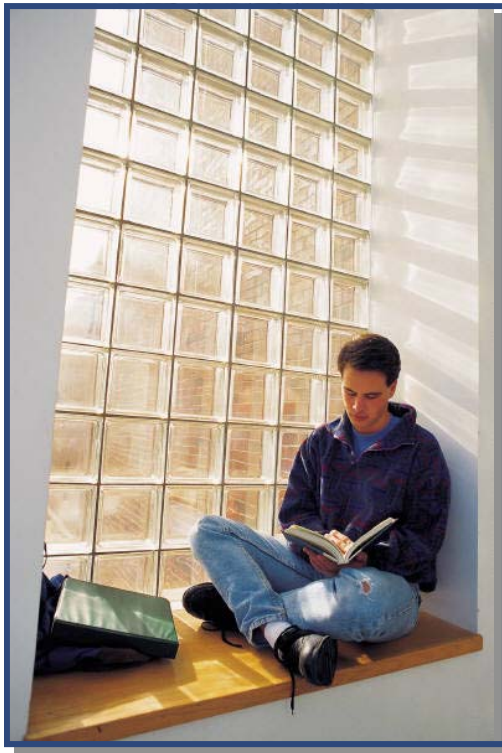
| Grade | Reading | | Language Usage | | Mathematics | |
|-------|---------|--------|----------------|--------|-------------|--------|
| | Fall | Spring | Fall | Spring | Fall | Spring |
| 2 | 175 | 188 | 179 | 193 | 170 | 185 |
| 3 | 194 | 203 | 197 | 206 | 190 | 202 |
| 4 | 201 | 208 | 204 | 210 | 203 | 212 |
| 5 | 210 | 217 | 212 | 218 | 215 | 224 |
| 6 | 214 | 220 | 217 | 221 | 223 | 231 |
| 7 | 218 | 225 | 220 | 225 | 233 | 238 |
| 8 | 224 | 230 | 224 | 230 | 236 | 244 |
| 9 | 230 | 235 | 226 | 232 | — | — |

The desired spring RIT scores indicate on track for 4 year college admission

MAPs...

- ~ Designed by Poway teachers working with Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) to assess student achievement of California curriculum standards in Reading, Language Usage and Mathematics.
- ~ Is taken on a computer that “tailors” the test to the individual student’s correct achievement levels.
- ~ Is ungraded and untimed and very accurate.
- ~ Measures and reports student growth over months and years.
- ~ Is available to teachers throughout the year to use when needed.
- ~ Predicts success on state tests.
- ~ Provides specific feedback that teachers, students and parents can act on immediately.

What does MAPs Measure?



MAPs breaks out student achievement in **reading, language usage, and mathematics** into specific goal areas to provide more detail. The MAPs tests provide feedback in the following curriculum goal areas:

Reading:

- g # Word analysis and vocabulary
- g # Literal comprehension
- g # Interpretive comprehension
- g # Literary response and analysis

Language Usage:

- g # Writing strategies
- g # Writing applications
- g # Punctuation
- g # Grammar

Mathematics:

- g # Numbers and operations
- g # Patterns, functions, and algebra
- g # Measurement
- g # Geometry
- g # Data analysis, statistics, and probability
- g # Problem solving