

Guidance for Parents: Testing at Home



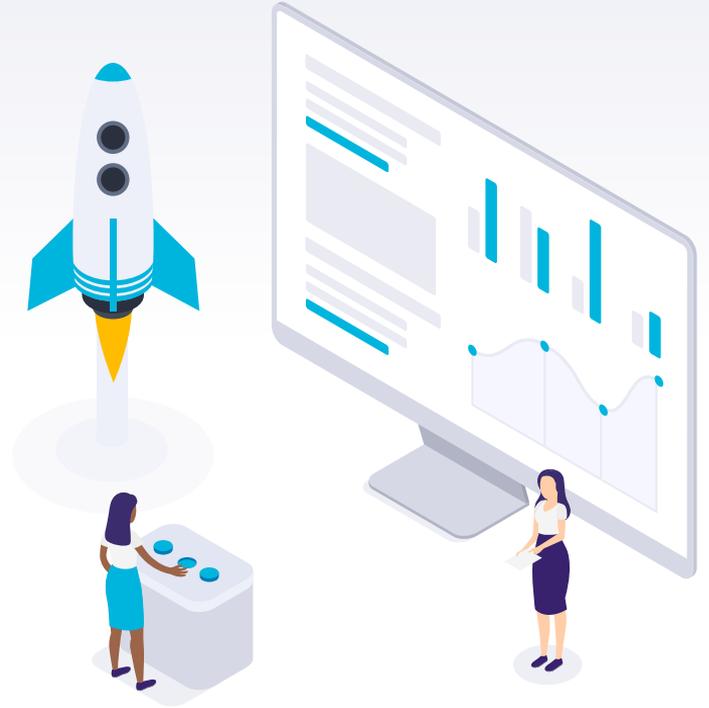
Topics of Discussion

- ▶ **Purpose of Assessment**
- ▶ **Technology requirements**
 - ▷ **Finding the test**
 - ▷ **Logins/Passwords**
- ▶ **Best testing environment**
- ▶ **Test security**
- ▶ **Troubleshooting tips**
- ▶ **Technical support**



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Purpose of Assessment



Doctor/Check-up = Teacher/Assessment



Purpose of the Assessment

Purpose:

The entire purpose of this assessment (K-2, 3-8) is to help teachers understand where students are academically so they can make good instructional decisions.



How **IS** it used?

- Teachers review the results for each child and plan instructional supports based on the results.
- Teachers review class results and plan instruction for the small groups or the entire class.

How is it **NOT** used?

- The results are **NOT** used as grades
- The score does not determine whether a student passes or fails a grade level.
- The scores are not used to evaluate your child's district, school, or teacher.

How is this test different from other assessments?

NWEA Map Growth K-2 and NWEA Map Growth 2-5

- This is a **COMPUTER-ADAPTIVE** test.
 - The test engine adapts based on the student's correct or incorrect answers
 - Correct answer = increases difficulty of questions
 - Incorrect answer = decreases difficulty of questions
 - Not a test of mastery
 - The tests are intentionally designed for students to answer approximately half of the test items correctly.
 - Questions given are above and below the predicted academic level to determine the student's true level.

Other Types of Assessments

- Criterion-referenced - students are tested on a fixed set of items/standards.
- Norm-referenced - compares a student's performance against an average norm group.
- Summative - measures knowledge at the end of a year or a semester.

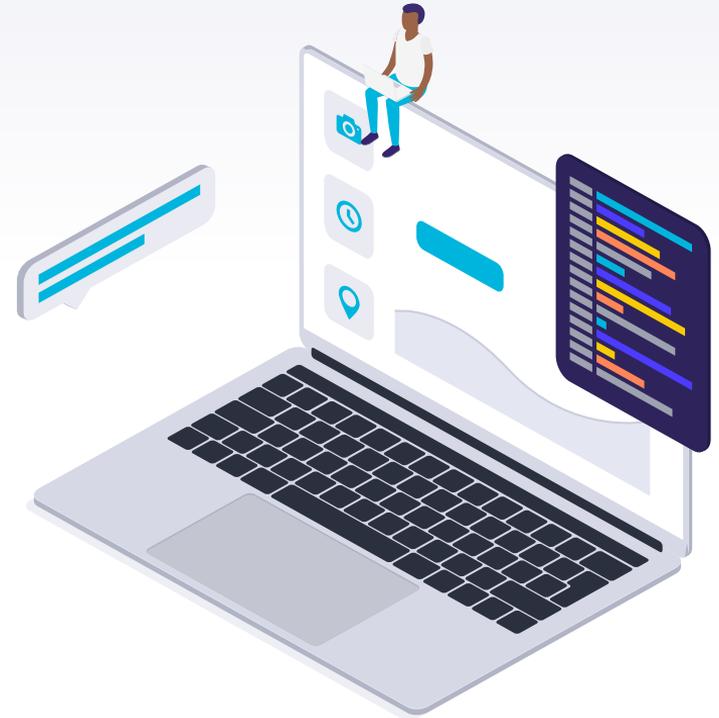
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Technology Requirements



What do I need in order to assess my child at home ?

- Digital device (not a cell phone)
- Web cam (internal/external) - recommended (not required)
- Microphone (internal/external) - recommended (not required)
- Login and Password (shared through Google Classroom)



Where do I find the test?

To take a test:

Students should go to <https://test.mapnwea.org/>

You may receive a message to turn off the pop up blocker. A link to show you how to turn off this feature is on the bottom of the alert page.

Logins and Passwords

Teachers will share log in/session names through Google Classroom.

- ▶ **You should not share the login and password information**
- ▶ **You should only use the login and password on the scheduled day and time as directed by their teacher.**



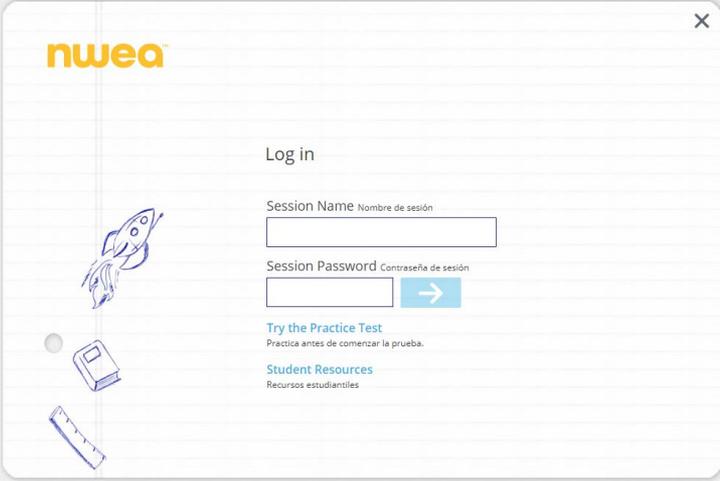
Log-in and Log-off

Logging in to the test site:

<https://test.mapnwea.org/>

Logging off and next steps:

Students should submit their assessment as directed by their virtual teacher.



The screenshot shows the nwea login interface. On the left, there are icons for a rocket, a book, and a ruler. The main area contains the text "Log in" followed by two input fields: "Session Name" (Nombre de sesión) and "Session Password" (Contraseña de sesión). A blue arrow button is next to the password field. Below the fields are links for "Try the Practice Test" (Practica antes de comenzar la prueba.) and "Student Resources" (Recursos estudiantiles). The nwea logo is in the bottom right corner of the page.

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Best Testing Environment

Physically Ready

Research tells us that students perform better after a good night's rest and a good breakfast.

Emotionally Ready

A student who is less anxious will always perform better academically.

Quiet Area

Students should have a quiet area away from noise and distractions such as the TV.

Good Lighting

Make sure the student has a well-lit area. Check the computer brightness and for glares on the computer screen.

Comfortable Seating

Most students perform their best when seated at a table with an appropriately sized chair.

Morning/Early Afternoon

Research tells us students perform better academically in the morning or early afternoon.

Easing Test Anxiety

Test Anxiety:

Physical symptoms and emotional reactions that interfere with your student's ability to perform well on tests



Have a conversation

- Explain the purpose of the test.
- Tell the student that he/she is NOT expected to know the all of the answers
- Assure the student that it is not used for a grade.

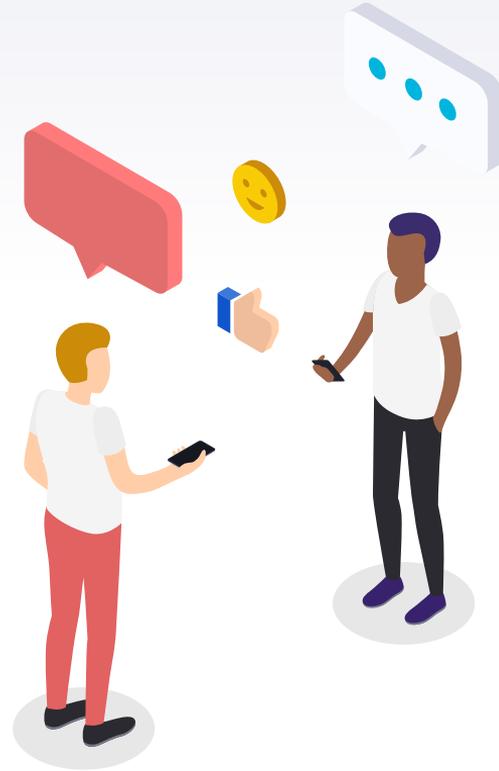
Prepare the device the day before the assessment

- Is the **website bookmarked** and ready to go?
- Does your student know how to access the test?
- Do you have log-in and password information?

Test Security

What?

Why?



Test Security

What is test security?

Protecting and maintaining the contents of the assessment.

Why is test security important?

Protecting and maintaining the contents of the assessment, allows the results to be valid and trusted.

Valid results allow teachers to make the best instructional decisions possible for their students.

Test Security Agreement

What is the purpose of the test security agreement?

- To provide information to the parent/guardian regarding general testing expectations.
- A list of actions for parents to follow in order to protect the security of the assessment and the integrity of your child's test results.
 - This goes back to the purpose of the assessment—that it is being used as an instructional tool for teachers.

 2020-2021 TEST SECURITY AGREEMENT NON-SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENTS: PARENTS		
District/School:		
Student Name (first & last):		
Parent/Guardian Name (first & last):		
My child has a working microphone for the testing device. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	My child has a working webcam for the testing device. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Our household has a second device if needed. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Every parent/guardian of a student who is involved in the remote administration of any state-provided assessment (ACT Aspire Periodic, K-2, and 3-8 Ready for Learning, and the Civics exam) must sign this security agreement prior to engaging in remote testing. Students may not test remotely without this signed security agreement on file with the district.		
I will not read or view the passages or test items before, during, or after testing, including viewing responses on the screen;		
I will not save, copy, or otherwise reproduce (such as recording or taking a picture of) all or any part of the test or security test materials or student responses with anyone, especially students or school personnel, through verbal exchange, email, social media, or any other form of communication;		
I will not reveal or discuss all or any part of the test or security test materials or student responses with anyone, especially students or school personnel, through verbal exchange, email, social media, or any other form of communication;		
I will not coach students or give verbal/non-verbal cues during testing, or alter or interfere with students' responses in any way.		
I will not violate the guidance provided in local test administration training;		
I will not allow students to access an electronic device (including, but not limited to, cell phones, tablets, smart watches, etc.) other than the testing device during the test administration; and		
I will not allow student use of a cell phone or other prohibited electronic device other than as approved in the local test administration policy for communication.		
I have been trained in test administration and/or test security. The security of all test materials must be maintained before, during, and after test administration. I understand what actions are strictly prohibited. If any prohibited actions occur, I will notify my child's teacher. Engaging in prohibited activities may result in student score invalidations. I have discussed with my child the expectations and limitations of remote testing.		
My signature certifies that I have read and agree to the above-stated expectations.		
Parent/Guardian Signature:		Date:
Revised 7/23/20 For Office Use Only: Student ID#: _____		

THANKS!

