

MAP Frequently Asked Questions

1. **What is MAP?** MAP Growth is a computer adaptive test created by NWEA that kids take two to three times per school year. Computer adaptive tests adjust to each student's learning level, providing a unique set of test questions based on their responses to previous questions. As the student responds to questions, the test responds to the student, adjusting up or down in difficulty.
2. **What does MAP measure?** MAP Growth measures what students know, regardless of their grade level. It also measures growth over time, allowing you to track your student's progress throughout the school year and across multiple years.
3. **How often does my student take MAP?** For students at the Johnson campus, MAP is taken three times each year: August, December and May. MAP is not taken at the Patton campus.
4. **What is a RIT score?** After each MAP Growth test, results are delivered in the form of a RIT score that reflects the student's academic knowledge, skills, and abilities. Think of this score like marking height on a growth chart. You can tell how tall your child is at various points in time and how much they have grown between one stage and another. The RIT (Rasch Unit) scale is a stable, equal-interval scale. Equal-interval means that a change of 10 RIT points indicates the same thing regardless of whether a student is at the top, bottom, or middle of the scale, and a RIT score has the same meaning regardless of grade level or age of the student. You can compare scores over time to tell how much growth a student has made.
5. **Can MAP tell me if my student is working at grade level?** Yes, but please note that MAP Growth scores are just one data point that teachers use to determine how a child is performing, particularly since LFNO's curricula is a hybrid of Louisiana State Standards and the French National Curriculum. Please discuss any questions that you have about your student's performance with their teacher.
6. **How does LFNO use MAP scores?** We use MAP scores as one data point in assessing students' overall performance. MAP is utilized by general education and Exceptional Student Services teachers to inform how a student is progressing in certain areas of both reading and math. MAP is also a tool that provides information for Response to Intervention (RtI) and can help inform a student's individualized goals.
7. **My student's score indicated s/he is working at the 50th percentile; did they fail the benchmark?** No. The 50th percentile indicates your student is performing at an average level. 68% of the general population performs within the 16th to 84th percentiles, which constitutes a low average to high average range of performance. See the bell curve below for a visual representation.

Figure 2: Normal Curve

