

Mathematics

Resource Depot: AK STAR & MAP Assessment Support

Interested in increasing your students' success on the AK STAR & MAP Assessments? Use the checklist below to guide your preparations.

Purpose and Audience:

The resource was drafted to:

- Unpack and compare the AK STAR Assessment and the MAP Growth Assessment
- Share and promote a list of suggested steps for improving student outcomes on the AK STAR Assessment
- Collect and curate lists of resources to bolster AK STAR & MAP Assessment preparation

This resource is intended to support the following audiences:

- Math teachers in Alaska in grades 3-9
- Pre-service Math teachers preparing to teach in grades 3-9
- Alaska districts

Overview: AK STAR vs MAP Growth Assessment

| AK STAR Assessment (Alaska System of Academic Readiness) | MAP Growth Assessment (Measures of Academic Progress) |
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| AK STAR Assessment: a standards-based summative assessment that measures student progress in English Language Arts and Math in grades 3-9. | MAP Growth Assessment: an adaptive interim test that measures student growth in English Language Arts and Math in grades 3-9. |
| Regulations: The Alaska Admin code regulation 4 AAC 06.710 lists the required state-wide assessments. 4 AAC 06.737 requires that grade 3-9 students take an assessment based on standards, which is currently the AK STAR, in the spring of each school year. Structure: AK STAR combines the required summative assessment with the MAP Growth component and is adaptive. Some items are dual-purposed, providing information for both scores (see Scoring). Scoring: Students receive a summative test score on the AK STAR Assessment. The current achievement levels include: Needs Support, Approaching Proficient, Proficient, and Advanced. For Achievement Level Scale Score Ranges scores please reference the current educators quide. | The MAP Growth Assessment is not required per Alaska regulations, however, it is given to some students in all Alaska school districts. Structure: The MAP Growth Assessment is item-adaptive, meaning the assessment adapts to the students' ability based on previous questions answered. Some items are dual-purposed, providing information for both scores (see scoring). Scoring: Students receive a RIT score on the MAP Growth Assessment—a score that estimates their academic growth in Math, Reading, and Language. |

| Checklist for AK STAR Preparation (AK DEED) | |
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| Watch: Students: AK STAR Student Tutorial 2025 **highly recommended** □ Practice: Students: Take the AK STAR practice test **highly recommended** □ Resource: Teachers: AK STAR Educator Guide with practice test keys □ Practice: Teachers: Take a MAP practice test **highly recommended** □ Practice: Students: Take a MAP practice test **highly recommended** | |
| Review Curriculum Coverage: Review your mathematics curriculum for coverage of the Alaska Mathematics Standards (2012) and plan instruction to address any gaps or weaknesses | Resource to support: Instructional Focus and Cluster Worksheet for Grades K-8 (word) Instructional Focus and High School Course Clusters (word) |
| ☐ Analyze Student Data: Collect and review students' most recent MAP data, and plan your instruction based on your findings. ☐ Determine report that is most aligned with your goals ☐ AK STAR: Video: ISR results | |
| ☐ Read the Blueprint: Read the AK STAR Summative Blueprint for Mathematics (PDF) | |
| ☐ Explore the ALD's: Explore how the Achievement Level Descriptors (ALD's) can support instruction | Resources to support: Achievement Level Explorer Tool Grades 3-5 Grades 6-8 Grade 9 |
| ☐ Teach Academic Vocabulary: Teach academic vocabulary embedded in your course content. | Resource to support: Academic Vocabulary and Word Lists from the Vocabulary Instruction Resource Depot Use mathematics vocabulary from Alaska Mathematics Standards Website. Vocabulary lists for: Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th. |
| Collaborate: Complete any / all of the items above with an instructional coach, your PLC, or your grade-band or content-area team. **highly recommended** | |

Resources

Understanding the Standards and Standards Implementation:

Required Fluencies for Grades K-6 (docx)

Overview Focus of Mathematical Content Standards Progression K-8

Achieve the Core Standards Focus Sheets (by grade level)

Standards for Mathematical Practice (docx)

Guide for Reading Math Standards (word)

ELL Support:

ELD Standards (WIDA)

Mathematics with Multilingual Learners (WIDA)

Math specific EL lesson videos (WIDA)

Professional Development:

Fractions Toolkit (IES)

Developing Language for Learning Mathematics (WIDA)

AK STAR/MAP Growth Assessment Literacy Training (NWEA)