

Assessment Overview

Name of Assessment/ Grade(s) Given	Format of Test/Time Parameters	Purpose	Parent Support
<p>MClass: Reading 3D (County)</p> <p>Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd graders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -One on one with teacher -Foundational reading skills -Running Record -Written Response -Teacher uses Palm Pilot -Daily, individual testing over a one month period 	<p>Teachers use MClass: Reading 3D results to determine the instructional levels of students. They use this data to create their guided reading groups and identify individual and group instructional needs. It also allows teachers to measure student progress in reading. MCPS uses this assessment to collect data on the success of its reading program.</p>	<p>-Read to your child</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Be positive and encouraging so that your child does not feel stressed by any test -Listen to your child read -Talk about the books you read -For beginning readers, have your child point out high frequency words, punctuation, text features -Use rich vocabulary when speaking to your child
<p>TN2 (County)</p> <p>2nd graders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Multiple choice -Three sessions that vary in length from 45 minutes - 2 hours 	<p>The school receives the results from this test in the summer. This is an achievement test that is not meant to be used diagnostically. We use the results to identify general areas of need for specific students and to identify trends. MCPS uses results of this test as an indicator of how students are performing in the basic skills in reading, language arts, and mathematics as compared to other second graders across the nation. It can be used as a predictor for success on the MSA. Individual student scores are reported to parents.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Help children develop background knowledge by going to museums, plays, zoos, etc. -Remind your child to stay on topic -Limit TV -Sort everyday objects -Look for patterns -Teach coin values -Build number sense: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -reasonable estimates -Measure when you cook, garden, build, sew, etc. -Practice telling time

Adapted from <http://www.mcps.k12.md.us/info/assessments.shtm>

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Name of Assessment	Format of Test/Time Parameters	Purpose	Parent Support
<p>MAP-R (County)</p> <p>3rd, 4th, and 5th graders</p>	<p>-Multiple Choice</p> <p>-Student takes it on the computer</p> <p>One 1 hour session per class</p>	<p>The MAP-R (Measures of Academic Progress-Reading) is a computerized adaptive assessment program that provides teachers, students, and parents with an accurate assessment of students' progress in mastering basic reading skills. It helps to determine whether an individual student, or an entire grade level, is making satisfactory progress in these basic skill areas. Teachers can use the assessment results for instructional planning for individual students or an entire class. MCPS uses this assessment to collect data on the success of its reading program. It can be used as a predictor for success on the MSA.</p>	<p>-Read to your child</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Be positive and encouraging so that your child does not feel stressed by any test -Listen to your child read -Talk about the books you read -For beginning readers, have your child point out high frequency words, punctuation, text features
<p>MSA: (State)</p> <p>Reading and Math</p> <p>3rd, 4th, and 5th graders</p> <p>Science</p> <p>5th graders</p>	<p>-Multiple choice</p> <p>-Brief Constructed Response (BCR)</p> <p>Four sessions; approximately 2 hours each</p>	<p>The Maryland School Assessment (MSA) measures a student's academic skills. It is given in response to the No Child Left Behind Act that requires each state to assess students in certain grades. The MSA is an achievement test that is not meant to be used diagnostically. A student's performance level falls into one of three categories: basic, proficient or advanced. We use the results to identify general areas of need for specific students and to identify trends. MCPS uses results of this test as an indicator of how students are performing in the assessed subject areas. Individual student scores are reported to parents.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Use rich vocabulary when speaking to your child -Help children develop background knowledge by going to museums, plays, zoos, etc. -Remind your child to stay on topic -Limit TV -Sort everyday objects -Look for patterns -Teach coin values -Build number sense: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -reasonable estimates -Measure when you cook, garden, build, sew, etc. -Practice telling time
<p>Math Unit Assessment (County)</p> <p>All grades</p>	<p>-Multiple choice</p> <p>-Brief Constructed Response (BCR)</p> <p>-Written Items</p> <p>One to two class sessions at the end of each math unit</p>	<p>At the end of each math unit, classroom teachers give their students a unit assessment that indicates understanding of the concepts that have been taught. Scores are reported in terms of the level of understanding of the concepts and skills taught in that unit and is categorized as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Minimal Understanding ◆ Developing Understanding ◆ Complete Understanding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Practice telling time

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