RESOURCES FOR DISTRICTS: 2018-2019 **Year-Round Education & Empowerment Resources: Tracking Growth Toward Proficiency Levels**

The Nebraska Department of Education makes an optional interim growth assessment—MAP Growth—available to districts at no cost to use with other interim assessments of their choice. MAP Growth allows students, parents, and educators to identify learning needs, track growth toward proficiency levels, and, starting in 2019, to predict performance on the NSCAS Summative assessment.

**2018**

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| **Month** | **Audience** | **MAP Growth Communication Resources** |
| August/September | Teachers | * Help teachers start the school year [ready for Fall MAP Growth Testing](https://www.nwea.org/blog/2017/fall-map-growth-testing-five-things-teachers-consider/).
* [Prepare teachers to proctor](https://www.nwea.org/blog/2017/six-best-practices-proctoring-map-growth/) MAP Growth tests.
* [Assist teachers in answering](https://www.nwea.org/blog/2017/12-common-questions-parents-ask-map-growth-assessment/) common parent questions about MAP Growth.
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| Parents | Educate parents about testing by sharing these resources in registration packets, at Back to School night, online, or in mailings or emails sent home:* [Letter to parents introducing MAP Growth.](https://community.nwea.org/docs/DOC-2597)Designed as a plain Word document so schools can customize with logo, student names, etc. (also available in Spanish).
* [Presentation video about MAP Growth](https://vimeo.com/230226438)

Designed for schools or teachers to simply hit “play” and get a basic explanation of MAP Growth (also available in Spanish).* [Eight Questions Parents Should Ask Teachers About Assessments](https://www.nwea.org/blog/2017/eight-questions-parents-ask-teachers-assessments/)Prepares parents to speak with teachers about assessment in ways that support student learning.
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| Students | Help students get ready for testing with these tools:* Classroom poster, “[Testing Tips for Students](https://community.nwea.org/community/nwea-community-home/teacher-toolkit)” (Log in to download).
* [Talking points for teachers](https://www.nwea.org/blog/2017/11-talking-points-for-teachers-preparing-students-for-the-map-test/) preparing students for the MAP test.
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| October/November | Teachers | This is a key time parents and students will ask what assessment results mean and how to understand their reports. Help teachers effectively meet their needs with:* [Guide to discussing assessment](https://www.nwea.org/blog/2017/preparing-open-house-night-assessment-mind/) during parent-teacher conferences.
* [Resources](https://www.nwea.org/blog/2017/nwea-connection-resources-communicating-map-growth-students-parents/) for communicating about MAP Growth to students & parents.
* [Linking study](https://www.nwea.org/content/uploads/2018/12/NE-MAP-Growth-Linking-Study.pdf) to understand MAP Growth predictions of NSCAS Summative performance.
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| Parents | * [Letter to parents explaining MAP Growth Scores](https://community.nwea.org/docs/DOC-2598)To be sent home along with MAP Growth scores or reports. Designed as a plain Word document & available in Spanish.
* [A Parent’s Guide to MAP Growth Handout](https://www.nwea.org/content/uploads/2017/08/Parent-Guide.pdf)

Designed for schools and teachers to print one sheet of basic facts about MAP Growth (available in 6-8 languages).  |
| Students | * [Guidelines for helping students understand](https://community.nwea.org/thread/1357) what their scores mean and what their goals should be.
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**2019**

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| **Month** | **Audience** | **MAP Growth Communication Resources** |
| February/March | TeachersStudents& Parents | * Support teachers in [translating assessment data to instruction](https://www.nwea.org/blog/2017/three-examples-put-assessment-data-work-classroom/).
* Communicate with parents and students about the upcoming NSCAS [Summative testing window](https://www.education.ne.gov/Assessment/) (March 18 – May 3) and tips for success (see sample newsletter copy provided in NSCAS Summative tip sheet for districts.)
* Learn about the difference between MAP Growth and the NSCAS Summative with this [comparative chart](https://s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/cdn.nwea.org/docs/NE/MAP%2BGrowth%2Band%2BNSCAS%2BComparative%2BChart_Final.pdf).
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| April-June | Students & Parents | * Educate students and parents about state summative testing, how it’s different, what it’s measuring, and what the scores will be used for. Find resources and information at the [NSCAS website](https://www.education.ne.gov/assessment/nscas-system/).
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| Summer | Students & Parents | * Help students [use testing data to create a summer reading plan.](https://www.nwea.org/blog/2017/use-map-score-create-summer-reading-plan/)
* Educate parents about [ways to prevent summer slide.](https://www.nwea.org/blog/2017/3-ways-parents-can-help-prevent-summer-slide/)
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**MAP Growth Resources in Spanish**

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| [Parent Guide to MAP Growth](https://community.nwea.org/docs/DOC-2629) | Designed for schools and teachers to print one sheet of basic facts about MAP Growth.  |
| [Sample Parent Letter – Introducing MAP Growth](https://community.nwea.org/docs/DOC-2661) | Designed as a plain Word document so schools can customize with logo, student names, etc. |
| [Sample Parent Letter – MAP Growth Results](https://community.nwea.org/docs/DOC-2662) | To be sent home along with MAP Growth scores or reports. Designed as a plain Word document & available in Spanish. |
| [Parent Presentation about MAP Growth](https://vimeo.com/233551613)  | Designed for schools or teachers to simply hit “play” and get a basic explanation of MAP Growth. |