



# Children's Progress Academic Assessment™ (CPAA™)

*The Test That Teaches: An Instructional Guide for the Early Grades  
Early Literacy & Mathematics, Pre-K – 3 (English) & Pre-K – 2 (Spanish)*

## Gain skill-specific instructional guidance starting in Pre-K, as well as powerful tools to partner with parents.

For every skill our youngest school-aged students are mastering, a dozen new skills are constantly emerging. Early childhood educators need a quick and reliable way to take a snapshot of the pieces of each student's skill development puzzle and identify specific next steps to fill in the gaps.

Children's Progress Academic Assessment™ (CPAA™) helps you do just that by answering these key questions:

- **OVERALL SKILL DEVELOPMENT:** What is each student (and the group) currently able to do and ready to learn? Which skills are emerging?
- **INSTRUCTIONAL NEXT STEPS:** How can we work with each student (and the group) on specific skills, both in class and at home?

CPAA is an adaptive diagnostic assessment that is meant to be used first and foremost as a teaching tool. This patented, child-friendly program was designed at Columbia University and MIT.

The assessment includes instructional scaffolding (targeted support) for students who struggle and the reports provide educators with skill-specific next steps for each child and classroom. Parent reports and

activities are built into the program to help educators engage families. Additionally, a Spanish version of the assessment makes it easy to evaluate English Language Learners' academic skills independent of their English proficiency.

You can use CPAA on its own or pair it with our adaptive growth measure for young learners (MAP® for Primary Grades) to inform instruction and get all students on track well before 3rd grade.

### Patented Scaffolding Structure: Mimicking the Student-Teacher Interaction

Whereas a traditional assessment can tell you if a student answered a question correctly or incorrectly, CPAA's unique format digs deeper. After each incorrect response, students receive a second chance. They see the question again, with scaffolding (targeted support). In this way, the assessment experience mirrors a 1:1 student-teacher interaction.

In addition to ensuring a personalized, stress-free experience for young students, scaffolding allows CPAA to generate more granular data for educators, including instructional recommendations for specific skills. CPAA scoring algorithm takes into account how much scaffolding each student required, and reports include item level information.

# How CPAA Works: Benefits at Each Step

## Step 1: Assess

Students complete the adaptive skills diagnostic assessment independently on the computer, from three times a year to as often as once a month, as needed to inform instruction.



- **Quickly identify fully and partially developed skills.** Students are evaluated on grade-level literacy and math content in just 15-30 minutes.
- **Assess seamlessly within an instructional experience.** CPAA adapts to individual student performance and presents scaffolding (targeted support) to students who struggle, giving them another opportunity to succeed.
- **Be data-driven without sacrificing developmental appropriateness.** CPAA starts as early as Pre-K with a format and content that is child friendly, so you can set skill acquisition on the right path from day one.

## Step 2: Analyze

Educators and administrators instantly access interactive reports.

Concept	Graph	Level	Score	Class Avg.
<b>Literacy - Student's Concept Scores</b> <span style="float: right;">Score scale 40 to 100</span>				
Phonemic Awareness		Above Expectation	95	95.4
Phonics/Writing		At Expectation	78	78.1
Reading		Approaching Expectation	57	58.7
<b>Mathematics - Student's Concept Scores</b> <span style="float: right;">Score scale 40 to 100</span>				
Measurement		Approaching Expectation	55	55.5
Numeracy		At Expectation	65	65.9
Operations		Approaching Expectation	54	54.9
Patterns/Functions		Below Expectation	44	44.9

- **Benchmark against end-of-year grade level expectations.** CPAA reports are available aligned to Common Core or state standards for each grade.
- **Dig into skill level data.** Reports include narrative skill summaries, item level detail and descriptions of what each student knows and is able to do compared to each standard. Use this information to find trouble areas, group students, prepare lesson plans, and more.

## Step 3: Act

Educators can get started right away with targeted recommended activities and parent reports.

Listening		Phonics/Writing	Phonemic Awareness	Reading
<b>Listening Comprehension - Major Points</b>				
<b>Challenging</b>	Act It Out (15)			
<b>Instructional</b>	If You Give a Mouse a Cookie (4)			
<b>Supportive</b>	Books on Tape (0)			
<b>Listening Comprehension - Recall Fact/Detail</b>				
<b>Instructional</b>	Let's Find Out (18)			
<b>Supportive</b>	Visualizing (0)			
<b>Listening Skills</b>				
<b>Instructional</b>	Listen Carefully (20)			
<b>Supportive</b>	Sing and Act (0)			
Recommended Participants				

- **Move quickly from assessment to instruction.** Skill-specific recommended activities and item level insight take the guesswork out of differentiation, providing a starting point for each child and classroom.
- **Partner with parents beyond teacher conferences.** CPAA parent reports include performance summaries and at-home activities (in English and Spanish), empowering families to engage in the learning process.
- **Inform placement decisions and support English Language Learners.** Reports help you gain a clear sense of skill development independent of English proficiency.

Northwest Evaluation Association™ (NWEA™) has nearly 40 years of experience helping educators accelerate student learning through computer-based assessment suites, professional development offerings, and research services. Visit [NWEA.org](http://NWEA.org) to find out how NWEA can partner with you to help all kids learn.

