

Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) California State-Aligned Version 1

The NWEA Goal Structure is a document that represents the content and structure of a state’s standards documents. Goal structures are created through an alignment process that links state standards documents to the NWEA item bank. The MAP tests and associated reports for teachers and students are based upon this structure and alignment.

The alignment process begins with a thorough review of a state’s standards documents by NWEA’s curriculum specialists. The general goal areas or strands within a state’s standards that appear across grade levels become the goals in the goal structure (indicated below as bold). Areas in a state’s standards documents that are determined to be sub-domains of the goals/strands become the sub-goals in the goal structure (indented under each goal below).

Goal and sub-goal names from the Goal Structure are shortened for technical reasons to create the headings in DesCartes. Report Names are shortened further to accommodate report specifications.

Concepts and Processes Goal Structure	Concepts and Processes DesCartes	Concepts and Processes Report Names
Investigation and Experimentation: Planning and Conducting Experiments	Plan, Conduct Experiment	Plan, Conduct Experiment
Develop testable questions and hypotheses	Develop Testable Questions and Hypotheses	
Planning investigations	Planning Investigations	
Investigation and Experimentation: Collecting, Analyzing, Drawing Conclusions from Data	Collect, Analyze, Conclude	Collect, Analyze, Conclude
Use appropriate tools and techniques to collect data, make observations	Use Tools, Techniques to Collect Data, Observe	
Interpret and analyze data	Interpret and Analyze Data	
Formulate and evaluate explanations	Formulate and Evaluate Explanations	
Communicate results	Communicate Results	



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Investigation and Experimentation: Nature Of Science	Nature of Science	Nature of Science
Hypothesis vs theory; observations vs inference	Hypothesis vs Theory; Observations vs Inference	
Usefulness and limitations of models and theories; change	Usefulness, Limitations of Models, Theory; Change	
Need for controlled tests; sources of error	Need for Controlled Tests; Sources of Error	



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General Science Goal Structure	General Science DesCartes	General Science Report Names
Physical Sciences	Physical Sciences	Physical Sciences
Structure and properties of matter	Structure and Properties of Matter	
Motion and forces	Motion and Forces	
Energy: forms, flow, conservation	Energy: Forms, Flow, Conservation	
Life Sciences	Life Sciences	Life Sciences
Adaptation, life cycles, genetics and evolution	Adaptation, Life Cycles, Genetics and Evolution	
Structure and function, the cell	Structure and Function, the Cell	
Ecosystems; energy and matter in the environment	Ecosystems; Energy and Matter in the Environment	
Earth Sciences	Earth Sciences	Earth Sciences
Earth in the solar system and universe	Earth in the Solar System and Universe	
Earth's properties and processes; shaping of earth's surface; earth history	Properties, Processes; Shaping of Surface; History	
Energy in the earth system; the water and biogeochemical cycles	Energy in Earth System, Water and Biogeochem Cycle	

