

Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) New York 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
Interconnectedness: Common Themes, and Problem Solving	Interconnectedness: Common Themes, and Problem Solving	Common Themes Problem Solving
Systems thinking	Systems Thinking	
Models	Models	
Magnitude, scale, equilibrium, and change	Magnitude, Scale, Equilibrium, and Change	
Connection, strategy, assumption, limitation	Connection, Strategy, Assumption, Limitation	
Analysis, Inquiry, and Design	Analysis, Inquiry, and Design	Analy, Inquiry, Design
Selects and uses correct instruments	Selects and Uses Correct Instruments	
Designs and uses dichotomous keys	Designs and Uses Dichotomous Keys	
Makes observations	Makes Observations	
Designs and carries out controlled, experiment	Designs and Carries out Controlled, Experiment	

States an appropriate hypothesis	States an Appropriate Hypothesis	
Differentiate independent, dependent variable	Differentiate Independent, Dependent Variable	
Collects, organizes, and analyzes data	Collects, Organizes, and Analyzes Data	
Formulates an appropriate conclusion	Formulates an Appropriate Conclusion	

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General Science Goal Structure	General Science DesCartes	General Science Report Names
The Living Environment	Living Environment	Living Environment
Living things are both similar to and different from each other and from nonliving things	Living Things Similar, Different, Each Other, Nonliving	
Organisms inherit genetic information in a variety of ways that result in continuity of structure and function between parents and offspring	Organisms Inherit Genetic Information	
Individual organisms, and species change over time	Individual Organisms, Species Change Over Time	
The continuity of life is sustained through reproduction and development	Life is Sustained: Reproduction, Development	
Organisms maintain a dynamic equilibrium that sustains life	Organisms Maintain Dynamic Equilibrium	
Plants and animals depend on each other and their physical environment	Plants and Animals Depend on Their Environment	
Human decisions and activities have had a profound impact on the physical and living environment	Human Activities Have Impact on the Environment	
The Physical Setting: Earth and Space Science	Earth and Space Science	Earth and Space Science
The earth and celestial phenomena can be described by principles of relative motion and perspective	Earth: Celestial Relative Motion, Perspective	
Many of the phenomena that we observe on earth involve interactions among components of air, water, and land	Earth: Interactions Among Air, Water, and Land	
The Physical Setting: Physical Science	Physical Science	Physical Science
Matter is made up of particles whose properties determine the observable characteristics of matter and its reactivity	Matter: Properties, Characteristics, Reactive	
Energy exists in many forms, and when these forms change energy is conserved	Energy Exists in Many Forms, and is Conserved	



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Energy and matter interact through forces that result in changes in motion	Energy, Matter Interact Force Results in Motion	
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