

Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) Virginia-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
Scientific Investigation	Scientific Investigation	Scientific Investigation
Observation	Observation	
Classification	Classification	
Collecting, communicating and interpreting data	Collecting, Communicating and Interpreting Data	
Measurement	Measurement	
Questions and hypothesis	Questions and Hypothesis	
Variables	Variables	
Conclusions and inferences	Conclusions and Inferences	
Designing experiments	Designing Experiments	
Reasoning and Logic	Reasoning and Logic	Reasoning and Logic

Cause and effect, and patterns	Cause And Effect, and Patterns	
Models	Models	
Scientific reasoning and logic	Scientific Reasoning and Logic	

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General Science Goal Structure	General Science DesCartes	General Science Report Names
Force, Motion, Energy, and Matter	Force, Motion, Energy, and Matter	Force, Motion, Energy, Matter
Sound and light	Sound and Light	
Motion of objects	Motion of Objects	
Energy and heat	Energy and Heat	
Magnetism and electricity	Magnetism and Electricity	
Physical and chemical properties	Physical and Chemical Properties	
States of matter, and water for life	States of Matter, and Water For Life	
Atoms, elements, and chemical reactions	Atoms, Elements, and Chemical Reactions	
Life Systems	Life Systems	Life Systems
Characteristics and needs of organisms	Characteristics and Needs of Organisms	
Genetics and life cycles	Genetics and Life Cycles	
Metabolism, photosynthesis, and energy transfer	Metabolism, Photosynthesis, and Energy Transfer	
Ecosystems	Ecosystems	
Evolution	Evolution	
Cell biology	Cell Biology	
Level of organization	Level of Organization	
Classification	Classification	
Behavior and response to the environment, and disease	Behavior and Response to the Environment, and Disease	



Earth and Space Systems	Earth and Space Systems	Earth and Space Systems
Earth Science	Earth Science	
Space Science	Space Science	