

Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) Iowa 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
Processes and Skills of Scientific Inquiry	Processes and Skills of Scientific Inquiry	Scientific Inquiry
Identify Questions; Formulate Hypotheses; Communicate Procedures and Explanations	Questions; Hypotheses; Communication	
Design and Conduct Scientific Investigations; Safety Procedures	Design Investigations; Safety Procedures	
Analyze and Interpret Scientific Information	Analyze and Interpret Scientific Information	Analysis
Evidence	Evidence	
Summarize Data; Cause and Effect Relationships	Summarize data; Cause and Effect Relationships	
Explanations	Explanations	
Models	Models	

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General Science Goal Structure	General Science DesCartes	General Science Report Names
Life Science	Life Science	Life Science
Environmental Interaction and Adaptation: Interdependency of Organisms and Environment; Cycling of Matter and Energy in Ecosystems; Environmental Stewardship	Ecosystem Interdependence; Cycling; Stewardship	
Environmental Interaction and Adaptation: Adaptation; Heredity	Adaptation; Heredity	
Structures of Living Things: Levels of Organization; Cells; Human Systems; Disease	Structure of Living Things	
Earth/Space Sciences	Earth/Space Sciences	Earth/Space Sciences
Earth's composition and structure	Earth's Composition and Structure	
Changes in and around Earth: Earth's History; Surface of the Earth Changes	Earth's History; Surface of the Earth Changes	
Changes in and around Earth: Weather; Climate	Weather; Climate	
Universe: Solar system; Origin of the Earth System and Universe	Solar system; Origin of Earth System and Universe	
Physical Science	Physical Science	Physical Science
Mechanics, Forces, and Motion	Mechanics, Forces, and Motion	
Energy	Energy	
Matter	Matter	