

Friday Folder

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MAP Testing

- October 19-23

MAP Testing

Dear Parents:

During the week of October 19th-23rd your child will take tests called Measures of Academic Progress™ (MAP). We give students MAP tests to determine your child's instructional level and to measure academic growth throughout the school year, and from year to year in the areas of Reading, Language, and Math. Your child will take the tests on a computer.

MAP tests are unique in that they adapt to be appro-

priate for your child's level of learning. As a result, each student has the same opportunity to succeed and maintain a positive attitude toward testing. And with MAP tests, we can administer shorter tests and use less class time while still receiving detailed, accurate information about your child's growth. Over the testing days, your child will spend a total of about three hours completing these tests.

Each school year, students in grades 3-11 take the tests in October and February.

Following each testing period, you will receive a report showing your child's growth.

We are truly excited to begin a new era that focuses on every child's individual growth and achievement. **Partnering to help all kids learn**, parents and teachers can have a profound positive effect on the lives of our children.

For more information on resources for parents, download the *Parent Toolkit* at www.nwea.org ~Member Support ~Downloads ~Manuals.

Ways to Help Your Child With ...

Language

- Talk to your child and encourage him or her to engage in conversation during family activities.
- Give a journal or diary as a gift.
- Help your child write a letter to a friend or relative.
- Plan a special snack or meal and have your child write the menu.
- After finishing a chapter in a book or magazine article, have your child explain his or her favorite event.
- Offer assistance with correct grammar usage and content.

Reading

- Provide many opportunities for your child to read books and/or other materials.
- Follow your child's interests — find fiction and nonfiction books that tie into these interests.
- Make time to go to the library.
- Play word games like Scrabble, Scattergories, Boggle and Balderdash together.
- Work crossword puzzles with your child.
- Give a magazine subscription for a gift.

Math

- Encourage children to solve problems. Provide assistance, but let them figure it out themselves. Problem solving is a lifelong skill.
- The kitchen is filled with tasty opportunities to teach fractional measurements, such as doubling or dividing cookie recipes.
- Point out ways that people use math every day to pay bills, balance their checkbooks, figure out their net earnings, make change, and how to tip in restaurants.
- Involve older children in projects that incorporate geometric and algebraic concepts such as planting a garden, building a bookshelf, or figuring how long it will take to drive somewhere

