

**Where can I find sample or practice test questions?**

Sample test questions are available at:

[http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/content/releasedtestlets\\_im](http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/content/releasedtestlets_im).

These questions are similar to actual test questions that may be asked on the DLM Assessment. Current DLM test questions are not released.



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## Family Information 2015-16



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## **What is the Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) assessment?**

The DLM assessment measures the academic progress of students with significant cognitive disabilities in the subject areas of English language arts and mathematics for students in grades 3-11, science for students in grades 4 and 8-11, and social studies for students in grades 4, 8, and 10. This is an online assessment delivered either via the computer; however, some students may need their teacher to present the items to them. The teacher will then enter the student's response into the online platform.

The DLM system is designed to map a student's learning throughout the year. The system will use items and tasks that are embedded in day-to-day instruction. Instruction for these students is based upon the Wisconsin Essential Elements and aligns with the Wisconsin Academic Standards.

## **What are the Wisconsin Essential Elements (EEs)?**

The Wisconsin Essential Elements (EEs) are alternate achievement standards in English language arts, mathematics and science.

The EEs were developed to satisfy the U.S. Department of Education requirement that Wisconsin have alternate achievement standards for its students with significant cognitive disabilities that

- clearly link to grade-level academic content standards,
- promote access to the general curriculum, and
- reflect professional judgment of the highest expectation possible.

Information about the Wisconsin Essential Elements can be found at [http://sped.dpi.wi.gov/sped\\_assmt-ee](http://sped.dpi.wi.gov/sped_assmt-ee).

## **How are the test results used?**

The DLM assessment results provide information about student achievement. To obtain a more complete picture, daily class work, other test results, homework, and other learning activities should be considered. Please talk to teachers and counselors about how the DLM assessment information can be used with school and classroom information to help your child meet his or her educational goals.

DLM Assessment results are used by the Department of Public Instruction in order to

- meet its legal requirement of identifying low-performing schools as determined by s. 115.38(4), Wis. Stats;
- meet the federal Title I (NCLB) requirement to determine adequate progress in Title I schools; and
- determine the extent to which schools and districts across the state meet the Wisconsin proficiency standards.

## **What type of scores will be provided?**

DLM has developed two individual student score reports, the *Performance Profile* and the *Learning Profile*. Each of these reports is designed to help students, parents, and educators identify specific areas of strength and need relative to the grade-level Essential Elements.

The *Performance Profile* summarizes how your student performed on the content area assessment. DLM performance levels, as

defined by educators, are presented as: Emerging, Approaching Target, At Target, and Advanced.

The *Learning Profile* shows your student's performance relative to specific Essential Elements.

More information about score reports can be found at <http://oea.dpi.wi.gov/assessment/DLM/resources>

## **When does testing take place?**

DLM will be administered for students in grades 3-11 March 28-May 20, 2016. Schools set their own testing schedules within the test window. If a student is absent during testing, it is important that a makeup opportunity be scheduled.

The DLM Assessment is not a timed test. Each student is administered the test on an individual basis. A student may take the test over several days, as long as it is completed within the testing window. The total time required to administer the test varies; however, it is estimated the entire test will take about 2.5 hours to complete.

## **How to prepare your child for the DLM Assessment?**

Make sure that your child gets a good night's sleep and eats a healthy breakfast. Avoid any disruptions in your child's daily routines during testing days.

More information about DLM can be found at: <http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/>