The purpose of this chart is to help you understand the NWEA measurement scale (RIT scale) and how it can be used to measure academic growth over time. For more specific information to help support instruction please see NWEA's DesCartes: A Continuum of Learning.

NWEA tests produce scores that make it possible to monitor student growth from year to year along developmental curriculum scales or continua. The chart inside shows examples of the kinds of work students can do at various points along the NWEA RIT scale, assuming they have been exposed to content. This type of information is helpful in supporting appropriate instruction.

Please note that each subject-area has a unique alignment to the RIT scale. As a result, scores between subjects are not equivalent.

How to use the charts:

- **1.** Find the column containing the student's score for a particular subject. For example, if the student's score in "Problem Solving" is 188, refer to the column labeled 181-190.
- 2. Read down the column to locate a sample test question for a given reporting area, such as "Problem Solving." A student's score suggests that, currently, they are likely to get about half of the questions of this difficulty correct.
- 3. Now look at the questions in the column(s) to the left. The student is likely to get most of these correct, assuming he or she has been instructed in these skills and concepts.
- 4. The questions in the column(s) to the right will probably require new learning on the student's part.

RIT Scale

We use the RIT scale to measure a student's academic growth over time. Like units on a ruler, the scale is divided into equal intervals – called Rasch Units (RIT) – and is independent of grade level.



RIT Reference Chart for MPG Mathematics



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MPG MATHEMATICS	below 131	131-140	141-150	151-160
Problem Solving Students understand and represent word problems, and they use strategies to solve and verify answers. They apply logic and reasoning, and they work with conjecture and proof.	Listen to the story problem. Ann has 1 dog and 1 cat. Move Ann's pets to the grass.	Listen to the story problem: There is 1 tree in the yard. 2 more get planted in the yard. Move the trees to the yard to show how many there are all together.	 Listen to the story problem: There are four goats on the hillside. Three goats leave the hillside. Click on the goats to show how many are on the hillside now. 	4 2 Listen to the story problem: Walter baked and 2 pies today. He wants to know how baked in all. Which symbol shows what Walter should
Number Sense Students count, and they identify and represent numbers, including work with place value and fractions. They understand relative position and magnitude.	Look at the picture. How many superheros are there?	Look at the coat racks. Click on the rack that has the FEWEST coats.	Click on 9 cows.	20 15 (17) Click on the number that is 1 more than
Computation Students add and subtract, and they use models to prepare for multiplication and division.	Look at the trucks. Two trucks and one more truck is how many trucks all together?	+ 1 +3 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Look at the planes. 1 plane plus 3 planes equals how many planes?	2 + 2 = 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 What is the answer?	7 - 4 = $0 \ 1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 4 \ 5 \ 6 \ 7 \ 8$ Look at the 7 keys. Take away 4 keys. What is the answer?
Measurement and Geometry Students compare and order objects using tools, units, and estimation. They identify shapes and lines in two and three dimensions and describe attributes. They work with spatial transformations, symmetry, and congruence.	Look at the picture. Click on the shortest student.	Look at the picture. Which bird is over the cloud?	Look at the pictures. Which is shaped like a circle?	October
Statistics and Probability Students collect, organize, display and analyze data. They understand probability and apply it to make predictions.	Look at the pictures. Click on the picture that is different from the others.	Look at the group of objects. The objects in this group belong together.	Gold Star Stickers Sarah ★★★ Pablo ★ Jamal ★★★★ Cher ★ Maria ★ ★ ★ Look at the sticker chart. Click on the name of the student with the most star stickers.	Favorite Dinner Favorite Dinner Favorite Dinner Favorite Dinner Favorite Dinner Favorite Dinner
Algebra Students recognize and analyze patterns and functions. They understand and apply algebraic concepts.	* * * * * * * * * * *			Start with 6. Add 0 to it. Which statement is correct? The answer is 6. The answer is bigger than The answer is smaller than

