What is the Dynamic Learning Maps® (DLM®) Assessment?

This year, your child’s teacher used the Dynamic Learning Maps® (DLM®) Alternate Assessment System to test academic progress in English language arts (reading and writing), math, and/or science. This assessment is designed for students with many types of significant cognitive disabilities. It is a completely individualized test designed so students can show what they know and can do. The assessment is given in short parts called testlets so your child does not become too tired or stressed.

Results from the embedded assessment given during the school year provide information that the teacher can use to guide classroom instruction.

Your child will receive an Individual Student Score Report for each subject tested. This report indicates the skills your child demonstrated during the assessment.
Overview

Each Individual Student Score Report contains information about your child’s performance for one subject. This report includes the Performance Profile.

Performance Profile

The first part of the Performance Profile describes your child’s overall performance based on Essential Elements, which are the alternate achievement standards for this subject. The performance levels are:

- emerging
- approaching the target
- at target
- advanced

“At target” means your child has met the alternate achievement standards in this subject at your child’s grade level.

This part of the report also lists examples of skills mastered by students at your child’s performance level. Your child may or may not demonstrate all of these skills.
Performance Profile, continued

The second part of the Performance Profile describes the percentage of skills your child demonstrated on related academic skills. If the number of skills mastered exceeds the total number of skills, your child was tested on (and mastered) more skills than necessary.

As is the case with any test result, your child's ability to demonstrate certain skills may vary from one testing attempt to another. Please keep in mind that the skills demonstrated during this assessment provide only one piece of evidence of what your child knows and can do.

- using context to identify the meaning of multiple-meaning words
- determining the meaning of idioms and figures of speech
- determining the connotative meaning of words and phrases

The student identifies text structure by
- identifying story elements that change

When writing, the student
- introduces and writes about a topic clearly
- develops a topic with facts or details
- produces grammatically correct simple sentences
- uses domain-specific vocabulary to strengthen claims
- produces a conclusion
- spells single-syllable words conventionally and phonetically

Conceptual Area

Bar graphs summarize the percent of skills mastered by conceptual area. Not all students test on all skills due to availability of content at different levels per standard.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Construct understandings of text</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use writing to communicate</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrate ideas and information from text</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrate ideas and information in writing</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

More information about DLM's performance on each Essential Element that make up the Conceptual Areas is located in the Learning Profile.