

MAKE SURE YOUR STUDENT GROWTH DATA MEASURE UP

10 Questions to Evaluate Student Growth Assessments

CLARITY OF PURPOSE

1. Be clear why you're assessing—are you measuring growth over time to inform instruction for all students? To communicate progress? For teacher and principal evaluation? For program evaluation?

QUALITY OF DATA AND ASSESSMENT

2. Does the test provide accurate scores for every student regardless of achievement level, and do the scores measure the student's desired target?
3. Are assessment questions aligned to standards in ways that make sense from both the content and depth of knowledge perspective?
4. Has the assessment scale been validated and stabilized over time?
5. Will the assessment provide growth norms that allow comparison between similar students? Groups? Schools? Districts?
6. Are the norms updated on a regular basis? Were the test's assessment items field tested? Have they been evaluated for bias?

USING THE DATA

7. Have you considered how this assessment will complement your existing testing program?
8. Will you assess at reasonable intervals throughout the academic year in order to gain better insight on instructional impact?
9. Can the assessment data efficiently provide both immediate insight and long term growth data?

WHAT ABOUT THE STUDENT?

10. How can you use the assessment data to engage students with learning goals, and how can families participate in supporting those learning goals?

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