

Assessment and Progress Monitoring

Introduction This guide looks at assessment and progress monitoring in focusMATH.

This guide discusses how focusMATH helps teachers diagnose understanding and adjust instruction for struggling students. Finally, this guide looks at how focusMATH helps identify students' weaknesses, monitors their understanding, and measures their growth.

Student Placement

focusMATH provides easy-to-use assessments to evaluate students' understanding of mathematics.

For example, the Program Placement Test identifies individual student weaknesses and determines entry points into focusMATH. It can be given to the entire class or to students already identified as at-risk or requiring intensive intervention.

Name _____

Program Placement Test

Book A: Number and Operations and Algebra

1. How many counters are there?

 A 2
 B 10
 C 11
 D 12

2. Which is a way to make 7?
 A 2 and 5
 B 2 and 4
 C 3 and 3
 D 3 and 2

3. Which is a way to make 8?
 A 2 and 4
 B 3 and 4
 C 4 and 4
 D 5 and 4

4. What is the missing part to make 6 in all?

 A 2
 B 3
 C 4
 D 5

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This information will help teachers tailor instruction, monitor student progress, and document student growth.

Program Placement Test

Each focusMATH Placement Test correlates to items in books A, B, and C, which is true of all grade levels.

The Program Placement test for kindergarten through second grade has eight problems that correspond to each book. Five problems test foundational skills, and three problems test on-level skills.

The Program Placement test for third through sixth grade has twelve problems that correspond to each book. Eight problems test foundational skills, and four problems test on-level skills.

In kindergarten through second grade, if the Program Placement Test is given during the school year, students must get five of the eight test items correct to test out of that book.

If the Placement Test is given during summer school, students must get six of the eight test items correct to test out of that book.

For third through sixth grade, students must get six of the twelve tests items correct to test out of the book. If the Placement Test is given during summer school, students must get eight of the twelve test items correct to test out of the book.

Classroom Example

How do teachers determine placement for a first grade student who needs math intervention?

There are eight test items per book. Problems 1 through 8 will test on Book A, Problems 9 through 16 on Book B, and Problems 17 through 24 on Book C.

The student receives three correct on Problems 1 through 8, three correct on Problems 9 through 16, and six correct for Problems 17 through 24. This information is then recorded on the student's Individual Record Form.

So which books will this student use?

This student will use Books A and B, and not C.

Progress Monitoring

focusMATH offers resources to monitor progress and adjust instruction.



Quick Check

At the end of every step, or lesson, a formative assessment, called *Quick Check*, ensures that students are on target each day.

Topic Test

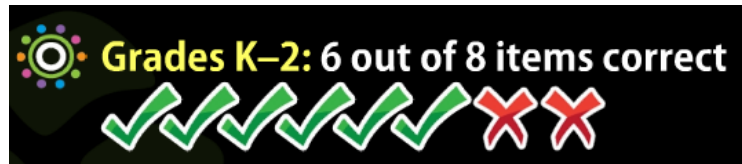
At the end of each topic, a Topic Test provides a summative assessment of what students have learned during the topic.

If students do not perform well, step may need to be retaught.

Student Exit

The Program Exit Test helps determine student growth on the NCTM Focal Points and the student's foundational skills. The items on the test parallel the Program Placement Test items.

Administer the test sections for the books the student has completed. Students should achieve at least six out of the eight items per section correct for the book if they are in kindergarten through second grade.



They should receive nine out of the twelve items per section if they are in third through sixth grade.



If a student does not achieve the number of items needed to pass the assessment for a section, repeat portions of the steps.

Individual Record Form

How can student progress be tracked throughout the program? To track students' progress throughout, use the Individual Record Form. This form is used to track student performance on the Program Placement Test, the Topic Tests, and the Program Exit Test.

Test	Items	Number Correct	Notes
Program Placement Test			
Book A	1-8		
Book B	9-12		
Book C	13-16		
Book A Topic Tests			
Topic 1	1-4		
Topic 2	5-8		
Topic 3	9-12		
Topic 4	13-16		
Topic 5	17-20		
Book B Topic Tests			
Topic 1	1-4		
Topic 2	5-8		
Topic 3	9-12		
Topic 4	13-16		
Book C Topic Tests			
Topic 1	1-4		
Topic 2	5-8		
Topic 3	9-12		
Program Exit Test			
Book A	1-8		
Book B	9-12		
Book C	13-16		

Student Progress Report

The Student Progress Report keeps parents informed of their child's performance throughout the program.

focusMATH provides all the opportunities an intervention teacher needs to monitor progress and adjust instruction.

Review

This guide looked at the opportunities found within focusMATH to diagnose understanding, monitor progress and adjust instruction for struggling students.

For more information, please watch the other focusMATH tutorials on this Web site.

Thanks for joining me to learn more about this exciting new intervention series.