



GRADE 8

TECHNOLOGY AND ENGINEERING LITERACY ASSESSMENT

2014

NAEP in Your Private School

What is NAEP?

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is an essential measurement of student achievement in the United States.

- First administered in 1969, NAEP is the largest continuing and nationally representative assessment of what our nation's public and private school students know and can do in various subjects.
- NAEP is considered the gold standard of assessments because of its high technical quality. From developing frameworks and questions to the reporting of results, NAEP represents the best thinking of assessment and content specialists and teachers from around the nation.
- The schools and students participating in NAEP represent other schools and students across the country.
- NAEP monitors academic progress over time and reports on student achievement nationally.

NAEP will be administered to a sample of eighth-grade students in your school between January 27 and March 7, 2014. Students will participate in the first ever technology and engineering (TEL) assessment administered on a computer. The results of this assessment will be released as The Nation's Report Card. This fact sheet will help you prepare your school and students for participation.

What is involved?

The TEL assessment will measure students' capacity to use, understand, and evaluate technology, as well as to understand technological principles and strategies. Students will spend about 120 minutes completing the assessment, which includes transition time and directions. Students will be asked to perform a variety of computer-based tasks to solve problems within scenarios that reflect realistic situations as well as respond to multiple-choice and short-answer questions. Students also will be asked to complete a questionnaire that focuses on their opportunities to learn about technology and engineering both inside and outside the classroom.

Principals will also be asked to complete a questionnaire that will ask about school characteristics and policies, particularly those relevant to technology and engineering.

NAEP representatives will bring all necessary materials, including laptop computers and earbuds, to the school on assessment day. Schools will only need to provide rooms, desks or tables, and electrical outlets; schools will not need to provide Internet access.

How many students are assessed?

Nationally, approximately 20,000 eighth-grade students will be assessed in the TEL assessment. Thirty students at each school will be selected to participate. The assessment will be administered in two sequential sessions of approximately 15 students each.

For more information about NAEP visit:

- **Program overview**
<http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard>
- **Private school participation**
<http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/about/nonpublicschools.asp>
- **TEL assessment**
<http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/tel>
- **TEL overview video**
<http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/videos/telanimation>

What are the responsibilities of NAEP representatives?

NAEP representatives work directly with schools and are responsible for

- Confirming the assessment date and time with the school
- Providing schools with instructions for preparing a list of eligible students in order to draw a random sample for participation in the assessment
- Providing schools with information about notifying parents of selected students
- Providing resources, guidelines, and support to assist the school coordinator in completing activities prior to assessment day
- Contacting the school coordinator to finalize assessment arrangements
- Bringing all assessment materials, including computers, to the school on assessment day
- Conducting the assessments
- Responding to questions from the school throughout the assessment period

What are the responsibilities of the principal and school coordinator?

The principal is responsible for

- Including the NAEP assessment date on the school calendar
- Designating a school coordinator to work with NAEP representatives and to prepare for the assessment
- Informing school staff about NAEP and why participation is critically important
- Completing the school questionnaire

The school coordinator is responsible for

- Confirming that the suggested assessment date works with the school calendar
- Securing space for students to take the assessment
- Working with the NAEP representatives to provide a list of eligible students in order to draw a random sample for participation in the assessment (student names will always be kept confidential)
- Informing parents of the assessment
- Completing preassessment activities with guidance and support from NAEP representatives
- Ensuring that students attend the session on the assessment date

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