NAEP
NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS

2014

GRADE 8 CIVICS, GEOGRAPHY, AND U.S. HISTORY

NAEP in Your School

WHAT IS NAEP?

- The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is an essential measurement of student achievement in the United States.
- NAEP is a congressionally mandated project administered by the National Center for Education Statistics, within the U.S. Department of Education and the Institute of Education Sciences.
- First administered in 1969, NAEP is the largest continuing and nationally representative assessment of what our nation's students know and can do in various subjects such as mathematics, reading, science, and writing.
- The schools and students participating in NAEP represent schools and students across the United States.
- 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, state education staff, and teachers from around the nation.
- 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. Each student will be assessed in civics, geography, or U.S. history.

Results will be available at the national level only and will be released as The Nation's Report Card. The results of NAEP are used by teachers, principals, parents, policymakers, and researchers to assess students' progress in various subject areas and develop ways to improve education in the United States.

What is involved?

Each student participates in one subject and takes only a portion of the entire assessment. Students will spend about 90 minutes completing the assessment, including transition time and directions. They will be asked to complete a questionnaire that aims to get a better understanding of their educational experiences, such as the amount of reading they do and the types of classes they take.

The school principal and grade 8 teachers of the subjects being assessed will also complete a questionnaire. These questionnaires are designed to help provide contextual information for the results, as well as information about factors that may be related to students' learning.

Additional information will be collected about how selected students with disabilities and English language learners (SD/ELL) might participate in the assessment.

How many students are assessed?

Nationally, approximately 26,000 students in eighth grade will be assessed.

For more information about NAEP, visit:
http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard

Find us on:

Who is responsible for coordinating and administering NAEP?

Your NAEP State Coordinator, NAEP representatives, and school staff will work together to coordinate and administer the assessment.

A staff person in your school will need to be assigned to serve as the school coordinator and be the primary contact for the assessment.

The NAEP State Coordinator works at your state Department of Education and will be responsible for:

- Working with schools to confirm the assessment date;
- Communicating with principals to convey information about NAEP and the importance of student participation;
- Providing schools with instructions for preparing a list of eighth-grade students (if required) and information about notifying parents of participating students;
- Providing guidance for the inclusion of SD/ELL students; and
- Responding to questions from the school community throughout the assessment period.

NAEP representatives are employed by a U.S. Department of Education contractor to work directly with schools and will be responsible for:

- Selecting a random sample of students from the school list of eighth-grade students;
- Verifying information that the school coordinator has provided via the MyNAEP website;
- Working with the school coordinator to finalize assessment logistics;
- Bringing all assessment materials to the school on the scheduled day; and
- Conducting the assessment.

Each principal will be responsible for:

- Assigning a school staff member to serve as school coordinator;
- Including the NAEP assessment date on the school calendar;
- Empowering the designated school coordinator to work with the NAEP representative and the NAEP State Coordinator to prepare for the assessment; and
- Informing school staff and students about NAEP and why student participation is critically important.

The school coordinator will be responsible for:

- Confirming the scheduled assessment date with the NAEP State Coordinator;
- Registering for the MyNAEP website and providing information about the school;
- Submitting an electronic file of eighth-grade students, if requested;
- Using the MyNAEP site to prepare for the assessment;
- Informing parents of the assessment (the NAEP State Coordinator will provide additional information about how this should be accomplished);
- Communicating with the NAEP representative to finalize assessment preparations; and
- Working with school staff to ensure high student participation in the assessment.

Detailed information about the school coordinator's responsibilities will be sent at the beginning of the school year.

Get NAEP on the go with the *NAEP Results* mobile app!

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