Dynamic Learning Maps® (DLM®)
District and Building Administrator Training
Instructionally Embedded Model

© 2021 Accessible Teaching, Learning, and Assessment Systems (ATLAS)

1 Audience and Purpose

District and Building Administrators
- This training provides information about the
  - DLM system
  - eligibility
  - assessment delivery
  - monitoring resources

2 Overview

- core beliefs
- assessment design
- accessibility supports
- assessment delivery
- reports and resources
DLM Core Beliefs

• The DLM system provides accessibility by design with two main core beliefs:
  – All students should have access to challenging, grade-level content.
  – Test administrators should adhere to the highest levels of integrity in providing instruction and in administering assessments based on this challenging content.
DLM Subjects

- English language arts
  - grades 3-8 and high school
  - reading, writing
  - states choose the grade(s) in high school
- Mathematics
  - grades 3-8 and high school
  - states choose the grade(s) in high school
- Science
  - grade bands 3-5, 6-8, and high school
  - states choose the grade(s) within each grade band
Standards: Essential Elements

- are learning targets for the assessments
- bridge from grade-level content standards to academic expectations for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities
- link to grade-level standards in each state

Sample ELA Blueprint

Linkage Levels

- provide levels of complexity for each Essential Element
  - ELA and mathematics each have five linkage levels.
  - Science has three linkage levels.
  - Each testlet a student takes includes items written to a particular linkage level.
- are recommended by the system for ELA and mathematics (science discussed later in this presentation)
  - The teacher may override the system's recommendation.
- progress in complexity of skills
Linkage Levels for ELA and Math

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Linkage Levels</th>
<th>Complexity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial Precursor</td>
<td>least complex; foundational</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distal Precursor</td>
<td>knowledge and skills needed to reach the Target</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proximal Precursor</td>
<td>provides access to the Target</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target</td>
<td>aligns to content of the Essential Element</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Successor</td>
<td>progresses beyond the Target</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Linkage Levels for Science

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Linkage Levels</th>
<th>Complexity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial</td>
<td>least complex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Precursor</td>
<td>more complex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target</td>
<td>most complex; aligns with Essential Element</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Testlets

- Testlets are short assessments.
- The assessment as a whole is comprised of a series of testlets that are taken one at a time across multiple testing sessions.
- To help establish instructional relevance, each testlet begins with an engagement activity followed by 3-9 items.
- Each testlet assesses only one Essential Element. Writing testlets are the exception.
Item Types

- Items types include
  - multiple-choice (most common)
  - sorting
  - matching
  - select text
- Item types vary depending on the linkage level of the testlet.

Testlet Types

- computer-delivered
- teacher-administered

Computer-Delivered Testlets

- administered directly to the student via computer
- designed to allow the student to interact independently with the computer
  - can use assistive technology
- are more common at upper linkage levels
Teacher-Administered Testlets

- Online content is for the test administrator.
- Test administrator sets up, delivers, and records responses.
- This type of testlet is common at the lower linkage levels.
- All writing testlets are teacher-administered.
- Science testlets may include picture response cards.

ASSESSMENT DELIVERY

Personal Learning Profile

- Personalized for each student
  - First Contact survey settings
  - Personal Needs and Preferences (PNP) Profile settings
First Contact Survey and PNP Profile

- PNP Profile
  - Display
  - Language & Braille
  - Audio & Environment
  - Other Supports

- First Contact Survey
  - Communication
  - Academics
  - Sensory Characteristics
  - Motor Characteristics
  - Computer Access

Kite® Educator Portal

Educator Portal Contents

- Kite Educator Portal
  - student data
  - rosters
  - First Contact survey
  - Personal Needs and Preferences (PNP) Profile
  - Instruction and Assessment Planner
Kite Student Portal

Students use Student Portal to take their testlets.

Testlet Time

- The time needed to administer a single testlet varies depending on the student.
  - Most testlets take 5 to 15 minutes to complete.
  - Writing testlets may take a little longer.

Considerations

- scheduling flexibility
- many allowable practices
- some practices not allowed
- check the ACCESSIBILITY MANUAL and TEST ADMINISTRATION MANUAL
Assessment Windows

- fall
- spring

Fall Window

- The consortium window spans early September to mid-December.
  - States may specify dates within that span.
- ELA and mathematics are required to be assessed.
  - Each grade and subject has blueprint requirements (the number of Essential Elements to be assessed).
  - The teacher uses the Instruction and Assessment Planner to select Essential Elements and linkage levels, plan for instruction, and assign testlets for each student.
  - The student is assessed after instruction is provided.
  - Student performance contributes to a student’s end-of-year results.
- Assessing science is optional during the fall window.
  - Science does not have blueprint requirements.
  - Student performance DOES NOT contribute to a student’s end-of-year results.

Spring Window

ELA and Mathematics

- The consortium window spans early February to mid-May.
  - States may specify dates within that span.
- ELA and mathematics are required to be assessed.
  - The same blueprint requirements used for the fall window are used for the spring window.
  - The Instruction and Assessment Planner is again used to select Essential Elements and linkage levels.
  - The teacher may choose the same Essential Elements and linkage levels used for the fall window, different ones, or a combination thereof.
  - Student performance on testlets taken during both the fall and spring windows contributes to a student’s end-of-year score report.
Spring Window Science

- Assessing science is required during the spring window (state-specific grades).
- The window dates for science are the same as for ELA and mathematics.
- Students are assessed on the full science blueprint for their grade band.
  - The Instruction and Assessment Planner is not used for science in the spring window.
  - The Kite system determines the linkage level for each science testlet.
  - First testlet based on the student’s First Contact survey.
  - Subsequent testlets based on student performance.
- Student performance on science testlets taken during the spring window contributes to a student’s end-of-year score reports.

DATA EXTRACTS AND REPORTS

- Available in Educator Portal
  - Under the Reports tab
- Based on user role:
  - District users = district-level reports
  - Building users = building-level reports
  - Teachers = student and class reports
- Provided in CSV format for extracts
- Provided in PDF format for reports
Data Extracts

Extracts Available

• Current Enrollment
• Blueprint Coverage Summary
• DLM Instructionally Embedded Monitoring
• First Contact Survey File
• PNP Settings Counts
• PNP Settings
• Roster
• Security Agreement Completion
• Student Roster and First Contact Survey
• Training Status
• Users

DLM Instructionally Embedded Monitoring Extract

• for both the fall and spring windows
• for ELA and mathematics
  – shows the percentage of blueprint requirements each student has met overall for each subject
  – shows whether or not a student has met each blueprint requirement
• for ELA, mathematics, and science
  – shows the number of testlets each student has completed for each subject
New Extract!
Student Roster and First Contact Survey

- testing readiness
  - grade in which student is enrolled
  - all subjects in which the student is rostered
- First Contact survey completion status
- Enrollment, Roster, and First Contact Survey extracts still available individually

Student Roster and First Contact Survey

![Student Roster and First Contact Survey Table]

Reports—Alternate Assessment

![Reports—Alternate Assessment Image]
Reports—Monitoring Summary

- General Reports
- Individually Embedded
- End of Year

Reports—Blueprint Coverage, Student Progress, Class Roster

Blueprint Coverage Report

- indicates Essential Elements chosen for students (by teacher)
- documents when students have completed a testlet and if/when they have partially or fully met the blueprint requirements for each conceptual area
Student Progress Report

• summarizes a student’s progress in each window
• is useful when planning or reviewing instruction for a student
• displays planned and assessed Essential Elements and linkage levels, the grade-level expectation (Essential Element), and whether the student has demonstrated mastery at that level

Class Roster Report

• displays most recent assessment and current instructional goals by Essential Element for one or more students on a roster

End-of-Year Reports

• provides monitoring of student progress throughout the year
• allows administrators to track student progress and adjust instruction as needed
• helps identify areas where additional support is needed
• enables comparison of student progress over time
Individual Student Score Reports (ISRs)

- are available after the spring window has closed
- are accessible depending on which user roles have state permission to view the reports
- are summative reports
- provide student results from the year’s DLM assessments

ISRs (continued)

- Individual Student Score Reports (ISRs) provide results for the year.
  - They are comprised of a Performance Profile and a Learning Profile.
- Resources are available for understanding the reports and how to explain them to parents and guardians.
- Check with your assessment coordinator about when your Individual Student Score Reports will be available.

Aggregate Reports

- summarize testing results across the district, school, or class in PDF format
- provide the number of students tested by grade, subject, and performance level
- are released based on user role
Archived Reports

Summary of Extracts and Reports
• Many helpful extracts and reports are available in Educator Portal.
• Check the EDUCATOR PORTAL USER GUIDE for help on how to access and use the resources.

Parent Resources
• Parent Interpretive Guide (also in Spanish)
• Parent Cover Letter for Score Reports
• Student Portal
  – can be downloaded on a home computer/tablet
  – use practice activities and released testlets
Additional Resources

- Professional development is offered.
  - more than 50 instructional modules (three specific to science)
  - a variety of instructional resources including books that can be read with a student
  - writing tools available if a student cannot use a standard pencil or computer keyboard
  - communication supports if a student struggles to use speech to communicate
  - a virtual community of practice to interact with other families

Summary of Manuals

- ACCESSIBILITY MANUAL
- ASSESSMENT COORDINATOR MANUAL
- DATA MANAGEMENT MANUAL
- EDUCATOR PORTAL USER GUIDE
- TECHNOLOGY SPECIFICATIONS MANUAL
- TEST ADMINISTRATION MANUAL

Conclusion

- DLM assessments
  - are designed for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities
  - enable students to better demonstrate what they know understand, and can do academically in relationship to the Essential Elements
  - reflect a reduced depth, breadth, and level of complexity
  - present accessible content, accessible design, and accessible delivery
  - include available reports and extracts to help monitor assessments
THANK YOU!

If you have further questions, contact the DLM Service Desk at 1-855-277-9751, email dlm-support@iu.edu, or visit dynamiclearningmaps.org.