



2016

GRADE 8 ARTS

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.

- ▶ First administered in 1969, NAEP is the largest continuing and nationally representative assessment of what our nation's students know and can do in core subjects, such as mathematics, reading, science, writing, and the arts.
- ▶ The schools and students participating in NAEP represent other schools and students across the country.
- ▶ 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. In some subjects and grades, results are also available for states and districts that participate in the Trial Urban District Assessment.

The NAEP arts assessment will be administered to a sample of eighth-grade students in your school between January 25 and March 4, 2016. Students will be assessed in either music or visual arts. The assessment measures students' knowledge and skills in the arts by asking them to observe, describe, analyze, and evaluate existing works of music and visual art and to create original works of visual art. All materials will be provided.

The results of NAEP are used by principals, teachers, 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?

Students will spend approximately 90 minutes on the music assessment or approximately 120 minutes on the visual arts assessment, including transition time and directions. They will also be asked to complete a questionnaire that aims to gain a better understanding of their educational experiences, such as if they have taken an art course in school or have visited an art museum or exhibit.

The school principal 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 student learning. Additional information will be collected about how selected students with disabilities and English language learners would participate in the assessment.

How many students will be assessed?

Nationally, approximately 8,000 students will be assessed in eighth grade.



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

Find us on:



Who will be 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. This person should be:

- ▶ familiar with how students participate in statewide assessments; and
- ▶ comfortable using a computer to collect and enter student information online.

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 about the importance of NAEP and student participation;
- ▶ providing schools with instructions for preparing a list of eighth-grade students and information about notifying parents of participating students;
- ▶ providing guidance for including students with disabilities and English language learners; and
- ▶ responding to questions from the school community throughout the assessment period.

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

- ▶ selecting a random sample of students from the school list of eighth-graders;
- ▶ verifying information that the school coordinator has provided via the MyNAEP website, which will serve as the primary resource and action center throughout the NAEP assessment process;
- ▶ 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 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;
- ▶ overseeing the submission of an electronic list of eighth-grade students;
- ▶ using the MyNAEP website to prepare for the assessment;
- ▶ informing parents of the assessment (more information will be provided on how to complete this task);
- ▶ communicating with the NAEP representative to finalize assessment preparations;
- ▶ organizing the availability of school space for the assessment, including room(s) and desks or tables; and
- ▶ collaborating with school staff to ensure a high rate of student participation.

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!