



DesCartes: A Continuum of Learning[®]

VOCABULARY

for the MAP[®] system

DesCartes Vocabulary	2
Reading	2
Language Usage	4
Mathematics	6
Science	9
Concepts and Processes	9
General Science	11

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DesCartes Vocabulary

The following vocabulary listings indicate when the corresponding group of words may need to be introduced into the curriculum for each subject area.

Vocabulary appears in the lowest RIT score range where that term could apply. Your state standards may not include all terms shown in a given RIT range. However, because these lists show you the soonest a given term could appear in MAP tests, they are a useful tool for curriculum design.

Reading

The following table identifies the reading assessment vocabulary at each RIT score range:

Table 1: Reading Vocabulary

RIT SCORE RANGE	READING VOCABULARY		
141-150	beginning sound paragraph		
151-160	classify ending sound	prefix riddle	
161-170	ABC order American literature announcement compound word contraction cookbook	fantasy folk tale main point note nursery rhyme personal narrative	problem question schedule sign thank-you note word family
171-180	author's purpose bias business letter character conclusion diary effect fable genre historical fiction	label legend main character news newspaper nonfiction personal essay plot science fiction	sentences sequence setting short story source speaker suffix tall tale text

RIT SCORE RANGE	READING VOCABULARY		
181-190	almanac anecdote antonym bibliography caption catalog characteristics context conversation describe develop encyclopedia entertain fiction infer	inform magazine make-believe manual mood moral multisyllabic novel one-act play order of events persuade poet point of view policy	primary source historical document purpose recipe reference material resolve resource rhythm stanza summarize suspense synonym theme thesaurus Venn diagram
191-200	anthology argue arguments British literature brochure characterize climax fact and opinion	guide words job announcement memoir narrate pamphlet reference reference book reports	resolution review rising action science book statements summary viewpoint word root
201-210	acronym alliteration annotated bibliography autobiography book review dialogue evaluate exposition falling action feeling	figurative language guide letters homonym idiom instruction library literary device literary element memoirs parable	personification persuasion picture book satire scene secondary source simile symbolism thesis paper
211-220	assonance characterization consonance contrast coupon episode	flashback foreshadowing headline homophone imagery intent	irony onomatopoeia persuasive pun tale word play
221-230	archetype contradict first person	paradox pathetic fallacy second person	sonnet third person
231-240	stereotype		

RIT SCORE RANGE	READING VOCABULARY
241-250	synecdoche

Language Usage

The following table identifies the language usage assessment vocabulary at each RIT score range:

Table 2: Language Usage Vocabulary

RIT SCORE RANGE	LANGUAGE USAGE VOCABULARY		
161-170	capital letter capitalize comma	exclamation mark exclamation point mark	period question mark
171-180	action verb adverb audience command complete sentence date draft	edit essay exclamation possessive run-on sentence sequence short story	supporting detail to describe topic sentence when where word order
181-190	apostrophe brainstorm closing compound sentence description explanation form formal essay friendly letter greeting heading hyphen	indent margin persona persuasive writing predicate publish quotation quotation mark revise revision salutation	semicolon signature singular singular noun stanza to entertain to inform to persuade tone voice writing process
191-200	abbreviation address argument argumentative essay book report clause comparison creative writing descriptive writing drama	ending future tense grammar informative essay introduction letter closing literary analysis main heading memo narrative writing	pamphlet parody proper noun resumé review slang subject-verb agreement tense visualize

RIT SCORE RANGE	LANGUAGE USAGE VOCABULARY		
201-210	allusion antecedent argumentative autobiography book title caret cluster comma splice complex sentence compound-complex sentence declarative sentence dependent clause	direct object direct quotation exclamatory sentence figurative language formal language fragment freewrite humor imperative sentence interrogative sentence introductory sentence language linking verb	mystery parallelism parentheses periodical process essay rough draft satire simile simple sentence syntax thesis statement verb phrase word choice
211-220	analyze application common noun contrast expository writing format how-to essay imagery	independent clause limerick main clause modifier noun clause organization participial participle	persuasive argument present participle prewrite prewriting rhetorical question to explain transition verse
221-230	active voice allegory appositive	epic poem infinitive literary response	plagiarize predicate noun tragedy
231-240	adjective clause adjective phrase adverb clause colloquialism	ellipsis gerund italics	nominative pronoun objective pronoun supporting evidence

Mathematics

The following table identifies the mathematics usage assessment vocabulary at each RIT score range:

Table 3: Mathematics Vocabulary

RIT SCORE RANGE	MATHEMATICS VOCABULARY		
151-160	size		
161-170	corner dollar	flat longest	shortest table
171-180	before between dollar sign fact family fewer geometric figure	hundred largest less metric morning ray	seventh similar smallest taller thousand
181-190	changed clock clockwise closest consecutive cup digit estimation even number flip fourth fourths gave grid half past how much time hundreds	left line of symmetry lowest measurement millimeter million most likely most often nearest noon o'clock odd number one pennies pint quarter past quarter to	rod rotation round row symmetrical symmetry tablespoon teaspoon ten ten thousand third thirds ton turn unifix cubes what time
191-200	billion capacity composite number decade deposit diagonal each face hundred million intersect	kite large line graph longer miles per hour oval parallel plane prime number quintillion	rhombus same shape scale standard numeral straight symbol thousands trillion vertical line

RIT SCORE RANGE	MATHEMATICS VOCABULARY		
201-210	bar graph below biggest chance common multiple compatible numbers coordinate coordinate point cubic centimeter cubic unit decameter decimeter divisible edge	expanded numeral half-dollar hectometer hundredth integer larger less likely magic square median miles per gallon milliliter minimum mirror image	mixed number multiple octagon origin parallel line place value plus probability random rectangular box regular polygon trapezoid twice
211-220	acute angle century coin combinations common factor congruent angle cord decimal form decimal point dilation enlargement factor tree fastest fitted line	geometric solid greatest common factor how long line of best fit line plot lowest term lowest terms mean micrometer negative number cube obtuse angle outcome positive	positive linear relationship proof protractor reduce scatter plot smaller straight angle tessellation three-dimensional transformation triple union
221-230	algebra arc central angle common denominator complementary angle cubic meter cubic millimeter cubic yard equilateral triangle expanded notation experimental probability frequency table	interior angle isosceles triangle least common denominator long lowest common denominator midpoint mode net obtuse triangle range real number	reflexive scale factor scalene triangle short sum of measures survey tails ten million ten thousandth theoretical probability transitive

RIT SCORE RANGE	MATHEMATICS VOCABULARY		
231-240	acute triangle algebraic sentence arithmetic progression average salary box-and-whisker plot chord data point depreciate discount equality equation of a line	interquartile range is less than lower quartile matrix middle minus outlier percentile prime factor prime factorization quartile	regression equation representative sample sample secant shorter square pyramid successive tangent time-and-a-half upper quartile
241-250	adjacent angle algebra tile congruent triangle construction converse correlation feet per second hyperbolic	incline infinite least common multiple linear foot mileage table polynomial Pythagorean theorem	solution set stem and leaf plot system of equations transversal x-axis y-axis y-intercept
251-260	coordinate plane exterior angle geometric series quadratic equation regular hexagon	right pyramid rotational symmetry slant height undefined	wider x-coordinate x-intercept y-coordinate
261-270	cosecant cosine decagon	semi-annual sine trigonometric function	trigonometric relationship
271-280	bisector	squared	

Science

The following pages identify NWEA’s assessment vocabulary for science concepts and processes, and general science.

Concepts and Processes

The following table identifies the science (concepts and processes) usage assessment vocabulary at each RIT score range:

Table 4: Science, Concepts and Processes Vocabulary

RIT SCORE RANGE	CONCEPTS AND PROCESSES VOCABULARY		
171-180	after before cause change effect explain	find out gather information interaction rank record	scale (tool) science technology variable weigh
181-190	(data) log accurate belong color conclude data expect experiment feet (measurement) group	identify magnifying glass measurement metric ruler notes observation probable reason reason result	scientific theory scientist sense sight smell taste telescope tool touch
191-200	affect cause and effect relationship computer condition control variables cyclic pattern direct observation enlarge evidence exert experimental result extend field gradient hand lens hypothesis	image imbalance instrument interact investigation magnifying lens mechanism operational definition perception Periodic Table of the Elements pH meter position prediction process quantification quantify	reasonable result regular pattern scientific law scientific method scientific model senses series situation slope stethoscope study test trial valid vision X-ray machine

RIT SCORE RANGE	CONCEPTS AND PROCESSES VOCABULARY		
201-210	accelerate apparent size arrangement balance (equilibrium) chance claim common contact control decrease design experiment discard disequilibrium double-pan balance evaluate evolution evolutionary change evolutionary trend evolve field of view	formulate model geologist gradual change graduated cylinder hold constant increase independent variable interpret data interval investigate justify level magnification power material meter stick observable orderly pendulum per percentage	physical model power precision predictable quality quantity random group regular increase reject reliable reversible scale (measurement) scale (size) scale model scaled up significant statistics texture trial-and-error procedure
211-220	absolute knowledge balance beaker coincidence controlled experiment cyclic cyclic phenomenon dependent	disprove episodic inconclusive indicate number pattern orderly pattern phenomena probable	quantitative regulated repeat replicate replication scientific evidence testable vary
221-230	cancellation finding (scientific) invalid (data)	modification opposing forces principle	regular time interval scientific
231-240	factual procedure	replicable researcher	

General Science

The following table identifies the general science usage assessment vocabulary at each RIT score range:

Table 5: Science, General Science Vocabulary

RIT SCORE RANGE	SCIENCE, GENERAL SCIENCE VOCABULARY			
161-170	hot	life cycle		
171-180	anemometer	dew	hind	snow
	atmosphere	drown	hydrometer	spears
	barometer	enemy	hygrometer	spider
	bean	fall	ice	spring
	body	feline	jungle	stage
	branch	fog	neck	summer
	bud	forest	need	survive
	burrow	frog	nest	toad
	carbon dioxide	fruit	protect	turtle
	cat	gas	seed	waist
	caterpillar	gasoline	seedling	weather
	cave	grow	shoulder	wing
	cloud	hail	sleet	wolf
	cycle	head	smog	worm
	den	hibernate		

RIT SCORE RANGE	SCIENCE, GENERAL SCIENCE VOCABULARY			
181-190	absorb	daylight	magnetism	segment
	active	defense	magnifying glass	sense
	adapt	degree	mantle	shadow
	alive	drink	mate	shell
	attract	earthquake	measuring cup	shrub
	autumn	efficiency	meat-eater	sight
	axis	electrical energy	Mercury (planet)	signal
	balance (scale)	electrical force	metal	sleep
	ball-and-socket joint	erosion	milk	smell
	bank	feel	mineral	sound energy
	beach	fossil	mold	spring scale
	body of water	friction	mouth	steam
	bone	fungus	movement	stone
	bristle	grain	natural resource	store
	bush	growth	nectar	stream
	calorie	hear	night	surface
	camouflage	herb	plant-eater	swim
	carnivore	herbivore	polarization	tar
	cavities	human	polluted	taste
	clam	iron	pollution	tilt
	claw	Jupiter	protection	tool
	climate	kinetic	recycle	touch
	cohesion	knee	reproduction	unit of measure
	conservation	land	revolve	vine
	core	light energy	rib	vitamin
	Coriolis force	living	rotate	water vapor
	crust	load	sand	winter
	crystal	lung	Saturn	woods
		magnet	see	work

RIT SCORE RANGE	SCIENCE, GENERAL SCIENCE VOCABULARY			
191-200	abdomen	dust	invertebrate	protective coloration
	antenna	Earth's layers	jointed leg	pulley
	asteroid	Earth's surface	larva	pupa
	attraction	echo	lava	rabbit
	backbone	electrical conductor	layer	radical
	bar magnet	electromagnetism	lever	reagent
	bark	element	light switch	reflect
	bill	ellipse	lightning	refract
	body part	equilibrium	lignite	relationship
	body section	esophagus	litmus paper	remains
	body segments	evacuate (container)	loud	repel
	boil	evaporate	low-pitched	reproductive system
	boiling point	evaporation	lubricant	reservoir
	broken (circuit)	exercise	magma	respiratory
	cell theory	experimentation	melt	respiratory system
	cell wall	extinct	melting point	response
	cellular	field	meteor	rest
	cephalothorax	flood	mix	scale
	characteristic	food chain	moon (satellite)	screw
	circuit	food web	muscular system	sea
	circulatory system	food web	nervous system	sea level
	classification	four-chambered heart	nitrogen	seed coat
	cold-blooded	freezing point	nocturnal	simple circuit
	comet	fresh water	nonmetal	simple machine
	complete (circuit)	fulcrum	nymph	Sirius
	compound	fused (circuit)	obsidian	slate
	condensation	granite	obtain	solute
	condense	ground	organ	solvent
	constant	ground wire	parasite	sour
	consumer	habitat	particle	speed of light
	container	heat energy	penetrate	speed of sound
	cool	hibernation	petal	spines (bristles)
	cover crop	hide	petrification	stages of growth
	crack	high-pitched	phase	state
	cubic	host	physical universe	states of matter
	decay	humidity	pitch	static electricity
	developmental sequence	hunger	plant cell	sublimation point
	diffuse	hydrogen	polar attraction	subsoil
	digestion	hypothesize	Polaris	substance
	digestive system	ingestion	polarize	system
	direct (sunlight)	insulate	precipitation	thaw
	discharge	internal	predator	thorax
	dissolve	intestine	prey	
			producer	

RIT SCORE RANGE	SCIENCE, GENERAL SCIENCE VOCABULARY			
191-200 continued	thunder turning point unicellular vacuole vapor	Venus vertebrate vibrate vibration volcanic eruption	warm-blooded water cycle waterwheel wave wearing away/down	weather cycle weathering wedge wheel and axle
201-210	absorption air pollution air pressure air quality air resistance algae allele amphibious angstrom anus arthropod atomic structure ATP basalt biome bladder blue-green algae body system brittle canyon carbon carbon monoxide cavern cell membrane center of gravity change over time chemical chemical property chlorophyll circulate collide column commensalism commodity community compaction compass	compass needle competition complete metamorphosis compound machine conduct conduction conductor constellation consume contract control convector convert crater cross (genetic) crustacean cytoplasm dam death rate decompose dense deposition development diet digest dihybrid cross droplet Earth's crust echinoderm ecology ecosystem electric electric current electrical insulator eliminate embryo	endoplasmic reticulum equinox evolution excrete exhale expand fault line faulting fertilization filament fission float flow of heat fluctuate folding food pyramid (ecological) food supply forecast formation fossil fuel four-legged frost full moon fungi fusion generation generator genetics genotype geotropism germination glaciation glacier glucose gravitational attraction greenhouse effect	hardness heart disease hereditary information insulation insulator irrigation heredity heterozygous igneous rock inclined plane individual consumption inert jellyfish kidney kilowatt hour landslide large intestine life zone light-year limited resources liver magnetic magnetize malleable marble material maturation membrane Mendelian ratio message metamorphic rock meteorite meteorologist migrate Milky Way Galaxy minimize

RIT SCORE RANGE	SCIENCE, GENERAL SCIENCE VOCABULARY			
201-210 continued	mixture	pendulum	sand dune	synthesis
	molecular motion	pest	satellite	texture
	mollusk	phototropism	saturation	thermos jug
	monohybrid cross	physical union	sediment	tidal wave
	mushroom	pistil	sedimentary rock	trait
	mutualism	pole	sedimentation	transpiration
	native	pollen	seismograph	transport
	natural gas	pollination	selenium	trout
	neutral	pollutant	series circuit	tube
	new moon	porous rock	silver	turbine
	newton	positively charged	sinkhole	umbilical cord
	niche	power	skeletal system	uranium
	nitrogen cycle	prairie dog	skull	urinary bladder
	nitrogen dioxide	prism	small intestine	uterus
	nova	pumice	smoking	vaporize
	nuclear membrane	pure	social	vegetation
	oil well	radiator	source of energy	vein
	omnivore	rainfall	species	vertical row
	organ system	react	spectrum	virus
	osmosis	reaction	sperm	vocal cords
	ovary	red blood cell	spore	water pressure
	overpopulate	regulate	stamen	water supply
	overweight	relative age	stationary	web
	parabola	replication	sublimation	well
	parallel circuit	respiration	succession	white dwarf
	paramecia	rock cycle	sugar	wind speed
	parasitism	rock layer	sulfur dioxide	yeast
	parent material	rodent	sulfur/sulphur	yolk sac
	passage of materials	running water	symbiosis	

RIT SCORE RANGE	SCIENCE, GENERAL SCIENCE VOCABULARY			
211-220	abysal floor	chromosome	fault zone	mercury
	abysal plain	circuit tester	fertilized	thermometer
	active transport	cirrus	first class lever	meteoroid
	agent	cleavage	fixed orbit	metric unit
	air mass	closed container	flatworm	microorganism
	alpha particle	cold front	focal length	mid-ocean ridge
	alternative energy source	colony	focal point	milli-
	amplitude	conception	frequency	mitosis
	anatomy	coniferous tree	front	moisture
	area of influence	conserve	gamete	moss
	arm (parts of balance)	constitute	gastrulation	mudstone
	artesian well	continental shelf	gear	mutation
	arthropoda	continental slope	gene	NASA
	ash	convection	gene frequency	natural resources
	atmospheric pollution	corrosion	gene pool	negatively charged
	atoll	cosmic rays	genetic material	nimbus
	atomic energy	crossing over	gestation	nonrenewable
	atomic mass	cumulus	geyser	Northern Hemisphere
	atomic number	current	ground water	nuclear explosion
	average atomic mass	cyclone	Halley's Comet	nuclear power
	balance	dehydrate	heat transfer	nuclear reaction
	base (parts of balance)	Dmitri Mendeleev	helium	nucleic acid
	battery	dominant	humid	nucleolus
	behavior	dry cell battery	hurricane	oak
	beta particle	dry ice	igneous	ore
	body fat	Earth process	illumination	overcrowding
	boundary	effort	implantation	overgrowth
	brake	electrical field	infectious disease	ovulation
	calcium	electrical shock	inherited	pan (parts of balance)
	capillary	electrical wire	intensity	period of revolution
	carbohydrate	electron affinity	interrelationship	petrified wood
	catalyst	environmental condition	involuntary responses	petroleum
	cellulose	enzyme	lichen	phase change
	centi-	erode	lipids	phenotype
	centriole	excretory system	lithium	physical change
	change of phase	exoskeleton	live birth	physical environment
	change of state	explosion	long-range effect	pigment
	charged	external appendage	lubricate	plains
	chemical change	eye of a hurricane	lymphatic system	plant matter
	chemistry	fair (weather)	mass number	plasma
		fat	measurable	plasma membrane
		fault	mercury barometer	

RIT SCORE RANGE	SCIENCE, GENERAL SCIENCE VOCABULARY			
211-220 continued	platelet population growth prehistoric preserve protoplasm protozoa radiation radioactive waste reactant recessive recycling reef renewable renewable resource	S.I. system San Andreas fault sandstone saturation point seamount seawater section sedimentary selective breeding semipermeable sex shale shore single-celled	sodium solubility point spectroscope sponge starch steel stigma stinging cell stratus stress sublimate submerge synthesize	taxonomy thunderhead tide action transmission trench tropical forest undisturbed valley visible spectrum warm front wavelength white blood cell xylem
221-230	(plant) cell wall abiotic factor additive adrenalin algal bloom alternating circuit amino acid amoeba artificial selection asteroid belt axon bacteria of decay biologist blood sugar level brain breccia breeder cellular respiration cellular structure centrifugal force charge chemical equation chitin cilia class class (taxonomy) coefficient conservation biologist	conservation of mass convergent plate boundary Darwin DDT decibel deletion delta divergent plate boundary electrochemical impulse embed energy releasing process erupt estrogen extrusive family fermentation flagella flow follicle-stimulating hormone fracture genetic structure genus grams grassland	guard cell hertz holdfast hormone inorganic insulin inversion ionic iron filings kingdom law of conservation of mass law of gravity Leeuwenhoek life span Linnaeus locomotion loudness lowland methane Milky Way natural selection neuron neurotransmitter neutralize Newton's first law of motion Newton's second law of motion	Newton's third law of motion nuclear fission oceanic crust overtone pancreas parathormone Pasteur pH phagocytosis phosphorous pinocytosis pioneer (plant) plasmodium plastid platyhelminthes protein synthesis protist pseudopod purebred rate of entry reaction force rock face Schwann seashell sodium chloride specialization specimen star cluster

RIT SCORE RANGE	SCIENCE, GENERAL SCIENCE VOCABULARY			
221-230 continued	stimulus stomate streak (test)	subdivision subduction boundary	substitution substratum surface wind	synapse translocation transportation vestigial structure
231-240	aerobic respiration centrosome climate condition climax vegetation coelenterata conglomerate ebb tide	electrochemical impulse flood tide high pressure system high tide liverfluke low tide	maturation mineral content nematoda neuron neurotransmitter pioneer vegetation plastid	platyhelminthes primary consumer Richter scale secondary consumer siltstone synapse tundra