

Fact Sheet for Science TCAP – Grades 5, 8 and 10

Construction Information

	Grade 5	Grades 8 and 10
Number of Items	75	83
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of multiple choice items (multiple choice items have a value of 1 point each) 	57	60
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of constructed response items (constructed response items have a value from 1-4 points each) 	18	23
Total test score points	88	100

Tests are designed to be given in three 65-minute sessions.

- Each session has a similar composition of item types.

Weighting of Standards by Grade Level for Science TCAP

Note: Standard 5 is combined with Standard 1 during test construction.

		Grade 5	Grade 8	Grade 10
Standard		%ScrPts	%ScrPts	%ScrPts
1/5	<i>Scientific Investigations and the Nature of Science</i>	40	40	40
2	<i>Physical Science</i>	20	20	20
3	<i>Life Science</i>	20	20	20
4	<i>Earth and Space Science</i>	20	20	20

Test Scoring

- Multiple choice items are machine scored.
- Constructed response items are scored by readers hired and trained by the test contractor under specific guidelines from CDE personnel and Colorado teachers.
- Performance category cut scores are set using the Bookmarking Process.

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Associated Materials Available on the CDE Website (www.cde.state.co.us)

- Assessment Frameworks
- TCAP Item Maps (Available after Spring 2012 administration)
- TCAP Performance Level Scale Ranges
- Math Proficiency Levels
- TCAP Technical Report (Available Fall 2012)
- Released Items
- Science Demonstration Packet
- Data Interpretation Guidelines
- Guides to Test Interpretation
- Test results at school, district and state levels
- Student work from released Constructed Response Items (Anchor Papers)

Sub-Content Areas Reported Out on the Student Performance Report for Science

	Grade 5	Grade 8	Grade 10
Sub-Content Area #	Sub-Content Area		
1	Experimental Design & Investigations	Experimental Design & Investigations	Experimental Design & Investigations
2	Results and Data Analysis	Results and Data Analysis	Results and Data Analysis
3		Physics Concepts	
4			Chemistry Concepts
5		Life Processes	Life Processes
6		Geology and Astronomy	Geology and Astronomy