Blueprint Summary Table MCPS Benchmark Assessments

Grade 4: Reading 2016-17

MCPS Benchmark tests are designed to align with the MCPS SOL Benchmark Guide. However, it is important to remember that standards and text forms from previous years are subsumed. They, therefore, may be assessed on a Grade 4 Benchmark.

Teachers should be aware that the Grade 4 Assessment includes grades 2, and 3 benchmarked standards and genre. It may also include previously tested 4th grade standards. All Reading Benchmark documents are available on the Language Arts website.

In general, test items assess word analysis strategies, use of word reference resources, and comprehension of printed materials, including fiction, nonfiction, functional text, and poetry.

The number of passages and items increase across testing periods in order to build student stamina and establish realistic expectations for the SOL testing experience.

Vocabulary used in passages and questions may be drawn from grade-level content areas.

MCPS Benchmark Test	Number of Passages	Possible Genre Options for Passages**	Possible Options for 2002 SOL*	Number of Items
Benchmark 1 2016-2017 Testing Window: November 1- 18	3	Informational Article Fiction (Realistic) Functional Text, (directions, signs, flyers)	4.4 a, b, c 4.5 a, b, c, d, e, f, i, j 4.6 a, b, c, d, e, f, h, i	25
Benchmark 2 2016-2017 Testing Window: March 1-17	4-5	Poetry *** Functional Text (schedules, menus, signs, directions, recipes, how-to, web pages, flyers, etc.) Fiction (Historical*** Realistic, or Traditional Tale) Biography/Autobiography Informational Article Paired Text***	4.4 a, b, c, 4.5 a, b, c, d, e, g, h, i, j 4.6 a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h	35
Spring SOL Test	5-6	Traditional Tales from Grade 3 include the following: Legend, Myth, Fable, Fairy Tale, Trickster Tale All options listed above	All 2 nd , 3 rd , and 4 th Grade 2002 SOL items listed on the DOE Blueprint	42

- * For content of specific standards, refer to Benchmark Guide for 2010 Standards.
- ** If a class has not studied a specific genre or standard prior to assessment, consider the Benchmark as a pretest and use results to guide instruction.
- *** These genre are taught second semester. Consider the Benchmark items as a pretest.
- **** The SOL Test may pair texts across genre and ask students guestions related to both selections.