

CLASSROOM DIAGNOSTIC TOOLS



The CDT is a set of online assessments designed to measure specific student strengths, weaknesses, skills, and knowledge throughout the school year to help guide instruction.

The CDT goes beyond focusing only on WHAT students should know and be able to do at a particular grade and/or course. It also provides:

HOW and WHY students may be struggling with or extending beyond grade and/or course expectations.

Because the CDT is specifically designed for Pennsylvania expectations for learning, the information provided by the CDT is not typically identified through other types of assessments.

THE CDT CYCLE.

*The Teaching and Learning
Process Never Ends*

ASSESS

the skills of
every student from
third grade through
high school

ANALYZE

detailed diagnostic
reports to understand
the strengths and needs
of each student

SHARE

easy-to-interpret
reports with students,
parents, and
administrators

REFLECT AND MONITOR

the progress of
individuals and groups

INSTRUCT

based on individual
needs; teach skills and
focus/adjust practice

INTERPRET

results and group students
by their diagnostic profiles
to target instruction

*The CDT offers various assessments in the core content
areas for students in grades 3 through high school.*

VALID AND RELIABLE – based on the PSSA and Keystone Assessment Anchors & Eligible Content.

NUMEROUS PROVEN ACCOMMODATIONS – including flexibility in testing environment, length of test sessions, color contrast, read aloud, and translation dictionaries, enable all students to access and benefit from this diagnostic tool.

WIDESPREAD USAGE ACROSS PENNSYLVANIA – more than 3.5 million CDT assessments have been administered since 2010.

EDUCATOR DRIVEN – Pennsylvania educators have played an integral role in the development and enhancement of the CDT since its initial inception in 2009.

STUDENT OWNERSHIP AND ENGAGEMENT – provides timely, in-depth, and easy-to-use diagnostic information to facilitate one-on-one interactions between a teacher and a student for individual goal setting and engagement.

MULTIPLE PLATFORMS – the CDT can be taken on a wide variety of devices including desktops, laptops, iPads, Chromebooks, and more.



DIAGNOSTIC CATEGORY TESTING

INCREASED FLEXIBILITY—Teachers have increased flexibility to assess their students on the concepts being taught in the classroom. Teachers can choose to mix the full CDT and Diagnostic Category tests options to create an assessment plan that matches student needs.

REDUCED TESTING TIME—It takes 20-30 minutes to test a single diagnostic category and to receive more precise reporting.

ENHANCED REPORTING—The new reporting platform offers an enhanced user experience for the teachers to efficiently track progress after students have completed testing.

The CDT Diagnostic Category tests generate the same level of dynamic and interactive reports as the full CDT. The interactive reporting platform provides more intuitive reports and data for the full CDT and diagnostic category tests.

LITERACY

READING | Grades 3-5, Grades 6-HS

• Reading Informational • Reading Literature

WRITING | Grades 3-5, Grades 6-HS

• Conventions: Grammar and Sentence Formation
• Conventions: Punctuation-Capitalization-Spelling
• Quality of Writing: Content and Style • Quality of Writing: Editing • Quality of Writing: Focus and Organization

SCIENCE

SCIENCE | Grades 3-5, Grades 6-HS

• Biological Sciences • Earth and Space Sciences • Physical Sciences
• The Nature of Science

BIOLOGY | CHEMISTRY

• Basic Biological Principles-Chemical Basis for Life • Bioenergetics-Homeostasis and Transport • Cell Growth and Reproduction-Genetics • Theory of Evolution-Ecology

MATH

MATH | Grades 3-5, Grades 6-8

• Algebraic Concepts • Geometry • Measurement-Data-Probability • Numbers and Operations

ALGEBRA | GEOMETRY

• Data Analysis • Functions and Coordinate Geometry • Linear Equations and Inequalities • Operations with Real Numbers and Expressions

ADVANTAGES TO USING THE CDT

- Available throughout the year
- Real-time score information for students
- Immediate, detailed, actionable data for teachers
- Granular, diagnostic information at the eligible content level
- Provides results and data linked to specific Pennsylvania content
- Follows structure of Pennsylvania teacher driven learning progressions
- Provides professional development resources to support instruction and data
- Used as a screener and communication tool between teachers, parents/guardians, and students
- FREE to all LEAs



CDT DIAGNOSTIC CATEGORY TESTS

The CDT Diagnostic Category tests provide students with a shorter testing experience, while at the same time allowing teachers to isolate instruction and testing to a specific diagnostic category to gain valuable information targeted to a student's specific area of need. Schools have access to 50 CDT Diagnostic Category Tests across math, reading, science, and writing.

Schools are allowed and encouraged to use the diagnostic category tests in ways that are most beneficial to classroom instruction. Most teachers will choose to administer the diagnostic category tests after analyzing a student's performance on the full CDT. However, there is no restriction on the order in which the full CDT and the diagnostic category tests are administered.

GROWTH AND FOCUS REPORTING

The interactive reporting tool automatically generates reports aimed at comparing test sessions for students identifying a change in scale score and grouping students into focus groups. This information is intended to help teachers further modify instruction for those students not making progress or to further support those students excelling in the content area.

Contact a DRC Customer Service Representative today to discuss next steps to begin using the CDT.

1-888-451-7849

PAcustomerservice@datarecognitioncorp.com

www.DRCeDirect.com

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

333 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA 17126

1-717-787-4324



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

CDT CORE TEAM LEADS

Carrie Soliday
casoliday@gmail.com

Brian Stamford
brian.stamford@aiu3.net

Dan Richards
danric@berksiu.org