TeachTown
Benchmark Assessments
GUIDEBOOK

A guide to understanding how TeachTown Benchmark Assessments enhance student progress monitoring across key academic domains and developmental milestones.

TeachTown's Benchmark Assessments are rooted in research and purpose-built to support students with moderate to severe disabilities across all grade bands.

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Cultivating Growth for Students with Disabilities

In special education settings, reliable and consistent progress monitoring is essential.

TeachTown Benchmark Assessments are designed specifically for students with disabilities. They measure progress on discrete skills, giving teachers clear, accurate data on student performance. In contrast, many benchmark assessment tools developed for general education settings lack the sensitivity to capture student growth and the accessibility features needed by students who benefit from varied delivery formats and question types. TeachTown Benchmark Assessments provide meaningful data to inform Individualized Education Programs (IEPs), guide instructional decisions, and demonstrate student progress toward personalized goals.

This guide supports special education administrators and educators in understanding how TeachTown Benchmark Assessments enhance student progress monitoring across key academic domains and developmental milestones.

Make Informed Instructional Decisions

As a teacher, having clear insight into your students' progress helps you plan what to teach next and how to teach it most effectively. TeachTown Benchmark Assessments measure student progress on specific learning objectives throughout the year, enabling data-informed decisions related to IEPs and targeted instruction.

By checking in on key skills at multiple points across the year, educators can pinpoint areas of strength and identify where additional support is needed. The assessments yield detailed data that not only demonstrate the effectiveness of instruction and interventions but also include targeted reporting that connects each skill to its corresponding unit in the enCORE curriculum.

For example, consider a student named Juan who just completed a reading comprehension benchmark assessment focused on consonant-vowel-consonant (CVC) words. Juan earned a raw score of 9, demonstrating mastery of this skill. The assessment results direct his teacher to move forward to the next relevant skill in reading comprehension, such as sight words or more advanced vocabulary, because Juan has successfully mastered the content in *Reading Comprehension: CVC Words*.

300+
ASSESSMENTS

With a library of over 300 TeachTown Benchmark Assessments, educators can support targeted instruction and foster meaningful growth for students with diverse learning needs.

All TeachTown Benchmark Assessments drive measurable progress for students with diverse learning needs.

Monitor Student Progress Across Key Skills
Track individual student skill development across PreK-12th to ensure meaningful academic growth.

Support Data-Driven Instruction
Benchmark Assessment reports deliver actionable data to guide instructional strategies and targeted interventions.

Align with IEP Goals
Select assessments that correspond with students' IEP goals to make progress monitoring more relevant and purposeful.

Flexible Administration Options
Choose the format that best fits individual student needs: printable PDFs, teacher-led tech lessons, or student-led tech lessons.

Track Student Growth Over Time

TeachTown Benchmark Assessments include 300+ assessments (average 10-15 items each) across key academic domains and developmental milestones. They have been designed to help monitor students' progress on individual skills over time and show growth. TeachTown Benchmark Assessments cover skill areas from early childhood through the transition years, and are included within:

- enCORE: a K-12 standards-first adapted core curriculum

- Launch for PreK: a comprehensive, inclusive early childhood curriculum for students ages 3–5

- Language Accelerator: a personalized language intervention for students with deficits or delays in any area of language

The TeachTown Benchmark Assessments in enCORE support progress monitoring across key academic domains, including Early Learning Skills, English Language Arts (ELA), Math, Science, and Social Studies. The benchmarks provide specific, actionable data on student progress, including when progress is incremental.

From *letter-sound identification* to i*dentifying three-dimensional shapes* and so much more, these assessments capture growth in a way that empowers educators to tell a meaningful story about student progress and deliver timely, targeted interventions.

Similarly, the TeachTown Benchmark Assessments in Launch for PreK provide meaningful data about student progress in Emerging Literacy, Emerging Math, and Communication and Language Development. Language Accelerator offers Benchmark Assessments covering Morphology, Phonology, Semantics, Symbolic Representation, and Syntax.

"I personally really like the Benchmark Assessments in enCORE—they are amazing. This feature is incredibly helpful for teachers to break down student growth. With the competitor, teachers were never sure what level students were at."

- Tammi Walker, Pflugerville Low Incidence Specialist

Support Compliance with Actionable Data

TeachTown Benchmark Assessments include reports for educators and administrators with actionable data and insights.

REPORTS FOR EDUCATORS

The *TeachTown Benchmark Assessment Student Summary Report* provides educators with actionable data to monitor progress over time, identify learning trends, and customize instruction based on individual needs, supporting goal setting and targeted interventions.

- Gain access to classroom-level data across students with a comprehensive export
- Track student progress within a class and performance trends
- Pinpoint students needing extra support
- Use insights to tailor instruction and interventions

REPORTS FOR ADMINISTRATORS

The *TeachTown Benchmark Assessment Progress Report* gives administrators access to district-level data through a comprehensive export that supports data analysis and strategic decision making. Districts can choose to filter the data in the way that best supports their district-level initiatives, such as looking at particular grade levels or specific subdomains, for example. District- and building-level data analysis supports resource allocation and targeted coaching.

- Gain access to district-level data across multiple campuses via a comprehensive export
- Track student progress and performance trends
- Identify high-performing schools and classrooms
- Identify areas needing additional coaching or intervention
- Make strategic decisions to enhance instructional support
- Allocate resources effectively based on real-time data

Proven Validity Across Early Learning, ELA, and Math Assessments

TeachTown Benchmark Assessments are built on a strong foundation of validity. Developed through a rigorous test construction process with strict design specifications, the assessments ensure that each form is equivalent and each question measures exactly what it is intended to measure. During the 2023–2024 academic year, the TeachTown Research Team collaborated with subject matter experts across Early Learning, ELA, and Math to conduct a comprehensive validity study. The results confirmed that TeachTown Benchmark Assessments accurately and consistently assess the targeted skills, giving educators confidence that the data they receive is directly tied to specific instructional goals.
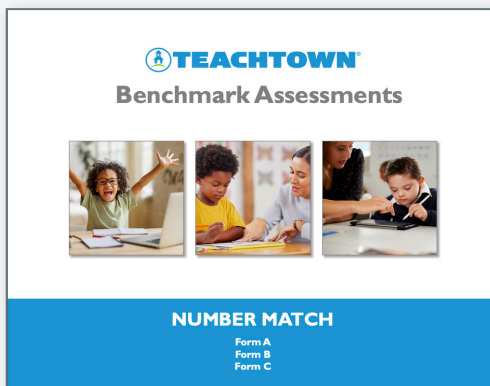
Accessibility for All Students

When deciding between paper-based and technology assessments, it's important to consider what best supports student learning and aligns with instructional goals. Factors such as content type, student access, engagement, and skill development should guide the decision. With all TeachTown Benchmark Assessments, there's flexibility in the assessment format to ensure you can maximize student outcomes and leverage available resources effectively.

Each assessment includes three distinct forms (A, B, and C) to ensure validity when assessing the same skill at the beginning, middle, and end of the school year. This structure allows educators to track meaningful growth over time while maintaining assessment integrity.
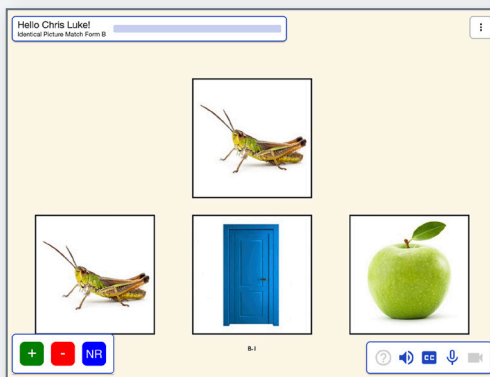
Assessment Formats Available in enCORE

PAPER-BASED ASSESSMENTS
Most appropriate for students for whom technology is distracting and would not reflect true performance levels

TEACHER-LED TECHNOLOGY
Most appropriate for students for whom technology is motivating but cannot work independently on a computer

STUDENT-LED TECHNOLOGY
Most appropriate for students who can work independently on a computer

Support Compliance with the Right Documentation

TeachTown Benchmark Assessments include built-in reporting tools to simplify documentation, helping schools meet compliance requirements with confidence. Reports are easy to interpret and share, making it easy to keep everyone aligned on each student's progress and next steps.

For example, imagine you have a student with an IEP goal focused on Color ID. On the next page, you'll see a sample TeachTown Benchmark Assessment report showing how a student named Chris is currently performing in this skill. The report also points you to where in the curriculum you can continue targeted instruction.

The report shows his current ability to match colors and pinpoints exactly where he needs more practice. It also guides educators directly to the relevant lessons in the curriculum, making it easy to provide targeted instruction and help Chris continue building this foundational skill.

After completing a TeachTown Benchmark Assessment, teachers can use item analysis to examine student performance on each specific skill. This helps identify strengths and areas for targeted support, making instruction more individualized and effective.

"We are able to track student goals within the enCORE curriculum and see growth and progress. We are able to implement the use of the benchmark and formative assessments to help guide students' learning."

- Kathleen Powers, Special Education Teacher, Patchogue-Medford School District

Teachers can use item analysis to examine student performance on each specific skill.

Report: Benchmark Assessment Progress Report for Color ID
Generated by: Alek Turner on 08/04/2025 2:48 PM
Edit Report Parameters

Student: Chris Dacey
Date range for sampled work: 09/01/2024 to 05/10/2025 (Week of earliest data available)
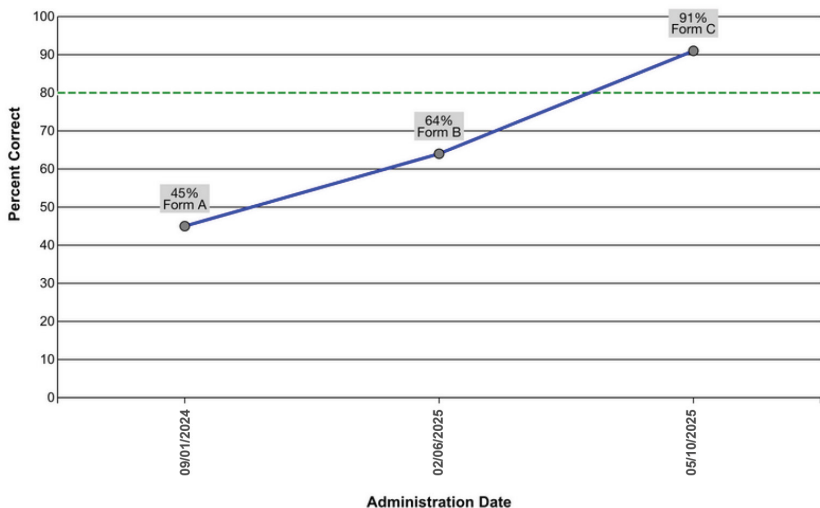
TEACHTOWN enCORE Elementary

Chris Dacey Benchmark Assessment Progress Report
A summary of student work over time on an specific Benchmark Assessment.

Assessment Information
Name: *Color ID*
Alignment: TeachTown Learning Objectives > Cognitive Skills > Feature, Function, and Class
Description: Color ID is a measure of a student's ability to identify the following colors: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, pink, black, brown, gray, and white. Identifying colors helps students describe or understand objects being described to them. It opens up different options for different response modalities and builds a foundation for students to understand the meaning of color in the real-world environment (e.g., red stop signs, green traffic lights, yellow caution signs, etc.).

Student Performance on *Color ID*

Summary of Administrations

Administration Date	Form	Delivery Format	Percent Correct
05/10/2025	C	Teacher-Led	91% (10/11)
02/06/2025	B	Teacher-Led	64% (7/11)
09/01/2024	A	Teacher-Led	45% (5/11)

Item Analysis for Most Recent Administrations of Each Form

09/01/2024 - Form A		02/06/2025 - Form B		05/10/2025 - Form C	
Item	Correct 45% (5/11)	Item	Correct 64% (7/11)	Item	Correct 91% (10/11)
red	✓	yellow	✓	green	✓
yellow	✗	green	✓	red	✓
blue	✓	blue	✓	yellow	✓
green	✓	red	✓	blue	✓
orange	✗	black	✓	brown	✓
purple	✗	pink	✗	white	✓
pink	✗	brown	✗	pink	✓
gray	✗	orange	✓	gray	✓
brown	✗	white	✓	orange	✓
white	✓	purple	✗	black	✓
black	✓	gray	✗	purple	✗

USING ASSESSMENT RESULTS

Use the raw score from Color ID to make instructional decisions:

0-3: Emergent. The student is scoring below chance on this assessment. Consider assessing on other early learning skills benchmarks, such as Prepositions ID.

4-8: Instructional. Units 8 and 21 in enCORE Elementary as most appropriate for students working on Level 1, 2, and 3 content to show growth on Color ID. Continue to assess with Color ID until mastery is achieved.

9-11: Mastery. Assess with Morning Night ID immediately, as the student is demonstrating mastery on the content within Color ID.

OBSERVATION NOTES:
Assessment: Color ID

Chris will correctly identify at least 9 of 11 questions on the Color ID assessment.

Over the course of the year, Chris demonstrated steady progress in the skill of Color ID, starting with a score of 45% on Form A at the beginning of the year, increasing to 64% on Form B at midyear, and reaching 91% mastery on Form C by year's end. **This growth highlights the impact of targeted interventions informed by data specific to this skill.**

The **Item Analysis** section provides detailed insights into each assessment taken throughout the year, showing exactly which items were answered correctly or incorrectly. This allows teachers to **clearly identify skill gaps and focus instruction** where it's needed most through targeted interventions.

The Using **Assessment Results** section highlights instructional recommendations based on the student's raw score, **suggesting specific enCORE Units and activities** that best support continued growth toward skill mastery.

Align Assessments, Instructional Goals, and Strategies with

enCORE

Teachtown Benchmark Assessments in enCORE
ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies, & Early Learning Skills

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enCORE Elementary

Early Learning Skills

- Feature, Function, and Class
- Nonverbal Reasoning

ELA: Grade-Aligned Assessments

- Reading: Comprehension
- Reading: Fluency
- Reading: Phonics
- Reading: Phonological and Phonemic Awareness
- Speaking and Listening
- Spelling
- Vocabulary
- Writing

Math: Grade-Aligned Assessments

- Counting and Cardinality
- Geometry
- Measurement and Data
- Numbers and Operations
- Numbers and Operations in Base Ten
- Operations and Algebraic Thinking
- Time and Money

enCORE Middle School

ELA: Grade-Aligned Assessments

- Reading Comprehension
- Vocabulary
- Reading Fluency
- Comprehension
- Writing

Math: Grade-Aligned Assessments

- Number System
- Expressions and Equations
- Ratios and Proportions
- Statistics and Probability
- Geometry
- Functions

Science: Grade-Aligned Assessments

- Life Science
- Earth and Space Science
- Physical Science

Social Studies: Grade-Aligned Assessments

- World History
- U.S. History
- Geography
- Economics
- Civics
- Government

enCORE High School

ELA: Grade-Aligned Assessments

- Reading Comprehension
- Vocabulary
- Reading Fluency
- Comprehension
- Writing

Math: Grade-Aligned Assessments

- Algebra I
- Geometry
- Algebra II
- Data, Statistics, and Probability

Science: Grade-Aligned Assessments

- Life Science
- Earth and Space Science
- Physical Science

Social Studies: Grade-Aligned Assessments

- World History
- U.S. History
- Geography
- Economics
- Civics
- Government

Explore Teachtown Benchmark Assessments

Conclusion

TeachTown's Benchmark Assessments are rooted in research and purpose-built to support students with moderate to severe disabilities across all grade bands. Backed by evidence-based assessment practices, these assessments span foundational skills through high school content, ensuring every measure is developmentally appropriate, accessible, and instructionally relevant. Together, these tools empower a comprehensive, whole-child approach that reflects each learner's strengths and areas of growth.

Explore how TeachTown's full suite of Benchmark Assessments can elevate your data-driven instruction and decision-making. **Schedule a demo today.**

TEACHTOWN®

Our Mission: To measurably improve the academic, behavioral
and adaptive functioning of students with disabilities.

www.TeachTown.com