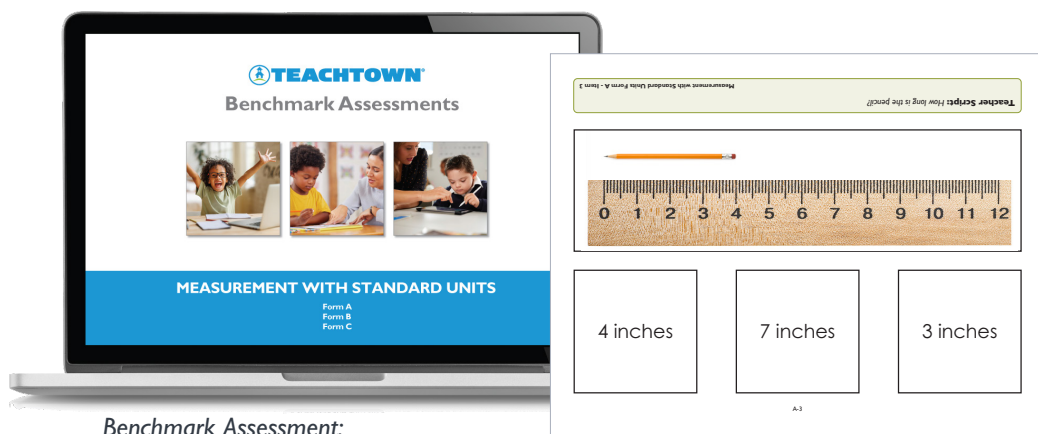


Benchmark Assessments Validity Study



In the 2023-2024 academic year, the TeachTown Research Team partnered with subject matter experts across content areas to rigorously evaluate TeachTown Benchmark Assessments. Practitioners examined every single assessment item across 190 benchmark assessments, including all three forms of each assessment. The findings confirm what we're passionate about delivering: **valid assessments that special educators can trust.**

- TeachTown Benchmark Assessments are **valid** across ELA, Math, and Early Learning Skills
- These assessments accurately and consistently measure the specific skills they are designed to evaluate
- Teachers can confidently rely on the data to inform instruction and track progress on targeted skills



Benchmark Assessment:
Measurement with Standard Units

What are TeachTown Benchmark Assessments?

TeachTown Benchmark Assessments include 190 validated assessments (average 10-15 items each) across ELA, Math, & Early Learning skills. They are available in 3 formats: printable PDFs, teacher-facilitated technology lessons, and student-led technology lessons. These assessments are designed to help you monitor your students' progress on individual skills over time and demonstrate growth. We recommend teachers administer them 3 times per school year – beginning, middle, and end.

What does assessment validity mean?

Assessment validity means the assessment measures what it is intended to measure. For example, the assessment called *Initial Sound Letter ID* will yield specific data about a student's ability to identify the beginning sound of a given word. The assessment does not also include questions about other skills. This is an intentional design – so that educators can be confident in analyzing the specific data for the specific skill at hand. In other words, teachers and administrators can be sure that TeachTown Benchmark Assessments measure exactly what they are intended to measure.

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Why Special Education Administrators Should Look for Assessment Validity

Accuracy of Interpretation

Valid assessments allow teachers to draw accurate conclusions about their students' abilities on the skills being assessed

Fairness

Valid assessments minimize bias, ensuring the results are equitable across diverse populations

Decision-Making

Valid assessments provide reliable data for making instructional decisions and informing IEP goal development

Credibility and Trust


Valid assessments increase the credibility of the results and the instructional decisions that stem from data analysis


Efficiency

Valid assessments ensure valuable teacher and student time is not wasted on assessments that fail to provide meaningful information

Accountability

Valid assessments help leaders build a culture of accountability, where educators work together to analyze the effectiveness of intervention


Benchmark Assessments



ADDITION WITH MANIPULATIVES (UP TO 10)


Teacher Script: Look at the math problem at the top. Use these Unifix Cubes to make tens and solve the problem in the white space. Find the correct answer at the bottom.


$3 + 2 = \underline{\quad}$

3 5 2

A-4

Benchmark Assessment:
Addition with Manipulatives (up to 10)



Benchmark Assessments



BLENDING SOUNDS

Teacher Script: Blend these sounds: /k/, /ow/, /ow/. Tell me the word. The student may verbalize the word or point to the correct picture.

Blending Sounds Form A - Item 1



A-1

Benchmark Assessment: Blending Sounds

TeachTown is committed to delivering evidence-based instruction and evidence-based assessment practices. These study results reflect this commitment. Visit teachtown.com to learn more about TeachTown curriculum and assessment.