





DC Interim Pilot Training #1

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Smarter Balanced

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We thank you for the feedback!

- Please be advised that we have turned off your video and audio capabilities to preserve bandwidth. Feel free to share any ideas or ask any questions by typing them in the chat. We have planned pauses throughout this presentation for questions.
- We will be recording this meeting. The presentation will be posted to Support Portal.
- We appreciate all feedback in the survey at the end.
- All questions in the chat are captured and may get answered during the presentation or in correspondence following this meeting.

Training Schedule

Next Training Meetings:

- Virtual Training Thursday December 11, 2025:
 Administration Tasks, Teacher Hand Scoring and Reporting
- Virtual Learning Lab Wednesday December 17, 2025: Step-by-step guidance through all tasks, Q&A

Interim Timeline

December 2025

May 2026

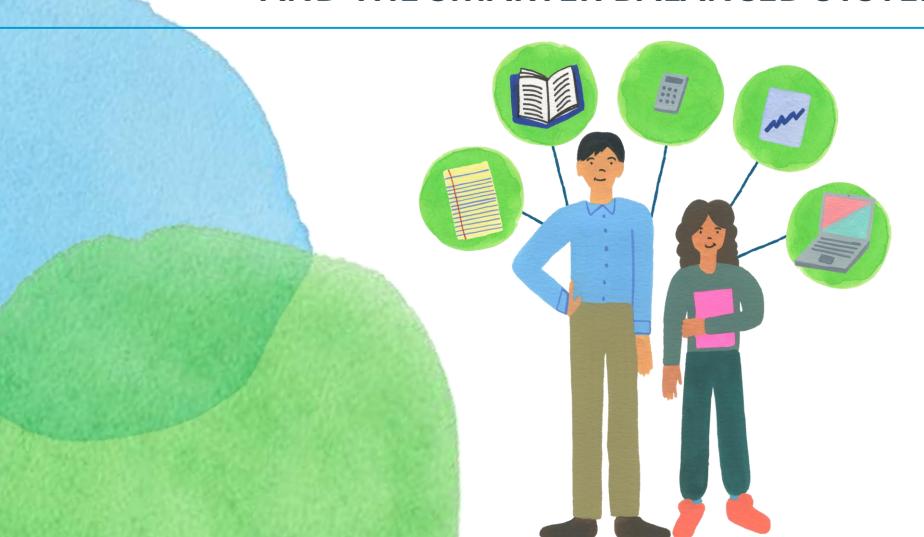
Testing Opens 12.8.25 Testing Closes 5.22.26

Learning Objectives

- Introduction to Smarter Balanced: Tools for Teachers Suite
- Prepare LEA Test Coordinators and School Test
 Coordinators (STCs) on accessing LaunchPad, Smarter
 Balanced Tools for Teachers Suite, and ADAM
- Define roles and responsibilities with the User Role Matrix
- Introduction to LaunchPad
- Introduction to ADAM

Smarter Balanced: Tools for Teachers Suite

IMPROVING TEACHING AND LEARNING WITH TOOLS FOR TEACHERS AND THE SMARTER BALANCED SYSTEM



AGENDA

Welcome and Introductions **Overview** ► A Balanced System of Assessment Interim Assessments **Using the Smarter Balanced System with** ► Interim Connections Playlists **Tools for Teachers** Tools for Teachers Putting It All Together/Use Cases Additional Resources Q&A





Interims & Tools for Teachers

An Introduction for State and Local Education Agencies



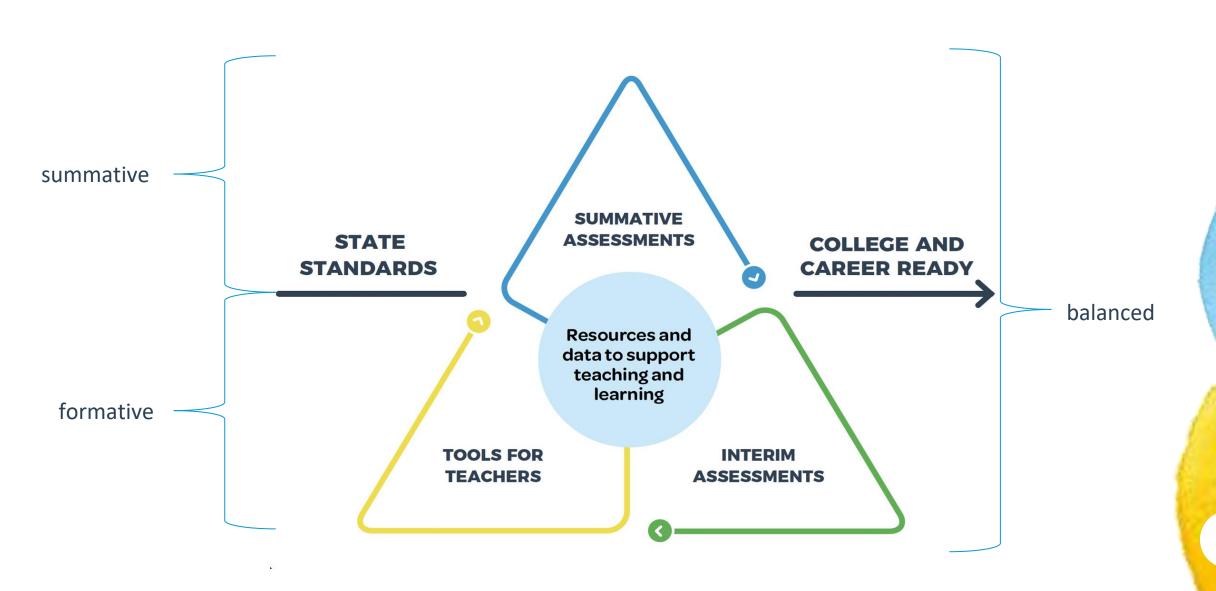
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SMARTER BALANCED TOOLS FOR TEACHERS





THE POWER OF FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT



Formative assessment is how teachers monitor how well students understand concepts and skills in order to

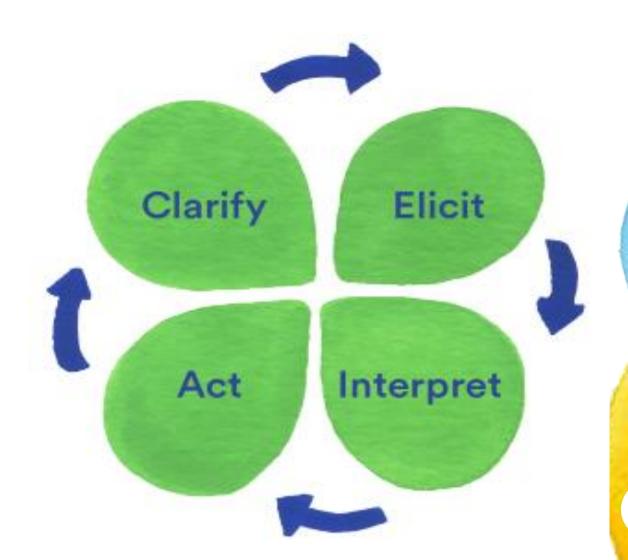
- meet students' individual needs
- move toward greater equity of student outcomes
- help their students prepare for college or career

WHAT WE MEAN BY FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

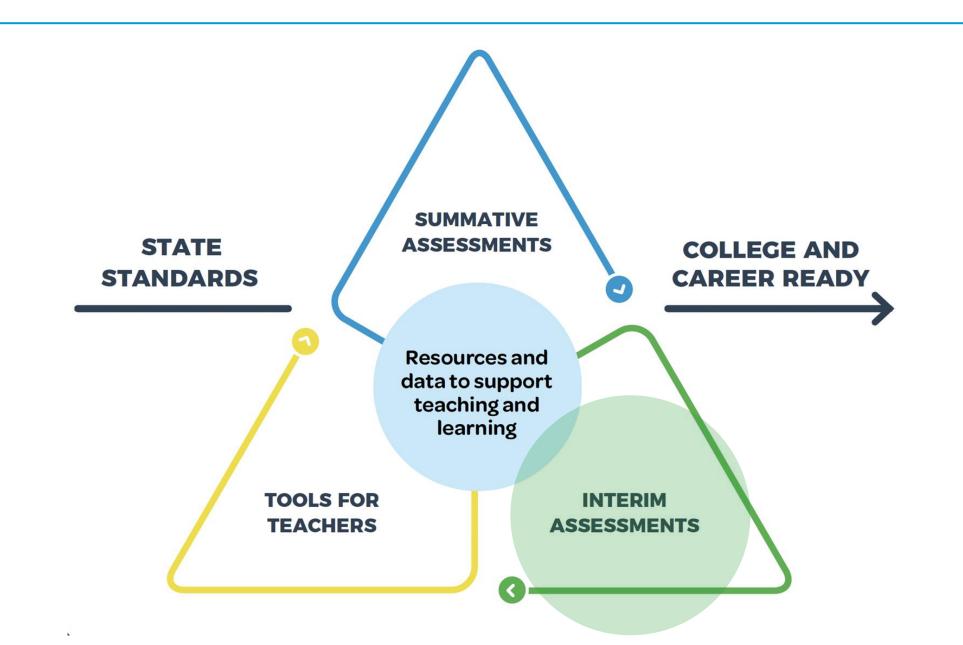


Smarter Balanced treats formative assessment as a process, not a tool. Smarter Balanced:

- aligns assessment and instruction. This helps clarify learning goals.
- offers assessment tools to help educators elicit what students know and can do through standardized test formats or interactive routines.
- provides advice to teachers help them interpret the information they collect from scoring reports or classroom observation.
- makes it easy to act on next instructional steps with prepared lessons and intervention suggestions.



HOW INTERIM ASSESSMENTS INFORM INSTRUCTION



WHY USE SMARTER BALANCED INTERIM ASSESSMENTS?

- Predictive validity. Alignment with summative shows educators how students are doing with grade-level priority standards and gives them time to adjust instruction.
- Quality information and assessment transparency. Educators can see the interim questions and the blueprint by which they were created. Interim reports give specific information down students' individual responses and provide distractor analysis so educators can group students with similar needs and correct common misconceptions.
- ➤ Relief for assessment stress. Interim administration rehearses the summative process before the end-of-year, smoothing the steps for teachers and removing cognitive load from students so they can give a more accurate picture of what they know.
- A boost for curriculum. Assessments built into the curriculum can't surface skill gaps or lack of instructional rigor. When such issues are uncovered, the Instructional Resources in Tools for Teachers, created to reteach assessed standards, offer teachers a timesaving solution.

INTERIM ASSESSMENTS SIZED TO FIT THE PURPOSE

- <u>Interims</u> share rigor and testing environment with the summative assessments.
- Most assessments don't require any hand-scoring. Only WER (full writes) in Performance Tasks and SA (short answer and Brief Writes) require hand scoring.
- Educators can choose standard or nonstandard administration.
- They can be used with individuals, groups, classes, or school- / district-wide.
- They offer the same accessibility tools as the summative assessments have.



Focused Interim Assessment Blocks

Assess 1-3 targets in ELA/literacy or math.



Interim Assessment Blocks

Assess 1–8 targets in ELA/literacy or math.



Interim Comprehensive Assessments

Assess a broad range of targets, similar to the summative.

USE CONTENT EXPLORER TO LEARN MORE

Use Content Explorer to see how assessment items are created.

Search Content Explorer by grade, subject, claim, and target or standard, or search by test to find:

- Range Achievement Level Descriptors—what student learning looks like at each level (1, 2, 3, and 4) of understanding
- Student evidence of learning
- Test item guidelines, including DOK (depth of knowledge) requirements, key vocabulary, and allowable accessibility tools
- Example items and item types

ASSESSMENT ITEMS

Individual assessment items can be searched through the Interim Assessment Item Portal (IAIP) and the Sample Item Website (SIW)

The IAIP has answer keys to the interims and the items are in the assessment pool and should be not be shared on public platforms. The SIW is public and not restricted.

Use assessment items during instructional time as:

- Quick checks, success criteria, entrance/exit tickets
- Differentiated practice opportunities for groups or individuals
- Prompts for metacognitive problem-solving models or discussions.



Questions?



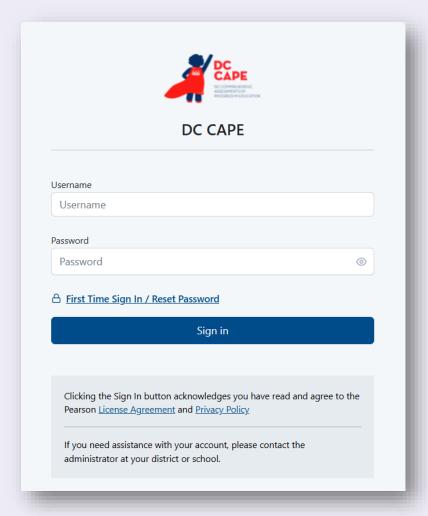
LaunchPad -Login



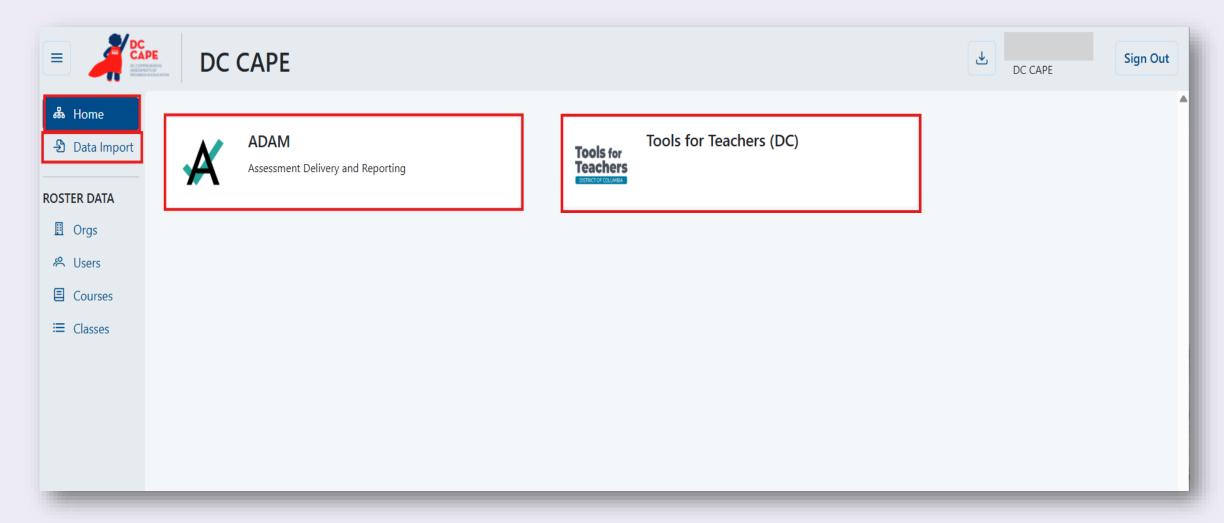
What is LaunchPad?

LaunchPad offers a portal to rostering and authentication services for users to access technology platforms.

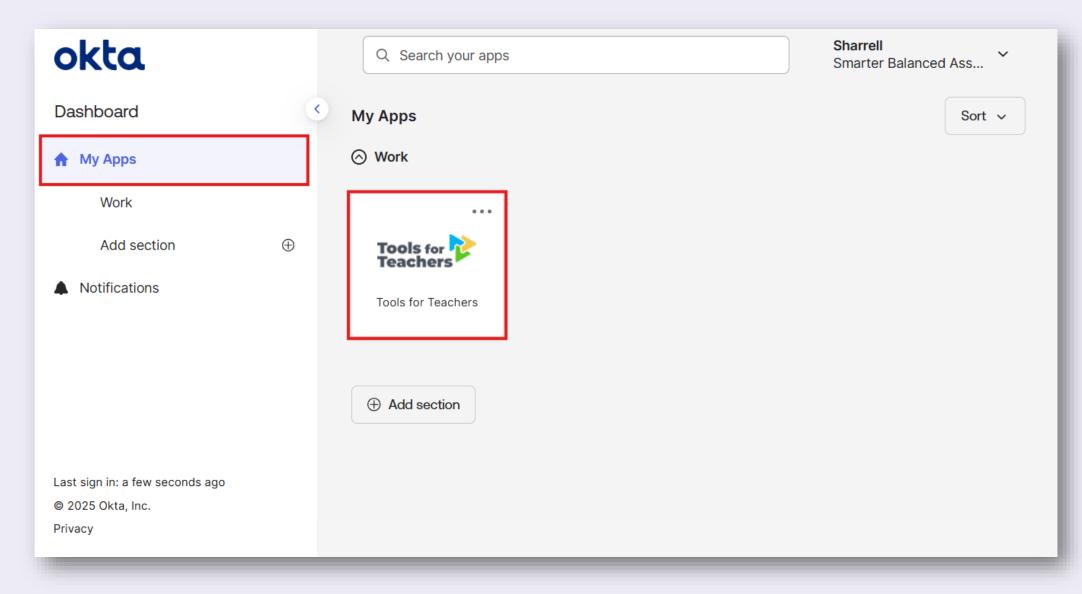
- Purpose
 - Login and connect
 - ADAM access test administration and reporting
 - Tools for Teachers access classroom resources



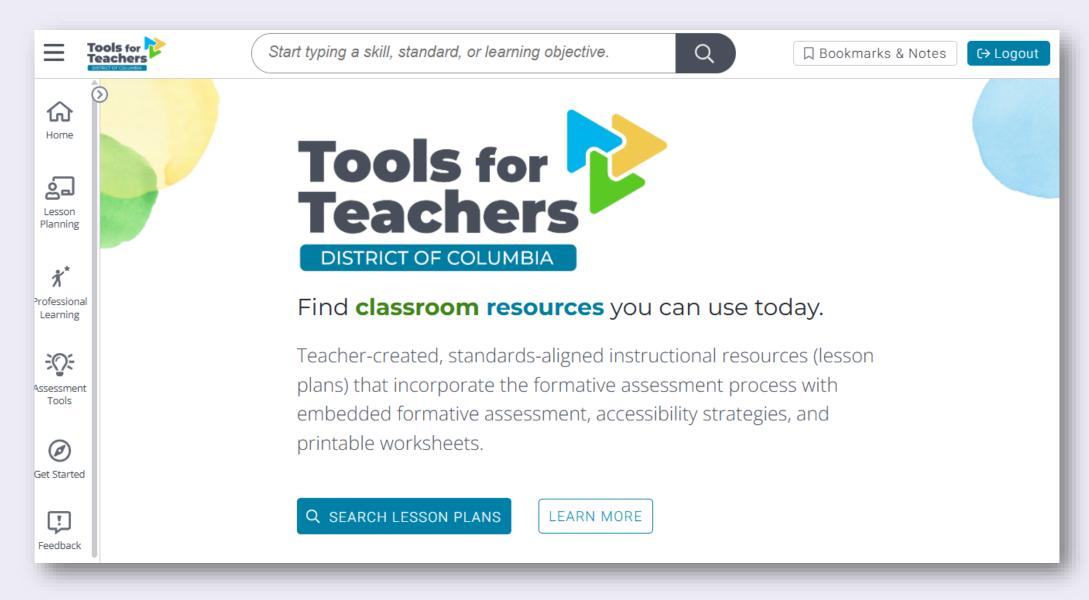
LaunchPad -Home



Okta (Smarter Balanced) - Dashboard



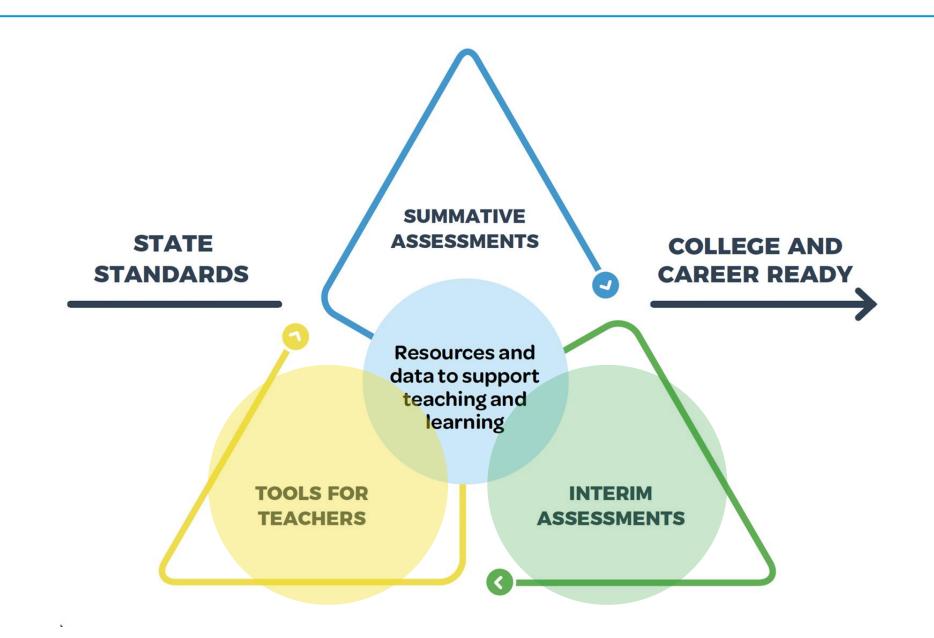
Tools for Teachers - Landing Page



LaunchPad Questions?



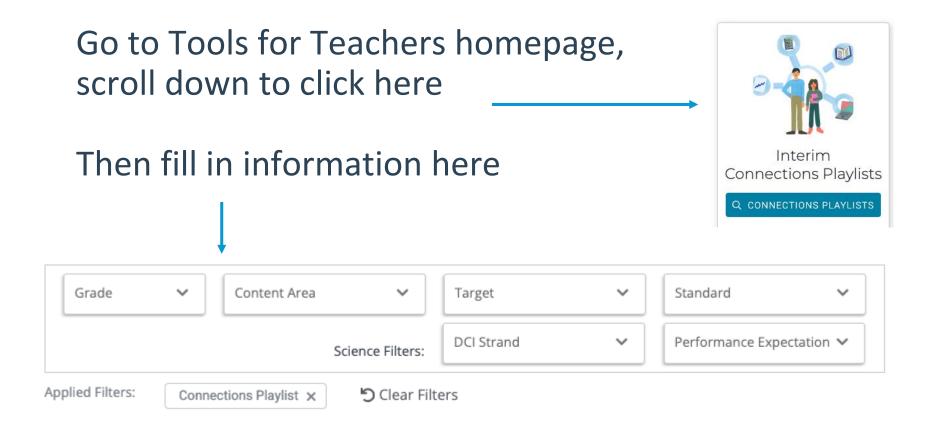
SMARTER BALANCED TOOLS FOR TEACHERS



SEARCHING FOR ICPS IN TOOLS FOR TEACHERS



After giving an interim and reviewing the reporting results, you can search for an **Interim Connections Playlist (ICP)** in Tools for Teachers to support next instructional acts.



INTERIM CONNECTIONS PLAYLISTS (ICPs)

- Progressions help educators quickly differentiate instruction based on student's interim results: Below, Near, or Above.
- Instructional resource links, in left column, take teachers to skill lessons that are made to save teachers time.

Continue....

INTERIM CONNECTIONS PLAYLIST

Operations and Algebraic Thinking

Smarter Balanced Educators
Updated Nov 12, 2020





Connect Student Performance to Instructional Resources ©

	STUDENT PERFORMANCE PROGRESSIONS ①		
Topic Resource	Below	Near	Above
Represent & Solve Multiplication & Division Problems Let's Eat Some Pepperoni Pizza! Seesaw 3-Act Math Lesson Determine the Unknown	Multiplication and division within 100 to solve one-step problems using arrays, to interpret the meaning of multiplication of two whole numbers and to determine the unknown number in a multiplication equation relating three whole numbers.	Determine the appropriate operation (multiplication or division) within 100 to solve onestep problems involving measurement quantities of single-digit whole numbers. Determine the unknown number in a division equation relating three whole numbers. Interpret the meaning of whole-number quotients of whole numbers.	Use multiplication and division within 100 to solve one-step problems involving measurement quantities.

EXPLORING WHAT THE PLAYLISTS OFFERS

- Suggestions for Intervention give educators specific, bite-sized skills and steps for students who need support.
- Inks to Consider offer direct links to Interim Assessments and Interim Connections Playlists for educators who want to take a deeper dive.





Suggestions for Intervention ©

For students who are significantly below, search for resources related to the following skills:

- · Connecting skip counting to multiplication.
- · Skip count using non-benchmark numbers.
- · Represent multiplication using an array model.
- · Use a multiplication strategy to find a product.
- · Use a multiplication or division strategy to find a quotient.
- · Represent multiplication and division problems within 100 involving equal groups of objects.
- · Interpret multiplication and understand multiplication as equal groups.
- · Use strategies to understand multiplication as repeated addition.
- · Relates models (arrays) to multiplication.
- . Multiply a one-digit number by 1, 2, and 5 by using repeated addition or skip counting.
- · Understand the meaning of the equal sign.
- · Understand the meaning of multiplication and division (equal groups).
- Represent and solve one-step problems using addition and subtraction within 100 and multiplication and division within the 10 by 10 multiplication table.
- · Identify patterns.
- · Know the sequence of numbers.

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Things To Consider

- To dive deeper into each target, explore the available Focused Interim Assessment Blocks and corresponding Connections Playlists:
 - Multiplication and Division: Interpret, Represent, and Solve →
 - Properties of Multiplication and Division →
 - Multiply and Divide within 100 →
 - Four Operations: Interpret, Represent, and Solve →

INTERIM CONNECTIONS PLAYLISTS ALSO INCLUDE

- Background gives educators finegrain information about the Interim Assessment Blocks. If they already gave an IAB, it may help remind them of the assessed skills. If not, it may prompt them to give the attached IAB and get actionable student data.
- Academic Vocabulary supports thinking about what all students need to know and understand. This also has specific applicability for English Language Learners.



IAB Background 0

Description

This Interim Assessment Block Connections Playlist focuses on four operations and algebraic thinking targets. Students will represent and solve problems involving multiplication and division; understand properties of multiplication and the relationship between multiplication and division; multiply and divide within 100; and solve problems involving the four operations, and identify and explain patterns in arithmetic.

VIEW INTERIM ITEMS

Why is this important for students to learn?

- Students need to conceptually learn multiplication and division through the use of various
 representations to support future learning. For example, the use of arrays and equal groups can be
 extended to area models and properties of multiplication and division.
- The properties of operations provide common constructs/rules that allow students to work with mathematical problems and maintain the same solutions.
- If students know and understand multiplication, division, and the relationship between them, they will be able to apply this understanding to varied content and complex problems.
- · To visualize and understand mathematical patterns furthers understanding of cause and effect.

Academic Vocabulary 0

"makes the equation true", add, addend, area model, array, column, compose, decompose, determine, difference, divide, divisor, equal, equation, estimate, estimation, factor, grams, groups, in and out tables, include, involve, kilograms, length, liquid volume, liters, mass, measurement, missing factor, multiply, objects, open number line, operation, patterns, product, quantity, quotient, related, rounding, row, situation, skip counting, subtract, sum, unknown, value

Dive Deeper

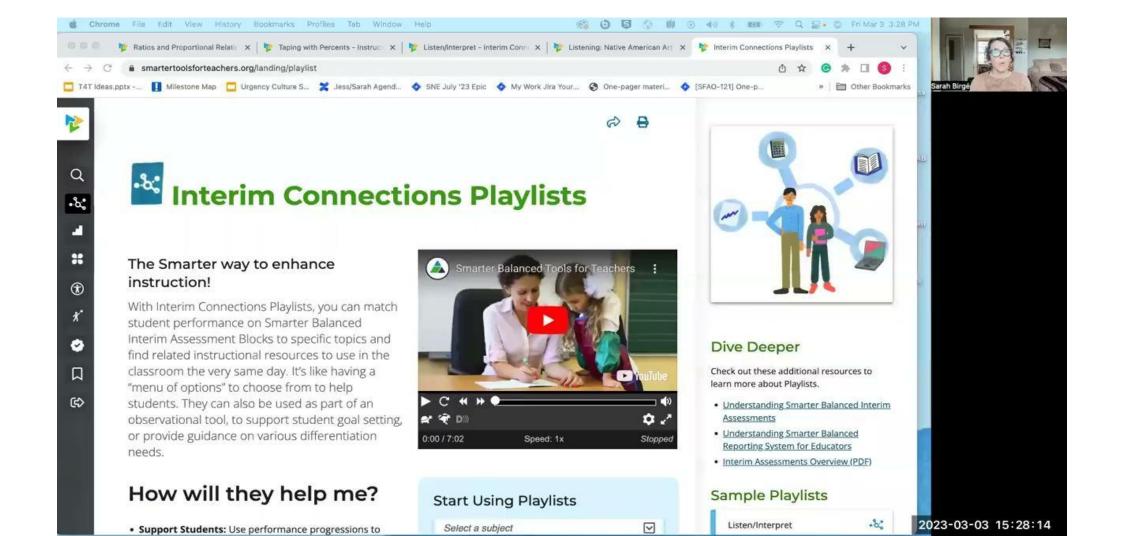




ACCESS RESOURCES DIRECTLY FROM TOOLS FOR TEACHERS



See https://smartertoolsforteachers.org/landing/playlist



SMART SUPPORT FOR WRITING



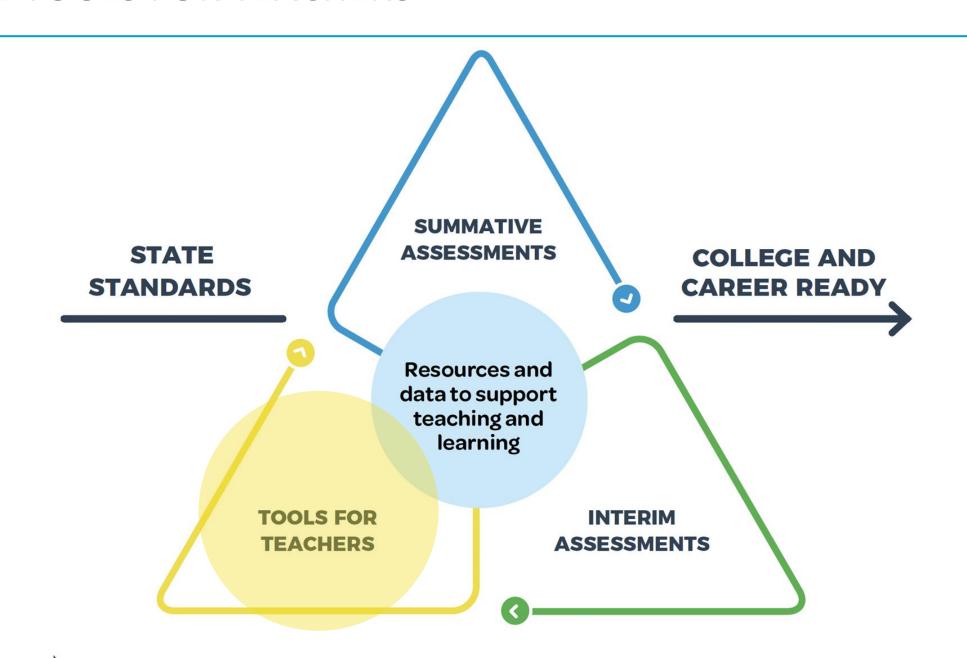
Visit smart.smarterbalanced.org for more information about the Smarter Annotated Response Tool (SmART).

SMART SUPPORTS ASSESSMENT SCORING/INSTRUCTION

The SmART tool helps teachers:

- calibrate scoring on WER (extended writing tasks) for more reliable results
- align writing instruction to assessment targets
- support writing process with information from rubrics during: revision, self-assessment, and peer-review
- share expectations of grade-level writing with students and their families.

INSIDE TOOLS FOR TEACHERS



TOOLS FOR TEACHERS



Tools for Teachers connects assessment to instruction, empowering educators to support differentiated learning. Over 1,000 resources, developed by and for educators, includes hundreds of Instructional Resource lessons, Interim Connection Playlists, Formative Assessment and Accessibility Strategies, and over 50 Professional Learning Resources.



INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES

Teachers can save time using carefully curated lessons created by educators:

- Over 700 skill-driven lessons in for ELA and Math, grades 3 through high school.
- Lessons include formative assessment checks, accessibility strategies, differentiation ideas, and English language learner supports.
- All resources are reviewed thoroughly for bias and sensitivity issues.



LESSON QUALITY EDUCATORS CAN TRUST



All resources in Tools for Teachers are created by educators for educators and get a thorough review.

- Our State Network of Educators (SNEs) are vetted for relevant content and grade-level experience.
- ➤ All lessons are ready-to-teach with presentation/handout materials included
- Lessons are peer reviewed during the workshop events and lesson creators receive actionable feedback.
- Subject-matter experts are on hand to respond to questions about content as well as formative assessment, accessibility, and the needs of English Learners.
- ► All resources are reviewed internally by staff for quality and fairness.

FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT STRATEGIES



See Formative Assessment Strategies

- These strategies are embedded in every Instructional Resource but the routines can be used with any curriculum across grades and content areas.
- These strategies set up active ways for students to demonstrate what they know and can do. Teachers can use this information to meet students' needs.



ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSION TOOLS



See Accessibility Strategies

- Smarter Balanced supports equitable access to content and remove barriers to learning in assessment and instruction.
- Accessibility tools and strategies in Tools for Teachers aid with individualized education programs (IEPs) and 504 plans, as well as serve students' unique learning needs.
- ► Each lesson includes Language Goals and Language Success Criteria with support from Accessibility Strategies



PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

See **Tools for Teachers Professional Learning** for resources that:

- Offer implementation training on Smarter Balanced resources and associated tools
- Explore Deeper Learning on grade-level expectations
- Social-Emotional Learning
- Support Home/School connections and distance learning
- Interim Planning and Implementation for Local Leaders and PLCs (Coming Soon!)

PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

Smarter Balanced supports teaching and learning with:

- Formative assessment resources that help educators uncover students' needs
- Instructional resources that meet needs by eliminating barriers to understanding
- Assessment literacy tools that are useful and transparent.
- Professional learning resources that support individual teachers and professional learning communities (PLCs).



USE CASES

Examples of how educators might move through our resources



USE CASE 1: USING INTERIMS TO INFORM INSTRUCTION



Ms. Ortiz teaches 6th grade. Midway through each unit, she and her co-workers have decided to give students an **Interim Assessment Block (IAB)** aligned with the standards and goals of that unit. They choose to give this in place of assessment provided within the curriculum to check students' progress toward the rigor of end-of-year targets.



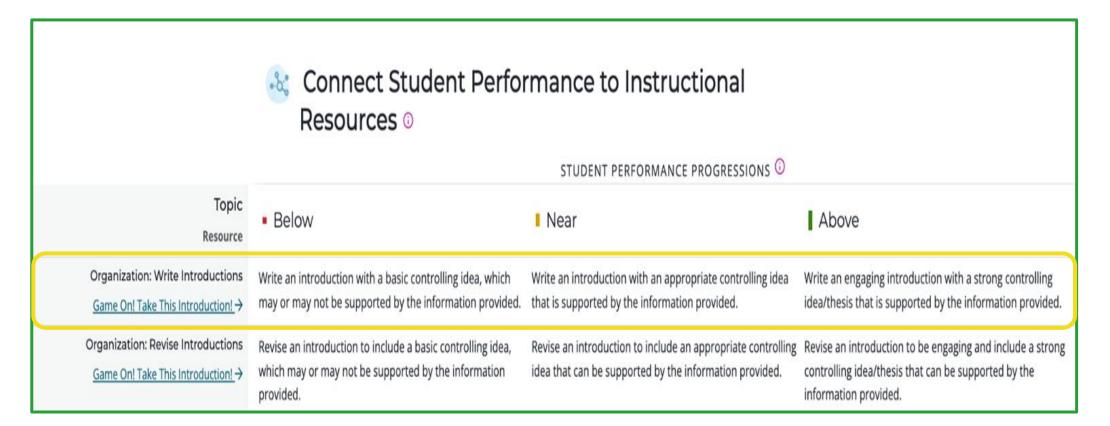
Focused IABs

Assessment Name	Targets Assessed		
Language and Vocabulary Use	Claim 2, Target 8: Language & Vocabulary Use		
Editing	Claim 2, Target 9: Editing		
Listen/Interpret	Claim 3, Target 4: Listen and Interpret		
Research: Analyze and Integrate Information	Claim 4, Target 2: Analyze and Integrate Information		
Research: Evaluate Information and Sources	Claim 4, Target 3: Evaluate Information and Sources		
Research: Use Evidence	Claim 4, Target 4: Use Evidence		
Write and Revise Explanatory Texts ¹	Claim 2, Targets 3a: Write Brief Texts; 3b: Revise Brief Texts		
Write and Revise Narratives¹	Claim 2, Targets 1a: Write Brief Texts; 1b: Revise Brief Texts		
Write and Revise Argumentative Texts ^{1,3}	Claim 2, Targets 6a: Write Brief Texts; 6b: Revise Brief Texts		

USE CASE 1: USING INTERIMS TO INFORM INSTRUCTION, Cont.



Ms. Ortiz sorts the scoring report to find a group of students who scored below in one or more areas. She uses the link to Tools for Teachers to navigate to an associated **Interim Connections Playlist (ICP)**. On the ICP, she sees the Student Performance Progression chart of topics covered by the IAB with performance-level descriptors. The ICP also includes links to Instructional Resource lessons prepared for those skill topics.



USE CASE 1: USING INTERIMS TO INFORM INSTRUCTION, Cont.



Ms. Ortiz previews the Instructional Resource lessons and chooses one to reteach to the small group of students she has identified as needed more instruction. Having a readymade lesson saves her time. The lesson includes accessibility strategies and formative assessment strategies, so Ms. Ortiz can keep all students' moving toward proficiency.









INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCE

Game On! Take This Introduction!

Carrie Holeman Updated Feb 3, 2021





Get Started

Overview ⁽¹⁾

In this lesson, students will learn how to write and revise an introductory paragraph for explanatory writing. This resource includes a lesson plan, a link to a powerpoint presentation, a student handout, and an Exit Ticket.

<u>less</u>



USE CASE 1: USING DATA TO INFORM INSTRUCTION, Cont.



After Ms. Ortiz delivers the lesson, she can go back to the ICP and find Suggestions for Intervention if some students continue to need support.



Suggestions for Intervention ©

For students who are significantly below, search for resources related to the following skills:

- Examine mentor texts that model the characteristics of organization and elaboration tasks for the various writing purposes.
- Identify the writing task and main idea in order to add or elaborate on the provided student text.
- Recognize purposes for and types of transitions for the explanatory writing.
- Recognize characteristics of explanatory writing.
- Understand how explanatory writing is similar and different compared to informative writing (explanation with thoughtful analysis vs. presenting information).
- Recognize characteristics of explanatory introductions and conclusions (i.e., call to action).
- Distinguish between types of relevant supporting details (e.g., facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, examples) and irrelevant details.
- Identify what elaboration/development of supporting details looks like through teacher modeled writing.
- Recognize and use style and language according to purpose.

USE CASE 2: AN OBSERVED NEED IN THE CLASSROOM, Cont.



Mr. Sayed, a third-grade teacher, notices that his class is struggling during a math lesson with describing the attributes of two-dimensional shapes. So, he searches for the grade three geometry Interim Connections Playlist.

He reads the **Student Performance Progressions** chart descriptions of what students who are near and below proficiency likely understand. This helps him understand what his students are likely missing.

	STUDENT PERFORMANCE PROGRESSIONS ①					
Topic Resource	Below	Near	Above			
Categories of Shapes How Can a Square Be a Rectangle? → Sorting Shapes →	Understand that shapes in different categories may share attributes.	Understand that shapes in different categories may share attributes and that the shared attributes can define a	Create a model to represent hierarchical categories and subcategories of shape classifications.			
		larger category.				

USE CASE 2: OBSERVED NEEDS IN THE CLASSROOM, Cont



Based on his observation of the class's work, Mr. Sayed decides all his students need some extra support. So, he previews a few of the Instructional Resource lessons attached to the ICP and settles on the lesson Sorting Shapes. It is ready-toteach with all presentations and handouts included. But he makes some notes to personalize it and then prints it out.











INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCE

Sorting Shapes

Lisa Baum, Betsy Allen, and Roxane Dyk Updated Nov 12, 2020





Get Started

Overview ⁽⁾

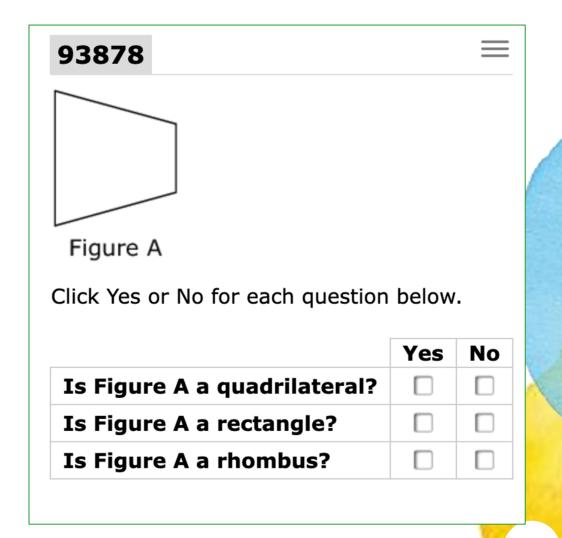
This lesson is an investigation of quadrilaterals. Geoboards and geopaper will be used for this lesson. Students will create, draw, and sort shapes. Students will explain, using defining attributes, which group their shapes will be in. Exit tickets will be used by individual students to defend their sort.

less

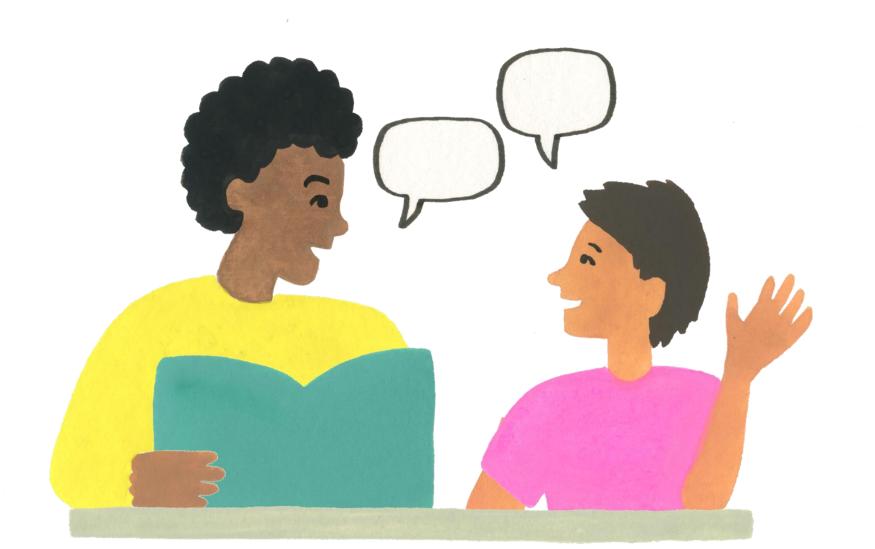
USE CASE 2: AN OBSERVED NEED IN THE CLASSROOM, Cont.



For the end of the lesson, Mr. Sayed goes to the Interim Assessment Item Portal (IAIP) and chooses a grade-three geometry Interim Assessment Item to use as an Exit Ticket. This helps him gauge whether his students have finally mastered this important concept. When he sees that they have, he feels confident that they are ready to meet grade-level expectations.



Additional Resources



For More Information, see...



- Link to Showcase of Tools (navigation)
- Success Stories
- Back-to-School Assessment Playbook



Questions?



LaunchPad -Setup tasks



User Role Matrix (LaunchPad)

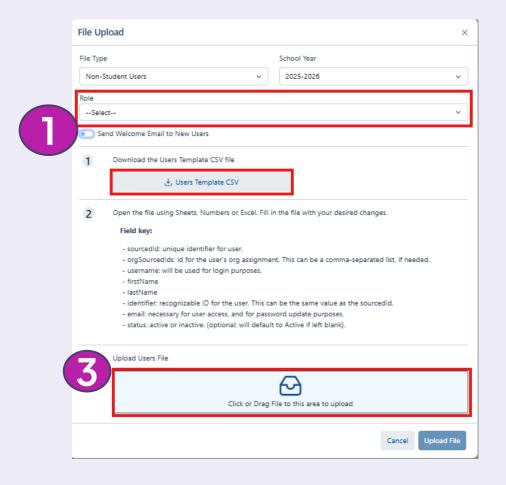
	Ability	OSSE	LEA Test Coordinator	School Test Coordinator	Teacher
1	User file import/export				
2	Manually create users				
3	View User information				
4	Login As	✓			
5	Edit Classes				
6	Access ADAM and Tools for Teachers				

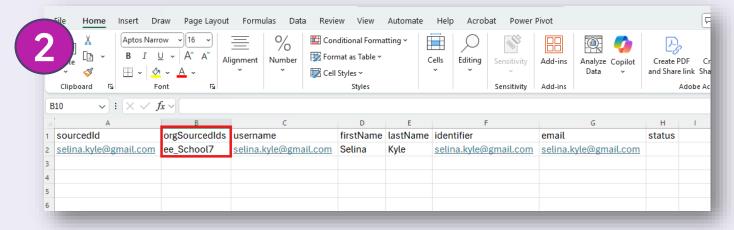
Task-Creating Users

- LEA Test Coordinators (LTC) and students are placed and updated in LaunchPad via the nightly feed
- School Test Coordinators (STC) and Teachers will need to be created in LaunchPad
 - Once created, a Welcome Email will be received for first time login
 - •LTCs and STCs will be able to import new users using a spreadsheet template or individually

Creating Multiple Users

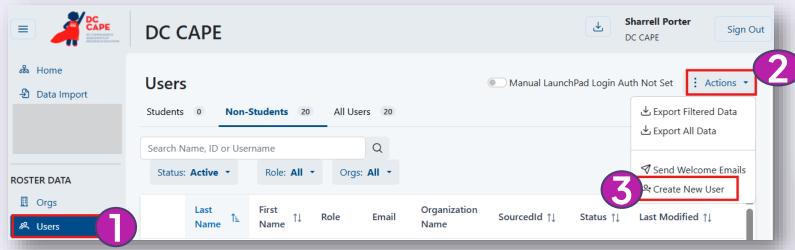
- LEA Test Coordinators will be populated via the nightly feed
- STCs will need to be created manually with a bulk upload using the CSV template file



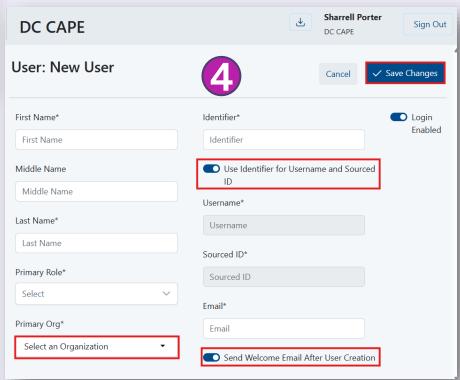


- 1. In the left hand navigation click Data Import
 - Click Upload File
 - Select the Role and Download the Users Template CSV
- 2. Open the spreadsheet file and fill in the fields and Save when completed
- 3. Upload the Users Template CSV

Creating a Single User



- 1. In the left navigation, click on Users
- 2. In the upper right, click on the Actions dropdown
- 3. In the dropdown, click on Create New User
- 4. On the New User screen, fill in the fields.
 - *be mindful of the Primary Org choose the appropriate school
 - *the toggle buttons allow the Identifier to be used for username and sourcedID also a Welcome Email can be automatically sent
 - Remember to 'Save Changes'



Knowledge Check and Demonstration

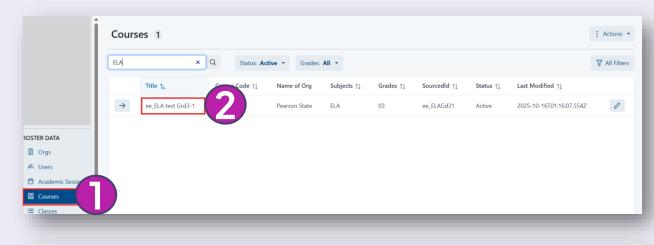
- 1. What is the first step to bulk upload multiple users in LaunchPad?
 - a. Click on Users in the left navigation
 - b. Click Data Import and Upload File
 - c. Fill in the New User screen
 - d. Send a Welcome Email

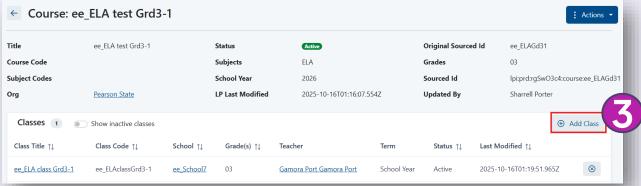
Let's do one together!

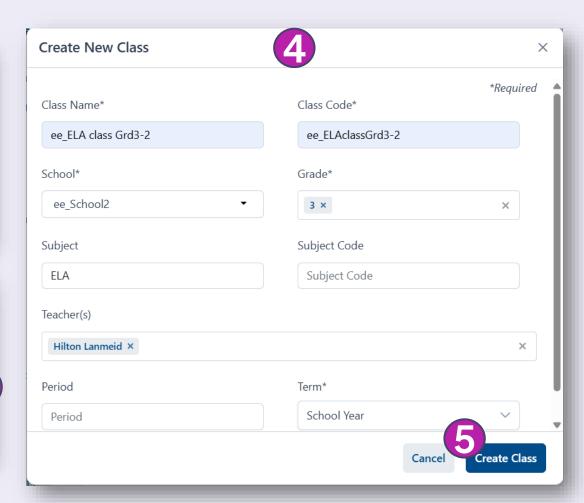
Task-Creating Classes

- Once teachers are added to LaunchPad as users, they will need to be associated with a class and students
- In LaunchPad you will see two courses (Math and ELA)
- 1. Click on Courses in the left navigation
- 2.Click on ELA (for example)
- 3.In the middle right hand side of the screen you will need to click on "Add Class" to begin creating your first class
- 4.A pop up screen will appear and you will need to fill in the fields and select the corresponding teacher
- 5.At the bottom right of the pop up window click on "Create Class"

Creating Classes

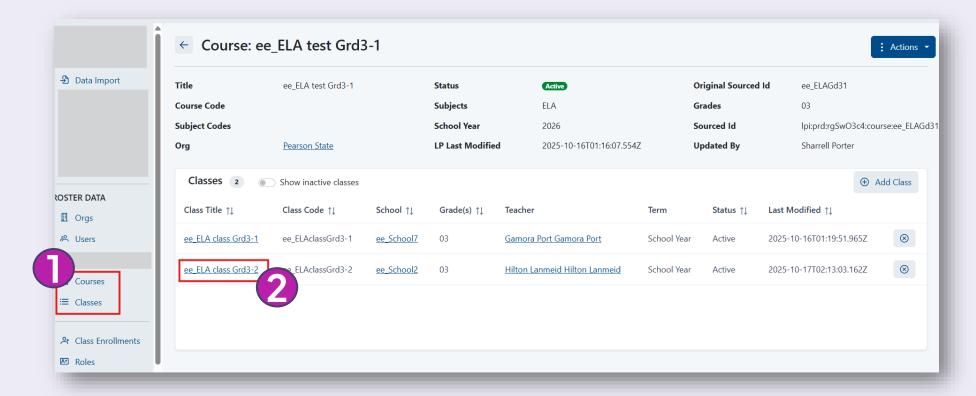




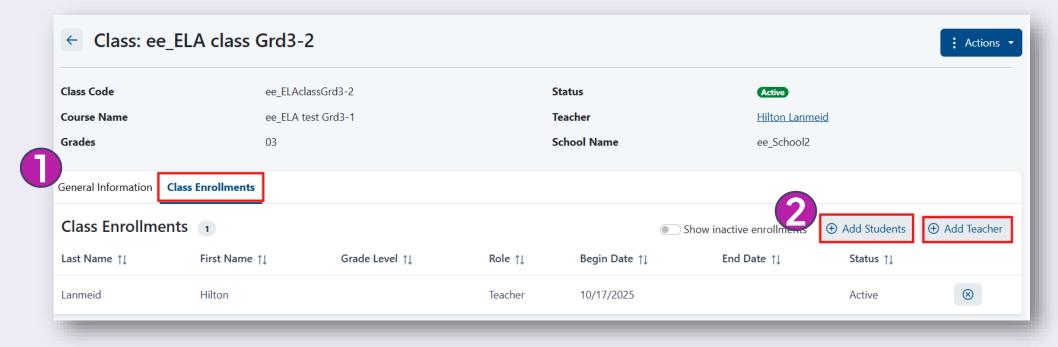


Task-Class Enrollment (Adding Teachers and Students to classes)

- Access class enrollments by clicking on Courses or Classes in the left navigation
- 2. Click the desired class



Class Enrollment



- Inside your class, click on the "Class Enrollments" tab
- 2. Here you will be able to Add Students /Teachers using the buttons on the right

Knowledge Check and Demonstration

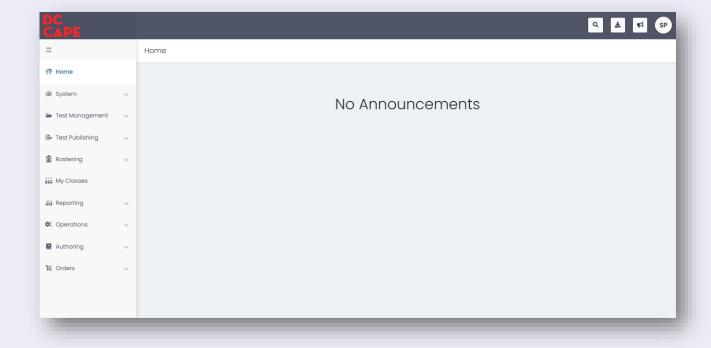
- 2. When enrolling students and teachers in a class, which tab do you see?
 - a. Home
 - b. Data Import
 - c. Class Enrollments
 - d. Reports

Let's make a class and enroll some students together!

ADAM



ADAM



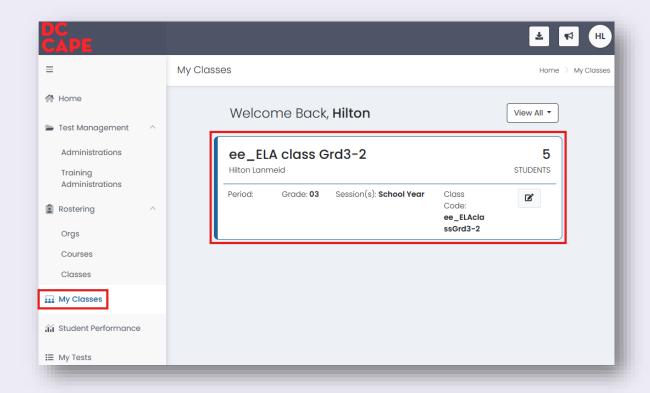
ADAM (Assessment Delivery and Management) users can manage organization and assessment administration data conveniently and deliver assessments online.

- Once users, classes, and class enrollments are done in LaunchPad they will be passed to ADAM
- In ADAM, users will be able to conduct test administration tasks, participate in teacher hand scoring, and access performance reports which we spend detailed time on in the next training.

User Role Matrix (ADAM)

	Ability	OSSE	LEA Test Coordinator	School Test Coordinator	Teacher
1	View Organizations				
2	User file import/export	~		✓	
3	Manually create users				
4	View User information	~	✓	~	
5	Login As				
6	Student Accommodation upload/manually edit	~		✓	
7	Proctor Group upload/manually create				
8	Apply accountability codes	~		~	
9	Teacher Hand scoring				
10	View reports				

Teacher's View



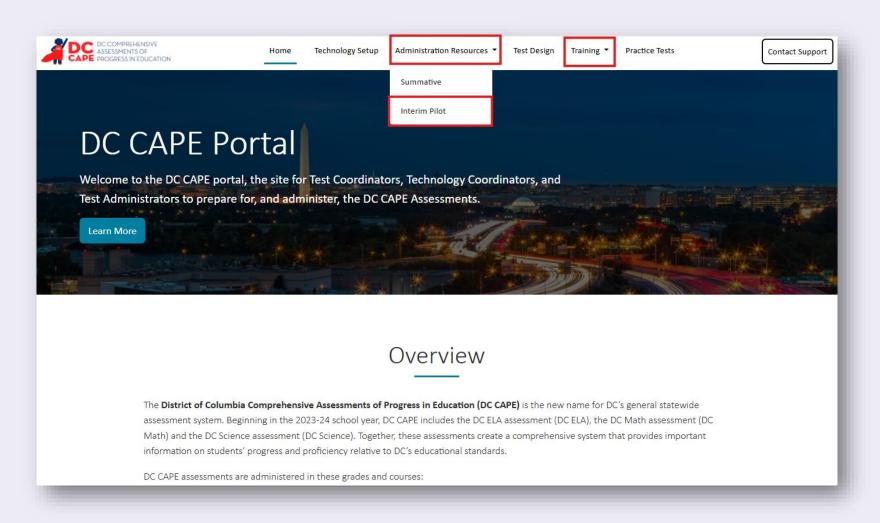
- From LaunchPad, teachers will select ADAM and be brought to the My Classes screen
 - By clicking on the enrolled class this will show any tests results or notifications of hand scoring that is needed
 - As students complete tests, some tests will require teacher hand scoring.

Next Steps



Support Portal Resources

Access this training and all other resource materials on the DC Support Portal



Survey and Thank You



Thank you all for your time, engagement, and thoughtful contributions.

Your collaboration is truly appreciated, and I look forward to continuing our work together.

Survey Link