



Cognia Science Interim Assessment Pilot: 2024-2025 School Year

Why This Assessment?

Schools are implementing high-quality instructional materials (HQIM) that require substantial instructional time. To make this investment effective, assessments must provide **targeted data** that informs instruction and saves time. The Cognia science interim assessment offers "**Feedforward**" reporting—highlighting student strengths and teacher successes, while guiding teachers to efficiently address areas of growth. This ensures that students progress without reteaching or searching for supplementary materials.

Assessment Highlights and Key Features

1. Measuring Growth and Development Over Time

Longitudinal Growth Tasks track student progress in scientific understanding across grades 6, 7, and 8. Students engage with phenomena, review their work, apply feedback, and continually revise their thinking. Assessments align with year-long overarching themes to provide insights into evolving student ideas.

2. Enhanced Transfer of Knowledge

Close Curricular Tasks align seamlessly with OpenSciEd middle school units, requiring students to apply learned knowledge to new phenomena.

3. Addressing State Standardized Tests

Large-Scale Monitoring Tasks provide insights into students' readiness for state assessments, supporting data-driven planning and instructional adjustments.

4. Insight into Engagement and Motivation

Science Motivation and Experiential Questions collect data on students' perceptions of science, relevance of learning, and sense of identity within the science classroom.

Flexible Reporting and Alignment to HQIM

Designed to integrate with various scopes and sequences used in OpenSciEd and other high-quality instructional materials. **Feedforward reporting** provides actionable insights to help teachers target student needs and leverage strengths without additional materials or reteaching.

Pilot Structure & Participation Requirements

Assessment Schedule: Three testing windows (fall, winter, and spring).

Professional Learning: Pilot teachers commit to 6 hours of PL across the year to build assessment literacy, with stipends provided for participation.

Additional Research Participation (Optional): Schools may opt to engage in cognitive lab interviews, classroom observations, and teacher interviews to offer feedback on the testing experience.

Pilot Timeline and Future Availability

The pilot will run during the 2024-2025 school year, after which the interim assessment will be added to Cognia's suite of products, ready for broad implementation.