Today’s Goals

At the end of this presentation, participants will understand:

• what’s new for LEAP Connect 2019-2020
• review of LEAP Connect assessment design
• what resources are available for LEAP Connect
• what’s coming for 2020-2021
Science assessments will be administered in grades 4, 8 and high school (grade 11)

These are FIELD TESTS; however, all students who participate in the alternate assessments in those grades MUST take it.

We will use the results from this year’s science assessments to make decisions about future development.
This item is about how animals use their body parts for different purposes. This is a bird.

What is the purpose of the bird’s wings?
A. to sing
B. to fly

Science Sample Items

This item is about parents and offspring. Traits are characteristics passed from parents to offspring. Which shows how parents and offspring may have different traits?

This item is about humans and the environment. Humans interact with their environment every day. Some interactions are harmful to the environment. Humans can pollute the land, water, and air with trash. For example, millions of tons of trash are dumped into the oceans each year. How can pollution caused by humans affect the environment?

A. About 18 million acres of trees are cut every year for wood.
B. Arctic ice and glaciers are melting and raising ocean levels.
C. A whale died because it ate a large amount of garbage.
OTTs are now broken up into grade bands and by content. New items have been added to all grade bands. Science will be added in the next few months.

High school’s OTT may seem short, but that’s because it covers one grade, whereas the others cover multiple grades. You are welcome to practice other grade bands.

To access the OTTs (use Google Chrome): https://wbte.drcedirect.com/LA/portals/la
Purpose of the OTTs

Online Tools Training are designed to give students and TAs an opportunity to become familiar with the testing platform and the online tools.

For this reason, items will have “Practice Hints” to encourage students to use the tools available.
The update OTTs also provide students with an opportunity to practice the CRs in the testing platform. The format is identical to what we use with the LEAP Connect assessment.

However, the OTT CRs should not be administered without the Directions for Test Administration (DTA) and the Reference Materials/Writing Stimuli.

The *Test Administrator Annotation Box* should only be used to clarify unusual spelling, explain symbols, or give specific guidance about the student’s writing. No personal information about students or TAs should be added here.
New ELA CRs in the OTT

Each grade band has one ELA CR in the OTT. DTAs and Reference Materials/Writing Stimuli is available in the DRC INSIGHT Portal (eDirect).

The Test Administrator annotation box is also included.

For Test Administrator use if annotations are necessary
Accessing the OTT Materials-DRC INSIGHT Portal

To access the OTT DTAs and Reference Materials, go to the DRC INSIGHT Portal (eDirect) https://la.drcedirect.com/default.aspx?leapp=General+Information&leview=Documents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Administration</th>
<th>Document Type</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LEAP Connect Spring 2020</td>
<td>OTT Documents</td>
<td>OTT Directions for Test Administration - Gr 3-5</td>
<td>Grades 3-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEAP Connect Spring 2020</td>
<td>OTT Documents</td>
<td>OTT Directions for Test Administration - Gr 6-8</td>
<td>Grades 6-8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
You can also access these documents through the Assessment Guidance Library

https://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/assessment-guidance
Assessment Guides are also by grade band this year.

New for 2019-2020

Science Information

New Sample Item Screenshots (more in OTT)

Math/ELA Vocabulary lists for alternative communication

Updated Resources page
Science Field Test Design

From the Grade 6-8 Assessment Guide

LEAP Connect Science Field Test Design
The tests are divided into two sessions which both include SR and CR items.

Table 6. LEAP Connect Science Field Test Design

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Session 1</th>
<th>Session 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Content</td>
<td>science questions and completion items; each worth 1 point</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Grade 8 | SR (13-14), CR (1-2)                                                      | SR (13-14), CR (1-2)                           |

Table 7. Percent Representation Per Science Domain

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Earth and Space Science</th>
<th>Life Science</th>
<th>Physical Science</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade 8</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Assessment Guide: Science Sample Item

This item is about how animals develop and grow. An embryo is the earliest stage of development of an unborn or unhatched animal. For example, a pig starts life as an embryo and then is born and grows as a piglet.

**Stages of Pig Development**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage 1</th>
<th>Stage 2</th>
<th>Stage 3</th>
<th>Stage 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Other animals begin life with similar stages of embryo development. This is a chart to show stages of a chicken’s development. The first stage shows the Stage 1 embryo development of a chicken. It looks similar to the Stage 1 embryo development of the pig.

**Stages of Chicken Development**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage 1</th>
<th>Stage 2</th>
<th>Stage 3</th>
<th>Stage 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

These are pictures to use to complete the chart of a chicken’s development.

Complete the chart by placing the stages of chicken development in the correct order from Stage 2 to Stage 4.

**Rubric**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Student correctly places exactly 3 pictures of the chicken development stages on the chart in the correct order.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>Student does not correctly place exactly 3 pictures of the chicken development stages on the chart in the correct order.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sample items for all content areas are available in the assessment guides.
Appendix D

Appendix D: English Language Arts and Mathematics Vocabulary List

The vocabulary lists are for American Sign Language (ASL) translation, object replacement, tactile graphics, word boards or word banks, and AT/AAC devices.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELA</th>
<th>Mathematics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>captions</td>
<td>addition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>central idea</td>
<td>fraction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>character</td>
<td>area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>compare</td>
<td>graph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>conclusion</td>
<td>bar graph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>describes</td>
<td>array</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>details</td>
<td>centimeters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>diagram</td>
<td>data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>edit</td>
<td>data table</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>essays</td>
<td>decrease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>events</td>
<td>divided</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>exclamation point</td>
<td>division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>form</td>
<td>equal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>format</td>
<td>equation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>heading</td>
<td>expression</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>introduction</td>
<td>figure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>key details</td>
<td>formula</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The LEAP Connect assessments have been designed for students with a variety of cognitive abilities and communication modalities to access.

DTAs are made available to test administrators two weeks before administration begins to prepare any additional materials or to download new words/images to communication devices. TAs should review the CRs in ELA and math because these are areas where students with limited motor skills, those who use alternative communication mode and VI students may require additional support.

The OTTs should give you a better idea of how the test items function and make you more aware of areas where your students may need more to access the test.
Item Answer Options

Answer options are provided on the computer screen in the testing platform and on paper as part of the Reference Materials.

We have done this with the OTTs as well.

Use these to practice how to make them accessible to your students.
Practice ELA Constructed Response Items: [Assessment Guidance Library](#)

These are paper based ELA CRs that include a sample Directions for Test Administration and Writing Stimuli.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEAP CONNECT</th>
<th>LEAP CONNECT</th>
<th>LEAP CONNECT</th>
<th>LEAP CONNECT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English Language Arts Sample Constructed-Response Directions for Administration Grades 3-5</td>
<td>English Language Arts Sample Constructed-Response Stimuli Grades 3-5</td>
<td>English Language Arts Sample Constructed-Response Directions for Administration Grades 6-8, 11</td>
<td>English Language Arts Sample Constructed-Response Stimuli Grades 6-8, 11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Louisiana Believes
Additional Mathematics Resources

Practice Mathematics CRs Grades 3-8, 11:
https://www.louisianabelieves.com/docs/default-source/assessment/leap-connect-sample-math-cr-directions-for-administration.pdf?sfvrsn=a0e89c1f_5

Webinars for all ELA CRs are available in the Assessment Guidance Library.

Math CR Webinar: October 16 3:30-4:30
https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/448611621
Full length LEAP Connect Practice Tests will be available in these grades:

- ELA Grades 4, 8, 11
- Mathematics Grades 4, 6, 8
- Science Grades 4, 8, HS

More grades will come in 2021-2022.
The Department has launched a new hub page with a comprehensive list of tools and resources for educators and families to support students with significant cognitive disabilities, including:

- Family Resources
- Classroom Supports
- Assessment Resources
- High School Pathways Information
- BESE Policy Bulletins

The new hub page also links to a new library that indexes academic and policy resources.
LEAP Connect Alternate Assessment Participation Criteria - Bulletin 1530

BESE policy outlines specific criteria a student must meet to participate in the LEAP Connect. The criteria has been revised for full implementation in the 2019-2020 school year. LEAP Connect decisions must be made no later than 30 days prior to the opening of the state testing window. IEP teams must now use the state’s newly revised eligibility criteria:

1. **Criterion 1** contains significant revisions and is now high school (HS) cohort specific
   a. Students entering a **HS cohort on or before the 2019-2020 SY** must have a disability that significantly impacts cognitive functioning and/or adaptive behavior.
   b. Students entering a **HS cohort during the 2020-2021 SY** and beyond must have a disability that significantly impacts cognitive functioning.

2. **Criterion 2 applies to all students** at all grade levels
   a. The student requires direct individualized instruction and substantial supports to achieve measurable gains on the challenging state academic content standards (LA Connectors) for the grade in which the student is enrolled.

3. **Criterion 3** a safeguard provision with minor revisions applies to all students at all grade levels
Bulletin 1530 Updates

BESE approved these alternate assessment eligibility criteria revisions to Bulletin 1530 in December 2018. This criteria is effective for the 2019-2020 school year.

The Department has issued guidance documents reflecting the updated criteria:

- Bulletin 1530 policy revisions effective for the 2019-2020 school year
- Criteria for students entering a high school cohort during the 2020-2021 SY or beyond
- Criteria for students entering a high school cohort on or before the 2019-2020 SY

In addition, SER updates for the 2019-2020 school year were added to incorporate these new policy revisions.

Please note the version of Bulletin 1530 on BESE's website contains a technical error. This will be updated soon. Until then, use the guidance linked above and the IEP in SER, both reflect the BESE-approved policy changes.
## Next Steps

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Dates</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Now-February 2020</td>
<td>Practice for the LEAP Connect using all the available resources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 3-March 13, 2020</td>
<td>Administer LEAP Connect ELA, mathematics and science</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thank you for your time!

Send all assessment questions to assessment@la.gov.

Send all SPED questions to specialeducation@la.gov

Or contact me: alice.garcia@la.gov