3-5 Developmental Math Assessment

Who should be administered this assessment? The tasks in this assessment are drawn from the CCGPS for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades. Therefore, this assessment could be used with struggling 4th and 5th graders and on/above grade-level 3rd graders.

Directions for Administration: This assessment should be administered by the teacher with an individual student. Teachers should gather the needed materials and then move through the sample tasks in order, observing the student’s strategies and attitudes toward specific tasks. This tool is meant to be used for assessment, so teachers should record the urge to teach during the assessment. Tasks increase in difficulty and complexity. Therefore, the teacher should use judgment about how far to continue with the assessment, or with any particular section, to avoid student frustration. If even the beginning tasks in each section are too difficult for the student, the K-2 DMA should be administered instead. The teacher should take notes about what the student does with each given task. The more detailed the notes, the better the RTI team can diagnose the student’s immediate needs for intervention. It is also helpful to highlight particular tasks that were difficult for the student or when the student responded with “I don’t know” or gives an incorrect answer. After administration cross-check these tasks with the Math RTI Guidance Tool for grades 3rd-5th in order to find specific areas for intervention and instruction.

Materials Needed: paper, pencil, small dry erase board, dry erase marker, counters or small manipulatives, base-ten blocks, number disks, fractional pieces, other materials that are commonly used by students in the math workshop (i.e., number lines, place value charts, etc.)

All materials and manipulatives that are available to the student in the regular classroom should be laid out and easy for the student to access throughout the administration of the assessment. Make sure the student knows that they can use these as needed for any/all tasks. Make notes of when/how effectively the student uses these.

Additional Questions: It may be helpful to ask clarifying questions while or after a student has completed a task. Here are some suggestions that can help diagnose student thinking:

- How do you know your answer is correct?
- What strategy did you use?
- How did you think about the problem?
- Can you prove that your answer is correct?
- Have you ever solved a problem like this before?
- Why do you think that?
- Why is that true?
- How did you reach that conclusion?
- How does your answer make sense to you?
- Can you make a model to show that?

Section I: Place Value, Rounding

1. Sample Task: “Make an X halfway between 0 and 100 on this number line. Write the number that is halfway between 0 and 100 below the X. Where would 23 go on this number line? What about 65?”

   Teacher Observation Notes:

   Additional Questions Asked:

   0 100

2. Sample Task: “What is 98 rounded to the nearest multiple of 10?”

   Teacher Observation Notes:

   Additional Questions Asked:

   60

3. Sample Task: “What is 436 rounded to the nearest 10? Can you show me how you know using a number line?”

   Teacher Observation Notes:

   Additional Questions Asked:

   400

4. Sample Task: “Write four thousand, six hundred ninety with numerals in standard form.”

   Teacher Observation Notes:

   Additional Questions Asked:
5. Sample Task: "How is the digit 2 in 528 similar to and different from the 2 in 582?"

Teacher Observation Notes:
What's in the 0's place? That's 10.

Additional Questions Asked:
20 + 8 = 28.

6. Sample Task: "Can you compare 786 and 78 using the symbols >, <, or =?"

Teacher Observation Notes:
Similar, what does that mean?

Additional Questions Asked:

7. Sample Task: "Your class is collecting bottled water for a service project. The goal is to collect 300 bottles of water. On the first day, Max brings in 3 packs with 6 bottles in each container. Sarah wheels in 6 packs with 6 bottles in each container. About how many bottles of water still need to be collected?"

Teacher Observation Notes:
Only have 54 bottles on hand.

Additional Questions Asked:
What do you think? 54 x 6

8. Sample Task: "There are 178 fourth graders and 225 fifth graders on the playground. How many students are on the playground?"

Teacher Observation Notes:

Additional Questions Asked:

9. Sample Task: "One of my students, Jose, solved the problem 179 + 225 this way. Is Jose correct? Can you explain the steps that Jose used to solve this problem?"

Teacher Observation Notes:
He started with 179, added 378, got 557. Changed it to 578, added 198, got 776. [Note: Student's work appears to be incorrect.]

Additional Questions Asked:
Where did he get 378? 200 to 198 etc., but couldn't tell me where he got the 378.

10. Sample Task: "Can you explain how this method for addition works? What are the steps? What is the answer?"

Teacher Observation Notes:
692 [Correct, but couldn't tell why.]

11. Sample Task: "Can you explain how this method for subtraction works? What are the steps? What is the answer?"

Teacher Observation Notes:
Had great difficulty with regrouping with subtraction.

Additional Questions Asked:
"I don't know."
Section III: Multiplication & Division

12. Sample Task: Write the following problems on a white board or piece of paper: 3 x 2, 4 x 4, 5 x 6, 7 x 8, and 10 x 4. "Solve the following multiplication problems. If you don't know them, leave them blank. You can use materials or drawings to help you if needed."

Teacher Observation Notes:

13. Sample Task: "What is the product of 5 x 7? How did you get your answer?"

Teacher Observation Notes:

14. Sample Task: Provide the student with counters or small manipulatives. "Use these counters to build an array for 8 x 4. What is the product?"

Teacher Observation Notes:

15. Sample Task: "Can you solve 50 x 4? How do you know?"

Teacher Observation Notes:

16. Sample Task: "How can you use 7 x 5 = 35 to solve 35 divided by 7?"

Teacher Observation Notes:

17. Sample Task: "Solve 24 divided by 6."

Teacher Observation Notes:

18. Sample Task: "There are 25 dozen cookies in the bakery. How many cookies are in the bakery?" (Provide the information that a dozen is equal to 12, if needed.)

Teacher Observation Notes:

19. Sample Task: "One of my students solved 74 x 38 using this drawing. Can you explain this area model to me and how it helped her get the right answer of 2,812?"

Teacher Observation Notes:

Additional Questions Asked:

Not sure.
20. Sample Task: "A 4th grade teacher bought 4 new pencil boxes. She has 260 pencils. She wants to put the pencils in the boxes so that each box has the same number of pencils. How many pencils will there be in each box?"

Teacher Observation Notes:
260 ÷ 4 = 65

Additional Questions Asked:
So there are 65 pencils in each box? (Hangs out)

Section IV: Fractions & Decimals
21. Sample Task: "Mary and Lacey decide to share a pizza. Mary ate \( \frac{3}{8} \) and Lacey ate \( \frac{1}{4} \) of the pizza. How much of the pizza did the girls eat together?"

Teacher Observation Notes:
\[ \frac{3}{8} + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{8} + \frac{2}{8} = \frac{5}{8} \]

Additional Questions:
He said he added 2 & 8 got 10 & 8 so he got \( \frac{5}{8} \)

22. Sample Task: "Which is larger, \( \frac{1}{3} \) or \( \frac{1}{8} \)?"

Teacher Observation Notes:
\( \frac{1}{3} \)

Additional Questions:
\( \frac{1}{3} \) of a pie is more than \( \frac{1}{8} \)

23. Sample Task: "True or False. \( \frac{2}{3} = \frac{4}{6} \). Explain your thinking."

Teacher Observation Notes:
False. Because \( \frac{2}{3} \) is bigger than \( \frac{4}{6} \).

Additional Questions:
It's more pieces.

24. Sample Task: "Can you write \( \frac{3}{10} \) as a decimal? Draw a model to prove your thinking."

Teacher Observation Notes:
0.3

Additional Questions:
Don't know about model thing.

25. Sample Task: "Write \( \frac{45}{100} \) as a decimal."

Teacher Observation Notes:
0.45

Additional Questions:

26. Sample Task: "Draw a model to show why \( 0.3 < 0.8 \)."

Teacher Observation Notes:
\[ 0.3 < 0.8 \]

Additional Questions:

Next Steps: Cross-check this document with the Math RTI Guidance for grades 3-5, highlighting specific areas for intervention. Then you can access the Math RTI Online Notebook for specific interventions and progress monitoring at www.hillco.org/portal/elem.