High Quality Assessment Content Validity Review Tool

To understand the review process and the use of the review tool, go to:

Content Area: Science

Name of Assessment: NECAP Inquiry Tasks for Middle School

Reviewer: Content Collaborative

Date of Review: October 24, 2012

Assessment Profile

Item Types - check all that apply (note: there is often overlap among certain item types):	Check All That Apply
Selected Response (multiple choice, true-false, matching, etc.)	X
Short Answer (short constructed response, fill in a graphic organizer or diagram, explain your thinking or solution, make and complete a table, etc.)	X
Extended Response (essay, multi-step response with explanation and rationale required for tasks)	X
Product (research paper, editorial, log, journal, play, poem, model, multimedia, art products, script, musical score, portfolio pieces, etc.)	X
Performance (demonstration, presentation, science lab, dance or music performance, athletic performance, debate, etc.)	
Process (creation, development, design, exploration, imagining, visualization, experimentation, invention, revision)	X

The assessment includes:	Check All That Apply
Teacher directions (may include prerequisites/description of instruction before giving the assessment e.g., this assessment should be given after students have learned …)	X
Scoring Guide/Rubric	X
Sample evidence to show what student performance might look like	X
Materials (if needed to complete the assessment)	X
Estimated time for administration	
Student Directions & Assessment Task/Prompt – what does the student see/use?	X
Other: See Comments	

A high quality assessment should be...Aligned

Alignment	Rating Column	Comments
1a.		Inquiry Tasks - 8.1.1 Rainy Morning 8th Grade Physical Science GLE1 8.1.3 Mass & Matter 8th Grade Physical Science GLE 3 8.2.1 Pond Weeds 8th Grade Life Science GLE1 7.3.1 Colliding Plates 7th Grade Physical Science GLE1 6.2.1 Fox & Rabbit 6th Grade Life Science GLE1 6.3.2 Ocean Currents 6th Grade Earth Science GLE 2
Grade Level(s): 6, 7, 8		
Indicate the Colorado Academic Standards and Grade Level Expectations evaluated by the Assessment: Rainy Morning: SC09-GR.8-S.1-GLE.1; Mass and Matter: SC09-GR.8-S.1-GLE.3; Pond Weeds: SC09-GR.8-S.2-GLE.1; Colliding Plates: SC09-GR.7-S.3-GLE.1; Fox and Rabbit: SC09-GR.6-S.2-GLE.1; Ocean Currents: SC09-GR.6-S.3-GLE.2		
Indicate the intended DOK range of the Grade Level Expectations: 1, 2, 3		
Indicate the intended DOK of the assessment (list DOK levels) : 1, 2, 3		
1b. Describe the content knowledge/concepts assessed by the set of items or the performance task: See Comments		
1c. List the skills/performance assessed (what are students expected to do?): See GLEs in Comments		
1d. To what extent do you see a strong content match between the set of items reviewed or the task and the corresponding Colorado Academic Standard/s? **Use the definitions below to select your rating.** □ **Full match** – all tasks or items fully address or exceed the relevant skills and knowledge described in the corresponding state standard/s.		

□ **Close match** – most tasks or items address the relevant skills and knowledge described in the corresponding state standard/s.		
□ **Partial match** – many tasks or items partially address the skills and knowledge described in the corresponding state standard/s.		
□ **Minimal match** – some tasks or items match some relevant skills and knowledge described in the corresponding state standard/s.		
□ **No match** – task or most items are not related to the skills and knowledge described in the corresponding state standard/s.		
Please provide evidence from both the standards and assessment to support your response: The assessments meet some of the concepts and skills in the GLEs but not all.		
	Full Match=5; Close Match=4; Partial Match=3; Minimal Match=2; No Match= 1	
Aligned to Colorado Academic Standards Rating	4	
	Rating Column	**Comments**
1e. Are the set of items or tasks reviewed as cognitively challenging as the grade level expectations? **Use the definitions below to select your rating.**		
□ **More rigorous** – most items or the tasks reviewed are at a higher DOK level than the range indicated for the grade level expectations.		
□ **Similar rigor** – most items or the task reviewed are similar to the DOK range indicated for the grade level expectations.		
□ **Less rigor** – most items or the task reviewed are lower than the DOK range indicated for the grade level expectations.		
Please provide evidence from both the grade level expectations and assessment to support your response: The language in the items was similar to the GLEs.		
	Similar Rigor=2, More Rigor=1, Less Rigor=1	
Rigor Level Rating	2	

A high quality assessment should be…Scored using Clear Guidelines and Criteria

Scoring Guide Present	**Check all that apply:**	**Comments**
□ **Answer key, scoring template, computerized/machine scored**	X	
□ **Generalized Rubric** (e.g., for persuasive writing, for all science labs)	X	
□ **Task-Specific Rubric** (only used for the particular task)	X	
□ **Checklist** (e.g., with score points for each part)	X	
□ **Teacher Observation Sheet/ Observation Checklist**		
	Rating Column	
2a. Does the rubric/scoring criteria align to Colorado Academic Standards in this assessment. **Provide an explanation of your response: The rubrics in the Inquiry Tasks align to specific content in the GLE or Evidence Outcome, but not necessarily to the whole GLE. Parts of the rubric are specific to different Inquiry skills/Science Practices.**	**Yes=3, Somewhat=2, No=1**	
Rubric Aligned to Standards Rating	2	
2b. Are the score categories clearly defined and coherent across performance levels? **Provide an explanation of your response: Categories are clearly defined and coherent across performance levels. Inquiry skill are more generic. Content objectives are more specific.**	**Yes=3, Somewhat=2, No=1**	
Rubric/Scoring Coherent Rating	3	
2c. To what degree does the rubric/scoring criteria address all of the demands within the task or item? **Provide an explanation of your response. The criteria are specific to the content and the inquiry**	**High=3, Moderate=2, Low or None=1**	
Rubric/Scoring Aligned with Task Rating	3	
2d. Based on your review of the rubric/scoring criteria, do you think the scoring rubric would most likely lead different raters to arrive at the same score for a given response. **Provide an explanation of your response. The rubric would lead to similar scoring.**	**Yes=3, Somewhat=2, No=1**	

Rubric/Scoring Different Raters Same Rating	**3**	
2e. Is there student work (e.g., anchor papers, video, portfolio) which illustrates student mastery? **If so, describe. If not, what student work would be needed? Student work samples at different proficiency levels are provided.**	**Yes=3, Somewhat=2, No=1**	
Student Work Samples Rating	**3**	

A high quality assessment should be...FAIR and UNBIASED

FAIR and UNBIASED *(the areas below should be discussed relative to the needs of ELLs, gifted and talented students, and students with disabilities)*	Rating Column	Comments
3a. To what extent are most of the items or the tasks designed and formatted to be visually clear and uncluttered (e.g., use of white space, graphics, and illustrations)? **Provide an explanation of your response: The pages are easy to read, some graphics are provided, an ample space for writing responses.**	High=3, Moderate=2, Low=1	
Clear & Uncluttered Rating	3	
3b. To what extent are most of the items or the task presented in as straightforward a way as possible for a range of learners? **Provide an explanation of your response: Prompts are straight forward, but some learners may need support.**	High=3, Moderate=2, Low=1	
Straight Forward Rating	2	
3c. To what degree is the vocabulary and context(s) presented by most of the items or task free from cultural or other unintended bias? **Provide an explanation of your response: Some of the items address local/regional subjects that may need to be defined/interpreted for some learners.**	High=3, Moderate=2, Low=1	
Free of Cultural or Unintended Bias Rating	2	
3d. Does the assessment use appropriate levels of academic language for the grade and content area? **Provide an explanation of your response. The levels are appropriate, but some students will need supports.**	Yes=3, Somewhat=2, No=1	
Academic Language Rating	3	
3e. Does the assessment limit the usage of words that can be confused with one another (homonyms)? (Examples: ate/eight; sell/cell; allowed/aloud; beet/beat; by/buy). **Provide an explanation of your response. Confusing language was not noticed.**	Yes=3, Somewhat=2, No=1	
Confusing Language Rating	3	
Please reference "Defining Features of Academic Language in WIDA's Standards" (http://wida.us/searchResults.aspx?cx=0001878867407992537742:bjkids4gwcy&cof=FORID:10&q=Defining%20Features%20of%20Academic%20Language)		
3f. If applicable, what type of accommodations are provided to ensure that English Learners and/or Students with Disabilities can fully access the content represented by the task or set of items reviewed? **Provide an explanation of your response.**		
Accommodations are commonly categorized in five ways: presentation, response, setting, and timing and scheduling: o ***Presentation Accommodations*** —*Allow students to access information in ways that do not require them to visually read standard print. These alternate modes of access are auditory, multi-sensory, tactile, and visual.* o ***Response Accommodations*** —*Allow students to complete activities, assignments, and assessments in different ways or to solve or organize problems using some type of assistive device or organizer.* o ***Setting Accommodations*** —*Change the location in which a test or assignment is given or the conditions of the assessment setting.* o ***Timing and Scheduling Accommodations*** —*Increase the allowable length of time to complete an assessment or assignment and perhaps change the way the time is organized.* o ***Linguistic Accommodations***— *Allow English language learners (ELLs) to access academic construct measured by reducing the linguistic load of an assessment. The accommodation is based on an ELL's limited English language proficiency, which is different than an accommodation based on a student's disability or a cognitive need.*		

	Rating Column	Comments
3g: Are there adequate accommodations permitted for this assessment? **Provide an explanation of your response. The student directions provided by the teacher specifically noted that there was ample time, so students should "take time." A significant number of graphics were provided. Most of the Inquiry Tasks began with students working in small groups then individually responding. A Word Bank was provided for each Inquiry Task.**	Yes, Some identified=2; None identified =1	
Adequate Accommodations Allowed Rating	2	

A high quality assessment…Increases Opportunities to Learn

Opportunities to Learn *(the areas below should also be discussed relative to the needs of ELLs, gifted and talented students, and students with disabilities)*	Rating Column	Comments
4a. Does this assessment engage a student in thinking that connects to a real world, new context, situation, problem or challenge? **Provide an explanation of your response: The Inquiry Tasks are particularly relevant. The Released Items are more traditional, but include many images to support student understanding of the prompt.**	High=3; Moderate=2; Low or None=1	
Engagement Rating	3	
4b. To what extent do you think the knowledge and skills tested by the assessment can provide good information about what students have learned in the classroom? **Provide an explanation of your response: The items address specific learning concepts/skill included in the standards.**	High=3; Moderate=2; Low or None=1	
Classroom Learning Rating	3	
4c. To what degree do the results from this assessment (*scores and student work analysis*) foster meaningful dialogue about learning expectations and outcomes with students and parents? **Provide an explanation of your response: The assessment could lead to dialogue, but it would have to be teacher facilitated/modeled as no specific directions were provided.**	High=3; Moderate=2; Low or None=1	
Learning Expectations/Outcomes Rating	2	
4d. To what extent do you believe the assessment can clearly communicate expectations for academic excellence (e.g., creativity, transference to other content areas or 21st Century skills) to students? **Provide an explanation of your response: Using a combination of the rubrics and student work samples clearly communicate expectations. Most of the items also require a fairly high cognitive load.**	High=3; Moderate=2; Low or None=1	
Communicate Academic Excellence Rating	3	
4e. Based on the content evaluated by the task or the set of items reviewed, to what extent do you think teachers can use the results (*scores and student work analysis*) to understand what competency on standard/s look like? **Provide an explanation of your response: Between the item alignment, the items, and the support documents a teacher would know the level of student competency.**	High=3; Moderate=2; Low or None=1	
Competency on Standards Rating	3	
4f: Based on the content evaluated by the task or the set of items reviewed, to what extent do you think teachers can identify what purpose the assessment serves (e.g. diagnostic, report card grades, adjusting instruction, etc.)? **Provide an explanation of your response: The variety of items would allow a teacher the flexibility to use them in a way to support the teachers' need for a variety of evidence usages.**	High=3; Moderate=2; Low or None=1	
Clarity of Purpose Rating	3	

Summary	Earned	Possible
Standards Rating	4	5
Rigor Rating	2	2
Subtotal	6	7
		85.7%
Rubric Aligned w/Standards Rating	2	3
Rubric/Scoring Coherent Rating	3	3
Rubric/Scoring Aligned with Task Rating	3	3

Inter-rater Reliability Rating	3	3
Student Work Samples Rating	3	3
Subtotal	14	15
		93.3%
Clear & Uncluttered Rating	3	3
Straight Forward Rating	2	3
Free of Cultural or Unintended Bias Rating	2	3
Academic Language Rating	3	3
Confusing Language Rating	3	3
Adequate Accommodations Allowed Rating	2	2
Subtotal	15	17
		88.2%
Engagement Rating	3	3
Reflects Classroom Learning Rating	3	3
Reflects Learning Expectations/Outcomes Rating	2	3
Communicates Academic Excellence Rating	3	3
Competency on Standards Rating	3	3
Locate Evidence Rating	3	3
Subtotal	17	18
		94.4%
Grand Total	52	57
		91.2%

This assessment is: Place an 'X' in the appropriate box

Fully Recommended	x
Partially Recommended	
Not Recommended	