High Quality Assessment Content Validity Review Tool

To understand the review process and the use of the review tool, go to: [How to use the Assessment Review Tool](#)

This performance task has been partially recommended. It aligns very well to 8th grade GLE 3.3; however, it only aligns to one EO under this GLE. Additionally, the DOK required by this EO closely matches the DOK range of this performance task.

Content Area: Science

Name of Assessment: PALS: Scale Model of the Solar System - http://pals.sri.com/tasks/5-8/ME128/index.html

Reviewer: Content Collaborative

Date of Review: 10/25/12

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.)	
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)	
Product (research paper, editorial, log, journal, play, poem, model, multimedia, art products, script, musical score, portfolio pieces, etc.)	
Performance (demonstration, presentation, science lab, dance or music performance, athletic performance, debate, etc.)	X
Process (creation, development, design, exploration, imagining, visualization, experimentation, invention, revision)	

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:	

A high quality assessment should be...Aligned

Alignment	Rating Column	Comments
1a. Grade Level(s): 8th Grade Indicate the Colorado Academic Standards and Grade Level Expectations evaluated by the Assessment: SC09-GR.8-S.3-GLE.3-EO.a Indicate the intended DOK range of the Grade Level Expectations: EO DOK 2-3 Indicate the intended DOK of the assessment (list DOK levels) : DOK 2-3		
1b. Describe the content knowledge/concepts assessed by the set of items or the performance task: solar system, motion of planets in solar system		
1c. List the skills/performance assessed (what are students expected to do?): create a scale model of the solar system		
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: This assessment only matches the one EO under this GLE.		
	Full Match=5; Close Match=4; Partial Match=3; Minimal Match=2; No Match= 1	
Aligned to Colorado Academic Standards Rating	**2**	
	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 EO for this GLE says students need to construct a scale model of the solar system and use it to explain the motion of objects in the system, this matches the task on this assessment.		
	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

	Check all that apply:	Comments
Scoring Guide Present		
□ **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 rubric aligns only to the EO letter a for this GLE.**	**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: The rubric includes specific information regarding what student performance looks like at various levels, including possible answers for each short response question.**	**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 rubric has a general description and a detailed description of expectations for each item.**	**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: Since the rubric has specific answers that teachers should see for each question, different raters should look for those specific responses and arrive at the same score.**	**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 show what student work would look like at each performance level.**	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: Student task has clear directions for what students are expected to do. Table showing average distance from the Sun for each planet, and graphic of meter stick for students to create their scale model.**	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: The task includes a brief background and then presents the students with the task, followed by questions that assess how their model can explain the motion of planets.**	High=3, Moderate=2, Low=1	
Straight Forward Rating	3	
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: The task tells students that they must create a model that shows the "relative" distance of planets from each other, which could present some bias; however the task later tells them to create a scale model.**	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: See explanation for 3c. Additionally, question #2 uses the word "proposes" which is assumed to be appropriate academic language, but could be problematic for some students.**	Yes=3, Somewhat=2, No=1	
Academic Language Rating	2	
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: See explanation for 3c and 3d, both of these words (relative and proposes) could be confusing since they have alternate meanings.**	Yes=3, Somewhat=2, No=1	
Confusing Language Rating	2	
Please reference "Defining Features of Academic Language in WIDA's Standards" (http://wida.us/searchResults.aspx?cx=0001878867407992537742:bjkids4qwcy&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: The teacher directions notes that teachers should ensure students can measure in metric units, and it is assumed that if students cannot, appropriate accommodations would be made.**		
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.*		
3g: Are there adequate accommodations permitted for this assessment? **Provide an explanation of your response: The task includes written directions that could require accommodations for some students.**	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: Scaling is a skill that is useful in many areas, so this assessment encourages students to develop the thinking necessary to be able to make scale models in other areas.**	High=3; Moderate=2; Low or None=1	Since this task only assess the EO letter a from GLE 3.3, it will only reflect student mastery of a small portion of this GLE. The moderate score for the categories herein reflect this.
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: See comments.**	High=3; Moderate=2; Low or None=1	
Classroom Learning Rating	**2**	
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: See comments.**	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: Building models and scaling are skills that transfer to other content areas.**	High=3; Moderate=2; Low or None=1	
Communicate Academic Excellence Rating	**2**	
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: See comments.**	High=3; Moderate=2; Low or None=1	
Competency on Standards Rating	**2**	
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: Teachers should view this assessment as a performance task used to assess students' understanding of how to create a scale model of the solar system and use it to explain the motion of planets in our solar system.**	High=3; Moderate=2; Low or None=1	
Clarity of Purpose Rating	**3**	

Summary	Earned	Possible
Standards Rating	**2**	**5**
Rigor Rating	**2**	**2**
Subtotal	**4**	**7**
		57.1%
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	3	3
Free of Cultural or Unintended Bias Rating	2	3
Academic Language Rating	2	3
Confusing Language Rating	2	3
Adequate Accommodations Allowed Rating	2	2
Subtotal	14	17
		82.4%
Engagement Rating	3	3
Reflects Classroom Learning Rating	2	3
Reflects Learning Expectations/Outcomes Rating	2	3
Communicates Academic Excellence Rating	2	3
Competency on Standards Rating	2	3
Locate Evidence Rating	3	3
Subtotal	14	18
		77.8%
Grand Total	46	57
		80.7%

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

Fully Recommended	
Partially Recommended	X
Not Recommended	