DRC BEACON is a computer-adaptive assessment for grades 3–8 that illuminates student learning needs and measures growth throughout the year, allowing educators to target instruction and make informed decisions.

Checking for student learning should not be limited to once at the end of the year in a summative test. Today’s students want to know “where they stand,” parents want to know if their children are “on track,” and teachers need to know how they can adjust instruction in their classrooms in order to maximize student learning. The DRC BEACON assessment does exactly that—checks for student learning with real-time online reports at multiple points throughout the year, with the full battery or short, focused tests.

When students complete the tests, their scores include a growth measure, and indicate if they are in need of support, near, or prepared for grade-level targets. DRC BEACON is offered in both English Language Arts and Mathematics for grades 3–8 in an adaptive online format. The online adaptive format allows students, parents, and teachers to have a more accurate picture of achievement as the item difficulty adjusts to student ability levels and pinpoints a realistic indication and diagnosis of “where students are.”

**DRC BEACON Testlets:** These short, focused tests allow educators to assess students in single reporting categories rather than giving the entire battery each time.

**Learning Progression Reports:** These reports allow educators to identify the standards students need to work on based on their scores.

**Growth Reports:** These reports give educators, parents, and students information on growth after each test or testlet.

**Student Goal Setting Report:** Teachers and students can use the data from this report to set goals for increased achievement.

**Training and Support:** Web trainings and online support resources are available and will continue to be developed based on user input.
DRC BEACON test item types go beyond simple multiple-choice items and incorporate Depth of Knowledge levels and technologies that allow for a robust assessment experience.

DRC BEACON provides the feedback needed for grades 3–8 students to master grade-level academic requirements, and to help teachers plan instruction and administrators make well-informed decisions. DRC BEACON’s content represents Georgia’s college- and career-ready expectations. DRC BEACON’s adaptive format yields detailed information about student performance with less testing time.

- Up to three full-battery administrations during the year provide projected growth data toward end-of-year targets and pinpoint skill areas needing additional attention. Testlets give educators the choice in determining what to assess and when.
- Intuitive reports make it easy to track student progress and guide learning all year so teachers are never without the data needed to make timely decisions about what individual students need, or how academic programs can be enhanced to ensure success.
- Everyone benefits when there are fewer systems to learn in a school/district. Georgia schools and students are already familiar with the DRC INSIGHT system.

DRC BEACON offers accommodations for:

- TTS (Text-to-Speech) in English for both English Language Arts and Mathematics, and TTS in Spanish for Mathematics
- VSL (Video Sign Language)—Mathematics
- Braille in both English Language Arts and Mathematics

Full set of system tools includes:

- Line guide
- Highlighter
- Answer eliminator
- Magnifier/zoom
- Sticky notes
- Color contrast
- Color overlay
- Masking
- Measurement tools (protractor, centimeter/inch rulers)
- Basic, graphing, and scientific calculators

For more information, visit drcbeacon.com
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