

Grade 8 Scientific Literacy Assessment Blueprint

The *Grade 8 Scientific Literacy Assessment* is a skills-based assessment which consists of selected-response and constructed-response items, and is available to students in both English and French. Students read and respond to all items through *Assessment Master*, the online assessment platform. Students have 60 minutes to complete the assessment with an additional 60 minutes offered as a universal accommodation. Items for the assessment are designed and selected by a committee of New Brunswick educators and are based on the *New Brunswick Grade 8 Beyond Earth: Human Presence in the Solar System curriculum (2021)*.

New Brunswick provincial standards outline two broad areas of focus: Nature of Science and Learning & Living Sustainably. The Nature of Science involves students understanding the world through careful, systemic, inquiry. Students discover that scientific knowledge produced through this process is both durable and subject to change. Learning and Living Sustainably encompasses the students understanding that science affects and is affected by society. Item selection committees design items that measure students’ abilities to respond to these outcomes based on scientific skill. This allows individual results to be reported based on achievement for each strand and level of response, as well as overall achievement.

Grade 8 Scientific Literacy Assessment Targets		
Area of Focus	Strand	Percentage
The Nature of Science	Initiate and Plan	33%
	Perform and Record	13%
	Analyze and Explain	44%
	Communicate and Teamwork	0%
Learning and Living Sustainably	Science, Technology, Society, Environment	10%