

SAGES-3

Screening Assessment for Gifted K-8 Students



What is SAGES-3?

The SAGES-3, Screening Assessment for Gifted Elementary and Middle School Students-Third Edition, is a norm-referenced screening test that identifies giftedness in students who are between the ages of 5 years 0 months (5-0) and 14 years 11 months (14-11). It has two forms: the SAGES-3: K-3, for kindergarten through third-grade students, and the SAGES-3: 4-8, for fourth-grade through eighth-grade students.

The SAGES-3 has four principal uses:

1. to identify students as gifted and talented in the areas of intellectual and academic ability,
2. to screen entire pools of students for possible inclusion in gifted programs,
3. to examine students' relative strengths and weaknesses in reasoning and academic abilities, and
4. to serve as a measurement device in research studies investigating intellectual and academic abilities in gifted students

The purpose of the SAGES-3 is to identify students for gifted and talented classes emphasizing reasoning and academic abilities. Along with other test results, behavioral observations and checklists, and parent interviews, the reliable and valid scores obtained from the SAGES-3 provide valuable information for identifying students who are gifted and talented. The results of the SAGES-3 can reveal students' relative strengths and weaknesses regarding specific intellectual and academic abilities assessed by the test. In this way, students' cognitive abilities are not hidden because students have not acquired the information necessary for scoring well on an achievement test.

What does SAGES-3 assess?

We use this screening assessment to measure a student's nonverbal reasoning, Language Arts/Social Studies, verbal reasoning, and Mathematics/Science.

SAGES-3 has two forms--SAGES-3: K-3 and SAGES-3: 4-8. Each form has four subtests.

- **Nonverbal Reasoning.** This subtest requires the student to solve problems by identifying relationships between figures and pictures. The items are presented in an analogy format. The student must recognize pictures or figures, deduce relationships, and then find other pictures or figures that relate to the stimulus in the same manner. Relationships may vary in one or more attributes, associations, and/ or meanings. This subtest examines a sample of the student's ability to perceive new relations and learn new tasks because the content is not related to abilities formally taught in school.
- **Language Arts/Social Studies.** This subtest samples achievement in language arts (i.e., reading, spelling, literature, and composition) and social studies. These items reflect knowledge in the two (of four) core academic areas whose foundation is more linguistic in nature. This subtest requires the student to respond to questions in a multiple choice format. The content was drawn from current texts, professional literature, books, and national standards in language arts and social studies. Items require the students to recall, understand, and apply ideas and basic concepts.
- **Verbal Reasoning.** This subtest requires the student to solve problems by identifying the relationships between pairs of words. As in the Nonverbal Reasoning subtest, items are presented in an analogy format. The student must recognize words, deduce relationships, and then find other words that relate to the stimulus in the same manner. Relationships may include common characteristics, synonyms or antonyms, examples of the other word, categories, functions, causes and effects, or time sequences. Using words that may be acquired at school (and read aloud to kindergarten through third-grade students), the subtest focuses on the student's ability to perceive relationships using verbal content.
- **Mathematics/Science.** This subtest samples achievement in mathematics and science. The items require the student to respond to questions in a multiple-choice format. The content for this subtest was drawn from current texts, professional literature, books, and the national standards in mathematics and science. Items require recall, understanding, and application of ideas and basic concepts in these content areas.

