

# Organization of the California Science Test Interim Assessments



The California Science Test Interim Assessments (CAST IAs) assess the three-dimensional California Next Generation Science Standards Performance Expectations (PEs). Each assessment is divided into two segments. Segment A is the first segment and contains discrete (stand-alone) items that each assess a different PE. Segment B is the second segment and is a performance task (PT). Each PT is a group of test items assessing two to three related PEs associated with a single science phenomenon.

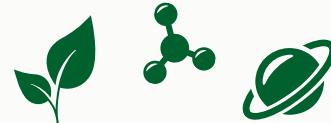
## Segment A

### Discrete Items

**Grade Three:** 9 items  
**Grade Four:** 9 items  
**Grade Five:** 9 items



**Middle School:** 9 items  
**High School:** 10 items



## Segment B

### Performance Task

**All grade levels:** 4–6 items



The Grade Three CAST IA, Grade Four CAST IA, and Grade Five CAST IA include grade-level content in Earth and Space Sciences, Life Sciences, and Physical Sciences. In middle school and high school, there is a separate CAST IA for each of the three science domains—Earth and Space Sciences, Life Sciences, and Physical Sciences. The graphic above represents the available CAST IAs for grades three through five, middle school (grades six through eight), and high school (grades nine through twelve). For a list of each CAST IA, refer to the 2023–24 Interim Assessments by Grade—Interim Assessments California Department of Education (CDE) flyer (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sa/documents/interimsbygrade23.pdf>).

More information about administering the CAST IAs can be found on the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress Interim Assessment Administration Resources web page at <https://www.caaspp.org/ta-resources/interim.html>.

For more information, visit the CDE CAST web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/caasppscience.asp>.

