2016 ARTS
GRADE 8 RESULTS

The Nation's Report Card

NAEP ARTS ASSESSMENT 101

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) arts assessments are the only national assessment that measures what students know and can do in music and visual arts. It is developed and administered by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES).

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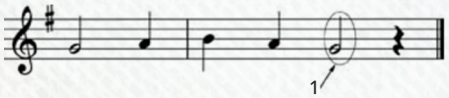
1 How was the assessment developed?

Every NAEP assessment begins with a framework. In 1993, the National Assessment Governing Board convened a panel of arts educators, practicing artists, assessment specialists, and other stakeholders to create the NAEP Arts Education Assessment Framework. The framework identifies the skills and knowledge that eighth-graders should have in music and visual arts.

2 What's in the assessment?

Responding Questions

What kind of note is in circle 1?



In music, responding questions asked students to analyze, interpret, or critique a piece of music that they listened to or to describe the social, historical, or cultural context of a piece of music.

Creating Questions

Creating questions asked students to use materials provided to them to create original works of art and design to communicate an idea using form, media, or techniques.

How are students scored? 3

Specific scoring guides were developed for each question. Scorers were then trained to apply these criteria appropriately when evaluating a wide range of skill levels in music and visual arts.

4 When was the assessment administered?

In 2016, NAEP gave the music and visual arts assessments to nearly 8,800 eighth-graders across the country. These students were randomly selected from public and private schools to create a nationally representative sample.

There were three components of the 2016 arts assessment

Music

Approximately half of the students responded to written questions and musical excerpts with the guidance of an audio recorder.

Visual Arts

Approximately half of the students responded to existing works of art and created their own artwork.

Survey Questionnaire

Students and school administrators were also given survey questions about art opportunities, engagement, and resources.

How are the results reported? 5

NCES collects and analyzes the scoring data and releases a report highlighting key findings. Average music and visual arts responding scores are reported separately on a scale of 0 to 300 points. Average creating scores for visual arts are reported on a scale of 0 to 100 percent. Results are also reported by student group, school type, and region as well as compared to the 2008 assessment.

The **2016 assessment and survey questionnaire results** for the nation overall and for several student groups are available online at **www.nationsreportcard.gov/arts_2016**. While some findings are highlighted in the report card, more results are available from the **NAEP Data Explorer (NDE).**

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