Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT)

Test Description:
The CogAT appraises the level and pattern of cognitive development of students.
It measures general and specific abilities. The general reasoning abilities measured by the test reflect the overall efficiency of cognitive processes and strategies that enable an individual to learn new tasks or solve problems, especially in the absence of direct instruction. These abilities are assessed in three domains: verbal, quantitative and nonverbal. Each domain is represented by three different reasoning tasks. Having multiple measures in each area greatly increases the dependability of the score profiles that are reported for each student.

Because it is a test for abilities rather than an achievement test, we use it to help identify who have high academic ability that may not be demonstrated on other assessments we typically give. Since our 3rd graders no longer take the ITBS Test, the CogAT will be used as one data point among various other indicators to identify students who may qualify for our accelerated studies consideration. Test results will also provide teachers with good information about their students' areas of strength and weakness. The CogAT replaces both the ITBS and NNAT tests for 3rd graders. The Screener will be given to all third-grade students in Provo City School District and those students in grades 4 and 5 desiring consideration for the accelerated program. The screen takes about an hour to administer including instruction and practice. The post-screener will be given to those identified by the screener as potential candidate for the accelerated instruction program and takes about two hours to complete and is completed within 30 days of the screener.

For the 2019-20 Academic year, we will administer the CogAT in January to third grade students and in May for grades 4 and 5 as well as any third-grade students who missed the administration in January. There will be one more make up day in the summer for this test.

CogAT Sub-Tests
Verbal Battery Verbal Classification
Sentence Completion
Verbal Analogies
Quantitative Battery Quantitative Relations
Number Series
Equation Building
Nonverbal Battery Figure Classification
Figure Analogies
Figure Analysis (Nonverbal abilities include figural reasoning, visual-spatial skills, visual arts, geometry, engineering).

Questions about the accelerated studies program can be directed to Judy Rose in the Teaching and Learning Department at the district office.