Frequently Asked Questions

1. What are cognitive skills and why are they important?

Cognitive skills identify how you learn best. Unlike other assessments, Mindprint identifies **how** you best understand and recall information. In contrast, tests of academic skills or achievement, are a test of **what** you know.

Most schools never test cognitive skills because it has historically been too time consuming and expensive. However, an accurate understanding of one's learning strengths and needs can is key to more efficient and enjoyable learning. This is true for all students, particularly once they reach middle and high school.

2. What skills does Mindprint measure?

Mindprint evaluates 10 core cognitive skills across four key domains:

Reasoning: Your ability to make sense of what you read, hear or see. Your ability to make connections to previous learned knowledge. *Fact: Students' visual reasoning skills are independent of socio-economic background.*

Memory: Your ability to remember what you read or hear. *Fact: Students can have one memory skill significantly stronger than the other.*

Executive Functions: Your ability to sustain focus and follow through on multi-step tasks. *Fact: Chronic stress common in high poverty communities can have a significant negative impact on executive functions.*

Processing : Your ability to accurately and efficiently respond to information. *Fact: Too fast or too slow processing can easily be mistaken for a lack of understanding.*

Fun Fact: This was the assessment used to measure the effects of long-term space flight in the NASA Twins Study

3. How was the Mindprint assessment developed?

Mindprint's assessment was developed by neuroscientists in the Brain Behavior Laboratory at the University of Pennsylvania in collaboration with the National Institute of Mental Health. It has been tested in over 100,000 participants worldwide, including more than 10,000 children and 50,000 members of the armed services.

4. What types of questions are on the assessment?

The computerized, adaptive assessment measures each student's learning strengths and needs on ten skills across four core domains of speed, executive functions, complex reasoning and memory.

Unlike achievement tests, there are **no** reading passages or math computations. Students of all ages who take the Assessment usually describe it as a series of puzzles and often describe it as "actually quite fun."

5. What is included in the Assessment results?

Every student receives an individualized learner profile which explains the student's competencies across the ten skills. The skills are mapped to each academic subject to gain a much clearer picture of why some subjects might come easily while others require more effort.

The learner profile is part of the student's broader personalized learning plan. The personalized learning plan includes easy-to-follow instructional and study strategies for school and home use.

Aggregated reporting is available to enable teachers to more effectively differentiate instruction by class or grade.

6. Is Mindprint a curriculum?

No. Mindprint is a curriculum supplement and enables every teacher to improve instructional practices.

Mindprint is entirely curriculum and achievement test agnostic. Mindprint works with your existing curriculum and assessment solution.

7. Can Mindprint improve standardized test scores?

Yes. Mindprint can integrate with your standardized test scores to identify underperformers and recommendations for test taking skills to improve performance.

 Mindprint can be used for high stakes tests such as the SAT and ACT. Mindprint identifies which test format might be more favorable and provide guidance on how to optimize scores by subject test. With Mindprint, students learn how to prioritize study time to get the "biggest bang for the buck".

"I haven't seen a test in my 40+ years that can give you more information. Standardized tests tell you one thing, but a test that helps you understand the inner recesses of a child's mind never existed before Mindprint."

Karen Gartland
K-8 Math Supervisor
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