

## **Chapter 5 - Eighth Grade Model Cornerstone Assessments**

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### **ABSTRACT**

The 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Model Cornerstone Assessments (MCAs) were written by a Research Advisor (Ann Clements) with input from teachers of upper-middle schools from across the country. Research findings and expertise of these writers were key in developing age appropriate assessments in Performing, Creating, and Responding. The Model Cornerstone Assessments (MCAs) for general music at the eighth-grade level are designed to provide a framework task to be integrated with a school's curriculum aligning with the eighth-grade Core Arts Standards. This framework is designed to guide planning, implementation, and assessment of student learning. The eighth-grade MCAs are presented as flexible models to account for diverse school curricula and student populations. This chapter helps teachers understand developmental expectations of eighth-grade students and how to understand and administer the MCAs. The chapter provides the findings from the pilot through the student and teacher voices.