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## Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT)

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### CogAT: Overview

The Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) measures our students' abilities to discover and see relationships, and to show flexibility in reasoning in three areas: verbal, quantitative, and nonverbal. The CogAT is measuring the degree to which students have developed their skills and strategies for learning new tasks and solving problems. The Tacoma School District administers the CogAT to all second graders as one measure of helping to select students for our Highly Capable programs.

### CogAT: Test Detail

The CogAT is designed to tap a wide range of cognitive abilities, as well as to include procedures that are fair to individuals who are members of minority groups or from culturally and linguistically-different backgrounds. The Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) measures general reasoning abilities in three domains: verbal, quantitative, and nonverbal.

The **Verbal Battery** measures a child's ability to remember and transform sequences of English words, to understand them, and to make inferences and judgments about them. The Verbal Battery includes:

- Test 1: Oral Vocabulary
- Test 2: Verbal Reasoning

The **Quantitative Battery** tests the child's understanding of basic quantitative concepts and relationships that are essential for learning mathematics. Tasks measure both the understanding of relational concepts and the student's ability to discover

relationships and to figure out a rule or principle that explains them. The Quantitative Battery includes:

- Test 3: Relational Concepts
- Test 4: Quantitative Concepts

The **Nonverbal Battery** measures reasoning using pictures and geometric shapes. This reduces the impact of language on the student's score. The Nonverbal Battery also appraises the student's ability to use her/his cognitive resources in new situations. The Nonverbal Battery includes:

- Test 5: Figure Classification
- Test 6: Matrices

It is important to note that reasoning skills develop gradually throughout a person's lifetime and at different rates for different individuals. The CogAT does not measure such factors as effort, attention, motivation and work habits, all which contribute to school achievement.

Information about the CogAT from Riverside Publishing:

<http://www.riversidepublishing.com/products/cogAt/>

**District and building CogAT results are not published.**