

MANIPULATIVES

Approved Manipulatives for the Mathematics and Science Assessments

- Manipulatives that are routinely used in the classroom may be used by the student on the Kansas Assessments.
- The manipulative **MUST** be chosen by the student. The teacher may neither suggest a particular manipulative nor insist that a manipulative be used.
- If you have a question about whether a particular manipulative is allowed, please e-mail Melissa Fast (mathematics) at mfast@ksde.org, David Barnes (mathematics & science) at dbarnes@ksde.org, or Matt Krehbiel at mkrehbiel@ksde.org.
- Students are allowed to use graph paper, blank paper, and other materials.
- Textbooks, dictionaries, and other instructional/curricular materials are **NOT** to be used during testing. This includes classroom posters, teacher or student-generated journals, and other instructional materials that may have been used during the course of instruction and/or permitted during previous years' testing.
- Graphic organizers that are generated solely by the student on blank paper during the assessment are allowed.
- Calculators are not considered manipulatives. Calculators are not allowed on Part 3 of the mathematics assessment.
- Computation tables or fact tables, prepared in advance of the assessment, are considered equivalent to a calculator and may be used on any test part that allows a calculator. If these are generated solely by the student on blank paper during any test part that allows a calculator, they are allowed to be used by the student during that test part.

Not all of the manipulatives in the following list will be found in every classroom. Manipulatives will not be useful on the assessment if they have not been used regularly during the year. Use of manipulatives is optional.

Examples of Manipulatives Appropriate for the Mathematics and Science Assessments

- Algebra tiles
- Base 10 blocks
- Calendars
- Chips, two-color counters, two-sided counters
- Clock or clock face
- Color tiles (squares)
- Containers - pint, quart, gallon containers – may have the capacity for each container marked on it, but they may not be marked in sub-units in any way such as nesting, labeling or color-coding. They may not be coded in any way for conversions.
- Coordinate grids with x and y and with or without numbers
- Cubes: multilink, connecting, color, wooden, unifix, multilink cubes
- Cuisenaire rods
- Geoboards
- Geometric solids (without any indication as to their name)
- Graph paper
- Hundreds chart
- Integer number line
- Money
- Number cubes
- Pattern blocks
- Plane figures (without any indication as to their name)
- Rulers*, meter sticks*, protractors*, compass*
- Scissors
- Snap blocks
- Spinners
- “Touch math” numbers
- Transparent mirror or mira

*On the Science Assessment, measurement tools cannot be labeled to indicate what they measure. For instance, a meter stick may have “cm” labeled on it, but the stick may not be labeled that it “*measures length.*”