

Acadience Reading Screener

Acadience Reading Screener is a DESE approved screener that measures the acquisition of literacy skills and is composed of six brief measures. These measures provide useful information on essential skills that every child must master to become a proficient reader. These measures will be used to monitor the development of literacy skills in order to provide timely instructional support. Acadience Reading is a diagnostic assessment of literacy skills.

Acadience Reading is comprised of six measures. Different assessments are administered at different grade levels. The table below indicates which assessments are administered and the approximate length it takes to complete. An explanation of each assessment is on the following page.

| Grade Level | Beginning of Year | | Middle of Year | | End of Year | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|--------|-----------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|--------|
| | Measures | Times | Measures | Times | Measures | Times |
| Kindergarten | FSF, LNF, RAN | 8 min | FSF, LNF, PSF, NWF | 6.5 min | LNF, PSF, NWF, RAN | 10 min |
| First | LNF, PSF NWF, RAN | 10 min | NWF, ORF* | 8 min | NWF, ORF | 8 min |
| Second | NWF, ORF RAN | 13 min | ORF, NWF | 8 min | ORF, NWF | 8 min |
| Third | ORF, RAN | 7 min | ORF | 6 min | ORF, | 6 min |
| | Maze** (for group testing) | 5 mins | Maze (for group testing) | 5 min | Maze (for group testing) | 5 min |
| Fourth to Sixth | ORF | 7 min | ORF | 7 min | ORF | 7 min |
| | Maze (for group testing) | 5 min | Maze (for group testing) | 5 min | Maze (for group testing) | 5 min |

*This is the first time students are taking the oral reading fluency assessment. Students may not be familiar with the format since this lengthy, grade-level passage does not include pictures.

**This is the first time students are taking the online comprehension assessment known as MAZE. As a result, initial scores may be influenced by their unfamiliarity with the format.

The Reading Composite Score (RCS) gives an **overall** picture of your child's reading skills at a specific point in time. It helps us understand their reading progress during that period.

(Turn Over for Descriptions of the Assessments)

Description Of Each Part of the Acadience Assessment:

1. First Sound Fluency (FSF): The assessor says words, and the student says the first sound for each word.
2. Letter Naming Fluency (LNF): The student is presented with a sheet of letters and asked to name the letters.
3. Phoneme Segmentation Fluency (PSF): The assessor says words, and the student says the individual sounds in each word.
4. Nonsense Word Fluency (NWF): The student is presented with a list of VC and CVC nonsense words (e.g., sig, rav, ov) and asked to read the words.
5. Oral Reading Fluency (ORF): The student is presented with a reading passage and asked to read aloud. The student is then asked to retell what he/she just read.
6. Maze: The student is presented with a reading passage in which some words are replaced by a multiple choice box that includes the original word and two distractors. The student reads the passage silently and selects the word in each box that best fits the meaning of the sentence.
7. Rapid Automated Naming (RAN) is a task that involves quickly and accurately naming repeated sets of familiar items. RAN measures are brief and individually administered assessments. This assessment was added to the list above for students in grades K-3 as per DESE requirements.

These measures were designed to be efficient indicators of a student's essential early literacy skills. All grades K-6 students will be assessed three times per year using Acadience Reading as a benchmark. Benchmark assessment refers to testing all students within a school or grade. The information gained from the assessment is used for the purpose of identifying students who may be at risk for reading difficulties. The benchmark assessment is always conducted using grade-level material. These assessments are not used to grade your child. Our goal is to make sure that every child is on target for success.