

How Amira Supports Multilingual Learners (MLLs)

Amira is designed to support every child's reading journey — including students learning English as a new language.

When your child uses Amira, the program listens as they read aloud and measures key reading skills like accuracy, speed, and understanding. These skills come together in the **Amira Reading Mastery (ARM) Score**, which shows how your child's reading ability is developing over time.

For multilingual learners, Amira goes a step further by offering **reading assessments in both English and the child's native language** (when available). This helps teachers and families see a full picture of your child's reading growth in both languages.

Understanding Your Child's ARM Score

The **ARM Score** combines several reading activities into one overall reading level. It is written as a **number with a decimal** (for example, **2.5**).

- The **whole number** shows the **grade level** (in this example, Grade 2).
- The **decimal** shows **how far through the school year** that score represents (for example, halfway through).

So, an ARM score of **2.5** means your child's reading skills are similar to what's expected of a student halfway through second grade.

For multilingual learners, your child may receive **two ARM scores**: one in **English** and one in their **native language**. Together, these scores help teachers understand whether a lower English score is due to **language development** or **reading skill growth**.

How Teachers Use ARM Scores for Multilingual Learners

Teachers look at three different pieces of information to fully understand an MLL's progress:

1. **English (National Norms)**: How your child's English reading compares to all students nationally.

2. **English (ELL Norms):** How your child's English reading compares to other multilingual learners who are also learning English.
3. **Native Language Results:** How your child reads in their first language, if available.

By looking at all three, teachers can see your child's strengths and identify where extra support might be needed.

- If your child is strong in their native language, teachers can build on that strength to support English reading.
 - If your child scores lower in both languages, the teacher can provide additional reading help focused on phonics, decoding, and comprehension.
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Why Amira Helps Multilingual Learners

- **Supports bilingual development:** Amira measures reading growth in English and, where available, in Spanish or other native languages.
 - **Encourages confidence:** Amira gives students feedback in a friendly, encouraging way as they read aloud.
 - **Helps identify strengths:** Teachers can see where students are thriving in their native language and use that to accelerate English growth.
 - **Promotes equity:** Using both English and native language data ensures students aren't misidentified as struggling readers when they're actually developing English proficiency.
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What Families Can Do at Home

- Encourage reading in **both English and your home language** — strong reading skills transfer across languages.
- Talk about stories, ask questions, and let your child explain what they understood.
- Celebrate small improvements — each step forward builds confidence and skill.

In Summary

Amira helps teachers and families see each multilingual learner as a **whole reader** — not just through the lens of one language. The ARM Score, along with your child's reading results in both English and their native language, provides a complete and fair picture of progress.

For more information, visit **help.amiralearning.com** or contact your school's teacher or bilingual support staff.