



# READY FOR KINDERGARTEN

## What is the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA)?

The KRA is a developmentally appropriate assessment tool designed to measure school readiness of incoming kindergartners across four domains. It is a research-based, valid and reliable assessment.



Language and Literacy



Mathematics



Social Foundations



Physical Well-Being  
and Motor Development

## Why is the KRA Important?

- It **benefits children** by identifying their strengths and challenges and informing instruction.
- It **assists teachers** with rich information to help them differentiate instruction and address learning gaps.
- It **informs families** about their child's strengths and abilities.
- It **provides school leaders and early childhood specialists** with information to target professional development and transition practices.
- It **helps community leaders and policy makers** to make informed programmatic, policy, and funding decisions.

## How is the KRA administered?

*The items in the KRA are developed based on the Ready for Kindergarten Common Language Standards. A developmentally-appropriate mix of item types are used to create a multi-modal assessment:*

- **Selected Response Items** and **Performance Tasks** provide opportunities for direct interaction with students on a one-to-one basis.
- **Observations** can take place in a variety of naturally occurring settings and groupings; items are scored using a rubric that includes specific criteria at three levels of proficiency.

*Kindergarteners are assessed as:*

- **Demonstrating Readiness:** The child consistently demonstrates the foundational skills and behaviors that enable a child to fully participate in the kindergarten curriculum.
- **Approaching Readiness:** The child exhibits some of the foundational skills and behaviors that are needed to participate in the kindergarten curriculum.
- **Emerging Readiness:** The child displays minimal foundational skills and behaviors, which are needed to successfully meet kindergarten expectations.

*Children whose readiness skills are “approaching” and/or “emerging” require differentiated instruction, targeted supports, or interventions to be successful in kindergarten.*

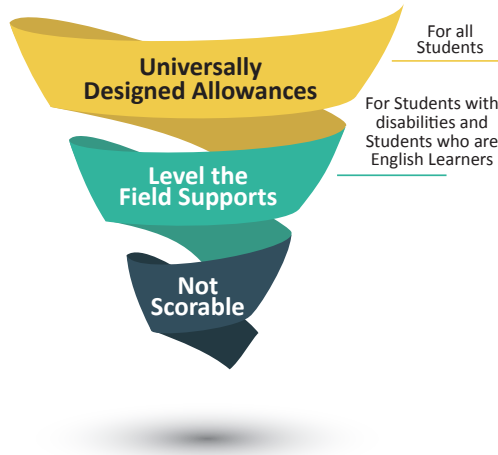
*The KRA materials include:*

- a Teacher Administration Manual with directions for administration, scripts, and scoring rubrics
- test image items for students
- manipulatives
- item score sheets
- quick reference guides for administering the KRA to students with disabilities and English learners.

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## How does the KRA support individual children?

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*The KRA is designed for students with varying levels of ability, including students with disabilities and students who are English learners, to participate in the assessment.*

- Universally Designed Allowances include the range of actions, material presentations, procedures, and settings that are acceptable for use with all students when administering the KRA.
- Level the Field Supports are specific, individualized supports for children with disabilities and English learners.
- If the student still cannot participate with Level the Field Supports, the item is marked as “Not Scorable”.

*The KRA also provides supports for students who are blind or visually impaired, including tactile graphics that incorporate raised images and test item images with braille, as well as supports for teachers and students who are deaf or hard of hearing.*

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## What support is provided for teachers to administer the KRA?

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**A high-quality professional development approach** that promotes the fidelity of the KRA administration is used to train and support teachers. This approach utilizes:

- a training-of-trainer model with a community of practice that prepares, certifies, and supports state and district trainers to equip and coach teachers to administer the KRA
- customizable training materials for flexible online, blended, and face-to-face teacher trainings with full online modules, training agendas, scripted PowerPoint files, activity handouts, video clips, technology resources, and scenarios with practice assessment items
- comprehensive enrichment resources that support teachers in using KRA data to inform instruction
- a virtual simulation exercise with content assessment that ensures teachers fulfill reliability qualifications
- a complete evaluation strategy with surveys, completion metrics, fidelity checklists, and a KRA teacher experience questionnaire.

**A comprehensive technology system** of user-friendly solutions, robust reporting features, rich resources, and help desk support is used to support the administration of the KRA. The system incorporates:

- a secure, web-based portal, *Ready for Kindergarten Online*, that:
  - provides an easy-to-use teacher interface for entering data, accessing professional development and instructional resources, and viewing reports to inform instruction
  - produces an Individual Student Report available for families with their child’s overall readiness score and domain scores
  - contains a strong back-end interface for district data administrators to create teacher accounts and add student enrollments through manual, bulk load, or automated processes
  - generates district and school reports for monitoring assessment completion and accessing KRA data
  - is designed for security and maintained in a multi-tenant, cloud-hosted environment
- a child-friendly KRA App designed to administer and score a subset of KRA items directly with children from an iOS/Android tablet or a PC/Mac computer.