

Rapid Automated Naming (RAN) Assessment

What Is Rapid Automated Naming (RAN)?

Research shows that Rapid Automated Naming (RAN) performance in children ages 5-7 is highly predictive of future reading performance. Rapid Automated Naming is a task that involves quickly and accurately naming repeated sets of familiar items. Although RAN is typically a good predictor of future reading difficulties, difficulties with RAN do not impact reading skills as much as difficulties with phonological awareness (PA) (Georgiou et al., 2011; Pennington et al., 2001). When students have strong PA skills, but have difficulties with RAN, the impact on reading skills is typically milder than when students have difficulties with both RAN and PA (Kilpatrick, 2015). While there is considerable research support for RAN as a strong predictor of reading skill, variation in the strength of the relation between RAN skill and reading skill is also evident (Araújo et al., 2015). Notably, Kilpatrick (2015) states that at this time, a research-based means to directly improve RAN is not known; however, there is evidence to suggest that meaningful improvement in reading skills is associated with improvements in RAN.