

NC Read to Achieve Overview

For Family Partners



OFFICE OF EARLY LEARNING
NC Department of Public Instruction

Why is my child assessed in reading?

The goal of the state is to ensure:



- that every student read at or above grade level.
- that students continue to progress in reading proficiency.
- that students have the ability to read, comprehend, integrate and apply complex texts.
- that students apply these skills for secondary education and career success.

This legislation is part of the Excellent Public Schools Act and has been referred to as the North Carolina Read to Achieve Program.

A few key points of Read to Achieve legislation



- K, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade students shall be assessed with valid, reliable, formative and diagnostic reading assessments.
- The reading assessment data will be used to identify root causes for difficulty with reading development and determine actions to address them.
- Parents will be notified if their child is not reading at grade level and possible retention or exemption for good cause. (Good cause exemption will be covered shortly.)
- Parents will be notified of retention and the reason their child is not eligible for a good cause exemption.
- Parents will be notified of a description or plan for reading interventions and supports.

What is DIBELS[®] 8?

Dynamic
Indicators of
Basic
Early
Literacy
Skills

DIBELS[®] 8 is a standardized set of measures that help teachers and schools determine how students are performing on important reading skills.

Which assessment measures will be given?



Each student will complete the measures depending on his or her grade level.

DIBELS[®] 8 assessment measures

DIBELS measures at each grade level

Measure	Grade K	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3
Letter Naming Fluency	✓	✓		
Phonemic Segmentation Fluency	✓	✓		
Nonsense Word Fluency	✓	✓	✓	✓
Word Reading Fluency	✓	✓	✓	✓
Oral Reading Fluency		✓	✓	✓
Maze (Basic Comprehension)			✓	✓

Required additional measures at each grade level below

Oral Language	✓	✓	✓	✓
Vocabulary	✓	✓	✓	✓

How often are students assessed?

Beginning
of the Year

Middle
of the Year

End
of the Year



Students are given three benchmark assessments in Amplify during the year to monitor performance and inform instructional decisions.

What will I see on the Home Connect® letters?

Skills display on progress bars which indicate your child's performance on each measure.

What are the skills Traci should learn to become a good reader?



Phonemic Awareness

Hearing and using sounds in spoken words

We no longer measure Traci's phonemic awareness because students should have this skill by the middle of first grade.



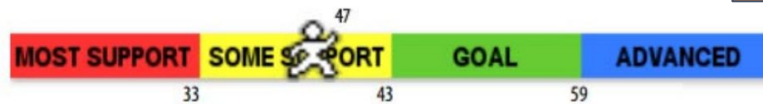
Phonics

Knowing sounds of letters and sounding out written words, measured by DIBELS Next Nonsense Word Fluency (NWF)

Can your child...

...sound out simple words like van? (vvv...aah...nnn)

...easily read a list of two- and three-letter words?



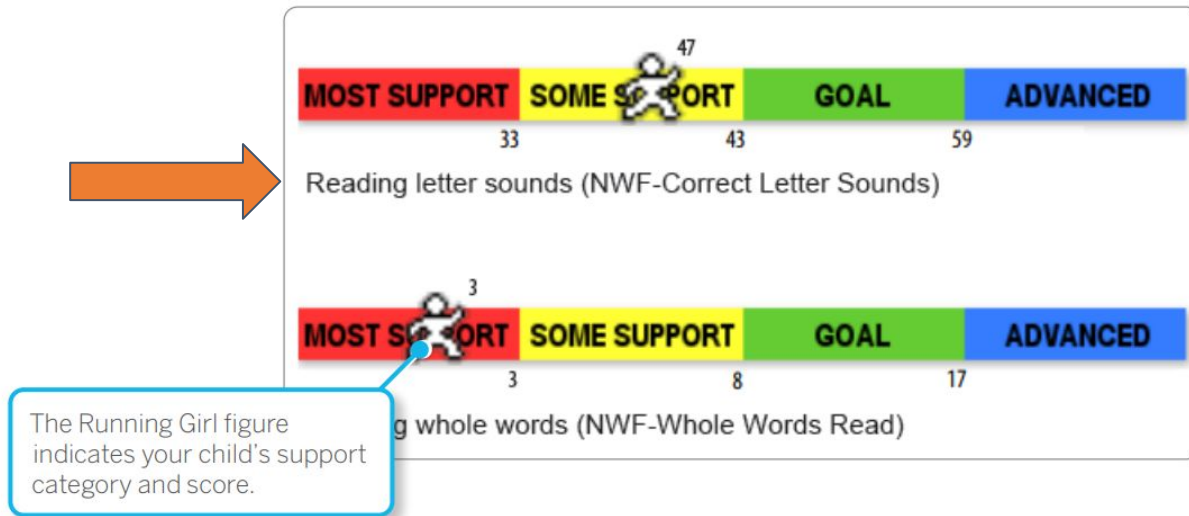
Reading letter sounds (NWF-Correct Letter Sounds)



Reading whole words (NWF-Whole Words Read)

What will I see on the Home Connect[®] letters?

The skill being measured displays beneath each bar. Use this information to help choose practice activities for your child on the mCLASS[®] Home Connect[®] website.



Performance descriptors

Status	Level	Are students likely to achieve the next DIBELS benchmark goal or reading outcome at the end of the year?	Support level
	Above Benchmark	Yes; negligible risk (90% or higher chance of meeting goal)	core
	At Benchmark	Yes; minimal risk (80% or higher chance of meeting goal)	core
	Below Benchmark	No; some risk (20% or higher chance of meeting goal)	strategic
	Well Below Benchmark	No; at risk (less than 20% chance of meeting goal)	intensive

Home Connect[®] letters 2nd page

Traci Caldwell 2nd Grade, Beginning-of-Year Assessment

Activities for Traci

Even if you have just a few minutes each day, you may be surprised by how much you can help Traci learn to read. Here are some activities we recommend based on Traci's most recent mCLASS reading assessment. Most of these activities can be done just about anywhere. Feel free to change them a bit to match Traci's interests or to fit your schedule.



Where Traci needs support

Phonics

Knowing sounds of letters and sounding out written words

Beginning Sounds

Say, "Let's think of some words that start with the same sound. I'll say the first ones and we'll see if you can think of a color word that starts with the same sound." Say, "Pig, penguin, porcupine..." Ask your child to repeat your words before supplying another one. Then ask, "What sound do these words start with?" (Your child should say the sound *p*.) You may have to exaggerate the beginning sounds until your child gets the idea. Then ask, "What is a color word that begins with the same sound?" (pink, purple) Repeat with other beginning sounds.

Start a Journal

Explain what a journal is and give examples of what types of things your child might write about, such as making a new friend, going someplace special, or experiencing something exciting at school. Provide an example by writing about your day. Ask your child to write about his or her day on the next page.

How do I know if my child meets third grade benchmark?

DIBELS® 8 generates a composite score from four sub-skills in order to determine a student's Lexile score. A 725 Lexile score meets third grade proficiency.



Additionally, third graders' reading proficiency will be measured by the standardized test of reading comprehension on the End of Grade (EOG) assessment.

Beginning of Grade (BOG) and End of Grade (EOG) assessments require a Level 3 score.

What is the Beginning of Grade (BOG) Test?

The North Carolina BOG3 Reading Test is linked to the Read to Achieve Program. This test serves several purposes:

- It establishes a baseline measure of beginning third-grade students' English language arts/reading skills.
- Students who score achievement level 3 or higher on the test demonstrate reading proficiency appropriate for third-grade students, which satisfies the requirements of the Read to Achieve legislation.

What if my child does not show reading proficiency?



There are several opportunities to demonstrate third grade reading proficiency.

Can my child be exempt from mandatory retention in third grade?

Good Cause Exemptions

Children with Disabilities

Students with disabilities whose individualized education program indicates (i) the use of the NCEXTEND1 alternate assessment, (ii) at least a two school year delay in educational performance, or (iii) receipt of intensive reading literacy interventions for at least two school years

Multiple Retentions and Interventions

Students: (i) received reading intervention and (ii) previously been retained more than once in K, 1st, 2nd or 3rd grade

Limited English Proficient Students

Students with less than two years of instruction in an English as a Second Language program

Reading Portfolio

Students who demonstrate reading proficiency through a student reading portfolio

Alternative Assessment

Students who demonstrate reading proficiency on an alternative assessment

What does a reading retained label mean for my child?

- **Retained in 3rd Grade**
Third grade standards and curriculum, 3rd grade EOG
- **Placed in 3rd/4th Transition Class with Retained Reading Label**
Fourth grade standards and curriculum, 4th grade EOG
- **Placed in 4th Grade Accelerated Reading Class with Retained Reading Label**
Fourth grade standards and curriculum, 4th grade EOG

What does a reading retained label mean for my child?

A student who does not demonstrate reading proficiency appropriate for third-grade will either be retained in 3rd grade or placed in a 4th grade classroom with a reading retained label.

- **Placed in 3rd/4th Transition Class with Retained Reading Label**
A 4th grade class where 4th grade standards are taught and a 4th grade EOG is administered. *This class is specifically designed to produce learning gains sufficient to meet fourth grade standards while continuing to remediate areas of reading deficiency.*
- **Placed in 4th Grade Accelerated Reading Class with Retained Reading Label**
A 4th grade class where 4th grade standards are taught and a 4th grade EOG is administered. *This class is specifically designed to provide focused literacy interventions to increase a student's reading level at least two grades in one school year.*

I've heard about reading camp. Will my child need to go?

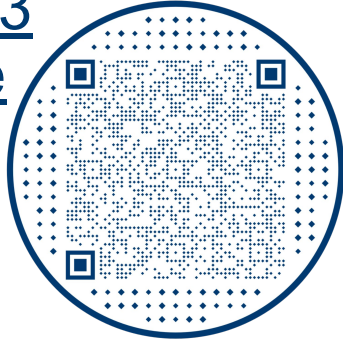
Reading Camp is:

- offered by your child's school district for students who are not proficient on the 3rd grade EOG.
- offered to 2nd grade students demonstrating reading difficulty; districts can choose to offer reading camp to 1st grade students as well.
- designed to provide additional instruction in reading and writing.
- free - no cost to parents.
- not mandatory, but strongly encouraged.

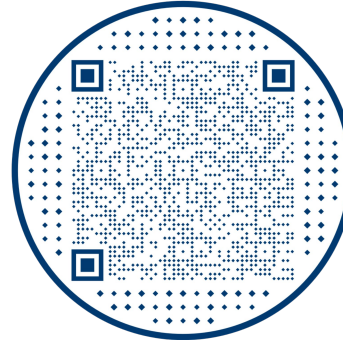


Where can I find more information?

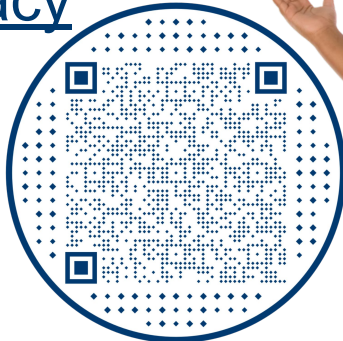
[NCDPI Grade 3
RtA Webpage](#)



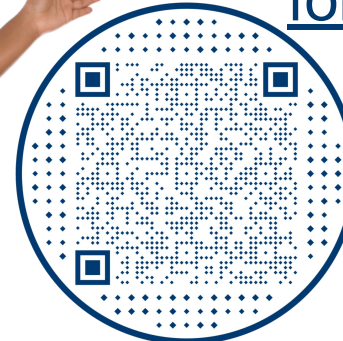
[NC DPI
Literacy at Home](#)



[NC DPI Early
Literacy](#)

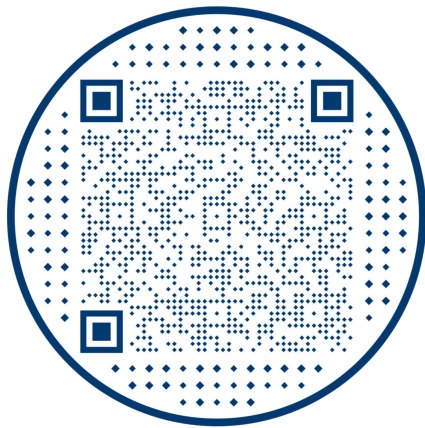


[Science of Reading
for Caregivers](#)



Where can I find a quick overview of RtA?

NC Read to Achieve Infographic




OFFICE OF EARLY LEARNING
NC Department of Public Instruction

NC READ TO ACHIEVE

THE GOAL OF THE STATE IS TO ENSURE THAT:


- EVERY STUDENT READ AT OR ABOVE GRADE LEVEL
- EVERY STUDENT HAVE THE ABILITY TO READ, COMPREHEND, INTEGRATE & APPLY COMPLEX TEXTS
- EVERY STUDENT APPLY READING SKILLS FOR SECONDARY EDUCATION AND CAREER SUCCESS

 SENATE BILL 387 ALIGNS LITERACY INSTRUCTION WITH THE SCIENCE OF READING AND MODIFIES THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NC READ TO ACHIEVE PROGRAM.


WHAT IS THE SCIENCE OF READING?

Thousands of studies that reveal how we learn to read and write and the most effective ways to teach reading.

Research that guides teachers to most **EFFECTIVELY** and **EFFICIENTLY** teach ALL students to read.



WHAT IS DIBELS® 8?

 Amplify mCLASS® DIBELS® 8 is our statewide early literacy skills assessment for students in kindergarten through third grade.

The partnership
between home
and school
ensures your
child's success!



Thank you for
joining us to
learn more
about Read to
Achieve!