Oral Reading Fluency (ORF)

PRINCETON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Oral Reading Fluency (ORF) is the number of words a student reads **accurately, with expression, and appropriate pacing**. Fluent reading supports strong comprehension. The benchmarks below show where students should aim each season to keep growing as confident, fluent readers.

Grade	Fall	Winter	Spring
Grade 1	14 WPM	37 WPM	66 WPM
Grade 2	56 WPM	84 WPM	101 WPM
Grade 3	87 WPM	110 WPM	125 WPM
Grade 4	115 WPM	133 WPM	147 WPM
Grade 5	132 WPM	149 WPM	162 WPM
Grade 6	144 WPM	159 WPM	171 WPM

Fastbridge Benchmarks 2026

What is WPM?

WPM stands for **Words Per Minute,** it is a measure of how many words a student can read correctly in one minute. WPM is one component to reading fluency. Reading fluency takes into consideration reading rate, word reading accuracy and prosody (pausing, stress, expression and phrasing). A higher WPM (with good understanding) means smoother, more confident reading.

