

MRSD Parent University PK-12 Literacy Night

Strategies for Preventing the “Summer Slide”



MONOMOY 
REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

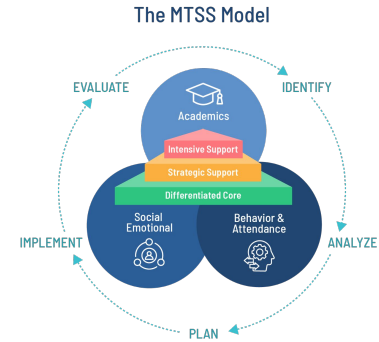
Chatham/Harwich, Massachusetts • www.monomoy.edu

Agenda

- iReady Review
(District-wide)
- DIBELs & Benchmark
Screeners (Early
Elementary)
- Grade-level strategies for
supporting students over
the Summer
- Strategies and Summer
Programs available
through our local libraries!

iReady

- What is iReady?
- How are we using it in the district?
- What information/data are we getting, and what are we doing with that information/data?



iReady “Inform” (formerly known as “Diagnostic”)

i-Ready Inform (formerly *i-Ready Diagnostic*) is an **adaptive** assessment that connects reliable, domain-level student insights to instructional next steps, so educators understand where students are **now** and what comes **next**. This diagnostic tool has replaced MAP, which the district used in prior years. We no longer use MAP, so this is not an additional assessment, just a replacement.

i-Ready supports confident decision making that moves educators from insights to instruction and from understanding to real, visible growth.

i-Ready is built on rigorous research and regularly reviewed for bias and accessibility. It’s designed to provide equitable, valid results for diverse learners, including English Learners and students with disabilities.

i-Ready results are highly correlated to Summative results (MCAS in MA).

How are we using iReady at Monomoy?

Students in grades K-8 are currently given the *iReady* Inform at three points during the year: beginning of year, middle of year, and end of year.

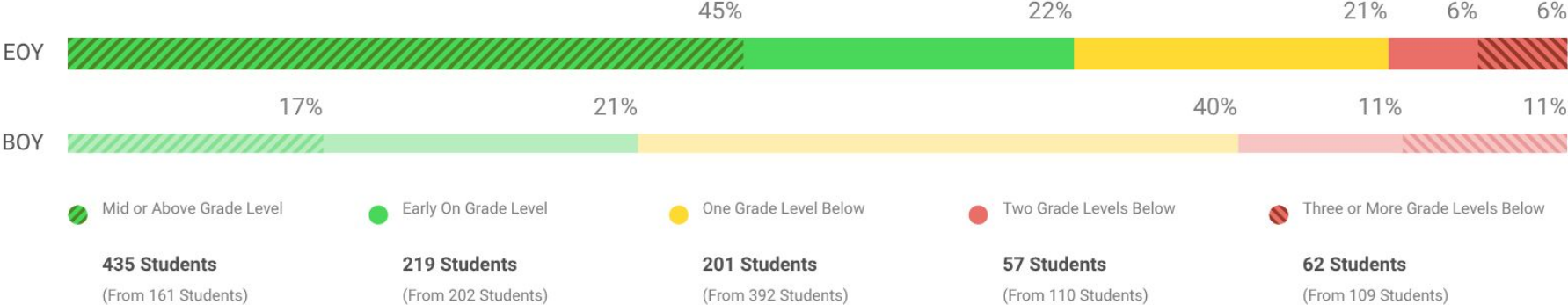
Educators are using this data to:

- Plan instruction/shift instructional strategies in Tier 1
- Plan interventions if needed (Tier 2 and 3)

In addition, students in grades K-7 are using the *iReady* Math curriculum, and students in grades K-8 are also utilizing “MyPath”* in Math and ELA to help fill in instructional gaps.

**“MyPath” provides students with individualized, targeted practice on skills they have not yet mastered based on their most recent iReady Inform results. Students receive this instruction for 10 min per day in both Math & ELA.*

District ELA Growth 2025-26, via iReady Diagnostic



iReady – End of Year Report for Families

How to Interpret the Results:

Blue Bars & Placement Levels: The blue bars on the graph and the corresponding placement levels show how your student performed on each test.

Green Shading: The green area shows the target for your child's grade level. The goal is for students to perform at or above grade level, meaning they have mastered the necessary skills.

National Norm Percentile: Located below the graph, this number shows how your child performed compared to other students in the same grade level across the country.

Domain Table: This chart breaks down specific learning areas (domains) to show where your child excels and where they might need extra focus.

Understanding Your Student's *i-Ready Diagnostic* Results

What is the *i-Ready Diagnostic*?

The *i-Ready Diagnostic* is an adaptive assessment that adjusts its questions for each student. As a student answers correctly, the questions get more difficult. As a student answers incorrectly, the questions get easier. This adaptability allows the *i-Ready Diagnostic* to identify the strengths and opportunities for growth of each student.

Why is my student taking it?

The purpose of the *i-Ready Diagnostic* is not to give your student a grade but instead to determine how best to support their learning. It will help your student's teacher(s) determine their needs, personalize their learning, and monitor progress throughout the year.

How should I interpret my student's results?

How is my student doing overall?

The goal is for your student to be performing at or above grade level, which means they have mastered the skills students at that grade level are expected to master and are prepared to learn more advanced skills.

On the *i-Ready For Families* report, the **1** blue bar(s) on the graph and the corresponding **2** placement level(s) indicate how your student performed on each test in relation to their grade level, which is indicated by the **3** green shading. The **4** National Norm percentile below the graph indicates how your student performed in relation to students in the same grade level nationwide.



How is my student doing in specific learning areas?

Students have different areas of strengths and opportunities for growth. It is important to understand how your student did in more specific learning areas, which are called **domains**. The **5** domain table shows how your student did in specific domains and helps teachers know where to build on strengths and focus their support.

How is my student progressing over time?

The goal is also for your student to be making progress in their learning. After your student has taken more than one Diagnostic in the school year, you will see results for each Diagnostic, allowing you to see the progress your student is making both overall and in each domain.

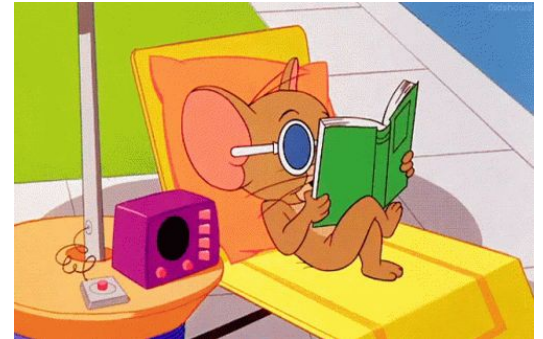
Summer Success with i-Ready MyPath

To keep learning alive over the summer, our district utilizes i-Ready Personalized Instruction, also known as *MyPath*. This program provides online lessons tailored directly to your child's unique needs.

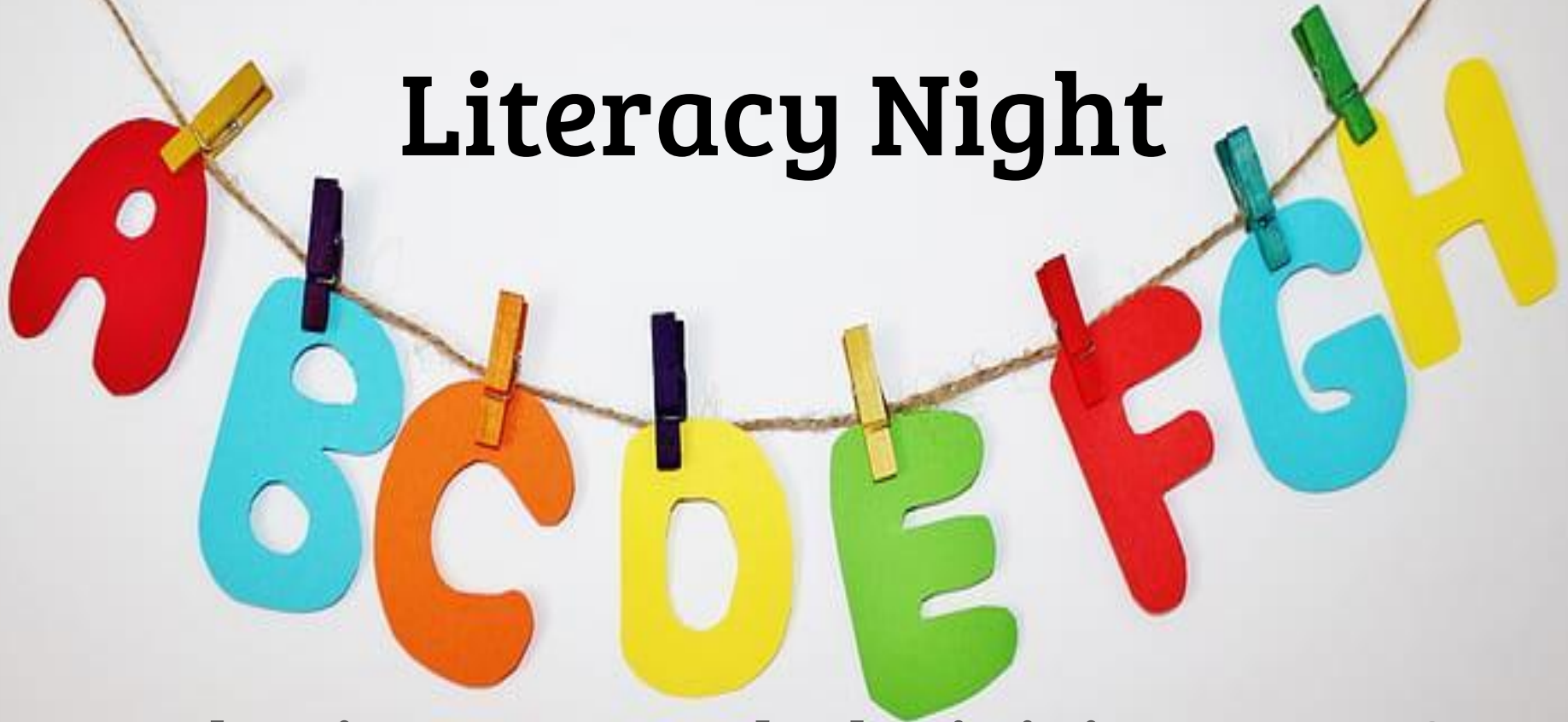
Students will have full access to MyPath throughout the summer **through August 14th**.

Research shows that **an average of 39 minutes* of MyPath practice per week** in both reading and math is **optimal** for student growth. Spending more than 39 minutes per week in either subject does not make a statistical difference in achievement. Short, regular weekly sessions are the most effective way to protect your child's academic gains!

*While practicing skills on MyPath will absolutely help them continue to grow, we are aware the more time on a screen is not ideal. 39 minutes per week is roughly 7 minutes per weekday. We also encourage students to read books, go to the beach, play outside, and be with friends and family this summer!



Literacy Night

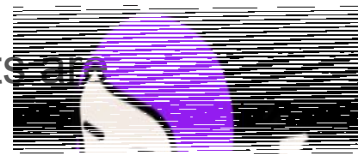


What is DIBELS and why is it important?



DIBELS = Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills

- Focuses on foundational skills
- Automaticity is Key: Most DIBELS subtests are exactly one minute long. This timed format measures automaticity—the ability to recognize letters, sounds, or words without conscious effort. When a child's brain doesn't have to struggle to decode a word, it is freed up to understand the meaning of the text.
- All K-4 students are tested 3x a year to ensure they are on track to meet end of year expectations. (Grades 5 & 6 students tested as needed)
- Some DIBELS tests ask students to read made-up (or "nonsense") words. This accurately tests pure decoding ability because students cannot rely on memory or context clues
- Progress Monitoring is used to ensure that the instruction students are receiving is closing the gap.



What is Phonemic Awareness and why is it important?

Phonemic Awareness is a student's ability to identify and manipulate sounds (phonemes) in spoken words. Phonemic Awareness is a strong predictor of reading success.

Phonemic awareness helps children get ready for reading and writing by helping them understand that words are made of smaller sounds. It also helps them sound out words as they read and write. One of the key differences between readers who struggle and those who don't is strong phonemic awareness.

Here are 2 videos showing phonemic awareness in action.

Segmenting:

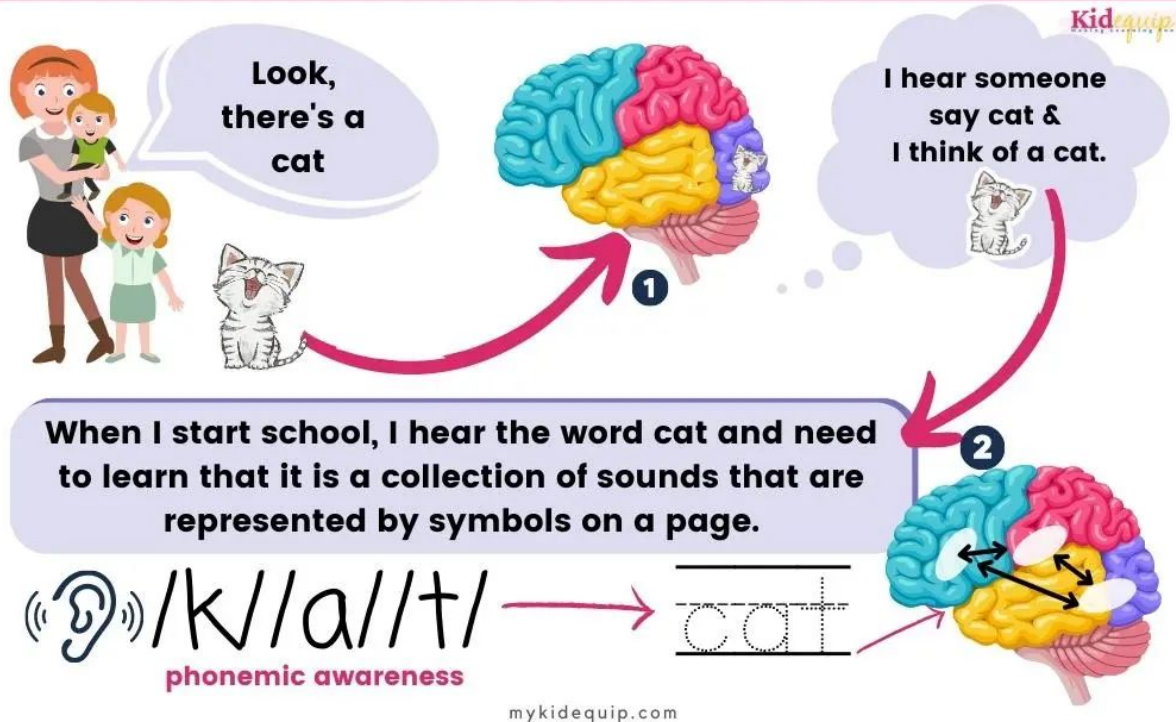


Blending:

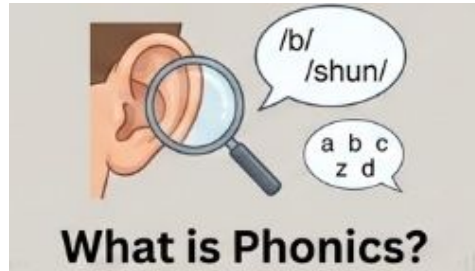


How Phonemic Awareness Develops

How do our brains start to process sounds in relation to symbols?



What is Phonics?



Phonics is reading instruction that helps children understand how letters and groups of letters link to sounds, forming letter-sound relationships and spelling patterns. Phonics is the ability to apply letter sounds with its corresponding symbol. Instruction begins with basic letter-sound correspondences (b says /b/) and progress to more complex letter sound relationships (t-i-o-n says /shun/).

Phonics unlocks the written language for children by helping them:

1. Decode words—understanding how letters and sounds work together for reading.
2. Encode words—knowing which letters to use when writing.



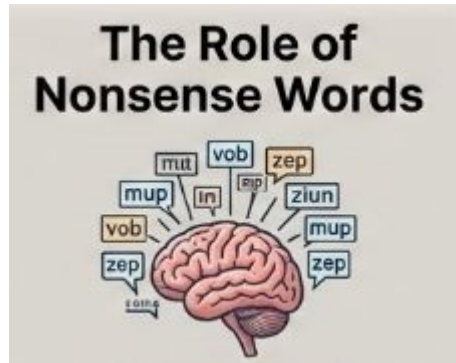
What is Nonsense Word Fluency and why is it important?

Why use Nonsense Words?

Using Nonsense words prevents students from relying on context clues, guessing, or recognizing sight words. It instead measures their ability to isolate a letter's sound and blend them together, coherently with the other letters in the word. A child's ability to decode nonsense words is one of the strongest indicators of future reading comprehension.

NWF - evaluates 2 critical reading skills

1. Alphabetic Principle - the understanding that letters represent specific sounds
2. Phonics & Blending - The ability to look at letter-sound relationships and blend them together to read a whole word.



Oral Reading Fluency

Oral reading fluency is the ability to read text accurately, quickly, and with proper expression.

- **Accuracy:** The ability to instantly and correctly identify words without having to stop and sound them out.
- **Speed (Rate):** Reading at an appropriate pace—neither too fast nor too slow—that matches the reader's age and the complexity of the text.
- **Prosody (Expression):** Reading aloud with the correct rhythm, intonation, and pauses (like a natural conversation) to bring meaning to the words
- **Comprehension:** The ultimate goal of fluency; when the mechanics of reading become automatic, the reader can focus entirely on understanding and interpreting the message.

Why Fluency Matters

When a reader has to struggle and decode each individual word, their brain is entirely occupied with the "mechanics" of reading. This leaves very little short-term memory available to focus on the actual meaning or narrative of the text. (Comprehension!)

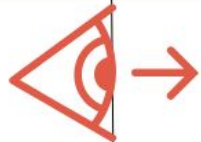
Fluency

Accuracy



Decode words
with 95%
accuracy

Automaticity



Effortless word
identification.
Large bank of
sight words.

Rate



Speed
maintained
while reading
automatically
and accurately

Prosody



Reading with
expression

MAZE - Comprehension Check

The DIBELS (and Acadience) MAZE is a silent reading comprehension assessment. It gets its name because it uses a "cloze" procedure where a passage has missing words, creating a puzzle that requires students to mentally navigate through context clues and vocabulary choices to complete the text

The purpose is to force readers to use context clues, vocabulary knowledge, syntax and grammar knowledge, and critical thinking skills to determine the missing words and construct meaning from the text.



Ways you can help at home (Screenshot this page!) :)

Resources you can use for Segmenting & Blending

<https://www.readingrockets.org/classroom/classroom-strategies/blending-and-segmenting-games> (This page has videos and activities you may find helpful.)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3zV00sK5y78>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=53mSUi15Dq0>

References

- <https://mykidequip.com/phonemic-awareness/>
- www.lexialearning.com+5
- <https://improvingliteracy.org/resource/phonemic-awareness-what-is-it-and-why-is-it-important/>
- <https://www.readingrockets.org/classroom/classroom-strategies/blending-and-segmenting-games>