BENCHMARK ADVANCE ASSESSMENTS

Who: All 2nd through 5th grade students.

What:

- Students will take assessments related to Benchmark Advance 4 times per year.
- These replace our former Comprehension Benchmark Assessments (CBA's).
- A Pre and a Post Interim assessment will track progress from the beginning until the end of the year.
- Students read 1-3 grade level texts, including both fiction and non-fiction.
- Students answer multiple choice questions and write an essay in response to reading.
- Two other Performance Task assessments will track progress with responding to a text-based prompt with a narrative and informational/opinion essay response.
- Student writing pieces are analyzed for ideas, organization, clarity, grammar and language conventions.
- Students in Grades 3-5 take these online.

Why: These are aligned with instruction using Benchmark Advance for reading comprehension, vocabulary, and writing. Teachers use information from these assessments to guide comprehension and writing instruction throughout the school year.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Ann Marie Byrd, Elementary ELA Supervisor

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ELEMENTARY LANGUAGE ARTS ASSESSMENTS



Carroll County Public Schools

PRIMARY LITERACY ASSESSMENT

Who: All Pre-Kindergarten through 2nd grade students. Once students master a particular component of the PLA, they are no longer assessed on that component unless there is evidence of regression.

What: This collection of assessments is used to measure early literacy behaviors, and students' ability to hear, manipulate, and differentiate sounds (phonological awareness).

Why: This assessment is a diagnostic tool used to screen students, group students appropriately based on assessed needs, and drive instructional decisions based on students' academic needs.

Pre-K PLA (Winter):

- Letter ID – Uppercase
- Letter ID – Lowercase
- Matching Familiar Consonant Sounds/Letters
- Classifying Words by Initial Sounds
- Blending Syllables
- Rhyme Identification

PLA for Pre-K (Spring) through 2nd Grade (as needed):

- Letter Identification for all uppercase and lowercase letters
- Letter Sounds
- Early Concepts of Print
- Blending - Phonemic Awareness/ Diagnostic Assessment of Phonemic and Phonological Awareness (DAPPA)
- Blending Onset-Rime into Spoken Words
- Hearing Sounds in Words: Students write a dictated sentence. Points are given for each sound the student accurately represents in writing.
- High Frequency Words: Assesses students' knowledge of words they will most frequently encounter in reading.

Every Child. Every Day.

CCPS Elementary ELA

CARROLL COUNTY PHONICS ASSESSMENT (CCPA)

Who: All K-2 students are assessed until they reach mastery on specific phonics components.

What: Students will be asked to apply College and Career Readiness Standards-aligned phonics skills to decode real and nonsense words

Why: Students who can read real and nonsense words accurately are prepared to solve words with more than one syllable. A detailed assessment of phonics/phonics-related skills guides a teacher's explicit phonics instruction based on the student's needs.

Kindergarten	1st Grade	2nd Grade	3rd Grade
Short vowel sounds Long vowel sounds Closed syllables	Closed syllables with digraphs Closed syllables with blends Vowel-consonant e Two syllables-closed	R-controlled Vowel Digraphs and Diphthongs Two-syllable words	Multisyllabic words

*Please refer to the Fundations parent letters for more information.

STAR ASSESSMENTS (RENAISSANCE)

Who: All PreK-5th grade students.

What:

- All students PreK - 5: STAR Early Literacy -or- STAR Reading
- Grades K-3: STAR Rapid Automatic Naming (RAN)
- Grades 1-5: STAR Passage Oral Reading

Why: STAR is a screener for future reading difficulties, including dyslexia, in Carroll County. It also measures essential early literacy skills for progress monitoring.