

Reading Assessments

The Christina School District administration and staff use DSTP scores as one assessment tool to assist them in making instructional decisions and to develop School Improvement Plans. In addition to the DSTP, the following formal and informal assessments tools are used to measure and monitor student reading performance in grades four through six:

Gates- MacGinitie

The Gates-MacGinitie is a valid and reliable assessment published by the Riverside Company. The Gates-MacGinitie is aligned to the Delaware ELA Standards and provides needs assessment for students in the area of reading comprehension and vocabulary. Schools may administer the Gates-MacGinitie to all students in the fall and spring of each school year to measure adequate yearly progress. The Gates-MacGinitie may be used as a baseline for monitoring student growth and for screening low performing students.

STAR

STAR is a computer-adaptive reading test and database. The results can be used to determine instructional reading levels, monitor class progress, or determine class growth through pre and post testing. STAR reading computerized tests may be administered to individual students up to five times per year. STAR is used on a school wide basis and has a central administrator who is usually the reading resource teacher.

Language Assessment Scales (LAS Test)

English Language Learners who are enrolled in bilingual education programs are assessed annually using the LAS Test. The LAS Test is given to determine if sufficient progress is being made toward meeting the standards.

Theme/Unit Tests

Theme/Unit tests are informal assessments found at the end of each unit in the anthology being used as part of a school's reading program. Since the anthologies are **Scientifically Based Reading Research (SBRR)** and are aligned with state reading standards, the tests serve not only as an assessment of strategies taught, but also as a preparatory measure for standardized tests. Some schools use select unit tests as alternative data if a student's promotion is in question. The tests should be used even if instruction is based on trade books or other reading sources.

Book List for Benchmark Book Kits

Level	Book Title	Company
1A	The Farm	Rigby
1B	Down To Town	Wright
2A	A Sun. A Flower	Wright
2B	Jump, Jump Kangaroo	Wright
3A	My Book	Wright
3B	Our Granny	Wright
4A	Shark in a Sack	Wright
4B	In My Room	Rigby
5A	Our Dog Sam	Rigby
5B	I'm Brave	Wright
6A	In the Park	Wright
6B	All Join In	Wright
7A	Wet Paint	Rigby
7B	Little Bird	Wright
8A	I Have A Home	Wright
8B	Don't You Laugh at Me	Wright
9A	When I Was Sick	Rigby
9B	Speak Up	Wright
10A	Good-Night Little Brother	Rigby
10B	Dad didn't Mind At All	Rigby
11A	Night Noises	Wright
11B	My Birthday Surprise	
12A	Scruffy Messed It up	Rigby
12B	Red Socks, Yellow Socks	Wright
13A	Mom's Haircut	Rigby
13B	Emma's Problem	Wright
14A	Mr. Whisper	Wright
14B	Boxes	Rigby
15A	Same but Different	Wright
15B	Mrs. Grindy's Shoes	Wright
16A	A Fire at the Zoo	Wright
16B	Boring Old Bed	Wright
17A	Lizard's Grandmother	Wright
17B	The Ha-Ha Party	Wright
18A	Soup	Wright
18B	Living in the Sky	Wright
19A	The Person from Planet X	Wright

19B	The Mighty Ferry Pigeon	Wright
20A	Trog	Wright
20B	Emillo and the River	Wright
21A	The New Car	Wright
21B	The Little Old Lady who Danced on the Moon	Wright
21B ALT	The Wind and the Sun	
22A	The Man Who Enjoyed Grumbling	
22A ALT	Tricks with a Kite	
22B	Camping with Our Dad	Wright
23A	The Secret of Cannonball Cove	Wright
23B	The Wonderhair Hair Restorer	Wright
23A ALT	Caring For Kittens	
24A	Ishmaal and the Glass House	
24 ALT	Crandall Cricket	
24B	The King's Treasure	Wright
25A	Ellot and the Drainpipe Kids	Wright
25A ALT	The Friend	
25B	The Little Round Husband	Wright
26A	Shambles	Wright
26B	The Best Diver in the World	Wright
26 ALT	Amelia Earhart	
27A	The Beauty Contest	Wright
27B	The Adventures of Tutanhamen	Wright

Informal Reading Inventories (IRI)

Informal Reading Inventories are reading tests that are given individually to a student to help determine that student's independent, instructional, and frustration level. It is made up of grade level word lists and grade level story passages. Each story passage is followed by comprehension questions, which determine how well the student understands the story. The types of questions are: determining the topic, understanding the facts, making inferences, evaluation of the story, and understanding vocabulary. The Basic Reading Inventory, by Jerry L. Johns Northern Illinois University, published by Kendall/Hunt may be used.

Running Records

A Running Record is a tally of errors, or miscues, that readers make as they are reading orally. Dr. Marie Clay developed running records as a way for teachers to quickly and easily assess their students' reading behaviors "on the run" so to speak. Running Records are intended to help teachers:

- Monitor ongoing student progress in decoding
- Find out which particular skills and strategies students are using
- Focus on specific needs of individual children
- Group together children with similar needs for reading instruction
- Choose books at an appropriate level for students

Benchmark Assessment

The Benchmark Assessment is designed for teachers to assess students' reading performance using text that is leveled and unfamiliar to the child. The texts range from early emergent to fluent, from grades 1-4. Each text includes an oral reading assessment piece (running record) and retelling protocol. The kit includes guidelines for administering and scoring the assessment. These assessments should be used to make instructional decisions.

The assessments are administered individually.

- The teacher selects the leveled text and presents it to the child by reading a short, scripted piece introducing the text.
- The child reads the text silently or by himself.
- After reading the text the child retells the text.
- The teacher marks the child's responses on the retelling protocol.

Use only the scripted prompts provided on protocol sheet.

19 – 20	Independent Level
14 – 18	Instructional Level
Below 14	Frustration Level

- The child then reads a section of the text aloud as the teacher records the child's reading on the running record form.
 - 96% - 100% Independent Level
 - 90% - 95% Instructional Level
 - Below 90% Frustration Level
- Follow the chart below to determine the student's overall performance on the benchmark leveled text

Oral Reading + Comprehension = Overall		
96%-100% (Independent)	19-20 Independent	Independent
	14-18 Instructional	Instructional
	Below 14 Frustration	Frustration
90%-95% (Instructional)	19-20 Independent	Independent
	14-18 Instructional	Instructional
	Below 14 Frustration	Frustration
Below 90% (Frustration)	19-20 Independent	Instructional
	14-18 Instructional	Frustration
	Below 14 Frustration	Frustration

- If the student's overall score is instructional or independent move to the next level.
- If the student's **overall** score is frustration discontinue testing and assess using the B level at an appropriate time.

Reading Assessments *Frequently Asked Questions*

1. When is it necessary to administer an IRI? Who should give it?

Use of IRI's is building specific. Frequently new students are given an IRI at a teacher's request or if there is some irregularity in assessment data. The Reading Resource Teacher or Title I Reading Specialist usually administers the IRI.

2. Does the district have a designated set of assessments that all schools are required to do?

No. All schools use DSTP data plus some other additional reading assessments such as running records, Star, Gates MacGinitie and reading theme tests.

3. How often are assessments administered?

Frequency of assessments is building specific, however all students are required to have pre and post reading test data.

4. Are unit tests administered to only students who use the anthology?

No, all students take unit holistic tests at least 3 times a year.

