
How Results are Used

DIBELS benchmarks provide teachers with standards for monitoring the progress of students. The data enables teachers to instruct all students appropriately.

These benchmarks show if students are on-track to becoming proficient readers. Results help to identify students meeting early literacy goals and providing information for students in need of additional support .

When goals are not met, additional instruction occurs. Ongoing progress-monitoring takes place until the student reaches the goal or it is time for the next testing window.

Help at Home

- Teach your child rhymes/songs
- Practice the sounds in words
- Segmentation (first sound isolation): What is the first sound in mop?
- Blending: What word am I trying to say?
Mmmmm♦oooo♦.p.
- Count words in a sentence
- Count syllables in a word
- Help your child separate words into sounds by clapping the sounds
- Help your child blend sounds into words
- Read to your child
- Have your child reread favorite books or stories

Reading Specialists

Frederick County Public Schools

Rev.8//09



D Dynamic
I Indicators
of
B Basic
E Early
L Literacy
S Skills



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Schools*



DIBELS

DIBELS are a series of short individual tests given to children in kindergarten and first grade to screen and monitor a student's early reading skills. DIBELS are used to identify students who may need additional support in achieving reading success and to guide classroom instruction. All DIBELS measures are timed with most taking one minute. The timing is to help determine if a child is able to automatically respond or read the words automatically. Having basic reading skills at the automatic level allows children to focus on understanding when they are reading.

In Frederick County DIBELS is used as a screening tool to help monitor students progress in relationship to national grade-level norms. The data is used with other assessments to discuss the progress of all students in learning to read.

Initial Sound Fluency (ISF):

Students have to match pictures with the beginning sound sounds the teacher dictates.

- Shows if children can recognize the beginning sounds in words
- Given Fall/Winter for kindergarten
- Takes two minutes to administer

Letter Naming Fluency (LNF):

Students need to give the name of the letter when presented a page of randomly placed upper and lowercase letters.

- Shows if children can fluently name random upper and lowercase letters on a page
- Given quarterly for kindergarten and Fall of first grade
- Takes one minute to administer

Oral Reading Fluency (ORF):

First and second grade students will read for one minute a grade level passage.

- Shows if children can fluently and accurately read grade-level passages.
- Tests are administered quarterly.

Phoneme Segmentation Fluency (PSF):

Students need to produce verbally the individual phonemes for each word. For example, the examiner says "sat," and the student says "/s/ /a/ /t/". Shows if children can separate words into individual sounds

- Given Winter/Spring/Summer for kindergarten and quarterly for first grade
- Takes one minute to administer

Nonsense Word Fluency (NWF):

Students need to produce verbally the individual letter sound of each letter or verbally produce, or read, the whole nonsense word.

- Shows if children can blend letter sounds into words
 - Given Winter/Spring/Summer for kindergarten and quarterly for first grade and fall for second grade
 - Takes one minute to administer
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