

Early Reading Screening

A Guide for Families





Click here to view the webinar

Why Early Reading Screening?

In YRDSB, we affirm that literacy is a human right.

In support of the recommendations in the Ontario
Human Rights Commission's Right to Read Inquiry
Report, screening tools help to identify students
who may experience reading difficulty so necessary
early interventions can be implemented.

What is Early Reading Screening?

A screening measure or instrument is a quick and informal evidence-based assessment that provides information about possible word-reading difficulties. It identifies students who are currently having or are at risk for future word-reading difficulties so they can receive more instruction or immediate intervention. All students should be screened using standardized evidence-based screening measures twice a year from Kindergarten to Grade 2.

~ Right to Read Report, February 2022, pg. 31

Early Reading Screening...

- Is completed one-on-one towards the beginning of the school year
- Is one valuable tool to help us understand and communicate individual reading progress
- Provides us with data to better support students' unique needs
- Is not evaluated as part of your child's grades, but instead will help identify the support they need in order to develop reading proficiency.
- Covers various foundational skills needed for reading proficiency

No additional preparation is needed nor expected for the screening.

Early Reading Screening (ERS)

Early reading screening supports early identification of difficulties in foundational reading skills – such as identifying letters, sounds, and their relationships, as well as decoding words and reading text. Research suggests that when these difficulties are identified early and addressed using evidence-based instruction, future challenges with reading can be minimized or even prevented.

Acadience Reading is the selected screening tool for YRDSB.



What is Acadience Reading?

- Acts as a "temperature check"
- Quick, 1 min tasks
- Administered by your child's teacher
- Help teachers determine potential next steps
- Provide information about early reading skills





Why Early Reading Screening?

Early reading screening is an essential tool to identify students who are experiencing difficulties with reading so they can receive the support they need to improve their reading proficiency and give them the best opportunity for success.

The purpose of early reading screening is to:

- monitor your child's development in early reading skills;
- identify children who need additional support; and,
- guide classroom instruction.

Acadience Reading Measures Beginning of Year



First Sound Fluency

(Year 2 Kindergarten)

Students say the first sound they hear in a simple word spoken by the teacher.

Letter Naming Fluency

(Year 2 Kindergarten, Grade One)

Teacher shows the student a page of upper and lowercase letters. Student says the names of the letters.

Phoneme Segmentation Fluency (Grade One)

Students listen to a simple word spoken by the teacher, and then say the sound in the word.

Nonsense Word Fluency

(Grade One, Grade Two)

Students use their knowledge of phonics to read a list of unknown, 'nonsense' words (e.g., "ib")

Oral Reading Fluency (including retell)

(Grade Two)

Students read a short text. After reading the student tells about the story that was read.

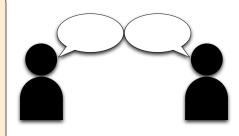
Educators may use Early Reading Screening Information to...

- Decide which assessments they will use next to gather more in depth information
- Plan instruction to further develop the foundational reading skills
- Differentiate instruction as needed
- Provide small group instruction to target specific reading skills
- Determine which strategies to use to support reading instruction for your child

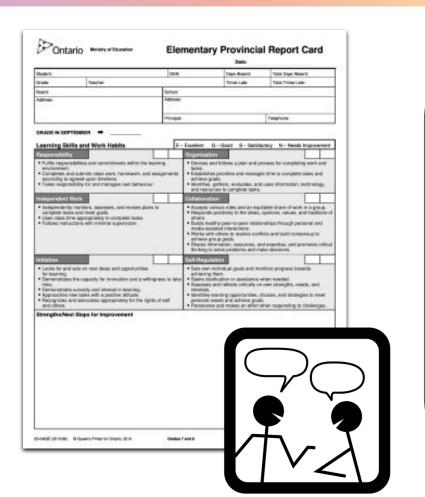
Ongoing Communication

"Although there are formal reporting periods, communication with parents and students about student achievement should be continuous throughout the year or course, by a variety of means, such as parent-teacher or parent-student-teacher conferences, portfolios of student work, student-led conferences, interviews, phone calls, checklists, and informal reports. Communication about student achievement should be designed to provide detailed information that will encourage students to set goals for learning, help teachers to establish plans for teaching, and assist parents in supporting learning at home."

Ontario Curriculum, Assessment and Evaluation

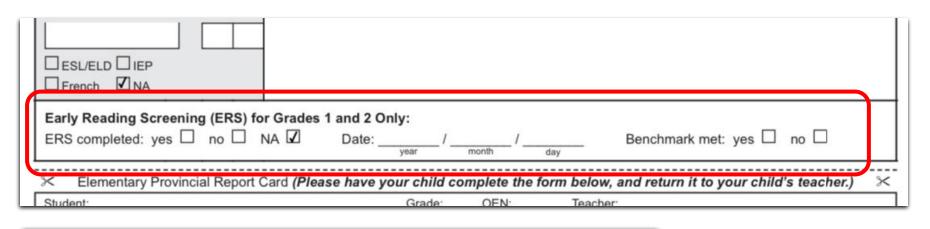


Reporting



Results of the first screening will formally be communicated to you in your child's first Kindergarten Communication of Learning or **Elementary Provincial Report** Card (issued in February) and will indicate whether your child has met or not yet met the screening benchmark at the time of their screening.

Grade 1 and 2 - Term 1 and Term 2 Report Card



Kindergarten - Communication of Learning

ESL – English as a Second Language IEP – Individual Education Plan	NA - Not applicable	
Early Reading Screening (ERS) for Year	2 of Kindergarten Only:	
	Date://	Benchmark met: yes ☐ no ☐

RIGHT TO READ

"The inquiry is not just about an equal right to read - it is about an equal right to a future."

OHRC, RIGHT TO READ INQUIRY REPORT, FEBRUARY 2022

