

Ignite Reading Screener Overview

At Ignite Reading we will utilize our own Early Literacy Screener to understand the skills students have mastered within and throughout our program. Our aim is to have a clear understanding of the growth students make while receiving Ignite Reading tutoring. The screener is being used to ensure our program is meeting the needs of students.

Please feel free to reach out to an Ignite Reading Literacy Specialist, should you have further questions.

What's included in the Ignite Reading screener?

The Ignite Reading screener consists of three subtests: **Letter Name Fluency**, **Nonsense Word Fluency** and **Oral Reading Fluency**. These subtests help us track, monitor and identify students at all levels of our program – pre-readers, word readers and fluent readers – to ensure their instructional needs are being met. These three subtests align with 1st Grade metrics and cutpoints. Students who begin our program in the Multisyllabic Decoding unit will receive an Oral Reading Fluency passage aligned to 2nd-grade metrics and cutpoints.

When is the screener given?

Every student at Ignite Reading will take the beginning of program screener during their first week in program and the end of program screener during their last week in program. Based on time in the program, students may also take the middle of program screener.

Will the Ignite Reading screener interfere with the screener at my school/district?

No! One reason we created an in-house screener is to avoid practice effects and decreased test validity with schools who may be using the same assessment.

How is the data used? When will I see the data for my students?

As this is a pilot year for our new screener, we will be using data in various ways to learn more about the efficacy of our program. Our first goal with data collected is to ensure our assessments meet various statistical standards. We will review data for internal consistency and inter-rater reliability. We will also use content and criterion-related validity measures to ensure our assessments meet strict standards. Once we feel comfortable that our screener has met these standards, we are eager to share the data collected.

Long term, the data will be used to improve our ability to detail the growth our students are making to our partners. We will also utilize the data to ensure our systems are providing the most effective support to our students and hold ourselves accountable to providing a growth-yielding service that all students deserve.

How was the screener developed? Is the data valid and reliable?

We used DIBELS as a guidepost for developing our Ignite Reading Early Literacy Screener. DIBELS¹ is a widely regarded early literacy assessment that assesses the component skills, like phonemic awareness, phonics and fluency, required to become fluent readers. Many of our partners use DIBELS and it is backed by extensive research and has become increasingly effective at predicting reading difficulties in students over time. We honed in on 3 subtests that align with our curriculum, as valuable indicators of progress for our pre-readers, word readers, and fluent readers: Letter Name Fluency, Nonsense Word Fluency and Oral Reading Fluency.

The Oral Reading Fluency passages were created with the same level of difficulty based on various readability measures like:

- Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level
 - 1st Grade: 1.5-2.0
 - 2nd Grade: 2.5-3.0
- Other readability formulas: Dale-Chall, Spache, Coh-Metrix
- Topics of texts were selected to represent a range of experiences reflecting different cultures, regions, and settings.
- Special formatting, dialogue, and sensitive subjects were avoided within the passages.

As this is the first year we've utilized an in-house screener, we will gather various data points to ensure our assessments effectively measure their intended outcomes. We will analyze both statistical and comparative data to confirm the validity and reliability of our screener.

¹ [Link](#) to DIBELS 8 Administration and Scoring Guide, [Link](#) to DIBELS website