



2020-21 Early Literacy MCL: 380.1280f Initial Assessments

Initial assessments – tools that are used early in the school year and are used regularly (generally three times per year), to identify any potential issues or challenges for students in demonstrating literacy skills at grade level based upon Michigan’s English Language Arts standards in grades K-3. These tools are often identified as screeners or benchmarking tools and are used as part of a broader assessment system to determine needs and potential supports for individual students to ensure they are developing appropriate skills and competencies in English Language Arts.

Assessments on this list are approved as an Initial assessment for the 2020-2021 academic year and were reviewed based on materials submitted by vendors. These assessments are not intended to be used with students with significant cognitive impairments. Additional information on Initial assessments can be found on the [Early Literacy MCL: 380.1280f Assessments website](#).

Although some of the assessments may be appropriate for grades below and beyond K-3, this list focuses on Grades K through 3 in support of the legislation MCL: 380.1280f. Districts are advised to perform additional reviews of materials to make appropriate assessment decisions for their students, staff, and communities. These tools are intended to fit as part of a larger assessment system.

Assessment	Initially Identified Construct of Coverage
A2i Online Assessments	<p>Kindergarten – Grade 3: Primarily focuses on Reading foundations (RF), Language (L), Comprehension (RI/RL) standards.</p> <p>A school/district may need to supplement for Listening (SL) and Writing (W) standards.</p>
<p>Acadience™ Reading (previously published under the name DIBELS Next®)¹</p> <p>¹Acadience™ is a trademark of Dynamic Measurement Group, Inc. (DMG). The DIBELS® and DIBELS Next® registered trademarks were purchased and are now owned by the University of Oregon; DMG's continued use of the DIBELS Next mark is by license from UO. The DIBELS Next copyrighted content</p>	<p>Kindergarten: Primarily measures Reading Foundations (RF) standards and partially measures Language (L) standards.</p> <p>Grade 1: Primarily measures RF, Reading Comprehension (RL/RI) standards 1-3, and appears to partially measures L standards.</p> <p>Grade 2: Primarily measures RF standards, the majority of RL/RI, and L standards.</p> <p>Grade 3: Measures the RL/RI standards 1-3.</p> <p>A school/district may need to supplement in the following areas: RL/RI, Writing (W), and Listening (SL).</p>

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Achievement Network ELA Assessments	<p>Grade 2 - Grade 3: Appears to address Reading Comprehension (RL/RI) Language (L), Writing (W).</p> <p>A school/district may need to supplement for Listening (SL), Reading Foundation (RF) standards.</p>
AIMSweb Plus	<p>Kindergarten – Grade 1: Primarily focuses on the Reading Foundations (RF) standards.</p> <p>Grades 2-3: Appears to align with Reading Comprehension (RL/RI) standards 1-6, and may also address Language (L) standard 5.</p> <p>A school/district may need to supplement in the following areas:</p> <p>Kindergarten – Grade 1: Reading Comprehension (RL and RI), Writing (W), Listening (SL), and Language standards.</p> <p>Grades 2-3: RF, W, SL, and L standards.</p>
AIMSweb	<p>Test of Early Literacy (TEL): Partially assesses Reading Foundations (RF).</p> <p>Reading CMB (R-CBM): Appears to primarily assess some RF standards.</p> <p>Written Expression CBM (WE-CBM): Appears to assess Language (L) standards L1 and L2.</p> <p>Spelling CBM (S-CBM): Appears to assess standard L2.</p> <p>Additional assessments may be available with this product but were not reviewed at this time. A school/district may need to supplement in the following areas: Reading Comprehension (RL and RI), Writing (W), Listening (SL), and L3 – L6 standards.</p>
Beacon	<p>Grade 3: Addresses Reading Comprehension (RL/RI), Speaking and Listening (SL), Writing (W), and Language (L) standards.</p>

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	A school/district may need to supplement in the following areas: Reading Foundations (RF) standards.
CUBED	Grades K-3: Addresses Reading Foundation (RF), Reading Comprehension (RL/RI), Language (L) standards. NLM addresses Listening (SL) and Writing (W) standards.
Degrees of Reading Power (DRP) (Questar)	DRP: Partially aligns with Reading Comprehension standards (RI only). A school/district may need to supplement in the following areas: Reading Foundations (RF), Reading Comprehension (RL), Writing (W), Listening (SL), and Language (L).
DIBELS 6	There are several individual assessments in the DIBELS 6 th edition suite that cover grades K-3. These assessments appear to primarily align with the Reading Foundations (RF) standards. A school/district may need to supplement in the following areas: Reading Comprehension (RL/RI), Writing (W), Listening (SL), and Language (L).
Dibels 8 th Edition	Addresses Reading Foundations (RF), Comprehension (RI/RL) standards. Districts may need to supplement for Writing (W), Listening (SL), and Language (L) standards.
EL Education K-2 Reading Foundations Skills Block Benchmark Assessments (No Cost)	Addresses Reading Foundation (RF) standards only. A school/district may need to supplement for Listening (SL), Reading Comprehension (RI/RL), Language (L), and Writing (W) standards.
easyCBM	Kindergarten – Grade 1: Appears to primarily focus on a portion of the Reading Foundations (RF) standards, and the measures seem to differ by benchmark assessment period. Grade 2: Appears to assess some RF standards, appears to partially assess Reading Comprehension (RL/RI) standards, and Language (L) standards.

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	<p>Grade 3: Appears to introduce a "CCSS Reading Measure," which focuses primarily on RL/RI and RF.</p> <p>Language (Vocabulary) and "CCSS Reading Measure" are only available with the paid version of easyCBM.</p> <p>A school/district may need to supplement in the following areas: RL/RI, Writing (W), Listening (SL), and Language (L) standards.</p>
Edmentum Exact Path	<p>Appears to primarily assess Reading Foundations (RF), Reading Comprehension (RL/RI), and Language (L) standards.</p> <p>A school/district may need to supplement in the following areas: Writing (W) and Listening (SL) standards.</p>
FastBridge FAST aReading	<p>Kindergarten: Appears to focus on the Reading Foundations (RF) standards.</p> <p>Grade 1 - 2: Appears to heavily align to the RF and Language (L) standards with partial alignment to Reading Comprehension standards (RL).</p> <p>Grade 3: Appears to align to RF, L, and Reading Comprehension (RL/RI) standards (RL/RI standard 1-3).</p> <p>A school/district may need to supplement in the following areas:</p> <p>Kindergarten – Grade 2: Reading Comprehension (RL/RI), Writing (W), and Listening (L).</p> <p>Grade 3: W and L.</p>
FastBridge FAST CBMreading	<p>Appears to align to the Reading Foundations (RF) standards.</p> <p>A school/district may need to supplement in the following areas: Reading Comprehension (RL/RI), Writing (W), Listening (SL), and Language (L) standards.</p>
FastBridge FAST earlyReading (composite)	<p>Appears to be an assessment for students in Kindergarten and Grade 1 and is aligned to the Reading Foundations (RF) standards.</p> <p>A school/district may need to supplement in the following areas: Reading Comprehension (RL/RI), Writing (W), Listening (SL), and Language (L) standards.</p>

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	In addition, an assessment aligned to the ELA standards would also be necessary for students in grades 2-3.
Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System	The current documentation submitted for this assessment mentions “fluency” and “reading comprehension”. However, depth and alignment were difficult to determine. In addition, information on text complexity is unclear at this time.
Imagine Learning Beginning of Year Benchmark	<p>Grades K-3: Addresses Reading Foundation (RF), Reading Comprehension (RL/RI), and some Language (L) standards.</p> <p>*Need to clarify if it assesses RL and RI.</p> <p>Need to supplement for Listening (SL), Writing (W), and Language (L) standards.</p>
Iowa Assessments- Survey Version	<p>The Iowa Assessments- Survey Version does not appear to be available for Kindergarten students.</p> <p>Grade 1-2 (Level 7 and 8): Appear to have two assessments in the survey: Reading Test and Language Test. The tests appear to be aligned with some Reading Foundations (RF) and Reading Comprehension (RL/RI) standards.</p> <p>Grade 3 (Level 9): Appears to have be aligned to RL/RI standards.</p> <p>Written Expression Test and optional Word Analysis and Listening Tests are also available.</p> <p>A school/district may need to supplement in the following areas: RF, Writing (W), Language (L), and Listening (SL) standards.</p>
i-Ready Diagnostic Reading Assessment	<p>Appears to align with the Reading Foundations (RF), Reading Comprehension (RL/RI) and Language (L) standards.</p> <p>A school/district may need to supplement in the following areas: W, L (1-3), and SL standards.</p>
Istation Indicators of Progress Early Reading	<p>Grades K-3: Addresses Reading Foundation (RF), Reading Comprehension (RL/RI), Language (L) and Listening (SL) standards.</p> <p>A school/district may need to supplement for Writing (W) standards.</p>

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Kindergarten Readiness Assessment / Kindergarten Entry Observation (Language and Literacy domain only)	Kindergarten Entry Primarily assess Reading Comprehension (RL/RI), Listening (SL), Language (L), Writing (W), Reading Foundations (RF).
Lexia RAPID Assessment	Kindergarten – Grade 2: Appears to align with Reading Foundations (RF), Reading Comprehension (RL/RI), and Language (L) standards. Grade 3: Appears to align with RL/RI and L standards. A school/district may need to supplement in the following areas: Listening (SL) and Writing (W).
Michigan Early Literacy Benchmark Assessment	This assessment is online (currently no paper/pencil form) and is available three times per year. Kindergarten – Grade 2: Primarily align to Reading Foundation (RF), Reading Comprehension (RL/RI), Writing (W), and Language (L). A school/district may need to supplement in the following areas: Listening (SL) standards.
NWEA MAP Growth (formerly NWEA Map System-Survey with Goals test and Survey test)	Kindergarten – Grade 3: Appears to be a large focus on the Reading Foundations (RF) and Language (L) standards. Also, indicates that Language score includes Writing Process and Composition Structure. A school/district may need to supplement in the following areas: Listening (SL), and perhaps a stronger alignment with the Reading Comprehension (RL/RI) and Writing (W) standards.
NWEA MAP Growth K-2 (formerly NWEA Map for Primary Grades (MPG) System) (Survey with Goals test, Screening test, and Skills Checklist)	Primarily focuses on the Reading Foundation (RF) and Language (L) standards with some emphasis on Writing (W) and Reading Comprehension (RL/RI) standards. A school/district may need to supplement in the following areas: Listening (SL) and perhaps RL/RI and W standards.
NWEA MAP Reading Fluency	Primarily focuses on the Reading Foundation (RF) and Language (L) standards.

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	A school/district may need to supplement for Reading Comprehension (RL/RI), Writing (W), Listening (SL), and Speaking (SL) standards.
NWEA Skills Checklist	Appears to provide targeted analysis of Reading Foundations (RF). This assessment should be paired with the NWEA MPG for an effective Initial assessment.
95 Percent Group's Phonological Awareness Screener for Intervention (PASI)	<p>Kindergarten – Grade 1: Addresses Reading Foundation(RF) for phonological awareness only.</p> <p>A school/district may need to supplement in the following areas: Additional Reading Foundations (RF), Reading Comprehension (RL/RI), Language (L), Listening (SL), and Writing (W).</p>
Predictive Assessment of Reading (Red-e Set Grow)	<p>Appears to have an alignment with the Reading Foundations (RF) standards.</p> <p>A school/district may need to supplement in the following areas: Reading Comprehension (RL/RI), Language (L), Writing (W), and Listening (SL) standards.</p>
Reading Inventory (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)	<p>Foundational Reading Assessment: Appears to measure Reading Foundations (RF) standards.</p> <p>Reading Comprehension Assessment: Appears to measure Reading Comprehension (RL/RI) standards.</p> <p>A school/district may need to supplement in the following areas: Writing (W), Language (L), and Listening (SL) standards.</p>
Renaissance Learning: STAR Reading Test	<p>Primarily assesses the Reading Comprehension (RI/RL) standards with some emphasis on Language (L) standards.</p> <p>A school/district may need to supplement in the following areas: Reading Foundations (RF), Writing (W), Language (L), and Listening (SL) standards.</p>
Renaissance Learning: STAR Early Literacy Reading Test	<p>Primarily focuses on the Reading Foundations (RF) standards. Subdomains appear to include Reading Comprehension (RL/RI).</p> <p>A school/district may need to supplement in the following areas: Reading Comprehension (RI/RL), Language (L), Listening (SL), and Writing (W) standards.</p>

Assessment	Initially Identified Construct of Coverage
Smarter Balanced Interim Assessment Blocks	<p>Grade 3: Addresses Reading Comprehension (RI/RL), Writing (W), Language (L), and Listening (SL).</p> <p>A school/district may need to supplement in the following areas: Reading Foundations (RF) standards.</p>
Smarter Balanced Interim Comprehensive Assessment	<p>Grade 3: Assesses Reading Comprehension (RL/RI), Writing (W), Language (L), and Listening (SL).</p> <p>A school/district may need to supplement in the following areas: Reading Foundations (RF) standards.</p>