

A PARENT'S GUIDE TO Developmental Reading Assessment (DRA2)

Assessments provide valuable information for students, parents and educators on whether students have mastered grade level content and are on track to graduate prepared for the 21st century. Students gain from assessment data because teachers know what students need. Teachers gain from assessment data because they grow as educators to meet the needs of their students.



WHAT IS the DRA2?

The Developmental Reading Assessment (DRA2) is administered one-on-one by teachers to Kindergarten through fifth grade students to check on where they are in their literacy learning. The main purpose of this paper and pencil test is to identify a student's reading level and specific areas of strength and need that may exist in their literacy development.

The DRA2 fulfills the state requirements of the Colorado READ Act in identifying students performing significantly below grade-level and partnering with parents to create intervention reading plans.



WHEN IS MY CHILD BEING TESTED?

The READ Act testing windows occur for six weeks in the fall and spring. Schools have the entire window to test the necessary students. **Your child will be administered one assessment for 20-40 minutes a minimum of one day per window based on grade and reading level, not during the entire window.** Kindergarten through third grade students who score below a minimum level will need one to two additional assessments, per state law, to verify reading status. Consult your child's school for his/her specific testing

April

S	M	T	W	TR	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

May

S	M	T	W	TR	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

October

S	M	T	W	TR	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

schedule.

Key

Fall K-12

Fall Kindergarten extension

Spring K-12



WHAT DOES MY CHILD'S SCORE MEAN?

The DRA2 score is one piece of evidence about how well your student is progressing in reading. The assessment measures your child's reading level based on:

- Reading Engagement: how does your child interact with books away from the classroom
- Fluency: how well words and sentences are read
- Comprehension: how well your child understands what he/she has read



HOW WILL THESE SCORES BE USED?

The DRA2 is one valuable data point teachers use to guide and modify instruction. DRA2 scores can be used to identify reading skills that need work, set reading goals for students, and identify whether your child is reading as well as he/she should.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We encourage you to be involved in your child's education and preparation for the DRA2 assessment. Please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher for ways you can help your child at home.

We also encourage you to go to standards.dpsk12.org/assessments to find helpful information, including:

- A Parent's Guide to Technology
- Information for English Learners
- Colorado state resources

If you have questions or concerns about assessments, please don't hesitate to contact your child's school directly or call Family Constituency Services at (720) 423-3054.