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The DRA is an individually administered assessment of student reading proficiency. The DRA allows teachers to determine each student's instructional level for reading and provides a method for evaluating their individual reading growth over time. Teachers can also identify a student's strengths and determine if any reading challenges are present. Who takes the DRA? Fall: Grades 1 & 2 Winter: K-Grade 2 Spring: K-Grade 2 Students in Grades 3-5 who do not meet the benchmark on the i-Ready Assessment also take the DRA during these windows, as needed. How is the DRA administered? Teachers meet with their students in one-on-one sessions to listen to them read a short book or passage, and then retell what was read. The teacher uses this information to identify the DRA level at which the student can read without assistance. DRA levels span from A1-80, with multiple levels existing within many grades (K-8th grade). Note: Students must pass both the accuracy and comprehension parts of the DRA to be assigned a DRA level. For example, a student who can decode words easily but cannot comprehend a book will be assigned a lower DRA level until they can both decode and comprehend the book. What does the DRA measure? How accurately a student can read the words in the selected book/passage How fluently the student reads (using phrasing and punctuation to sound smooth, similar to talking) Whether a student can understand what they have read Once a student's DRA level and reading strengths/challenges are identified, a teacher can combine this information with data gathered from other classroom-based assessments to form reading groups and individualize reading instruction. Family Resources Home StoreProfessional AssessmentsAcademic LearningDevelopmental Reading Assessment | Third EditionDRA3 provides educators and their classrooms a criterion-based, authentic benchmark/interim assessment evaluating student reading level and reading behaviors in Kindergarten through Grade 8. DRA3 determines independent or instructional levels on reading engagement, oral reading fluency, and reading comprehension. For struggling readers, DRA3 helps create instructional groupings and informs instructional practice through progress monitoring and targeted skill-based interventions. The DRA3 Word Analysis is a collection of brief structured literacy assessment tasks with scripted lessons for instruction. The DRA3 is the most current version of the DRA. See our Guidance on using this assessment remotely. DRA3 provides educators and their classrooms a criterion-based, authentic benchmark/interim assessment evaluating student reading level and reading behaviors in Kindergarten through Grade 8. DRA3 determines independent or instructional levels on reading engagement, oral reading fluency, and reading comprehension. For struggling readers, DRA3 helps create instructional groupings and informs instructional practice through progress monitoring and targeted skill-based interventions. The DRA3 Word Analysis is a collection of brief structured literacy assessment tasks with scripted lessons for instruction. The DRA3 is the most current version of the DRA. See our Guidance on using this assessment remotely. The Developmental Reading Assessment, or DRA, is a set of individually administered reading assessments for children in kindergarten through grade eight. According to Natalie Rathvon, Ph.D., the purpose of the DRA is to identify students' independent reading level, fluency and comprehension. Educators use these assessments to identify students' reading strengths and weaknesses and to monitor reading growth. The classroom teacher administers, scores and interprets the DRA. Step 1 Prepare for the DRA. You can administer the DRA on an annual basis, ideally at the start of the year, or on a semi-annual basis, in the fall and spring, so you will need to incorporate it into the teaching timetable. According to Pearson Learning, individual DRAs take an average of ten to 20 minutes to administer, so be sure to allocate adequate time for all the students in the class. Step 2 Administer the test. There are three aspects to the assessment - book selection, reading from the book and reading preferences. Depending on the age and ability of the students, teachers may pre-select reading material or allow students to choose their own book. Students may also be asked to retell the story in their own words or respond to specific comprehension questions. Finally, questions relating to reading preferences are also designed in accordance with age and ability. These will vary from basic questions about with whom they read, to questions about different authors. Step 3 Complete the observation guide of the DRA. While students are completing the assessment tasks, teachers are required to complete an observation guide. To do this, teachers make notes about the student's ability in previewing and predicting the text, oral reading ability and strategies used, comprehension and response and reading preferences. Step 4 Calculate the score. An accuracy score is determined by counting the number of omission, errors and self-corrections in the reading assessment. Teachers circle the accuracy rate in the official observation guide. The teacher then works out a comprehension score, based on the DRA comprehension rubric and an independent reading level based on the DRA criteria, which is included in the observation guide. Step 5 Interpret the results. Each child is assigned a reading level of A1 to 80. (Higher numbers indicate a higher reading ability.) Based on these levels, teachers can highlight students who are struggling with reading and may need more help, or performing at an exceptional level for their age and require more advanced material. Step 6 Monitor reading levels. Use the results of the DRA to monitor the reading progress of students over an annual or semi-annual basis. This allows teachers to gain a better idea of a student's strengths and weaknesses and note any improvements. Use the DRA at more regular intervals, such as every semester, to monitor short-term progress. In order to continue enjoying our site, we ask that you confirm your identity as a human. Thank you very much for your cooperation. The Developmental Reading Assessment (DRA) is an individually administered assessment of a child's reading capabilities. It is a tool to be used by instructors to identify a student's reading level, accuracy, fluency, and comprehension. Once levels are identified, an instructor can use this information for instructional planning purposes. Want even more book and reading ideas? Sign up for our Scholastic Parents newsletter. The DRA test is traditionally administered on an annual or semi-annual basis. The test measures nine categories of reading behavior and six types of errors. It was developed in 1986 (and revised in both 2000 and 2003) by a committee of educators and is intended to evaluate certain aspects of your child's reading level. Tasks measured by the DRA test are divided into several skill sets. Rhyming, alliteration, segmentation, and phonemic awareness are tested in the phonemic awareness section. Letter naming, word-list reading, spelling, decoding, analogies, structural analysis, and syllabication are tested in the alphabetic principle/phonics portions. Oral reading fluency or words per minute for contextual reading are tested under fluency. Vocabulary, comprehension, and reading engagement skills are also measured in the test. After the test is evaluated and scored, your child is assigned a numeric (or alphanumeric for very early readers) DRA level A1 through 80. Children with stronger reading abilities yield higher numbers. Teachers are easily able to give children books they can read by choosing a text with the corresponding DRA level. Once your teacher gives you your child's level, you can search for books at a particular DRA level on Scholastic's Book Wizard. By providing your child with books on his level at home, you are ensuring reading advancement and success with materials that will not cause your child stress or discouragement. The Developmental Reading Assessment (DRA) is an individually administered assessment of a student's reading capabilities. It is a tool to be used by teachers to identify a student's reading level, accuracy, fluency, and comprehension. Once levels are identified, a teacher can use this information for instructional planning purposes. DRA TestingThe DRA test is administered on a semi-annual basis here in Winslow. The test measures nine categories of reading behavior and six types of errors.How DRA Levels and Testing Work TogetherTasks measured by the DRA test are divided into several skill sets. Rhyming, alliteration, segmentation, and phonemic awareness are tested in the phonemic awareness section. Letter naming, word-list reading, spelling, decoding, analogies, structural analysis, and syllabication are tested in the alphabetic principle/phonics portions. Oral reading fluency or words per minute for contextual reading are tested under fluency. Vocabulary, comprehension, and reading engagement skills are also measured in the test.After the test is evaluated and scored, your child is assigned a numeric (or alphanumeric for very early readers) DRA level A1 through 80. Children with stronger reading abilities yield higher numbers. Teachers are easily able to give students books they can read by choosing a text with the corresponding DRA level. Assessment Calendar 2024-2025.pdf" Every child deserves a champion: an adult who will never give up on them, who understands the power of connection and insists they become the best they can possibly be." - Rita Pierson, Educator

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