

## STAR Early Literacy

### What is it?

It is a computer-adaptive early literacy test designed to give accurate, reliable, and valid data quickly so that good decisions can be made about instruction.

### Who takes it?

It is designed for students in the early stages of reading development, generally kindergarten through grade 3.

### What does it test?

It measures a student's command of 41 different skills in seven literacy domains.

#### **DOMAINS:**

- 1) general readiness
- 2) graphophonemic knowledge
- 3) phonemic awareness
- 4) phonics
- 5) structural analysis
- 6) comprehension
- 7) vocabulary

### What is a desired score?

|         | Beg. | Middle | End  |
|---------|------|--------|------|
| Kdg.    | 469+ | 519+   | 574+ |
| Grade 1 | 560+ | 645+   | 723+ |
| Grade 2 | 705+ | 747+   | 783+ |
| Grade 3 | 775+ | 802+   | 825+ |

## Early Literacy Domains

### 1) General Readiness

Assesses a student's ability to identify shapes, numbers, colors, and patterns; explore word length and word pairs; differentiate words from letters; and examine oral and print numbers.

### 2) Graphophonemic Knowledge

Assesses a student's ability to relate letters to corresponding sounds. Becoming aware of the symbols that represent the sounds of spoken language prepares students to understand the alphabetic principle. It addresses skills and concepts such as matching uppercase and lowercase letters, recognizing the alphabet, naming letters, recognizing letter sounds, and knowing alphabetic order.

### 3) Phonemic Awareness

Measures a student's ability to detect and identify individual sounds with spoken words. This understanding is essential for learning to read an alphabetic language because it is these elementary sounds, or phonemes, that letters represent. It addresses skills and concepts such as rhyming words; blending word parts and phonemes; discriminating between beginning, medial, and ending sounds; understanding word length; and identifying missing sounds.

## Early Literacy Domains cont.

### 4) Phonics

Assesses a student's ability to read words using the sounds of letters, letter groups, and syllables. It addresses skills and concepts such as identifying short and long vowels, beginning and ending consonants, and consonant blends and digraphs; recognizing word families; and using strategies such as consonant and vowel replacements.

### 5) Structural Analysis

Measures a student's ability to understand the structure of words and word parts. It addresses skills and concepts such as finding words, adding beginning or ending letters or syllables to a word, building words, and identifying compound words.

### 6) Comprehension

Assesses a student's ability to understand what has been read aloud, understand word meaning, and read text with correctness. It addresses skills and concepts such as identifying and understanding words, selecting the word that best completes a sentence, and answering questions about stories.

### 7) Vocabulary

Addresses skills and concepts such as: identifying high-frequency words, matching pictures with synonyms, matching words with phrases, matching stories with words, identifying opposites, matching pictures with opposite word meanings, and identifying opposite word meanings.