

Early Literacy Instruction for Students Taking the DLM



Assessment of Early Literacy Skills – Webinar #1 August 31, 2023

Learning Goals

- Learners will become familiar with the Communication Bill of Rights
- Learners will be exposed to a variety of assessments that can be used with students with complex support needs (students who qualify for an alternate state assessment)



Communication Bill of Rights

To participate fully in communication interactions, each person has these fundamental communication rights:

- 1. The right to interact socially, maintain social closeness, and build relationships
- 2. The right to request desired objects, actions, events, and people
- 3. The right to refuse or reject undesired objects, actions, events, or choices
- 4. The right to express personal preferences and feelings
- 5. The right to make choices from meaningful alternatives
- 6. The right to make comments and share opinions
- 7. The right to ask for and give information, including information about changes in routine and environment
- 8. The right to be informed about people and events in one's life
- 9. The right to access interventions and supports that improve communication
- 10. The right to have communication acts acknowledged and responded to even when the desired outcome cannot be realized
- 11. The right to have access to functioning AAC (augmentative and alternative communication) and other AT (assistive technology) services and devices at all times
- 12. The right to access environmental contexts, interactions, and opportunities that promote participation as full communication partners with other people, including peers
- 13. The right to be treated with dignity and addressed with respect and courtesy
- 14. The right to be addressed directly and not be spoken for or talked about in the third person while present
- 15. The right to have clear, meaningful, and culturally and linguistically appropriate communications



Non-symbolic Communication

- Physiological displaying functions of body (e.g., increased rate of breathing)
- Vocal sounds & utterances
- Affect displaying feeling or emotion
- Body Movements general body motion
- Gestures- limb or body part movement
- Facial Expressions- using sense of sight

Beginning Communicators DLM PD Module



Symbolic Communication

- Speech
- Sign Language
- Photographs & Pictures
- Representational Objects
- Graphic Systems (Picture Symbols)



Everyday Forms of Symbolic and Non-Symbolic Communication



EVERYDAY FORMS OF SYMBOLIC AND NON-SYMBOLIC COMMUNICATION
BEGINNING COMMUNICATORS
ACTIVITY 1

Directions. In the spaces provided below list forms of symbolic and non-symbolic communication you use each day. Be specific and list as many as you can.

Symbolic Forms of Communication	Non-symbolic Forms of Communication

Dynamic Learning Maps - Alternate Assessment System Consortium

KITE and Educator Portal Support: DLM-support@ku.edu or 855.277.9751 Professional Development Team: DLMpd@unc.edu



Early Communicators



Pay attention to:

- The environment
- The situation
- Body language
- Facial expression

Support the student

- Support, encourage, comfort
- Create a positive environment that invites communication efforts
- Expand on any behaviors initiated by the student
- Focus on the things students find interesting

Communication Matrix



Free or low-cost online communication assessment for individuals in the beginning stages of communication

Can be used both off and online

The matrix guides you through a series of questions to answer based on your observations and experiences with the individual

Its available in multiple languages (English, Spanish, Czech, Dutch, Chinese (traditional), Russian, Korean, and Vietnamese

The matrix is based on decades of communication research



Matrix





Communication Supports Tool

I. Does our student's communication need more support?

Determine why and how our student communicates. Which of these communication functions are present, emerging or not present? Request Agree/Refuse **Gain Attention** Give Information Express Opinions/ Seek Information nods head "ves" taps teacher on the "Where ball?" Points to a cup and "I watched TV last Comment says "juice" pushes juice away shoulder "What's that?" night" "that's vucky" "I want cookie" • "no" • "mom" "Daddv sick" Shoulder shrug and "I like that" "pulls teacher to social greeting "hi" thumbs up or facial expression point thumbs down computer" Check One: Check One: Check One: Check One: Check One: Check One: ■ Function Present ■ Function Emerging ■ Function Not Present What does it look like? ■ Body Bodv Body ■ Body Body ■ Bodv Language/Gesture Language/Gesture Language/Gesture Language/Gesture Language/Gesture Language/Gesture Augmentative Augmentative Augmentative Augmentative Augmentative Augmentative Alternative Alternative Alternative Alternative Alternative Alternative Communication Communication Communication Communication Communication Communication (low/high tech) or Sign Language Sign Language Sign Language Sign Language Sign Language Sign Language Verbal Speech Verbal Speech Verbal Speech Verbal Speech Verbal Speech Verbal Speech ■ Vocalizations Vocalizations Vocalizations ■ Vocalizations Vocalizations Vocalizations (sounds, grunting) (sounds, grunting) (sounds, grunting) (sounds, grunting) (sounds, grunting) (sounds, grunting) Other Behavior (e.g. acting out, shutting down): down): down): down): down): down): Are all the above functions marked as present? (Circle One) Yes \(\Bar{\quad} \) No \(\Bar{\quad} \)







Speaking and Listening

Grade	Essential Element						
K	EE.SL.K.1 Participate in conversations with adults.						
	a. Communicate directly with supportive adults.						
	b. Continue in multiple-turn communication exchanges with adults.						
1	EE.SL.1.1 Participate in conversations with adults.						
	Engage in multiple-turn exchanges with supportive adults.						
	b. Build on comments or topics initiated by an adult.						
	c. Uses one or two words to ask questions related to personally relevant topics.						
2	EE.SL.2.1 Participate in conversations with adults and peers.						
	Engage in multiple-turn exchanges with peers with support from an adult.						
	b. No Change						
	c. No Change						
3	EE.SL.3.1 Engage in collaborative discussions.						
	a. Engage in collaborative interactions about texts.						
	b. Listen to others' ideas before responding.						
	c. Indicate confusion or lack of understanding about information presented.						
	d. Express ideas clearly.						
4	EE.SL.4.1 Engage in collaborative discussions.						
	a. Contribute ideas from prior knowledge of a text during discussions about the same						
	text.						
	b. With guidance and support, carry out assigned role in a discussion.						
	c. Answer specific questions related to information in a discussion.						
	d. Identify the key ideas in a discussion.						

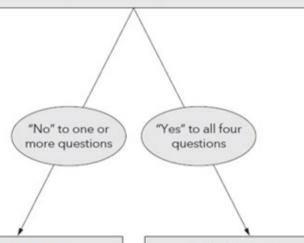
5	EE.SL.5.1 Engage in collaborative discussions.
	a. Come to discussion prepared to share information.
	b. Carry out assigned role in a discussion.
	c. Ask questions related to information in a discussion.
	d. Make comments that contribute to the discussion and link to the remarks of others.
6	EE.SL.6.1 Engage in collaborative discussions.
	a. Come to discussions prepared to share information.
	b. With guidance and support from adults and peers, follow simple, agreed-upon rules
	for discussions and contribute information.
	 c. Ask and answer questions specific to the topic, text, or issue under discussion.
	d. Restate key ideas expressed in the discussion.
7	EE.SL.7.1 Engage in collaborative discussions.
	a. Come to discussions prepared to share information.
	b. With guidance and support from adults and peers, follow simple, agreed-upon rules
	for discussions and carry out assigned roles.
	c. Remain on the topic of the discussion when answering questions or making other
	contributions to a discussion.
	d. Acknowledge new information expressed by others in a discussion.
8	EE.SL.8.1 Engage in collaborative discussions.
	 a. Come to discussions prepared to share information previously studied.
	 Follow simple rules and carry out assigned roles during discussions.
	c. Remain on the topic of the discussion when asking or answering questions or making
	other contributions to a discussion.
	d. Acknowledge new information expressed by others in a discussion and relate it to
	own ideas.
9-10	EE.SL.9-10.1 Engage in collaborative discussions.
	 a. Prepare for discussions by collecting information on the topic.
	 b. Work with adults and peers to set rules for discussions.
	 Relate the topic of discussion to broader themes or ideas.
	d. Indicate agreement or disagreement with others during discussions.
11-12	EE.SL.11-12.1 Engage in collaborative discussions.
	a. Prepare for discussions by collecting information on the topic.
	 b. Work with peers to set rules and goals for discussions.
	c. Ask and answer questions to verify or clarify own ideas and understandings during a
	discussion.
	 Respond to agreements and disagreements in a discussion.



Comprehensive Literacy Decision Making

Does the student:

- Identify most of the letters of the alphabet, most of the time?
- Engage and interact during shared reading?
- Have a means of communication and interaction?
- Understand that print has meaning?

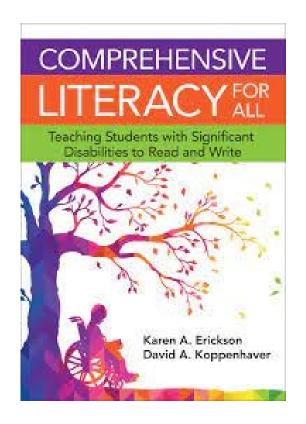


Daily Emergent

- Shared reading
- Shared writing (predictable chart writing)
- Alphabet and phonological awareness
- Independent writing with access to full alphabet
- Self-directed reading

Daily Conventional

- Reading comprehension (anchor-read-apply)
- Word study (keywords + word wall + Making Words)
- Writing
- · Self-directed reading





A DRAFT adapted/modified BRIDGE for students with complex needs (Adapted by Erin Sheldon, M Ed, from The BRIDGE, an observational portfolio rating scale by Pierce, Summer, O'DeKirk, 2005)

Modified Bridge Assessment (Erin Sheldon)



Foundations of Reading (Book Knowledge/Appreciation/Print Awareness/Story Comprehension)									
Physically handle/ interact with books	Rips or mouths books and paper	Explores books with hands, stacks or bangs	Looks at book pages when shown	Browses book pages independently	Recognizes book by its cover	Holds the book appropriately, unprompted	Independently studies book pages	Turns pages appropriately, paper or digital	
Interact with print	Indicates enjoyment when being read to	Touches the page when exploring books	Beginning to recognize print	Frequently recognizes print, such as pointing, touching, or looking at	Makes print to speech connection	Knows where to read on a page. Notices if reading partner skips text.	Completes any part of a sentence by generating a word with a symbol, photo, sign, or gesture	Understands "concept of word" (1:1 correspondence of text to speech)	
Direct and take ownership of shared literacy experiences	Chooses literacy activities from an array of objects, photos, or symbols	Initiates any literacy activity: reading, scribble, alphabet play	Initiates a choice of story by selecting a book and sharing it to be read	Communicates a choice of story or song using a picture, sign, or vocalization	Directs the story or song to continue or cease using a symbol or sign	Communicates a choice of book topic or genre using a symbol of sign	Self-identifies as a reader	Comments on or shares opinions about the story using symbols	
Interact with symbols during shared reading	Observes partner model the use of a symbol array	Recognizes 2-5 symbols regularly used by partner	Explores 2 or more symbols on array during reading	Uses multiple symbols to direct or comment on actions of partner	Uses AAC system to respond to partner	Uses AAC system to direct partner	Initiates using AAC to communicate about the book	Uses AAC to comment on the book or extend ideas in the book	
Engage in the act of reading	Indicates awareness that someone is reading to him/ her	Displays joint attention while being read to	Points to items on the page during shared reading	Labels or acts out story characteristics during shared reading	Points to people or objects related to the book during shared reading	Engages in parallel/solitary reading	Pretend reads to another, such as vocalizing while turning pages and touching words, or activating recorded speech	Pretend reads from memory, paying attention to the printed word	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	



Modified Bridge Assess. pg 2

	Foundations of Writing									
Draw/write (motor item)	Explores writing tools and materials, including mouthing and touching	Uses writing/ drawing tools with beginning purpose	Uses writing/ drawing with greater purpose	Generates a variety of shapes in drawings: lines, circles, etc.	Makes controlled marks showing left-to-right directionality	Writing looks different from drawing, makes marks only in areas designated for text	Generates disconnected scribble with letter-like forms & recognizable letters	Writes and self- identifies some letters		
Use print (cognitive/ linguistic item)	Explores accessible keyboards or letter boards to generate strings of random letters and characters	Selects letters with greater intentionality, such as generating strings of the same letter	Generates letters in word- like groupings with attention to spacing	Regularly generates text, may use word prediction some of the time	Generates letters to label or caption photos or drawings	Generates letters to "write" a letter, create a message, make a list	Selects letters, and words, with some connection to photo, list, message, or story	Generates many written words (some recognizable) to tell a story, create a message, make list		
Use symbolic language (AAC) to generate print	Observes symbol use modelled by communication partners	With scaffolding support, selects a symbol to make a choice	With scaffolding support, selects a symbol to make a comment to label or caption a photo	With scaffolding supporting, selects a symbol to describe a characters or object	Uses AAC to logically complete an unfinished sentence or fill in a word.	Uses AAC to identify an audience and a purpose, such as to write message, make list	Uses AAC to logically respond to text, such as describing a character	Uses AAC system to generate a simple story, create a message, make a list		
Write name	Attends to a model of writing the student's name with an accessible keyboard, pencil, or letterboard	Sometimes makes an inconsistent mark/scribble when asked to write name	Usually makes an inconsistent mark/scribble to write name	Makes a consistent mark/scribble to write name	Makes a consistent letter-like form in scribble to write name	Writes a single recognizable letter or consistently selects correct first letter	Writes or selects some letters to form name (not necessarily in order)	Writes name in recognizable form, using an accessible pencil or letterboard		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		

Modified Bridge Assess pg 3

Alphabet Knowledge									
Interact with and use letters of the alphabet	Explores and plays with alphabet materials	Enjoys alphabet materials of own favourite people, foods, items, activities	Knows that letters are different from pictures and shapes	Recognizes first letter in name (says, writes, points to)	Associates specific letters with specific people or items	Recognizes other letters in own and/or other's names	Identifies specific letters in own or other names	Identifies at least 10 letters	
Phonological/Phonemic Awareness									
Demonstrate phonological awareness	Alert to and curious about sounds in the environment	Enjoys music, songs, rhymes or word play	Connects or names sounds in the environment	Follows rhythmic beat of language and music	Repeats rhythmic patterns in poems and songs	Participates in familiar sound and word play, songs, w/ visual cues & imitation	Awareness that different words begin with the same sound	Identifies some initial letter sounds, makes some letter- sound matches	
Demonstrate phonemic awareness	Enjoys listening to rhyming songs, wordplay and storybooks	Use rhyme to predict words in familiar texts	Follows along clapping/ nodding the beats in a word, or words in a sentence	Recognizes words that are the same from words that are different: "cat, cat, sat: which word is different?"	Identifies words that rhyme and words that don't	Creates rhymes from a closed set or substitutes sounds to create rhymes	Creates alliterative or assonant pairs from a closed set (Silly Sally, Moses supposes)	Independently signifies the beats in a word	
			Oral Languag	e (related to lite	racy activities)				
Use oral language/AAC during literacy activities	Vocalizes during literacy activities	Looks at, points to pictures, symbols, props	Labels pictures, actions with word approximations , signs, or symbols	Makes comments about the text using symbols or signs	Listens, and responds to, a story for a specific purpose: "listen so you can"	Relates stories to personal experiences (text to self connection)	Asks questions about text and stories	Retells a simple story with activity in sequence	
Engage in story-telling/ re-telling	Enjoys personal experience stories, social scripts, videos, or remnant books	Shares personal experience books, etc, with others, i.e. pointing and waiting for a response	Participates in creating personal experience stories, etc, such as by selecting items or text to include	Initiates sharing remnant books, personal experience stories or social scripts	Initiates creating remnant books, personal experience stories or social scripts	Answers questions related to familiar stories	Predicts what might happen in unfamiliar stories	Tells an original, simple story using AAC and drawings or photos	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	



Heggerty Assessment Tools



- Primary Phonemic Awareness Assessments
- Kindergarten Phonemic Awareness Assessments
- Pre-K Phonemic Awareness Assessments
- Progress Monitoring Assessments (adding, segmenting, phoneme isolation, blending, substituting)

(also available in Australian and Spanish for some



Assessment of Phonological Awareness & Reading



Reading test

- 1. Reading real words
- 2. Reading non-words
- 3. Comprehension of written words
- 4. Comprehension of written sentences
- 5. Comprehension of written texts

Phonological

Awareness Tests

- 1. Blending real words
- 2. Blending non-words
- 3. Phoneme counting
 - adults
- 4. Phoneme counting
 - children
- 5. Phoneme analysis

Listening

Comprehension Tests

- 1. Sentence plausibility
- 2. Grammaticality judgements
- 3. Comprehension of text



Emergent Readers

- 1. Emergent readers don't have to have a prerequisite set of literacy skills to have access to reading materials.
- 2. To engage in literacy-rich environments, emergent readers must have consistent access to all forms of literacy (in other words, people with significant disabilities should have access to explore and use reading & writing materials that match their accessibility needs
- 3. Emergent readers and writers need active and interactive engagement with the world and reading and writing materials
- 4. Emergent readers and writers must have frequent, accessible, flexible, and varied opportunities to access print that is motivating to their interests (Erickson & Kopperhaver, 2020).



The Developmental Writing Scale



Table 2. Developmental writing scale for beginning writers^a

Levels	Scoring Criteria	Description	Accommodations
1	Drawing	Lines and curves that appear to represent objects	Selection of a picture by a child who cannot hole a traditional pencil or marker
2	Scribbling	Continuous vertical, circular, or wavy lines arranged linearly across the page, which may include letter-like forms, but with the majority of shapes not recognizable as letters.	If a child uses a keyboard, this level would not be used
3	Letter strings (no groups)	Handwritten or typed strings of letters but not grouped into words. Examples: tttttt kshpppns	Alphabet display (e.g., paper copy) and standard or electronic keyboard access (e.g., on screen keyboard or AAC system)
4	Letter strings grouped in words	Strings of letters grouped into "words" (i.e., with spaces between at least two groups of letters) but with no intelligible words. Example: ILCR6a ILKVKC CPRSB WRKe BRKe	Alphabet display (e.g., paper copy) and standard or electronic keyboard access (e.g., on screen keyboard or AAC system)
5	One intelligible word	Strings of letters grouped into "words," with only one possible real word (i.e., two or more letters in length) set apart, written repeatedly (e.g., dog, dog, dog), or embedded in a string of letters. Example: IMPICOTINE (I am playing outside on the swing.)	Word bank or word prediction software
6	Two to three intelligible words	Two or three different intelligible words embedded in strings, separated by spaces, or in a list format. Single letter words such as "I" and "a" must be separated by spaces to count as an intelligible word. Example: IYTKTOSMNTHETR (I like to swim under the water.)	Word bank or word prediction software
7	Three or more different intelligible words in a list	Three or more related words. Example: Lions Detroit football	Word bank or word prediction software
			(continue:

KS Alternate Early Literacy Screener

Kdg-3rd grade Information about 8th grade reporting





Purpose of the KS Alternate Early Literacy Screener

IDEA

Sec. 300.160 Participation in assessments

(a) General. A State must ensure that all children with disabilities are included in all general State and districtwide assessment programs, including assessments described under section 1111 of the ESEA, 20 U.S.C. 6311, with appropriate accommodations and alternate assessments, if necessary, as indicated in their respective IEPs.



What is the <u>Kansas Alternate Early</u> <u>Literacy Screener?</u>

The Kansas Alternate Early Literacy
Screener is a simple rubric that
assesses students' early literacy
skills as they relate to skill domains
within English Language Arts (print
concepts, phonological awareness,
phonics and word recognition,
fluency and comprehension).

The rubric is meant to be completed for each student with a Significant Cognitive Disability (grades K-3) by their teacher, based on the student's performance on Individualized Education Program (IEP) goals and every day early literacy instruction within the classroom.



Scoring Sheet - KDG

Table 5: Score Sheet

Strands	Beginning of Year (BOY)	Middle of Year (MOY)	End of Year (EOY)
Reading Foundation Print Concepts/ Fluency	/5	/5	/5
Reading Foundation Phonological Awareness	/5	/5	/5
Reading Foundation Phonics & Word Recognition	/5	/5	/5
Reading Literature Craft and Structure	/5	/5	/5
Total	/20	/20	/20

Table 6. Scoring Guide:

Score	Performance Level
4-15 Points	Below Benchmark
16 to 20 Points	At or above benchmark



Kindergarten

Table 2: Reading Foundation Phonological Awareness (Required for Dyslexia Screening – EYOA)

Below Benchmark

At or above Benchmark

DLM Essential Elements Reading Foundational Skills	Not Yet Emerging 1 point	Emerging 2 points	Approaching Target 3 points	At Target 4 points	Advanced (Bridge to Kansas ELA Standard) 5 points
EE.RF.K.2 Demonstrate emerging understanding of spoken words, syllables, and sounds (phonemes) A. With Guidance and support, recognize rhyming words B. With guidance and support, recognize the number of words in a spoken message C. With guidance and support, identify single- syllable spoken words with the same onset (beginning sound) as a familiar word	□ Unable to demonstra te skills at an emergent level	□ Will identify pictures that correspond to a spoken single syllable word (dog)	□ Will identify pictures that correspond to a spoken single syllable word (dog) □ Will recognize there is more than 1 word in the sentence when presented, written and orally, with a simple sentence (3 or more words)	□ Will identify pictures that correspond to a spoken single syllable word (dog) □ Will recognize there is more than 1 word in the sentence when presented, written and orally, with a simple sentence (3 or more words) □ Will identify pictures that have the same beginning sound	 □ Will identify pictures that have the same beginning sound. □ Will orally produce single syllable words by blending sounds, consonant blends □ Will identify individual sounds in simple, one syllable word □ Will substitute beginning sound to make new words

1st Grade

Table 3. Phonics and Word Recognition (Required for Dyslexia Screening and EYOA)

Below Benchmark

At or above Benchmark

DLM Essential Elements Reading Foundational Skills	Not Yet Emerging 1 point	Emerging 2 points	Approaching Target 3 points	At Target 4 points	Advanced (Bridge to Kansas ELA Standard) 5 points
EE.RF.1.3 Demonstrate emerging letter and word identification skills. A) Identify upper case letters of the alphabet. B) With guidance and support, recognize familiar words that are used in every day routines.	Unable to recognize familiar letters or words, (letter in his/her name, social stories. etc.)	Recognizes letters in name and familiar words environme ntal print	Recognizes letters in name and familiar words and signs in their environment Distinguishe s between upper- and lower-case letters in familiar words	Recognize s letters in name and familiar words and signs in their environme nt Distinguish es between upper- and lower-case letters in familiar words Identifies familiar words that are used in every day routines	□ Recognizes letters in name and familiar words and signs in their environment □ Distinguishes between upper- and lower-case letters in familiar words □ Identifies familiar words that are used in every day routines □ Know the spelling- sound correspondences for common consonant diagraphs □ Decode regularly spelled one- syllable words (CVC)

2nd Grade

Table 2. Fluency (Required for Dyslexia Screening and EYOA – mark for rate and fluency)

Below Benchmark

At or Above Benchmark

DLM Essential Elements Reading Foundational	Not Yet Emerging 1 point	Emerging 2 points	Approaching Target 3 points	At Target 4 points	Advanced (Bridge to Kansas ELA Standard)
Skills					5 points
EE.RF.2.4 Attend to words in print. A) Read familiar text comprised of known words.	□ Not yet emerging	Student will point to or say a word to complete a repeated storyline	□ Student will point to or say a word to complete a repeated storyline □ Student will point to sight words to complete sentences	□ Student will point to or say a word to complete a repeated storyline □ Student will point to sight words to complete sentences. □ Student will read connected text in a 3 to 5-word familiar sentence with visual supports.	□ Student will point to or say a word to complete a repeated storyline □ Student will point to sight words to complete sentences. □ Student will read connected text in a 3 to 5-word familiar sentence with visual supports. □ Read below-level connected text with purpose and understanding

3rd Grade

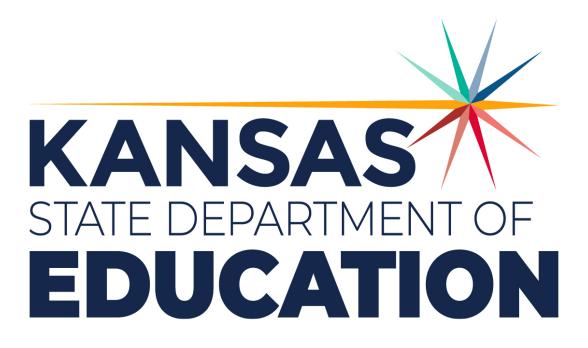
Table 2. Fluency (Required for Dyslexia Screening and EYOA – mark for rate and fluency)

Below Benchmark

At or Above Benchmark

DLM Essential Elements Reading Foundational Skills	Not Yet Emerging 1 point	Emerging 2 points	Approaching Target 3 points	At Target 4 points	Advanced (Bridge to Kansas ELA Standard) 5 points
words in text. A) Read familiar text comprised of known words. B) Not applicable C) Use context to determine missing words in familiar texts.	□ Not yet emerging	Student will point to or say a word to complete a repeated storyline	□ Student will point to or say a word to complete a repeated storyline □ Student will point to sight words to complete sentences □ Student will use context to determine missing words in familiar texts	□ Student will point to or say a word to complete a repeated storyline □ Student will point to sight words to complete sentences □ Student will use context to determine missing words in familiar texts. □ Student will read familiar text comprised of known words	 □ Student will point to or say a word to complete a repeated storyline □ Student will point to sight words to complete sentences □ Student will use context to determine missing words in familiar texts. □ Student will read familiar text comprised of known words □ Read text with purpose and understanding □ Use context to confirm or self-correct word recognition, rereading as necessary

Contact Information



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