

NC Diagnostic Assessment for Reading



OCT 2010




Letter from Rebecca Garland, Chief Academic Officer, NCDPI

On behalf of the Department of Public Instruction, I would like to welcome you all to a new school year. We are very pleased that we currently have 182 schools participating in the mCLASS®:Reading 3D™ Diagnostic Assessment initiative with even more schools joining in December. Last year we piloted this program in 27 schools across North Carolina. We are so appreciative of the pilot schools' willingness to change assessments in the middle of the year and collaborate with us in developing a strong foundation for the state-wide rollout. We are extremely fortunate this year to be working in partnership with the North Carolina Teacher Academy to provide continuous support and professional development for all our schools and teachers throughout the academic year and into next summer.

As we all know, early diagnosis, intervention, and enrichment in reading will help students grow and achieve at higher levels. The mCLASS:Reading 3D Diagnostic Assessment initiative is an all inclusive system that blends the DIBELS® universal screener with Text Reading and Comprehension (TRC) to give a complete picture of how students gain meaning from reading. The results of these assessments help teachers individualize instruction for students and small groups and enable teachers and administrators to instantly receive reports about students. The parent reports and letters help parents reinforce learning to build concepts and skills.

Please contact us if you have any questions, issues or concerns about this initiative. Thank you for being a part of this exciting program, which we believe will benefit elementary students across all of North Carolina.

 **CUSTOMER CARE**
M-F 7:00AM - 7:00PM EST
(800) 823-1969 (OPTION 3)
HELP@WGEN.NET

September - Kicking off the Diagnostic Reading Assessment Program

September marked the kick-off of the North Carolina Diagnostic Reading Assessment Program. For some schools, this meant returning to the program after participating in the pilot last year. For others, this was the beginning. With multiple kick-off meetings and training sessions, over 175 schools are in the state program and beginning their Beginning-of-Year benchmark reading assessments with mCLASS:Reading 3D. Welcome (or welcome back) to all!

To view the presentation on the Diagnostic Reading Assessment Program, please paste this link in to your browser:
<http://www.wirelessgeneration.com/assets/pdf/Reading%20Diag%20Assessment%20pp.pdf>.

Beginning-of-Year Benchmark (BOY) Window

- Returning schools (pilot and former Reading First) --through October 22 (note date extension).
- New schools (trained the week of 9/20) -- three-week window to be completed by November 3.
- After the benchmark window closes, you will begin progress monitoring students. Students who were red on the benchmark should be progress monitored at least every two weeks. Those who were yellow on the benchmark should be progress monitored at least every four weeks, and those who were green should be progress monitored at least every six weeks.
- If your school has special scheduling needs --year-round, for example --, please contact us to determine the best window. Extensions may be discussed.

Devices for mCLASS:Reading 3D

If your school needs to procure devices to assess during the BOY window, please evaluate the options as soon as possible. There are multiple options for touch-screen netbooks offered by several vendors and mobile devices offered by Wireless Generation. For more information on options and vendors, paste this link in to your browser:
<http://www.wirelessgeneration.com/assets/pdf/Devices%20for%20the%20Reading%203D.pdf>.

Benchmark Assessment Kit Content

Many of you have received your assessment materials, while others will receive them very soon. Below is a summary of what you will receive. We have coordinated with the publishers, but please note that shipments may arrive on different days. You can expect to receive your materials 7-10 business days after order placement. If you find that you are missing any materials, please contact Mallory McClendon at mmclendon@wgen.net.

1. Harcourt Rigby Library

- Harcourt Rigby Benchmark Book Library, with 60 benchmark book titles
- *Harcourt Rigby Benchmark Book Nonfiction Supplement, with 8 books (this may be shipped separately)*

2. mCLASS:Reading 3D Kit Box

- Word Recognition Student Materials Booklet
- Sticker sheet to label all benchmark books with Guided Reading levels
- Blackline masters for Written Comprehension assessments
- Complete mCLASS®:DIBELS® Kit (for kindergarten through third grade, or fourth to sixth grade)

Progress Monitoring Books

The benchmark assessment window will be followed by a period of progress monitoring, during which you may use texts from your own classroom libraries to assess student progress on the running record. The mCLASS library has over 5,000 leveled texts, including Red Rocket Readers titles. To view a list of the texts available and match with what you have in your classrooms, access the Book Management section on mCLASS®:Home or paste this link in to your browser:
http://www.wirelessgeneration.com/assets/MCR3D_Booklist.xls.

Many schools have inquired about progress monitoring books at higher levels. We have responded to your feedback and are adding more of these titles. Recently, Newbridge began offering higher level titles in a kit that can be used for Progress Monitoring. To view, paste this link in to your browser:
http://www.newbridgeonline.com/c/@.vr0YjUJILozM/Pages/product.html?record@S4109+&utm_source=wireless

Calendar

September:

- Kick-off meetings and training of trainers and principals for schools new to mCLASS:Reading 3D.
- New schools begin implementation activities (device procurement, rostering staff and student data, installations, kit deliveries).
- Returning schools (pilot and former Reading First) begin assessment.

October:

- New schools complete implementation activities.
- New schools begin assessment.
- October 25 - 28: Training in Raleigh for former RF school trainers (Progress Monitoring and Fidelity).
- New schools return "Receipt of Goods" form to Bill Frazier by October 29.
- New schools return MOU's signed by principals and teachers to Karla Casteen on October 4. (Teacher Academy, 909 Aviation Parkway, Suite 700, Morrisville, NC 27260).
- Returning schools (pilot and former Reading First) turn in data release forms from district to Wireless Generation.

November:

- All schools conduct progress monitoring.