

FLKRS Test Design Summary and Blueprint

[Section 1002.69, Florida Statutes \(F.S.\)](#), requires the Florida Department of Education to adopt a statewide kindergarten screening instrument that assesses the readiness of each student for kindergarten based on the performance standards adopted by the department under [section 1002.67\(1\), F.S.](#), for the [Voluntary Prekindergarten \(VPK\) Education Program](#). The screening instrument, known as the Florida Kindergarten Readiness Screener (FLKRS), must be administered to all public school kindergarten students within the first 30 days of each school year. Nonpublic schools may administer FLKRS to each kindergarten student who was previously enrolled in VPK. The results of this screening provide valuable information about a child's readiness for school, help teachers develop lesson plans to meet each child's individual needs, and offer useful information to parents.

Beginning with the 2017–18 school year, the FLKRS assessment is Renaissance's Star Early Literacy, which is an online, adaptive instrument that students complete independently in approximately 15–20 minutes. For information on FLKRS administrations prior to the 2017–18 school year, contact the [Just Read, Florida! office](#).

Star Early Literacy Administration

The average length of time to complete a Star Early Literacy test (not including the pretest instructions) is nine minutes. Most students will be able to complete a Star Early Literacy test, including pretest instructions, in under 14 minutes, and almost all students will be able to do so in less than 17 minutes.

All questions are in multiple-choice format with three response alternatives. Students select their answers in one of the following ways:

- If using the keyboard, students press one of the three keys (1, 2, or 3) and then press the Enter/Return key
- If using the mouse, students select their answers by pointing and clicking the mouse.
- If using a tablet, students tap their answer choice; then, they tap Next.

Star Early Literacy Test Design

Star Early Literacy is a computer-adaptive assessment designed to measure the early literacy skills of beginning readers. Star Early Literacy addresses children's mastery of literacy concepts that are directly related to their future success as readers. Star Early Literacy assesses proficiency in three broad domains:

- Word Knowledge and Skills
- Comprehension Strategies and Constructing Meaning
- Numbers and Operations

These domains include 10 key early literacy and numeracy sub-domains involving 41 different sets of skills or concepts. The sub-domains assessed on FLKRS are:

- Alphabetic Principle
- Concept of Word
- Visual Discrimination
- Phonemic Awareness
- Phonics
- Vocabulary
- Early Numeracy

Star Early Literacy Blueprint

The Star Early Literacy test is comprised of 27 items and is administered using computer-adaptive procedures. This design allows for students to test on items that appropriately match their ability level. The primary advantage of using technology-based platforms to administer Star Early Literacy tests is the ability to tailor each student's test based on his or her responses to previous items.

The test is organized into three sections:

- Section A consists of 14 early literacy items with relatively short audio play times.
- Section B consists of 8 early literacy items with longer audio play times.
- Section C consists of 5 early numeracy items presented at the end of each test.

The following table outlines the number of questions per subdomain on the Kindergarten Star Early Literacy test. The table includes a sample of the skills assessed in each subdomain. For the full list of skills measured in each sub-domain, see pages 12–18 of the *Star Assessments for Early Literacy Technical Manual*, available on the Department's [FLKRS page](#).

Subdomain	Number of Items	Examples of Skills Assessed
Alphabetic Principle	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distinguish numbers from letters • Identify the letter that comes next • Recognize sounds of uppercase letters
Concept of Word	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify longest word • Identify number of words • Differentiate letters from words
Visual Discrimination	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Differentiate uppercase letters • Identify words that are different • Match words that are the same
Phonemic Awareness	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify rhyming words • Blend 2-syllable words • Recognize same final sounds (pictures)
Phonics	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Match short vowel sounds to letters • Identify letter for a final consonant sound • Identify sounds within word families
Vocabulary	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read grade-level sight words • Understand position words • Match words with their synonyms
Early Numeracy	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognize numbers 0–20 • Complete a picture pattern • Compare sizes, weights, and volumes
Total	27	