

# NC Read to Achieve Overview

## *For Family Partners*



**OFFICE OF EARLY LEARNING**  
NC Department of Public Instruction

# Why is my child assessed in reading?



## The goal of the state is to ensure:

- That every student read at or above grade level.
- That students continue to progress in reading proficiency.
- That students have the ability to read, comprehend, integrate, and apply complex texts.
- That students apply these skills for secondary education and career success.

**This legislation is part of the Excellent Public Schools Act and has been referred to as the North Carolina Read to Achieve Program.**

# A few key points of Read to Achieve legislation



- K, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade students shall be assessed with valid, reliable, formative and diagnostic reading assessments.
- The reading assessment data will be used to identify root causes for difficulty with reading development and determine actions to address them.
- Parents will be notified if their child is not reading at grade level and possible retention or exemption for good cause. (Good cause exemption will be covered shortly.)
- Parents will be notified of retention and the reason their child is not eligible for a good cause exemption.
- Parents will be notified of a description or plan for reading interventions and supports.

# What is DIBELS® 8?

**D**ynamic  
**I**ndicators of  
**B**asic  
**E**arly  
**L**iteracy  
**S**kills

*DIBELS® 8 is a standardized set of measures that help teachers and schools determine how students are performing on important reading skills.*

# Which assessment measures will be given?



Each student will complete the measures depending on his or her grade level.

# DIBELS<sup>®</sup> 8 assessment measures

## DIBELS measures at each grade level

Measure	Grade K	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3
Letter Naming Fluency	✓	✓		
Phonemic Segmentation Fluency	✓	✓		
Nonsense Word Fluency	✓	✓	✓	✓
Word Reading Fluency	✓	✓	✓	✓
Oral Reading Fluency		✓	✓	✓
Maze (Basic Comprehension)			✓	✓

## Required additional measures at each grade level below

Oral Language	✓	✓	✓	✓
Vocabulary	✓	✓	✓	✓

# How often are students assessed?

Beginning  
of the Year

Middle  
of the Year

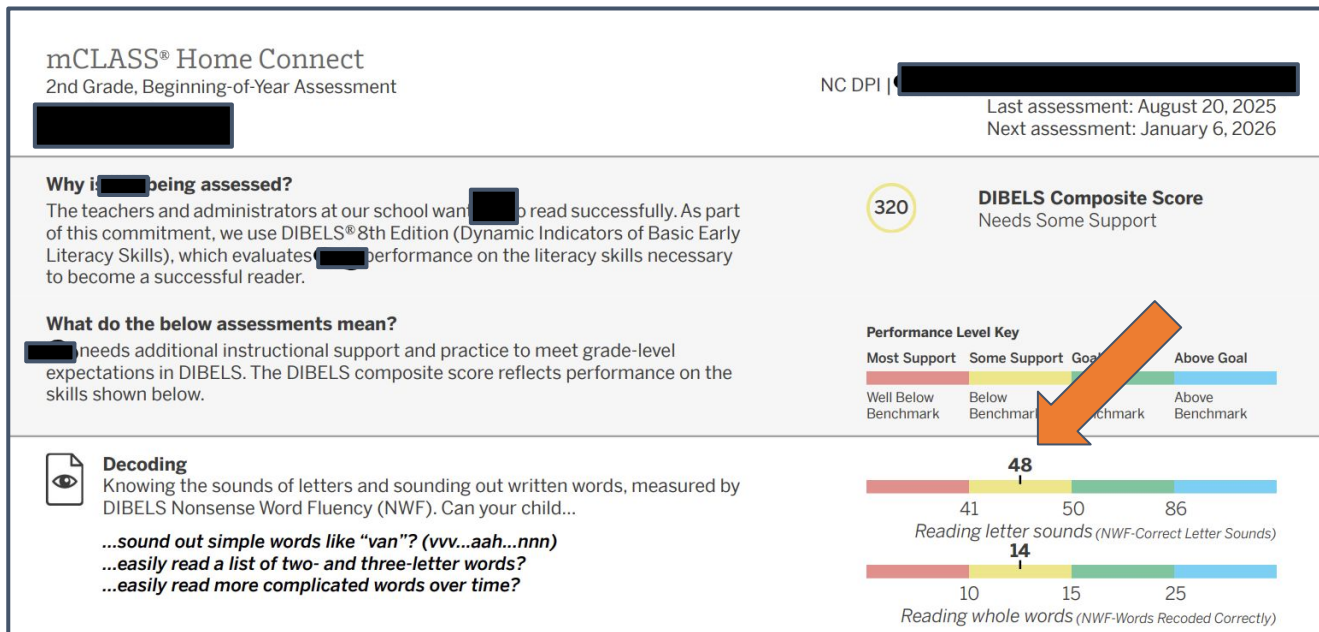
End  
of the Year



Students are given three benchmark assessments in Amplify during the year to monitor performance and inform instructional decisions.

# What will I see on the Home Connect® letters?

Skills display on progress bars which indicate your child's performance on each measure.



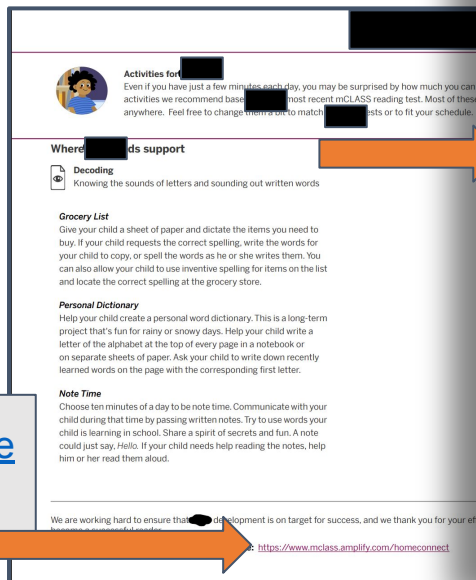


# Performance descriptors

Status	Level	Are students likely to achieve the next DIBELS benchmark goal or reading outcome at the end of the year?	Support level
Blue	Above Benchmark	Yes; negligible risk (90% or higher chance of meeting goal)	core
Green	At Benchmark	Yes; minimal risk (80% or higher chance of meeting goal)	core
Yellow	Below Benchmark	No; some risk (20% or higher chance of meeting goal)	strategic
Red	Well Below Benchmark	No; at risk (less than 20% chance of meeting goal)	intensive


# Home Connect<sup>®</sup> letters? - Support at home

For ideas to support your student at home, there is a page that lists activities and provides a link to additional activities that fit your child's needs!



[mclass.amplify.com/homeconnect](https://www.mclass.amplify.com/homeconnect)

**Where your child needs support**

 **Decoding**  
Knowing the sounds of letters and sounding out written words

**Grocery List**  
Give your child a sheet of paper and dictate the items you need to buy. If your child requests the correct spelling, write the words for your child to copy, or spell the words as he or she writes them. You can also allow your child to use inventive spelling for items on the list and locate the correct spelling at the grocery store.

**Personal Dictionary**  
Help your child create a personal word dictionary. This is a long-term project that's fun for rainy or snowy days. Help your child write a letter of the alphabet at the top of every page in a notebook or on separate sheets of paper. Ask your child to write down recently learned words on the page with the corresponding first letter.

**Note Time**  
Choose ten minutes of a day to be note time. Communicate with your child during that time by passing written notes. Try to use words your child is learning in school. Share a spirit of secrets and fun. A note could just say, *Hello*. If your child needs help reading the notes, help him or her read them aloud.

# How do I know if my child meets third grade benchmark?

DIBELS® 8 generates a composite score from four sub-skills in order to determine a student's Lexile score. A 725 Lexile score meets third grade proficiency.



Additionally, third graders' reading proficiency will be measured by the standardized test of reading comprehension on the End of Grade (EOG) assessment.

**Beginning of Grade (BOG) and End of Grade (EOG) assessments require a Level 3 score.**

# What is the Beginning of Grade (BOG) Test?

The North Carolina BOG3 Reading Test is linked to the Read to Achieve Program. This test serves several purposes:

- It establishes a baseline measure of beginning third-grade students' English language arts/reading skills.
- Students who score achievement level 3 or higher on the test demonstrate reading proficiency appropriate for third-grade students, which satisfies the requirements of the Read to Achieve legislation.

# What if my child does not show reading proficiency?



There are several opportunities to demonstrate third grade reading proficiency.

# Can my child be exempt from mandatory retention in third grade?

Good Cause Exemptions	<b>Children with Disabilities</b> Students with disabilities whose individualized education program indicates (i) the use of the NCEXTEND1 alternate assessment, (ii) at least a two school year delay in educational performance, or (iii) receipt of intensive reading literacy interventions for at least two school years	<b>Reading Portfolio</b> Students who demonstrate reading proficiency through a student reading portfolio
	<b>Multiple Retentions and Interventions</b> Students: (i) received reading intervention and (ii) previously been retained more than once in K, 1st, 2nd or 3rd grade	<b>Alternative Assessment</b> Students who demonstrate reading proficiency on an alternative assessment
	<b>English Learner</b> Students with <b>less than two years</b> of instruction in an English as a Second Language program	

# What is a reading retained label?

- **Retained in 3rd Grade**
  - Third grade standards and curriculum, 3rd grade EOG
- **Placed in 3rd/4th Transition Class with Retained Reading Label**
  - Fourth grade standards and curriculum, 4th grade EOG
- **Placed in 4th Grade Accelerated Reading Class with Retained Reading Label**
  - Fourth grade standards and curriculum, 4th grade EOG

# What does a reading retained label mean for my child?

A student who does not demonstrate reading proficiency appropriate for third-grade will either be retained in 3rd grade or placed in a 4th grade classroom with a reading retained label.

- **Placed in 3rd/4th Transition Class with Retained Reading Label**

A 4th grade class where 4th grade standards are taught and a 4th grade EOG is administered. *This class is specifically designed to produce learning gains sufficient to meet fourth grade standards while continuing to remediate areas of reading deficiency.*

- **Placed in 4th Grade Accelerated Reading Class with Retained Reading Label**

A 4th grade class where 4th grade standards are taught and a 4th grade EOG is administered. *This class is specifically designed to provide focused literacy interventions to increase a student's reading level at least two grades in one school year.*



# I've heard about reading camp. Will my child need to go?

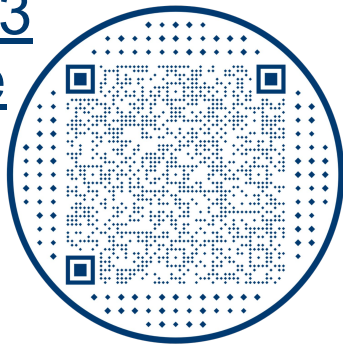
## Reading Camp is:

- offered by your child's school district for students who are not proficient on the 3rd grade EOG.
- offered to 2nd grade students demonstrating reading difficulty; districts can **choose** to offer reading camp to 1st grade students as well.
- designed to provide additional instruction in reading and writing.
- free - no cost to parents.
- not mandatory, but strongly encouraged.

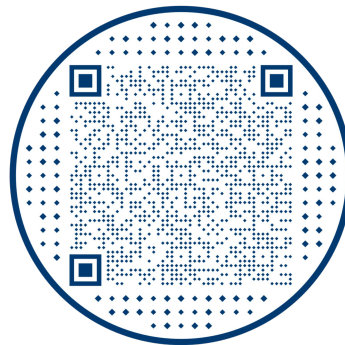


# Where can I find more information?

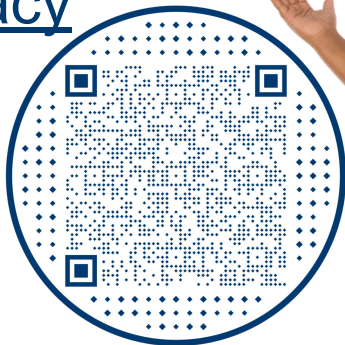
NCDPI Grade 3  
RtA Webpage



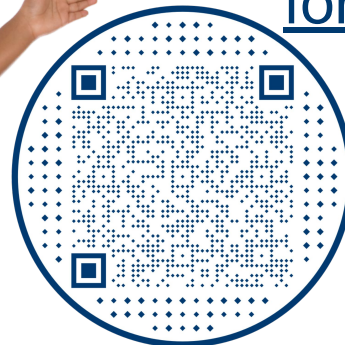
NC DPI  
Literacy at Home



NC DPI Early  
Literacy

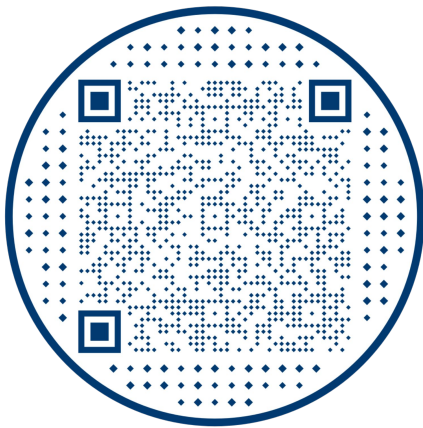



Science of Reading  
for Caregivers




# Where can I find a quick overview of RtA?

## NC Read to Achieve Infographic




**OFFICE OF EARLY LEARNING**  
NC Department of Public Instruction

## NC READ TO ACHIEVE



**THE GOAL OF THE STATE IS TO ENSURE THAT:**

- EVERY STUDENT READ AT OR ABOVE GRADE LEVEL
- EVERY STUDENT HAVE THE ABILITY TO READ, COMPREHEND, INTEGRATE & APPLY COMPLEX TEXTS
- EVERY STUDENT APPLY READING SKILLS FOR SECONDARY EDUCATION AND CAREER SUCCESS




SENATE BILL 387 ALIGNS LITERACY INSTRUCTION WITH THE SCIENCE OF READING AND MODIFIES THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NC READ TO ACHIEVE PROGRAM.

### WHAT IS THE SCIENCE OF READING?


Thousands of studies that reveal how we learn to read and write and the most effective ways to teach reading.

Research that guides teachers to most **EFFECTIVELY** and **EFFICIENTLY** teach ALL students to read.



### WHAT IS DIBELS® 8?

Amplify mCLASS® Dibels® 8 is our statewide early literacy skills assessment for students in kindergarten through third grade.



The partnership  
between home and  
school ensures your  
child's success!



Thank you for  
joining us to learn  
more about Read  
to Achieve!