
General Information Bulletin 2023–2024

Literacy and Numeracy Screening Assessments



This document was written primarily for

Students

Teachers ✓

Administrators ✓

Parents

General Audience

2023–2024 Literacy and Numeracy Screening Assessments General Information Bulletin

Distribution: This document is posted on the [new LearnAlberta.ca](https://www.learnalberta.ca) Provincial Assessment Hub.

© Copyright 2023, the Crown in Right of Alberta, as represented by the Minister of Education, Alberta Education, Provincial Assessment, 44 Capital Boulevard, 10044 108 Street NW, Edmonton, Alberta T5J 5E6, and its licensors. All rights reserved.

Provincial Assessment Literacy Screeners. Published by Alberta Education December 2023© 2023 Dr. Rauno Parrila of the Australian Catholic University, director of Australian Center for the Advancement of Literacy, and Dr. Saskia Kohnen of the Macquarie University Centre for Reading. Contents used in this publication are licensed third-party materials.

Provincial Assessment Numeracy Screeners. Adapted and reproduced with permission by Heather Douglas, Ph.D., B.Ed., and Jo-Anne LeFevre, Ph.D., Department of Cognitive Science, Carleton University.

Excerpted material in this document **shall not** be reproduced without the written permission of the original publisher (see credits, where applicable).

All changes to Alberta Education requirements contained in this document are effective the first day of the school year as defined by the school authority.

This *Literacy and Numeracy Screening Assessments General Information Bulletin* is authorized in accordance with section 18, subsection 4, of the Education Act, for use in Alberta accredited schools. This document supports the Provincial Assessment Directives.

Contents

Introduction to the Literacy and Numeracy Screening Assessments	1
• Purpose of this bulletin	1
• Definitions and interpretations	1
• General information about literacy and numeracy screening assessments	2
• Alberta Education Provided and Approved Literacy and Numeracy Assessments: Grades 1-3	2
• Alberta Education-provided Literacy and Numeracy Assessments:	2
• Alberta Education-approved Literacy and Numeracy Assessments	2
• Participants in the mandatory literacy and numeracy screening assessments	3
• Participation in the literacy and numeracy screening assessments	3
• Structure of the Alberta Education-provided literacy and numeracy screening assessments	3
• Alberta Education-provided literacy and numeracy screening assessments administration	4
• Alberta Education-provided literacy and numeracy screening assessments	4
• Data submission	4
• Administration schedule for literacy and numeracy screening assessments	5
• How to administer Alberta Education-provided literacy and numeracy screening assessments	5
Significant Dates	6
• 2023–2024 Alberta Education-provided literacy and numeracy screening assessments administration	6
• Pre-administration activities	6
Security and Assessment Rules	8
• Security of materials	8
• Alberta Education-provided literacy and numeracy screening assessment rules	8
• Use of calculators	8
• Use of manipulatives	8
Administration Requirements and Expectations	8
• Retention of student literacy and numeracy assessment results	8
• Information collected, used and disclosed	8

Reporting Literacy and Numeracy Screening Assessment Results.....	9
• Digital reports for the Alberta Education-provided literacy and numeracy screening assessments	9
• Results reporting	9
• Discussing results with parent(s)/guardian(s)	9
• Annual Education Results Report (AERR) requirements	10
Appendix A: School Authority Literacy and Numeracy Results Reporting Template (Sample)	11
Appendix B: Sample Reports for Literacy and Numeracy Prepared by Alberta Education	12
• Appendix B Superintendent Report Sample 1	12
• Appendix B School Report Sample 2	13
• Appendix B Class Report Sample 3	14
• Appendix B Individual Student Report Sample 4	15
• Appendix B Individual Student Report Sample 5	16
Appendix C	17
• Alberta Education-provided literacy and numeracy screening assessments	17
• Literacy assessments	17
• Numeracy assessments	17
• Alberta Education-approved literacy and numeracy screening assessments	17
• Literacy assessments	17
• Numeracy assessments	18
Provincial Assessment Contacts.....	19

Introduction to the Literacy and Numeracy Screening Assessments

Purpose of this bulletin

This bulletin serves the following purposes:

- to support school authorities and their staff in the mandatory administration and reporting of provincial literacy and numeracy screening assessments for students in grades 1 to 3;
- to provide information about provincial literacy and numeracy screening assessments administration and data submission; and
- to serve as the key policy, rules, and procedures repository for provincial literacy and numeracy screening assessments.

Definitions and interpretations

In this document:

- **School** includes all learning environments in which the Literacy and Numeracy Screening Assessments are administered by a school authority including, but not limited to a school as defined in the Education Act, and a learning environment operated by an entity that has an agreement with Alberta Education to administer the Literacy and Numeracy Screening Assessments.
- **School authority** includes all entities responsible for the administration of the Literacy and Numeracy Screening Assessments including, but not limited to:
 - a board as defined in the *Education Act*;
 - a Francophone Regional Authority;
 - an operator and governing body of a charter school;
 - a person responsible for the operation of a private school; and
 - any entity that has an agreement with Alberta Education to administer the Literacy and Numeracy Screening Assessments.
- **Superintendent** is in accordance with the definition used in the Education Act and includes persons designated to supervise the operation of schools and the provision of education programs
- **Principal** is in accordance with the definition used in the Education Act and includes all persons designated as a principal in the delivery and marking of provincial assessments. The principal is responsible for adhering to the policies, rules and procedures in this document
- **Teacher** is in accordance with the definition used in the Education Act and includes all persons who hold a teaching certificate involved in the delivery and marking of provincial assessments. The Teacher is responsible for adhering to the policies, rules, and procedures in this document.
- **Student** is in accordance with the definition used in the Education Act

General information about literacy and numeracy screening assessments

Literacy and numeracy are two important skill areas that develop during early childhood. Assessing students' learning in literacy and numeracy in their early years provides critical information to teachers, parents, and Alberta Education to help at-risk students receive the support they need.

For the 2023–2024 school year, school authorities are required to administer literacy and numeracy screening assessments to all students in grades 1 to 3. School authorities must reassess all at-risk students again at the end of the school year to measure their progress. Results are to be reported in school authorities' Annual Education Results Report (AERR).

The primary objective of the requirement to re-asses is to ensure students who are identified as being at risk in their literacy and numeracy skills are identified and provided supports that assist them in developing the necessary foundational literacy and numeracy skills they need to be successful in their education and beyond. School authorities may use Alberta Education-provided literacy and numeracy screening assessments and Alberta Education approved alternative screening assessments to help make this determination.

Screening assessments are not intended to measure student mastery of the curriculum for a particular grade level but to help teachers understand their students' foundational literacy and numeracy skills.

Alberta Education Provided and Approved Literacy and Numeracy Assessments: Grades 1-3

Alberta Education-provided Literacy and Numeracy Assessments:

To provide school authorities with reliable and easy-to-administer literacy and numeracy assessments, Alberta Education is providing the following literacy and numeracy assessments to all Alberta school authorities.

- The Alberta Education-provided Literacy Screening Assessments are developed independently for English, French Immersion and Francophone students. *The Letter Name-Sound (LeNS) Test*
- *The Castles and Coltheart 3 (CC3) Test*, based on the *Castles and Coltheart Reading Test 2 (CC2)*
- Provincial Numeracy Screening Assessments for Grades 1 – 3

Alberta Education-approved Literacy and Numeracy Assessments

The following assessments are approved for use by Alberta Education if a school authority chooses to use them instead of the assessments provided by Alberta Education. The following assessments are recognized by Alberta Education as providing reliable scores for screening children for literacy and numeracy difficulties.

- *Acadience Reading K-6*
- *The Test of Silent Reading Efficiency and Comprehension® (TOSREC)*
- *The Test of Word Reading Efficiency–Second Edition (TOWRE-2)*
- *Wechsler Individual Achievement Test®–Third Edition (WIAT-III)*
- *Wide Range Achievement Test–Fifth Edition (WRAT5™)*
- *Canadian Achievement Test 4 (CAT•4)*
- *KeyMath™ 3 Diagnostic Assessment: Canadian Edition (KeyMath™ 3 DA) (English & French)*
- *Number Sense Screener™ (NSS™) Set, K–1, Research Edition*
- *Test of Early Mathematics Ability–Third Edition (TEMA-3)*

Descriptions of Alberta Education-provided and Alberta Education-approved literacy and numeracy assessments are found in [Appendix C](#).

Participants in the mandatory literacy and numeracy screening assessments

School authorities are required to administer Alberta Education-provided or approved literacy and numeracy screening assessments to all students in grades 1 to 3. Teachers should administer literacy and numeracy screening assessments to their students in the language of instruction (English or French).

A superintendent, on an individual basis, may excuse a student from participating in the literacy and/or numeracy screening assessment if:

1. the student is unable to access the assessment in its original form due to behavioural, intellectual, learning, communication or physical characteristics, or any combination of any of them, that impair the student's ability and opportunity to learn; and
2. participation would be harmful to the student.

The principal, in consultation with the parent/guardian and the teacher, shall recommend to the superintendent that the student be excused from participating. A copy of the documentation in support of the recommendation, including the student's Individual Program Plan, if applicable, shall remain in the school. Where necessary, a superintendent may provide direction on the type of documentation required to assist the superintendent in deciding whether or not to excuse a student from participating in the mandatory literacy and/or numeracy screening assessment requirement for students in grades 1 to 3.

Where a parent/guardian decides to withdraw a child (the student) from participating in the mandatory literacy and/or numeracy screening assessment requirement in grades 1 to 3, the parent/guardian must provide written notification to the school principal of the decision, indicating the child will not be participating in the administration.

A copy of the written notification shall remain in the school.

If using an Alberta Education-provided assessment, teachers will identify absent students to Alberta Education through the [Teacher Dashboard](#) using the status "not participating."

Participation in the literacy and numeracy screening assessments

Information regarding participation in the literacy and numeracy screening assessments for this school year is available at the [new LearnAlberta.ca](#) Provincial Assessment Hub (PAH). To access the PAH, teachers must create an account using their teacher certification number.

Structure of the Alberta Education-provided literacy and numeracy screening assessments

The three components of the provincial literacy and numeracy screening assessments in English and in French are:

- the LeNS assessments that identify students' knowledge of common grapheme-phoneme correspondences;
- the CC3 assessments that identify students' ability to decode words; and
- the Numeracy Screening Assessments that identify students' knowledge of the number system, number operations, and proportional reasoning skills

For detailed information on the provincial literacy and numeracy screening assessments, please refer to the Frequently Asked Questions for Teachers as well as the Interpretation Guide for Literacy and Numeracy Screening Assessments found in the PAH on [new LearnAlberta.ca](#).

Alberta Education-provided literacy and numeracy screening assessments administration

The [new LearnAlberta.ca](#) PAH provides access to the:

- LeNS and CC3 assessments for grades 1 to 3;
- numeracy screening assessments for grades 1 to 3;
- literacy and numeracy screening assessments support documents, instructional videos, and pronunciation exemplars;
- [Teacher Dashboard](#), data submission instructions, and accompanying instructional video for data entry; and
- a screening report interpretation video and current and previous norms tables.

Alberta Education-provided literacy and numeracy screening assessments and supporting documents and resources are available in English and French.

Alberta Education-provided literacy and numeracy screening assessments

The literacy and numeracy screening assessments provided by Alberta Education are available in English and French.

English Students	Assessments
Grade 1	LeNS, cards 1 – 5 CC3 Provincial Numeracy Screening Assessment
Grade 2	LeNS cards 3, 4, and 5 CC3 Provincial Numeracy Screening Assessment
Grade 3	CC3 Provincial Numeracy Screening Assessment

French Immersion and Francophone Students	Assessments
1 ^{re} année	NSIe, cartes 1 – 5 CC3 Test de dépistage provincial en numératie
2 ^e année	NSIe, cartes 3, 4 et 5 CC3 Test de dépistage provincial en numératie
3 ^e année	CC3 Test de dépistage provincial en numératie

Data submission

Note: This section refers to the Alberta Education-provided literacy and numeracy screening assessments only.

School authorities can submit student data according to the instructions provided on the PAH in [new LearnAlberta.ca](#) in the Data Collection section. Completed student response sheets are retained at your school for one year.

Prior to submitting the Alberta Education-provided literacy and numeracy screening assessments student scores, it is essential to review the Data Collection User Guide for teachers, support staff, principals, and superintendents, found on the [new LearnAlberta.ca](#) PAH. This document includes information regarding:

- instructions on how to set up access to the [Teacher Dashboard](#); and
- pre-administration set-up of class lists and registration of assessments.

Administration schedule for literacy and numeracy screening assessments

- In September, school authorities will be required to administer literacy and numeracy screening assessments, selected from an approved list on the [new LearnAlberta.ca](#) PAH, to grades 2 to 3 students.
- Grade 1 students will take the assessments in January. Grades 1 to 3 students enrolled in a home education program shall participate in the literacy and numeracy screening assessments. In cases where home education programs are supervised by either public or private school authorities, it is the responsibility of the school authority to confirm that these students will be assessed by a teacher and submit student scores on the [Teacher Dashboard](#) if an Alberta Education-provided assessment was administered.

The Alberta Education-provided Provincial Literacy and Numeracy Screening Assessments are suitable for remote administration by a teacher. A reliable Internet connection with both video and audio meeting capabilities is required to administer them at home.

How to administer Alberta Education-provided literacy and numeracy screening assessments

All documents referenced below are for Alberta Education-**provided** literacy and numeracy screening assessments only. These documents can be found on the [new LearnAlberta.ca](#) PAH. Information about how to administer Alberta Education-**approved** screening assessments is not provided. These commercially available screening assessments follow their own administration guidelines should a school authority wish to use them.

Prior to the administration of the Alberta Education-provided literacy and numeracy screening assessments, teachers and school administrators should access the following documents: PAH.

- *Literacy and Numeracy Screening Assessments General Information Bulletin* (this document);
- [Teacher Dashboard](#);
- Alberta Education-provided literacy and numeracy assessments and interpretation guides;
- *FAQs for Teachers and Parents*; and
- additional resources.

Teachers and school administrators should also review the documents and accompanying Instructional Video found on the [new LearnAlberta.ca](#) PAH, including the *Data Collection User Guide*.

Teachers who require access to the [Teacher Dashboard](#) need authorization from the school administration/principal prior to the administration of Alberta Education-provided literacy and numeracy screening assessments. Instructions for this process are outlined in the *Data Collection User Guide* and/or Instructional Video.

Significant Dates

2023–2024 Alberta Education-provided literacy and numeracy screening assessments administration

Note: This section refers to the Alberta Education-provided literacy and numeracy screening assessments only.

Pre-administration activities

- Principals must approve access for grades 1 to 3 teachers to use the [Teacher Dashboard](#).
- Prior to the administration of the Alberta Education-provided Literacy and Numeracy Screening Assessments, school principals are required to confirm school enrolment data is accurately entered into Provincial Approach to Student Information (PASI). If students are not entered into PASI, teachers will not be able to create class lists, submit student scores, or generate individual student reports.
- Teachers must download and print the most current assessment packages found on the [new LearnAlberta.ca](#) Provincial Assessment Hub prior to each administration session.
- Teachers should consult the Instructional Videos and Supporting Documents specific to the assessments they wish to administer, found on the [new LearnAlberta.ca](#) PAH.

Significant Dates

Sept. 8–29, 2023	Teachers administer Alberta Education-provided literacy and numeracy screening assessments and submit student scores on the Teacher Dashboard for grades 2 and 3.
Oct. 9-13, 2023	Alberta Education posts beginning-of-year grades 2 and 3 literacy and numeracy norms to new LearnAlberta.ca . Note that norms and reports for grades 2 and 3 are provided in September 2023 and June 2024.
Oct. 16-20, 2023	Alberta Education posts enhanced grades 2 to 3 detailed reports (superintendent reports, class and individual student reports) to the Teacher Dashboard and literacy and numeracy reports on the Stakeholder File eXchange
Jan. 10–26, 2024	Teachers administer the Alberta Education-provided Grade 1 literacy and numeracy assessments and submit student scores on the Teacher Dashboard . Letter-Name Sound (LeNS) test must be administered first, followed by the Castles & Coltheart 3 (CC3) test.
February 26-March 1, 2024	Alberta Education posts literacy and numeracy norms to new LearnAlberta.ca . Note that norms and reports for grades 2 and 3 are provided in September 2023 and June 2024.
March 4-8, 2024	Alberta Education provides schools and school authorities with literacy and numeracy reports for Grade 1 on the Stakeholder File eXchange (SFX) . Alberta Education posts enhanced Grade 1 detailed reports (superintendent reports, class, and individual student reports) to the Teacher Dashboard .

Significant Dates

May 20–31, 2024

Schools can start to re-administer the assessments used in Sept. 2023 for grades 2 and 3, and in Jan. for Grade 1, to all previously identified at-risk students in grades 1 to 3.

Schools can submit their Alberta Education-provided literacy and numeracy assessment data for grades 1 to 3 to Alberta Education.

June 14, 2023

Alberta Education posts Grades 1-3 Alberta Education-provided literacy and numeracy norms to [new LearnAlberta.ca](#).

June 24, 2024

Superintendents, teachers and school administrators can access class and individual student reports (digital and print) via the [Teacher Dashboard](#).

School administrators and superintendents can access CVS files through the [Stakeholder File eXchange \(SFX\)](#).

Security and Assessment Rules

Security of materials

Posting of the Alberta Education-provided screening assessments and resources to school authority or local websites is not authorized and strictly prohibited in accordance with copyright and test security practices.

Alberta Education-provided literacy and numeracy screening assessment rules

It is important to closely adhere to the step-by-step administration instructions, as they are written in the most current assessment packages found on the [new LearnAlberta.ca](https://www.learnalberta.ca) Provincial Assessment Hub. This will lead to the most accurate assessment results.

Use of calculators

Students **may not use** calculators at any time during the numeracy screening assessment.

Use of manipulatives

Students **may not use** manipulatives at any time during the numeracy screening assessment.

Administration Requirements and Expectations

Note: This section refers to both the Alberta Education-provided and Alberta Education-approved literacy and numeracy screening assessments.

Retention of student literacy and numeracy assessment results

Literacy and numeracy screening assessment results must be kept as part of a student's portfolio for one year to inform teaching and learning and to support conversations with parents/guardians.

Information collected, used and disclosed

Teachers will collect student names, grades, Alberta student numbers, and individual student responses. It is recommended results be submitted to Alberta Education according to the significant dates schedule above to assist school authorities with their reporting and planning to help improve student learning. Personal information is collected for the purpose of these assessments under the authority of section 33(c) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FOIP).

Reporting Literacy and Numeracy Screening Assessment Results

Digital reports for the Alberta Education-provided literacy and numeracy screening assessments

Note: this section only applies to Alberta-provided literacy and numeracy assessments.

Submit data to Alberta Education for processing according to the Significant Dates Schedule noted above.

After student data is submitted to Alberta Education, data is analyzed, and reports are generated.

Reports can be accessed and printed through the [Teacher Dashboard](#).

Superintendents will have access to a superintendent report providing information about the assessments, performance categories, and the distribution of students across these performance categories (See sample report in [Appendix B](#)).

Principals can also see a superintendent report with an overview of the performance categories of all students at their school. (See sample report in [Appendix B](#)).

Teachers can access their own class reports and filter down to individual student reports, which include more-detailed information about individual student performance (See sample report in [Appendix B](#)).

For more-detailed information on accessing and interpreting reports, teachers, principals, and superintendents can view the Literacy and Numeracy Screening Report Interpretation Video found on the [new LearnAlberta.ca](#) Provincial Assessment Hub, available in English and French.

Results reporting

Results from the literacy and numeracy screening assessments are intended to help teachers identify and address gaps in their students' foundational understandings of literacy and numeracy.

Teachers can use these results to guide their teaching throughout the year and inform students and parents about progress and learning. In addition, teachers can use the results to select appropriate resources and interventions to meet the needs of each student.

Superintendents and principals can use the results to support teachers and instructional practices.

Parents can use the results to inform discussion with their child's teacher.

Discussing results with parent(s)/guardian(s)

Interpretation of results is best accomplished through conversation between parent/guardian, student, and teacher.

Annual Education Results Report (AERR) requirements

Note: This section refers to both the Alberta Education-provided and Alberta Education-approved literacy and numeracy screening assessments.

The *Funding Manual for school authorities 2023/24 school year* requires school authorities to report on the literacy and numeracy results of their students in grades 1 to 3. For the **last school year (2022-23)** school authorities are required to report their results by **November 30, 2023**.

For the current school year (2023-24), school authorities are required to report their results next year by November 30, 2024.

School authorities must provide a summary of their literacy and numeracy results for students in grades 1 to 3 that includes:

- a list of the Alberta Education-approved screening assessments used at each grade level;
- the total number of students assessed at the beginning of the school year at each grade level;
- the total number of students identified as being at risk at the beginning of the school year at each grade level;
- the total number of students identified as being at risk at the end of the school year at each grade level;
- the average number of months behind grade level after the administration of the initial assessments for at-risk students;
- the average number of months gained at grade level after the administration of the final assessments for at-risk students;
and
- a summary of support strategies used for students identified as being at risk at each grade level.

Reporting results will help the province, school authorities, and schools track successes and continuously improve the quality of education for students. It also supports a transparent, accountable, and responsive education system. This information is reported by school authorities in their AERRs as outlined in the 2023-2024 [funding manual](#). [Appendix A](#) provides a sample template school authorities may want to use to report a summary of their literacy and numeracy results for students in grades 1 to 3 in their AERR.

For assistance in determining the average number of months behind at grade level for at-risk students of the **initial** assessment(s) and the average number of months gained at grade level for at-risk students of the **final** assessments, please refer to the *Guide for Completing the Funding Final Report* found on the [Stakeholder File eXchange \(SFX\)](#).

School authorities using alternate assessments from the approved list are to use their professional judgment to help estimate the number of months behind grade level and the number of months gained at grade level informed by their student's screening assessment results.

Appendix A: School Authority Literacy and Numeracy Results Reporting Template (Sample)

Name of Alberta Education provided or approved screening assessment(s) used	Total number of students assessed at the beginning of the school year at each grade level	Total number of students identified as being at risk on initial assessment(s) (beginning of year or January for Grade 1)	Total number of students identified as being at risk on final assessment(s) (end of year)	Average number of months behind grade level of at-risk students at time of initial assessment(s)	Average number of months gained at grade level by at-risk students at time of final assessment(s)
---	---	--	---	--	---

LITERACY

Grade 1

Grade 2

Grade 3

NUMERACY

Grade 1

Grade 2

Grade 3

Summary of support strategies used for students identified as being at risk at each grade level.

	LITERACY	NUMERACY
--	----------	----------

Grade 1

Grade 2

Grade 3

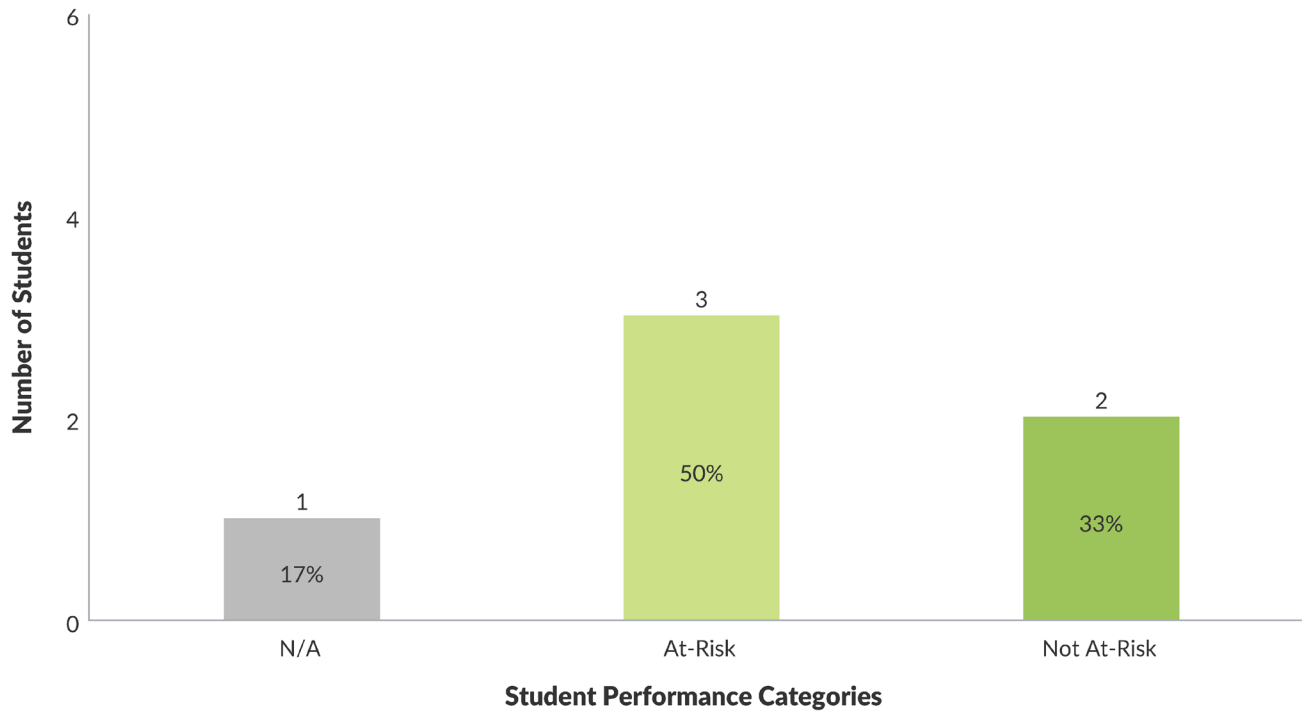
Appendix B: Sample Reports for Literacy and Numeracy Prepared by Alberta Education

Note: this section only applies to Alberta-provided literacy and numeracy assessments.

Appendix B Superintendent Report Sample 1

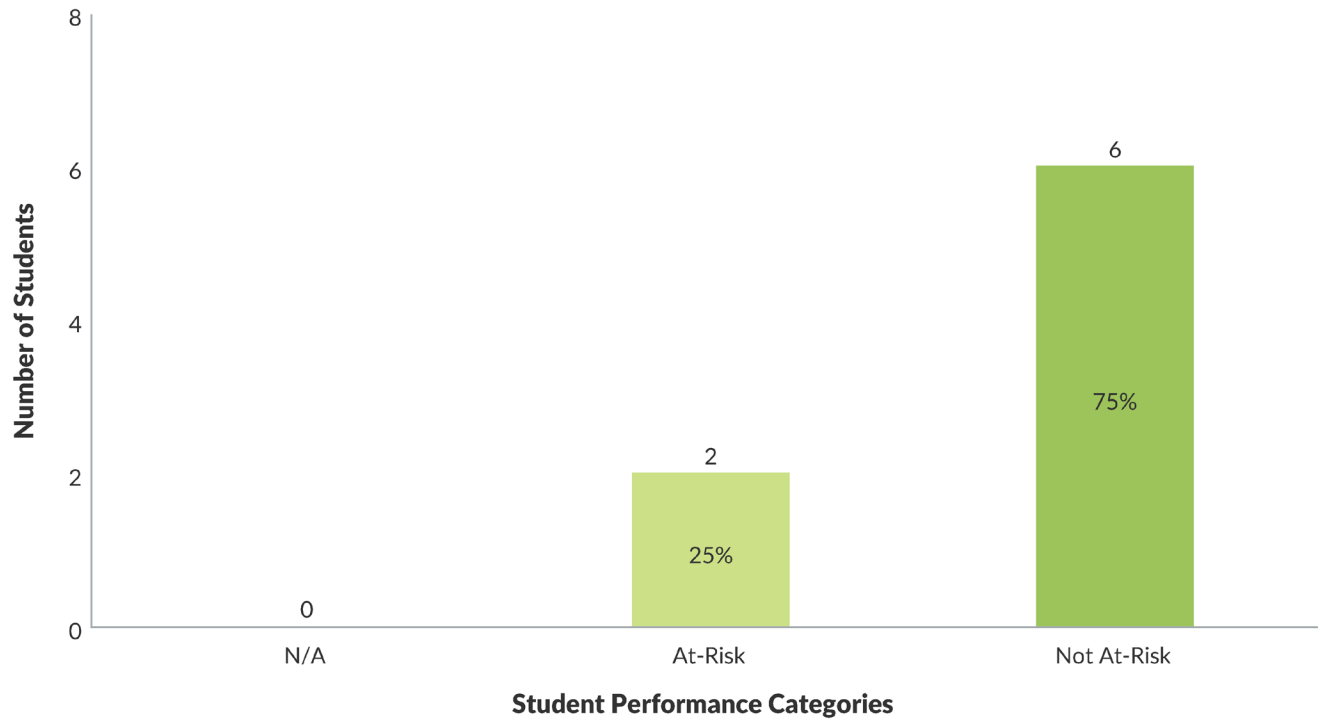
Castles and Coltheart 3 (CC3) Assessment English-Grade 2-CC3 Overall Performance-Superintendent Report-September 2023

6 Students Completed



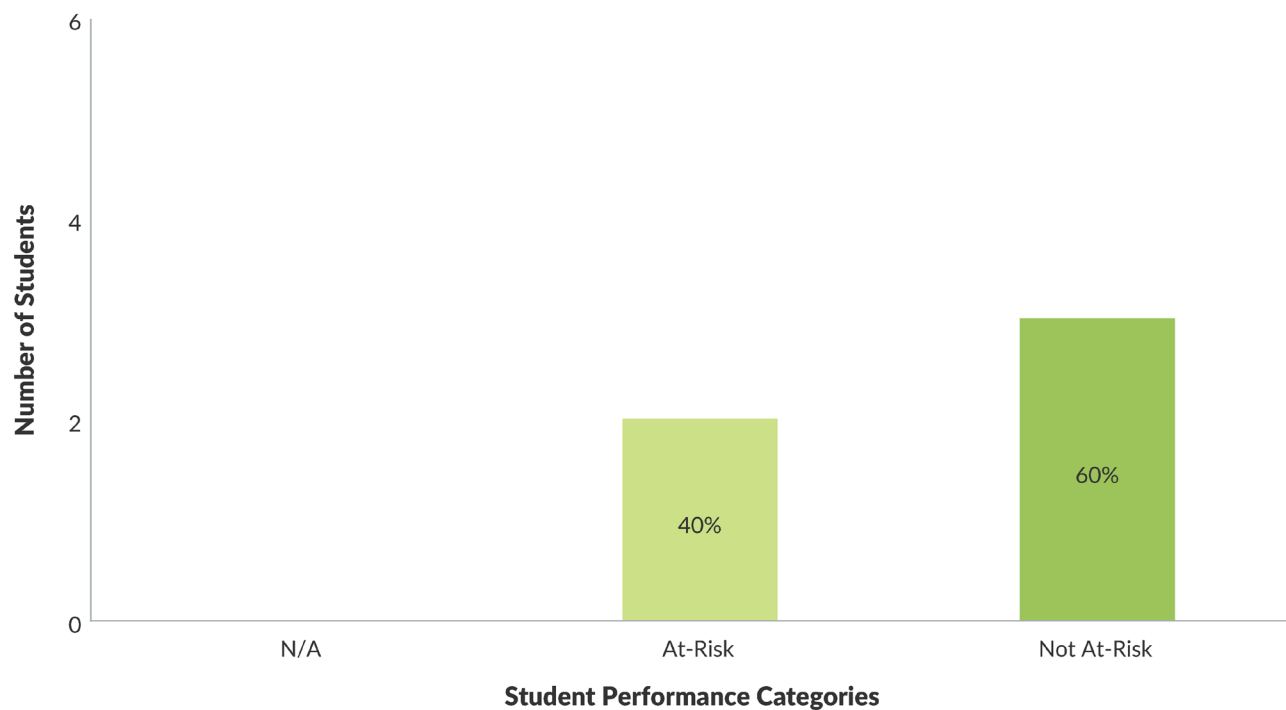
Appendix B School Report Sample 2

Numeracy Screening Assessments-Grade 2-Weighted Total Score Outcome-School Report-September 2023
8 Students Completed



Appendix B Class Report Sample 3

Test de dépistage-Numératie-Grade 2-Weighted Total Score Outcome-Class Report-September 2023



Appendix B Individual Student Report Sample 4

Student Name

Individual Student Report - Letter Name-Sound (LeNS) Assessments English - Grade 2 - September 2023

What Is a Literacy Screening Assessment?

The provincial Literacy Screening Assessments are locally adapted to meet the needs of students in Alberta. They are used to broadly categorize students based on a set of foundational literacy skills (grapheme–phoneme correspondences and word recognition). These assessments are used as a first step to ensure students have the necessary skills to develop into independent readers.

What Is Being Assessed?

Foundational literacy is supported by understanding relationships between sounds in oral language and the letters that represent them. The Letter Name-Sound (LeNS) test is a complementary assessment that provides additional information on whether students experience difficulties in grapheme-phoneme correspondences. The LeNS assesses the following:

- Knowledge of letter names and corresponding sounds
- Knowledge of common grapheme–phoneme correspondences

Interpretation of Results

The Literacy Screening Assessment norms are based on a representative sample of grade-specific student populations across Alberta. This data makes it possible to compare individual students' performance with a grade-specific group of peers in a certain time of year. To be deemed 'at-risk' a student's score **must** be below the 25th percentile ranking of the norms on the overall score for the LeNS assessment. The vertical black line within the bar graph indicates the cut score for that reporting period.

The results should be used to help teachers identify those students who may need intensive support to develop their literacy skills. It is important to pay attention to the relative student achievement level. For example, a student who is 'not at-risk' may nevertheless demonstrate limited literacy skills if their performance on the assessment is not much above the at-risk range.

Student's Overall LeNS Performance Results: Not At-Risk



Students achieving "not at-risk" on the LeNS assessment consistently demonstrate age-appropriate knowledge and recall of letter-sound correspondences.

Sound Accuracy



Information and Support

Students are able to use their knowledge of grapheme–phoneme correspondences (GPCs) to help them sound out unfamiliar words. As students gain knowledge of GPC rules, they are able to sound out longer and more complex words containing GPCs. To support students in learning letter–sound correspondences, students should be familiar with the following skills:

- Making connections between graphemes (letters and letter combinations) and phonemes (the sounds)
- Recognizing long vowel sounds
- Recognizing and using a variety of letter–sound correspondences to decode words
- Segmenting and blending sounds of words using grapheme-phoneme correspondences

Recommended Follow-Up

Based on the LeNS Screening Assessment results, this student should continue to practice and apply letter–sound identification. This can be achieved through in-class instruction and reading texts which include some decodable words, previously learned words, and new or challenging words.

Appendix B Individual Student Report Sample 5

Student Name

Individual Student Report - Numeracy Screening Assessments - Grade 3 - September 2023

What is a Numeracy Screening Assessment?

An assessment that is used to broadly categorize students based on a set of foundational numeracy skills (knowledge of the counting principles, representing, comparing and ordering numbers, recognizing relations among numbers, and fluency with mental mathematics). The assessments are not intended to measure student mastery of the curriculum for a particular grade level, but to help teachers understand their students' underlying knowledge of the number system.

Interpretation of Results

The Provincial Numeracy Screening Assessments are norm-referenced assessments. The test norms are based on a representative sample of grade-specific student populations and consist of data that make it possible to determine whether or not a student is at-risk. The numeracy weighted total test score is based on the tasks within the assessment. If deemed "at-risk" on the Numeracy Performance Score, the student may be at risk in more than one task. For a more complete understanding of a student's numeracy skills, it is important to pay attention to the relative student performance on each task. The vertical black line within the bar graph indicates the cut score for that reporting period.

The results should be used to help teachers identify those students who may need intensive support developing their numeracy skills.

Student's Overall Numeracy Performance Results: Not At-Risk

At-Risk

Not At-Risk



When responding to this assessment, the student who is "Not At-Risk" demonstrates foundational numeracy skills including

- knowledge of the counting principles,
- representing, comparing, and ordering numbers,
- recognizing relations among numbers, and
- fluency with mental mathematics

Students who score in the "Not At-Risk" performance category may need intervention and support, as indicated in the task results for knowledge of the number system, basic number operations and proportional reasoning skills.

At-Risk

Not At-Risk

Comparing Numbers



Writing Numbers



Numbers on the Number Line



Number Facts Addition



Number Facts Subtraction



Equations



Ordering of Numbers



Appendix C

This appendix is a resource to help school authorities choose an approved grades 1 to 3 literacy and numeracy assessment.

Alberta Education-provided literacy and numeracy screening assessments

There are significant benefits to utilizing Alberta Education-provided literacy and numeracy screening assessments. These screening assessments are offered free of charge for use by school authorities to accurately measure specific literacy and numeracy skills students demonstrate in grades 1 to 3. The submission of student data by school authorities to the designated data portal at Alberta Education allows for the analysis and generation of detailed reports at the superintendent, school and individual student levels. This information is beneficial in helping identify students who may be at risk in their literacy and numeracy skills, and inform the use of intervention lessons and activities, to help support students improve their literacy and numeracy skills.

Literacy assessments

- **The Letter Name-Sound (LeNS) Test** is designed to make sure that the child has the foundational phonics skills to develop into an independent reader. As such, it assesses a student's ability to sound out single letters and letter combinations (e.g., n, d, e, ch, ay, oa, oy). The *Tests Nom et son des lettres (NSLe)* is the equivalent in French to the LeNS Test.
- **The Castles and Coltheart 3 (CC3) test** is designed to identify the nature of a child's reading difficulties. As such, it assesses a student's ability to recall familiar and irregular words (e.g., take, hand, island, cough), and their ability to sound out non-words (e.g., norf, framp, gurve) that were created specially for this assessment and are meant to be fictitious and without meaning. The *Test Castle et Coltheart 3 (CC3)* is also available in French.

Numeracy assessments

- *Provincial Numeracy Screening Assessments for Grades 1 – 3* is designed to measure a wide range of skills associated with a child's number sense. Such skills include counting, number comparison, number writing, number ordering, and basic arithmetic. The importance of these early skills to later mathematical development is often asserted in the literature, and accordingly, an emphasis on developing number sense is warranted for all early years numeracy intervention programs. are rooted in current theory on mathematical cognition and development, and the results of these assessments can be used to help teachers identify and address gaps in their students' foundational understanding of numbers.

Alberta Education-approved literacy and numeracy screening assessments

Literacy assessments

- **Acadience Reading K-6** can be used to identify children at risk for reading difficulties and to determine the skills to target for instructional support.
- **The Test of Silent Reading Efficiency and Comprehension® (TOSREC)** is a brief, group, or individually administered test that assesses silent reading of connected text for comprehension. Because the sentences are relatively easy to comprehend, this task is frequently used to quickly screen children for reading difficulties.
- **The Test of Word Reading Efficiency–Second Edition (TOWRE-2)** is a measure of an individual's ability to pronounce printed words (Sight Word Efficiency) and phonemically regular nonwords (Phonemic Decoding Efficiency) accurately and fluently.
- **Wechsler Individual Achievement Test®–Third Edition (WIAT-III)** has the following sub-tests to assess early reading skills: Oral Expression, Early Reading Skills, Word Reading, and Pseudoword Decoding.
- **Wide Range Achievement Test–Fifth Edition (WRAT5™)** has a Word Reading sub-test that measures untimed letter identification and word recognition. The examinee reads aloud a list of letters and words.

Numeracy assessments

- **Canadian Achievement Test 4 (CAT•4)** is a testing system that assesses essential learning outcomes in the following basic skill areas: reading, language, spelling, and mathematics. Note: While school authorities are permitted to use all components of this assessment system, only the subtest for Mathematics is to be considered approved for use as a numeracy assessment.
- **KeyMath™ 3 Diagnostic Assessment: Canadian Edition (KeyMath™ 3 DA) (English & French)** assesses mastery of essential mathematical concepts and skills, and assists in developing targeted-intervention programs.
- **Number Sense Screener™ (NSS™) Set, K–1, Research Edition** assesses six key numerical competencies for Kindergarten and Grade 1 students: counting, number recognition, number comparison, nonverbal calculation, story problems, and number combinations.
- **Test of Early Mathematics Ability–Third Edition (TEMA-3)** measures informal and formal (school-taught) concepts and skills in the following domains: numbering skills, number-comparison facility, numeral literacy, mastery of number facts, calculation skills, and understanding of concepts.
- **Wide Range Achievement Test–Fifth Edition (WRAT5™)** The Math Computation sub-test assesses a student's ability to count, identify numbers, solve simple oral math problems, and calculate answers to written math problems.

Provincial Assessment Contacts

Literacy & Numeracy Screening Assessments Help Desk

Email: litnumscreening@gov.ab.ca

Provincial Assessment mailing address

Provincial Assessment, Alberta Education
44 Capital Boulevard
10044 108 Street NW
Edmonton AB T5J 5E6

Alberta Education website: alberta.ca/education

Workforce Development Help Desk

Telephone: 780-427-5318
Toll-free within Alberta: 310-0000
Email: AE.HelpDesk@gov.ab.ca

Office hours:
Monday through Friday, 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
The office is open during the lunch hour