A global leader in
pre-K–12 education technology

Assessing for Kindergarten Readiness

Isabel Turner

July 14, 2021

RENAISSANCE

Our mission

"To accelerate learning for all children and adults of all ability levels and ethnic and social backgrounds, worldwide."

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Agenda

1 Defining Kindergarten Readiness
Purpose for screening

2 K Readiness Assessment
Preparing your students, Supporting ELC's, Student and Admin Experience

3 Support and Resources

Defining Kindergarten Readiness

Who takes the test?

- All public school and charter school K
- All public Pre-K
- All Collaborative Pre-K
- School 500 K students
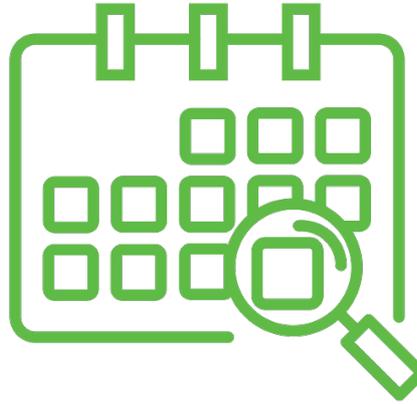
When do they test?

- Pre-Test in Fall
- July 22 – September 24 (test within first 30 school days)
- Post –Test in Spring
- March 21,2022 –April 29,2022
- Key Dates Document
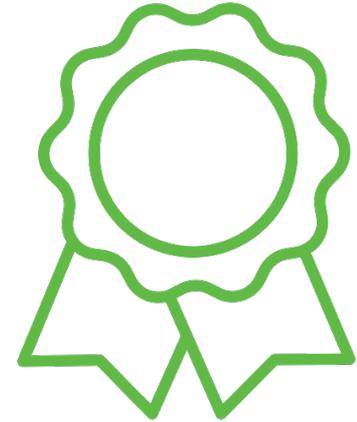
Metrics

- Kindergarten
- Fall –**SS 530**
- Spring –**SS 681**
- Pre-K -Spring – **SS 498**

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Purpose for Universal Screening

Star items are on the Star scale

300 ●━━━━━━━━━━━━━━━━━━━● 900

Star items
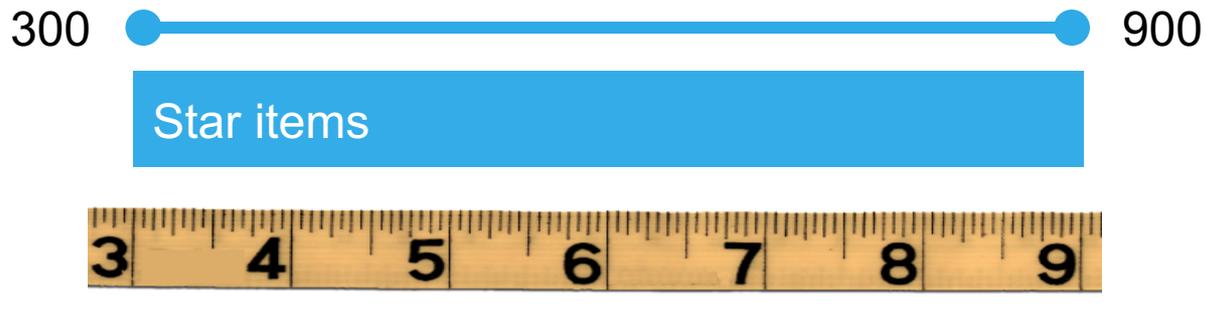
Learning progression skills are on the Star scale
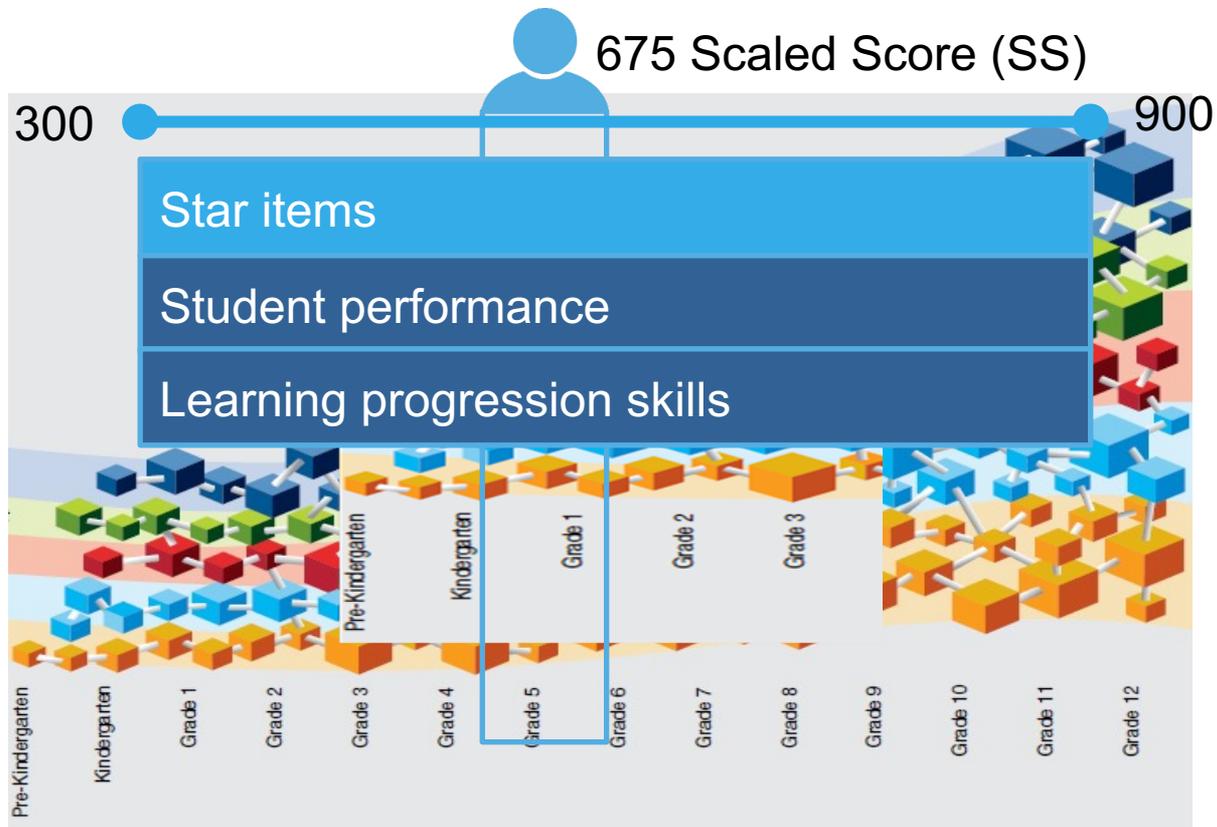
Basics of Star Early Literacy

- Computer Adaptive

- Designed for Pre-K - 3 grade non-readers

- Assess within 3 domains (including early numeracy)

- 27 items

- Scores most closely align with a student's age

- Preferences are available

Key Domain Areas

Word Knowledge and Skills

Alphabetic Principle
- Alphabetic Knowledge
- Alphabetic Sequence
- Letter Sounds

Concept of Word
- Print Concepts: Word Length
- Print Concepts: Word Borders
- Print Concepts: Letters and Words

Visual Discrimination
- Letters
- Identification and Word Matching

Phonemic Awareness
- Rhyming and Word Families
- Blending Word Parts
- Blending Phonemes
- Initial and Final Phonemes
- Consonant Blends (PA)
- Medial Phoneme Discrimination
- Phoneme Segmentation
- Phoneme Isolation/Manipulation

Phonics
- Short Vowel Sounds
- Initial Consonant Sounds
- Final Consonant Sounds
- Long Vowel Sounds
- Variant Vowel Sounds
- Consonant Blends (PH)
- Consonant Digraphs
- Other Vowel Sounds
- Sound-Symbol Correspondence: Consonants
- Word Building
- Sound-Symbol Correspondence: Vowels
- Word Families/Rhyming

Structural Analysis
- Words with Affixes
- Syllabification
- Compound Words

Vocabulary
- Word Facility
- Synonyms
- Antonyms

Comprehension Strategies and Constructing Meaning

Sentence-level Comprehension
- Comprehension at the Sentence Level

Paragraph-level Comprehension
- Comprehension of Paragraphs

Numbers and Operations

Early Numeracy
- Number Naming and Number Identification
- Number Object Correspondence
- Sequence Completion
- Composing and Decomposing
- Measurement

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How computer-adaptive testing works

More Difficult

Easier

Items answered by a student
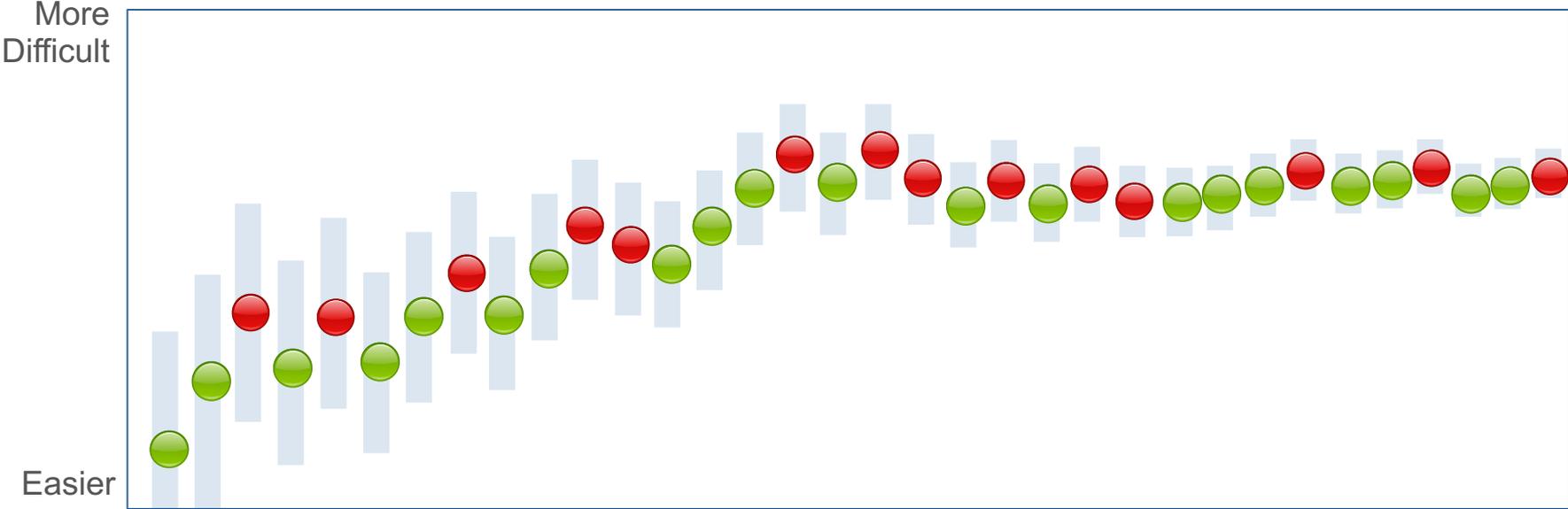
🟢 Correct Response   🔴 Incorrect Response   ▌ Standard Error of Measurement

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STAR Early Literacy Scaled Score (SS)

300 SS

530 SS
Fall

681 SS
Spring

900 SS

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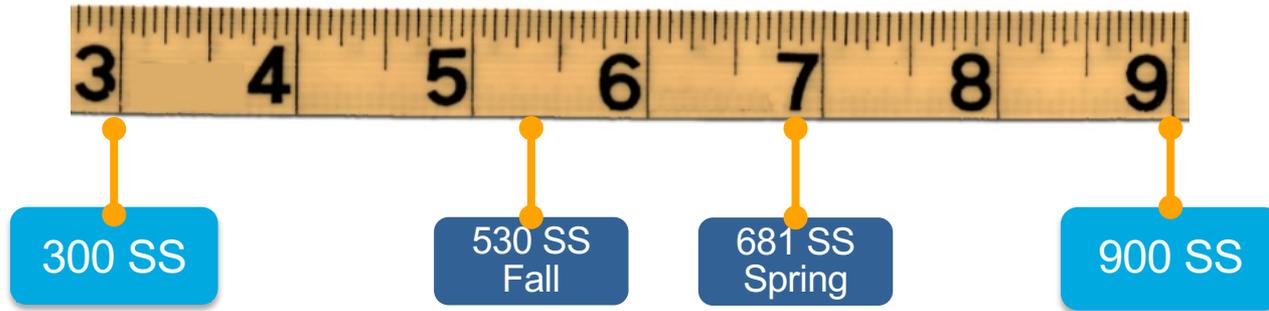
Preparing for the Assessment

Kindergarten Readiness Assessment

https://mdek12.org/OSA/K_Readiness

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- K-Readiness Assessment Next Steps
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- Pre-K and Kindergarten Reading Activities
- Score Definitions
- Literacy Focus Skills
- **Training**
  - 2020 Kindergarten Readiness Training Video

Tools and Applications

- System Requirements
- Visually Impaired
- Manuals
  - Test Administrator Manual (update coming soon)
  - Test Coordinator Manual
- STAR Early Literacy Pretest Instructions
- Introduction to Computer Use

- **Portal login**
  - Administrator
  - Student

Parent Information

Student Assessment

- 601-359-3052
- Staff
- FAQ

Services ⌄

- ACT State Testing
- English Language Proficiency Test (ELPT)
- K-3 Assessments
- Kindergarten Readiness Assessment
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- Mississippi Academic Assessment Program-Alternate (MAAP-A)
- National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)
- Test Security

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- STAR Early Literacy Pretest directions
- Introduction to computer use

Pretest Instructions

Prepare students for technology

Introduction to Computer Use

Prepare students for technology

Introduction to Computer use

For young students, using a computer can be an unfamiliar experience. As educators increasingly use technology for instruction, practice, and assessment, consider strategies such as those that follow to provide students with the background they need to make use of technology.

Keyboard use

- **Introduce:** Show students an enlarged image of a computer keyboard, either projected or on a poster. Demonstrate how to touch keys and where special keys like the enter key and spacebar are located.
- **Practice:** Provide a copy of a small version of the keyboard (see page 2). Highlight the keys you want students to learn, such as their user names or other keys they will need for the applications they're using. Save the keyboards and allow students to practice periodically, providing experience with an actual keyboard when possible.
- **Application tip:** Consider putting stickers or paint on keyboard keys the students may need to use for the applications you'll be using.

Mouse use

- **Introduce:** Demonstrate for the class how to hold the mouse. Explain its proper use and how to handle it with care. Show how you can pick up the mouse and move it if the cursor isn't where you need it to be in order to click.
- **Practice:** Provide students with an opportunity to hold the mouse and click the left button with an index finger.
  Provide opportunities for students to access websites to practice using the mouse. Before learning to drag-and-drop or right click, students should become familiar with simply moving the mouse and left-clicking. Some examples of websites that provide practice for simple mouse use include:
  - www.headsprout.com/code/launchMA.cfm
  - www.sheppardsoftware.com/preschool/preschool.htm
  - http://minimouse.us/
  - http://literacycenter.net/
- **Application tip:** Consider putting a small sticker on the left mouse button to remind students which button to use to left-click.

Headphone use

- **Introduce:** Demonstrate proper use of headphones such as how to plug them in, how to put them on and adjust the size, and where to set them when finished.
- If using headphones with volume control, demonstrate how to make adjustments. Discuss how the volume should not be set too high so that it damages hearing or distracts others.
- Explain to students that if they talk while wearing headphones, their voices may be too loud for the classroom. Instruct them to raise their hands while wearing headphones or take them off before talking.
- **Practice:** Allow students to practice using the headphones appropriately while using the computers, at a listening center, or to block out ambient noise during quiet time.
- **Application tip:** Have students put on their headphones after logging in and being told to by the teacher so they are still able to hear directions or ask for help.

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Practice

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K Readiness practice site. Teachers and students can see what the test will look like. Watch the student practice video and view sample questions.

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STAR Early Literacy Practice Website

- Demonstrate taking the test
- Talk through the information on the pretest instructions
- Model "think aloud" strategies to verbalize your thought processes
  - Making an answer choice
  - Needing an item repeated
  - Not knowing an answer
  - Waiting
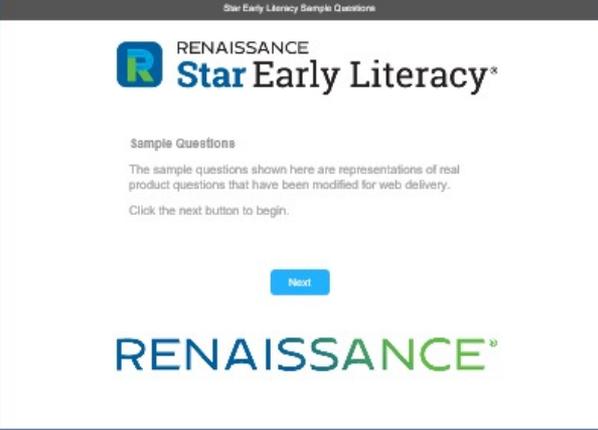
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Select Correct Daily Test Code

Today's Test Administrator Codes

District	School	Code
Sunflower Consolidated School District		
Sunflower Consolidated School District	CARVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	YTWSJ
Sunflower Consolidated School District	EAST SUNFLOWER SCHOOL	FMMNZ
Sunflower Consolidated School District	INVERNESS SCHOOL	CGMDS
Sunflower Consolidated School District	JAMES ROSSER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	CDQFL
Sunflower Consolidated School District	LOCKARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	XXSSB
Sunflower Consolidated School District	Moorhead Central School	MZJVG
Sunflower Consolidated School District	RULEVILLE CENTRAL ELEM SCHOOL	PQGMG
Sunflower Consolidated School District	Sunflower Consolidated School District 500	DVCLX
Sunflower County Consolidated School District Collaborative	East Sunflower Elementary	MMBGZ
Sunflower County Consolidated School District Collaborative	FUMC Day School	VKGCT
Sunflower County Consolidated School District Collaborative	Moorhead Central School	BGWZT
Sunflower County Consolidated School District Collaborative	PK-Col-A.W. James Elementary School	YDBVQ
Sunflower County Consolidated School District Collaborative	PK-Col-Inverness Elementary School	LLBSY
Sunflower County Consolidated School District Collaborative	PK-Col-James C. Rosser Elementary School	MDGWK
Sunflower County Consolidated School District Collaborative	Save the Children-Knighten	HFRTM
Sunflower County Consolidated School District Collaborative	Save the Children-Ross	PBFJY

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Student Rostering

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Rostering Options

- Early Learning Collaboratives
  - Students are entered into the Renaissance portal and then will be brought into the Kindergarten Readiness portal.

- Public School Districts
  - Your students will be imported using SRDI. When students are entered into the school student information system, this syncs daily, and your students will be brought into the Kindergarten Readiness portal.

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Early Learning Collaboratives

Specific Support

Administrator / Teacher Log In

Adding a student

Adding a new student

Adding a new student

Assigning a student to a teacher

Assigning a student to a teacher

Rostering Students

Check for MSIS

- Does the student have an MSIS?
- YES- add the student to Renaissance Place and add the MSIS number into the unique ID field.
- No- Add the student to Renaissance Place and leave the unique ID field empty. A temporary ID number will be issued.

Missing Student in Portal

- Check the following before adding a new student:
- Does the student have an MSIS number? If yes- check the number is correctly entered in the student information system and in Renaissance Place.
- If no – check Renaissance place for name spelling and D.O.B. Correct these and wait 24 hours.

Select daily test code

- Public schools and ELC's have different daily test codes. The daily test code moves the student into the corresponding site. Select the Pre-K code carefully.
- Do not write the code on a board for others to use. This moves students into the incorrect school location.

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Adding Teachers

Adding Teachers

Adding Teachers

Add School Personnel

Enter Personnel Details   *Required

Permission Group	Teacher
First Name*	
Middle Name	
Last Name*	
User Name*	
Password*	
Confirm Password*	
Email	
ID	
School*	Select...
State Personnel ID	
Gender	Select...

3 character minimum, including at least 2 of the following: uppercase, lowercase, number, special character !#$%-_=+<>*

Change Password   ☐ User must change password at next login

Save   Save and Add   Cancel

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Assigning Product

Assigning Product

Assign Products

Select the products you want assigned to the selected classes.

- ☐ Select All/None

- ☐ Accelerated Math v2.0
- ☐ Accelerated Reader 360
- ☐ English in a Flash
- ☐ MathFacts in a Flash
- ☑ Star 360
- ☐ Star 360 Spanish

Cancel   **Assign Products**

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The Student Experience

MDE Support and Resources

https://mdek12.org/OSA/K_Readiness

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Services ∨

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Student Introductory Video

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Student Login

Student Confirmation

Renaissance Place Home Page
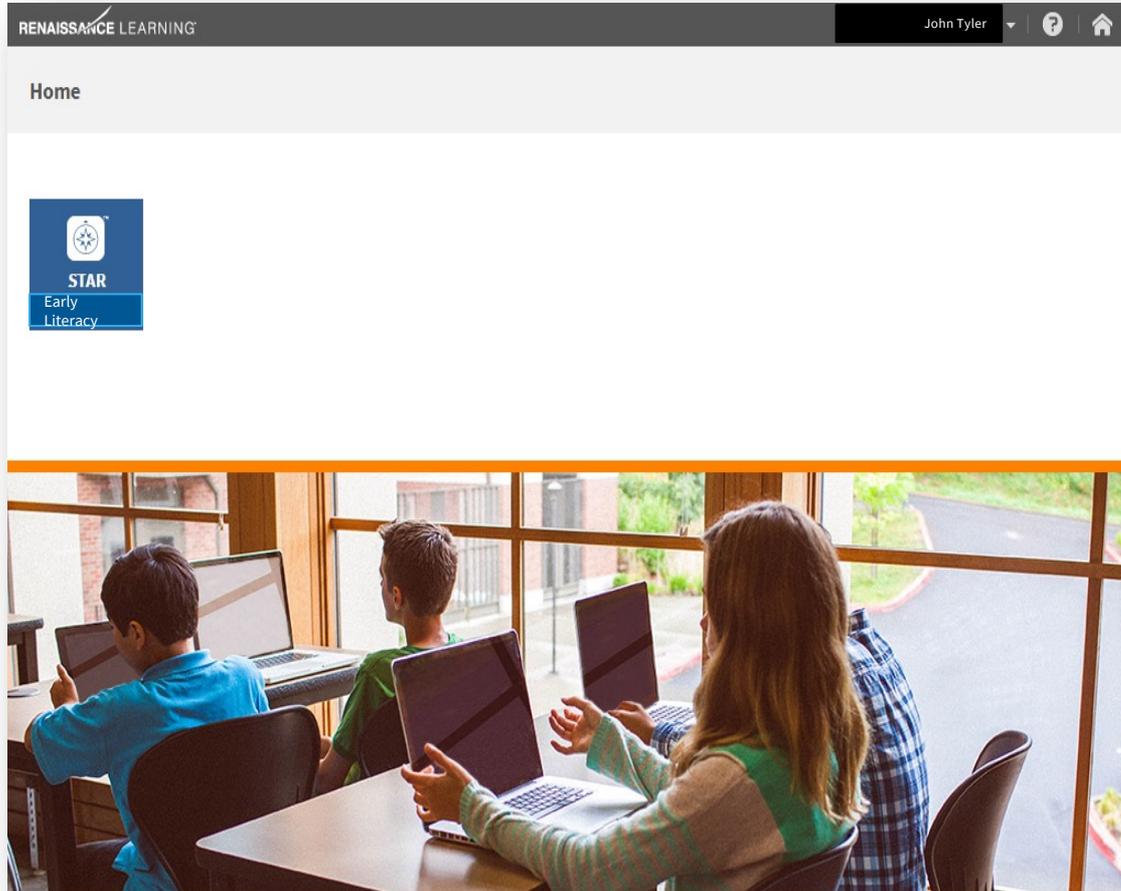
Begin practice items

RENAISSANCE
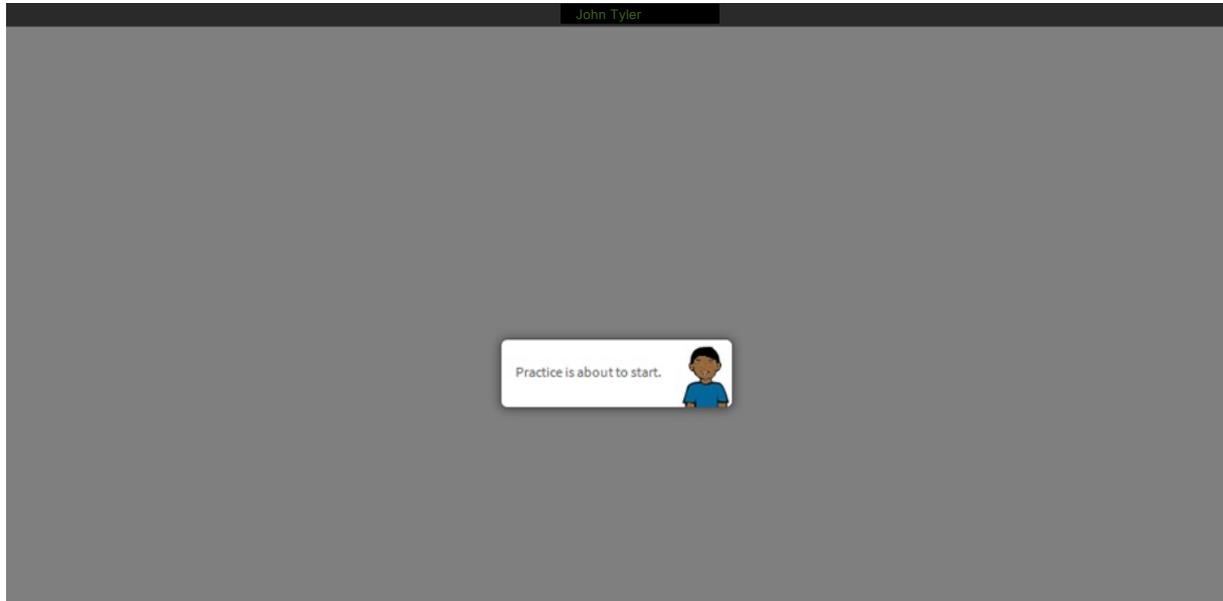
Begin the test
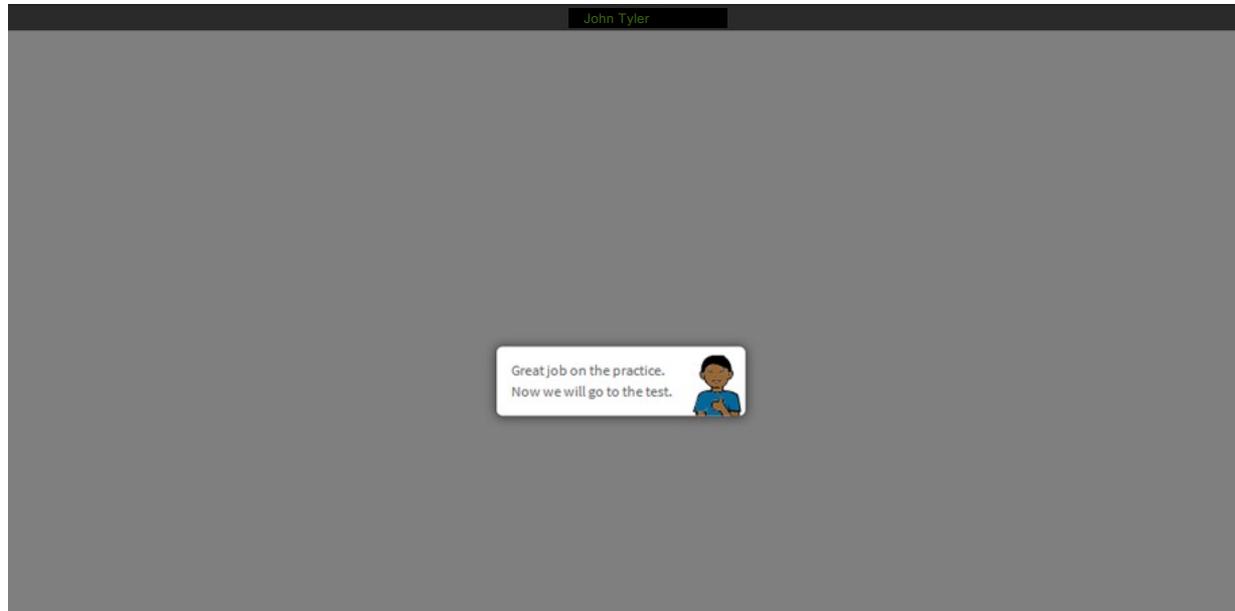
Answer Items
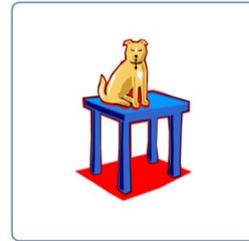
Practice Items
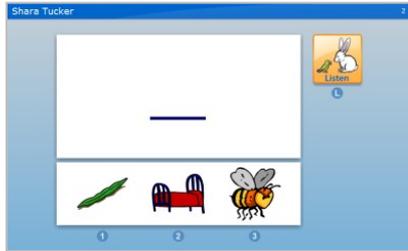
Item Time Limits

Time is up for this question.

Pause or Stop a Test
(Ctrl + A)

What would you like to do?
Resume Later   Stop Test   Cancel

Enter Monitor Password
ADMIN
OK   Cancel

Monitor Password

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End of assessment

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The Administrator Experience

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Administrator Login

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Administrator Login

Administrator Landing Page

Add New Administrator

Manage School Administrators

Add Administrator

New Administrator Verification

Administrator Added Successfully

E-mail Notification
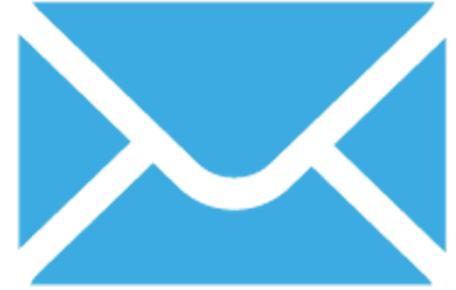
Welcome to the Mississippi K-Readiness Management Portal, Erica Rials. This portal provides access to the Mississippi Kindergarten Readiness Assessment portal.

Please click on the link below. You will then be prompted to activate your account and set your password and will be given access to the Kindergarten Readiness Management Portal.

This account is only to be used with K-Readiness testing. On this site, you will be able to Render Reports, Add Students, and Add Staff at Canton Early Learning Collaborative.

Note: You do not need admin rights to access the Screening and Diagnostic portion of the portal. The Screening and Diagnostic selection on this site simply takes you to the local Renaissance Place site for the Target Literacy Schools.

Note: This email account cannot accept replies.

You can access the site at the link below and enter your Activation Code.

https://mkas.renlearn.com/admin/activateaccount.aspx

Activation Code: **8B5256830EF40AFDE59D**

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Account Activation Code

Account Activation - Password

Successful Account Activation

Reports

Report Options

Participation/Enrollment Report

Student Authorization Ticket

Additional Reports

Support and Resources

Renaissance Mississippi K-Readiness Technical Support

Support Solutions

- **Renaissance.com**
  - Visit often for updated product information

- **Email help**
  - answers@renaissance.com
  - Get answers quickly

- **Give us a call**
  - 1-800-338-4204

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Key Takeaways

- Testing Window Dates
  - Fall - July 22, 2021- September 24, 2021
  - Spring – March 21, 2022 – April 29, 2022
- Scale Score Benchmarks
  - Kindergarten Fall- Scale Score **530**   Spring- Scale Score **681**
  - Pre- K   Spring – Scale Score **498**
- Do not enter students and teachers in the State K Readiness Portal unless you are a School 500.
  - Ensure your School 500 students are coded correctly and not under the public school.
- Daily Test code
  - Select the correct daily test code for your school location and grade level for ELC students
- Portal cleanup
  - Delete any users no longer in your district

Thank you!

RENAISSANCE