Assessing for Kindergarten Readiness

Erica Rials
July 30, 2019
Agenda

• Defining Kindergarten Readiness

• K-Readiness Assessment
  – Preparing your students
  – Student experience
  – Admin experience

• Support and Resources

• Questions
Our mission:

“To accelerate learning for all children and adults of all ability levels and ethnic and social backgrounds, worldwide.”
### Defining Kindergarten Readiness

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Who takes the test?</th>
<th>How many times do they test?</th>
<th>What are the benchmarks?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| All public and charter K  
All public Pre-K  
All Collaborative Pre-K  
School 500 | **Pre-test in the fall**  
*(Aug. 12 – Sept 20)*  
**Post-test in the spring**  
*(March 23 – April 24)* | **Kindergarten**  
Fall – **SS 530**  
Spring – **SS 681**  
**Pre-K**  
Spring – **SS 498** |
Defining STAR™
Early Literacy
What is STAR Early Literacy?

• Computer adaptive assessment
• Contains 27 items assessing early literacy and numeracy skills
• Designed for students who do not yet read independently
• Generally given to students ages 3 to 9
STAR Early Literacy assesses early literacy and numeracy skills in three key domains.

**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 (PB)
  - 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

**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
Item Response Theory

Skills that a student is likely ready to learn

Skills that a student likely already knows

- Identify shoes
- Know shoes go on feet
- Put on shoes
- Tie shoes

Likely too difficult
How does a computer adaptive test work?
STAR Early Literacy  Scaled Score (SS)
Preparing
Students

Pretest instructions
Introduction to computer use
STAR Early Literacy practice website
Resources Prior to Testing

https://www.mdek12.org/OSA/K_Readiness
Prepare students for technology

Pretest Instructions

Picture 3
Each question has three possible answers (shown at the bottom of the answer choices). Choose the one you think is the right answer to the question. You can change your answer choice before you enter it.

Keyboard
Each possible answer has a number below 1, 2, or 3. Press the number on the keyboard that matches the number at your answer choice. If you want to choose a different answer, press the number that matches your new choice.

When you choose an answer, a box appears around it. This shows you which answer you chose. It does not mean you have chosen the correct answer.

Once you are satisfied with the answer you have chosen, enter it by pressing the Enter or Return key.

After you have entered your answer to the question, the next question will appear on the screen.

Mouse
Use the mouse to move the pointer over the possible answers.

A box appears around each answer as you hover the pointer over it. This does not mean that the pointer is hovering over the correct answer.

Once you are satisfied with the answer you have chosen, enter it by clicking the mouse.

After you have entered your answer to the question, the next question will appear on the screen.

iPad®
On an iPad®, tap your answer choice.

A box appears around the answer choice. The box does not mean you have chosen the correct answer.

Once you are satisfied with the answer you have chosen, enter your answer choice by tapping Next.

Desktop Computer or Laptop
This student needs help using the mouse or keyboard. Please show the student how they work.

Click on the map to dismiss this alert and resume practice.

iPad®
This student needs help selecting an answer. Please show the student how to do so.

Tap the help icon for help and resume practice.
Introduction to Computer Use

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 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 they'll be using.

Mouse use

- **Introduce:** Demonstrate 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 mouse 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.headstart.com/code/launch.html](http://www.headstart.com/code/launch.html)
  - [www.headstartsoftware.com/preschool/preschool.html](http://www.headstartsoftware.com/preschool/preschool.html)
  - [http://mywindows.us](http://mywindows.us)
  - [http://kibidou.com](http://kibidou.com)
- **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.
Resources Prior to Testing

https://www.mdek12.org/OSA/K_Readiness
Prepare students for technology

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
The Student Experience
Navigating the State Portal: https://www.mdek12.org
Navigating the State Portal: Student Assessment
Navigating the State Portal: Literacy Based Promotion Act

Literacy-Based Promotion Act (LBPA) Assessments

Passed during the 2013 legislative session, the Literacy-Based Promotion Act (LBPA) places an emphasis on grade-level reading skills, particularly as students’ progress through grades K-3. Beginning in the 2014-2015 school year, a student scoring at the lowest achievement level in reading on the established state-wide assessment for 3rd grade will not be promoted to 4th grade unless the student qualifies for a good cause exemption.

The LBPA was amended in 2016 and includes changes such as an Individual Reading Plan (IRP) and increased expectations for 3rd grade students beginning in 2018-2019.

LBPA Resources
- LBPA FAQs
- Key Dates
- LBPA Flyer

LBPA Webpages
- Universal Screener and Diagnostic Assessment
- K-Readiness Assessment
- 3rd Grade MAAP ELA Assessment

Multimedia
- LBPA Parents as Partners

Melissa Beck
K-3 Screener/Data Coordinator
mbeck@mdek12.org
601-359-5245

Student Assessment
- 601-359-3052
- Staff
- FAQ

Services
- ACT State Testing
- English Language Proficiency Test (ELPT)
- Kindergarten Readiness Assessment
- Literacy-Based Promotion Act (LBPA) Assessments
- Mississippi Academic Assessment Program (MAAP)
- Mississippi Academic Assessment Program-Alternate (MAAP-A)
- National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)
- Test Security

Links
- Testing Calendar
- Accountability
- Accreditation
Navigating the State Portal: [https://www.mdek12.org/OSA/K_Readiness](https://www.mdek12.org/OSA/K_Readiness)
Navigating the State Portal:  
https://www.mdek12.org/OSA/K_Readiness
Student Login
Confirm your account.

If this account is yours, press the “Yes” button below to continue.

Name: John T Tyler
DOB: 11/14
Grade: K

Yes  No
Begin practice items.
Begin the test.
Answer
Items
End of Assessment
The Administrator Experience
Administrator Access
Administrator Login
Add New Student

Warning: Only School 500 students can be manually added at this time.

*Required Fields

First Name*

Middle Name

Last Name*

Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)*

District*

School District

School District 500

Student Grade*

Pre-K

Teacher

UNASSIGNED

Class Name*

Please Select A Class
Add New Administrator
### Manage School Administrators

Select your district: Aberdeen School District

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First</th>
<th>Last</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>School Name</th>
<th>Activation</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mary</td>
<td>Craig</td>
<td><a href="mailto:m.craig@mde.k12.ms.us">m.craig@mde.k12.ms.us</a></td>
<td>Active</td>
<td>Aberdeen Elementary School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Catherine</td>
<td>Fitzgerald</td>
<td><a href="mailto:catherine.fitgerald@mde.k12.org">catherine.fitgerald@mde.k12.org</a></td>
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<td>Olivia</td>
<td>Ulbrich</td>
<td><a href="mailto:oulbrich@ssdms.us">oulbrich@ssdms.us</a></td>
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<td>Aberdeen Elementary School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Melissa</td>
<td>Beck</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mbeck@mde.k12.org">mbeck@mde.k12.org</a></td>
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<td>District Level</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeff</td>
<td>Clay</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jclay@ssdms.us">jclay@ssdms.us</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jill</td>
<td>Hoda</td>
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<td>Temeka</td>
<td>Shannon</td>
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<td>Casey</td>
<td>Sullivan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Renaissance</td>
<td>Tech</td>
<td><a href="mailto:renaissance.support@renaissance.com">renaissance.support@renaissance.com</a></td>
<td>Active</td>
<td>District Level</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Add Administrator
New Administrator Verification
Administrator Added Successfully

First: Sam
Last: Nelson
Email: sam.nelson@MDE.org
Administer Tests: Yes
Add Students: No
Add Administrators: No
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
Account Activation Code

Enter Activation Code

[Input field]

Activate  Cancel

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Account Activation - Password

Password must be eight characters long and contain at least one letter and one number. Passwords will need to be reset yearly.
Successful Account Activation

Account Activation Process

You have been successfully added as a school administrator to the MKAS Portal.

Click the link below to enter the portal.

MKAS Portal

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## Reports

### Administrator Homepage

- [X] Multiple failed indicators

### Today's Test Administrator Codes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aberdeen School District</td>
<td>ABERDEEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL</td>
<td>GDNXH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aberdeen School District</td>
<td>Aberdeen School District 500</td>
<td>PYDGL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Report Options

- Participation/Enrollment Report
- Student Authorization Ticket Report
- K-Readiness Score Summary Report
- K-Readiness Diagnostic Report
- K-Readiness Parent Report
- K-Readiness Instructional Planning Report
- Pre-K Score Overview
# Participation/Enrollment Report

## Kindergarten Participation Report

### Printed On: 7/15/2014 9:10:03 PM

**District:** All Others  
**School:** Test 4 - PM

### Table: Participation/Enrollment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FIRST</th>
<th>MIDDLE</th>
<th>LAST</th>
<th>MSIS ID</th>
<th>DOB</th>
<th>TEACHER NAME</th>
<th>TEST DATE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hannah</td>
<td></td>
<td>Anderson</td>
<td>709138647</td>
<td>Jan 03</td>
<td>Not Assigned</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graham</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Beaker</td>
<td>099133265</td>
<td>Apr 22</td>
<td>Teacher1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maria</td>
<td></td>
<td>Chavez</td>
<td>146056769</td>
<td>Oct 07</td>
<td>Teacher2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Isaac</td>
<td></td>
<td>Elliot</td>
<td>099100328</td>
<td>Jan 25</td>
<td>Teacher3</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Deacon</td>
<td></td>
<td>Greenway</td>
<td>099111476</td>
<td>May 13</td>
<td>Teacher4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salvador</td>
<td>J</td>
<td>Hernandez</td>
<td>099128999</td>
<td>Aug 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cecilia</td>
<td></td>
<td>Holland</td>
<td>099152322</td>
<td>Feb 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eloise</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>09917428</td>
<td>Dec 17</td>
<td>Teacher2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jaeger</td>
<td>099123483</td>
<td>Mar 09</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mai</td>
<td></td>
<td>Lee</td>
<td>099123456</td>
<td>Jul 01</td>
<td>Teacher4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ronald</td>
<td>J</td>
<td>Lippe</td>
<td>099134567</td>
<td>Apr 29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kraig</td>
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<td>McBride</td>
<td>099187321</td>
<td>Nov 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sofia</td>
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<td>Morrow</td>
<td>787139252</td>
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<td>Jules</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Narecki</td>
<td>099174290</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kathryn</td>
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<td>Ploskni</td>
<td>099104728</td>
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<td>Rivera</td>
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<td>Connor</td>
<td></td>
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<td>099170021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeremy</td>
<td></td>
<td>Zimmermann</td>
<td>099158089</td>
<td>May 30</td>
<td>Teacher3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
MKAS – Student Authorization Ticket

School Name: Houston Upper Elementary 123
Teacher Name: Test, Teacher 4
Student Name: John Doe
Test: You are authorized to take the Kindergarten Reading Assessment.

When you are ready to access the test, select "Student Login" from the MKAS webpage: http://www.mde.k12.ms.us/MKAS2

You will be asked to provide the following information in order to access the test on the computer.

Please wait for the instructions from the test monitor before proceeding.

LOGIN INFORMATION:

MSID: 001234567
DOB: Apr 16
GRADE: Kindergarten
DAILY TEST ADMINISTRATOR CODE: PPBOY

This code is only valid on May 15, 2019.
Your School District

Average Scale Score: 716
Students Scoring 681 and Above: 58
Students Scoring Below 681: 27

DISTRICT TOTALS
- Early Emergent Reader: 2
- Late Emergent Reader: 24
- Transitional Reader: 99
- Probable Reader: 30
- Total Students: 65

All of My Schools

- Early Emergent Reader: 2.4%
- Late Emergent Reader: 28.2%
- Transitional Reader: 34.1%
- Probable Reader: 35.3%

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Support and resources
Navigating to Mississippi K-Readiness Resources

https://www.mdek12.org/OSA/K_Readiness
Navigating the State Portal

https://www.mdek12.org/OSA/K_Readiness
Navigating the State Portal: Literacy Based Promotion Act (LBPA)

Literacy-Based Promotion Act (LBPA) Assessments

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- Key Dates
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Multimedia
- LBPA Parents as Partners

Student Assessment
- 601-359-3652
- Staff
- FAQ

Services
- ACT State Testing
- English Language Proficiency Test (ELPT)
- Kindergarten Readiness Assessment
- Literacy-Based Promotion Act (LBPA) Assessments
Renaissance Mississippi
K-Readiness Technical Support

- Live Chat
- 1-800-338-4204
- answers@rennaissance.com
Key Takeaways

- **Testing Windows:**
  - Pre-test in the Fall: August 12 – September 20
  - Post-test in the Spring: March 23 – April 24

- **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

- Choose the correct daily test code for your school’s students

- **K-Readiness Portal Housecleaning:**
  - Look at your districts in the K-Readiness portal. Delete any users that are no longer there.