

Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS)

Name of Measure	Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS)
Purpose	Designed to measure the acquisition and mastery of early reading skills in elementary school children. Measures are brief and easily administered; materials are available for collecting benchmark data and for monitoring individual student progress.
Population	Kindergarten – 6 th grade
Description of Domains (subscales)	<p>DIBELS were designed to measure the 5 Big Ideas of Early Literacy, developed by the national reading panel: Phonological Awareness, Alphabetic Principle, Fluency with Connected Text, Vocabulary, and Comprehension.</p> <p><i>Measures of Phonological Awareness:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial Sounds Fluency (ISF): Assesses a child's skill at identifying and producing the initial sound of a given word. • Phonemic Segmentation Fluency (PSF): Assesses a child's skill at producing the individual sounds within a given word. <p><i>Measure of Alphabetic Principle and Phonics:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nonsense Word Fluency (NWF): Assesses a child's knowledge of letter-sound correspondences as well their ability to blend letters together to form unfamiliar "nonsense" (e.g., ut, fik, lig, etc.) words. • Oral Reading Fluency (ORF): If accuracy is less than 95%. <p><i>Measure of Accuracy and Fluency with Connected Text:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oral Reading Fluency (ORF): Assesses a child's skill at reading connected text in grade-level materials. <p><i>Measure of Comprehension:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oral Reading Fluency (ORF) and Retell Fluency (RTF): Assesses a child's understanding of verbally read connected text. <p><i>Measure of Vocabulary and Oral Language:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Word Use Fluency (WUF): Assesses a child's ability to accurately use a provided word in the context of a sentence.
Administration and Test Format	Administration and scoring procedures are available for download along with the test materials. Measures are designed to be administered as one minute probes
Psychometric Properties	See: http://www.dibels.org/papers/DIBELSNextTechAdequacySupplement.pdf
How to Order	Many materials are free and available for download at https://dibels.uoregon.edu/dibels Subscription to the DIBELS data system is also available for purchase
Key References	Puranik, C.S., Petscher, Y, Otaiba, S. I, Catts, H.W., & Lonigahn, C. J.,(2008), Development of Oral Reading Fluency in Children With Speech or Language Impairments A Growth Curve Analysis, Journal of Learning Disabilities, Volume 41 Number 6, 545-560

Ellingsen, K., M., Burch-Lewis, A., & Pham, A. (2012). *Learning and Applying Knowledge* (d, ICF-CY) In Annette Majnemer (Ed.) Measures of outcomes and their determinants for children and youth with developmental disabilities.