

Primary Literacy Assessment

Measuring Reading Comprehension and
Writing Skills at the end of Grade 3



Information for Parents and Guardians



Éducation et Développement
de la petite enfance



What is the Primary Literacy Assessment?

Each May, Grade 3 students from across the Island take part in the same common assessment of reading and writing skills.

Common assessments measure the knowledge and skills of all students at a certain grade level.

The Primary Literacy Assessment measures what your child has learned over the years, and not just in Grade 3. It is based on the provincial curriculum. The assessment is developed by Island teachers with the support of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. It will be scored by Grade 3 teachers from across the province.

All Grade 3 French Immersion students will take the full assessment. The reading and writing assessment will be held within a two week time frame from May 11th to May 22nd, 2015.

Some students with special needs will not participate.

Why is the assessment important?

It is very important that children are reading well by the end of Grade 3 because early literacy skills are the foundation skills for all later learning.

In Grade 4, your child will begin to spend more time learning content. If a child is struggling with the reading and writing process, he or she will be more challenged by the content.

Recognizing that all students progress at their own level and have different learning needs, our schools have many resources to help children with early literacy.

The results of this provincial assessment tell us how well all students are doing from year to year. They also help us to improve teaching and develop new programs.

How can parents help?

No special study is needed for the assessment. Parents can help children do their best by ensuring they are well rested, eat breakfast, and have a positive attitude.

You will receive your child's results in the fall from your child's teacher.

You are encouraged to talk to your child's teacher about how well your child is reading and writing, and about the many ways that you can support your child's literacy at home.

To obtain sample questions or more information on the assessment, contact your child's teacher, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development or visit the website.

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