Revisions to Virginia’s Literacy Screener

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW
Science-Based Reading Research | Informing the Need for a Revised Screener

WHY?

Comparing PALS and VALLSS (Virginia Language & Literacy Screening System)

Reading comprehension is the product of decoding and language comprehension with intricately woven subcomponent skills within both areas.

Currently, PALS focuses on the decoding/encoding side of reading development.

VALLSS has revised code-based subtests and additional subtests that capture language skills.

VALLSS:
- Aligns with the most current evidence base
- Includes a more comprehensive and expanded coverage of skills
- Extends to Pre-K 3-year-olds
- Accurately identifies students at risk of developing reading difficulties
- Provides instructionally-useful information for teachers
- Allows for measurement of growth over time and across grade levels as it is vertically-aligned

And there’s more!
- Creating a vertically-aligned Spanish literacy measure (Pre-K through Grade 3) that is a parallel measure, not a translation
- New and improved online score entry and reporting system

**WHAT?**

**Literacy Screener Revision Model (Spanish & English)**

**3- and 4- year-olds**
- Print Concepts
- Alphabet Knowledge
- Phonological Awareness
- Rapid Automatized Naming (4’s)
- Emergent Writing
- Language

**Kindergarten**
- Alphabet Knowledge
- Phonological Awareness
- Rapid Automatized Naming
- Decoding and Encoding
- Language

**Grades 1 through 3**
- Phonological Awareness
- Rapid Automatized Naming
- Decoding and Encoding
- Oral Reading Fluency
- Language

**WHEN?**

- **2021-2022**
  - Pilot Pre-K through Grade 3 English & Spanish

- **Fall 2022**
  - Launch Pre-K Language & Literacy Screener (English)

- **2022-2023**
  - Pilot K-3 English & Spanish
  - Additional Pre-K (English) validation

- **2023-2024**
  - Soft Launch VALLSS: Grades K-3 English for participating divisions (fall, mid-year, and spring)

- **Fall 2024**
  - Soft Launch VALLSS Español: Grades K-3
  - Launch VALLSS: Grades K-3 English
  - Pilot Pre-K through Grade 3 Spanish

- **Fall 2025**
  - Launch VALLSS Español: Grados Pre-K-3

**WHERE?**

Piloting in over 1,000 classrooms across Virginia to get a representative sample. Seventeen divisions are participating in the VALLSS: Grades K-3 Soft Launch in 2023-2024.

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