

Dear Family,

VALLS: Pre-K4 is a screening tool that measures young children’s language and literacy development. For 4-year-olds, the screener contains subtests that measure five broad skills, which impact later reading achievement:

Alphabet Knowledge: knowledge of letter names and letter sounds

Phonological Awareness: the ability to play with and hear the sounds of language

Language Comprehension: showing understanding of a story by using words (expressive) and by using gestures like pointing (receptive)

Emergent Writing: ability to write their name

Print Concepts: understanding of how print, books, and writing work

During the Spring 2025 assessment period, the Pre-K4 subtests include:

Skill Area	Subtest	Spring 2025	Spring Pre-K4 Skill Development Bands		
			Beginning	Growing	Strong
Alphabet Knowledge	Letter Name	Optional	0-24	25-37	38-52
	Letter Sounds	Required	0-8	9-12	13-25
Phonological Awareness	Syllable Segmenting	Required	0-4	5-7	8-10
	Beginning Sounds Expressive	Required	0-1	2-4	5-10
	Phoneme Blending	Required	0-4	5-7	8-10
Language Comprehension	Passage Comprehension: Retell	Required	0-2.0	2.5-4.0	4.5-6.0
	Passage Comprehension: Expressive	Required	0-2.0	2.5-4.0	4.5-5.0
	Passage Comprehension: Receptive	Required	0-1	2-3	4
Emergent Writing	Name Writing	Required	0-2	3-4	5

The Spring subtests have Skill Development Bands, which provide a gauge of skill progress across the year with the goal of reducing risk for reading difficulties upon entering Kindergarten. Students in the *BEGINNING* band demonstrate limited early understanding in the target skill for their age level. Students in the *GROWING* band demonstrate developing understanding in the target skill for their age level. Students in the *STRONG* band demonstrate a well-developed understanding in the target skill for their age level.

Results are used to determine individual children’s learning goals, plan classroom instruction, and raise awareness of children who need additional support or instruction in early reading and literacy.

VALLS: Pre-K4 Spring 2025

Skill Area	Subtest	Objective	Max
Alphabet Knowledge	Letter Names	Children identify the names of both uppercase and lowercase printed letters	52
	Letter Sounds	Children identify the sounds of both uppercase and lowercase printed letters	25
Phonological Awareness	Syllable Segmenting	Children orally divide words into syllables	10
	Beginning Sounds Expressive	Children provide the beginning sound of a word or a word that begins with the same sound as a given word	10
	Phoneme Blending	Children listen to individual sounds, blend the sounds, and produce the word	10
Language Comprehension	Passage Comprehension: Passage Retell	Children are read a story aloud and shown pictures The child retells the story using the same set of pictures	6
	Passage Comprehension: Expressive Comprehension Questions	Children give an oral response to questions about a passage read aloud to them	5
	Passage Comprehension: Receptive Comprehension Questions	Children give a non-verbal response to questions by pointing to 1 of 4 picture choices	4
Emergent Writing	Name Writing	Children write their name on a blank sheet of paper Writing is scored based on scribble, letter-like symbols, and correct letters	5

Sample VALLS: Pre-K4 Child Summary: Spring 2025

CHILD SUMMARY - SPRING



This report lists all scores entered for the child.

Child: Example Four Year Old	Grade: Pre-K4
Teacher: Michelle B	School: Example Elem

Pre-K Language & Literacy Screener Subtests		SPRING SCORES	MAX SCORE
Alphabet Knowledge	Letter Names	39	52
	Letter Sounds	18	25
Phonological Awareness	Syllable Segmenting	9	10
	Beginning Sounds Expressive	10	10
	Phoneme Blending	9	10
Language Comprehension	Passage Comprehension: Passage Retell	4.5	6
	Passage Comprehension: Expressive Comprehension Questions	2.5	5
	Passage Comprehension: Receptive Comprehension Questions	4	4
Emergent Writing	Name Writing	5	5