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# Reading Difficulties Risk Screening Selection Panel DRAFT Screener Information Overview

Note*: The information included in this document is based on information provided by the publisher, is subject to change, and should be confirmed by potential purchasers.*

Screening Instrument Title: Renaissance Star Reading Difficulties Screener for California

Organization: Renaissance Learning, Inc.

Web Page: [www.renaissance.com/products/star-assessments](http://www.renaissance.com/products/star-assessments)

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## General Information

Recommended grade(s): Kindergarten, Grade One, Grade Two

Except for *Other*, the Skills Measured shown in the table below are from California *Education Code* Section 53008 (g)(1)(B).

| **Skills Measured (Star Early Literacy or Star Reading)** | **Kindergarten** | **Grade 1** | **Grade 2** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| oral language | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| phonological awareness | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| phonemic awareness | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| decoding skills | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| letter–sound knowledge | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| knowledge of letter names | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| rapid automatized naming | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| visual attention | Not indicated | Not indicated | Not indicated |
| reading fluency | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| vocabulary | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| language comprehension | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Other: Reading Comprehension | Yes (optional) | Yes (optional) | Yes (optional) |
| Other: Encoding | Yes (optional) | Yes (optional) | Yes (optional) |

Recommended for use with the following student populations:

* general education students
* students with disabilities
* English learners
* bi/multilingual learners (English–Spanish)

Languages Available: English and Spanish

Information about establishing student language proficiency to administer screener:Renaissance recommends English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC) Level 2 as the minimum level of proficiency required to screen for reading difficulties in English. For Spanish-speaking students below ELPAC Level 2 who receive instruction in both Spanish and English, Renaissance recommends screening for reading difficulties in Spanish.

## Accommodations

Supports or accommodations for students with disabilities: The Star assessments include embedded accommodations, guided by Universal Design for Learning principles, to provide an accessible testing experience for students with disabilities. These accommodations include easy-to-read fonts, simple displays, and compatibility with adaptive devices. Educators are directed to the various Test Administration Manuals provided by Renaissance for comprehensive instructions on implementing accommodations.

Supports or accommodations for students who are not yet proficient with English: Yes, guidelines, including a recommended screening sequence, are provided for students who are English learners.

## Cost Information

Initial cost for implementing program:

Cost/Unit of Cost: $7.50 per student. Cost includes Star Early Literacy English and Spanish, Star Reading English and Spanish, Star CBM Reading, Star CBM Lectura, and the Star Foundations Professional Learning Package.

Replacement cost per unit for subsequent use: N/A

Basic pricing plan and structure: $7.50 per student per year. This price includes the assessment given three times per year for the purpose of identifying and monitoring the progress of students. All score reports are in the package, including score reports for families.

Bulk pricing plan: Renaissance offers volume discounts based on the total number of students.

## Administration

Mode: Digital, paper-based

Required technology: Computer, tablet, internet connection, headphones

Administration time in minutes:

* Kindergarten through grade two: Star Early Literacy takes 10–15 minutes administered in groups of any size
* Grade one through grade two: Star Reading takes 15–20 minutes administered in groups of any size
* Kindergarten through grade one: Star CBM Reading takes five minutes per student plus 3–10 additional minutes to assess optional constructs; administered one-on-one
* Grade two: Star CBM Reading takes five minutes per student plus 4–10 additional minutes to assess optional constructs; administered one-on-one

## Training

Time required for screener administrator training, if applicable: About 45 minutes per topic

Type of training available for screener administration of the instrument: Smart Start training is a self-paced, on-demand, multi-media training program that outlines critical first steps to start using Star Assessments. Most users can complete each Smart Start training in about 45 minutes. Training topics include:

* What are Star assessments?
* How teachers use Star assessments to make instructional decisions
* Why screening data is useful, and how teachers can use it to make instructional decisions
* How to administer a Star assessment with fidelity
* What steps teachers should follow before and during test administration
* How to get started with score interpretation, including how teachers can gather input and make decisions about next steps
* How to interpret growth and achievement data
* How to use online Help Files

Describe the cost required for training, if applicable: Available professional learning packages include:

* Foundations Professional Learning Package: $0 (included with purchase)
* Core Professional Learning: $4,025 (base price, with option to add a la carte remote hours)
* Advanced Professional Learning: $5,500 (base price, with option to add a la carte remote hours)

Masterclass Professional Learning: $9,500 (base price, with option to add a la carte remote hours and onsite training days)

## Scoring

Scores are calculated: Manually (by hand) and automatically (computer-scored)

Scoring time in minutes:

* Kindergarten through grade two: Star Early Literacy and/or Star Reading are online automatic scoring with immediate results
* Kindergarten through grade two: Star CBM Reading scoring is completed in real time during the test. In print administrations, the scoring record must later be added into the online Record Book system.

## Communication and Resources

Types of resources available for educators, screener administrators, and families:Renaissance offers a wide range of professional learning options to meet each school district’s specific needs.

User interfaces and data management system: Teachers and school and district leaders can access Star Assessments directly through the included Renaissance Growth Platform (RGP). Integration with user interfaces, data management systems, and learning management systems (LMS) is available but not required. Custom data integration (CDI) service, available at the district level, is a custom-built solution that supports single sign-on (SSO) and synchronizes a district’s student information system (SIS) with Renaissance applications nightly. The CDI service can use data files provided by a district via Secure File Transfer Protocol or Renaissance can pull data directly through an Application Programming Interface connection to the SIS or data provider. The CDI service allows us to customize additional features that are not available without the service, such as setting student and teacher usernames and passwords, automatically assigning products to courses, and filtering courses provided from SIS data, so that only desired courses appear in the Renaissance Growth Platform.

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