

Developmental Reading Assessment (DRA)TM

Second Grade



The Developmental Reading Assessment (DRA)TM is a helpful and important English Language Arts assessment that is used in kindergarten through fifth grades in White Plains and in hundreds of classrooms nationwide.

It is an extremely useful tool because it provides our teachers with a wealth of information about how *each* child is developing as a reader. After administering and scoring the DRA, a teacher will know the Independent Reading Level for every child in the class. Specifically, the teacher will know each student's strengths and how to improve her/his development as a reader. This information helps the teacher to focus on specific goals for each student and for the class as a whole.

At each grade level, there is a range of typical reading levels — the levels for second grade are listed at the bottom of the page.

Reading to Your Child

When you are looking for books in the school or public library to read to your child, it's very important for you to pick books which are more difficult than the sample books we've listed on the back side of this flyer for your child to read. Try to select beautiful books that are rich in language and story line. Choose subjects that are interesting to both you and your child.

By reading books that are at a higher level and then by talking to your child about what you read, you are actually helping teach your child good reading

habits. This should be a special and fun time for the two of you. Talk about the characters in the book, ask your child if s/he likes or dislikes them and why. Ask your child what s/he thinks will happen next in the story and if the story reminds her/him of any personal experience or of any book read previously. Most of all, enjoy your time together and be assured you are helping your child become a good reader.

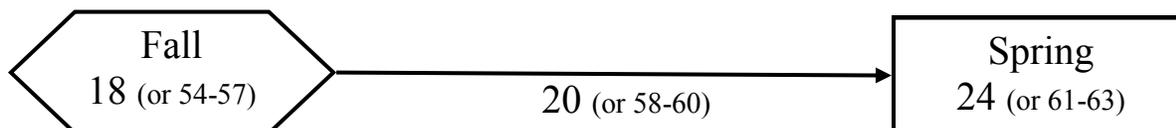
We would like to stress how very important it is for parents to model a love of reading to their children.

Reading: The Key to Success in School

It is so very important that you make sure that your child spends at least 20-30 minutes each day in some type of reading activity. The reading activity could be your child reading to you, your child reading silently to her/himself, you reading to your child, or any combination of these activities. Making a commitment to spend this short amount of time every day on a reading activity will pay off in the long run for your child.

Range of Typical Reading Levels in Second Grade

The expected reading level for children in the fall of second grade is 18. Children are expected to progress through the levels that are noted on the range below so that at the end of the school year, they are reading at level 24. It is important to note that some children will have scores that are above or below the grade-level expectation.



Helping Your Child Grow as a Reader



About the Reading Levels

Below are short descriptions or characteristics of books at the levels that are listed on the previous page. If you look at the lists below starting at the top and reading down to the bottom, you will notice that the reading material gets increasingly more difficult as the school year unfolds. You'll also see that the higher levels will provide more challenging text for your child to read.

Choosing a Book for Your Child to Read

We have given you some suggestions of books for your child to read. Just find your child's Independent Reading Level (on the report card) and look below for books at that level. The books are all available at the White Plains Public Library. When you go there, ask the librarian to help you find these and other similar books. We encourage you to visit your school's library too to find great books for your child. Look in your child's book bag for books from your child's classroom library. It's good practice for your child to read out loud to you and also to read silently to her/himself.

If your child receives a DRA score of 18 ...

The books are longer and contain more complex storylines. Subjects are of interest to young children and themes are familiar. There is a variety of texts – nonfiction, folktales, realistic stories and most are 30-60 pages long. The books take longer than one sitting to finish requiring the reader to continue to have interest in the story and remember the storyline over a period of time.

Suggested Books

Danny and the Dinosaur by S. Hoff
Mouse Soup and *Mouse Tales* by A. Lobel
Bear Shadow by F. Asch
Fox series by J. Marshall
Poppleton series by C. Rylant
Henry and Mudge series by C. Rylant
Little Bear series by E. Minarik

If your child receives a DRA score of 20...

The books are chapter-like books with several events related to a single plot. They include traditional stories which had previously been read aloud and are familiar. They take longer than one sitting to read requiring the reader to continue to have interest in the story and remember the storyline over a period of time.

Suggested Books

Caps for Sale by E. Slobodkina
Happy Birthday Moon by F. Asch
The Bears Picnic by S. & J. Berenstain
Little Red Hen by P. Galdone
Frog and Toad series by A. Lobel
Commander Toad series by J. Yolen
Arthur series by L. Hoban
The Golly Sisters Go West and
The Golly Sisters Ride Again by B. Byars
If You Give a Mouse a Cookie and *If You Give a Moose a Muffin* by L. J. Numeroff
It's Halloween and *It's Valentine's Day* by J. Prelutsky
Keep the Lights Burning Abbey by P. & C. Roop

If your child receives a DRA score of 24...

The books have longer chapters with fewer illustrations and more text. There are more characters and more involved stories. The vocabulary is challenging and they take longer than one sitting to read requiring the reader to continue to have interest in the story and remember the storyline over a period of time.

Suggested Books

Nate the Great series by M. Sharmat
Amelia Bedelia series by P. Parish
Abe Lincoln's Hat by M. Brenner
Cam Jansen series by D. Adler
Horrible Harry series by S. Kline
Pinky and Rex series by J. Howe
Chrysanthemum by K. Henkes