

## Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS™)

DIBELS™ are a series of short tests given to children in kindergarten through sixth grade to screen and monitor their progress in learning the necessary skills to become successful readers. Many elementary schools in America are using DIBELS™ as part of their *Reading First* grant and to meet the reading requirements of *No Child Left Behind*.

All DIBELS™ measures are timed with most taking only one minute. The reason for the timing is to find out if a child is able to answer the questions automatically and not take a long time to think about how to answer the questions or read the words correctly. Having these basic reading skills at the automatic level allows children to focus on understanding the meaning of what they are reading. This is the primary goal for all children.

**Our Mission:**  
To Promote  
Evidence-based  
Research to

Practice in Every Classroom

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# DIBELS™

Dynamic  
Indicators of  
Basic  
Early  
Literacy  
Skills

*a parent's guide*



