

Hoot Instructional Focus	Skill	Sample Tasks
Pre-Word Reading The ability to hear, produce, and manipulate words, syllables, and individual sounds. It also assesses students' knowledge of the most common sound for each letter.	Phonemic Awareness	Isolating, blending, changing sounds in spoken words
	Letter Sounds	Identifying short vowels and the most common consonant sounds

Hoot Instructional Focus	Skill	Sample Words
Early Word Reading Decoding one-syllable words that represent the most commonly found sound-spelling patterns.	Short Vowels	cat, bid, met
	Digraphs	bath, shop, king
	Blends	trick, sled, dusk
	Long Vowels	hope, like, gaze
	Basic R-Controlled Vowels	firm, bark, cord
	Basic Vowel Teams	dream, tail, loaf



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Complex Word Reading Decoding less common vowel patterns, silent letters, and diverse word endings, including two- syllable words.	Advanced Vowels	moon, swan, toy
	Advanced R-Controlled Vowels	chair, hear, world
	Advanced Consonants	price, kneel, judge
	Affixes	rusted, gladly, unseen
	Syllable Types	cobweb, purple, nation
	Multisyllabic Words	investment, extension, understandable

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		Accuracy The percentage of words read correctly.
Text Reading		Pace The speed of reading, measured in words correctly read per minute.
Fluency The ability to read complex texts with accuracy, speed, expression, and appropriate phrasing.	Fluency	Phrasing Attention to punctuation and real- time meaning-making to inform fluid and cohesive oral reading.
		Expression Use of stress and intonation (prosody) to convey meaning while reading aloud.



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Comprehension The ability to construct meaning from texts across genres. Assessment and instruction in the area of comprehension focuses on the acquisition of knowledge and vocabulary, use of syntax and text structure, as well as strategies that support metacognition and verbal reasoning.	Text-Specific Knowledge	Considers how a student identifies and connects new learning when reading and discussing a text.
	Text Structure	Considers how a student uses genre and common text structures (such as problem and solution) to support comprehension.
	Sentence Analysis	Considers how a student utilizes syntax to build comprehension at the sentence level.
	Verbal Reasoning	Considers how a student makes their thinking visible and utilizes strategies such as predicting, generating and answering questions, and summarization.
	Vocabulary	Considers vocabulary use and integration of text and topic-specific words when discussing a text.