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Welcome to Burst®:Reading Assessment

The ultimate goal of all reading instruction is for students to be able to read with comprehension and enjoy doing so. Burst®:Reading was developed so teachers can provide each student with just the instruction needed to acquire the component skills that will lead to reading with comprehension. Burst:Reading recognizes that every student is different and that the instruction teachers provide must be matched carefully to student needs if it is to be effective.

At the heart of Burst:Reading lies a skill-development model that helps identify what skills and abilities each student currently lacks — and what skills and abilities he or she does have on which you can build. By locating each student developmentally, Burst:Reading can then plot the most effective and efficient instructional path to comprehension.

As you would imagine, locating each student developmentally requires assessment. While it would be convenient if one easy-to-administer assessment did the whole job, most educators find that a combination of well-matched assessment components is often the most effective approach. That is the approach we have taken with the Burst:Reading assessments.

While available assessments, such as mCLASS®:DIBELS®, provide a window into many of the component skills in the Burst:Reading Skills-Based Model, we recognize that assessing vocabulary, advanced decoding (beyond CVC), and comprehension skills would require new measures that do not sacrifice the efficiency, reliability, validity, and immediate results that mCLASS® users have come to expect.

As you read about and begin to use the Burst:Reading Assessment measures, you will find they are brief, administered adaptively so the process is efficient. As you would expect, assessments are administered one-on-one to create a comfortable yet informative context for young children. All the measures have screening and progress monitoring forms. It is important to note that these assessments are specifically designed to support Burst instruction – they help us better identify student strengths and deficits to inform the instructional pathway.
The Measures

Vocab (VOC)
The vocabulary screening presents an inventory of words and asks students to determine their meanings by connecting the words to a picture. From a series of words, Burst:Reading uses that information to figure out whether vocabulary instruction is needed.

Comp Skills (CS)
Comprehension screening asks a series of literal and inferential questions about a passage to establish the actual level of comprehension the student has and whether the student is in need of comprehension strategy instruction.

Decode (DEC)
The third assessment piece is not a screening. It differs from the others in that it is a diagnostic. It addresses the gap between DIBELS® NWF, which is aligned to the skill of reading CVC words, and DIBELS ORF, which measures the skill of reading full, connected text.

The diagnostic examines a child’s ability to identify letter combinations, sight words, and advanced phonics such as compound words and silent-letter words. Our decoding diagnostic helps Burst:Reading pinpoint the type of decoding instruction that a child might need.

These enhanced measures give Burst:Reading and teachers a lot more information about exactly what students need. We know all teachers are concerned about using instruction time for assessment, so we are focused on keeping the assessment short and only assessing the components when necessary. For example, when students read fluently, we will not ask them to complete the decoding diagnostic. A student is administered the diagnostic only after the screening measures have determined it is necessary. Even the students most in need should require no more than 10 minutes of assessment.

We look forward to helping you build the next generation of successful readers!
Starting a New Assessment

To open Burst:Reading on the mobile device:

1. Turn on the mobile device, go to the **Applications** menu, and select **All**.
2. Tap the **Early Lit.** icon to start Burst:Reading.

3. Check the date listed on the device. If the date is incorrect, tap the date to change it.
4. Tap **Begin** to open the Class List.
Class List

Burst:Reading provides two sets of significant indicators of literacy development: an mCLASS:DIBELS instructional support recommendation and Burst:Reading data. On this screen, these two complementary sets are labeled D and B, corresponding to the student’s mCLASS:DIBELS and Burst:Reading results.

You can access any part of the Burst:Reading assessment – Global Home screens, Benchmark and Progress Monitoring assessments, Diagnostic Interviews, or Recommended Activities – for any student from the Class List.

Understanding the Class List Screen

The information on this screen is designed to help you prioritize your next steps in terms of assessment and Progress Monitoring. The Class List shows:

- Available classes
- Available students for assessment
- Benchmark status for DIBELS and Burst:Reading assessments
- Progress Monitoring status for DIBELS and Burst:Reading assessments
- Diagnostic Interview availability
- Available student activities

Tap these columns to administer DIBELS (D) and Burst (B) Benchmark assessments.
Tap these columns for DIBELS (D) and Burst (B) Progress Monitoring.
Tapping the ACT column takes you to the student’s DIBELS reinforcement activities.
In DIBELS columns, colored dots and numbers indicate the proficiency level for completed mCLASS:DIBELS assessments. A white circle indicates an incomplete assessment.

In Burst columns, a checkmark indicates a completed assessment and a pause symbol indicates an incomplete assessment.

**Using the Class List**

Use the Class List to select a student or the assessment you would like to administer to a student.

**To begin an assessment:**

1. Tap the class menu to choose the class containing the student you want to assess.
2. For each student on the list, you have several options:
   - Tap the student name to see the student’s Global Home screen.
   - Tap a square in the Benchmark columns to begin a benchmark assessment.
   - Tap a square in the Progress Monitoring columns to begin Progress Monitoring.
Global Home Screen

Each student has a Global Home screen, which gives you a snapshot of the student’s progress in Burst:Reading for the current term.

Scroll through this screen to see the Benchmark and Progress Monitoring screening recommended for the student. This screen also features the following:

1. The Instructional Support Recommendation level for the student is shown on the screen. When no screening has been administered, this is noted on the screen and you are prompted to begin screening.

2. For the student’s completed assessments, tap **DIBELS screening** or **Burst:Reading screening** to go to the main Benchmark Assessment screen for that student.

3. Where applicable for completed assessments, tapping **Progress Monitoring** or **Activities** brings you to the Progress Monitoring or ACT screen, respectively.

Tap the student’s name to return from any other tab to the Global Home screen.

Click any link to be taken to the appropriate tab.
Benchmark Assessment Screen

You can reach the Benchmark Assessment screen by tapping the Benchmark tab on the Global Home screen or by tapping the corresponding square in a student’s Benchmark column on the Class List screen.

Begin a New Benchmark Assessment

From the Benchmark screen, you can begin a new Benchmark assessment:

1. Tap the Benchmark tab on the student’s Global Home screen.
2. Select an assessment from the list.
3. Tap Start to begin.

Review Assessment Results

For DIBELS measures, scores have a colored background indicating risk or proficiency level. Individual assessment scores are colored to indicate the appropriate instructional support recommendation. After you have completed any Benchmark assessment for this student, the results appear on the Benchmark tab.
Progress Monitoring

You can reach the Progress Monitoring screen by either tapping **Progress Monitoring** on the Global Home screen, or by tapping the **Progress Monitoring** tab.

Begin a New Progress Monitoring Screening

From the Progress Monitoring screen, you can begin a new Progress Monitoring assessment.

1. Tap the **Progress Monitoring** tab from the student’s Global Home screen.
2. Select an assessment from the list.
3. Tap **Start** to begin the screening.

Review Progress Monitoring Results

All Progress Monitoring scores for the year are shown here. You can see which Progress Monitoring forms have been used, when the assessments were administered and the recorded score for each Progress Monitoring assessment.
Progress Monitoring Form Selection

Each time you begin a Progress Monitoring measure, you are asked to choose a Progress Monitoring form. Previously used forms have a pencil icon next to them. The amount of icons corresponds to the amount of times the form has been used.

Vocab and Decode

When you start Progress Monitoring in Vocab or Decode, you are prompted to choose a Progress Monitoring form:

1. Select the Progress Monitoring form you wish to use from the list.
2. Make sure the student has the correct student materials for the selected form.
3. Tap OK to begin the assessment.

Comp Skills

When you start Progress Monitoring a Comp Skills measure, you are prompted to choose whether the student should read a fiction or nonfiction passage. After making this decision, choose a Progress Monitoring form and tap OK.
Common Features

Information Screens
When you start a measure, a list of reminders and information relevant to the measure appears to help you consistently administer the measure for every student.

If you no longer need these reminders, clear the Show Info. Screen box, and this screen is skipped for subsequent assessments. To see the Information screens after clearing Show Info. Screen, tap Information, which looks like the letter i and appears at the top of each measure's Instructions screen.

Directions Screens
The Directions screens are a series of scripted instructions that guide you through administration of the assessment. These Directions screens may contain interactive practice questions and/or specific prompts to be read to the student, as shown by the Mr. Say icon.
The Five-Second Timer

When the measure scoring screen displays a five-second timer, the child has five seconds to respond to the current prompt. Each diamond represents one second; if the student fails to respond, score the item as nr (or incorrect if nr is not an option) and prompt the student with the next item.

Benchmark Form Selection

If you have invalidated a Benchmark assessment for a student during the current assessment period, you are prompted to select the form the student has been given already or an alternate Benchmark form.
Results Screen

The Results screen summarizes the student’s performance on a completed probe and allows you to record observations. Its primary purpose is to display the student’s score.

Tap any assessment result on the Class List screen to go to the Results screen.

![Image of Results Screen]

- **Note** to record general remarks about the student’s performance on the probe. Add a note by writing on the screen with your stylus.
- **Motiv.** to record different aspects of the student’s disposition. To change the indicators, tap and drag each appropriately.
- **Review** look over the student’s score and invalidated the probe, if necessary.

Some measure’s Results screens will have multiple tabs. Tap through the tabs to see the results for each portion of the measure. The Note, Motivation, and Review Mode features are specific to each tab.
Invalidation

During Administration

A measure should be invalidated, or deleted, when an interruption or mistake occurs that undermines the validity of the score. Examples include:

- Intercom announcements
- Fire drills
- Scoring errors that cannot easily be corrected

To invalidate a measure during administration:

1. Tap the **Home** icon in the upper right corner and a dialog box appears.
2. Tap **OK** to exit the probe and return to the Class list.

The mobile device records the invalidation. For Progress Monitoring measures, this should help you avoid administering with the same form repeatedly.

If you invalidate a Benchmark measure you need to administer that measure again to complete the Benchmark assessment.
After Administration

You may need to invalidate a measure after administration is complete. From a measure’s Results screen, you can access the student’s results after an assessment has been administered.

To invalidate a measure after administration:

1. Go to the probe’s Results screen.
2. Tap Review.
3. On the assessment review screen, tap **Probe Not Valid**.
4. A window appears asking you to verify your choice. Tap **Invalidate** to finish invalidation.
Vocab Assessment

Description

The Vocab assessment is a standardized, individually administered test of basic vocabulary knowledge available in Grades K-3. The Vocab measure assesses a student’s ability to identify words that are derived from an array of grade-level appropriate vocabulary. The measure is administered by reading a word aloud to a student. The student is expected to differentiate a set of distractors from the image that appropriately defines the word. The student is asked to draw a line from the word to the appropriate picture. This measure takes about five minutes to administer and has alternate forms for monitoring progress.

Administration

Begin the Vocab assessment by tapping the Vocab button on the student’s Global Home screen, or selecting the Vocab assessment from the Benchmark or Progress Monitoring tab.

To administer Vocab:

1. Read and tap through the instructions on the screen.
2. Place the Vocab form in front of the student.
3. Once you get to the assessment screen, say the first word as prompted by Mr. Say. The student draws a line to one of the pictures on the sheet in front of him or her.
4. Tap the number corresponding to the image the student selected.
   - The button on the mobile device turns green or red to indicate whether the response is correct or incorrect.
   - If the student takes more than five seconds to respond, tap No Response.
   - If a student is incorrect on the first six words, you have the option to discontinue the assessment.
5.  Tap the Back arrow to move to the previous word in the assessment. If you are on the first word on the screen, this button takes you to the previous screen's last word.

6.  After all the words are scored, the Done button appears. Tap Done to go to the Vocab results screen.

7.  When you finish viewing Vocab results, tap Next to return to the student's Global Home screen.
**Decode Assessment**

**Description**

The Decode assessment is a standardized, individually administered test of late decoding ability. There are four submeasures within Decode: Irregular Words (IW), Regular Words (RW), Letter Combinations (LC), and Advanced Phonics (AP). The Decode measure assesses a student’s ability to decode words that increase in difficulty from one-syllable, four-phoneme words to multisyllabic words with more complex structures. The Decode assessment is administered by asking students to read a list of eight words for each submeasure. A typical Decode measure takes about five minutes to administer and has alternate forms for Progress Monitoring.

**Administration**

Begin the Decode assessment by tapping the **Decode** button on the Global Home screen or selecting the Decode assessment from the **Benchmark** or **Progress Monitoring** tab.

**To administer Decode:**

1. Read and tap through the instructions on the screen. Complete the practice question. Tap **Begin**.
2. Place the word list in front of the student.
3. The first list read by the student is the Irregular Words. Have the student start reading the word list. The student has five seconds to read each word aloud.
   - If the student reads correctly, tap ✅
   - If the student reads incorrectly, tap the X.
   - If the student does not respond within five seconds, tap nr.

If a student gets the first six responses incorrect, you have the option to discontinue the assessment.
4. Tap **Done** to go to the Results screen for the word list.

5. From the Results screen, you can record a note, review the assessment or track the student’s motivation for this particular word list. Once you are ready, tap **Next** to begin assessment of the next word list.

6. Repeat Steps 1-5 until you have completed the word lists for Regular Words, Letter Combinations and Advanced Phonics.

7. When you finish viewing the Decode results, tap **Next** to return to the student’s Global Home screen.

   You can also tap through the different tabs from any Decode Results screen to see the results for each assessed word list.
Comp Skills

Description

The Comp Skills assessment is a standardized, individually administered test of reading comprehension available for Grades 1-3. This measure assesses a student’s ability to recall or retell and answer questions about a grade-level passage. There are three submeasures within Comp Skills: Retell or Recall, Literal Comprehension, and Inference. The Comp Skills measure is administered by presenting a student with a passage and instructions to read it silently. Once the student finishes reading, the passage is taken from the student and the student retells or recalls the passage. The Comp Skills measure takes about five minutes to administer and has alternate forms for monitoring progress.

Administration

Begin the Comp Skills assessment by selecting Comp Skills from the Benchmark or Progress Monitoring screens for the selected student.
Passage Screen

In Comp Skills, the student reads a passage, which is later referenced in the Retell or Recall, Literal Comprehension, and Inference portions of the measure. While the student is reading, you should use the Passage screen to record the amount of time the student took to read the passage.

1. Read and tap through the instructions on the screen.
2. Tap **Start** when the student begins reading. If the student is reading silently, we recommend that you read the passage as well. The **Start** button changes to **Stop** when the timer starts.
3. Record whether the student read aloud or silently by tapping **Aloud** or **Silently**.
4. Tap **Stop** once the student finishes reading the passage.
5. Tap **Next** to begin Retell or Recall.
Retell

After the student reads a fiction passage and you record the amount of time it took, you advance to Retell. During Retell, students attempt to tell you about the beginning, middle, and end of the passage.

To administer Retell:

1. Tap the **Beginning** tab.
2. Ask the student to retell the beginning of the passage to the best of his or her ability.
3. As the student retells the passage, tap the box containing the sample text that best reflects the student’s description.
   - **nr** - The student could not retell this portion of the passage.
   - **Basic** - The student only retold vague points about this portion of the passage.
   - **Good** - The student retold detailed information about this portion of the passage.

4. Tap **Middle** and repeat Steps 2 and 3 for the middle of the passage.
5. Tap **End** and repeat Steps 2 and 3 for the end of the passage.
6. Tap through the tabs if you wish to change a result.
7. Tap **Done** to go to the Retell Results screen.
8. After reviewing the student’s Retell results, tap **Next** to continue to Literal Comprehension.
Recall

If a nonfiction passage is selected during Progress Monitoring, the Recall measure are administered instead of the Retell measure.

1. Ask the student to recall the passage to the best of his or her ability.
2. As the student recalls the passage, tap the box containing the sample text that best reflects the student’s description.
   - **nr** - The student could not recall this portion of the passage.
   - **Basic** - The student only recalled vague points about this portion of the passage.
   - **Good** - The student recalled detailed information about this portion of the passage.

Tap **Done** to see the Retell Results screen.

3. After reviewing the student’s Recall results, tap **Next** to continue to Literal Comprehension.
Literal Comprehension

During Literal Comprehension, the student is prompted with questions that can be directly answered in the text of the passage.

1. Read the first question as prompted by Mr. Say.
2. Tap the button that best reflects the student’s result.
   - If the student answers correctly, tap Correct.
   - If the student answers incorrectly, tap Incorrect.
   - If the student takes more than five seconds to respond, tap No Response.
   If a student scores 3 or less on this portion of the assessment, you have the option of discontinuing the assessment.
3. Tap Next to ask the next question.
4. Repeat this process for all five questions. When complete, the Next button changes into a Done button. Tap Done to go to the Literal Comprehension Results screen.

5. On the Literal Comprehension Results screen, tap Next to move on to Inference.
Inference

Inference tests the student’s ability to infer information that was not explicitly stated in the passage.

1. Read the question aloud as prompted by Mr. Say.
2. Tap **Next** to go to the scoring screen.

3. Tap the box that best reflects the student’s response.
   - **nr** - The student could not infer any information from this portion of the passage.
   - **Inc.** - The student only inferred incorrect information from the passage.
   - **Basic** - The student inferred a standard amount of information about the passage.
   - **Good** - The student inferred detailed information about the passage.

4. Tap **Next** to see the next question.

5. After scoring all five questions, tap **Done** to view the Inference Results screen.
6. When you finish viewing the results, tap **Next** to return to the student’s Global Home screen.
Reviewing Burst:Reading Results on the mCLASS®:Home Web Site

2. At the Welcome page, type your mCLASS User Name and Password, then click Enter.

   If you have forgotten your password, click the Need help logging in? link. If you experience issues, contact your school’s technology department or contact Wireless Generation’s Customer Care at (800) 823-1969 and select option 3.

Accessing Assessment Results

From the mCLASS®:Home page you can access your Burst:Reading results:

1. Under My Bursts, click Enter next to the Burst:Reading icon.
2. Under Assess, click the View Results button to see your student’s assessment results.

3. For help interpreting the Web reports, click Help.