

Quick-Start Guide for PMER



Real Reading Progress for K-3

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This **Quick-Start Guide** gives you the basics you need to use your Progress Monitoring for Emergent Readers™ (PMER) kit to assess student progress in Grades K-1 and determine whether they're responding to instruction.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

What Does PMER Assess?

PMER monitors student progress in key skills related to early reading: Phonemic Awareness, Phonics, and Listening Comprehension. The assessment consists of "sets" of tasks, arranged according to students' development and in order of difficulty.

Which Students Are Assessed with PMER?

Use PMER with students in kindergarten and first grade who are not meeting grade level standards and/or students who are receiving reading intervention, whether they're currently behind or at risk for struggling. (Students who score "Still Developing" (SD) on the TPRI® screening are identified as at risk for reading difficulty.)

What You Need

To conduct PMER, you'll need:

- ✓ The Teacher's Guide
- ✓ The Task Card Booklet
- ✓ The Scoring Booklet
- ✓ A pencil

CONDUCTING PMER

Where to Start

- Begin assessment with the PMER two weeks after you conduct Beginning-of-Year or Middle-of-Year assessment with TPRI®
- In kindergarten, start with the Letter Name/Letter Sound Task
- In Grade 1:

At Beginning-of-Year, start with set 2, and continue with every two weeks in sequence (Set 2, Set 4, etc.).

At Middle-of-Year, if a student still needs progress monitoring, try using the Progress Monitoring for Beginning Readers™ (PMBR) kit (sold separately).

Assess students every 2 weeks to ensure they're making progress

CONDUCTING PMER (continued)

Guidelines for a Two-Week Schedule

Administer the Tasks

- Give PMER in a calm and quiet classroom space.
- Begin with the required items for the set and continue through Listening Comprehension.
- Present both Practice items if more than one is provided.
- Say what is printed in bold while testing.

Select Optional Tasks

- If you want additional information on a student's progress, you can choose to administer optional tasks.
- Use the optional tasks to tailor the assessment to the instruction you are giving. This will ensure that the information you gather is relevant.
- Optional tasks should be given in order.
- Start with the first optional task for the skill, even if it appears in an earlier set.

Record Scores

- All items are scored as either correct (1) or incorrect (0) – no partial credit is given.
- If a student hesitates longer than 10 seconds, mark the item incorrect and move on to the next item.
- With Word Reading, move on to the next item after 3 seconds of hesitation.
- Suggested responses are provided for comprehension questions, but other answers can be acceptable, as long as they are correct based on the information in the story. Use your professional judgment to score these responses.
- No corrective feedback should be provided.

If Progress is Too Slow

If your students aren't making progress fast enough, consider modifying:

- **Type of Instruction.** What are you teaching and how are you teaching it?
- **Pace of Instruction.** When are you introducing new concepts and skills, and how much time is available for each intervention lesson?
- **Frequency of Instruction.** How often is intervention?
- **Intensity of Instruction.** How low are teacher/student ratios? Smaller student groups allow for more intense focus on each student.

CONNECTING RESULTS WITH INSTRUCTION

After you administer PMER, use the results to inform instruction and intervention on an ongoing basis.

- Look to see whether student answers indicate growth from set to set in the areas assessed.
- Plan instruction—determine what might need to be retaught and what skills students have mastered.
- Use the [Intervention Activities Guide \(IAG\)](#) to plan intervention. The IAG gives you hundreds of instructional activities to differentiate instruction and address areas of student need.

Teach Spanish-speaking students? Discover [Tejas LEE®](#), a complete solution for assessing and improving the reading skills of students who receive primary reading instruction in Spanish. To learn more, see www.brookespublishing.com/tejaslee.

Download our other quick-guides to the TPRI® system!

www.brookespublishing.com/quick-guides

- TPRI® Kindergarten Quick Guide
- TPRI® Grade 1 Quick Guide
- TPRI® Grade 2 Quick Guide
- TPRI® Grade 3 Quick Guide
- Intervention Activities Guide
- PMBR

Call us or visit our website to complete your TPRI® system and sign up for TPRI® email alerts!

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