



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Reading is a foundational skill critical to student success, both in the classroom and beyond. Beginning in 2024-2025, the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board will administer a mandatory early reading screener to all students in Year 2 of Kindergarten through Grade 2.

Early reading screening is a valuable tool to help educators understand a child's individual reading progress so their unique needs can be supported at school. It also identifies students who are experiencing difficulties with reading so they can receive the support they need to improve their reading proficiency. The purpose of early reading screening is to:

- monitor your child's development in early reading skills,
- identify children who need additional support, and guide classroom instruction.

Early reading screening will take place between **September 18 - October 23, 2024** in all KPR schools. All students will be screened individually by the classroom educator. French Immersion students will be screened in French in Year 2 of Kindergarten and Grade 1, and English in Grade 2. The screening covers various foundational skills needed for reading proficiency. For example, your child might be asked to identify letters and corresponding sounds or sound out words. The specific details of the screening will vary depending on the grade. No additional preparation is needed nor expected for the screening.

Below are the reading measures and skill areas that will be screened in KPR using *Acadience Reading*:

First Sound Fluency (Kindergarten)

- Students identify the first sound in a word provided orally (no print involved)

Letter Naming Fluency (Kindergarten – Grade 1)

- Students identify upper and lower-case letters.

Phoneme Segmentation Fluency (Kindergarten – Grade 1)

- Students separate all the sounds they hear in a provided word.

Nonsense Word Fluency (Kindergarten – Grade 2)

- Students read words that are not real English words. This will measure of students' decoding skills which is their ability to connect sounds to letters.

Oral Reading Fluency (Grade 1 – Grade 2)

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Friday, September 6, 2024
Spring Valley P. S.

- Students independently read a passage aloud.

Early reading screening benchmarks indicate how students are doing on a specific set of reading measures. Students whose scores fall below the benchmark will be provided tiered support to help them catch up. The screening only provides one piece of information about your child's language and literacy skills. Similarly, *this screening is not evaluated as part of your child's grades* but instead will help identify the support they need to develop reading proficiency.

A letter will be sent home in early November to communicate the results of the screener for your child. This information will also be documented on your child's Communication of Learning (Kindergarten) or Elementary Provincial Report Card (Grades 1 and 2) and will indicate whether your child has met or not yet met the early reading screening benchmark. Educators will also maintain ongoing communication with parents/guardians to discuss the ongoing literacy learning and growth over the course of the school year.

Should you have any questions or concerns about your child's reading abilities, you are encouraged to reach out to your child's educator and/or principal.

Thank you for your partnership in ensuring your child has the best possible learning experience.

Sincerely,

Mr. Cooper
Principal
Spring Valley P. S.