


Florida Department of Education
Office of Early Learning

Department of Education
Office of Early Learning



Florida Kindergarten Readiness
Requirements

FMEP Implementation Strategies Meeting II
September 21, 2011

1

VPK Program Background

- Since September 2005, Florida has offered a free, Voluntary Prekindergarten Education (VPK) Program for four-year-old children.
- The program is intended to provide developmentally appropriate educational programs that increase children's chances of achieving future educational success.
- In the 2009-10 school year, 156,824 children enrolled in the VPK Program representing 67.5% of eligible four-year-olds.
- The Legislature appropriated \$404 million to the program for fiscal year 2010-11.

2


Program Administration

- The program is administered by three state agencies and 31 local early learning coalitions.
 - The Agency for Workforce Innovation has primary responsibility for adopting and maintaining coordinated program, administrative, and fiscal policies as well as implementing program standards.
 - The Department of Education is primarily responsible for developing educational standards and measuring program outcomes.
 - The Department of Children and Families oversees licensing of child care centers, including VPK providers.
 - The state's 31 local early learning coalitions coordinate and implement the program in their service areas.

3

Florida Kindergarten Readiness Screener (FLKRS)

- Subset of the Early Childhood Observation System (ECHOS)
- First Two Measures of the Florida Assessments for Instruction in Reading – K (FAIR-K)
- Administered within the first 30 instructional days



4

Florida Department of Education
Office of Early Learning

Administration of ECHOS

- Teacher observes what children know by watching them work, play, build, problem solve, and interact.
- Learning is observed in context: whole class, large group, small group, individual.



5

Sample ECHOS Item

Retells a story or part of a story that has been read to the class.

1. Listens attentively when the teacher reads books in class
2. Retells one part of the story accurately
3. Retells whole story or event experienced in class

6

Sample ECHOS Item Alignment to Standards

- Aligned with VPK Standard:
 - V. Emergent Literacy
 - A. 4. - Shows understanding of text read aloud.
 - Benchmark a: Child retells or reenacts a story after it is read aloud.
- Aligned with Kindergarten Standard:
 - LA.K.2.1.2 – (Fiction) The student will retell the main events of a story, and describe characters and setting
 - LA.K.2.2.2 - (Nonfiction) The student will retell important facts from a text heard or read

7

ECHOS Alignment with VPK Standards

The Florida Kindergarten Readiness Screener (FLKRS) contains a subset of **19** ECHOS items that are aligned with the following domains:

- Approaches to Learning – 1
- Social and Emotional – 2
- Language, Communication, and Emergent Literacy – 5
- Mathematical and Scientific Thinking – 9
- Motor Development - 2

8

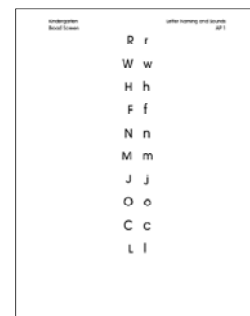
FLKRS/FAIR-K Overview Broad Screen/Progress Monitoring Tool

- Tasks
 - Letter Naming
 - Phonemic Awareness (blending or onset and rime)
- Administered to all public and private kindergarten children (3-5 minutes)

9

Letter Naming - Kindergarten

Teacher Directions:
I'm going to show you some letters of the alphabet. Tell me the name of the letter. Ready?



FAIR Letter Naming Alignment with Standards

- Aligned with VPK Standard:
 - V. Emergent Literacy
A.3. - Shows alphabetic knowledge
 - Benchmark a. ...recognizes almost all letters by name
 - Benchmark b. ...names most letters
- Aligned with Kindergarten Standard:
 - LA.K.1.1.7 – The student will name all upper and lower case letters of the alphabet

11

Phonemic Awareness: Kindergarten

Teacher Directions:

1. *What would the word be if I say:*

- /l/ /ake/ (lake)
- /l/ /ock/ (lock)
- /sh/ /ip/ (ship)
- /s/ /o/ (so)
- /h/ /all/ (hall)
- /c/ /oa/ /t (coat)

For the first assessment, the majority of the items are onset and rime. 12

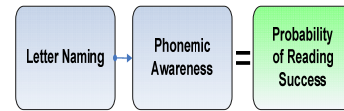
FAIR Phonemic Awareness Alignment with Standards

- Aligned with VPK Standard:
 - V. Emergent Literacy
 - A.2. Shows age-appropriate phonological awareness
 - ...saying the name of familiar one-syllable words when the teacher says the word with a pause between the first sound and the rest of the sounds (page 99, VPK Standards)
- Aligned with Kindergarten Standard:
 - LA.K.1.2.4 -The student will identify, blend and segment onset and rime.

13

FAIR-K Overview: Broad Screen

Provides a Probability of Reading Success score for each child

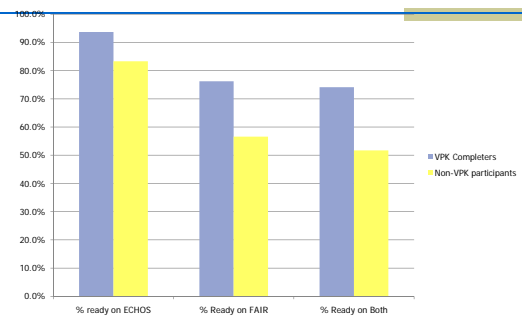


14

FAIR Probability of Success in Reading Chart Kindergarten AP1

AP1		Kindergarten - Assessment Period 1 - Probability of Reading Success											
		Phonemic Awareness - Total Correct											
Letter Naming - Total Correct	Total Correct	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
	0	.20	.14	.14	.17	.20	.24	.29	.34	.39	.45	.51	
	1	.12	.14	.17	.21	.25	.30	.35	.40	.46	.52	.57	
	2	.15	.18	.22	.26	.31	.36	.41	.47	.53	.59	.64	
	3	.19	.22	.27	.31	.37	.42	.48	.54	.60	.65	.70	
	4	.23	.28	.32	.38	.43	.49	.55	.61	.68	.73	.78	
	5	.28	.33	.39	.45	.50	.56	.62	.67	.72	.77	.80	
	6	.34	.40	.46	.51	.57	.63	.68	.73	.77	.81	.84	
	7	.41	.47	.53	.58	.64	.69	.74	.78	.82			
	8	.48	.54	.59	.65	.70	.75	.79	.83				
	9	.55	.61	.66	.71	.76	.80	.83					
	10	.62	.67	.72	.76	.80	.83						

FLKRS Results by Participation Status 2009/10



16

Florida Department of Education
Office of Early Learning

Ready for Kindergarten – 2010-11 Program Year

- To be considered “ready for kindergarten,” a child must:
 - score at the Demonstrating or Emerging Progressing level on the ECHOS measure; and
 - have a Probability of Reading Success score of .67 (67%) or higher on FAIR-K.

17

Other Screening and Progress Monitoring Tools

- Screeners embedded within the curriculum
- Assessments currently used within the school
https://app1.fldoe.org/Reading_Plans/
- Cool Tools Informal Reading Assessments
<http://www.paec.org/itrk3/files/pdfs/readingpdfs/cooltoolsall.pdf>

18



Office of Early Learning Contacts

Florida Department of Education
1-866-447-1159; (850) 245-0445
earlylearning@fldoe.org

- Stuart Greenberg, Executive Director, Just Read, Florida! and the Office of Early Learning
- Judy Jones , Executive Assistant
- Gary Sabitsch Director, Accountability and Quality Assurance
- Tom Mims, Program Specialist
- Melinda Webster, Director, Standards and Professional Development
- Erika Hall, Program Specialist
- Hope Colle, Program Specialist
- Tara Huls, Educational Policy Consultant
- Cassandra Pasos, Program Specialist
- Michelle Sizemore, Educational Policy Consultant

