# IREAD: Indiana's Foundational Reading Skills Assessment

## 2025-2026

@EducateIN

# WHAT IS IREAD?
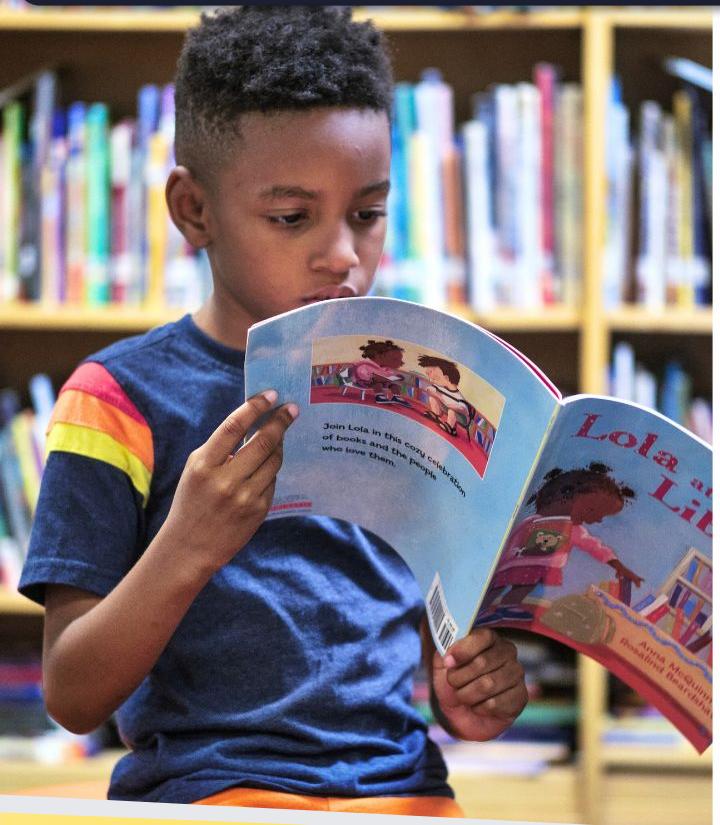
IREAD is a reading assessment that measures foundational reading skills through grade three, including students' ability to read and understand grade-level text.

*IREAD was developed in accordance with the 2010 Indiana General Assembly passage of Public Law 109, which required the evaluation of reading skills for all third grade students to ensure they can read at grade level prior to fourth grade.*

# WHO TAKES IREAD? WHEN IS IREAD?

## Who takes IREAD?

- Grade 2 students
- Grade 3 students who:
  - did not pass in Grade 2 or retained in Grade 3
  - did not test previously
- Grade 4 students who:
  - received a GCE in Grade 3
  - did not test in Grade 3
- Grade 5 students who:
  - did not receive a GCE under previous legislation (grade 3 in 2023-2024 school year).
- New students for the 2025-2026 school year in grades 4-6 (previously homeschooled or transferred in from out of state)

# WHEN IS IREAD?

| When is IREAD? | |
|---|---|
| Spring Testing Window | March 2 - 13, 2026 |
| Summer Testing Window* | May 11 - June 26, 2026 |

*Student in grade 2 may participate in *one* summer opportunity.
*Students in grade 3 may participate in *two* summer opportunities.
*Students in grades 3 through 6 who have not passed must participate in at least *one* summer opportunity.

# WHY TEST GRADE TWO STUDENTS IF IREAD MEASURES SOME GRADE THREE SKILLS?

IDOE is committed to supporting early literacy by providing reading proficiency information earlier, allowing schools to respond quickly and provide targeted support for students who need it most.

- Early reading support may lead to higher reading success and less testing in future grades.
- Legislation now requires all second grade students to take IREAD.
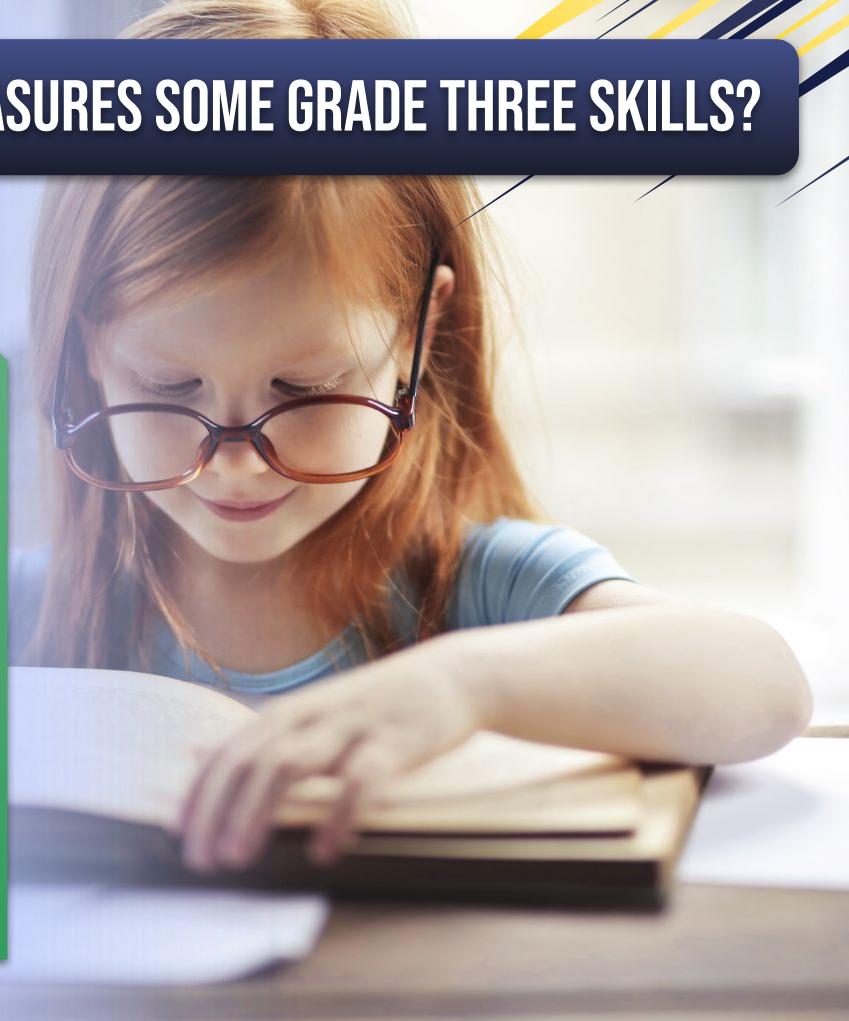
# HOW IS IREAD SCORED IN GRADE TWO?

Grade two students receive a score that falls in one of the three categories below:

| At Risk (200-404) | On Track (405-445) | Pass (446-650) |
|---|---|---|
| Student is flagged for early support and remediation to ensure that they can achieve proficiency by the end of grade 3.<br><br>• Required to be offered summer school.<br>• One summer retest opportunity available. | Student is not flagged for specific remediation, but needs monitoring and possible support to ensure the student continues to be on track to achieve proficiency by the end of grade 3.<br><br>• May be offered summer school.<br>• One summer retest opportunity available. | Student has achieved proficiency in foundational reading.<br><br>• Summer school is not required to be offered.<br>• Student has fulfilled testing requirement. |

# WHAT HAPPENS IF MY <u>GRADE TWO</u> CHILD SCORES ON-TRACK OR AT-RISK?

<u>Grade two</u> students who do not pass during the spring IREAD administration must receive appropriate support and remediation prior to retesting.

- Students who score At-Risk **must** be offered summer school.

- Any student in grade two who did not pass IREAD may participate in the IREAD Summer Retest. Grade 2 students have <u>one</u> summer opportunity. School staff should consider the spring IREAD results, other reading data, conversations with families, and interventions needed to make the decision for a summer retest.

7
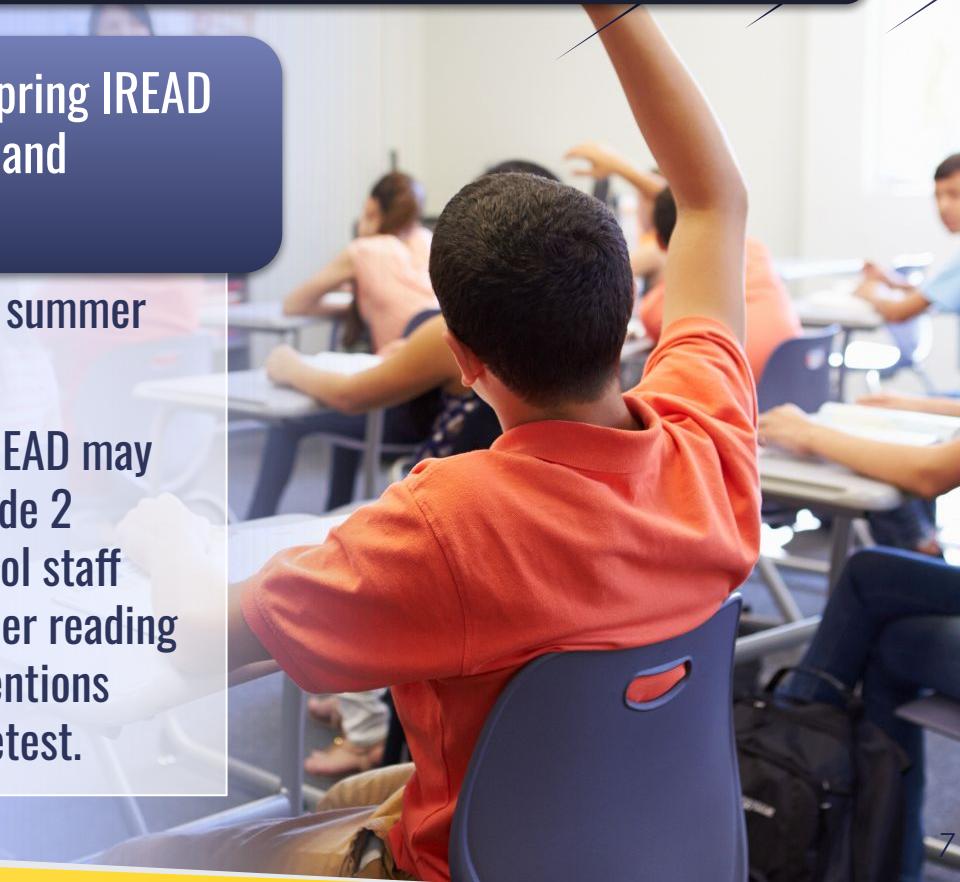
# HOW IS IREAD SCORED IN GRADE THREE?

Grade three students receive a score that falls in one of the two categories below:

| Did Not Pass (200-445) | Pass (446-650) |
|---|---|
| Student has demonstrated a limited understanding when reading and responding to grade-level literary and informational texts, and will retest for IREAD during the summer administration.<br><br>• **Required to be offered summer school.**<br>• **Two summer retest opportunities available.** | Student has achieved a proficient understanding when reading and responding to grade-level literary and informational texts.<br><br>• **Summer school is not required.**<br>• **Student has fulfilled testing requirement.** |

# WHAT HAPPENS IF MY <u>GRADE THREE</u> CHILD DOES NOT PASS?

Per state law, <u>grade three</u> students who do not pass during the spring IREAD administration will need to receive appropriate remediation, and retest during the summer administration. Students have <u>two</u> summer opportunities.

If they do not pass the spring administration, they need to be offered summer school.

- If a grade three student does not pass the spring and summer IREAD administrations, <u>they must be retained</u> unless they qualify for a Good Cause Exemption (GCE).
- Students will continue to participate in IREAD until they pass or are promoted to grade seven. This retest requirement is for all students who did not pass even if they received a GCE.

# WHAT IS A GOOD CAUSE EXEMPTION?

A Good Cause Exemption (GCE) serves to exempt an eligible student from retention if the student does not pass IREAD in grade three. A GCE cannot exempt a student from participating in IREAD. A student can meet one of the five criteria below to qualify for a GCE.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Criteria 1:** The student was subject to retention and has been retained in grade three for one school year. | **Criteria 2:** The student has an intellectual disability or the student's IEP specifies that retention is not appropriate, and the Case Conference Committee has determined that promotion to another grade is appropriate.*<br><br>*IEPs must include the GCE and any new evaluations must be finalized before the conclusion of the grade 3 school year.* | **Criteria 3:** The student is an EL who has received services for fewer than two years and a committee determines that promotion is appropriate based on the implementation of research-based instructional practices outlined in the student's ILP. | **Criteria 4:** The student received a score of "At Proficiency" or "Above Proficiency" on the grade three ILEARN Mathematics assessment. | **Criteria 5:** The student has received intensive intervention in reading for two or more years; and was retained more than once throughout kindergarten, grade one, or grade two.. |

# SUMMER SCHOOL

## Who is offered summer school?

- Grade two students who score "At Risk"
- Grade three students who score "Did Not Pass."

Students who are granted a GCE should still be offered summer school to support literacy interventions and they will continue to participate in IREAD until they pass or are promoted to grade 7.

## What happens if a student does not attend summer school?

Students who attend less than 90% of the summer reading program will be required to participate in an **individual reading plan** aligned with the science of reading the following school year.

# ACCESS TO SCORES

## When are scores available?

Individual student scores load in the Centralized Reporting System (CRS) 24 hours after test completion. Results are considered final on:
- Monday, April 17, 2026, (spring testing)
- Monday, July 17, 2026 (summer testing)

## How can I see my student's scores?

- Families will be provided an access code to retrieve their student's results via Cambium's Family Portal.
- Schools can also download and print ISRs locally as soon as student results are posted in CRS.

# HELPING AT HOME

There are many ways that you can help out at home. Some of those include:

- **Reading fiction and nonfiction books and asking questions about the story.**
  - Questions you could ask:
    - What was the story about? With details from the text.
    - Who were the characters in the story? Describe them.
    - Explain the events that happened in order of how they happened.
    - Was there a problem in the text? If so, what was the solution?
    - What do you think will happen next in the story? Why?
    - How might I go back and find the information about a specific topic with a nonfiction text?

# HELPING AT HOME

**Phonics is another key component of IREAD. Some areas to support phonics include:**

- **Identifying and producing beginning, middle, and final sounds in single syllable words**
    - Examples: What sound do you hear at the end of the word dog? What sound do you hear at the beginning of the word kite? What sound do you hear in the middle of the word cat?

- **Identify long and short vowels (including vowel teams)**
    - Examples: Cap vs cape (short and long vowels), east (vowel team of ea is long vowel sound)

- **Use context clues and text features to determine the meaning of an unknown word**
    - Example: "Butterfly wings seem to <u>glide</u> through the air as they fly gently." What does the word glide mean as it is used in this sentence?

🐦 @EducateIN

# HELPING AT HOME

*Phonics continued:*
- **Synonyms**
  - Example: A synonym for happy could be joyful
- **Antonyms**
  - Example: An antonym for happy could be sad
- **Homographs**
  - Multiple-meaning words that are spelled the same, but differ in meaning and pronunciation. Examples: bow/bow, tear/tear
- **Homonyms**
  - Multiple-meaning words that are spelled the same and pronounced the same, but have different meanings. Examples: can/can, tire/tire
- **Homophones**
  - Multiple-meaning words that have different spellings and different meanings, but the same pronunciation. Examples: know/no, eight/ate

# INDIANA LEARNING LAB

Parents can register for an account to have access to the Learning Lab. Resources can be found in the Literacy Center Hub.
https://inlearninglab.com/hub/literacy-center-hub



**Beyond Storytime: Everyday Ways to Build Literacy at Home**

With Maya Smart

Author of *Reading for Our Lives: A Literacy Action Plan from Birth to Six*

Register for the Indiana Learning Lab!

The recording is available on-demand

**INDIANA DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION**

# RELEASED ITEM REPOSITORY

There are many helpful resources on the on the IDOE website for <u>IREAD</u>, including the Released Items Repository (RIR) on the <u>Indiana Assessment Portal</u>. The RIR allows your child to practice released IREAD practice questions on the same platform they will use to take the IREAD test. You can navigate to the RIR from there by clicking on the link pictured from the site.

@EducateIN

# RELEASED ITEM REPOSITORY

1. Once you navigate to the RIR, ensure the Guest User and Guest Session options are toggled to ON, and then click Sign In.

2. Select the grade level of the student.

3. Select Start IREAD-3 Released Items.

**Your Tests**
Select the test you need to take.

Student Grade Level: Select Grade

Please select a grade.

**Your Tests**
Select the test you need to take.

Student Grade Level: 2

Released Items for IREAD-3

Start IREAD-3 Released Items
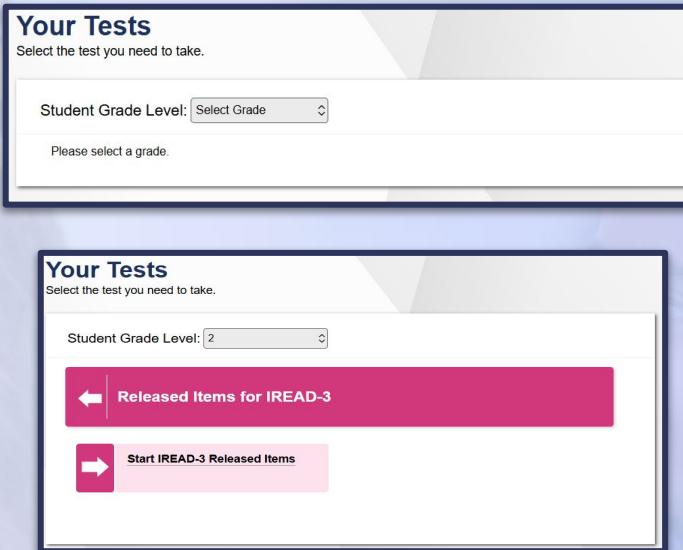
**Please Sign In**

ON — **Guest User**
Toggle to sign in as yourself

ON — **Guest Session**
Toggle to join an active session

Run Diagnostics                Browser: Chrome v131

Sign In

# LOOKING AHEAD

✉ INassessments@doe.in.gov
Darian Foster, darfoster@doe.in.gov

📞 (317) 232-9050

🌐 https://www.in.gov/doe/students/assessment/

THANK YOU!