The Reading Benchmark Assessment Process

Measure each student's reading proficiency through systematically observing, recording, and evaluating performance. Administer the DRA™3 Benchmark Assessment to formulate an instructional plan that will meet the needs of each student.

The following illustrations depict the five-step reading benchmark assessment process that DRA3 uses and how teachers can use the DRA3 online platform to manage the assessment process.

Step 1: Get started
Review history if you have data from previous years. Level Estimator can be used to quickly identify a good place to start for new students. Once the level is selected, you can move on to step 2.

Step 2: Oral Reading Fluency
Evaluate fluency.
Tap words to tag miscues as the student reads the text aloud. Record student's oral reading for review and future audio playback.

Step 3: Printed Language Concepts/Comprehension
Evaluate how well students understand the text they have read.
Constructing meaning before, during, and after reading a text is critical to reading comprehension. Students demonstrate how well they understand the text by providing oral and written responses to comprehension questions.

Step 4: Teacher Analysis
Customize instruction to meet the needs of every reader.
Once all steps of the assessment have been completed, use the DRA3 Continuum to evaluate student performance and select learning activities on the Focus for Instruction.

Step 5: Reading Engagement (Optional)
Observe students' reading habits, preferences, and goals.
Determine whether criteria were met.
The teacher evaluates each student's Reading Engagement responses.