

mCLASS[®]

2020 mCLASS FAQ

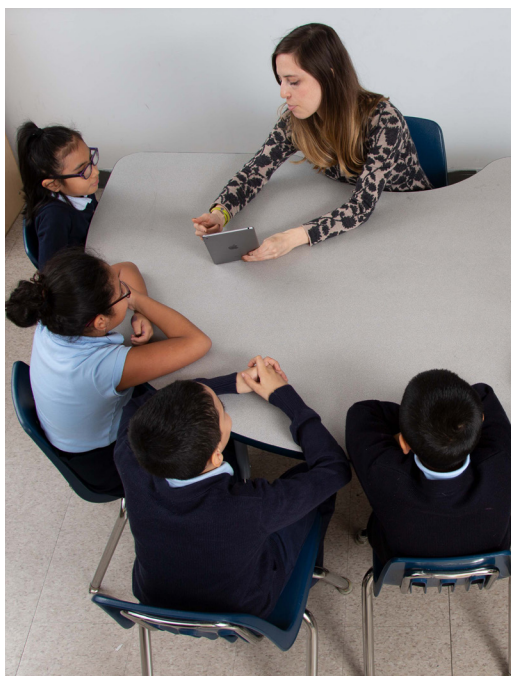


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Introducing mCLASS

mCLASS® is a newly enhanced, all-in-one early literacy assessment, intervention, and instructional toolkit that enables you to understand every student as a reader, so you can deliver literacy instruction that's right for each and every one of them, whether it's targeted time with you or an engaging, out-of-this-world adaptive curriculum.

Every student is an individual. mCLASS helps you make data-driven, engaging literacy instruction a reality for everyone. That is the power of mCLASS.



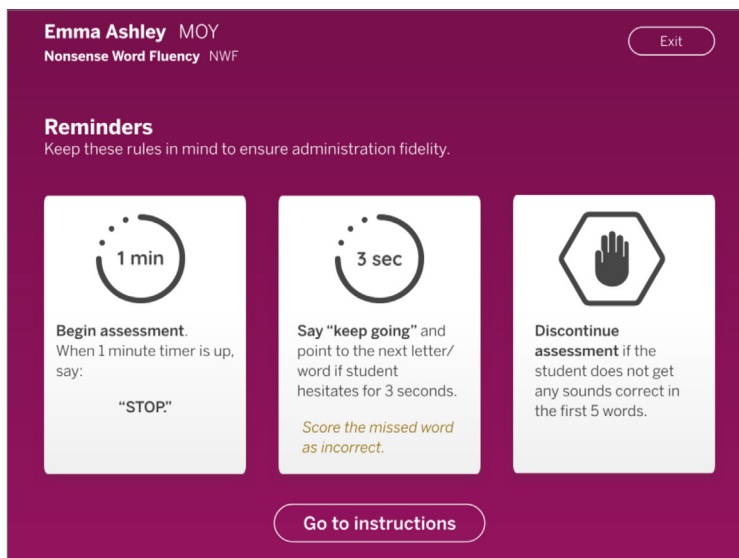
What's new in mCLASS?

1 What enhancements should we expect in mCLASS with DIBELS 8th Edition?

- Reduced assessment time and more useful data through adaptive test design
- Even stronger research basis for screening for reading difficulties, including dyslexia
- Bolstered reporting and updated skill profiles to better support instruction
- Increased text quality through authentic text passages for the oral reading and Maze comprehension subtests

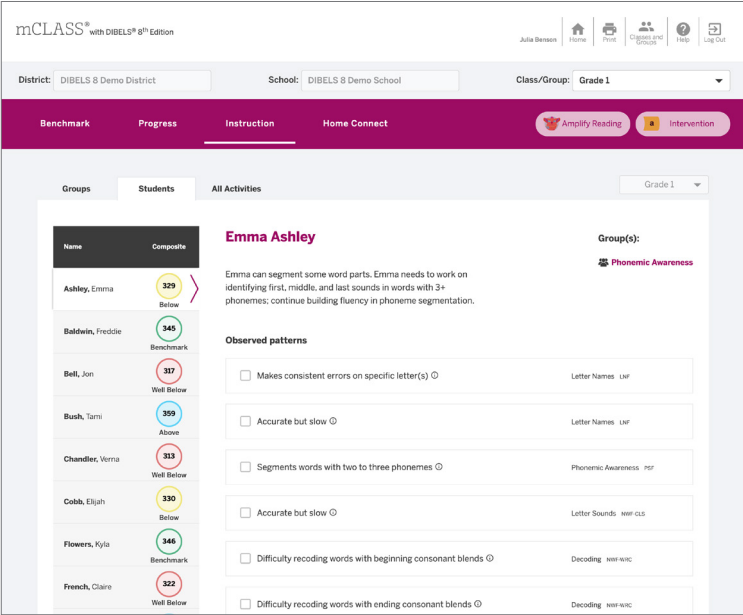
2 What improvements have been made to mCLASS with DIBELS 8th Edition?

Streamlined designs allow for faster assessment administration.

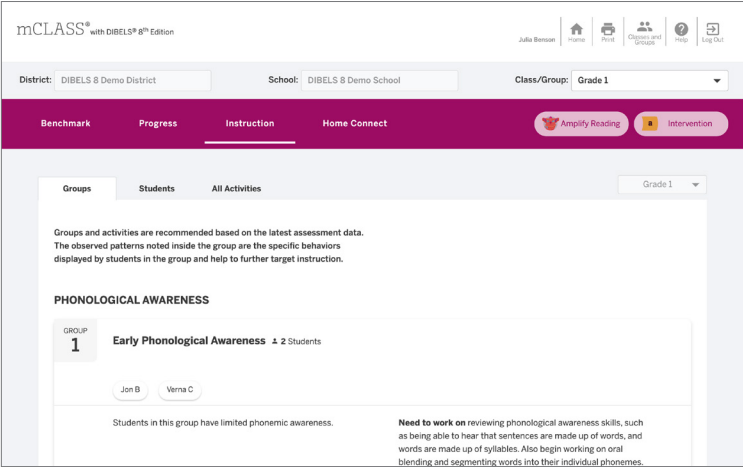


mCLASS updates harness the improvements in DIBELS 8th Edition for better reporting and more targeted instructional tools. Intuitive and actionable reports, such as skill-based reporting, will strengthen the connection between assessment and instruction.

- Individual instruction reporting makes it even easier for teachers to plan individualized instructional next steps.



- The small groups report highlights, in teacher-friendly terms, the grade-level expectations for every student at each grade time of year.



- This new Class Summary shows teachers how many students have mastered or are at risk for each skill area, such as decoding or word reading. Student details follow, and student results can be sorted by skill area.

Beginning of Year	Middle of Year	End of Year	Summary				Grade 1
		Composite	Phonemic Awareness PSF	Letter Sounds NWF-CLS	Decoding NWF-WRC	Word Reading WRF	Reading Fluency ORF
Class Summary	Well Below Benchmark	20% 3 Students	13% 2 Students	27% 4 Students	7% 1 Student	20% 3 Students	7% 1 Student
15/15 Students Assessed	Below Benchmark	27% 4 Students	33% 5 Students	20% 3 Students	67% 10 Students	40% 6 Students	73% 11 Students
0 Not Assessed	At Benchmark	33% 5 Students	40% 6 Students	13% 2 Students	27% 4 Students	20% 3 Students	13% 2 Students
0 In Progress	Above	20% 3 Students	13% 2 Students	40% 4 Students	0% 0 Students	20% 3 Students	7% 1 Student

Beginning of Year		Letter Names	Phonemic Awareness	Letter Sounds	Decoding	Word Reading	Reading Accuracy	Reading Fluency	Vocabulary	Spelling	Phonological Processing
Grade 1	Composite Goal 331	LNF Goal 51	PSF Goal 39	NWF-CLS Goal 42	NWF-WRC Goal 8	WRF Goal 15	ORF-Accu Goal 67%	ORF Goal 21	VOCAB Goal 23	SPELL Goal 23	RAN Goal 62
Ashley, Emma	324 Below	55 Benchmark	46 Benchmark	45 Benchmark	6 Below	12 Below	70% Benchmark	21 Benchmark	—	—	—
Baldwin, Freddie	338 Benchmark	64 Benchmark	43 Benchmark	53 Above	16 Above	19 Benchmark	76% Benchmark	37 Above	—	—	—
Beil, Jon	313 Well Below	48 Below	21 Well Below	36 Below	3 Below	7 Well Below	63% Below	12 Below	9 Well Below	22 Below	224 Well Below
Bush, Tami	355 Above	84 Benchmark	66 Above	72 Above	13 Benchmark	26 Above	94% Benchmark	48 Above	—	—	—
Chandler, Verna	296 Well Below	37 Well Below	16 Well Below	13 Well Below	0 Well Below	0 Well Below	Discard'd	Discard'd	—	—	—

3 How does DIBELS 8th Edition support screening for dyslexia risk?

DIBELS 8th Edition measures have been updated based on the latest research to be stronger measures of processing speed, phonological awareness, and alphabetic principles for dyslexia screening purposes. DIBELS 8th Edition can be used with our additional dyslexia screening measures (RAN, Spelling, Vocabulary) to provide additional information regarding difficulties that may be associated with risk for dyslexia.

4

How have the measures and scoring been revised?

Measures have been updated based on the latest research to meet increased standards of reliability and validity. Adaptive procedures and discontinue rules focus assessment on the priority skills and prevent overtesting.

Summary of changes:

- Consistent measures within grades will provide improved growth measurement.
- All subtests have been revised to be grade-specific and to increase in difficulty, covering a full progression of skills and minimizing floor and ceiling effects. This provides the opportunity for students to demonstrate what they know and further pinpoint what they don't know.
- Phoneme Segmentation Fluency replaces First Sound Fluency. The expanded coverage minimizes floor effect and provides information about difficulty in PA skills without the additional FSF measure.
- A new subtest, Word Reading Fluency, can help identify students with poor sight word reading skills that other subtests miss.
- For all measures, the basic scoring procedures remain the same. For NWF, credit is given for recoding words as whole words even if the student misses in the first attempt.
- Oral Reading Fluency is now only one passage, instead of three. Retell has been removed. Thus, ORF assessment will take a third of the time.

5

Now that the assessment has been designed to be more efficient, how much time will it take?

The following administration times are expected, but may vary with the addition of measure and assessment discontinue rules.

- One minute per individually administered measure
- Three minutes for a Maze (formerly Daze) group administration
- One additional minute per administration for instructions and setup

In the fall and winter of kindergarten and the fall of first grade, rules for discontinuing benchmark assessment apply; the times for discontinued assessments are also provided.

Per student administration times for mCLASS with DIBELS 8th Edition

Grade	Measure	Discontinued assessment time	Complete assessment time
K	LNF, PSF, NWF, WRF	3 minutes	5 minutes
G1	LNF, PSF, NWF, WRF, ORF	5 minutes	6 minutes
G2–3	NWF, WRF, ORF, Maze	4 minutes + 4 minutes for whole class	
G4–6	ORF, Maze	2 minutes + 4 minutes for whole class	

6

How are mCLASS results used to personalize instruction? What instructional content is available, driven by assessment data?

mCLASS analyzes student response patterns to DIBELS 8th Edition subtests, identifies areas of need, and recommends targeted instruction for each student and small group. Instructional recommendations are adjusted based on both student benchmarking and progress monitoring data.

mCLASS Intervention (formerly Burst®:Reading) uses DIBELS 8th Edition assessment data to group students based on similar needs and generate rigorous, teacher-led intervention lessons.

mCLASS: Amplify Reading Edition uses students' overall risk levels to place them in Amplify Reading instruction. Amplify Reading teaches literacy skills through a captivating game world. This adaptive, research-based program immerses each student in the most appropriate language, decoding, and comprehension activities and differentiates instruction based on progress.

7

What are the rationale and the impact of decreasing the number of ORF passages from three to one?

DIBELS 8th Edition marks the first time that Oral Reading Fluency requires the administration of just one passage per benchmark period. Research has shown that administering more than one passage does little to improve the reliability and validity of ORF (Baker et al., 2015; Petscher & Kim, 2011). Rather, a single passage works just as well, and it reduces the testing burden for both students and assessors. ORF scores will be equated to account for the variability in difficulty across passages. More information is available in the technical manual and on the University of Oregon website, within the ORF section and equating section at the bottom.

8

Will Pathways of Progress still be available?

Pathways of Progress has been replaced with Zones of Growth (ZoG), which uses a similar framework for evaluating goal types and rate of growth.

- Student benchmark results from one TOY to the next will be evaluated to inform the growth rate using five percentile levels.
- Criteria for each goal type will display based on each student's composite score for a given period (BOY or MOY).

9

Is there a technical paper to document the reliability and validity of DIBELS 8th Edition?

The [technical manual](#) is available on the University of Oregon website.

10 What will happen to prior years' Acadience Reading results in student summaries and aggregate reports? Will there be guidance for comparing Acadience Reading and DIBELS 8th Edition results?

Historical Acadience Reading data will continue to be available at the student and aggregate level, accessible from the mCLASS reports. For student-level data, a link in the report will direct educators to Acadience Reading data from previous years. For aggregate reporting, administrators will be able to see data for Acadience Reading or DIBELS 8th edition based on the selected school year. Student results will be reported separately and not side by side, as they are based on different versions of the assessment and have different scores.

We will also provide information on how the Acadience Reading measures relate to the DIBELS 8th Edition measures, so educators can apply that knowledge to understand the differences..

11 Are updates being made to IDEL?

We are actively working with the University of Oregon on the next edition of IDEL based on updated research that better supports the linguistic structure and development of Spanish. In the meantime, the current version of IDEL will continue to be available.



How do I plan for my upgrade?

1

How much will it cost to upgrade?

Licenses: License prices will not increase. Contact your Amplify representative for pricing.

Materials: DIBELS 8th Edition has all new materials. These materials are available for purchase at a reduced cost from prior years at \$47 per kit, regardless of grade. These materials can also be downloaded free and printed from the University of Oregon DIBELS website.

Training: You will have the option to select from a variety of professional development opportunities: a self-paced online course, low-cost remote sessions, or in-depth in-person sessions delivered directly to educators or through a Training of Trainers approach.

2

What training will my staff need?

Teachers and administrators will need to become familiar with the changes to the measures, reports, and instructional tools. They'll need to develop fluency in administering and scoring based on new standardized guidelines, interpret student data, and identify and plan instruction using skills-focused lessons available through mCLASS.

The topics for these videos include: overview of mCLASS upgrades, basic early literacy skills, understanding your mCLASS data, forming groups and delivering small group instruction, progress monitoring, Zones of Growth, and mCLASS Instruction.

We will also provide paid, live training in the form of remote webinars and in-person sessions as well as a self-paced online course:

- Half-day upgrade training: remote (\$750) and in-person (\$2500)
- One-day upgrade training: remote (\$1000) and in-person (\$3200)
- One-day Training of Trainers upgrade training: remote (\$1000) and in-person (\$3200)
- Six-hour upgrade training: online course (\$49 per person)

3

Can we implement DIBELS 8th Edition with one school and phase in others afterward?

Districts must implement DIBELS 8th Edition in all schools at the beginning of the school year. We currently do not plan to support partial implementations.

Due to the differences between Acadience Reading and DIBELS 8th Edition, the same assessment should be used throughout the school year to ensure consistency in the analysis of student progress and for planning instruction.

4

What next steps should we take to move forward with our upgrade?

Contact your Amplify representative or email renewals@amplify.com as soon as possible so we can help you implement a careful transition plan that ensures your schools will be ready for the beginning of the school year.

5

How can I learn more about DIBELS 8th Edition?

If you missed our webinars exploring the new mCLASS and DIBELS 8th Edition, please see our recorded presentation [**mCLASS with DIBELS 8th Edition Updates**](#). This presentation discusses the benefits of upgrading to DIBELS 8th Edition, including improvements to the data and instructional support for teachers.

Our [**Acadience Reading to DIBELS 8th Edition comparison sheet**](#) also provides detailed information on what to expect from your upgrade.

6

Will my existing devices work with the upgraded mCLASS?

The device and operating system requirements for mCLASS with DIBELS 8th Edition are specified on our [**Customer Requirements page**](#).

Using unsupported devices will result in limited functionality and the resulting issues will not be addressed by our support team.

7

Is student online administration available for DIBELS 8th Edition?

Observational testing is the most developmentally appropriate way to assess early literacy skills. Teachers gain rich information about students' abilities by listening to them read and noting, for example, hesitation on certain words, reading with accuracy at a sufficient pace, and prosody for understanding. As students grow in their foundational reading skills, online testing may be appropriate for older students with sufficient self-regulation and computer skills. Teachers have the option to assess Maze Benchmarking and Maze Progress monitoring online.

How do I learn more?

We are ready to address your questions. Contact your Amplify representative or renewals@amplify.com.

In addition, the DIBELS 8th Edition [assessment manual](#) is available online, and the full set of assessment materials can be downloaded from the [University of Oregon DIBELS website](#).

