



## Early Years Evaluation – Teacher Assessment

Successful learning takes place when children are supported by families, schools, and communities.

Learning to read is the critical challenge of the primary grades (K-3). Children must learn to read by grade three so that they can read to learn in grade four and beyond. However, in Canada and the US about 25% of children encounter significant difficulty learning to read. When these children reach the fourth grade, they do not read fluently enough to grasp what is being instructed. Although there are many reasons children do not learn to read well during the primary grades, the consequences are uniformly negative - they affect academic and social functioning, both during and beyond the school years.

To teach students to read early and well, classroom teachers must determine students' competency levels across multiple domains of early learning. Research suggests that classroom-based assessment positively affects student outcomes when it is frequent, formative, and instructionally relevant. The EYE-TA provides systematic frameworks teachers can use during the kindergarten year to structure their frequent observations and informal assessments.

The EYE-TA assists teachers by providing formative and instructionally relevant information. For example, the EYE-TA results can be used in combination with other assessments to identify students who are encountering difficulty and discern the type and amount of support required in a 'response-to-intervention' (RTI) program.

### One administration = Multiple uses in the language of your choice

We recognize the need for data at all levels in education - from the provincial level where it is used to write and evaluate education policies, to the classroom teacher who uses it to guide instruction and evaluate interventions, and finally to parents who are interested in the development and well-being of their children. Immediate reporting in English, French or Spanish, unique to each audience, means that data is timely, meaningful, and cost-effective.

### What does the EYE-TA assess?

#### **Awareness of Self and Environment**

A child's understanding of the world and his or her ability to make connections with home and community experiences.

#### **Social Skills and Approaches to Learning**

A child's attentiveness during classroom activities and his or her ability to interact with peers while respecting the classroom rules.

#### **Cognitive Skills**

A child's basic math and pre-reading skills and his or her ability to solve problems.

#### **Language and Communication**

A child's understanding of spoken language and his or her ability to express thoughts and feelings.

#### **Physical Development**

*Fine motor:* A child's ability to perform small movements that require hand-eye coordination.

*Gross motor:* A child's ability to perform large movements that involve arms, legs, and body.