

# UNDERSTANDING THE EARLY LITERACY SCREENER

## EARLY LITERACY SCREENER

In alignment with state guidance, beginning in the 2021-22 school year, school districts must screen students in Grades K-2 for gaps in literacy skill(s) development that may be associated with dyslexia.

The implementation of iReady used for Grade K-2 assessment already aligns West Valley School District with state expectations. In addition, West Valley's district assessment calendar aligns with OSPI's recommended administration.

To learn more about the state requirement, please read below and/or visit the district website.

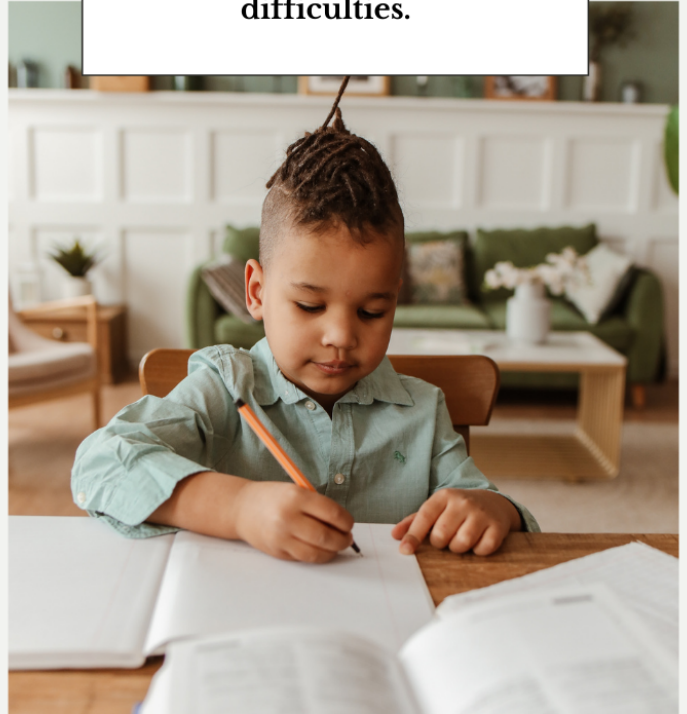
## WHY IS MY CHILD BEING SCREENED?

Early and intense intervention to address reading difficulties is the best way to prevent early problems from becoming more severe over time. With early identification and early intervention students at risk for reading difficulties, including dyslexia, can succeed in school and graduate ready for college, career, and civic life.



## WHAT IS AN ACADEMIC SCREENER?

A short, informal test that is given to all students to determine whether further testing is needed. **Not a formal evaluation for learning difficulties.**



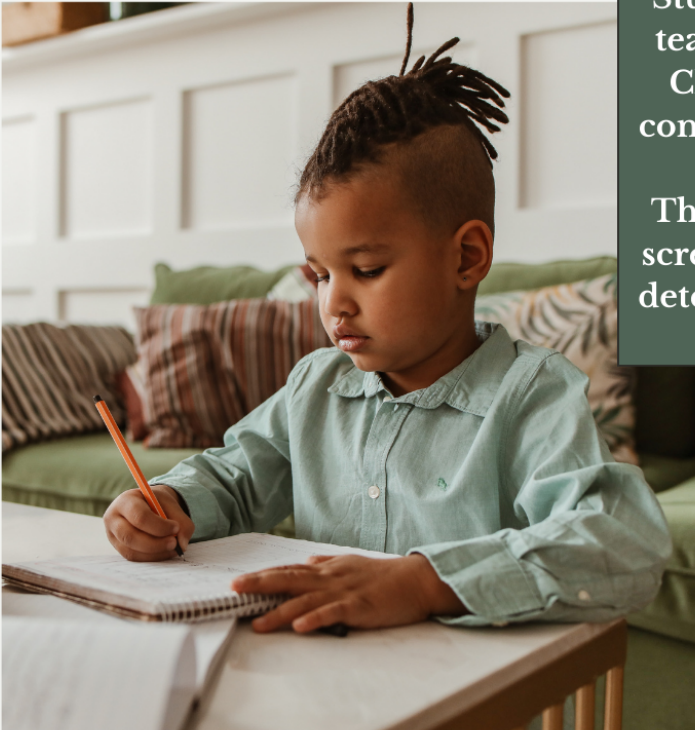
## WHAT ARE WEST VALLEY'S ACADEMIC SCREENERS?

OSPI, on behalf of the state Dyslexia Advisory Council, has recommended screening tools, including iReady and RAN/RAS published by Gander, both currently in implementation in West Valley. Literacy screening tools should assess the following skills, as required by statute:

- Phonemic Awareness
- Phonological Awareness
- Letter Sound Knowledge
- Rapid Automatized Naming (RAN)

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## WHO WILL ADMINISTER THE SCREENING?



Students will be screened by their classroom teachers and/or building reading specialists. Children do their best work when they are comfortable and feel safe with familiar adults.

The information that teachers learn through screening will help them plan instruction and determine when additional support is needed.

West Valley educators are already trained in the i-Ready screening tool.

Students who demonstrate potential areas of growth on the initial screener will receive additional interventions and their progress will be monitored.

As always, families will be engaged in decision making and updated on student progress.

## WHAT IS THE PROCESS?

OSPI and Dyslexia Advisory Council has published a recommended timeline for the literacy skills in each grade from K-2. Phonological Awareness, Phonemic Awareness, and Letter Sound Knowledge should be administered each year to students in all three grade levels.

Rapid Automatized Naming (RAN) is administered in the student's Kindergarten or first grade school year if indicated need on i-Ready.

iReady is already implemented in West Valley and RAN by Gander will be implemented in the 2022 screening.

