

## Verizon Life Span Literacy Matrix: Elementary School Literacy Measures

### **Test — Phonological Awareness and Literacy Screening – 1st - 3rd Grade (PALS-1-3)**

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**Purpose** — PALS 1-3 measures young children's knowledge of important literacy fundamentals.

**Population** — PALS 1-3 is designed to be used with children in grades one,, two, and three.

**Time** — There are no time limits, but each student should be assessed within a two-week window.

#### **Description**

PALS 1-3 is used to screen and identify students in need of additional instruction based on the entry level test scores and to diagnose specific skill deficits in students whose entry level scores do not meet grade-level criteria. Level A: the Oral Reading in Context task is used to assess three measures of oral reading fluency (a) oral reading accuracy, (b) phrasing, intonation, and expression and (c) reading rate. Students whose entry level scores do not meet grade level criteria are further assessed with Level B: Alphabetics—Alphabet Recognition, Letter Sounds and Concept of Word. If Level B benchmarks are not met, children are assessed using Level C: Phonemic Awareness—Blending and Sound-to-Letter,

#### **Benefits**

PALS 1-3 can be used as a diagnostic tool to provide teachers with explicit information to help guide their teaching.

#### **Validity/Reliability**

Reliability and validity measures have been regularly gathered since 1997, and are well within expected ranges. Predictive validity measures have been conducted using the Stanford-9 (required of students in Virginia) as well as subsequent measures gathered using the PALS 1-3.

#### **Cost**

PALS materials are available in two forms to allow for alternating forms each school year.

- PALS 1-3 Teacher Set (includes materials for a teacher to screen 25 students in fall and spring and a PALS 1-3 Assessment Training CD) - \$95.00
- PALS 1-3 Consumable Set (materials to replace the consumable materials of a Teacher Set, replacement materials for fall and spring for 25 students) - \$30

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### Source

This document is a summary of information found on the publisher's Web site and the Southwest Educational Development Laboratory, Reading Resources, Reading Assessment Data Base @ <http://www.sedl.org/cgi-bin/mysql/rad.cgi?searchid=185>

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<http://pals.virginia.edu/PALS-Instruments/PALS-1-3.asp>