

Learning to Read: A Review of Research on Growth in Reading Skills

Gerald Tindal, P. Shawn Irvin, Joseph F. T. Nese
Behavioral Research and Teaching
College of Education – UO

Funding Acknowledgements

Funds for the data set used to generate this report came from a federal grant awarded to the UO from the Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education:

- Reliability and Validity Evidence for Progress Measures in Reading (R324A100014 funded from June 2010 - June 2014)
- National Center on Assessment and Accountability for Special Education (R32C110004 funded from July 2011 - June 2016).

Disclosure

- We are the authors of easyCBM but have the assigned copyright to the University of Oregon.
- Riverside is the exclusive distributor of easyCBM and provides extensive training and support.
- As authors, we make no profit on this product; income (if any) goes to the UO → BRT to support further research on RTI systems.
- At this point, we have invested approximately 7 million dollars in research and development of easyCBM.

Attention to Oral Reading Fluency

- **ORF growth using CBM** (Fuchs, Fuchs, & Compton, 2004; Wayman, Wallace, Wiley, Tich'a, & Espin, 2007)
- **Complex phenomena** (Ardoin & Christ, 2008; Christ, Silberglitt, Yeo, & Cormier, 2010; Deno, Fuchs, Marston, & Shin, 2001; Graney, Missall, Martínez, & Bergstrom, 2009; Nese et al., 2012; Speece, Ritchey, Cooper, Roth, & Schatschneider, 2004)
- **Profoundly impacted interpretation of student achievement and growth targets**

A nod to Mark Twain

“What is needed is that each letter of the alphabet shall have a perfectly definite sound, and that this sound shall never be changed or modified without the addition of an accent, or other visible sound...But the English alphabet is pure insanity. It can hardly spell any word in the language with any degree of certainty” (Twain, 1942, pp. 168-169)

Early Literacy Measurement

- **The Big Five** (National Institutes of Child Health and Human Development, 2000)
- **NCLB and the *Reading First* initiative - Grade 3 proficiency** (Committee on Education and Labor, 2001)

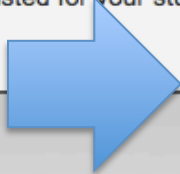
“...additional research is needed to examine the tenability of reading tasks that address an earlier phase of reading” (Fuchs, et al., 2004, p. 7)

Skill Relations

- Early fluency/sublexical skills (e.g., letter sounds, phoneme awareness) predict later skills (e.g., word reading, ORF, comprehension) (Linklater, O'Connor, and Palardy, 2009; Speece, Ritchey, Cooper, Roth and Schatschneider, 2004; Stage, Sheppard, Davidson, and Browning, 2001)
- Complex and interrelation of early graphemic and phonic reading fluency components – letter sound fluency as a bridge to higher order skills (Ritchey and Speece, 2006)


Measures on easyCBM

Select the grade level difficulty of the measure you want to access, then scroll to its section. For measures that can be administered online, have your students go to <http://4j.or.easycbm.com/brtadmin> and follow the on-screen instructions. For Benchmark measures, your district admin must enable them before they'll show up for your students. For Progress Monitoring measures, mark the checkbox next to each measure you want listed for your students. An answer key for the Benchmark measures is provided below.




Benchmarks


Progress Monitoring



[Enter Fall Scores](#)



[Enter Winter Scores](#)



[Enter Spring Scores](#)

Combined Booklets:

	Reading	Math
K - 5th Grade	Student Copies Assessor Copies	Student Copies
6th - 8th Grade	Student Copies Assessor Copies	Student Copies
9th Grade	Student Copies Assessor Copies	
All Answer Keys		

By Grade: [K](#) [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#) [6](#) [7](#) [8](#) [9](#)

Fall Tests

Passage Reading Fluency 3_Fall	Student Copy Assessor Copy
Vocabulary 3_Fall	Student Copy or Take Online
Reading Comprehension 3_Fall	Student Copy or Take Online
Math Computations 3_Fall	Student Copy or Take Online
Math Applications 3_Fall	Student Copy or Take Online

Kindergarten Literacy Measures

Student Copy

Form K-1

Student Copy

Form K-1

Letter Sounds

Letter Names

o	X	A	s	O	B	E	a	T	x
e	r	Z	S	L	t	R	N	p	C
m	D	P	n	F	I	M	f	K	i
k	c	G	v	z	W	U	h	Q	u
w	y	l	V	d	J	b	j	q	A
T	a	O	s	X	o	B	x	A	E
Z	L	N	r	S	p	t	e	C	R
K	M	F	P	m	i	f	I	n	D
W	h	u	v	c	k	G	z	U	Q
A	y	q	j	b	d	J	V	l	A

D	m	M	H	b	o	k	S	c
h	e	Z	O	U	z	n	A	T
J	t	G	N	l	a	r	L	y
f	I	th	Sh	Ch	z	qu	sh	wh
w	v	Th	ch	V	Ph	E	g	F
ph	s	i	X	R	Y	K	u	P
c	k	S	o	H	b	M	D	m
n	T	A	U	z	O	e	Z	h
y	r	L	g	l	G	t	N	J
sh	qu	wh	z	Ch	th	I	Sh	f
V	u	E	g	F	w	v	Th	ch

Assessor Copy

Form K-1

Student Name: _____

Date: _____

Phoneme Segmenting

Procedures

This test is administered entirely orally. Do NOT show the student this scoring sheet. There is no student copy of this test because the student is listening and responding to the words supplied by the assessor.

Directions

Say to the student: "I am going to say a word, and you will give me the sounds you hear in that word. If I say *cap*, you will say /c/ /a/ /p/. If I say *it*, you will say /i/ /t/. If I say *top*, you will say /t/ /o/ /p/. Let's try."

Note: This is a 60 second timed test.

Scoring

- Underline each phoneme the student says correctly.
- Put a slash through each phoneme the student misses.
- Students are NOT penalized for saying extra phonemes.

Item	Teacher Says	Student Says	Number Correct	Item	Teacher Says	Student Says	Number Correct
1	paid	/p/ /ai/ /d/	___ / 3	11	strap	/s/ /t/ /r/ /a/ /p/	___ / 5
2	shirt	/sh/ /ir/ /t/	___ / 3	12	futile	/f/ /u/ /t/ /i/ /le/	___ / 5
3	tail	/t/ /ai/ /l/	___ / 3	13	bold	/b/ /o/ /l/ /d/	___ / 4
4	soak	/s/ /oə/ /k/	___ / 3	14	mean	/m/ /ea/ /n/	___ / 3
5	mint	/m/ /i/ /n/ /t/	___ / 4	15	pack	/p/ /a/ /ck/	___ / 3
6	metal	/m/ /e/ /t/ /əl/	___ / 4	16	mass	/m/ /ə/ /s/	___ / 3
7	smile	/s/ /m/ /i/ /le/	___ / 4	17	bent	/b/ /e/ /n/ /t/	___ / 4
8	send	/s/ /e/ /n/ /d/	___ / 4	18	home	/h/ /o/ /me/	___ / 3
9	spouse	/s/ /p/ /ou/ /se/	___ / 4	19	bide	/b/ /i/ /d/ /e/	___ / 3
10	clink	/c/ /l/ /i/ /n/ /k/	___ / 5				

Correct _____ / 70

© 2006 University of Oregon

© 2009 University of Oregon

© 2009 University of Oregon

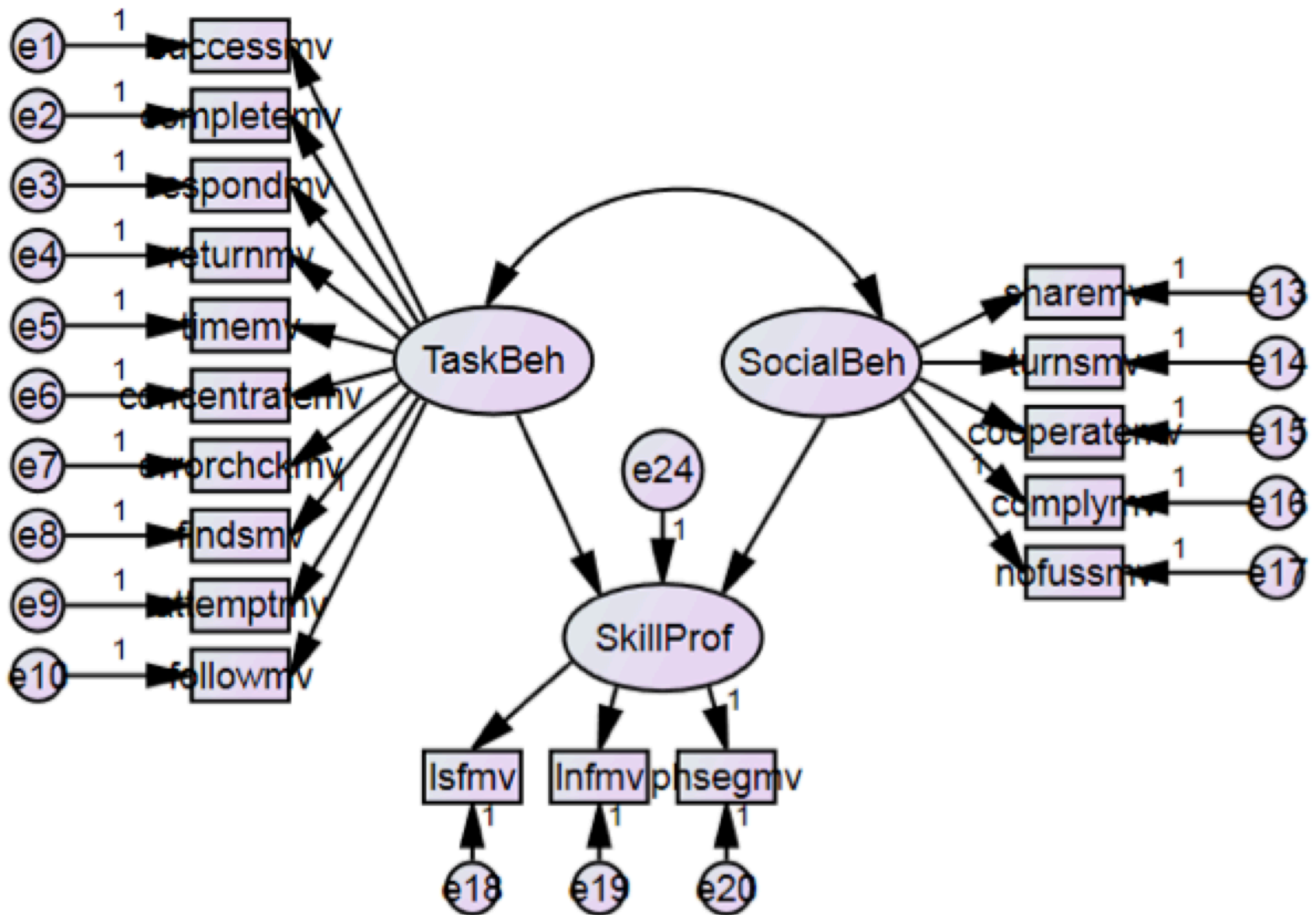


Table 6

Descriptive statistics for early literacy easyCBMs in kindergarten and grade one

Measure	<i>n</i>	Fall		Winter			Spring		
		<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>
<u>Kindergarten</u>									
Letter sounds	11,771	7.48	9.49	13,202	20.70	12.92	14,606	32.92	14.03
Phoneme segments	10,893	10.72	12.78	12,472	27.92	17.77	14,110	39.54	16.35
<u>Grade One</u>									
Letter sounds	12,989	27.90	12.35	13,976	40.76	13.49	14,282	45.41	13.82
Word reading fluency	13,252	18.27	20.22	14,856	30.10	23.07	15,322	47.45	25.04

Figure 2. Kindergarten Distributions for Letter Sounds and Phoneme Segments from Fall to Winter to Spring Performances

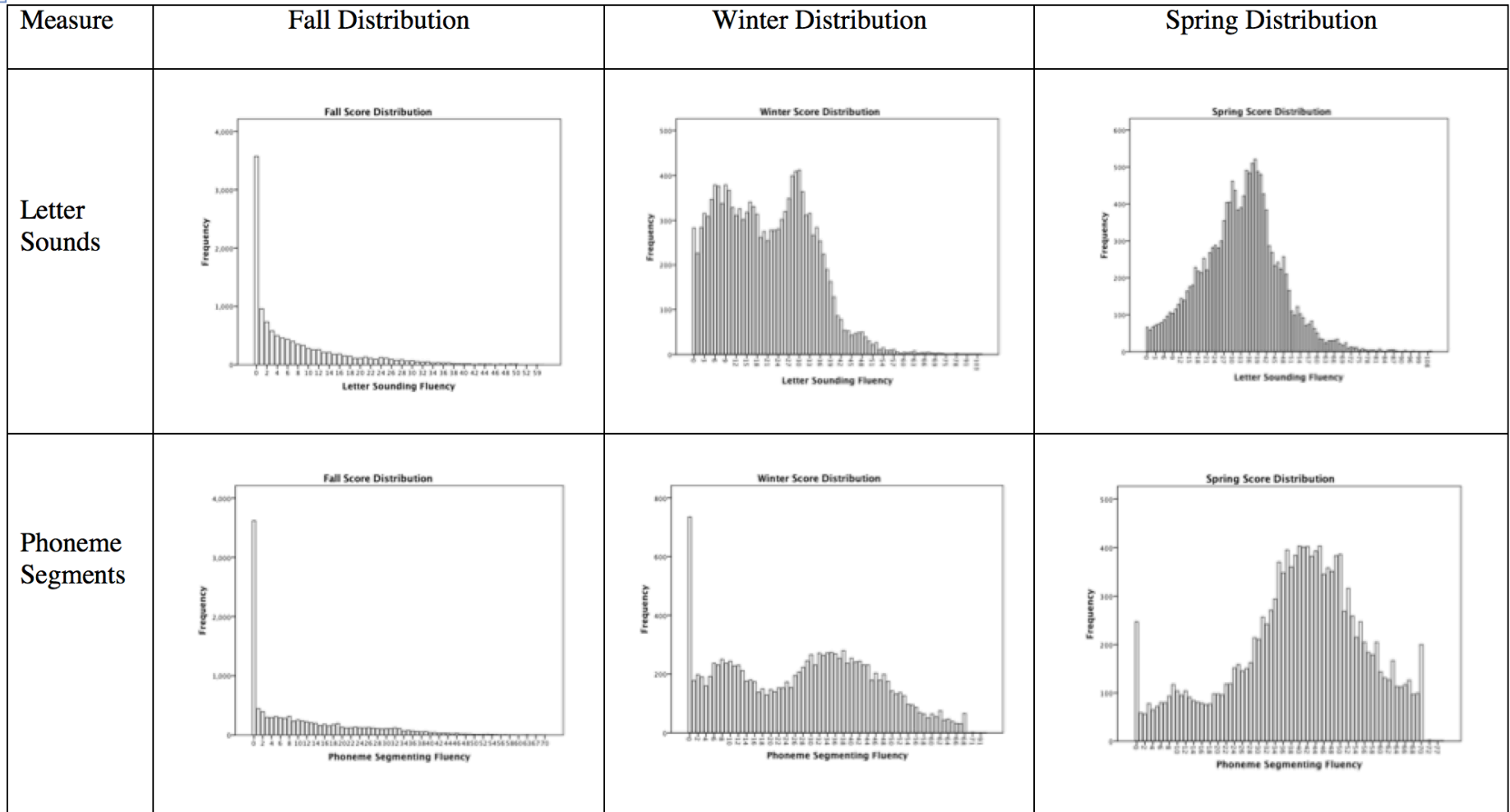


Figure 3. Grade 1 Distributions for Letter Sounds and Phoneme Segments for Fall, Winter, and Spring Performances

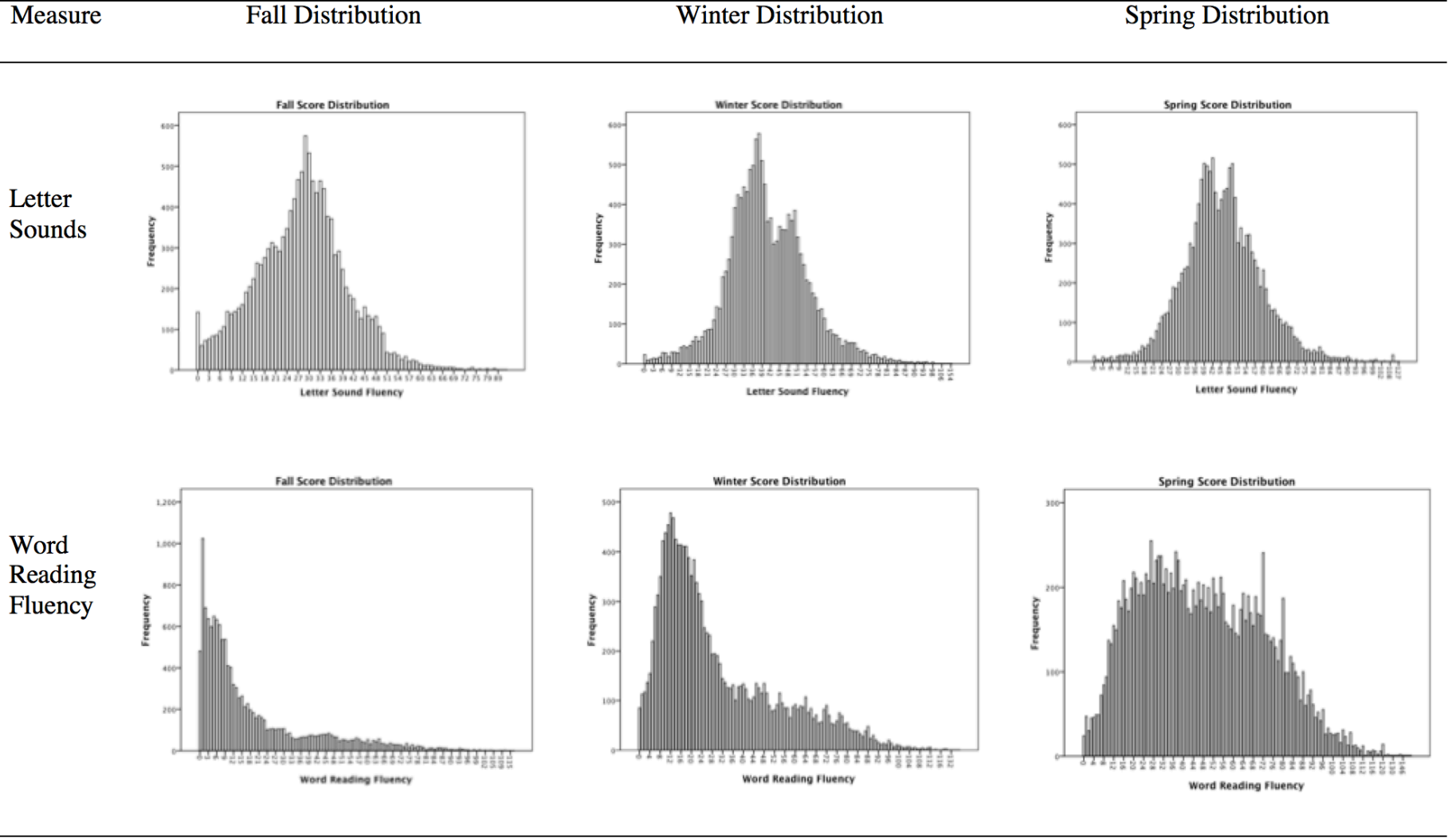


Table 7

Unconditional Model for Kindergarten Students – Letter Sounds

Fixed Effect	Coefficient	SE	<i>t</i>
Intercept	6.53	0.17	39.00
Slope	.72	.01	107.59

Note. Deviance = 80894.66 with six parameters.

Table 8

Two-level Conditional Model for Kindergarten Students – Letter Sounds

Fixed Effect	Coefficient	SE	<i>t</i> -ratio	<i>df</i>	<i>p</i>
Intercept					
INTRCPT	8.32	0.28	29.37	4610	<.001
SEX	-0.70	0.33	-2.09	4610	0.036
DISABILILTY	-3.42	0.47	-7.44	4610	0.000
ETHNICITY	-1.33	0.39	-3.51	4610	0.001
ELL	-5.09	0.40	-12.81	4610	<.001
Slope					
INTRCPT	0.74	0.01	67.24	4610	<.001
SEX	-0.02	0.01	-1.88	4610	0.059
DISABILITY	-0.22	0.02	-10.64	4610	<.001
ETHNICITY	0.01	0.02	0.81	4610	0.426
ELL	-0.01	0.02	-0.27	4610	0.785

Note. Chi square = 403.29, *df* = 8.

Table 11

Unconditional Model for Grade 1 Students – Letter Sounds

Fixed Effect	Coefficient	SE	<i>t</i>
Intercept	29.22	0.20	143.132
Slope	.49	.01	73.25

Note. Deviance = 96859.30 with six parameters.

Table 12

Two-Level Conditional Model for Grade 1 Students – Letter Sounds

Fixed Effect	Coefficient	SE	<i>t</i> -ratio	<i>df</i>	<i>p</i>
Intercept					
INTRCPT	32.11	0.32	101.84	4698	<.001
SEX	-1.24	0.39	-3.19	4698	0.002
DISABILILTY	-10.11	0.65	-15.53	4698	<.001
ETHNICITY	-0.61	0.48	-1.31	4698	0.191
ELL	-6.34	0.65	-9.74	4698	<.001
Slope					
INTRCPT	0.48	0.01	44.28	4698	<.001
SEX	0.00	0.01	-0.20	4698	0.844
DISABILITY	0.04	0.02	2.14	4698	0.032
ETHNICITY	-0.03	0.02	-1.78	4698	0.077
ELL	0.17	0.02	6.62	4698	<.001

Note. Chi square = 498.43, *df* = 8, *p* < .001.

In Today's News and at AERA

"The 2011-2012 school year was the worst in a decade for progress in access to high-quality pre-K for America's children."

"The state of preschool in America is a state of emergency."

--Steven Barnett and colleagues, *The State of Preschool 2012*, National Institute for Early Education Research

A confluence of emphasis on early literacy by researchers and politicians that calls for more thorough investigation and explication.

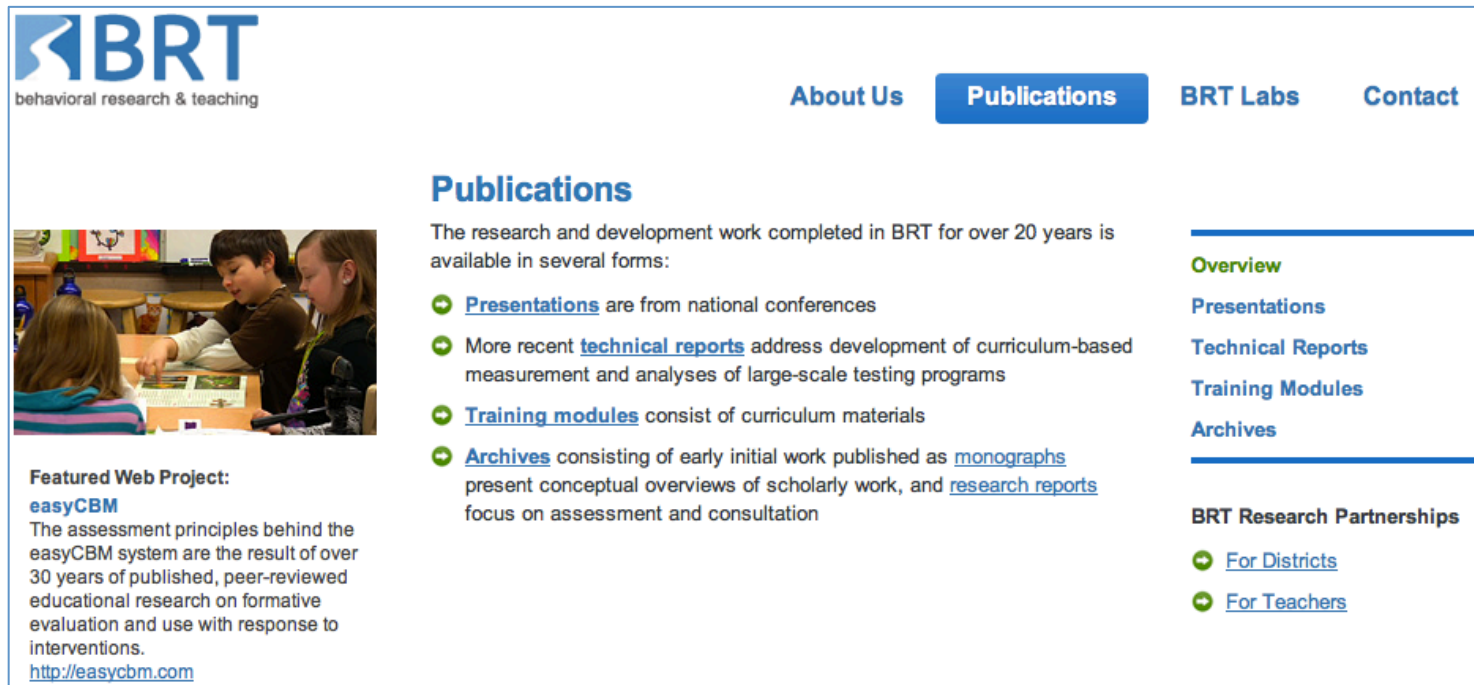
References

- Ardoin, S. P., & Christ, T. J. (2008). Evaluating curriculum-based measurement slope estimates using data from triannual universal screenings. *School Psychology Review, 37*(1), 109-125.
- Barnett, W.S., Carolan, M.E., Fitzgerald, J., & Squires, J.H. (2012). *The state of preschool 2012: State preschool yearbook*. New Brunswick, NJ: National Institute for Early Education Research.
- Committee on Education and Labor. (2001). *No Child Left Behind* (1st ed.). Washington, DC, USA: Government Printing Office.
- Deno, S., Fuchs, L. S., Marston, D., & Shin, J. (2001). Using curriculum-based measurement to establish growth standards for students with learning disabilities. *School Psychology Review, 30*(4), 507-524.
- Fuchs, L. S., Fuchs, D., & Compton, D. L. (2004). Monitoring early reading development in first grade: Word identification fluency versus nonsense word fluency. *Exceptional Children, 71*(1), 7-21.
- Graney, S. B., Missall, K. N., Martínez, R. S., & Bergstrom, M. (2009). A preliminary investigation of within-year growth patterns in reading and mathematics curriculum-based measures. *Journal of School Psychology, 47*(2), 121-142.
- Linklater, D. L., O'Connor, R. E., & Palardy, G. J. (2009). Kindergarten literacy assessment of English Only and English language learner students: an examination of the predictive validity of three phonemic awareness measures. *Journal of School Psychology, 47*(6), 369–394. doi: 10.1016/j.jsp.2009.08.001
- National Institutes of Child Health and Human Development. (2000). Report of National Reading Panel: Teaching children to read: An evidence-based assessment of the scientific literature on reading and its implications for reading instruction *Report of the Subgroups*. Washington, DC.
- Nese, J. F. T., Biancarosa, G., Anderson, D., Lai, C.-F., Alonzo, J., & Tindal, G. (2012). Within-year oral reading fluency with CBM: A comparison of models. *Reading and Writing: An Interdisciplinary Journal, 25*(4), 887-915.
- Ritchey, K. D., & Speece, D. L. (2006). From letter names to word reading: The nascent role of sublexical fluency. *Contemporary Educational Psychology, 31*(3), 301-327.
- Speece, D. L., Ritchey, K. D., Cooper, D. H., Roth, F. P., & Schatschneider, C. (2004). Growth in early reading skills from kindergarten to third grade. *Contemporary Educational Psychology, 29*, 312-332. doi: 10.1016/j.cedpsych.2003.07.001
- Twain, M. (1942). Simplified spelling. In B. DeVoto (Ed.), *Letters from the earth: Uncensored writings*. New York: HarperCollins.
- Wayman, M. M., Wallace, T., Wiley, H. I., Tich'a, R., & Espin, C. (2007). Literature synthesis on curriculum-based measurement in reading. *The Journal of Special Education, 41*(2), 85-120. doi: 10.1177/00224669070410020401

For More Information

<http://www.brtprojects.org>

<http://easyCBM.com>



The screenshot shows the BRT website's Publications page. The BRT logo is in the top left, and navigation links for 'About Us', 'Publications', 'BRT Labs', and 'Contact' are in the top right. The 'Publications' link is highlighted. Below the navigation is a section titled 'Publications' with a sub-header 'Publications'. The main text states that research and development work completed in BRT for over 20 years is available in several forms: Presentations, Technical Reports, Training Modules, and Archives. A 'Featured Web Project' section highlights 'easyCBM' as the assessment principles behind the easyCBM system, based on 30 years of published, peer-reviewed educational research. A list of links on the right side includes Overview, Presentations, Technical Reports, Training Modules, Archives, BRT Research Partnerships, For Districts, and For Teachers. A photograph of three children in a classroom is also visible.

BRT
behavioral research & teaching

[About Us](#) **Publications** [BRT Labs](#) [Contact](#)

Publications

The research and development work completed in BRT for over 20 years is available in several forms:

- [Presentations](#) are from national conferences
- More recent [technical reports](#) address development of curriculum-based measurement and analyses of large-scale testing programs
- [Training modules](#) consist of curriculum materials
- [Archives](#) consisting of early initial work published as [monographs](#) present conceptual overviews of scholarly work, and [research reports](#) focus on assessment and consultation

Featured Web Project:
easyCBM
The assessment principles behind the easyCBM system are the result of over 30 years of published, peer-reviewed educational research on formative evaluation and use with response to interventions.
<http://easycbm.com>

[Overview](#)
[Presentations](#)
[Technical Reports](#)
[Training Modules](#)
[Archives](#)

BRT Research Partnerships

- [For Districts](#)
- [For Teachers](#)