Fluency Assessment Guidelines

What is ORF?

ORF (Oral Reading Fluency) is the combination of reading rate and accuracy.

How do I Calculate an ORF Score?

The score can be attained by listening to the child read aloud from a novel grade level passage for one minute. The teacher follows along, records errors and marks the last word the child read when the minute ends.

The teacher then calculates the score using this equation: **Words read in one minute – errors = Words correct per minute or WCPM**

If a student reads an entire passage in less than a minute use this equation: **60 seconds x Words read correctly / Seconds read = WCPM**

Example: David is a 2nd grade student. He read 84 words in one minute. He made 7 mistakes. 84–7=77 WCPM. His ORF score is 77 WCPM.

What Happens After Calculating the ORF Score?

Compare a student's ORF score or WCPM to national norms to get a picture of their performance by grade level. You can use the Oral Reading Fluency Norms from Hasbrouck and Tindal in the table on page 2.

Example: if David was assessed in the fall, he is between the 50th and 75th percentile for his grade. He is within the expected grade level range for the that time of year.

What If a Students Scores Below the 50th Percentile?

If a student scores significantly below the 50th percentile they need to be further assessed using diagnostic assessments that measure decoding and phonological awareness skills.

Hasbrouck & Tindal Words Correct Per Minute Oral Reading Fluency Norms**
Words Per Minute (WPM)

GRADE	PERCENTILE	FALL	WINTER	SPRING
1	90	-	97	116
1	75	-	59	91
1	50	-	29	60
1	25	-	16	34
1	10	-	9	18
2	90	111	131	148
2	75	84	109	124
2	50	50	84	100
2	25	36	59	72
2	10	23	35	43
3	90	134	161	166
3	75	104	137	139
3	50	83	97	112
3	25	59	79	91
3	10	40	62	63
4	90	153	168	184
4	75	125	143	160
4	50	94	120	133
4	25	75	95	105
4	10	60	71	83
5	90	179	183	195
5	75	153	160	169
5	50	121	133	146
5	25	87	109	119
5	10	64	84	102
6	90	185	195	204
6	75	159	166	173
6	50	132	145	146
6	25	112	116	122
6	10	89	91	91

**Hasbrouck, J. & Tindal, G. (2017). *An update to compiled ORF norms (Technical Report No. 1702).* Eugene, OR: Behavioral Research and Teaching, University of Oregon.