



Fluency Checks All First Grade

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UFLI Foundations Unit Assessments: Fluency Checks

In response to requests from teachers and schools, UFLI is developing unit assessments to provide an overall picture of each student's reading development. The first of these assessments we have ready to pilot is the Fluency Check. As you use this pilot version, we welcome your [feedback](#).

Fluency is a key indicator of reading proficiency and the goal of foundational reading skills instruction. Fluency can be defined as accuracy, automaticity at both the word and text levels, and prosody. A dedicated fluency assessment passage is provided for each unit in the first and second grade scope and sequence to measure text-level automaticity. The fluency check passages are designed to measure oral reading fluency (ORF) using decodable passages that include concepts the student has learned so far. These can be used to track student progress and plan small group support.

Administration & Scoring. Fluency checks are intended to be used as a one-minute timing of student oral reading. They are administered individually. Each fluency check includes a teacher form and student form. Read the teacher form for administration and scoring directions.

Interpreting Scores. After completing the fluency check, the teacher will calculate how many words the student read correctly in the one-minute timing. This is the student's words correct per minute (WCPM) score. Until we have had the opportunity to develop our own criteria, we recommend using the Hasbrouck and Tindal (2017) ORF norms for first and second grade (see table).

Grade	Percentile	Fall WCPM*	Winter WCPM*	Spring WCPM*
1	90		97	116
	75		59	91
	50		29	60
	25		16	34
	10		9	18
2	90	111	131	148
	75	84	109	124
	50	50	84	100
	25	36	59	72
	10	23	35	43

According to Hasbrouck and Tindal (2017), norms begin in Winter of first grade and the 50th percentile is a measure of average performance. For example, in Spring of 1st grade the 50th percentile, or average, is 60 WCPM. In Spring of 2nd grade, it is 100 WCPM. A score considerably below the 50th percentile indicates the student likely needs additional support.

Using Fluency Data. We recommend using fluency data to inform instructional decisions. We *do not* recommend using fluency scores as grades, and for this reason, we do not provide benchmark or mastery criteria. For information about how to support students in developing their reading fluency, see our [Fluency Support Guide](#).

Hasbrouck, J., & Tindal, G. (2017). *An update to compiled ORF norms* (No. 1702). Technical report.

Directions

Fluency Checks should be conducted at least one week *after* the completion of a unit.

Place the student copy of the passage in front of the student. Point to the passage and say **You are going to read this story out loud. If you come to a word you don't know, I will tell it to you. Keep reading until I tell you to stop. It's okay if you don't read the whole story. Just do your best reading.**

Set a timer for 1 minute. Start the timer when the student begins reading. When you are ready, point to the first word of the first paragraph and say **You will start here** (point). **Please begin reading when you're ready.**

If the student pauses for 3 seconds, give them the word, and mark it as an error. If the student reads no words correctly in the first line, discontinue the assessment.

Draw a slash (/) through each error the student makes.

When 1 minute is up, note the last word the student read with a bracket (]) or line (|).

Plants Have Stems

Plants have stems. The stem of a plant helps the plant	11
stand up. If a plant is big, it has a big stem. If a plant is	27
not big, the stem is not big. Plants can have buds pop	39
up from the stem. If the plant gets lots of buds, the stem	52
can slump. If the stem slumps, the plant can not stand	63
up. But you can help! You can get a splint to fix the	76
slump. Strap the splint to the stem and see it help the	88
plant stand up.	91

Scoring

Calculate the total words correct by subtracting the errors from the total words read.

Total words read _____ **Total errors** _____ **Total words correct** _____

Plants Have Stems

Plants have stems. The stem of a plant helps the plant stand up. If a plant is big, it has a big stem. If a plant is not big, the stem is not big. Plants can have buds pop up from the stem. If the plant gets lots of buds, the stem can slump. If the stem slumps, the plant can not stand up. But you can help! You can get a splint to fix the slump. Strap the splint to the stem and see it help the plant stand up.

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The Rock Band

Chad sings his song with a twang. Ralph strums the	10
strings with his pick. Whit whacks the drums with his	20
sticks. "You should be in a rock band!" said Trish. "We	31
would," shrugs Chad. "We wish we could be," says	40
Ralph.	41
Trish thinks. "You should sing for Rich!" She goes to talk	52
to Rich about the gang. They were in luck. The gang	63
sang for Rich, and he thinks they rock. "This was a thrill!	75
Stick with me and I will help you be a big rock band."	88
Trish winks at Chad, Ralph, and Whit. They all thank Rich.	99

Scoring

Calculate the total words correct by subtracting the errors from the total words read.

Total words read _____ **Total errors** _____ **Total words correct** _____

The Rock Band

Chad sings his song with a twang. Ralph strums the strings with his pick. Whit whacks the drums with his sticks. “You should be in a rock band!” said Trish. “We would,” shrugs Chad. “We wish we could be,” says Ralph.

Trish thinks. “You should sing for Rich!” She goes to talk to Rich about the gang. They were in luck. The gang sang for Rich, and he thinks they rock. “This was a thrill! Stick with me and I will help you be a big rock band.” Trish winks at Chad, Ralph, and Whit. They all thank Rich.

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Get Fit for the Race

Tate and Duke love to run. Tate will be in a race next	13
June. His hope is to win. Duke will help him get in shape	26
for the race.	29
When Tate wakes up, he rides his bike to the track.	40
Duke tells Tate to run five laps at a fast pace. When	53
Tate is done, he takes a sip of his drink while Duke gives	66
him some tips. Next, Duke tells Tate to walk to the end	79
of the white line and then sprint back.	85
"My legs do not like those sprints," whines Tate. "Then	95
just jog in place," yells Duke. Tate jogs in place and	107
then sits on the grass.	111
"Here is some ice for your legs," says Duke. "Thanks,"	121
says Tate, "this race prep is no joke!" "We will get you in	134
shape one step at a time," says Duke with a smile.	145

Scoring

Calculate the total words correct by subtracting the errors from the total words read.

Total words read _____ **Total errors** _____ **Total words correct** _____

Get Fit for the Race

Tate and Duke love to run. Tate will be in a race next June. His hope is to win. Duke will help him get in shape for the race.

When Tate wakes up, he rides his bike to the track. Duke tells Tate to run five laps at a fast pace. When Tate is done, he takes a sip of his drink while Duke gives him some tips. Next, Duke tells Tate to walk to the end of the white line and then sprint back.

“My legs do not like those sprints,” whines Tate. “Then just jog in place,” yells Duke. Tate jogs in place and then sits on the grass.

“Here is some ice for your legs,” says Duke. “Thanks,” says Tate, “this race prep is no joke!” “We will get you in shape one step at a time,” says Duke with a smile.

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Math Class

I love all of my classes, but I think math is the best	13
subject. Miss Raven lets us have music on while testing.	23
We take tests on the class tablets. On the tablets, we	34
must add to find sums that equal one hundred. Miss	44
Raven insists we take the tests solo.	51
For me, basic problems take no time to solve. On the	62
last test, there was a long problem I did not think I could	75
solve. It felt like a secret I could not unlock. I was	87
tempted to give up, but I checked my math. At once I	99
could see what I missed. I fixed my mistake. When I	110
finished the test, I gave my tablet to Miss Raven. She	121
looked at the results and said that I passed!	130

Scoring

Calculate the total words correct by subtracting the errors from the total words read.

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Math Class

I love all of my classes, but I think math is the best subject. Miss Raven lets us have music on while testing. We take tests on the class tablets. On the tablets, we must add to find sums that equal one hundred. Miss Raven insists we take the tests solo.

For me, basic problems take no time to solve. On the last test, there was a long problem I did not think I could solve. It felt like a secret I could not unlock. I was tempted to give up, but I checked my math. At once I could see what I missed. I fixed my mistake. When I finished the test, I gave my tablet to Miss Raven. She looked at the results and said that I passed!

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Billy's Puppy

Billy was so happy! He was going to pick up his puppy	12
from the pet shop. Billy named his puppy Spy. Spy	22
would be Billy's best friend.	27
Spy is brindle which looks like wavy stripes along the	37
middle of his back. Spy loves to nibble on kibble and	48
see people walk by. Spy also likes to fetch. When Billy	50
tosses a ball, Spy runs fast to catch it.	68
Spy also likes to jump in cold puddles. But when Spy	79
jumps in the puddles, he gets so muddy! Mom told Billy	90
that Spy cannot come inside with muddy legs because	99
it will make a huge mess. When Spy gets muddy, Billy	110
scrubs his legs with a rag until they are nice and dry so	123
he can come inside.	127

Scoring

Calculate the total words correct by subtracting the errors from the total words read.

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Billy's Puppy

Billy was so happy! He was going to pick up his puppy from the pet shop. Billy named his puppy Spy. Spy would be Billy's best friend.

Spy is brindle which looks like wavy stripes along the middle of his back. Spy loves to nibble on kibble and see people walk by. Spy also likes to fetch. When Billy tosses a ball, Spy runs fast to catch it.

Spy also likes to jump in cold puddles. But when Spy jumps in the puddles, he gets so muddy! Mom told Billy that Spy cannot come inside with muddy legs because it will make a huge mess. When Spy gets muddy, Billy scrubs his legs with a rag until they are nice and dry so he can come inside.

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The Drift Car

In the morning, Kurt met his grandfather, Pop, at the	10
racetrack. Pop is a pro drift car driver. Drifting is a sport	22
where you drive fast and turn the tires of a car so that it	36
swerves to the side. Pop has been drifting since before	46
Kurt was born.	49
This morning, Kurt helped Pop add red pinstripes to	58
the body of one of his cars. Then he swept the dirt off	71
the underside of another car. It was hard work, but Kurt	82
loved spending time with his grandfather.	88
“Pop, when can I have a drift car?” Kurt asks. His	99
grandfather smiles at him and says, “Like I always say,	109
when you are older and taller.” Kurt stands up. He is	120
almost as tall as his grandfather. “I’m almost there!” Kurt	130
says with pride, “it will be so much fun to swerve across	142
this track with you.”	146

Scoring

Calculate the total words correct by subtracting the errors from the total words read.

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The Drift Car

In the morning, Kurt met his grandfather, Pop, at the racetrack. Pop is a pro drift car driver. Drifting is a sport where you drive fast and turn the tires of a car so that it swerves to the side. Pop has been drifting since before Kurt was born.

This morning, Kurt helped Pop add red pinstripes to the body of one of his cars. Then he swept the dirt off the underside of another car. It was hard work, but Kurt loved spending time with his grandfather.

“Pop, when can I have a drift car?” Kurt asks. His grandfather smiles at him and says, “Like I always say, when you are older and taller.” Kurt stands up. He is almost as tall as his grandfather. “I’m almost there!” Kurt says with pride, “it will be so much fun to swerve across this track with you.”

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The Green Monster

Have you ever been told the tale of the Green	10
Monster? It is tall and seems frightening. No, it's not a	21
real monster. It's a wall! That's right, the Green Monster	31
is a very tall green wall in Fenway Park. That's where the	43
Red Sox play baseball. The Green Monster is one of the	54
highest walls among all the baseball stadiums. It is thirty-	64
seven feet high and three hundred and ten feet from	73
home plate.	75
The Green Monster is so high that it prevents a lot of	87
home runs. You see, when a batter hits a line drive, the	99
ball almost always hits the wall instead of sailing above	109
it.	110
Each team that plays against the Red Sox in Fenway	120
Park is also playing against the Green Monster.	128
If you take a trip to Boston, the home of the Red Sox,	141
you might be able to see the Green Monster yourself. If	152
you go to a game, you could even sit in the monster	164
seats above the wall. What a sight that would be!	174

Scoring

Calculate the total words correct by subtracting the errors from the total words read.

Total words read _____ **Total errors** _____ **Total words correct** _____

The Green Monster

Have you ever been told the tale of the Green Monster? It is tall and seems frightening. No, it's not a real monster. It's a wall! That's right, the Green Monster is a very tall green wall in Fenway Park. That's where the Red Sox play baseball. The Green Monster is one of the highest walls among all the baseball stadiums. It is thirty-seven feet high and three hundred and ten feet from home plate.

The Green Monster is so high that it prevents a lot of home runs. You see, when a batter hits a line drive, the ball almost always hits the wall instead of sailing above it.

Each team that plays against the Red Sox in Fenway Park is also playing against the Green Monster.

If you take a trip to Boston, the home of the Red Sox, you might be able to see the Green Monster yourself. If you go to a game, you could even sit in the monster seats above the wall. What a sight that would be!

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Gone Fishing

Last Monday I went fishing. It was the first fishing trip I	12
took all month. I packed my cooler with ice and plenty	23
of room for the fish I wanted to catch. I also packed	35
some cheese and bread to use as bait.	43
I launched my boat into the lake and went to a new	55
spot. I put a hook on my line and cast it into the water.	69
While I waited for something to catch, I sat on the floor	81
of the boat and read my book.	88
When I felt the line tug, I jumped up to reel in my	101
catch. The line was heavy. I pulled and pulled, and	111
finally reeled it in. I caught a huge catfish. I would fry it	124
up nice. I started to drool just thinking about how good	135
it would be.	138
I hauled my boat out of the lake and put it on the	151
trailer to drive back home. As I closed the door to my	163
truck, I thought about how much I love fishing. If it was	175
up to me, I would spend every minute of every hour	186
fishing.	187

Scoring

Calculate the total words correct by subtracting the errors from the total words read.

Total words read _____ **Total errors** _____ **Total words correct** _____

Gone Fishing

Last Monday I went fishing. It was the first fishing trip I took all month. I packed my cooler with ice and plenty of room for the fish I wanted to catch. I also packed some cheese and bread to use as bait.

I launched my boat into the lake and went to a new spot. I put a hook on my line and cast it into the water. While I waited for something to catch, I sat on the floor of the boat and read my book.

When I felt the line tug, I jumped up to reel in my catch. The line was heavy. I pulled and pulled, and finally reeled it in. I caught a huge catfish. I would fry it up nice. I started to drool just thinking about how good it would be.

I hauled my boat out of the lake and put it on the trailer to drive back home. As I closed the door to my truck, I thought about how much I love fishing. If it was up to me, I would spend every minute of every hour fishing.

UFLI Foundations Fluency Check Diphthongs and Silent Letters Lessons 95-98

Directions

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The Bounce House

My birthday is in February, and I know what I want. I	12
have had my eye on this gift for a long time. I want it	26
with all my heart. Do you want to know what it is?	38
The gift I want more than anything is a bounce house.	49
Yes, that's right, I want a bounce house on the lawn in	61
my backyard. Some people may say I am too old for a	73
bounce house, but I know there is no age limit on fun.	85
The bounce house I want is a round tower. It has	96
clouds on the sides and a crown on the top. The door to	109
get in is small so you need to kneel down and crawl	121
inside.	122
When you are in the bounce house you can shout as	133
loud as you want. You can jump up and down or even	145
do flips. In the bounce house, there is no wrong way to	157
enjoy yourself.	159
I wrote down my birthday wish and shared it with you.	170
Now I hope this wish comes true.	177

Scoring

Calculate the total words correct by subtracting the errors from the total words read.

Total words read _____ **Total errors** _____ **Total words correct** _____

The Bounce House

My birthday is in February, and I know what I want. I have had my eye on this gift for a long time. I want it with all my heart. Do you want to know what it is?

The gift I want more than anything is a bounce house. Yes, that's right, I want a bounce house on the lawn in my backyard. Some people may say I am too old for a bounce house, but I know there is no age limit on fun.

The bounce house I want is a round tower. It has clouds on the sides and a crown on the top. The door to get in is small so you need to kneel down and crawl inside.

When you are in the bounce house you can shout as loud as you want. You can jump up and down or even do flips. In the bounce house, there is no wrong way to enjoy yourself.

I wrote down my birthday wish and shared it with you. Now I hope this wish comes true.

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The Walk Around Town

Today was the sunniest day of the week. The ladies	10
were busy, but it was so nice and sunny that they chose	22
to go running around town. As they jogged down to the	33
pond, they found a blueberry bush. They stopped to	42
pick the blueberries. These were the yummiest berries	50
they have ever eaten!	54
The ladies kept running down the path and three	63
fluffy bunnies scurried in front of them. Each one was	73
fluffier than the last. Then, they heard a laugh from a	84
jolly fellow. He was the jolliest fellow they have ever	94
seen! He was laughing at the muddy puppies swimming	103
in the pond. Each puppy was cuter than the last. All the	115
ladies were smiling now.	119
As the ladies reached the end of their run, they	129
spotted some pennies on the path. They were the	138
shiniest pennies they have ever seen! They were even	147
heads up, so they carried them home. "We sure are	157
some lucky ladies!" they said when they made it back	167
home. The ladies promised not to be too busy to go	178
running around town again.	182

Scoring

Calculate the total words correct by subtracting the errors from the total words read.

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The ladies kept running down the path and three fluffy bunnies scurried in front of them. Each one was fluffier than the last. Then, they heard a laugh from a jolly fellow. He was the jolliest fellow they have ever seen! He was laughing at the muddy puppies swimming in the pond. Each puppy was cuter than the last. All the ladies were smiling now.

As the ladies reached the end of their run, they spotted some pennies on the path. They were the shiniest pennies they have ever seen! They were even heads up, so they carried them home. "We sure are some lucky ladies!" they said when they made it back home. The ladies promised not to be too busy to go running around town again.