

Illinois Snapshots of Early Literacy (ISEL)

Good reading instruction is based on the ability of a teacher to identify the specific competencies and instructional needs of students. A large and growing body of research suggests that a student's failure to learn to read in the primary grades can be reduced with a quality reading intervention program.

The Illinois Snapshots of Early Literacy was designed as a classroom-based assessment to measure the *essential* literacy skills needed by students to be successful readers. Teachers in kindergarten, first and second grade use ISEL to:

- help identify the literacy competencies and needs of their students,
- guide in the design of meaningful instructional lessons,
- identify students who may need access to an early reading intervention program, and
- enable students to meet the Illinois Learning Standards, including Common Core

Development of the ISEL was funded by the Illinois State Board of Education. Accordingly, the assessment is available below, in downloadable PDF format free of charge to Illinois schools.

ISEL Documentation

Teacher's Guides* provide detailed directions for administration and scoring as well as guidelines for interpretation of data and implications for instruction.

[Download](#) ISEL K/1 Teacher's Guide

[Download](#) ISEL 2 Teacher's Guide

Technical Manuals* provide detailed design, technical, and statistical information, and all reliability and validity information.

[Download](#) ISEL K/1 Technical Manual

[Download](#) ISEL 2 Technical Manual

*Note that the norm tables included in the Teacher's Guides and Technical Manuals are as originally published in 2004. Download and use the current Norm tables below.

Norm Tables provide normed scores at the 10th through 90th percentiles for Fall, Winter and Spring test windows.

[Download](#) ISEL K/2 English Norms (2017)

[Download](#) Spanish ISEL K/2 norms (2017)

ISEL K/1 (V2) English only, Score sheet Packets and Administration Booklets

[Download](#) Form A Fall Score sheet Packet for kindergarten - one packet per child

[Download](#) Form A Winter Score sheet Packet for kindergarten - one packet per child

[Download](#) Form B Spring Score sheet Packet for kindergarten - one packet per child

[Download](#) Form A Fall Score sheet Packet for 1st Grade - one packet per child

[Download](#) Form A Winter Score sheet Packet for 1st Grade - one packet per child

[Download](#) Form B Spring Score sheet Packet for 1st Grade - one packet per child

[Download](#) Form A Fall/Winter Administration Booklet for kindergarten and first grade.

Contains assessment items administrator shows to student - one packet per administrator

[Download](#) Form B Spring Administration Booklet for kindergarten and first grade. Contains

assessment items administrator shows to student - one packet per administrator

ISEL 2 English Score sheet Packets and Administration Booklets

[Download](#) Form A Fall Score sheet Packet for 2nd Grade - one packet per child

[Download](#) Form A Fall Administration Booklet for 2nd grade contains assessment items administrator shows to student - one packet per administrator

[Download](#) Form B Spring Score sheet Packet for 2nd Grade - one packet per child

[Download](#) Form B Spring Administration Booklet for 2nd grade contains assessment items administrator shows to student - one packet per administrator

Spanish ISEL K/1 Score sheet Packets and Administration Booklets

[Download](#) Fall/Spring Score sheet Packet for kindergarten and first grade - one packet per child

[Download](#) Fall/Spring Administration Booklet for kindergarten and first grade. Contains assessment items administrator shows to student - one packet per administrator

Spanish ISEL 2 Score sheet Packets and Administration Booklets

[Download](#) Form A Fall Score sheet Packet for 2nd Grade - one packet per child

[Download](#) Form A Fall Administration Booklet for 2nd Grade contains assessment items administrator shows to student - one packet per administrator

[Download](#) Form B Spring Score sheet for 2nd Grade - one packet per child

[Download](#) Form B Spring Administration Booklet for 2nd Grade contains assessment items administrator shows to student - one packet per administrator

* ‘Little Book’ sets for ISEL-K/1 passage reading snapshot may be ordered by emailing isel-support@cntrmail.org or calling 224-366-8582.

ISEL test administration software and data management website has been developed by The Center: Resources for Teaching and Learning. These resources automate the scoring and reporting process. Both are available by annual subscription. For more information, send email to isel-support@cntrmail.org or call 224-366-8582.