

What's New in Kindergarten?

Across the state of Ohio, kindergarteners are participating in a new assessment, the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA). This assessment replaces the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment of Literacy (KRA-L).

How does the new Kindergarten Readiness Assessment work?

The KRA assesses more than language and literacy. It also looks at math, social studies, science, social foundations, and physical/motor development. There are three ways your child can show what he or she knows and can do when he/she enters kindergarten. Your child will:

- 1) Answer a question that has one correct answer. Example: The teacher will read a very short story and then ask questions about that story.
- 2) Complete an activity, such as sorting a set of objects in a specific way. The teacher notes your child's ability to complete the task. Your child does receive partial credit if he or she completes some, but not all of the activity, correctly.
- 3) In the third way, the teacher watches your child during everyday classroom activities and rates your child on a particular skill or knowledge. The teacher can observe a group of children on one or more activities as part of typical, daily classroom routines and activities.

Will my child use a computer?

Kindergarten students will not be required to complete any assessment activities using technology in 2014-15.

If your child does use a computer, his or her answers will go into an Online Reporting System that provides the teacher your child's results.

When will the assessment be given?

The assessment will be given throughout the months of September and October.

What do the results from this assessment mean for my child?

The results are not reported on a report card. They do not prohibit your child from being in kindergarten. The results provide a baseline of where your child is when entering kindergarten so that you and his or her teachers can individualize learning experiences for your child. The main goal of the readiness assessment is to increase your child's success in school.

As always, please contact your child's teacher if you have any questions—partnering with your child's school is just one more way to ensure success!