

**District Assessment of Reading Team (DART)**  
***Spring* Reading Assessment *OF* Learning**

**PROTOCOL for *Grade 3 Our Mighty Fraser River***

In this Spring Grade 3 DART Assessment students read selection entitled ***Our Mighty Fraser River***.

Setting the stage for the DART Assessment takes approximately 15 minutes. Students will need 45 minutes to complete the reading and Question and Answer Sheet. This assessment will take 2 teachers one hour to administer. If a second teacher is not available additional time will be necessary for a teacher to complete the Oral Reading and Conference components.

<p>Teacher materials required:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Copy for each teacher of the Oral Reading Sheet.</li> <li>2. Oral Reading/Conference Sheet for each student.</li> </ol> <p>Student materials required</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. class set of Question and Answer Sheets</li> <li>2. class set of selection entitled <b><i>Our Mighty Fraser River</i></b></li> </ol>
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**Assessments should allow students to exhibit their strengths.** With this in mind, review the following purposes and processes with the students. The following script is provided for your use.

**Please note: Students can be reminded of directions throughout this assessment.**

Please ensure students on an IEP have the appropriate adaptations in place and that these adaptations are noted on your class list template. A scribe can be provided for developing writers.

<b>Rationale</b>	<b>Steps</b>	<b>Points to Consider</b>
<p>It is important that students understand the <b>purpose of the assessment</b> and how the information is going to be used.</p>	<p>“The <b>purpose</b> of this reading assessment is to gain information about how you are independently reading and understanding at this time of the year.”</p> <p>“You will be asked to read silently and to answer a few questions.”</p> <p>“This is an independent reading sample.”</p> <p>“At any time, you can look at the text to answer the questions.”</p>	<p>Make sure the students know what you want them to do after they have finished, and that they have the necessary materials in their desks.</p> <p>Silent reading is easy to organize and appropriate.</p>

Rationale	Steps	Points to Consider
<p>Proficient readers <b>access background knowledge (schema)</b> before they read to increase their understanding.</p>	<p>“It is important to think about the title, the map, and the pictures in the selection you read. Look at what you will be reading. It is called <b><i>Our Mighty Fraser River</i></b>. What do you think this text is going to be about? What do you already know about the Fraser River?”</p> <p>Ask class to share predictions and facts they know about the topic so everyone hears the same information.</p> <p>After students have shared as a whole class, encourage individual student accountability.</p> <p>“Close your eyes, think about what you have heard and already know about the Fraser River. Make a fist and raise a finger with each fact you recall.”</p>	<p>You could show a colour overhead of the pictures and map if the students’ copies are in black and white.</p>
<p>Proficient readers read with a <b>purpose</b>.</p>	<p>Distribute Question and Answer Sheets.</p> <p>“Let’s read the questions together BEFORE you begin reading, to help establish your <b>purpose</b> for reading.”</p> <p>“Put your finger on question one and we will start.”</p> <p>“Notice that the last 2 questions are interview questions. I will ask you these questions and write down your answer.”</p>	<p>The questions are not discussed. If a student requires support with a question during the assessment and if support is given, record this information for use in planning for instruction.</p>
<p>Proficient readers <b>interact with the text</b> during reading to deepen their understanding.</p>	<p>Encourage your students to use strategies to <b>hold their thinking</b> as they read.</p> <p>“I can give you stickies, acetate or scrap paper to hold your thinking because you cannot write on your text.”</p>	<p>Use these if you feel they will be helpful to your students.</p>

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<p>The oral reading provides a great deal of information about the <b>strategies that students use</b> when decoding and comprehending text.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="131 537 453 1283"> <thead> <tr> <th>Reading Behaviour</th> <th>Code</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Omission</td> <td>home</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Insertion</td> <td>old My^house</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Substitution</td> <td>house home</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Repetition</td> <td>R</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sounding Out</td> <td>SO</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Self-Correction</td> <td>SC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Told student the word</td> <td>T</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Reading Behaviour	Code	Omission	home	Insertion	old My^house	Substitution	house home	Repetition	R	Sounding Out	SO	Self-Correction	SC	Told student the word	T	<p>“You now know what your part is in this assessment. I also have a part to do. My part is to listen to you read, make notes and ask you a few questions.”</p> <p>“<b>Reading orally</b> provides a window into what goes on in your mind when you read. I glimpse your reading patterns, how you make sense of unknown words, your phrasing, the flow of your language. This information helps me support you in your development as a reader.”</p> <p>“You will be asked to read something in the passage that you have already practiced. All students will read the same passage. I will mark down what I notice about your reading. What I am marking are my observations, not necessarily errors. I will show you my recording, once we have finished.”</p> <p>Students will read from their copy of the article. Record your observations on the Oral Reading Sheet. Circle the appropriate descriptor(s) at the bottom of the page eg. careful and confident.</p>	<p>It is important that all students read aloud.</p> <p>One to one time is valuable.</p> <p>Struggling readers are not centered out.</p> <p>If students are unfamiliar with the coding system you may wish to explain it to the class before you begin the assessment.</p> <p>Most students are comfortable with reading aloud in the classroom, while others may wish to go to another setting.</p> <p>It is helpful to copy the Conference Sheet and the Oral Reading Sheet back to back.</p>
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<p>The interview allows further insight into <b>strategy use</b> and allows students who are challenged with putting their thoughts on paper to <b>demonstrate their understanding orally</b>.</p>	<p>“After I listen to you read I will <b>interview</b> you. I will ask you about the reading strategies you used, what connections you made, and what information you learned from the map.”</p> <p><b>Even if you choose to NOT have students read orally, DO interview each student and record their answers either in the space provided in the student Conference Sheet or the Question and Answer Sheet.</b></p>	<p>When you ask the questions about strategy use do not show students the potential answers. Either tick, number or record their answers.</p> <p>If you notice a huge discrepancy between a student’s oral answers and their written responses, ask the comprehension questions.</p>																

<b>Rationale</b>	<b>Steps</b>	<b>Points to Consider</b>
	<p>Distribute selection entitled <b><i>Our Mighty Fraser River.</i></b></p> <p>Remind students to be thoughtful in answering the comprehension questions and remind them that they can look back at the text as they need to.</p>	<p>Give the students about 5 minutes to settle before you start the Oral Reading and Conferences.</p>
<p>Assessments should allow students to <b>exhibit their strengths.</b></p>	<p>Give students the time they need to finish the assessment.</p>	<p>It usually takes most students between 30 and 45 minutes.</p>