The Reading Placement Inventory has been developed to assist parents/guardians in making educational placement decisions for their child when enrolling her or him in the K12 curriculum. This is a short assessment that measures a child’s ability to read and understand text. While this inventory is not an exact measure of your child’s level of reading comprehension, the results can be used to help guide you in making the decision as to which grade to enroll your child.

The Reading Placement Inventory, like any other test, is just one source of evidence about a reader’s level of comprehension. Decisions about reading placement are best made by using multiple sources of information. To decide on the right program, you should consider information from other tests your child has taken, reports from teachers, reading group placement, lists of books your child has read successfully, and, more importantly, your judgment.

Use the information on page 10 of this booklet when making a grade placement decision for your child.

Test Administration Directions

1. Before administering the Reading Placement Inventory, please familiarize yourself with this manual and the test.

Take a moment to read and answer the test questions.

You should test your child when he or she is well rested and has adequate time to complete the test in a relaxed manner. The test should be administered in a well-lighted area that is comfortable for the child (e.g., dining room or kitchen table). The location should also be free of distractions and interruptions.

2. Talk with your child about the Reading Placement Inventory.

The purpose of this test is to learn more about your child’s reading skills. The test measures reading comprehension skills by asking the child to read an incomplete sentence and select the word that best completes the sentence. Your child will select the best word by circling the letter next to the word.

This test is un-timed. You can plan on about 20 to 30 minutes to complete the test.
3. Have your child complete the sample questions on page 4. You can read the sentences to the child to help him or her understand the directions.

*Read to your child:* Read each sentence and the four words beside it. Choose the word that best completes the sentence. Circle the letter next to your answer choice. Remember, only circle one correct answer for each question.

Read the first sentence below “Sample Question 1.” Choose the best word to fill in the blank. Circle the letter next to the word. [pause] Now, read the sentence below “Sample Question 2.” Choose the best word to fill in the blank. Circle the letter next to the word.

Talk with your child about the correct answers and make sure that your child understands how to indicate his or her answer. The correct answer for Sample Question 1 is “A” and the correct answer for Sample Question 2 is “C.”

4. Now go to the actual test that begins on page 5.

*Read to your child:* Read each sentence and the four words beside it. Choose the word that best completes the sentence. Circle the letter next to your answer choice. Answer as many questions as you can. Remember, only circle one correct answer for each question.

Remember, you should let your child answer the questions on their own, without assistance. This test is designed to measure your child’s level of reading comprehension.

5. After your child has completed the Reading Placement Inventory, go to page 9 for information about scoring the test and using the results.
Sample Questions

Sample Question 1

We eat our _____.

A. food  
B. fool  
C. flood  
D. foot

Sample Question 2

They _____ the fish tank with water.

A. watch  
B. crack  
C. fill  
D. repair
Reading Placement Inventory
Grade 3 Form A

1. The raccoon’s stout body is wrapped in _____.
   A. feet  B. stove  C. fur  D. comb

2. In the year 1778, James Cook _____ the Hawaiian Islands.
   A. rushed  B. discovered  C. mealtime  D. arrival

3. She gathered _____, then started a fire with the firestick.
   A. movement  B. leaning  C. respect  D. twigs

4. People in ancient Egypt lived in mud and brick _____.
   A. houses  B. pencils  C. napkins  D. forks

5. Someone kept tapping at the _____ until I turned around and looked.
   A. slumber  B. brave  C. trouble  D. window

6. Lake Superior is _____ than any other fresh-water lake in the world.
   A. meadow  B. asleep  C. bigger  D. outward
7. Did you know that the pull of the _____ is what causes the ocean tides?  
   A. lecture  
   B. moon  
   C. fleet  
   D. describe

8. After the Trojan War, Ulysses was anxious to continue his _____ and get home.  
   A. journey  
   B. central  
   C. cobweb  
   D. shinbone

9. Because his room was above the kitchen, he could _____ breakfast cooking every morning.  
   A. banana  
   B. lightning  
   C. camper  
   D. smell

10. Rushing down the _____, he ran into the kitchen expecting to see his brother.  
    A. wildlife  
    B. yellow  
    C. stairs  
    D. wisdom

11. The _____ of air conditioning makes living in deserts more comfortable.  
    A. goblet  
    B. unglue  
    C. blankets  
    D. invention

12. When my turn came, I was a _____ in front of my father’s whole congregation.  
    A. locust  
    B. coward  
    C. jacket  
    D. pecan

13. Christmas was only a few weeks away, but Ben had not _____ a single penny.  
    A. moaned  
    B. saved  
    C. immune  
    D. whenever
14. December brings _____, freezing winds, and holiday treats.  
A. shove  
B. bike  
C. snow  
D. breath  

15. He rode alone on the bus, _____ that the bus would make the trip for one passenger.  
A. excuse  
B. stars  
C. barren  
D. grateful  

16. If they practiced more and took the _____ seriously, they could still win the basketball tournament.  
A. game  
B. pigment  
C. discard  
D. radish  

17. Explorers used the North Star to steer their _____ in search of new lands.  
A. harbor  
B. mouthful  
C. ships  
D. sentence  

18. A thunderstorm is caused by rapidly rising air that contains _____ vapor.  
A. mermaid  
B. enlarge  
C. water  
D. peaches  

19. Before the Revolutionary War, many colonists died resisting the _____ Britain forced on them.  
A. plastics  
B. speak  
C. unpack  
D. laws  

20. Daemon heard the sound of the creature’s _____ and the spine-tingling echo coming from the swamp.  
A. peacefully  
B. bellow  
C. election  
D. acrobat
21. Fortunately, Nadia loved gymnastics so the long hours of _____ and exercise were not such a hardship.
   A. practice  B. arrested  C. satisfied  D. galoshes

22. _____ can move almost straight up and down, backward and forward, and hover in the sky like a hummingbird.
   A. Conductors  B. Legislatures  C. Helicopters  D. Experience

23. The mountains we face in life are actually _____ in our minds that come in all sizes and degrees of difficulty.
   A. inheritance  B. illegitimate  C. problems  D. intrigued

24. The wolf’s two main enemies, not only now but throughout _____, have been sportsmen and the owners of livestock.
   A. porcupine  B. written  C. recollect  D. history

25. Aluminum, the most abundant metal in the Earth’s crust, is found in compounds combined with other _____.
   A. inkwells  B. elements  C. children  D. buckets
Scoring the Reading Placement Inventory

Use the answer key below to score the test. Count the number of questions that your child answered correctly. Refer to the chart at the bottom of the page for suggested grade placement within the K12 curriculum.

**Answer Key—Grade 3, Form A**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question Number</th>
<th>Correct Answer</th>
<th>Question Number</th>
<th>Correct Answer</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>C</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>20</td>
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<td>A</td>
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<td>22</td>
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<td>12</td>
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**Recommended Grade Placement**

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<th># of Correct Responses</th>
<th>Take Grade 2 Test</th>
<th>Grade 3</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 to 18</td>
<td></td>
<td>19 to 25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Using the Results from the Reading Placement Inventory

To determine your child’s grade placement, consider all of the following:

- The grade my child would be in if he or she were to attend public school this year.
- The suggested grade placement for my child from the Reading Placement Inventory.
- How my child reads aloud from a book that he or she has read before.
  - Is he able to read the text and explain what is happening in the story?
  - Can she pronounce at least 80% of the words correctly without prompting?
- How my child reads aloud from a book that he or she has not read before.
  - Can she pronounce at least 50% of the words correctly without prompting?
  - Can he explain what is happening in the story?