



Florida Department of Education
Office of Early Learning



What's happening in VPK?

March 2009

2007-08 Readiness Rates

The 2007-08 Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Readiness Rates were released on Thursday, February 26, 2009. VPK Readiness Rates measure how well a VPK provider prepares four-year-olds for kindergarten. Providers are rated on a scale of zero to 300 based on their students' performance in the three key early learning areas of alphabet recognition, sound recognition and classroom readiness.

The State Board of Education set the minimum Readiness Rate of 214 on January 21, 2009. Of the 4,962 providers, 4,716 (85%) met or exceeded the minimum Readiness Rate, and 733 (15%) did not meet the minimum readiness rate and are identified as low performing providers.

The VPK Readiness Rates can be viewed on the Department of Education's Readiness Rate website: <https://vpk.fldoe.org/>.

Emergent Literacy Brochure

The Florida Department of Education created a five-hour Emergent Literacy Course for VPK Instructors to provide participants with background information on emergent literacy skills and give examples of instructional practices that may be used in VPK classrooms. The Emergent Literacy Course is available on the DOE/OEL website: <http://www.flvpkonline.org/ellInfo.htm>.

The Emergent Literacy brochure is available on the DOE/OEL website: <http://www.fldoe.org/earlylearning/publications.asp>.

VPK Professional Development and Teacher Resources

Current professional development opportunities for VPK providers can be found on the DOE/OEL website:

<http://www.fldoe.org/earlylearning/pdf/ProfessionalDevelopment.pdf>.

Kindergarten Screening

Beginning with the 2009-10 school year, the new Florida Assessments for Instruction in Reading will replace the DIBELS™ measures of the kindergarten screening. The ECHOS™ will continue to be used through 2010-11. The items included in the kindergarten screening continue to be aligned to the VPK Education Standards. Find additional information on our website:

<http://www.fldoe.org/earlyLearning/FLKRS2009.asp>.

English Language Learners Course

English Language Learners in the VPK Classroom (ELL Course) is a self-paced online course designed to facilitate a better understanding of the characteristics and language learning experiences of colleagues, staff, children and families who are English language learners. The ELL Course is available on the Department of Children and Families' website:

<https://training01-dcf.myflorida.com/dcf/cct/inf0001.html>.

Contact Us



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