



Mobile County Public School System i-Ready Diagnostic from Home Guidance for Families

What is i-Ready?

i-Ready is an online program for reading and mathematics that will help your student's teacher(s) determine your student's needs, personalize their learning, and monitor their progress throughout the school year. i-Ready allows teacher(s) to meet your student exactly where they are and provides data to increase your student's learning gains. Click [here](#) to learn more about i-Ready from this short video.

What is a Diagnostic Test?

The i-Ready Diagnostic is an adaptive assessment that adjusts its questions to suit your student's needs. Each item a student sees is individualized based on their answers to the previous question. As students answer questions correctly, they will see more challenging questions; if students answer a series of questions incorrectly, they will see slightly easier questions. This fluctuation in the difficulty of questions allows the program to determine your student's current strengths and areas of growth. Most likely, your student will not know how to answer every question, and that is okay! The purpose of this assessment is not to give your student a grade, but instead to determine how to best support your student's learning.

What Happens After the Diagnostic Test?

i-Ready provides each student a personalized instruction path that includes lessons based on their unique skill level and needs, so your student can learn at a pace that is just right for them. These lessons are fun and interactive to keep your student engaged as they learn. Even more, teachers use the results from the diagnostic to provide additional support and monitor your student's progress throughout the year.

How Will My Student Complete the Diagnostic?



In regular circumstances, students take the i-Ready Diagnostic at school. However, this year we are going to need your help in providing a supportive environment to take the assessment at home. It is important to remember that the main purpose of this assessment is to allow i-Ready to personalize your child's online learning path and provide information to your student's teacher(s) so that they can best meet students' needs. Though you might be tempted to help your student complete problems they do not know, it is important that you let your student complete this assessment on their own. Doing so will ensure that your student's teacher(s) have valid data to help with instructional decision-making.

Click [here](#) for a short video that will help you better understand how the Diagnostic works.

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Checklist for Administering the i-Ready Diagnostic at Home

Each MCPSS student in grades K-9 will be completing the i-Ready Diagnostic at home in September. It is important that you do not help your student with understanding or answering questions. Your student will benefit from your support and encouragement, however. Here is a checklist that can help!

- Find a quiet space for your student to take the Diagnostic.
- Determine a time for your student to take the Diagnostic. The Diagnostic is untimed and can be split into shorter sessions (15-20 minutes for younger students and 30 minutes for older students).
- Ensure you have the correct login information for your student.
- Provide your child with paper and pencils to use during the Diagnostic.
- Explain to your student why they are taking this assessment and how it works.
- Monitor and encourage your student as they complete the Diagnostic.
- Do not assist your student with answering assessment questions, as this may lead to online lessons not being at the right level for your student or may lead to their teacher receiving inaccurate information.
- Ensure your student has fully completed the assessment. Your student will receive a congratulatory message on their screen once they have completed the diagnostic.
- Reach out to your student's teacher for any questions or support.

Supportive Phrases to Use During the Diagnostic

Before the Assessment:

"Try your best and do not rush, but do not spend too much time on a question."

"You will see some questions you don't know, and that is okay! Just try your best."

During the Assessment:

"I can tell you are very focused, keep up the good work!"

"Nice job showing your work/reading each passage carefully."



When Your Student May Be Working Too Quickly:

"I noticed you seem to be clicking through quickly. Remember, take your time and try your best."

When Your Student is Frustrated:

"Wow, that looks like a really advanced question. That probably means you have been answering a lot of questions correctly. Don't get mad, just make your best guess."

"Let's take a quick break! Do you want to finish this question now or when you get back?"

If Your Student Asks for Help:

"Just like when you take a test at school, I cannot help you find the answer. Your teacher wants to find out what you know, not what I know. It's okay if you are stuck. Try working out the problem on paper (math) or try going back and rereading the text (reading)."

After the Assessment

"I'm really proud of you. You did a great job of taking your time, showing your work, and working through some really tough questions!"