



ISTEP+ and IREAD-3 2015-2016

The purpose of this document is to describe similarities and differences regarding *ISTEP+* and *IREAD-3* to help parents and schools better understand the Spring 2016 statewide assessments for Indiana’s third graders.

IREAD-3 and *ISTEP+* are two separate assessments, each of which serves a very different purpose. *IREAD-3* was developed in accordance with HEA 1367 (also known as PL 109 in 2010), which requires the evaluation of reading skills for students at the end of grade 3. The English/Language Arts (ELA) portion of the Grade 3 *ISTEP+* test was developed to measure student achievement of Grade 3 ELA skills and is used to calculate state and federal accountability. While both assessments measure grade 3 reading skills, Grade 3 *ISTEP+* ELA measures both reading and writing standards; and *IREAD-3* measures only **foundational reading skills through grade 3.**

Please see the chart below for specific details regarding *IREAD-3* and *ISTEP+*:

Assessment	Item Type(s)	Test Window	Grade-Level Content	Strands Assessed
IREAD-3	Multiple-Choice	March 14-18	Gr. K-3	Reading: Foundations, Vocabulary, Nonfiction, Literature
Grade 3 ISTEP+ (ELA)	Part 1: Open-ended items, including constructed-response and writing prompts	February 29 – March 11	Gr. 3	Reading: Nonfiction, Literature Writing: Genres, Process, Conventions
	Part 2: Multiple choice, technology enhanced	April 18 – May 6*	Gr. 3	Reading: Nonfiction, Literature Writing: Genres, Process, Conventions

*Dates for online test administration

Schools will share the results of *IREAD-3* with parents in mid-April. Parents should contact the school with questions or if they would like more information about *IREAD-3* and *ISTEP+*.