

# When?

Your child's reading development is assessed

- during whole-class instruction
- during small-group instruction
- during independent reading time
- during reading conferences
- in conversation

*"Understanding students as readers is a complex task, but one that is essential to providing quality instruction. It is through the assessment process that teachers come to know their students better as readers ... Identifying specific strengths and needs of students helps teachers to make decisions about what needs to be explicitly taught to students ..."*

~ *Active Young Readers Grades 4–6 Assessment Resource: A Teaching Resource*, Nova Scotia Department of Education, 2003

# How to help your child

- Communicate regularly with your child's teacher about your child's reading progress.
- Practise reading with your child to help him or her in areas identified by the teacher.
- Encourage your child to read at home.
- Model reading habits at home.
- Provide a range of books that meet your child's interests.
- Discuss books with your child.
- Ask your child to tell in his or her own words about a book he or she has read.
- Encourage your child to read smoothly and fluently.
- Share what you notice about your child's reading habits at home with your child's teacher.

# Let's talk about ...



## Classroom Assessment in Reading: Grades 3–6



The Atlantic Canada English language arts curriculum is shaped by a vision of enabling and encouraging students to become reflective, articulate, literate individuals who use language successfully for learning and communicating in personal and public contexts.

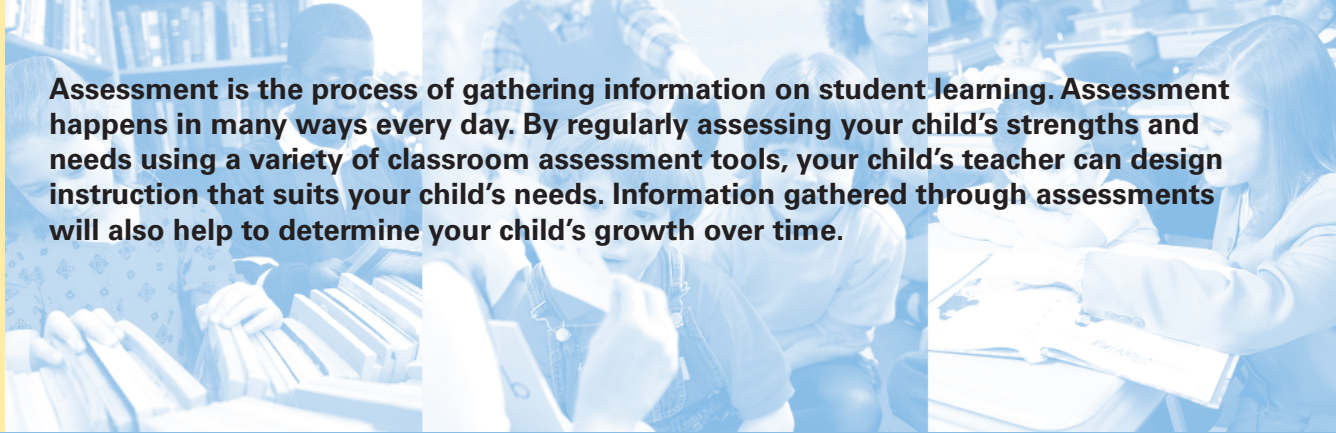


This pamphlet is part of a series to inform parents about the Nova Scotia Department of Education Public School Program.

For more information, contact your child's teacher.

Let's talk about ...

# Classroom Assessment in Reading Grades 3–6



**Assessment is the process of gathering information on student learning. Assessment happens in many ways every day. By regularly assessing your child's strengths and needs using a variety of classroom assessment tools, your child's teacher can design instruction that suits your child's needs. Information gathered through assessments will also help to determine your child's growth over time.**

## Why?

Your child's learning is assessed every day to

- identify your child's individual strengths
- help your child's teacher plan instruction that will meet your child's needs
- help your child recognize what he or she knows and can do as a reader
- document what your child can do
- inform you about your child's development as a reader (e.g., phone calls, report card)
- measure progress over time

## How?

Your child's teacher gathers information and makes instructional decisions using classroom assessment tools such as

- reading conferences
- scoring rubrics
- records of oral reading
- checklists
- work samples
- reading surveys
- reading inventories
- formal and informal observations
- student involved assessment of reading

## What?

Your child is assessed in the following areas:

- **Comprehension:** Does the student understand what he or she has read?
- **Fluency:** Does the student read smoothly and without hesitation?
- **Accuracy:** Does the student read each word correctly?
- **Problem-solving:** Does the student have strategies to figure out unknown words?
- **Monitoring:** Does the student know when and how to correct words?

let's talk about ...