

Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening

Measuring the fundamental
components of literacy



What is PALS?

- A research-based, criterion-referenced instrument with strong technical competence
- Performs all three assessment functions:
 1. **Screen** for reading difficulty in fall and spring
 2. **Diagnose** specific skill areas needing instruction
 3. **Progress monitor** throughout the school year and across grades PreK-8



Our History

- Developed by Dr. Marcia Invernizzi at the University of Virginia
- Broad representation of students
- Continually refined and updated
- Used across country and internationally



PALS assessments include:

- PALS-PreK
- PALS-K
- PALS Plus for grades 1-8
- PALS español K
- PALS español 1-3

*PALS español PreK in development



PALS tasks measure:

	PALS-PreK	PALS-K	PALS Plus	PALS español-K	PALS-español 1-3
Print & Word Awareness	✓				
Nursery Rhyme Awareness	✓				
Name Writing	✓				
Rhyme Awareness	✓	✓		✓	
Beginning Sound Awareness	✓	✓		✓	
Alphabet Recognition*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Letter Sounds	✓	✓	✓**	✓	✓**
Concept of Word		✓	✓	✓	✓
Spelling		✓	✓	✓	✓
Word Recognition in Isolation		✓	✓	✓	✓
Blending			✓		✓
Sound-to-Letter			✓		✓
Oral Reading in Context (accuracy, prosody, rate, comprehension)			✓		✓

✓ = Required task for most students for fall/spring assessment

*This task is "Alphabet and Digraph Recognition" for PALS español.

**This is a required task for first graders in the fall.

PALS assessments forms

- PALS-PreK: one form
- PALS-K and PALS Plus: three equivalent forms, A, B, & C
- PALS español K and PALS español 1-3: two equivalent forms, A & B



PALS-PreK



- Developmentally appropriate for 4-year-old children
- For guiding instruction and progress monitoring, rather than screening
- Provides guidance to teachers for tailoring instruction to children's specific needs
- Reflects skills that are predictive of future reading success

PALS-K

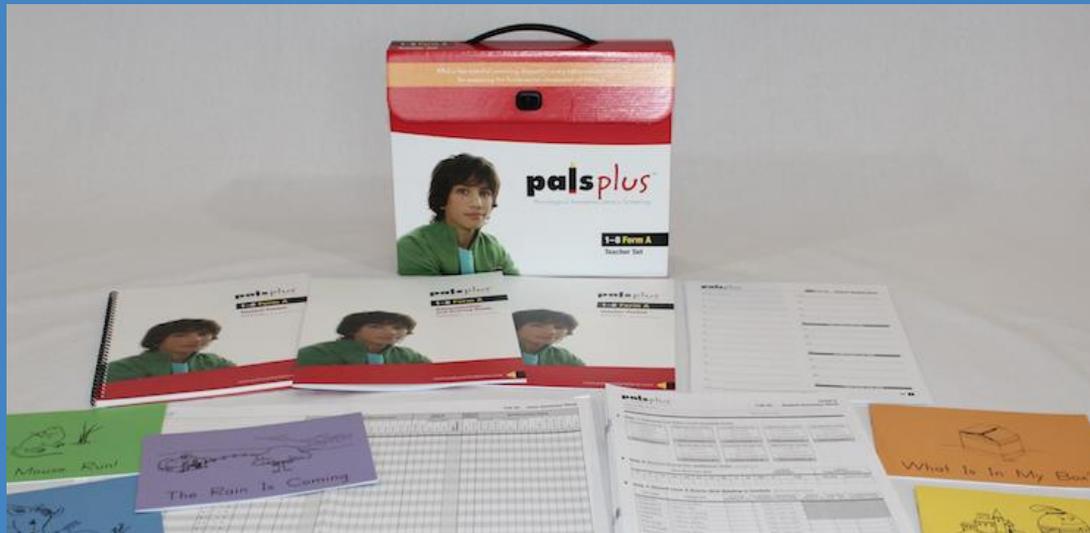
- Matches literacy instruction to specific literacy needs
- Identifies students who are significantly behind in acquisition of fundamental literacy skills



- One of the only early literacy assessments that measures development of **concept of word**

PALS Plus

- Grades 1 through 8
- Identifies students at risk of reading difficulties
- Instructional levels in reading and spelling, and specific areas of need
- Adaptive assessment – use with any stage of reading/spelling development



PALS Online Score Entry & Reporting System

- Options for score entry method
- Extensive reports at student, classroom, school and district levels
- Data downloads updated nightly
- Student data upload option

The screenshot shows the PALS Online Score Entry & Reporting System login page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for TOOLS, RESOURCES, RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT, RII QUICK CHECKS, FOR PARENTS, and ENTER SCORES AND VIEW REPORTS. The main header features the PALS logo (a pencil tip) and the text "PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS LITERACY SCREENING". To the right of the logo is an App Store icon. Below the header, the text "PALS Other States PreK-8 login" is displayed. A large yellow input field is present. On the left, there is a "helpful links" section with a list of links: "2014-2015 PALS Assessment Calendar", "2015-2016 PALS Assessment Calendar", "Creating a New Teacher Account", "Updating Your PALS Online Account Information", and "Professional Resources". To the right of the links is a "Returning Users" section with "Email" and "Password" input fields, a "LOGIN" button, and a "Forgot Your Password?" link. Below this is a "New to PALS?" section with a "Create an account." link. At the bottom, there is a yellow banner with the text "The essential screening, diagnostic, and progress monitoring tool for measuring the fundamental components of literacy." and a black footer with the CURRY University of Virginia logo, "CONTACT PALS" and "ORDER PALS TODAY!" buttons, and copyright information: "© 2007-2012 by The Rector and The Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia. All Rights Reserved. Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening, P.O. Box 800785, Charlottesville, VA 22908-8785".

[Click here for a brief overview of the PALS Online System.](#)



PALS Online Score Entry & Reporting System (cont.)

- Sorting and grouping functions
- Downloadable mid-year assessment and Quick Checks, plus score entry and reports for these
- Instructional resources, including interactive electronic lesson plans adapted to reading stage

The screenshot displays the PALS (Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening) web application interface. At the top, it identifies the user as being at the 'TEACHER LEVEL' and shows the 'pals' logo with the full name 'PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS LITERACY SCREENING'. Below the logo is a navigation menu with tabs for 'ADMINISTRATIVE', 'PLANNING INSTRUCTION', 'HISTORY+GROWTH', 'RII QUICK CHECKS', and 'MID-YEAR MATERIALS'. The 'ADMINISTRATIVE' tab is active, showing a breadcrumb trail: 'ADMIN: State Admin Page | District Admin Page | School Admin Page | Teacher Admin Page'. The current session is for 'Mid-Year 2011' and the user is logged in as 'Teacher: 1st Grade Teacher' at 'School: PALS Training School' in 'District: Sample Report District'. There are links for 'ACCOUNT INFO', 'CHANGE SCHOOLS', and 'LOG OFF'. The main content area is divided into three columns: 1. 'CLASS LIST': A list of students from 'Group Four, Student A' to 'Group Four, Student J'. A dropdown menu is set to 'First Grade'. 2. 'STUDENT ACTIONS': A list of actions including 'Modify Student Information', 'Enter Student's Scores', 'Online Assessment Wizard', 'Add or Transfer a Student', 'Remove Student', '(Admin) Delete Scores', and '(Admin) Enter Old Scores'. 3. 'VIEW RESULTS': A list of reports including 'Student Summary', 'Class Summary', 'Student Alphabet and Letter Sound Knowledge (OAW)', 'Class Alphabet and Letter Sound Knowledge (OAW)', and 'Running Record(s)'.

Analyze data at different levels

- Student, classroom, school, and division levels
- Sortable reports

CHILD SUMMARY - SPRING | pals

This report lists all scores entered for the student and PreK developmental ranges. Please note that developmental ranges are for spring of the four-year-old PreK year only.

Child: _____ Grade: PreK
 Teacher: _____ School: Example Elementary Assessment Date: _____

PALS TASK	FALL SCORES	ALL-YEAR SCORES	SPRING SCORES	SPRING DEVELOPMENTAL RANGE
Name Writing	0	5	6	5
Upper-Case Alphabet Recognition	0	11	25	12
Lower-Case Alphabet Recognition	0	0	23	9
Letter Sounds	0	0	16	4
Beginning Sound Awareness	0	5	6	5
Print and Word Awareness	4	5	6	7
Rhyme Awareness	3	2	7	5
Nursery Rhyme Awareness	3	9		6

CLASS SUMMARY - MID-YEAR | pals

This report lists scores for all children in the class. Note that the spring developmental ranges are for spring of the four-year-old PreK year only.

Teacher: _____ Grade: PreK School: Example Elementary
 Total Children in class: 15 Total Children Screened: 15

NAME	NAME WRITING	UPPER-CASE ALPHABET	LOWER-CASE ALPHABET	LETTER SOUNDS	BEG. SOUND AWARENESS	PRINT & WORD AWARENESS	RHYME AWARENESS	NURS. RHYME AWARENESS
[Name]	5	11	0	16	5	5	2	9
[Name]	7	26	25	19	9	9	7	9
[Name]	7	26	24	18	10	9	10	8
[Name]	4	8	0	0	2	5	4	6
[Name]	2	24	18	8	0	5	8	10
[Name]	19	17	7	6	6	5	6	6
[Name]	25	15	8	9	5	8		
[Name]	26	15	8	9	3	6		

DISTRICT HISTORY REPORT - MID-YEAR 2009 | pals

District: Sample Report District

Filter: Sort by Date

DATE	GRADE	# SCREENED	# IDENTIFIED	PERCENTAGE I/D
Spring 2005	Kindergarten	24	11	46%
	First Grade	18	8	44%
	Second Grade	3	0	0%
Fall 2005	Kindergarten	72	23	32%
	First Grade	59	14	24%
	Second Grade	42	14	33%
Spring 2006	Kindergarten	40	17	43%
	First Grade	29	12	41%
	Second Grade	21	3	14%
Fall 2006	Kindergarten	65	13	20%
	First Grade	84	19	23%
	Second Grade	72	19	26%
Spring 2007	Kindergarten	27	10	37%
	First Grade	24	4	17%
	Second Grade	34	9	26%
Fall 2007	Kindergarten	25	11	44%
	First Grade	46	17	37%
	Second Grade	36	11	31%
Spring 2008	Kindergarten	41	6	15%
	First Grade	39	13	33%
	Second Grade	43	16	37%



PALS Online System Score Entry Methods

- Traditional Score Entry
- Online Assessment Wizard
- Mobile Assessment Wizard iPad app

STEP 1: Enter scores for entry level tasks

Spelling Inventory	First Grade Word List	Summed Score	Benchmark
19	16	35	35

STEP 2: Enter scores for additional tasks

OTHER WORD LISTS GIVEN - 7th/8th grade word lists, spelling words, & passages download here: Form A or B.

Preprimer	Primer	First Grade	Second Grade	Third Grade	Fourth Grade	Fifth Grade	Sixth Grade	Seventh Grade	Eighth Grade
20	20	16	14						

LEVEL B: ALPHABETICS

Lower-Case Alphabet Recognition	Letter Sounds	CONCEPT OF WORD		
		Pointing	Word ID	Word List

LEVEL C: PHONEMIC AWARE.

Blending	Sound-to-Letter

SPELLING FEATURE SCORES

ONLINE ASSESSMENT WIZARD

TASK LIST
Click the name of the task you would like to administer.

7TH AND 8TH GRADE ADDITIONAL WORD LISTS, SPELLING WORDS, & PASSAGES
DOWNLOAD HERE: FORM A OR B.

REQUIRED TASKS:

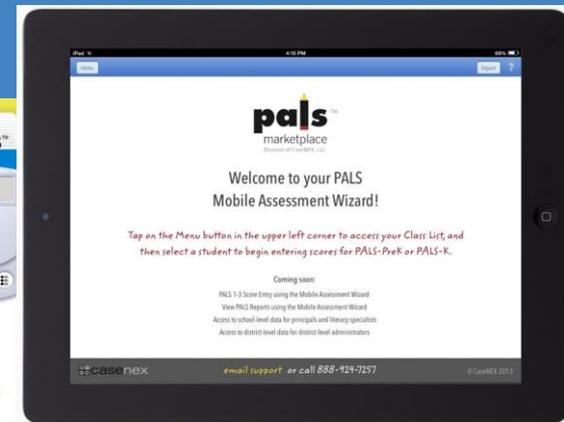
ENTRY LEVEL: WORD KNOWLEDGE	SCORE/MAX
Spelling Inventory	32 /48
First Grade Word List	16 /20
Second Grade Word List	16 /20
Third Grade Word List	12 /20
LEVEL A: ORAL READING IN CONTEXT	SCORE/MAX
Second Grade: Nature's Magician	157 /198

ADDITIONAL TASKS:

ENTRY LEVEL: WORD KNOWLEDGE	SCORE/MAX
Preprimer Word List	- /20
Primer Word List	- /20
Fourth Grade Word List	- /20
Fifth Grade Word List	- /20
Sixth Grade Word List	- /20
Seventh Grade Word List	- /20
Eighth Grade Word List	- /20
LEVEL A: ORAL READING IN CONTEXT	SCORE/MAX
Readiness: Breakfast	- /15

TASK STATUS:
● - Not administered
● - Complete

ALL REQUIRED TASKS COMPLETE



PALS Online Assessment Wizard (OAW)

- Scores tasks automatically
- Guides teachers with task prompts
- Easy access to task instructions

ONLINE ASSESSMENT WIZARD **pals™**

PD/STUDENT
EXAMPLE FIRST TEACHER
GRADE: FIRST GRADE PM

**SPELLING INVENTORY:
FIRST GRADE WORDS**

CURRENT SCORE: 40/48

WORD	STUDENT RESPONSE	CORRECT	SCORE THESE
1. fan		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	f a n
2. pet		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	p e t
3. dig	deg	<input type="checkbox"/>	d i g
4. cup		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	c u p
5. chop		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ch op
6. hand		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ha nd
7. those		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	th ose
8. trunk	trunck	<input type="checkbox"/>	tr u nk
9. jump		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ju mp
10. king		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ki ng
11. chunk		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ch unk
12. skate		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	sk ate
13. glide		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	gl ide
14. drip		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	dr ip
15. rope		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	r ope
16. shape		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	sh ape

MARK ALL CORRECT
 MARK ALL INCORRECT

TASK SPECIFIC INFORMATION:

- MATERIALS
- ADMINISTRATION NOTES
- INSTRUCTIONS
- SCORING
- SCORING NOTES

SPELLING FEATURES

beg/end sounds	4
digraphs	4
blends	4
short vowels (CVC)	3
nasals	3
CVCe	4
long vowels	2
* r- and l- influenced	
* ambiguous vowels	
* syllable juncture	
* affixes	
* derivations	
Total Feature Score	24

ONLINE ASSESSMENT WIZARD

GROUP RHYME AWARENESS

CURRENT SCORE: 10/10 MARK ALL CORRECT

ASSESSMENT ITEM 1 OF 10

 **shell**

"Now we'll find some other pictures that rhyme. Put your finger on the picture of the *shell*. Touch each picture as I name it: *shell, tire, rope, bell*. Circle the picture that rhymes with *shell*, that sounds like *shell: shell-tire, shell-rope, shell-bell*."






TASK SPECIFIC INFORMATION:

- MATERIALS
- ADMINISTRATION NOTES
- INSTRUCTIONS
- SCORING

PALS Mobile Assessment Wizard iPad app

Prompts and reports generated similar to those in Online Assessment Wizard

PALS Mobile Assessment Wizard
By CaseNEX
Open iTunes to buy and download apps.



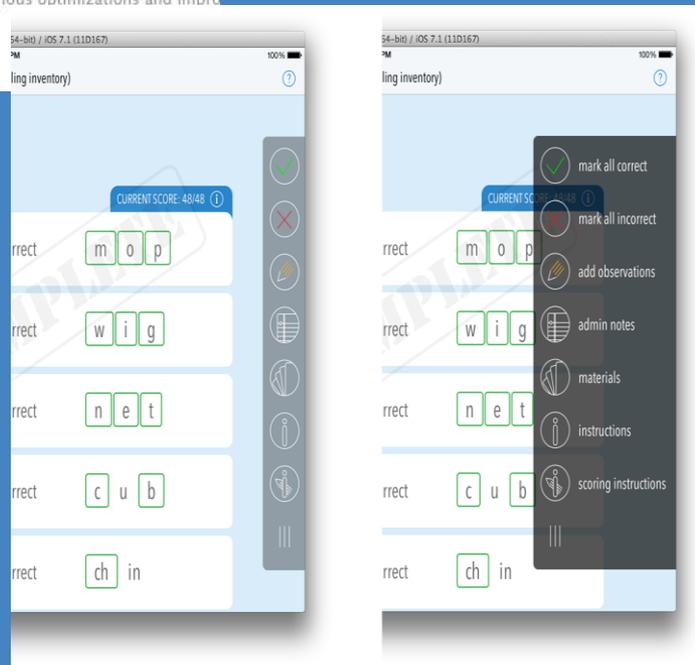
Description
The PALS Mobile Assessment Wizard is a mobile application that allows teachers to administer the PALS Mobile Assessment. Teachers can administer the PALS Mobile Assessment on their iPad. When the PALS Mobile Assessment administration ends, teachers can view the results of the assessment.

[CaseNEX Web Site](#) [PALS Mobile Assessment](#)

What's New in Version 1.0
Various optimizations and improvements.

[View in iTunes](#)

Free



PALS Quick Checks

- Short probes given between PALS screening windows to measure progress in essential literacy skills
- Downloadable from any PALS Online account
- Can enter scores and view results over time in PALS Online System.

pals QUICKCHECK

► **K Spelling: Scoring Grid**

Student: Josh Date Range: 2/25 -

Teacher: Mrs. Blackwell-Bullock Date Mastered:

Date:	Beginning	Middle	Ending	Total
1. map	✓ m	a	✓ p	2 / 3
2. win	✓ w	i	✓ n	2 / 3
3. hog	✓ h	o	g	1 / 3
4. fed	✓ f	e	✓ d	2 / 3
5. tub	✓ t	u	b	2 / 3
Total	5 / 5	1 / 5	3 / 5	9 / 15

pals QUICKCHECK

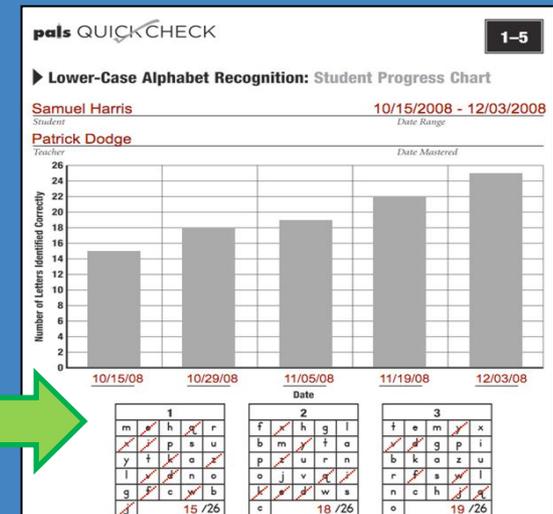
LOWER-CASE ALPHABET QUICK CHECK 1

BRANDON CLEMENTS
TEACHER-OWN
GRADE: SECOND GRADE

Date Assessed:

CURRENT SCORE: /26 MARK ALL CORRECT MARK ALL INCORRECT

m	e	h	q	r
x	i	p	s	u
y	t	k	a	z
l	v	d	n	o
g	f	c	w	b
j				



PALS Quick Checks (cont.)

Monitor effectiveness of intervention for the following skills:

1. Alphabet Recognition
2. Letter Sounds
3. Beginning Sound Production
4. Concept of Word
5. Spelling (K, 1-3)
6. Pseudoword Decoding
7. Oral Reading in Context
8. Word Recognition in Isolation

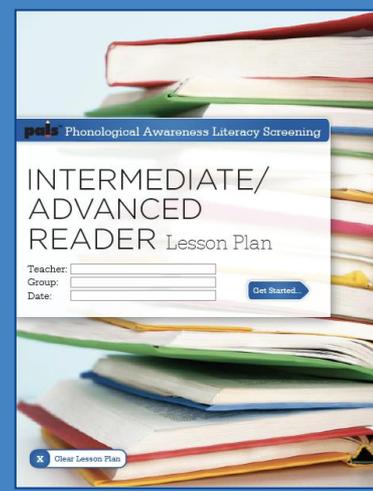
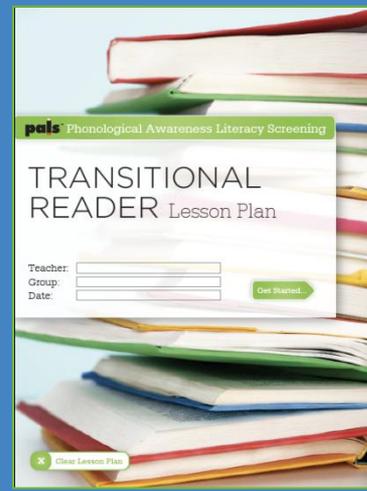
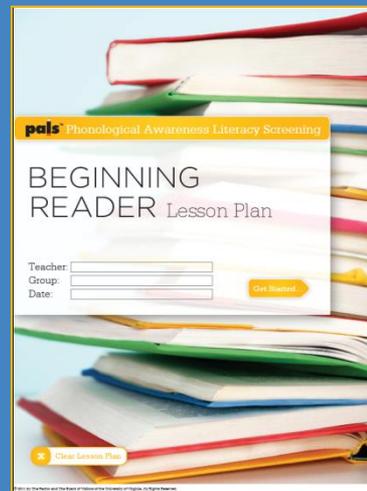
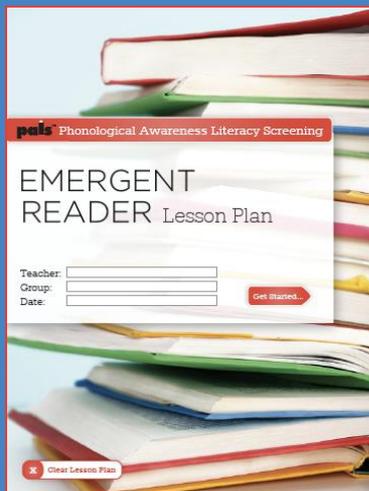
The screenshot shows the PALS Quick Checks interface. At the top, it says "TEACHER" and "pals PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS LITERACY SCREENING". Below this are navigation tabs: ADMINISTRATIVE, PLANNING INSTRUCTION, HISTORY+GROWTH, **Run QUICK CHECKS**, and MATERIALS. There are also links for ADMIN: State Admin Page, Division Admin Page, School Admin Page, and Teacher Admin Page. The user is logged in as "Example Firstteacher" at "Example School" in "PALS Professional Development". The assessment date is "March 30, 2015" for Form A. A grid shows scores for 10 students across 10 skills. Red dots indicate scores.

School Year:	UPPER-CASE LETTER REC	LOWER-CASE LETTER REC	LETTER SOUNDS	BEGINNING SOUND	K SPELLING	SPELLING 1-3	PSEUDOWORD	WORD REC	COW: PART A	COW: PART B	ORAL READING
2014-2015		●		●		●	●				
1. PD Astudent		●		●		●	●				
2. PD Bstudent				●							
3. PD Cstudent					●						
4. PD Dstudent											
5. PD Estudent											
6. PD Fstudent											
7. PD Gstudent											
8. PD Hstudent											
9. PD Istudent											
10. PD Jstudent											

Click here to Download Quick Check Materials.
Click the drop down to view previous scores.
Click on a Quick Check banner to see the Class Administration Summary for that task.

PALS Electronic Lesson Plans

- Small group lesson plan frameworks tailored to each stage of reading
- Translate PALS data → balanced literacy diet
- Downloadable activities and resources



PALS/CaseNEX Professional Development: *also adaptable!*

- Ongoing, purposeful
- Experienced trainers
- Tailored to meet needs of each school or district

Options:

- Online training tutorials
- Online courses for further professional development
- Webinars
- On-site training



Some PALS PD topics:

- PALS Administration and Scoring
- PALS Online Score Entry & Reporting System
- Using Data to Drive Instruction
- Monitoring Student Progress with PALS Quick Checks
- Concept of Word in Text
- Emergent Reader ELP
- Beginning Reader ELP
- Transitional Reader ELP
- Intermediate/Advanced Reader ELP
- How to run a data meeting
- Literacy block for differentiated instruction
- Word study
- From “learning to read” to “reading to learn”
- Best practices in literacy instruction
- Train-the Trainer Seminar



PALS Marketplace Customer Support

- In-person trainings
- Toll-free hotline
- Email support
- Email newsletter communications
- PALS Resource Center website



PALS RESOURCE CENTER [PALS MARKETPLACE WEBSITE](#) [PALS ONLINE SYSTEM LOGIN PAGE](#)

Providing information and support for schools using The Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening assessment



[HOME](#) [PALS OVERVIEW](#) [ASSESSMENTS](#) [PALS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT](#) [ADMINISTRATORS](#) [TEACHERS](#) [PARENTS](#) [SUPPORT](#)

March 4, 2015
1 Comment

Welcome to the PALS Resource Center!

The Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening (PALS) is a research-based screening, diagnostic, and progress monitoring tool. Teachers and reading specialists use PALS to identify students at risk of developing reading difficulties, diagnose students' knowledge of literacy fundamentals, monitor progress, and plan instruction that targets students' needs. Feel free to contact our main support and information line at (888)-924-7257 or support@palshelp.com.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

[Screening Window Calendar 2014-15](#)

[Screening Window Calendar 2015-16](#)

[Logging into your PALS Online account](#)
[District Rep](#) | [Principal](#) | [Teachers](#)



So, why PALS?



- Screening, diagnosis, progress monitoring - all in one tool!
- The Online Assessment Wizard - consistent, accurate, resourceful
- PALS informs instruction by highlighting strengths and needs for *all* students.
- Unmatched personalization - for professional development and ongoing support

Questions?