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# Kindergarten Readiness Assessment—Literacy (KRA-L)

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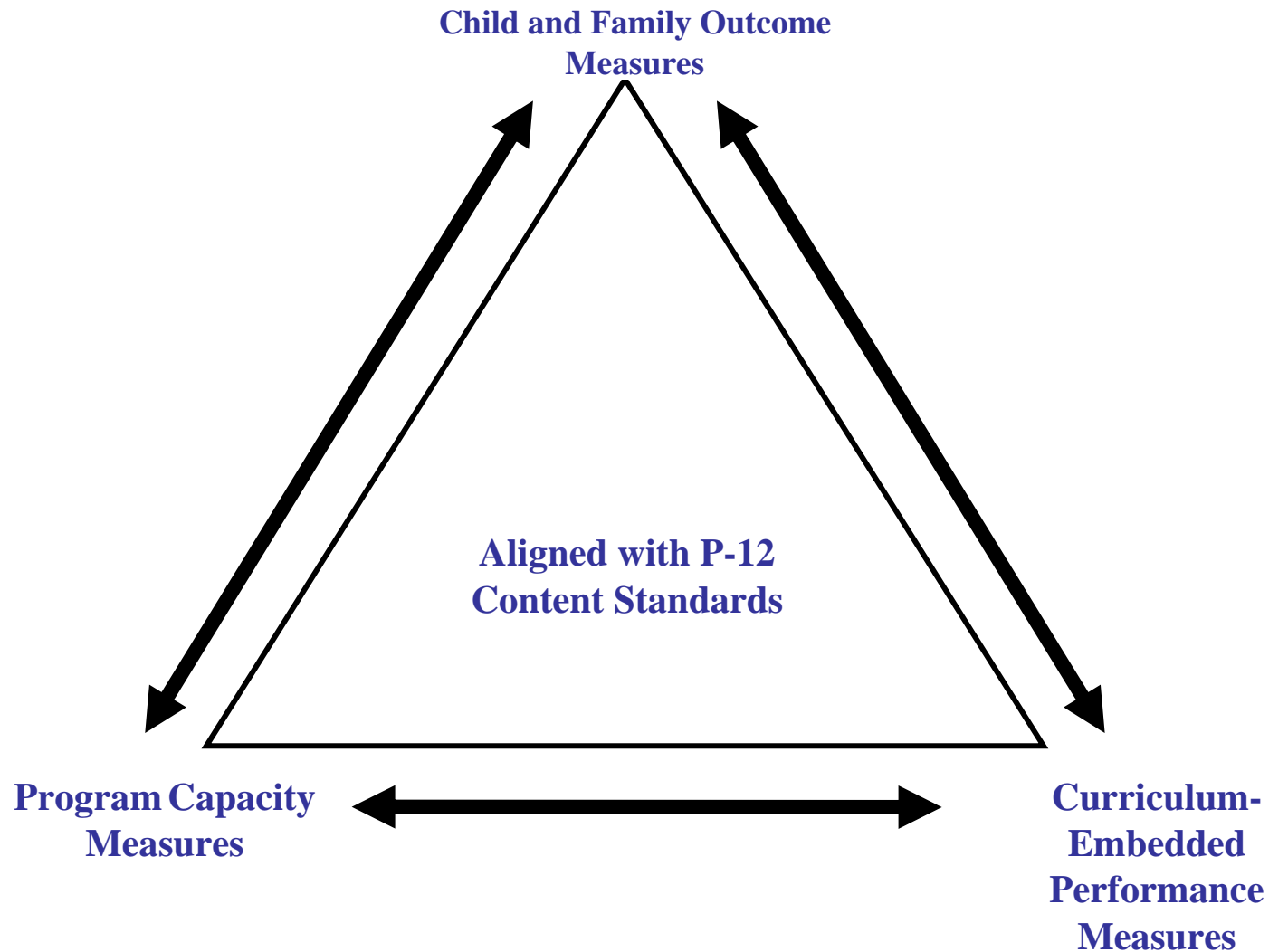
Office of Early Learning & School Readiness

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# *Accountability Framework*



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## Purpose of the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment—Literacy (KRA-L)

- To understand children's entry level literacy skills
- To shape instruction
- Identifies children who may need further assessment



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# *The KRA-L*

- Written into legislation in July 2004 (Ohio Revised Code (3310.0715))
- A required, standardized, literacy screen administered to kindergarten students
- The only statewide assessment until Grade 3

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## Legislation (ORC 3301.07.15)

- Requires districts to administer KRA-L to all incoming kindergarten students
- Administered no earlier than 4 weeks prior to start of school, not later than October 1<sup>st</sup>
- Scores reported centrally to ODE during the fall
- Results cannot be used to prohibit a child from entering kindergarten

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## How was the KRA-L developed?

- Early Learning Content Standards
- Best practices in assessment
- A committee of teachers and university faculty
- Research
- National experts
- Content Review
- Fairness and sensitivity
- Technical Review

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# *KRA-L*

## What it IS:

- Measure of key literacy elements;
- Identifies students who may need additional assessment
- Serves as a starting point for instructional design

## What it is NOT:

- To be used to exclude children from kindergarten based on KRA-L results

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# KRA-L Test Administration

- 10-15 minutes per child
- Administered by classroom teacher
- Six activities measuring the six essential elements
- A total composite score of 29 points

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## *Components of the KRA-L*

Activity	# of Items	Maximum Points
Answering when and why questions	3	3
Repeating sentences	4	4
Identifying rhyming words	7	7
Producing rhyming words	5	5
Recognizing capital and lower case letters	2	6
Recognizing initial sounds	4	4

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# *KRA-L “Score Band” Interpretation*

KRA-L Composite Score Band	Descriptor
Band 1 (0-13)	Assess broadly for intense instruction
Band 2 (14-23)	Assess for targeted instruction
Band 3 (24-29)	Assess for enriched instruction

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# Assessors

- Primarily kindergarten teachers
- Districts may use other trained personnel
- Administration DVD provided to districts

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# Data Reporting and Use

- Districts report individual student composite score to ODE
- District level data reported annually on ODE website
- Summary data include district mean and number and percent of students by score band

# *KRA-L Statewide Results Summary Information*

<b>Test Year</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Band 1 %</b>	<b>Band 2 %</b>	<b>Band 3 %</b>
Fall 2005	124,862	19.6	21.59%	41.56%	36.85%
Fall 2006	123,880	19.6	22.22%	40.91%	36.87%
Fall 2007	122,786	19.73	21.82%	40.61%	37.57%
Fall 2008	124,133	20.19	19.87%	39.38%	40.76%

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# Resources

- ODE website: [www.ode.state.oh.us](http://www.ode.state.oh.us)  
Enter “KRAL” in search box
- Professional Development
- Administration DVD
- “How to KRA-L” Guide
- Family Guide
- Score Interpretation Guide
- Results by county by district

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# Challenges/Lessons Learned

- No sub-test level data
- Treating instrument as secure test material
- Inappropriate use of instrument by early childhood providers
- Support of assessment office

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# Enhancements

- Development of new equivalent form
- Exploration of mathematics component
- Linkages to pre-K data and grade 3 Ohio Achievement Test (OAT)