



# Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills 8<sup>th</sup> Edition

Australasian Version

*Maze* Progress Monitoring

Grade 2

Administration Directions and Scoring Keys

Examiner script	
<p>I am going to give you a worksheet. When you get your worksheet, please write your name at the top and put your pencil down.</p> <p>(Hand out the Maze student worksheets. Make sure students have written their names down before proceeding.)</p> <p>You are going to read a passage with some words missing from it. For each missing word you will see a box with three words in it. Your job is to circle the word you think makes the most sense in the context of the passage. Let’s look at the Practice Passage together. Listen as I read.</p> <p>Tom goes to a school far from his house. Every morning, he takes a school (pause) art, bus, work (pause) to go to school.</p> <p>Let’s stop there. Let’s circle the word “bus” because I think “bus” makes the most sense here. Listen to how that sentence sounds now.</p> <p>Every morning, he takes a school <u>bus</u> to go to school.</p> <p>Now it’s your turn. Read the next sentence <u>silently</u> to yourself. When you come to a box, read all the words in the box and circle the word that makes the most sense to you. When you are done, put your pencil down.</p> <p>(Allow up to 30 seconds for students to complete the example and put their pencils down.)</p> <p>If necessary, after 30 seconds say <b>Put your pencil down.</b> As soon as all students have their pencils down, say <b>Good job.</b></p> <p>Now listen. In the (pause) afternoon, library, morning (pause), he also takes a bus home. You should have circled “afternoon” because “afternoon” makes the most sense. Listen. In the <u>afternoon</u>, he also takes a bus home.</p> <p>Okay, when I say “Begin,” turn the page and start reading the passage silently. Start on the page with the title. When you come to a box, read all the words in the box and circle the word that makes the most sense in the passage. You will stop when you come to a stop sign or I say Stop. Ready? Begin. Start the timer.</p> <p>At the end of <u>3 minutes</u>, stop the timer and say <b>Stop. Put your pencils down.</b></p>	
Reminders	
Start timer	Start the timer after you say <b>Begin.</b>
Prompts	<p>If a student starts reading the passage out loud, say <b>Please read the passage silently.</b> (Repeat as often as needed.)</p> <p>If a student skips an entire page, say, <b>Please be sure not to skip pages.</b></p> <p>If a student stops working, say <b>Please keep going until I tell you to stop. Just do your best work.</b> (Repeat as often as needed.)</p>
Discontinue	There is no discontinue rule. Every student should be encouraged to try their best until three minutes have passed.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Practice Passage

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Correct: \_\_\_\_\_

Incorrect: \_\_\_\_\_

Adjusted Score: \_\_\_\_\_

## The Chairs

Jeffrey lived with his mum, dad, and little brother on a quiet  
dead-end street in the suburbs. On weekends, Jeffrey and his little  
brother often played cricket out in the street. They'd shout and  
make a lot **of** noise hitting the ball with a **wooden** bat. 2  
Sometimes the ball got out **of** control and flew into another 3  
family's **garden**. Jeffrey would run to get it **back** and toss it 5  
to his brother.

**Nobody** minded that Jeffrey and his brother **made** a 7  
racket playing cricket or that Jeffrey **dashed** across their fresh, 8  
green, well-watered lawns **to** retrieve his cricket ball, nobody 9

Keep going ►

except for **one** neighbour who lived across the street. **This** 11

neighbour was named Mr. Chang. Once, **when** Jeffrey ran into 12

his garden to **get** his cricket, Mr. Chang came out **and** made 14

a cranky face. That was **the** only time Jeffrey really saw him. 15

Mr. Chang **never** sat in his garden. But one **day**, Jeffrey 17

saw two new chairs in Mr. Chang's **lawn**. 18

One chair was blue, and the **other** was red. Mr. Chang 19

always had **a** sour look on his face. It **was** hard to think of him 21

sitting **in** such cheerful looking chairs. 22

Later that **same** day, Jeffrey saw two more chairs 23

**on** Mr. Chang's lawn! They were yellow **and** green. The 25

**Keep going ►**

row of chairs pointed **right** at Jeffrey's house.

26

"Creepy," said Jeffrey. "**It's** like he's spying on us,"

27

said **his** mum.

28

The next morning, two more **chairs** were there: pink and

29

orange! They **all** faced Jeffrey's front door.

30

"I don't **like** those empty chairs," Jeffrey's mum said

31

**after** dinner. "They're harmless," Jeffrey's dad replied.

32

**Just** then the doorbell rang. Jeffrey answered **the**

34

door with his dad.

A woman **they** did not know stood there. She

**said**

36

Keep going ►

Mr. Chang was her father. She **said**, “Dad got new chairs to 37  
 watch **the** shooting stars tomorrow night. He would **like** you 39  
 to join us to watch **them**.” 40  
 Jeffrey and his dad looked at **each** other. His dad smiled 41  
 and said, “**How** kind! Jeffrey loves looking at the **night** sky.” 42  
 Jeffrey smiled. Yes! He had **almost** forgotten about the 43  
 upcoming meteor shower. He said, “Thanks. We’ll be there!” 44



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## The Plane

The two children had never been on an plane before. Roy was very nervous. As they waited at the gate to board their plane,

he thought that **his** sister seemed a little nervous, too. 1

**He** asked Jane if she was worried **or** afraid. She cracked 3

her gum and **said** “No, silly. Why should I be? **Flying** is the 5

safest way to travel.”

**As** they waited for the plane to **take** off, Jane chewed 7

and popped her **gum**. Roy’s throat felt tight. He began **to** 9

sweat.

Roy’s mother reached over from **the** aisle seat. She patted 10

Keep going ►

his arm. “ **Everything’s** fine,” she said. 11

Now the plane **began** to move. Roy gazed out the **window** 12

at the grassy field beside the **runway** . 14

The engines roared. As the plane **went** faster and faster, 15

the field suddenly **turned** into a green blur. 16

Then Roy **was** pressed back in his seat as **the** plane 18

picked up even more speed. **Wow** ! 19

The cabin tilted upward. Roy saw **that** they were not on the 20

ground **anymore** . They were rising fast above the **earth** . 22

“Mum! Look!” he cried. He couldn’t **stop** looking as the 23

Keep going ►

fields became smaller **and** smaller. He saw a distant winding 24

**river** and some small lakes shining in **the** sunlight. 26

Then they flew into a **cloud**. Everything outside the plane 27  
turned white.

**After** a few minutes, the jet flew **out** of the cloud. Roy 29  
was now **looking** at a sea of clouds from **above**. 31

The clouds billowed up pure white, **making** all sorts of 32  
strange shapes like **snow** castles. The sky was bright blue. 33

Roy's **ears** felt clogged. He was having trouble **hearing** 35  
anything.

Keep going ►

He turned to Jane and **pointed** at his ears. She took a 36  
**piece** of gum out of her pocket, **unwrapped** it from the 38  
wrapper, and gave **it** to him. 39  
She said something, but **he** couldn't hear it. She pointed to 40  
**her** mouth and popped a bubble silently. 41  
"Oh," Roy **said** . His own voice sounded small and **far** 43  
away. But he understood now what Jane **was** telling him. 44  
He put the gum **in** his mouth and chewed it. After **he'd** 46  
chewed a few times, his ears **popped** . He could hear everything 47  
in the cabin again, loud and crystal clear.





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## The Starry Sky

Irena's sister had gotten married that day. It was night now.

The wedding reception was still going **on**. It had turned into a  
loud **dance** party.

Irena danced with her father **to** the loud music. Her father  
danced **in** a fast and silly way that **made** her laugh. He jumped  
up and **down** and punched at the air with **his** fists. Irena got  
tired after a **while**. Then she went back to the **table** where her

mother was sitting. She **was** hot and sweaty. Her mother picked  
**up** a napkin and fanned her face **with** it.

Irena yawned. She was so **sleepy** that she forgot to cover

Keep going ►

the **yawn** with her hand. Her mother just **said**, “Why don’t 15

you go get some **air**? It’s so much cooler outside.” 16

So Irena **walked** out of the hotel onto the **lawn**. It was 18

night, and crickets were **singing**. She could see stars, and even 19

**the** Milky Way. And she could hear **waves** crashing on the 21

beach across the **street** from the hotel. She sat down **on** the 23

grass.

A few minutes later, Irena’s **father** came out to find her. He 24

**called** her name as he crossed the **lawn**. At first, she did not 26

even **hear** him. 27

The night sky, full of **both** brilliant and dim stars, amazed 28

**Keep going** ►



her **as** if she'd never looked at it **before** . It was so big and 30

so **mysterious** ! You could not see all of **it** at once. 32

As Irena sat there **on** the lawn gazing straight up, her 33

**father** sat down beside her and stroked **her** hair. 35

“Aren’t you sleepy, Mouse?” he **asked** . 36

She turned her head to see **him** . She could see his face a 37

**little** by the light of the stars. **He** was smiling. 39

“You see,” he said. “**All** that cloudy stuff, that’s billions 40

of **stars** like our sun. It’s a whole **different** arm of the spiral 42

galaxy we’re **in** . This galaxy is at least two hundred thousand 43

Keep going ►

**light** years across. That means it takes two hundred thousand 44

**years** for light to get from one **end** to the other!” 46

“I know,” Irena **said** with a laugh. “I learned it **all** in 48  
school.”

“It’s amazing, though, isn’t **it** ?” 49

“Yes. Amazing,” Irena said.

Then they were both quiet, looking up.





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## Shadow Play

Do you know all the things your shadow can do? There are quite a few of them.

You can use your hands to **make** strange shadows on a wall. 1

Have **a** friend shine a torch and move **your** fingers and thumbs 3

in different ways **to** see what happens. Maybe you can 4

**make** a shadow that looks like a **dog**, or a cat, or even a 6

**dragon**. 7

You can play games with your **shadow** when you are 8

outside the house, **too**. Of course, it will have to **be** a sunny 10

day for this to **work**. You will not be able to **find** your shadow 12

Keep going ►

if it is raining.

**To** play with your own shadow you **will** have to find it 14  
first. But **you** won't have to look far. It **is** usually 16  
right at your feet. But **is** it in front, behind, or to **one** side of 18  
you? That all depends **on** where the light is coming from. 19  
**Mornings** and late afternoons are the best **times** to play 21  
with shadows. Shadows are **longer** then. Empty backyards or 22  
school playgrounds **are** often a good place to find **your** 24  
shadow. Try it! Then move around **and** watch how your shadow 25  
moves.

Once **you** have found your shadow, try to **jump** on it. 27

**Keep going ►**

Can you do it? **Or** does the shadow keep moving away **just** as 29  
you jump?

Try to chase **your** own shadow. Or run away while **it** 31  
chases you. Try to dance with **it** . Try to stand still and freeze 32

**your** shadow. Try holding up sticks or **branches** to make your 34  
shadow look strange.

**It** is even more fun to play **with** shadows if there is 36  
more than **one** person playing. Stand still and ask **a** friend 38

to trace your shadow with **a** piece of chalk. Then do the **same** 40  
with your friend's shadow.

Try playing **shadow** tag. In this game, you run **fast** after 42

**Keep going ►**

your friends and try to **step** on their shadows before they can 43

**get** away. The one whose shadow gets **stepped** on is “it.” 45

This game can **be** played with many friends at once. 46

**A** long time ago, people found that **they** could create 48

stories by casting shadows **on** a wall. They used pieces of 49

**paper** cut to look like animals and **people**. They placed a fire 51

behind the **paper** figures to cast shadows. Then they **made** the 53

shadows talk and have adventures. **It** was like going to the 54

movies. You can do all kinds of fun things with shadows.







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## The Dishwasher

I used to babysit my little brother after school. One day, Mum  
called home from work. She asked me to start the **dishwasher** . 1  
She had put dishes in the **dishwasher** that morning but forgot to 2  
start **it** . She suddenly remembered at work. That **was** why she 4  
called me. She wanted **to** have clean dishes when she got 5  
**home** . 6  
I said that I would start **the** dishwasher right away. So I 7  
went **into** the kitchen and put in some **detergent** . Then I 9  
pushed the “on” button **to** start it. 10  
I went back to **the** living room to finish my homework. 11

Keep going ►

**I** knew my mother liked it when **I** had all my homework 13  
 done before **dinner** time. I could not relax until **I** had done it. 15  
 Soon my little **brother** got hungry. He went for a **snack**. 17  
 He often got himself a snack **in** the afternoons. He got it by 18  
**himself** so that I could concentrate on **my** homework. I heard 20  
 him scream, “Katie!”  
**I** sighed. I put down my pencil **and** went to check 22  
 on him. He **was** standing in the hall. His mouth **was** open. 24  
 His eyes were wide. I **looked**. I saw the kitchen floor covered 25  
**in** white bubbles. More bubbles were coming **out** of the 27  
 sides and bottom of **the** dishwasher. 28

Keep going ►

I knew what had happened. **I** put hand soap into the  
dishwasher **instead** of the dishwashing detergent. This was **a**  
big mistake. My mother would be **upset** at seeing the kitchen  
full of **soap** bubbles.

My little brother and I **found** towels. We spent the next few  
**hours** cleaning up the bubbles from the **kitchen** floor. We  
used every towel in **the** house. It took us two hours **to**  
clean up the mess. We just **barely** finished in time.

At five thirty **in** the afternoon, Mum got home from  
**work**. The bubbles were all gone.

We **kept** our secret. After dinner, we went **into** the

Keep going ►

living room to watch TV. **Half** an hour later Mum loudly called **44**

**out**, “Kids! Get in here!” **45**

We forgot **to** clean the soap from inside the **dishwasher** **46**

. When Mum ran it after dinner, the bubbles started all over again. **47**





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# Tin

One day, as I was walking down the street, I saw an empty tin can. I kicked the can so hard it hit a tree. I liked the sound it made.

When I got to school, I asked my teacher what tin is. He 2  
said that tin is a metal. I asked him where it comes from. He 4  
said that tin is found in other rocks. It has to be dug out of 6  
the ground. 7  
Tin miners dig deep pits into the earth. As the pits get 8  
deeper and deeper, the miners climb down into them using 10  
ropes or ladders.

Keep going ►

Once **the** rocks are out of the ground, **they** have to be 12  
 melted to get **the** tin out. It all sounds hard! **But** tin has so 14  
 many uses that **people** think the hard work is worth **it**. Tin is 16  
 used in devices like **phones** and computers. It is also used **for** 18  
 making signs. It was once used **for** making tinfoil to wrap up 19  
 food **in**, but now aluminum is used for **that**. 21  
 Tin isn't the only metal found **inside** rocks. Gold, for 22  
 example, is also **found** inside rocks. That was what my **teacher** 23  
 went on to say. 24  
 I asked, "**Are** there any metals that aren't found **in** 26  
 rocks?"

Keep going ►

That's when he told me **about** bronze. Bronze is a metal 27

that **people** just made up! I shook my **head** in amazement. 29

He said that bronze **is** made by mixing melted tin with 30

**melted** copper. People discovered this metal in **ancient** times 32

and they put it to **all** kinds of different uses. Some of **the** 34

things people made with bronze back **then** – like bowls and 35

daggers – can be **found** in museums. 36

Then I thought about **the** can I had kicked. If tin **was** so 38

hard to get, I asked, “**Why** do we make cans out of **it** ?” 40

That was when he told me **that** tin cans are not made of 41

**tin** ! They are steel covered with a **thin** layer of tin. But 43

**Keep going ►**

both tin **and** steel can be recycled. So, next time I see a tin can **44**  
on the street, I am going to pick it up instead of kicking it!



