

## Australasian Materials

### *Benchmark Materials*

### The Why

South Australia Department of Education did a study with 111 schools and over 5,000 year 2 students. They helped revise DIBELS 8<sup>th</sup> Edition Oral Reading Fluency measures to account for differences between American and Australian English. No significant differences were found in the scores of the American vs Australian versions of the measures. Nonetheless, the Australian materials were deemed more culturally appropriate.

In the meantime, Australian and New Zealand users have increasingly been asking for more linguistically and culturally appropriate measures. As a result, we bring you the DIBELS 8<sup>th</sup> Edition Australasian Version of the benchmark materials for kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

### The Basic Changes

Changes occurred in the Word Reading Fluency, Oral Reading Fluency, and Maze measures for first through sixth grades. Changes made were mostly isolated to spelling (e.g., theater → theatre and flavor → flavour) and vocabulary differences (e.g., parking lot → car park). Occasionally there were changes to place names (e.g., United States → Australia) or other miscellaneous terms to make texts more accessible. In all cases, we tried to minimize the number and magnitude of the changes.

### The Specific Changes

#### Oral Reading Fluency

Category	Examples	Affected Forms
<b>Spelling</b>	color → colour organizing → organising	BM 1.EOY, BM 2.BOY, BM 3.BOY, BM 4.EOY, BM 5.BOY, BM 6.EOY
<b>Vocabulary</b>	bill → note faucet → tap parking lot → car park	BM 1.BOY, BM 1.MOY, BM 1.EOY, BM 2.BOY, BM 2.MOY, BM 2.EOY, BM 3.MOY, BM 4.MOY, BM 5.EOY
<b>Familial names</b>	Mom → Mum	BM 2.BOY, BM 4.MOY
<b>Word counts</b>		BM 1.BOY, BM 2.BOY
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	gotten → become	BM 2.BOY, BM 2.MOY, BM 3.BOY, BM 3.EOY, BM 5.BOY, BM 5.MOY

#### Word Reading Fluency

Category	Examples	Affected Forms
<b>Spelling</b>	favor → favour	BM 3.BOY, BM 3.MOY, BM 3.EOY, BM 2.BOY, BM 2.MOY

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<b>Vocabulary</b>	mile → kilometre	BM 3.BOY, BM 2.EOY
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	cent → scent	BM 3.MOY, BM 3.EOY

## Maze

Category	Examples	Affected Forms
<b>Spelling</b>	curb → kerb color → colour	BM 2.BOY, BM 2.MOY, BM 3.BOY, BM 3.MOY, BM 3.EOY, BM 4.BOY, BM 4.EOY, BM 5.BOY, BM 5.EOY, BM 6.BOY, BM 6.MOY, BM 6.EOY
<b>Vocabulary</b>	mile → kilometre soda → drink yard → garden fall → autumn	BM 2.BOY, BM 2.MOY, BM 2.EOY, BM 3.BOY, BM 3.MOY, BM 3.EOY, BM 4.BOY, BM 4.MOY, BM 4.EOY, BM 6.EOY, BM 6.MOY
<b>Animal names</b>	moose → kangaroo	BM 3.BOY
<b>Familial names</b>	mom → mum	BM 3.BOY, BM 4.EOY
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	popular → friendly you've got → you have Americans → Australians	BM 2.MOY, BM 3.BOY, BM 3.MOY, BM 3.EOY, BM 4.MOY, BM 4.EOY, BM 5.BOY, BM 5.MOY, BM 5.EOY, BM 6.BOY, BM 6.MOY, BM 6.EOY

## What We Didn't Change

Pronunciation guides were not updated because DIBELS 8<sup>th</sup> Edition already has scoring rules regarding differences in dialect. (See the **ADMINISTRATION AND SCORING GUIDE**, starting on page 46 under *Important Considerations for Inclusive and Accurate Scoring* and specifically on page 49 under *Articulation, Accent, and Dialect*)

## Special Thanks

We thank educators in Australia and New Zealand for their significant contributions to the adaptation of these materials. Special thanks to Jennifer Jakobi in Australia and Emma Nahna in New Zealand for their efforts and to the South Australia Department of Education for their close review of all materials.