

Mathematics, Self-Regulation, Social Skills, and Mental Health Assessments Pilot: Grades 1-3



The [Virginia Kindergarten Readiness Program \(VKRP\)](#), in partnership with the [Virginia Department of Education \(VDOE\)](#), is developing longitudinal measures of mathematics, self-regulation, social skills, and mental health for children aged 3 through kindergarten.

These measures complement Virginia's longstanding use of literacy screening in the primary grades (PALS) and the [Virginia Literacy Partnership's](#) revision of Virginia's statewide literacy screening system. As required by Virginia's 2023-2024 Biennial Budget, the VKRP team, in collaboration with VDOE, is conducting a mathematics, self-regulation, social skills, and mental health assessment pilot for grades 1-3. At the conclusion of the pilot, VKRP will report out what we have learned.

Why is VKRP/VDOE conducting a mathematics, self-regulation, social skills, and mental health assessment pilot in grades 1-3?

School and division leaders, teachers, and families across Virginia have expressed interest in understanding how young students are developing into the early elementary grades and how to better track student growth from pre-kindergarten through the early grades. Currently, there are several gaps:

- Apart from literacy, there are no statewide assessments that measure students' early learning in these areas in grades 1 and 2.
- Additionally, there are no statewide assessments that track students' within year and year-to-year growth in these areas from pre-kindergarten through grade 3 (noting there are growth assessments in mathematics starting in grade 3).
- School divisions vary in their approach to student assessments in the early elementary grades.

What are the goals of the pilot?

- Gather information about existing assessments to learn what types of measures are currently being used in school divisions to understand students' development and learning in the early grades.
- Engage families, teachers, and school, division, and state leaders to gain their perspectives on gaps in data on students' mathematics, self-regulation, social skills, and mental health and determine where strong data already exist in the early elementary grades.
- Pilot items in grades 1-3 in a subset of school divisions that could potentially be used as part of a statewide suite of assessments to better understand student progress in mathematics, social skills, self-regulation, and mental health.

What is the timeline for the project?

2022 - 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gather information from stakeholders, including subject matter experts• Develop and pilot items
2023 - 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue to pilot items and assessments• Gather feedback• Provide report of findings to VDOE

Filling in the Gaps

This pilot fills in gaps to track growth and better understand students' development in the early elementary grades beyond literacy.



Have questions about the pilot? Please contact us.



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