

Virginia Kindergarten Readiness Program



The Virginia Kindergarten Readiness Program (VKRP) is a statewide and longitudinal system that gives leaders, teachers, and families in schools and early childhood sites a more comprehensive understanding of school readiness from preschool through kindergarten. VKRP places an equal emphasis on children's academic and social-emotional skills because both are critical for long-term success in school and life.

A Snapshot of Children's Learning Across Four Key Areas

LANGUAGE &
LITERACY
(VALLSS)

MATHEMATICS

SELF-REGULATION

SOCIAL SKILLS

VKRP: A Coordinated System

VKRP is administered through VAConnects, Virginia's integrated platform, for educators and administrators to assess, track, and report progress using LinkB5, VALLSS, and VKRP.



Developmentally-Appropriate Tools

Measures students' early mathematics, self-regulation, and social skills and complements Virginia's assessment of language and literacy skills (VALLS: Pre-K and VALLS: Kindergarten)



Comprehensive Reporting System

Provides reports of students' skills at the student, classroom, school, and division/program levels for teachers, families, administrators, and division/program leaders



Instructional Resources

Offers training, guides, and activities to better understand and support students' skill development



VKRP Provides Actionable Data for Better Decision-Making



A unified statewide school readiness measure ensures all children enter school prepared to learn. Through comprehensive, actionable assessments, VKRP strengthens collaboration among educators, families, and communities, building a solid foundation for lifelong success across the Commonwealth.

Benefits For Educators

- Guide instruction and interactions
- Help understand children's growth
- Refer for prevention and early intervention

Benefits For Families

- Help families understand school readiness, children's strengths and needs
- Partner with families to promote children's skills and positive school experiences

Benefits For Leaders

- Target teacher professional development
- Better understand how investments are working and support school and program improvement



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Get to Know the Tools


VALLSS



Virginia Language & Literacy Screening System

Measures language and literacy in the areas of alphabet knowledge, phonological awareness, passage comprehension, and emergent writing. Learn more at [Virginia Literacy Partnerships](#).


EMAS



Early Mathematics Assessment System

Measures children’s mathematical skills in the areas of numeracy, computation, patterning, and geometry. Teachers administer the EMAS individually to students to understand their early math skills.

CBRS




Child Behavior Rating Scale

Measures two domains of readiness, self-regulation and social skills. Teachers complete a short rating scale based on children's behaviors observed in the school setting.


VKRP Implementation Across the School Year

VKRP measures key readiness skills at fall, mid-year, and spring. Reports are available for each time point, helping teachers and administrators support students in their continual development and growth.


Key Characteristics of VKRP Tools




Easy to deliver




Reliable and valid




Include suggested accommodations for inclusive use



Developmentally appropriate



Show growth over time




Guide instruction

VKRP Over Time: 2013 to Today

Since 2013, VKRP has expanded from a pilot in 100 kindergarten classrooms to a statewide longitudinal readiness assessment system in kindergarten. It is also available in publicly funded pre-kindergarten programs and required in VPI and Mixed Delivery. Measures are currently being piloted in grades 1 through 3. Starting fall 2025, VKRP has become part of VAConnects, an integrated data system that includes LinkB5, VALLSS, and VKRP.

VKRP Participation Fall 2025



Kindergarten:
~82,769 students in 5,000 classrooms

Pre-kindergarten:
~38,677 students in 3,344 classrooms

VKRP Milestones

2013-2015

Tools selected, piloted, and measured

2015-2019

Kindergarten voluntary roll-out

Initial pre-kindergarten development

2019-2021

Start of statewide kindergarten implementation

Pre-kindergarten voluntary roll-out

2021-2022

Four-year-old roll-out

Three-year-old development

2022-2023

Start of statewide pre-kindergarten implementation

Implementation of grades 1-3 assessment pilot

2024-2026

Added mid-year assessment time point

VKRP integrated into VAConnects with VALLSS and LinkB5