

1 DIBELS® Nonsense Word Fluency Directions

Make sure you have reviewed the directions in the *DIBELS Assessment Manual* and have them available. Say these specific directions to the student:

- **We are going to read some make-believe words. Listen. This word is “sog.”** (Run your finger under the word as you say it.) **The sounds are /s/ /o/ /g/** (point to each letter). **Your turn. Read this make-believe word** (point to the word “mip”). **If you can’t read the whole word, tell me any sounds you know.**

Correct Whole Word Read mip	Very good reading the word “mip.”	(Begin testing.)
Correct Letter Sounds Any other response with all the correct letter sounds	Very good. /m/ /i/ /p/ (point to each letter) or “mip” (run your finger under the word as you say it).	(Begin testing.)
Incorrect response No response within 3 seconds, or response includes any errors	Listen. /m/ /i/ /p/ or “mip.” (Run your finger under the letters as you say the sounds.) Your turn. Read this make-believe word. (Point to the word “mip.”) If you can’t read the whole word, tell me any sounds you know.	<div>Correct response Very good. (Begin testing.)</div> <div>Incorrect response Okay. (Begin testing.)</div>

- Begin testing. **I would like you to read more make-believe words. Do your best reading. If you can’t read the whole word, tell me any sounds you know.** (Place the student copy in front of the student.) **Put your finger under the first word. Ready, begin.**

1 DIBELS® Nonsense Word Fluency Directions continued

Timing	1 minute. Start your stopwatch after telling the student to begin. Place a bracket () and say Stop after 1 minute.
Wait	If the student responds sound-by-sound, mixes sounds and words, or sounds out and recodes, allow 3 seconds, then provide the correct letter sound. If the student responds with whole words, allow 3 seconds, then provide the correct word.
Discontinue	If the student has no correct letter sounds in the first line, say Stop and record a score of 0.
Reminders	<p>If the student does not read from left to right, say Go this way. (Sweep your finger across the row.) (Allowed one time.)</p> <p>If the student says letter names, say Say the sounds, not the letter names. (Allowed one time.)</p> <p>If the student reads the word first, then says the letter sounds, say Just read the word. (Allowed one time.)</p> <p>If the student says all of the letter sounds correctly in the first row, but does not make any attempt to blend or recode, say Try to read the words as whole words.</p> <p>If the student stops (and it’s not a hesitation on a specific item), say Keep going. (Repeat as often as needed.)</p> <p>If the student loses his/her place, point. (Repeat as often as needed.)</p>

Name: _____

Date: _____

Teacher: _____

School: _____

1 DIBELS® Nonsense Word Fluency

Grade 1/Benchmark 1

	CLS	WWR
▶ b o l k i v u l j a c l e l	/14 (14)	
f i j k u g j a t o j d e g	/14 (28)	
w a v p e k y o s m u b f i v	/15 (43)	
e c f a j v o g k i f p u k	/14 (57)	
o g w a p f e c p i m f u j	/14 (71)	
k a g v o v n i l p e v z u b	/15 (86)	
s e b a v z u p p i j b o k	/14 (100)	
f u l f a v z e c s i c o t	/14 (114)	
s o p t u v z e v t i b z a k	/15 (129)	
z o c a c b e j l i k f u f	/14 (143)	

Beginning of the Year
DIBELS Next Benchmark Goals

NWF-CLS

0-17	Well Below
18-26	Below
27-33	At
34+	Above

NWF-WWR

0	Below
1-3	At
4+	Above

Total Correct Letter Sounds (CLS): _____

NWF Response Patterns:

Total Whole Words Read (WWR): _____

☐ Says correct sounds out of order
(sound-by-sound)

☐ Makes random errors

☐ Says correct sounds, does not recode

☐ Says correct sounds, recodes out of order

☐ Says correct sounds, recodes with
incorrect sound(s)

☐ Says correct sounds and correctly
recodes

☐ Doesn't track correctly

☐ Tries to turn nonsense words into real words

☐ Makes consistent errors on specific letter
sound(s)

☐ Other