

PALS español General Questions

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1. Why use PALS español?

PALS español measures children's developing knowledge of the fundamental components of Spanish literacy in Kindergarten through 3rd grade.

Early assessment with PALS español helps teachers:

- Identify students' literacy strengths in their native Spanish.
- Individualize instruction to accelerate reading development in both English and Spanish.
- Identify students with reading difficulties without waiting until they are proficient enough to be assessed in English.

2. Is PALS español a translation of the English version of PALS?

No. PALS español tasks are parallel to English PALS tasks but are NOT translations. PALS español was developed separately from the English version, with its own field studies and piloting process, at the University of Virginia. You can find the Technical References for PALS español at www.ioeducation.com

3. What information does PALS español provide to teachers?

PALS español K assesses phonological awareness, alphabet knowledge, letter-sound knowledge, and concept of word in text.

PALS español 1-3 assesses word knowledge (including spelling), oral reading (accuracy, comprehension, rate, and fluency), alphabet and digraph knowledge, letter-sound knowledge, and phonemic awareness.

4. Which students benefit from PALS español?

PALS español measures the literacy progress of students who:

- Receive instruction in both English and Spanish.
- Are transitioning from Spanish to English instruction.
- Speak Spanish at home and English at school.

5. Who can administer PALS español?

PALS español should be administered by a fluent speaker of Spanish, as each task is administered in Spanish. Ideally, the person who administers PALS español to the student is the same person who plans and implements that student's literacy instruction.

6. How are PALS español scores entered? Is the Online Assessment Wizard (OAW) available for PALS español?

The Online Assessment Wizard for PALS español scores is, in fact, the only available way to enter these scores. Once a teacher's PALS Online account has had the "Spanish scores" feature activated by our office, the teacher can enter scores into the PALS español OAW and have immediate access to reports that guide instruction and intervention.

7. Is it possible to enter both English and Spanish scores for the same student?

Yes. If a teacher's PALS Online account is activated to receive Spanish scores, anyone with access to that class page through her/his own PALS Online account may enter either or both English and Spanish scores for each student.

8. What reports are currently available for PALS español? What reports will be available in the future?

The reports currently available for PALS español are the Student Summary and Class Summary. We are working on making all of the reports available for PALS español that are currently available for the English version of PALS.

9. Will there ever be a PALS español for PreK students?

PALS español for PreK is currently in development at the University of Virginia.