

Dear Families,

The Wilson Area School District is committed to helping our students become successful readers. As part of this commitment, we administer the **DIBELS Next** assessment to collect data on our students' reading skills.

DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) Next assesses five skills necessary for becoming successful readers. These skills include:

- **Phonemic Awareness** – the ability to hear and manipulate individual sounds in words
- **Alphabetic Principle (Phonics)** – the principle that letters represent individual phonemes (sounds) in the spoken word
- **Fluency** - to read quickly and easily to support sufficient understanding of text
- **Vocabulary** – the ability to understand and use a variety of words to acquire and convey meaning
- **Comprehension** – the ability to understand what is being read or spoken

We utilize this data to determine instructional needs. Students are placed in skill specific intervention groups based on the data obtained from their DIBELS assessment and additional skill inventories. A student receives small group instruction on his or her targeted skill until they demonstrate mastery.

The intervention page identifies which skill group(s) your child is currently in. This page can be found in your child's folder or agenda book. For skill-specific information and activities visit:

1. www.wilsonareasd.org
2. Click on Schools → Wilson Elementary
3. Click on Parents & Students → Resources → Reading Resources

The resources and activities provided are only suggestions – please see your child's classroom teacher for any additional recommendations, or if you need assistance accessing the information.

Through the combination of instruction at school and your additional help at home, we hope to reach our goal of ensuring all Wilson Area School District students become successful readers.

Thank you for your continued support.

