

TPRI® & tejas·LEE®

Top 10 Things Administrators Are Asking

1 What difference can TPRI® and Tejas LEE® make in my school or district?

When it comes to preventing reading difficulties, early intervention is the key. Children don't outgrow reading problems: A child who is a poor reader at the end of first grade has an almost 90% chance of remaining a poor reader at the end of Grade 4 (Juel, 1988) and at least a 75% chance of being a poor reader as long as they are in school (Francis et al., 1996 in Denton, 2010). That's why it's so critical to use TPRI® and Tejas LEE®, two systems that identify potential reading difficulties early and help K-3 teachers resolve those problems *before* they become chronic.

With TPRI® and Tejas LEE®, everyone benefits: teachers, students, and entire schools and districts. Teachers are empowered with the effective, research-based tools they need to assess reading skills, differentiate instruction, and monitor student progress. Students at risk for reading failure get the early and individualized help they need, setting them on the path to better academic outcomes. And with the data you collect using TPRI® and Tejas LEE®, you'll understand the strengths and weaknesses of your school or district's curricula and practices, so you can make critical decisions about instruction.

2 What makes TPRI® and Tejas LEE® different from other reading assessments?

TPRI® and Tejas LEE® are focused on teaching, not testing. A perfect fit with the RTI model, both systems were developed to help teachers target and differentiate instruction so all students see real reading progress. Unlike other systems, TPRI® and Tejas LEE® are also comprehensive solutions that go far beyond diagnostic assessment of student skills. The Intervention Activities Guides—one for TPRI®, one for Tejas LEE®—are filled with targeted interventions to link assessment directly to instruction, and the grouping and lesson planning tools help teachers differentiate instruction easily (download a [sample grouping tool](#)). And with the proven progress monitoring kits, teachers can conduct fast, efficient tracking of student progress.

3 Do TPRI® and Tejas LEE® align with my state standards?

TPRI® and Tejas LEE® are assessments that incorporate years of scientifically based research. Both were developed by the Texas Education Agency, The University of Texas System, and The University of Houston. They were designed to align with Texas standards, but these standards are likely to be similar in most fundamental ways to the early reading standards of other states and school districts. Schools and districts are encouraged to refer to what their curriculum and state standards indicate. Get a [concise guide](#) to which areas are assessed with TPRI® and Tejas LEE®, so you can see at a glance if they fulfill your state's requirements.

4 Does TPRI® align with the new Common Core State Standards?

TPRI® helps teachers assess and improve the foundational skills for reading identified by the Common Core State Standards Initiative—including print concepts, phonological awareness, word recognition, and fluency.

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Can TPRI® and Tejas LEE® be used with my current reading curriculum?

Yes. Regardless of the particular instructional method or curriculum they use, all teachers of young readers aim to assess and improve their students’ literacy skills: phonemic awareness, phonics, spelling, word reading, reading comprehension, reading fluency and reading accuracy. Because TPRI® and Tejas LEE® target all of these key reading concepts and skills, they can work successfully within any reading curriculum.

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How much teacher training is required?

Training is strongly recommended to ensure appropriate administration and accurate results when using TPRI® and Tejas LEE®. Training by certified TPRI® and Tejas LEE® trainers is the only approved training. Certified trainers have been taught by the developers of TPRI® and Tejas LEE® and have extensive knowledge about administration. These trainers provide the most accurate and up-to-date information on both instruments. For more information about training for TPRI® and Tejas LEE®, please contact your **Brookes Publishing sales representative**.

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How long does it take to administer?

There is no set answer to this question, as it depends on the tool, the grade level being administered, and the skill level of the student. The table below shows the average time a teacher can expect a TPRI® or Tejas LEE® assessment to take.

How Long Do TPRI® and Tejas LEE® Take?

	Kindergarten	Grade 1	Grades 2 & 3
TPRI®	10–30 minutes per student	10–45 minutes per student	10–15 minutes per student
Tejas LEE®	10–20 minutes per student	10–25 minutes per student	10–15 minutes per student

To conserve administration time and minimize student frustration, branching rules were developed. In many areas, the tasks are ordered by difficulty, and the branching rules allow the teacher to skip sections that the student will not be likely to complete based on their performance on easier tasks. Administration rules also allow teachers to skip over sections that students have already mastered.

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What is the difference between TPRI® and Tejas LEE®?

The most important difference between the two instruments is that they don’t assess exactly the same set of reading skills: Tejas LEE® was specifically developed to address the skills and development of Spanish literacy, while TPRI® captures skills and steps in the development of English reading. In addition, Tejas LEE® and TPRI® were developed independently and piloted on different populations of students, so it is not possible to compare results from TPRI® with results from Tejas LEE®. The Tejas LEE® is NOT a Spanish version or translation of TPRI®. It is specifically designed to examine student performance in Spanish and to plan Spanish reading instruction. TPRI® should be used only to examine student performance in English and to plan English reading instruction.

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When should assessments be administered?

TPRI® and Tejas LEE® are designed to be administered at specific time points during the school year, but schools and districts set the actual dates they will assess. Below is a recommended schedule for the administration of TPRI® and Tejas LEE®.

When	Kindergarten	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3
Beginning of Year (BOY)	6 weeks after the beginning of the school year	2 weeks after the beginning of the school year		
Middle of Year (MOY)	Mid-January (4–5 months after the beginning of the school year)			
End of Year (EOY)	Mid-April (1 month before the end of the school year)			

What products will my teachers need to conduct TPRI® and/or Tejas LEE® for each grade?

To conduct complete assessment, intervention, and progress monitoring with TPRI® and Tejas LEE®, you'll need to purchase the main kit (called the Benchmarking Kit in TPRI® and the Assessment Kit in Tejas LEE®), plus the Intervention Activities Guide, a grade-specific progress monitoring kit, and the Student Record & Class Summary Sheets.

For more detailed information, download these helpful sheets for the products you'll need for each grade.

[TPRI What do I need?](#) | [Tejas LEE What do I need?](#)

References

Denton, C. (April 2010). Reading Disabilities? Reading Difficulties? Dyslexia? Making Sense of It All. Council for Exceptional Children. Retrieved from <http://www.texasldcenter.org/research/files/cec10-denton.pdf>.

Juel, C. (1988). Learning to read and write: A longitudinal study of 54 children from first through fourth grades. *Journal of Educational Psychology*, 80 (4).

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