The Fountas & Pinnell
Benchmark Assessment System

Teacher’s Most Reliable Resource for:
• Determining students’ independent and instructional reading levels according to the F&P Text Level Gradient™
• Connecting assessment to instruction.

Informative.
Insightful.
Instructive.

FROM THE CREATORS OF THE F&P TEXT LEVEL GRADIENT™
The Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment Systems

Assess with Accuracy and Expertise
Help students achieve literacy growth throughout the year with the Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment Systems (BAS). The most comprehensive one-on-one formative and summative assessment tool to . . .

- Identify the instructional and independent reading levels of all students.
- Observe and identify students’ literacy strengths and needs.
- Elevate the expertise of teachers.
- Form initial groups for reading instruction.
- Document student progress.
- Guide classroom teachers in delivering high-impact literacy instruction.
- Connect assessment to instruction with The Literacy Continuum.

“The ability to observe, analyze, and interpret reading behavior is foundational to effective teaching.”

— Irene C. Fountas and Gay Su Pinnell
Engage students with original, high-quality benchmark books.

The Benchmark Assessment Systems include unique, fiction and nonfiction books written expressly for the purposes of literacy assessment along the F&P Text Level Gradient™.

Conduct comprehension conversations that go beyond retelling to reveal a reader’s thinking within, beyond, and about the text.

An innovative Comprehension Conversation is part of the assessment protocol at every level and provides details about a reader’s thinking within, beyond, and about the text.

Connect assessment to targeted, high-impact teaching with The Literacy Continuum.

A copy of The Fountas & Pinnell Literacy Continuum is included in each Benchmark Assessment System. This tool helps teachers link the results of the assessment to their teaching to ensure students’ growth as learners.

Elevate teacher expertise with professional development.

Embedded Professional Development videos provide models of teachers implementing the assessment, opportunities for coding and scoring practice, and data-analysis discussion. Additional seminars and webinars are available to further elevate teacher expertise.

“The primary purpose of assessment is to gather data to inform teaching. If assessment does not result in improved teaching, then its value in school diminishes greatly.”

— Irene C. Fountas and Gay Su Pinnell

From Assessment to Instruction
Complete Tools for a Comprehensive Assessment

The *Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment Systems* provide teachers with precise tools and texts to observe and quantify specific reading behaviors, and then interpret and use that data to plan meaningful instruction. To facilitate a reading record, each book has a corresponding three-part Recording Form that guides the assessment conference at all levels.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PART ONE: ORAL READING</th>
<th>PART TWO: COMPREHENSION CONVERSATION</th>
<th>PART THREE: WRITING ABOUT READING (OPTIONAL)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Observe and code students reading behavior through oral reading. Use the Recording Form to capture:</td>
<td>Engage students in a Comprehension Conversation about the text with prompts to elicit key understandings for:</td>
<td>Prompt students to write/draw about one of the books they have read. This optional assessment provides additional evidence of a student’s understanding through a concrete sample of their thinking.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Accuracy Rate</td>
<td>• Thinking Within the Text</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Self-Correction Ratio</td>
<td>• Thinking Beyond the Text</td>
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<td>• Fluency Score</td>
<td>• Thinking About the Text</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Oral Reading Rate.</td>
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The extensive information gathered through the standard Benchmark Assessment text procedures outlined above provides clear direction for instruction. Additional Optional Literacy Assessments are also included to gather further diagnostic evidence about a student’s literacy knowledge when needed.

*The Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment Systems enable teachers to:*

- determine all students’ instructional and independent reading levels
- recommend a placement level for instruction
- form initial groups for reading instruction
- select texts that will be productive for instruction
- plan efficient and effective instruction
- identify students who need intervention and extra help
- assess the outcomes of teaching
- monitor and report student progress across a school year and across grade levels.
From the originators of the F&P Text Level Gradient™

Fountas and Pinnell have brought a systematic, critical sensibility to all areas of literacy instruction through publications like Guided Reading, Guiding Readers and Writers, Teaching for Comprehending and Fluency, and Genre Study. Their widely adopted F&P Text Level Gradient™ and The Literacy Continuum are essential resources for understanding students’ literacy development, and for planning targeted instruction to advance that development.

“Assessment must result in informed teaching. Assessment is not teaching; it is gathering information for teaching.”

— Irene C. Fountas and Gay Su Pinnell
Benchmark Assessment System Components

Using the Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment Systems to determine student’s independent and instructional reading levels, teachers are able to observe student reading behaviors one-on-one, engage in comprehension conversations that go beyond retelling, and make informed decisions that connect assessment to instruction.

Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System 1, 3rd Ed.
Grades K–2, Levels A–N
- 14 fiction books
- 14 nonfiction books
- Assessment Guide 1
- Assessment Forms book
- The Fountas & Pinnell Literacy Continuum
- Optional Assessments Student Forms Book
- F&P Calculator/Stopwatch
- 30 Student Folders
- Professional Development Video
- One-year subscription to Online Data Management System
- Access to Fountas & Pinnell Online Resources

Grades K–2 / 978-0-325-07769-7 / 2017

Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System 2, 3rd Ed.
Grades 3–8, Levels L–Z
- 15 fiction books
- 15 nonfiction books
- Assessment Guide 2
- Assessment Forms book
- The Fountas & Pinnell Literacy Continuum
- Optional Assessments Student Forms Book
- F&P Calculator/Stopwatch
- 30 Student Folders
- Professional Development Video
- One-year subscription to Online Data Management System
- Access to Fountas & Pinnell Online Resources

Grades 3–8 / 978-0-325-07770-3 / 2017

Fountas & Pinnell Sistema de evaluación de la lectura (SEL)
Grados K–2, Niveles A–N
A literacy assessment tool in Spanish that is meaningfully linked to classroom instruction. For more information visit www.fountasandpinnell.com

SEL / Grados K–2 / 978-0-325-02823-1 / 2011 (Teacher components in English)

SEL Totalmente / Grados K–2
978-0-325-05652-4 / 2014
(Teacher components in Spanish)
The Fountas & Pinnell Online Data Management Systems are a secure and efficient way for teachers and administrators to manage assessment data. Features include collecting, analyzing, and reporting data at the individual and class level; monitoring progress of instructional and independent reading levels; and customizing reports to meet classroom, school, and district needs.

A one-year subscription to the Online Data Management System is included with the purchase of each BAS and SEL System. Pricing for subsequent years is as follows:

**Teacher Subscription / BAS / SEL: 978-0-325-02836-1 / 2009 / $30 per year per classroom**

**Benchmark Assessment System Reading Record iPad Apps**

An efficient alternative to taking a reading record on paper, the Reading Record App records the following student information:

- oral reading rate and accuracy rate
- self-correction ratio
- fluency score and comprehension score

Added functionality includes timing the conference, saving the record as a PDF, and syncing the date to the Online Data Management System.

**Reading Record iPad Apps / iTunes App Store / $14.99 each for:**

- Benchmark Assessment System 1 App
- Benchmark Assessment System 2 App
- Sistema de evaluación de la lectura App
- Fountas & Pinnell Universal Reading Record App

To purchase Apps, visit [www.apple.com/itunes](http://www.apple.com/itunes)

**For Institutional Purchases:**

For institutions using the Reading Record Apps, App Content licenses can be purchased through [www.heineman.com](http://www.heineman.com). 20% volume discount on purchases of 20 or more licenses per system.

**Professional Development Opportunities**

While all the *Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment Systems* are deeply rooted in professional development, the following opportunities are available to further develop the teaching craft.

- School-based Seminar
- Administrator Seminar
- Live webinar
Irene C. Fountas
is a professor at Lesley University in Cambridge, Massachusetts. She has been a classroom teacher, language arts specialist, and consultant in school districts across the nation and abroad. She is Lesley University’s first recipient of the Marie M. Clay Endowed Chair in Reading Recovery, and the recipient of the Greater Boston Council and the International Reading Association’s Celebrate Literacy Award. Currently, she directs field-based literacy research projects and the Literacy Collaborative at Lesley University.

Gay Su Pinnell
is Professor Emeritus in the School of Teaching and Learning at The Ohio State University. She has extensive experience in classroom teaching and field-based research, and in developing comprehensive approaches to literacy education. She received the International Reading Association's Albert J. Harris Award for research in reading difficulties, the Ohio Governor’s Award, and the Charles A. Dana Foundation Award for her contributions to the field of literacy education. She is a member of the Reading Hall of Fame.

Become a member of the Fountas & Pinnell Literacy™ Community

Join the new Fountas & Pinnell Literacy™ Community for free at fountasandpinnell.com and receive exclusive access to members-only content and events, such as:

• **Exclusive, members-only Webinars** hosted by Irene C. Fountas and Gay Su Pinnell
• **Daily Lit Bits** to sharpen your practice and spark professional conversations
• **Consultant-led Discussion Board** to build community through in-depth reflection and discussion
• **Instructional tools** from the Resource Library to extend your expertise
• **Study Guides** designed for deep exploration and understanding of Fountas and Pinnell professional books
• **Early access** to professional development events in your area.

**MAKE FOUNTASANDPINNELL.COM YOUR DAILY LITERACY RETREAT TO REFLECT, RECHARGE, RESEARCH, AND REDEFINE YOUR LITERACY INSTRUCTION.**

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