



## Kindergarten Entry Profile (KEP) Initiative

Promoting Coherence in Pre-K to 3<sup>rd</sup> through Standards-Based Assessments

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## A Little About Me



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- ✓ Parent (home, center care, and now elementary school)
- ✓ Teacher
- ✓ Student
- ✓ Advocate
- ✓ Administrator
- ✓ Researcher
- ✓ Policy wonk

To create a standards-based assessment system that honors local control via a menu of high quality tools that can be used to produce a profile of kindergartners and support coherence in Pre-k to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teaching and learning.

Practice and programming:

- (a) tailoring (1) instruction (2) curriculum (3) lesson planning
- (b) designing and offering meaningful professional development
- (c) pre-kindergarten–3<sup>rd</sup> grade systems that support coherence in teaching and learning.
- (d) informing other initiatives like the World's Best Work Force plans.

## KEP – The Basics

- Funding = \$281,000/year
- Participation is voluntary (funding limits us to no more than a 10% sample)
- MDE pays for the cost of the assessment tool
- Training is provided by MDE
- Children are assessed using authentic assessment during the first 8-10 weeks of school
- MDE provides participants with a profile of their kindergartners which can inform practice and programming, including initiatives like the World's Best Workforce as well as Pre-K to 3rd strategies that support coherence in teaching and learning

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Practice and programming:

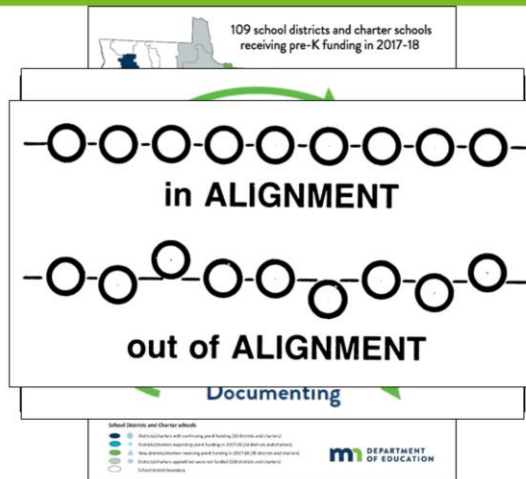
(a) tailoring (1) instruction (2) curriculum (3) lesson planning

(b) designing and offering meaningful professional development

(c) pre-kindergarten–3<sup>rd</sup> grade systems that support coherence in teaching and learning.

(d) informing other initiatives like the World's Best Work Force plans.

# Coherence in Pre-K to 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teaching and Learning



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ECIPs

Alignment Pre-K through 12

WBWF

Voluntary Pre-kindergarten and School Readiness Plus

Joint PD

Smooth transitions

## KEP – Criteria for Assessment Tools

To be a KEP approved assessment tool, the tool must:

- ✓ be commercially available
- ✓ produce valid and reliable data
- ✓ rely on authentic assessment (i.e., observation and work samples rather than direct assessment)
- ✓ cover the domains of learning in the Early Childhood Indicators of Progress (ECIPs)
- ✓ be aligned to the ECIPs (the ECIPs are aligned to the Minnesota kindergarten academic standards)
- ✓ provide real-time data

# Authentic Assessment



Sight Word Tic Tac Toe

Player 1 Word:	
Player 2 Word:	
Player 1 Word:	
Player 2 Word:	

The form contains two 3x3 tic-tac-toe grids. The first grid is on the left and the second is on the right. Each grid is intended for a player to write a sight word in the squares.



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## KEP Approved Tools

Tool	Publisher	Age Span of the Tool
DRDP	WestEd & California	Infancy – K
DevMilestones	FastBridge	Kindergarten
GOLD	Teaching Strategies	Infancy – 3 <sup>rd</sup>
MN Work Sampling	Pearson	Two years prior to K through K

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- Teaching Strategies – GOLD
- FastBridge – DevMilestones
- Pearson – MN Work Sampling System (WSS)
- WestEd/CA - Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP)



## → We are currently piloting

- Early Learning Labs' ProLADR tool
- DevMilestones for pre-kindergarten students

## Working Together



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**MDE Resources:**

- [Information about the KEP](#)
- [KEP YouTube Video](#)
- [Information about the ECIPs](#)
- [Assessment Tool Finder](#) (not just KEP Assessments)



**In the spirit of circle time:**

**Are there any: comments, questions, or concerns?**

**Jon Vaupel**

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