



PIRLS 2026

The Progress in International Reading Literacy Study

Information for Parents/Guardians and Students

What is PIRLS?

The Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS) is an international assessment that **measures the knowledge and skills of Grade 4 students in reading**, sponsored by the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA). More than 50 countries will be participating in PIRLS 2026.



What is the purpose of PIRLS?

The information obtained through PIRLS is valued by policy-makers, administrators, schools, teachers, and researchers. This data helps to determine how prepared Grade 4 students are for future academic challenges and to enable evidence-based decisions for educational improvement.

Thank you in advance for taking part in PIRLS 2026!

When you take this assessment, you will be helping us make education better for all students in Canada.

Who will take part in the PIRLS main study?

The PIRLS main study will be administered from April 13 to May 29, 2026. Canada's participation will consist of seven provinces: British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland and Labrador. **Approximately 1,000 schools in Canada will be taking part in the PIRLS main study.**

Do students need to prepare for PIRLS?

No. Students do not need to study for this assessment. Normal classroom activities in language arts provide ample preparation for this assessment.

Will the results affect students' marks?

No. The results of this assessment will not affect students' academic records in any way. The results will be compiled only at the provincial and pan-Canadian levels.



What will participating students have to do?

Students will complete a **computer-based test** that assesses their **knowledge and skills in reading**. The test takes 80 minutes to complete (two 40-minute parts, separated by a short break). An additional 30 minutes will be required for students to complete a contextual questionnaire intended to collect information on students' characteristics and attitudes toward learning.

The parents/guardians, teachers, and school principals of the participating students will also be asked to respond to a questionnaire.



What are the benefits of participating?

PIRLS provides school administrators, teachers, and students with an opportunity to be involved with a high-quality assessment that **will influence how reading is taught and learned in the future**.



More information on PIRLS is available on the web at:
<https://cmeec.ca/399/Overview.html>