



QUICK START GUIDE for Administrators & Teachers

The Kindergarten Individual Development Survey (KIDS) is an observational tool to improve understanding of the developmental readiness of children entering kindergarten. KIDS will be implemented for the first time across school districts statewide in 2017-18. KIDS is validated, informed by research, and aligned with state standards.

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) requires all kindergarten teachers to evaluate students' development on at least 14 measures within the first 40 days of school. Teachers will be able to access student and classroom level reports. School districts can opt to collect data on up to 55 measures, and data can be collected more than once a year, which can provide more comprehensive data analysis and reports for use in informing classroom instruction.

GETTING STARTED

1. Go to www.isbe.net/KIDS.
2. Download the KIDS Tool and familiarize yourself with the 14 measures required for all kindergarten classrooms beginning in fall 2017.
3. Decision Point: Are you going to collect 14 or more measures? Are you going to collect data once a year? Or will you collect data two or three times a year to provide a deeper understanding of improvements in student readiness?
4. Register for an in-person KIDS Training at www.isbe.net/KIDS.

IMPLEMENTING KIDS

- Teachers who have piloted KIDS report that setting up classroom systems to capture observation is easy. Determine what systems will help you. There are many tools to support your implementation at www.isbe.net/KIDS.
- KIDS provides great information on a child's development to share with their family. Determine how you will communicate about KIDS with families. There are tools and resources for you to communicate with families and for families to access directly at www.isbe.net/KIDS.

BENEFITS OF KIDS

- KIDS enables teachers to better understand students' development at the beginning of kindergarten so they can tailor instruction to best meet the needs of students.
- KIDS can help reduce the number of kindergarten assessments.
- KIDS allows teachers to observe student development in a natural setting (rather than via pullout) and goes beyond math and reading to include social and emotional development, approaches to learning, and more.
- The entire Illinois education community for the first time will be able to identify strengths and challenges in early childhood development at the district and state level.
- School districts and the state will be able to make more informed decisions on support and resource allocation to ensure every child gets the best possible start.

KIDS SUPPORT

Each district has identified a KIDS contact who is available to answer questions.

ISBE Administrator, Lynn Burgett, can be contacted at mburgett@isbe.net or 217-524-4853 to connect you with a KIDS Coach in your area.