

Summary of Validity/Reliability

Literacy First Phonics Assessment

Reliability

Coefficient alphas and descriptive statistics are reported for the phonics assessments. All tasks approached or exceeded the standard cutoff of .80. Importantly, all Literacy First Phonics Assessment reading measures were substantially reliable, with coefficient alphas similar to that obtained for the standardized Woodcock Reading Mastery Word Identification task.

Validity

The external validity of the Literacy First tasks was determined via the criterion prediction validity procedure (Anastasi & Urbina, 1997). All of the reading tasks of the Literacy First Phonics Assessment substantially correlated with the Woodcock Reading Mastery Test - R/NU Word Identification task (at least .77). Correlations were also obtained between the Word Identification test and each of the Literacy First Phonics Assessment categories for both real words and non-words. The correlations between total correct for each category and Word Identification performance ranged from approximately .52 to .79. Both the obtained reliability estimates and substantial correlations with Word Identification performance provide solid empirical evidence that the Literacy First Phonics Assessment reading tasks are valid measures of word-level reading.