



Special Education White Paper

Classworks, a CASE-endorsed, online instructional platform for Reading, Language Arts and Math, is a proven instructional resource for special education. The components of Classworks are designed to provide the resources, data and instruction needed to support special education students. With Classworks, teachers have the data they need to document mastery of IEP goals, communicate with parents and track student growth.

Individualized instruction is a vital part of learning for special education students. Classworks uses a combination of assessment data and teacher recommendations to drive the skill practice students need to show mastery of concepts and skills. This data is used to assess IEP goal mastery. Progress monitoring adds detailed growth monitoring at student performance levels. This ensures special education students stay on track.

Components include:

- **Ongoing student assessment:** Universal Screeners and Progress Monitoring are used to provide data reflecting a student's achievement level and effectiveness of curriculum. Initial assessment is used to identify a student's need for intervention, while more frequent assessment is used to determine a student instructional needs using multiple data points over time.
- **Reports for documentation and communication:** Students access Classworks from school and home. Progress can be shared with parents through printed reports as well as a shared link to their student's My Scores page. Classworks reports provide details of student performance and growth within specific time periods. These reports are critical for documentation of IEP goals, tracking student growth and communication with parents and staff.
- **High-quality scientifically based classroom instruction:** K-8 Reading passages and math problem-solving activities are designed to support teachers with teaching grade-level standards at differentiated levels and to build student capacity with resources assigned at their performance level.
- **Individualized Instruction:** Individualized Learning allows every student to work on exactly what they need. Instruction is driven by assessment and continually informed by results as students grow. Special education students specifically benefit because their needs vary so greatly within a classroom. Continual assessment driving the instruction keeps the student learning dynamic and relevant.



Universal Screener

The Universal Screener monitors readiness and progress of all students in grades K-8 for Math and Reading/Language arts and identifies at-risk students through administration two to three times a year. This assessment tracks learning gains, monitors rate of learning among peers, and identifies students requiring additional intervention.

Classworks assessments measure growth on a vertical scale. The scale is then used to identify where and what a student is ready to learn. Measuring growth vertically serves a dual purpose – to track growth and learning gains for individual students and to determine whether learning must be accelerated to catch up a student who is behind.

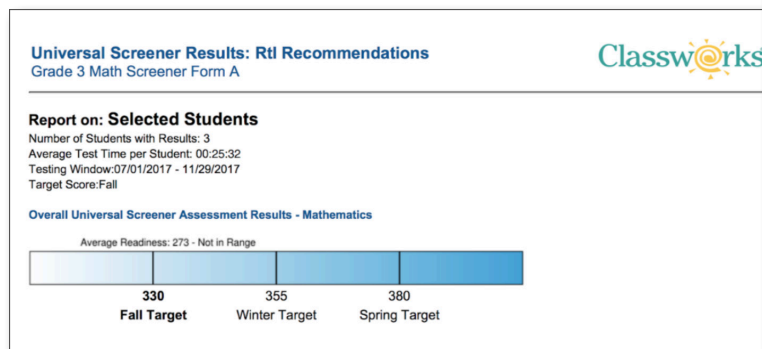
Best practices often recommend using nationally norm-referenced scores to determine which students in a school or district are recommended for intervention services. To help with that, Classworks includes norm-referenced percentile scores for all grades and subjects of the Universal Screener for Fall, Winter and Spring. Additionally, because the Classworks Universal Screener and Progress Monitoring are on the same scale, these percentiles can also be used as part of progress monitoring.

The Classworks Universal Screener assessment received near-perfect ratings for reliability and validity in the Academic Screening Tool category from the National Center on Intensive Intervention (NCII) at American Institutes for Research. The ratings, which are based on psychometric and intensive intervention standards, signifies the validity and reliability of the online assessments for grades K–8. The Classworks Universal Screening ratings are available on the NCII website.



Assessment Reporting

Universal Screener RtI Recommendations Report vertical scaling includes fall, winter, and spring learning targets. The scale shows the average proficiency of the group assessed, and the targets indicate whether the group is on an appropriate learning trajectory. In the example below, students overall scored below the fall readiness target, so the teacher will review specific strands and students whose results might cause concern. Each student is listed along with the proficiencies by strand, scaled score, percentile rank, and recommended progress monitoring level.



Universal Screener Results: RtI Recommendations
Grade 4 Math Screener Form B

Report on: Selected Students
Date: 02/24/2020
Target Score: Spring

Below 10 PR (Urgent Intervention)

Student	1	2	3	4	5	Scaled Score	%Tile Rank	PM Level	Date	Time	Rush
Burt, Anthony	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	210	1	K	08/11/2020	000:00:00	🚩
Buchheim, Hans	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	315	9	2	08/11/2020	000:00:00	

1 - Algebra | 2 - Geometry | 3 - Measurement | 4 - Numberation | 5 - Statistics and Probability

Below 25 PR (Intervention)

Student	1	2	3	4	5	Scaled Score	%Tile Rank	PM Level	Date	Time	Rush
Henley, Jerry	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	330	11	3	08/11/2020	000:00:00	🚩
Shirey, Alice	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	355	24	3	08/11/2020	000:00:00	

1 - Algebra | 2 - Geometry | 3 - Measurement | 4 - Numberation | 5 - Statistics and Probability

Below 40 PR

Student	1	2	3	4	5	Scaled Score	%Tile Rank	PM Level	Date	Time	Rush
Synatschk, Debra	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	370	30	4	08/11/2020	000:00:00	

1 - Algebra | 2 - Geometry | 3 - Measurement | 4 - Numberation | 5 - Statistics and Probability

At/Above 40 PR

Student	1	2	3	4	5	Scaled Score	%Tile Rank	PM Level	Date	Time	Rush
Sinunu, Melissa	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢	🔴	380	40	4	08/11/2020	000:00:00	
Cook, Lindsey	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢	410	99	5	08/11/2020	000:00:00	

1 - Algebra | 2 - Geometry | 3 - Measurement | 4 - Numberation | 5 - Statistics and Probability

The Universal Screener Annual Growth Report allows you to track and compare growth for individual students or classes over a single school year. This report also allows you to compare the scaled scores to the testing window targets to ensure they are being met. This data is crucial to monitoring growth for all students, but it is especially significant for special education students. Often students will not achieve a grade level target but will show significant growth that should be noted and celebrated. This report allows teachers to track that growth and make informed decisions regarding changes in intervention.

Universal Screener Annual Growth

Report Name: Universal Screener: Annual Growth Report
Date: 03/04/17

Grade 5 Math Screener

Testing Windows
Fall: 08/01/16 - 10/31/16
Winter: 11/01/16 - 02/28/17
Spring: 03/01/17 - 07/01/17

Student Name	Grade Level	Fall Target: 420	TOT	Winter Target: 440	TOT	Spring Target: 460	TOT	Growth
Coleman, Sydney	5	400	00:15:12	410	00:12:10	420	00:20:42	+20 🟢
Diaz, Jasmine	5	-	-	450	00:22:33	460	00:28:12	+10 🟢
Fargo, James	5	250	00:05:13	440	00:32:51	200	00:01:21	-50 🔴

Progress Monitoring

Progress Monitoring is often conducted to closely measure and follow student growth. Formal progress monitoring is introduced through a battery of Curriculum- Based Measurement (CBM) probes. The probes monitor student growth and can ultimately serve as documentation for referral to special education.

These probes have multiple equated forms measuring the same skills at the same level of difficulty. The probes are connected across levels using the Classworks Universal Screener vertical scale. This scale enables students to be compared to their peers, allowing for a measurement of growth more closely connected to Tier One curriculum. Educators track progress and retention of gains with successive test administrations. They are brief assessments for grades K-8, given online for immediate and automatic scoring and reporting. Administered weekly or bi-weekly, probes monitor progress throughout the intervention period and indicate rate of learning toward academic goals. Additionally, data from progress monitoring probes informs students' individualized learning to ensure that students work on the skills they need in real-time.

Viewing Progress Monitoring data live in Classworks provides a real time, detailed view of student progress and response. Action can be taken immediately, resulting in an acceleration of student learning.

The screenshot shows the Classworks Progress Monitoring interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with tabs: Dashboard, Individualize Learning, Classes, Progress Monitoring (selected), Instruction, Assessment, and Reports. Below the navigation bar, there are filters for Student Grade, Class, Custom Group, Last Name, and First Name, all set to 'All'. A 'Generate Report' button is visible. A modal window titled 'Start Progress Monitoring for BamBam Rubble' is open. It contains the following information:

- Mathematics**
- Choose the Student's Curriculum Based Measurement (CBM) Level**
- A row of buttons numbered 1 through 8, with button 6 highlighted.
- Text: 'Classworks recommends CBM Level 06 based on Universal Screener result taken on 12/18/2017.'
- Choose the Student's Rate of Improvement Goal**
- Buttons for 'Moderate' and 'Aggressive', with 'Moderate' selected.
- Text: 'The Rate of Improvement (ROI) goal decision should be based on the individual student and the growth/progress expected by the end of the intervention period. The ROI goal can be adjusted after the monitoring has started.'
- CBM Probes Interval**
- Text: 'Once started, a CBM Probe will be available each week for 12 weeks. The 12-week interval can be stopped at any time.'
- Text: 'Starting Week: 01/14/2018 - 01/20/2018' and 'Ending Week: 03/22/2018 - 04/07/2018'.
- A 'Start' button at the bottom right.

In the background, a list of students is visible, including Brown, Trent; Bunny, Bugs; Carter, John; Flintstone, Fred; Flintstone, Pebbles; Flintstone, Wilma; Griffith, G; Rubble, BamBam; Rubble, Barney; Rubble, Betty; and Wrong7, Johnny. On the right side, there is a 'Clear' button and a list of student status indicators: 'On Target' (green dot), 'Below Target' (red dot), and 'TBD' (grey dot).

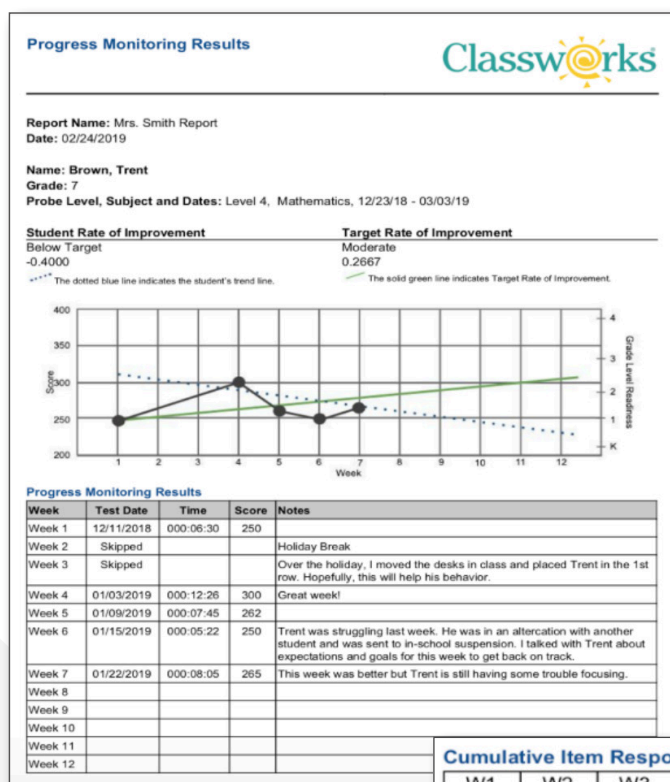
“Classworks Universal Screener assessment received near-perfect ratings for reliability and validity in the Academic Screening Tool category from the NCII at American Institutes for Research.”

Special Education Student Growth

Progress Monitoring using Classworks CBM Probes is essential to measuring success for special education students. While students may be working well below grade level, it is important to have an assessment in place which can measure the growth of the intervention no matter how many grade levels a student is behind. Teachers can determine if the student is responding to the intervention and make the necessary adjustments.

Progress Monitoring Reporting

Progress Monitoring Results Report provides formal progress monitoring results through a battery of Curriculum-Based Measurement (CBM) Probes. In this example, the student made good progress through the first few weeks of intervention, but then showed some inconsistencies and erratic results. Based on this, the student support team would look at the intervention and other circumstances impacting the student and make modifications to the intervention. After modifications were made, the student performance improved.



Cumulative Item Response												
W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	W6	W7	W8	W9	W10	W11	W12	Total
Algebra												
03/04	-	-	04/04	02/04	00/04	03/04						12/20
Concepts of Calculus												
-	-	-	-	-	-	-						
Geometry												
03/03	-	-	03/03	01/03	01/03	02/03						10/15
Mathematical Processes												
03/05	-	-	04/05	02/05	03/05	04/05						16/25
Measurement												
02/04	-	-	03/04	01/04	02/04	04/04						12/20
Numeration												
06/07	-	-	06/07	02/07	01/07	06/07						21/35
Operations												
06/06	-	-	05/6	03/06	00/06	04/06						18/30
Patterns												
03/03	-	-	03/03	00/03	01/03	02/03						09/15
Statistics and Probability												
01/01	-	-	00/01	01/01	00/01	01/01						03/05

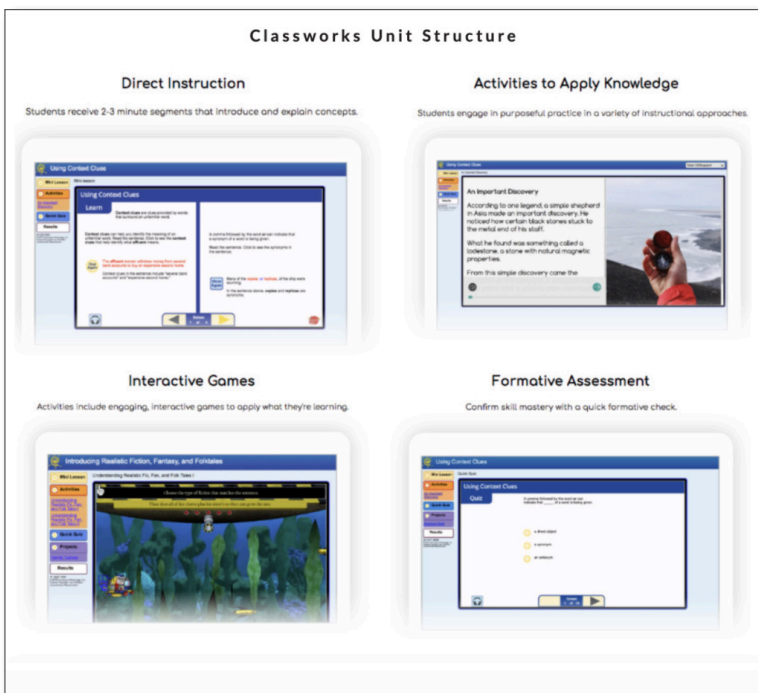
Description of Classworks Instruction

There are two offerings within Classworks instruction. There are two offering within Classworks:

1. Individualized Learning instruction
2. Classroom Reading and Math instruction

Classroom Reading and Math Instruction is a resource for teachers to teach specific standards based concepts and supports teachers with rigorous, differentiated lessons that integrate technology into daily learning. K-8 Reading passages and math problem-solving activities are designed to provide differentiation for students within the standard and to build student capacity with resources assigned at student performance level. Special Education teachers have access to all levels of activities allowing them to work with students at the level the students are ready to learn.

Classworks Individualized Learning assignments are made up of units of K-8 instruction. The units of instruction are the heart of Classworks. Each student's Individualized Learning Path consists of multiple units of Classworks instruction. A Classworks instructional unit includes direct instruction, activities to apply learning, and a short formative check focused on strengthening a specific skill. The direct instruction introduces the subject matter with two-to-three minute segments that teachers can also use in classrooms. Extended learning and practice on the unit skills are introduced in the form of interactive games and activities that differentiate by instructional strategies. Next, a formative assessment confirms skill mastery with ten questions.



This structure ensures that when students master a Classworks unit, they master the concept. This translates into increased student achievement not only on state high-stakes tests but in cross-curricular experiences and real-life applications.

Classworks lessons reflect different pedagogies, keeping students motivated and engaged because of the variety encountered throughout the lesson. Students are presented with different instructional approaches, types of interactivity, and varying degrees of games vs. concrete instruction as they learn each skill. Activities use diverse rich-media technology including voice, text, video, graphics, photographs, and animation. This variety ensures students encounter multiple ways to learn and practice every skill.

With Classworks, teachers view student work in real time. They provide instant feedback to students using built in tools. Teachers have the flexibility in Classworks to adjust learning for each student. This is especially important for special education teachers as student need varies so drastically from student to student. This specific feedback allows students to take action more quickly, making it meaningful for guiding student learning.

Universal Design for Learning

The varied instructional approaches of Classworks activities and teacher directed projects conform to the Universal Design for Learning (UDL) Guidelines which include:

- Multiple and flexible methods of representation to give students with diverse learning styles various ways of acquiring information and knowledge
- Multiple and flexible means of expression to provide diverse students with alternatives for demonstrating what they have learned
- Multiple and flexible means of engagement to tap into diverse learners' interests, challenge them appropriately, and motivate them to learn

This approach ensures a rigorous curriculum for all students with varied methodologies and flexibility to meet the needs of each making it the perfect resource for special education.

How Individualizing Works

Through assessment, Classworks identifies skill-specific learning deficits and creates individualized assignments for students. This independent instruction allows students to work on targeted skills. Extra instructional time for intervention is an important factor in achieving learning goals. Student performance toward mastery of skills is tracked in real time.

- » Initial screening identifies skills requiring additional support while identifying a normed percentile to track growth.
- » Identified skill deficits determine intervention.
- » This intervention is a learning path created for each student. This ensures the targeted learning is both a quality curriculum and specific to the student's needs.
- » The learning path is also informed by progress monitoring data which continually informs and adapts individualized learning for each student.
- » Formative Classworks assessments are embedded throughout a student's learning path assignment to monitor mastery of those skills.

Instructional Reporting

Standards Mastery: As students work through ILPs, teachers monitor skill mastery using the Individualized Learning Standards Mastery report. Mastery is indicated for each completed unit in the intervention. The state standards being addressed in the unit are also detailed, for reporting purposes which helps track mastery toward IEP goals.

Individualized Learning Standards Mastery

Classworks

Report Purpose: Use this report to view how your selected students are performing in assigned skills by grade-level standards.
Next Steps: Counsel, reassign or customize skills with students as needed.

Report Name: Individualized Learning Standards Mastery created on 10/18/2017 01:09 PM
Date: 10/18/17
Date Range: Current School Year
Created By: CASupport, User

Cannon, Ann (SF06000070)

Table Key

0-59% 60-74% 75-84% 85-100%

Mathematics

Standard	Unit	ToT	Score	Complete Date
2.MD.21	Amounts Greater Than One Dollar	00:09:37	50%	10/04/17
8.G.20	Angle Relationships	00:03:13	30%	10/04/17
3.MD.22.a, 3.MD.23, 4.MD.21	Area and Perimeter Relationship	00:10:20	80%	10/04/17
5.MD.18	Converting Customary Units of Length	00:09:22	80%	10/04/17
3.MD.16, 4.MD.20	Elapsed Time	00:51:30	90%	10/04/17
4.MD.24, 4.MD.25	Measuring Angles	00:03:28	90%	10/04/17
3.MD.20.a, 3.MD.20.b, 3.MD.21, 3.MD.22.a, 3.MD.22.c, 4.MD.21	More Finding Area	00:17:28	60%	10/04/17
3.MD.23, 4.MD.21	More Finding Perimeter	01:19:01	90%	10/04/17
5.OA.3, 6.NS.9.b	Ordered Pairs	00:06:34	100%	10/04/17
3.MD.16	Telling Time to the Minute	00:04:46	100%	10/04/17

Language Arts

Standard	Unit	ToT	Score	Complete Date
RI.2.15	Author's Purpose: Inform or Entertain	00:01:15	60%	10/04/17
RL.3.1	Folklore, Fantasy, and Nonfiction	00:08:18	80%	10/04/17
RF.3.21.b	Poetry	01:26:14	70%	10/04/17

Custom Instruction

In addition to individualized learning paths and a baseline for instruction, special education teachers create custom assignments for students in skills requiring focus. Teachers design the lessons based on student performance levels. Often instruction reflects IEP goals and is essential data toward goal mastery. Search standards and assign units to focus student practice and even match to IEP goals.

Select units by standards and arrange them in the order the student should work. These assignments are great to support an IEP goal or just target practice for skills identified by the general education teacher that the student needs to work on. Reports indicate both mastery and progress serving as documentation of student skill acquisition.

Custom Instruction Reporting

Assignment Results Report: Teachers identify a skill gap and create a custom instruction assignment. This intense skill practice allows students to focus intervention time on a needed skill and allows teachers close monitoring of that one skill to ensure gap closure.

This documentation of skill mastery helps special education teachers evaluate if students have mastered the targeted skills at the student performance level, either serving as documentation of IEP goal mastery or data to determine next steps.

Unit #	Instruction	Date	Score		Total Time	Score		Total Time
59	Using the Direction Words Left and Right Mini-Lesson	10/18/17			00:02:14			
72	Identifying the Beginning, Middle and End of a Story Mini-Lesson	10/20/17		89%	00:26:53		65%	01:13
	Ugly Duckling - Plot	10/12/17		85%	00:09:07			
	Peter Rabbit - Plot	10/18/17						
	- Attempt 1 (not in avg.)	10/14/17		60%	00:05:33			
	- Attempt 2 (in avg.)	10/18/17		92%	00:10:27			
	Quick Quiz	10/20/17					65%	01:13
55	Introducing Capital Letters Mini-Lesson	10/24/17		80%	00:13:37		53%	00:55
	Capitalization is Fun	10/21/17		-	00:01:05			
	Quick Quiz	10/24/17		80%	00:12:32		53%	00:55
34	Introducing Setting Mini-Lesson	11/04/17		81%	00:58:45		48%	00:32
	City Mouse and Country Mouse (Story)	10/28/17		-	00:12:10			
	City Mouse and Country Mouse (Puzzle)	10/31/17		85%	00:12:10			
	Quick Quiz	11/2/17		80%	00:07:13			
	R. Setting Review	11/2/17					48%	00:32
		11/3/17		78%	00:15:28			
Overall Assignment Score				83%	01:39:15		55%	00:02:40
				70%			70%	

CASE Endorsed

The Council of Administrators of Special Education or CASE offers an endorsement of products that enrich the education of special education students and provide resources for special education teachers. In order to receive CASE endorsement, the product must undergo an extensive review. This includes a review of all content, reporting, and enhancements. Efficacy must be included addressing the products validity and impact on student growth. Beyond the product review, customer satisfaction and renewal are examined especially in regard to special education departments among customers. We are proud to have been CASE endorsed since 2010.



Designed for Accessibility

Extra time—Students may need extra time to complete the task. Assessments may be stopped and started as needed to allow students needing extra time to finish, is untimed, and can be administered in multiple test sessions.

Presentation—Classworks diagnostic items are presented in a large, easily legible format specifically chosen for its readability. With HTML5, you have the ability to change the screen size and font size.

Audio Support—Audio support is available for all grades.

Operating System and Device Accessibility Compatibility—Assessment design considerations were made for students using different accessibility options provided by the operating system like screen magnifiers and screen readers.

Setting—Classworks assessments are web-based. They can be completed on any device with internet access that meets technical requirements. Students may use headphones to benefit from audio support.

Response—Classworks assessments and instruction are easily completed on a computer using point and click or on a tablet device using touch screens for those with motor impairment.

Conclusion

Classworks is a comprehensive program encompassing assessment, individualized instruction, progress monitoring, and real-time data and reporting for special education. By incorporating critical components that have proven successful and utilizing research-based best practices, Classworks is the perfect instructional support for special education students while providing teachers with the documentation required to meet compliance measures.

In Classworks, special education students are engaged in meaningful instruction. Assessments measure growth and progress, while reporting provides formative data for informed decision-making. Classworks provides the perfect combination of instruction and documentation as a vital part of the special education classroom.



For more information:
Contact Classworks at help@classworks.com
Call 770-355-5555 or visit www.classworks.com

