i-Ready Release Notes

July 2019

i-Ready *just got even better with our annual Back to School release. We are pleased to share many updates that will make the program more motivating and accessible for students and more powerful for educators. Here's what's new:*

A More Engaging Student Experience

Students will have an experience that encourages them to take more ownership over their learning and motivates them as they progress through *i-Ready*.

- **Differentiated Dashboards.** Students in Grades K–2 and Grades 3+ have grade-banded dashboards and "To Do" lists that keep the youngest learners on track and grow with older learners.

- **New Ways to Celebrate Progress.** Students will see an all-new "My Progress" designed to motivate students to take ownership of their learning and to help teachers engage students in data chats.

- **Review Accomplishments.** Students (and their family members) can see the results of their work in *i-Ready* by using the new "Completed Work" section in "My Progress" when logged into the student dashboard.

- **See Diagnostic Scores.** Students in Grades 3+ will be engaged in their Diagnostic results by seeing their scores after finishing the test. Students in any grade level can review their Diagnostic scores at any time in "Completed Work."

- **More Customization.** Students can choose from new backgrounds in "My Stuff" that are fun, engaging, and age appropriate. Study buddies are now only available for students in Grades K–2.

- **More Choices.** Students can choose to play Learning Games and pick which Teacher-Assigned lesson to complete, if multiple lessons have been assigned by a teacher.

- **Motivation for the Diagnostic.** New age appropriate tutorials will play before the Diagnostic that encourage every student to do their best.

All-New, Age-Appropriate Lessons

A significant expansion of cutting-edge new instruction will benefit students in elementary grades and middle school. We will be releasing about 140 new lessons this school year, with most coming in this release and the rest following this fall.

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New Reading Instruction

- **ELA Lessons for the Youngest Learners.** Short and playful new lessons in Phonics and Phonological Awareness will introduce students placing at Emerging K to the skills they need to be successful in kindergarten instruction.

- **New Reading Comprehension Lessons for Grades 6–8.** New lessons adapt pacing to student needs, include culturally responsive texts, and engage students through the text rather than character storylines.

New Mathematics Instruction

- **Word Problem Lessons for Grades 1–4.** A brand new approach empowers students to choose strategies for solving problems, provides modeling as a strategic scaffold, and offers supports for all students, especially English Learners.

- **New Grades 6–7 Mathematics Lessons.** Innovative new lessons cover ratio and proportion as well as positive and negative numbers and are designed specifically to motivate older learners.

A More Motivating Instructional Experience

Our newest lessons are built with design principles proven to engage students in their learning, and our latest enhancements will help keep students motivated and progressing in their instruction.

- **Responsive Instruction.** Our new instruction adjusts the pacing of a lesson to meet individual learning needs, helping ensure students get instructional support when they need it and advance more quickly through their lessons when they demonstrate mastery of a skill.

- **Encouragement to Try Again.** Students will receive encouraging messages when they are automatically reassigned a lesson because they did not pass it, helping students understand why they are taking the same lesson twice.

- **Fewer Repeated Lessons.** Students will now pass a lesson if they answer at least two of three items correctly in a lesson quiz, minimizing the time students spend in repeated lessons and maximizing their progression through their learning path (Note that administrators may still adjust the lesson passing score at their discretion).

- **Alternative Lesson Quizzes**. In our newest Math lessons, students will get a different quiz if they repeat a lesson because they did not pass it. Students will also get supportive feedback in those lessons when they get quiz questions wrong.

Engaging Learning Games for Mathematics

Our new Learning Games for students in Grades K–5 offer challenging, fun, personalized practice that improves fluency and strengthens understanding of elementary mathematical concepts, with all games available in English and Spanish.

- **Driven by Diagnostic Data.** Learning Games give every student a personalized experience based on the results of their Diagnostic.

- **Student Choice.** Students choose when to play by clicking a button that appears on the bottom of their dashboard when they are working in Mathematics.

- **Teacher Controls.** Teachers can choose to turn off Learning Games for individual students using Rosters.

- **Powerful Reports.** Teachers are able to monitor student activity and progress in the games with new reports on Playtime, Skills Progress, and Factors of Learning. These reports are available to educators on their dashboards in the Online Instruction reporting category.

More Accessibility for Students

As part of our commitment to making our products fair and accessible to the widest population of students, we are making major accessibility improvements to *i-Ready*.

- **Assessment Accessibility.** The Diagnostic and Growth Monitoring will be accessible to students with visual, auditory, and physical impairments through keyboard navigation, closed captioning, and support for screen readers. These assessments will meet WCAG 2.0 AA standards with documented exceptions (Note that we plan to make further accessibility enhancements for the Diagnostic and Growth Monitoring later this year).

More Powerful for Educators

Continuous improvements for educators will offer greater insight into student performance, historical analysis of Diagnostic data, and more tools that save you time.

- **A New Name and Improvements for Historical Reporting for Teachers.** The Previous Year reports for teachers have been renamed Historical Results. The reports now show up to three years of Diagnostic and Instruction data and include historical growth data, so teachers can see students' historical progress toward their growth measures.

- **Historical Reporting for Administrators.** The Diagnostic Results report for administrators will let you see data from any of the last three school years through an "Academic Year" dropdown.

- **Monitor Diagnostic Completion for All Schools and Grades.** The Diagnostic Status report for administrators will allow you to view completion rates and rush flags for all schools and all grades in a single view by selecting the "School & Grade" option in the "Show Results By" dropdown.

- **Download Your Data.** A CSV download button has been added to the Diagnostic Status report for administrators, letting you download exactly what you see on screen in a CSV file. This functionality will be added to more reports for administrators and for teachers in future releases.

- **More Precise Rush Flags.** The Diagnostic will use an improved system for determining whether a student rushed on the assessment. Rush flags will look the same and continue to appear in the same places in the same reports.

- **New Standards Mastery Reports.** Two new interactive reports for administrators have been added to help you gain insight into your students' mastery of grade-level standards.

    o The **Standards Mastery Results by Test** report allows administrators to view overall and skill-level performance on each Standards Mastery assessment.

    o The **Standards Mastery Results Year-to-Date** report provides insight into performance on all standards assessed year-to-date, using the most recent assessments to determine standards performance.

- **Retirement of Legacy Reports.** Reports that were accessible to administrators only as PDFs during the 2017–18 school year have now been retired. All the same data can be accessed through interactive, intuitive reports that will be available in your dashboard.