

### Introducing the New AEPS®-3 Ready-Set





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### **Objectives**

- Understand current research about the transition to kindergarten
- Discover the purpose and goals of AEPS-3 Ready-Set
- Learn how and when to use Ready-Set
- Hear about research conducted on Ready-Set



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### Transitions & School Readiness



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### What Do We Know about Transition?

Transition practices are important for academic adjustment at kindergarten (Cook & Coley, 2017).





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### What Do We Know? (Cont.)

- Social-emotional competency predicts emergent literacy performance (Curby et al., 2015).
- Executive functions predict preacademic skills (Shaul & Schwartz, 2014)
  - Phonological awareness
  - Mathematics
  - Orthographic knowledge





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### **NCEDL**



National Center for Early Development and Learning

- Transition practices survey
- Nationally representative survey of kindergarten teachers

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### **NCEDL** Key Findings

- Most common are group-oriented practices at the beginning of the year (not individualized)
- Less prevalent in urban schools and/or schools in higher poverty areas

(Early et al., 2001)



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### Transition from Preschool to Kindergarten

- Best transition practices are individualized (Early et al., 2001)
- Start early
- Use authentic assessment practices to create developmental and learning goals for children
- Partner with families

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## Introducing AEPS-3 Ready-Set



### Ready-Set

- Brief assessment and progress monitoring measure
- Emphasizes skills essential for school readiness and early school success
- 40 developmentally and academically challenging goals from AEPS-3 Test



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### Ready-Set

- Useful in preschool and Head Start classrooms for children who may not need full AEPS-3 assessment
- Seamless to move to AEPS-3 Test for a child as needed
- Links to tiered AEPS-3 Curriculum

See a sample form for Emily

bpub.fyi/Ready-Set-sample



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### Ready-Set

#### Goals from all 8 areas

- Fine Motor-2
- **Gross Motor-3**
- Adaptive–2
- Social-Emotional—8
- Social-Communication—3
- Cognitive–6
- Literacy-10
- Math-6

#### Example goals

- 2. Holds writing tool using three-finger grasp to write or draw
- 6. Uses culturally appropriate social dining skills
- 8. Maintains cooperative activity
- 12. Resolves conflicts using negotiation
- 16. Uses language to initiate and sustain social interaction
- 29. Names all uppercase and lowercase letters of alphabet
- 36. Reads and writes numerals for quantities up to 5

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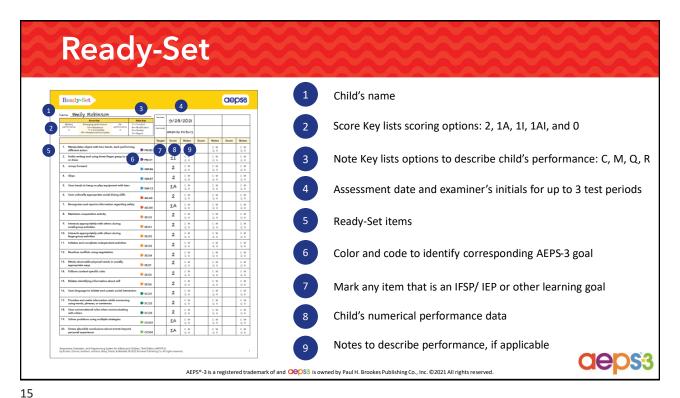
### Ready-Set

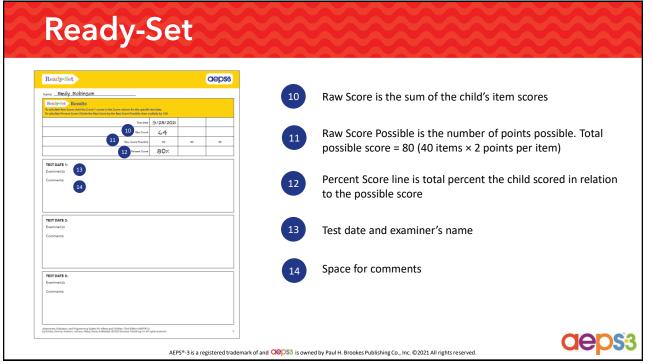
- Available in English and Spanish
- English
  - Packs of 10 forms
  - Printable PDF on AEPS-3 Forms **USB**
  - AEPSi
- Spanish
  - Printable PDF on AEPS-3 Forms **USB**
  - AEPSi



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### Ready-Set FACS

- Ready-Set Family Assessment of Child Skills
- Form for family to complete
- Collects information about child's developmental skills
- Information useful for selecting goals for child
- Available in English and Spanish on AEPS-3 Forms USB

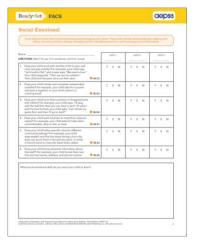


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### Ready-Set FACS

- Questions for all 8 areas, plus openended questions
- Space for 3 time periods
- Can be completed independently by parents or with program staff



ntervention Priorities New	
Please list the next skills you would like your shild to bears.	Date:
Pleaser list this result skills, you would like your child to learn.	Date:
Please list the next skills you would like your child to learn.	Date:

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### **Ready-Set Assessment Activities**

- Set of assessment activities available for observation of up to 5 children
- 4 center-based
  - Book Time
  - · Dramatic Play
  - Outdoor Play
  - Store
- 3 home-based
  - Book Time
  - Counting Precious Objects & Snack
  - Outdoor Play

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### **Quick Reference Guide**

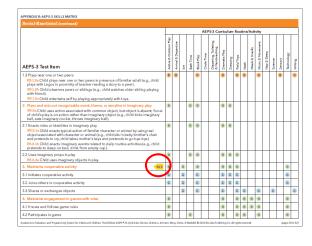


- On-the-go guide with all Ready-Set items and criteria in clear, convenient format
- Helpful reference as users observe children and administer the tool
- Included in AEPS-3 Quick Reference Guide set (English only) and on AEPS-3 Forms USB (English and Spanish)



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### **Skills Matrix**



- Skills matrix for each AEPS-3 area aligns items to routines and activities across 3 curriculum levels
- Ready-Set items are identified with yellow arrow

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# **Family Communication** for Transition

### What Do Parents Need to Know?

- Emotional impact on children
  - Listen to the child's worries
  - Notice nonverbal messages
  - Talk about expectations
- Adjustment period
  - Can be smooth or overwhelming
  - Adjusting to new people





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### How Can Parents Help Their Children Transition?

- Reaching out
  - Attend open houses and orientations
- Support learning
  - Incorporate practices at home of common tasks
- Creating routines
  - To provide a safe structure at home
  - To practice routines that they will be taking part in

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### Research on AEPS-3 Ready-Set



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### Research Studies To Date

- Stevenson, W. A. (2019). *Examining school readiness*. [Unpublished Doctoral dissertation]. University of Kentucky.
- Macy, M., Pool, J., Chen, C-I., Rusiana, T-A., & Sawyer, M. (2021). A preliminary examination of a kindergarten school readiness assessment. *Early Childhood Education Journal*. Advance online publication. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s10643-021-01237-7">https://doi.org/10.1007/s10643-021-01237-7</a>

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### Stevenson (2019): Study #1

- Study purposes:
  - Examine field users' agreement on the sequence, breadth, clarity, relevance, and functionality of AEPS-3 Ready-Set content (content validity)
- Participants:
  - 36 kindergarten teachers in Kentucky

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### Stevenson (2019): Study #1

- Findings:
  - Majority of the items are considered related to school readiness.
  - The language used for most items are considered quite or very clear.
  - Criteria of most items are considered quite or very clear.



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### Stevenson (2019): Study #2

- Study purposes:
  - Examine field users' agreement on the scoring, item and criteria, and usefulness of AEPS-3 Ready-Set for its intended purposes (utility)
- Participants:
  - 4 kindergarten teachers in Kentucky

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### Stevenson (2019): Study #2

- Findings:
  - Most participants agreed that the goals are functional and teachable.
  - Most participants agreed that the goals and the criteria are easy to understand.
  - Most of the participants agreed that the scoring and scoring notes are clear and easy to understand.
  - Most participants agreed that AEPS-3 Ready-Set:
    - Can be easily administered in school setting
    - Provide useful information for summarizing individual child strengths in school readiness
    - Provide useful information for monitoring school readiness skills
    - Scoring notes provide useful information

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### Macy et al. (2021)

- Study purposes:
  - To examine the agreement of child skill levels across developmental areas as measured by Ready-Set and FACS
  - To obtain teachers' evaluations of selected utility features of Ready-Set
- Participants:
  - 32 teachers across 5 private Montessori schools in Florida and Idaho completed AEPS-3 Ready-Set on 37 children, and the utility survey
  - 37 parents completed the FACS on their children
  - Mixed-age classrooms (3- to 6-year-olds)

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### Macy et al. (2021)

- Findings:
  - A robust correlation between parents' and teachers' ratings on total area scores
  - Modest agreements on individual items
  - Teachers reported that they considered Ready-Set a userfriendly tool that provided relevant information on children's readiness skills

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AEPS-3 Ready-Set Forms Pack of 10 \$30.00

AEPS-3 Forms USB \$299.00





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### Thank You

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