Michigan’s Third Grade Reading Law

The Goal: The State of Michigan wants to make sure that all children are reading on grade-level by grade three.

Why? Learning to read by the end of grade 3 is a key predictor of your child’s future academic success.

What is your school required to do if your student is behind in reading in Kindergarten through grade 3?

1. Notify you that your student is behind in reading.
2. Notify you of the reading services and supports being provided to your child through an Individual Reading Plan.
3. Notify you of activities you can use to help your child at home with reading through a Read-At-Home Plan.
4. Notify you that your child may not be promoted if not caught up by the end of grade 3.

What can parents do to support your child’s reading skills?

Who? Your child in Kindergarten through Grade 3
What? Schools need to provide evidence-based reading programs and interventions to support your child’s reading skills
When? Starting with Kindergarten and grade 1 students in 2017-18
How? If your child is not at grade level on the grade 3 state English Language Arts test, they may be retained in grade 3

*Several exceptions to retention at the end of grade 3 are allowed. Contact your child’s school to learn more.