



## **Reliability, Validity, and W.R.A.P.**

W.R.A.P. is an informal assessment, designed to give teachers information about their students that they can use immediately to inform their teaching.

**Validity** is concerned with the extent to which assessment information is suitable for the purpose for which it is to be used.

1. W.R.A.P. has *face validity* – the tasks are directly relevant to what is being assessed.
2. W.R.A.P. has *content validity* – the learning objectives are sampled in direct proportion to their importance or weighting. For example, the largest part of the assessment is the assessment of oral reading.
3. W.R.A.P. has *concurrent validity* – the methodology is closely related to other accepted assessments such as Running Records™, DRA, ECLAS.
4. The validity of W.R.A.P. is further enhanced because the purpose is clear and explicit, there is a planned and systematic approach to the gathering of assessment information, the assessment measures what it is designed to measure, and the assessment tasks are appropriate to the purpose for which the information is required.

**Reliability** is concerned with the extent to which an assessment task is consistent in measuring what it does measure.

1. W.R.A.P. and other, similar informal assessments are not designed or intended to achieve the kind of reliability that standardized tests must demonstrate.
2. For W.R.A.P. , the strongest assurance of reliability is the successful and consistent implementation of similar forms of assessment by classroom teachers, Reading Recovery™ teachers, and researchers over a very long period of time.
3. W.R.A.P. provides clear and consistent instructions for teachers to ensure the reliability of scoring. The use of scoring rubrics with well-defined score categories (for Hearing and Recording Sounds, for the starting point for use of the reading cards, and for the Writing Assessment) all assist in maintaining consistent scoring, regardless of who the user is or when the rating is completed.
4. The provision of case studies within the package enables users to compare their results. This assists with the maintenance of consistency across different users.