

Competitive Products Comparison White Paper

	Unique Reader	Waterford Early Reading
System requirements	connectivity via any Internet connected computer. Students can work from labs, library, or at home via Internet connected computers.	for more than 30 students, required on-site server, software installed on individual computers
Research based	yes	yes
Standards based	yes	yes
Reading FIRST	meets requirements	meets requirements
Grades served	K-5 (with Unique Reader Secondary available for grades 6-12)	K-2
Program placement	embedded DORA (Diagnostic Online Reading Assessment) given at the beginning of the program to customize instruction for each student	by grade level, unless in cases of remediation, then by teacher discretion
Embedded Assessment	yes, full diagnostic DORA	no
Multi-media lessons	yes	yes
Print materials	no	yes, for take-home work: printouts, worksheets, take-along books, music
Self-paced	yes	no, program requires 15mins of computer time per day per child, 30mins per day per child in first and second grades
Progress monitoring	through teacher center	through teacher center
End of unit evaluation	yes	yes
Reports	student, class reports for both DORA and UR, parent reports	student/class progress reports
Instruction topics:		
Phonological awareness	no	yes
Phonics	yes	yes
Concepts about Print	no	yes
Vocabulary	yes	yes
Sight Words	yes	yes
Mecahnics	no	yes
Comprehension	yes	yes
Spelling	yes	yes
Writing	no	yes
Keyboarding Skills	no	yes
Secondary-level Comprehension	available in UR2	not above second grade
Notes:	UR is a true differentiated instruction program. Students with at-risk or advanced skills will received instruction at their skill level in 4 primary areas of reading: Sight words, Phonics, Vocabulary, and Comprehension Strategies	Waterford is only focused on early reading for K-2 students. It is not based on a diagnostic assessment thus isn't targeting students who are behind with gaps in their abilities. Server is very difficult to install and use.

Disclaimer: This competitive review was written by Let's Go Learn for internal training as well as for quick product comparisons requested by customers. We have done our best to evaluate third-party products as accurately as possible. However, in some circumstances there may be inaccuracies.