**Nonsense Word Fluency (NWF)**

**ADMINISTRATION**

- **Read** the directions and practice items verbatim.
- **Start** the stopwatch after you say “Begin”.
- Follow along and **mark** according to the scoring rules.
- At the end of **1 minute**, **bracket** after the last letter sound produced (even if in the middle of word), say “**Stop**”, and stop the stopwatch.

**DISCONTINUE**

- If the student does not get any sounds correct in the **first 5 words**, discontinue the task and record a score of zero (0).

**WAIT RULE**

- If the student does not say the next letter sound/word within **3 seconds**,  
  - Say the correct sound or word  
  - Score the letter sound/word **incorrect**, and
- If the student does not continue reading at that point, you may point to the next sound/word on their page and ask “**What sound?**” or “**What word?**”

**REMINDEERS**

*These prompts may only be provided once:*

- If the student does not go left to right, say, “**Go this way.**”
- If the student says letter-names, say, “**Say the sounds, not the letter names.**”
- If the student reads the word first, then says the letter-sounds, prompt, “**Just read the word.**”
- If the student says all of the letter sounds correctly in the first row, but does not make any attempt to blend or recode, say: “**Try to read the words as whole words.**”

*These reminders may be used as often as needed:*

- If the student stops and it is not a hesitation on a specific item, say, “**Keep going.**”
- If the student loses his/her place, **point**.
**SCORING**

- For correct responses, underline each letter sound the student says correctly, either in isolation or in the context of the nonsense word. The final answer is scored.
  - Use separate underlines to indicate student said separate letter sounds.
  - Use a continuous underline to indicate student blended the letter sounds together and read a whole word.
  - Underline exactly how the student says the sounds.
- Put a slash (/) over each incorrect letter sound.
  - The student’s final answer is scored.
- Leave blank any letter sounds that are omitted, inserted or repeated.
  - When a student is reading sound-by-sound, leave blank any inserted letter sounds.
  - When the student is reading word-by-word, slash the underline to indicate any inserted letter sounds (No credit for WWR).
- If the student self corrects within 3 seconds, write “sc” above the previously slashed letter and count that letter-sound or word as correct.
  - Credit is only given for WWR when the student reads the whole word completely and correctly the first time.
- Draw a line through any row the student skips.
  - Do not count the row when scoring.

**CALCULATING FINAL SCORE**

- Add number of correct letter sounds (CLS) and whole words read (WWR) for each line (up to bracket).
- Add number of CLS and then number of WWR correctly, separately, from each line. Record total CLS and then WWR in space provided in lower right corner of scoring page.

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