Boston Early Literacy Screening (BELS) and Evidence-Based Response to Screening

- An app that uses a gamified, interactive storyline, to assess a child on six early indicators of reading issues
- Score report generated indicates which, if any, competencies the child scored below the 25th percentile on
- The app will provide evidence-based responses to screening to address specific deficits
The Screening Battery

Risk Indicators

- Phonological awareness
- Phonological short-term memory
- Rapid automatized naming
- Letter (sound) knowledge
- Vocabulary
- Oral listening comprehension
- Family history
- [Socio-economic status]

Assessment In BELLAS

- Rhyming & First-sound Matching
- Nonword Repetition
- Rapid Automatized Naming
- Letter Knowledge and Letter Sounds
- Vocabulary
- Oral Sentence Comprehension
What Makes BELS Stand Out

✓ **Comprehensive**: Tests 6 early indicators of reading success

✓ **Age-appropriate**: Can screen kids as young as 4 years old—before reading instruction

✓ **Self-administered**: Minimal-to-no adult administration/implementation

✓ **Progress-monitoring**: Ability to screen students multiple times to track progress

✓ **Evidence-based**: Validation study in development

✓ “What now?”: Screener will provide sources for evidence-based response to intervention

For more info please contact:
Nadine.Gaab@childrens.harvard.edu

or visit:
https://accelerator.childrenshospital.org/portfolio/early-literacy-screening-app/