

# PIRLS

## Progress Report

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64<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the IEA General Assembly

September 23-28, 2023

# PIRLS 2021 International Release

- PIRLS 2021 International Results in Reading released May 16, 2023
  - Release hosted by IEA Amsterdam
  - Full report (text and exhibits): [pirls2021.org/results](https://pirls2021.org/results)
  - Results Highlights video
  - Video examples of PIRLS 2021 texts and items

# PIRLS 2021 Reports and International Database

- *PIRLS 2021 Frameworks*
- *PIRLS 2021 Encyclopedia*
- *Methods and Procedures: PIRLS 2021 Technical Report*
- *PIRLS 2021 International Database and User Guide*

Thematic reports forthcoming

# PIRLS 2021 Results: Data Visualization

- Interactive data visualization tool developed for a subset of international report exhibits
- Allows for users to customize results
- Provides display of graphs and underlying data
- Integrated within the PIRLS 2021 international results

Demonstration of [Data Visualization Tool](#)

# PIRLS 2026: Leading Reading Assessment Into the Future

- Completes the transition to fully digital assessment
  - PIRLS 2021 provided the digital transition cycle
  - PIRLS 2026 integrates ePIRLS into PIRLS
- Continues the Group Adaptive Design
- Evolving context questionnaires
- Report planning to include thematic reports and expand the use of interactive tools for presenting results



# PIRLS 2026 Options

- PIRLS 2026 Longitudinal Option
  - Re-assess student in 2027
  - International analysis and reporting
- Optional National Comparison Study (NCS)
  - Uses only (paper) trend material
  - National database for analyses of mode differences

# Participating Countries\*

Albania	England	Kuwait	Portugal
Australia	Finland	Latvia	Qatar
Austria	France	Lebanon	Romania
Azerbaijan	Georgia	Lithuania	Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of
Bahrain	Germany	Luxembourg	Scotland
Belgium (Flemish)	Hong Kong SAR	Macao SAR	Serbia
Belgium (French)	Hungary	Malta	Singapore
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Iran, Islamic Rep. of	Montenegro	Slovak Republic
Brazil	Iraq	Morocco	Slovenia
Bulgaria	Ireland	The Netherlands	South Africa
Canada	Israel	New Zealand	Spain
Chile	Italy	North Macedonia, Rep. of	Sweden
Chinese Taipei	Jordan	Northern Ireland	United Arab Emirates
Cyprus	Kazakhstan	Norway	United States
Czech Republic	Korea, Rep. of	Oman	Uzbekistan
Denmark	Kosovo	Poland	

\* Recruitment for participation is still in progress

# Overview of the PIRLS 2026 Schedule

2023	Frameworks and text selection
2024	Instrument development
2025	Field Test and finalizing instruments
2026	Data collection and processing
2027	Data analysis and reporting



# Advantages of Computer Delivery

- Adaptive test designs possible
- More potential for interactive response types and automated scoring opportunities
- Collection of responses (without manual data entry) and process data (with timing, navigation)
- More automated scoring checks, quality assurance
- Improved security of instruments

# Preparing for PIRLS 2026

- Convened PIRLS 2026 Expert Advisory Groups
- Engaged Test Development Partners
  - University of Memphis (United States), led by John Sabatini
  - Expertisecentrum Nederlands (Netherlands), led by Eliane Segers and Nicole Swart
- Updated the PIRLS Reading Assessment Framework
  - RDG review (Jan 2023)
  - NRC review (Feb 2023)

# PIRLS 2026 Framework Overview

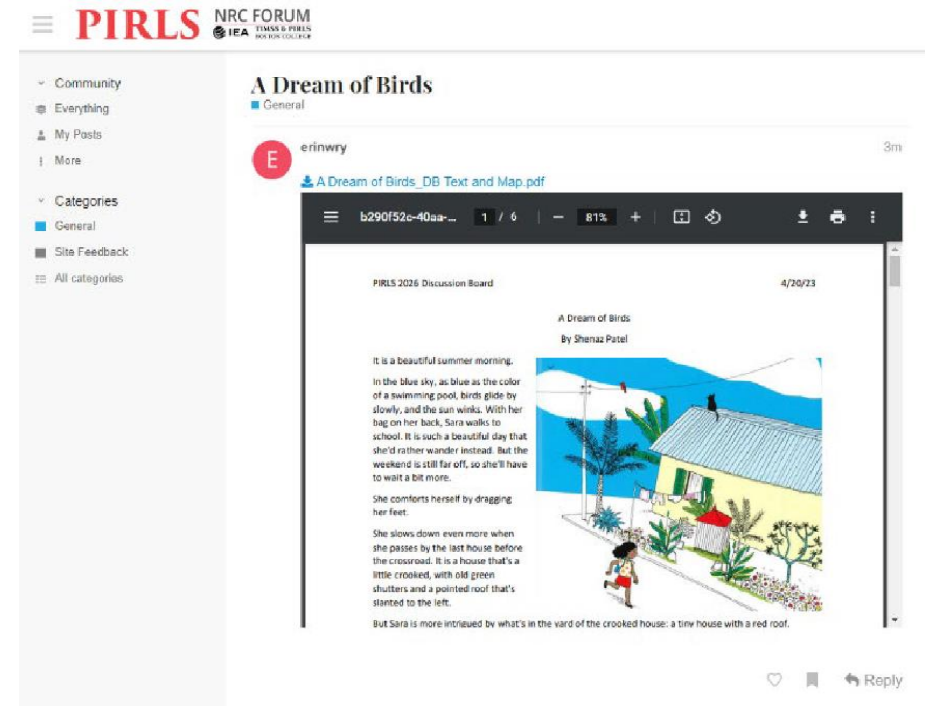
- Integration of ePIRLS
- Maintain distribution of Purposes for Reading and Processes of Comprehension
- Added new discussions of reading comprehension from recent literature as appropriate
- Expanded discussion of digital and multi-source text processing

# Test Development

- 6 new passages/tasks are needed for the PIRLS 2026 Data Collection
  - Two 2021 ePIRLS tasks will be integrated into the 2026 assessment design
  - Four newly-developed passages to be added to the assessment (3 literary; 1 online/ePIRLS informational task)
- Call for submissions of literary texts
  - Variety of text types, situations, themes
  - Engaging for a wide range of students
  - Cross-culturally appropriate

# Test Development: NRC Forum

- PIRLS discussion board
  - Preview potential texts for PIRLS Field Test development
  - View and post comments about appropriateness of texts (according to established text criteria)



The screenshot shows the PIRLS NRC Forum interface. On the left is a navigation menu with options like 'Community', 'Everything', 'My Posts', 'More', 'Categories', 'General', 'Site Feedback', and 'All categories'. The main content area displays a post by user 'erinwry' titled 'A Dream of Birds' in the 'General' category. The post includes a PDF viewer showing the text of the story 'A Dream of Birds' by Shenz Patel. The text describes a beautiful summer morning where Sara walks to school, but she is intrigued by a crooked house with a red roof. An illustration of the crooked house is shown next to the text. The PDF viewer interface includes a toolbar with zoom and navigation controls.

# Context Questionnaires

- PIRLS 2026 will include...
  - Early Learning Survey (Home Questionnaire)
  - Student Questionnaire
  - School Questionnaire
  - Teacher Questionnaire
  - Curriculum Questionnaire
- Opportunities for updating the questionnaires
  - Relevant to shifts in policy and instruction
  - Considering opportunities for thematic reports

# NRC Communications: PIRLS NRC Portal

- PIRLS NRC Portal Features:
  - Contact Information
  - Schedule
  - Announcements
  - NRC Meeting information and materials
  - Field Test and Data Collection materials
  - Newsletter

The screenshot displays the PIRLS NRC Portal interface. At the top, the logo for PIRLS NRC PORTAL is shown, including the IEA logo and the text 'TIMSS & PIRLS BOSTON COLLEGE'. Below the logo, there is a section titled 'PIRLS 2026 SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS BY YEAR' with five horizontal bars representing the years 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, and 2027. To the right of this section is a 'RECENT PORTAL UPDATES' box with a photo of students and two bullet points: 'Dates and location posted for the PIRLS 2026 2nd NRC Meeting' and 'New texts for review on the Text Development Discussion Board'. Below that is a 'QUICK LINKS' box with three bullet points: 'PIRLS 2026 NRC Calendar', 'PIRLS 2026 Text Development Discussion Board', and 'PIRLS 2021 International Results in Reading'. At the bottom, there is a 'PIRLS 2026 INFORMATION AT A GLANCE' section with six icons: a megaphone for 'ANNOUNCEMENTS / NRC POSTINGS', a group of people for 'NRC MEETINGS', a scale for 'P26 FIELD TEST MATERIALS FORTHCOMING', a scale with 'DC' for 'P26 DATA COLLECTION MATERIALS FORTHCOMING', a newspaper for 'NEWSLETTER (QUARTERLY) FORTHCOMING', and speech bubbles for 'CONTACTS'.



PIRLS

2026

Demonstration of PIRLS NRC Portal



TIMSS & PIRLS  
International Study Center  
Lynch School of Education  
BOSTON COLLEGE

# Schedule Highlights: 2023

Jan 23	1 <sup>st</sup> PIRLS 2026 Reading Development Group (RDG) Meeting
Feb 16	1 <sup>st</sup> PIRLS 2026 NRC meeting
Apr 14	NRCs submit comments on draft Reading Assessment Framework
Apr	NRCs begin submitting texts for posting and review
May 2	1 <sup>st</sup> Questionnaire Development Group (QDG) Meeting
Oct 25-26	RDG review of texts, PIRLS 2026 Item Writing Guidelines and final draft of the Reading Assessment Framework
Nov	NRC Webinar: project updates and information session



# Upcoming Schedule Highlights: 2024

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Feb 11-16 | 2 <sup>nd</sup> NRC Meeting: Item writing workshop  |
| May       | 2 <sup>nd</sup> QDG Meeting to review Context Questionnaire Framework and Field Test Questionnaires                     |
| May       | 2 <sup>nd</sup> RDG Meeting to review Field Test texts, items, and scoring guides                                       |
| Jun       | 3 <sup>rd</sup> NRC Meeting to finalize materials for the PIRLS 2026 Field Test and review survey operations procedures |
| Jun/Jul   | PIRLS 2026 Assessment Frameworks published  |
| Oct       | Translation and verification of instruments begins  |
| Nov       | IEA Hamburg conducts Data Management Seminar for the Field Test   |

# Summary

- PIRLS 2026 completes the transition to a fully digital assessment
- The project is in the initial phases of development for the Field Test administration in 2025
- Innovative item types and automated scoring will be implemented
- Communications with NRCs will be a priority
- Expanding report plans to include thematic reports and data visualization tool

# Thank You!

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