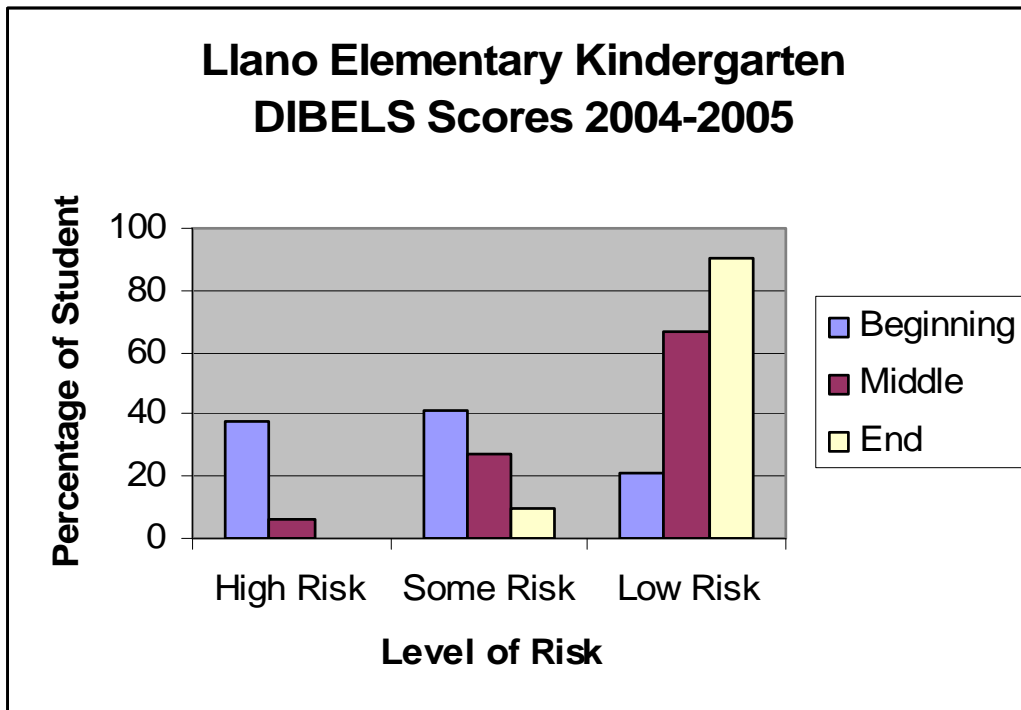


Llano Elementary School, a pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten Early Childhood Education Center located in Lovington, New Mexico announced its annual DIBELS Assessment Scores today. Ninety (90) percent of Llano's 241 Kindergarten students met their benchmark goals for the DIBELS (based on their scores on tests of letter naming, phoneme segmentation, and nonsense word reading). These scores represent a strong growth trend in Llano's students during this, their second year as part of New Mexico's Reading First program.



Seventy-nine percent of Llano's students began the school year in the two highest risk levels (high risk or some risk).

During the 2004-2005 school year, Llano added the *Driving Instruction with the DIBELS* program to its current core program of Scott-Foresman reading. *Driving Instruction with the DIBELS* is a supplemental program of phonemic awareness, early phonics, and fluency development games and activities. All of Llano's classroom teachers, as well as special education, title I, ESL, and paraprofessional staff utilized these resources on a daily basis. Students in the highest risk categories participated in the program two to three times per day, thus providing substantial extra practice and repetition.