

During the pilot testing of the Florida Assessments for Instruction in Reading (FAIR), it was determined that the ability to cache the three instructional Flash files from the 3-12 Web-based Assessment Module (3-12 WAM) would be important to successful implementation of the FAIR. This caching can occur at the district level (through the use of a caching server), the school level (also through the use of a caching server), or at the machine level (through the use of the process outlined below).

While the use of a caching server at the district or school level is preferred, the Florida Center for Reading Research (FCRR) has also set up a site that can be used to download all three instructional Flash files without requiring a student to Sign In to the WAM or otherwise interact with the web page.

This site will automatically place all three instructional Flash files in the browser's cache during a single page visit so that the files do not need to be downloaded when the student Signs In to take the WAM on test day. Caching these files will significantly reduce loading times for the assessment and will decrease the amount of stress on the network. **This site should NOT be used to view the instruction files; it should only be used to cache the files.** This process will only work if the machines are configured so that all students use the same cache file and the cache is not cleared.

To access this site and cache the files:

- Open the same web browser the students will use to take the assessment. This is important because each browser has its own cache folder, so files cached on one browser will not be cached for the other(s)
- Turn off the sound on your computer. All files will play at once and the sound will overlap.
- Type in <http://312.pmrn.fcrr.org/taskintrofiles.htm> in the address bar and hit enter.
- All three files will begin loading at once. There will be a loading icon for each of the three files.
- When each file finishes loading, it will begin playing automatically.
- After all three files have loaded, the files have been placed in the cache folder and the browser can be closed. The file is considered loaded as soon as it begins playing.

Again, this site should NOT be used to actually view the instruction files as a student or teacher. **Interacting with the files on the site will either not function or it will take the user to an error page.** This site exists solely to insert the files into the cache without requiring a student to Sign In to the WAM or for any user to interact with the site.

If district security policy requires all students to have his or her own User Name and Password for computer sign in, each student account will have his or her own cache folder, and this process will not work. Also, if district settings clear the cache of the computer after the student signs out, then it will clear these files and this process will not work. In this case, district caching server remains the best option, but you may want to contact your district to investigate another option, such as setting up a user account that will only be used for the administration of FAIR.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the PMRN Help Desk at 850.644.0931 or helpdesk@fcrr.org.