

A P P E N D I X C

Comparison of the Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS) and the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)

The central goal of both PIRLS and PISA is to inform participating countries about the reading literacy achievement of their students. However, differences in curricular demands and developmental expectations placed on students at the fourth grade compared to later in their schooling result in a slight difference in emphasis between the two studies. Since students at the fourth grade commonly have just reached the end of their early reading instruction, PIRLS focuses more on the acquisition of reading literacy. In contrast, 15-year-olds typically are preparing to enter the workforce or higher education;

For the PISA assessment, reading literacy for 15-year-olds is defined as

Comparison of PIRLS Processes of Comprehension and PISA Macro Aspects of Understanding Text

*Focus on and Retrieve
Explicitly Stated Information –*
locate and understand relevant
information or ideas that are
explicitly stated in text.

MMnMhw D iEi explic# nd

