

Level A - Students Can:

Students							
Just beginning to learn how print works							
Just beginning to learn the <i>alphabetic principle</i> —the relationship between letters and sounds							
Learning to use 1-1 matching							
Learning to follow text from left to right							
Differentiating between print and pictures							
Beginning to notice each letter's distinct features							
Learning some easy, high-frequency words							

Level B - Students Can:

Students							
Recognize and apply repeating patterns							
Reads left to right							
1-1 matching							
Moving from one line of text to the next							
Able to distinguish and identify more letters according to their distinct features							
Understands the connection between sounds and letters							
Increasing their knowledge of high frequency words							

Level C - Students Can:

Students

Begin to move smoothly across the printed page when reading							
Begin to use some expression when reading							
Eyes are taking over the process of matching the spoken word to the printed word (removal of finger tracking)							
Developing phrased reading							
Noticing dialogue and punctuation and reflecting this with the voice							
Developing a larger core of high-frequency words							
Consistently monitoring reading and cross-checking one source of information against another; Self correcting							

Level E- Students Can:

Students							
Flexible enough to process texts with varied placement of print and a full range of punctuation							
Attend to more subtle ideas and complex stories							
Solve longer words with inflectional endings							
Read sentences that carry over 2-3 lines or over two pages							
Rely much more on the print; pictures are becoming less supportive							
Left-to-right directionality and voice-print match are automatic							
Oral reading demonstrates fluency and phrasing with appropriate stress on words							
Read without finger pointing, bringing in finger only at point of difficulty							
Recognize a large number of high-frequency words							
Easily solve words with regular letter-sound relationships, as well as a few irregular words							

Level F- Students Can:

Students

Beginning to build knowledge of the characteristics of different genres of texts

Read stretches of both simple and split dialogue

Recognize a large number of high-frequency words quickly and automatically

Use letter-sound information to take apart simple, regular words as well as some multisyllable words

Process and understand text patterns that are particular to written language

Beginning to read fiction with more well-developed characters

Left-to-right directionality and voice-print match are completely automatic

Read without pointing and with appropriate rate, phrasing, intonation, and stress

Level J- Students Can:

Students							
Able to process a variety of texts (short fiction texts, short informational texts, and longer Narrative texts that have illustrations and short chapters)							
Adjust reading strategies as needed to process different genres							
Process increasingly more complex sentences							
Have a large, expanding sight-word vocabulary							
Able to quickly apply word-solving strategies for complex spelling patterns, multisyllable words, and words with inflectional endings, plurals, contractions, and possessives							
Read silently during independent reading							
Oral reading reflects appropriate rate, stress, intonation, phrasing, and pausing							

Level L- Students Can:

Students							
Able to process easy chapter books, including some series books, with more sophisticated plots and few illustrations, as well as shorter informational texts							
Adjust reading to process a variety of genres							
Understand that chapter books have multiple episodes connected to a single plot							
Bring background knowledge to new reading in order to process and learn new information							
Begin to recognize themes across texts (friendship, courage)							
Able to understand some abstract ideas							
Able to see multiple perspectives of characters through description							
Able to flexibly apply word-solving strategies for complex spelling patterns, multisyllable words, and words with inflectional endings, plurals, contractions, and possessives							
Read silently during independent reading							
Oral reading fully demonstrates all aspects of fluent reading							

Level N- Students Can:

Students							
Know the characteristics of and can process the full range of genres							
Developing preferences for specific forms of reading (mysteries, biographies)							
Can understand and process narratives with more elaborate plots and multiple characters that develop and change over time							
Able to identify and use underlying organizational structures (description, compare and contrast, problem and solution, cause and effect) to help navigate through text							
Word solving is smooth and automatic with both oral and silent reading							
Reader will slow down to problem solve or search for information, then resume normal reading pace							
Most word solving is unconscious and automatic; little overt problem solving needed							
Can read and understand descriptive words, some complex content-specific words, and some technical words							

Level 0- Students Can:

Students

Know the characteristics of and can process the full range of genres

Read a wide range of texts: chapter books, shorter fiction and informational text, including

Special forms such as mysteries, series books, and short stories

Able to identify and use underlying organizational structures (description, compare and contrast, problem and solution, cause and effect) to help navigate through text

Able to process lengthy, complex sentences, containing prepositional phrases, introductory

clauses, and lists of nouns, verbs, or adjectives

Solve new vocabulary words, some defined in the text and some unexplained

Most word solving is unconscious and automatic; little overt problem solving needed

Can read and understand descriptive words, some complex content specific words, and some

technical words

Word solving is smooth and automatic with both oral and silent reading

Level Q- Students Can:

Students							
Automatically read and understand a full range of genres, including biographies, hybrid genres, Fiction with elaborate plots and complex characters, informational texts, etc.							
Able to process lengthy, complex sentences, containing prepositional phrases, introductory clauses, and lists of nouns, verbs, or adjectives							
Solve new vocabulary words, some defined in the text and some unexplained							
Most reading is silent, but fluency and phrasing in oral reading are well-established							
Readers are challenged by many longer descriptive words and by content specific/technical words							
Able to take apart multisyllable words and use a full range of word-solving skills							
Read and understand texts in a variety of layouts and formats							
Consistently search for information in illustrations and increasingly complex graphics							

Level R- Students Can:

Students

Automatically read and understand a full range of genres, including biographies, hybrid genres,
Fiction with elaborate plots and complex characters, informational texts, etc.

Understand perspectives different from their own as well as settings and people far distant in
time and space

Able to process lengthy, complex sentences, containing prepositional phrases, introductory
clauses, and lists of nouns, verbs, or adjectives

Solve new vocabulary words, some defined in the text and some unexplained

Most reading is silent, but fluency and phrasing in oral reading are well-established

Readers are challenged by many longer descriptive words and by content specific/technical words

Able to take apart multisyllable words and use a full range of word solving skills

Read and understand texts in a variety of layouts and formats

Consistently search for information in illustrations and increasingly complex graphics

Level S- Students Can:

Students

Automatically read and understand a full range of genres, including biographies on less well-known subjects, hybrid genres, fiction with elaborate plots and complex characters, informational texts, etc.

Able to process lengthy, complex sentences, containing prepositional phrases, introductory clauses, and lists of nouns, verbs, or adjectives

Understand perspectives different from their own as well as settings and people far distant in time and space

Able to process lengthy, complex sentences, containing prepositional phrases, introductory clauses, and lists of nouns, verbs, or adjectives

Solve new vocabulary words, some defined in the text and some unexplained

Most reading is silent, but fluency and phrasing in oral reading are well-established

Readers are challenged by many longer descriptive words and by content specific/technical Words

Able to take apart multisyllable words and use a full range of word solving skills

Read and understand texts in a variety of layouts and formats

Consistently search for information in illustrations and increasingly complex graphics

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Level V- Students Can:

Students

Automatically read and understand a full range of genres, including biographies on less well-known subjects, hybrid genres, fiction with elaborate plots and complex characters, informational texts, etc.

Able to read longer texts and remember information and connect ideas over many days of reading

Read and interpret complex fantasy, myths, legends that contain symbolism

Able to read and interpret more abstract forms of literature (satire)

Understand perspectives different from their own

Understand settings and people far distant in time and space

Readers can be very expressive when presenting poetry or readers' theater

Read and understand texts in a variety of layouts and formats

Able to search for and use information in an integrated way, using complex graphics and texts that present content requiring background knowledge

Level W- Students Can:

Students

Automatically read and understand a full range of genres, including biographies on less well known subjects, hybrid genres, fiction with elaborate plots and complex characters, informational texts, etc.

Able to read longer texts and remember information and connect ideas over many days of reading

Read and interpret complex fantasy, myths, legends that contain symbolism and classical motifs ("the quest")

Encounter mature themes that expand their knowledge of social issues

Able to read and interpret more abstract forms of literature(satire),and literary devices, such as irony

Understand multidimensional themes on several different levels

Understand settings and people far distant in time and space

Readers can be very expressive when presenting poetry or readers' theater

Read and understand texts in a variety of layouts and formats

Apply background knowledge of historical events, archaic language and/or regional dialects when reading

Level X- Students Can:

Students

Understand and process a wide range of texts, including all genres

Able to read very long texts with complex sentences and paragraphs, with many multisyllable words

Understand and respond to mature themes such as poverty and war

Able to read and interpret more abstract forms of literature (satire), and literary devices, such as irony

Read and understand texts with multidimensional characters, texts that can be interpreted on several levels, and that are developed in complex ways

Most reading is silent; fluency and phrasing in oral reading is well-established

Challenged by a heavy load of content-specific and technical words that require using embedded definitions, background knowledge, and reader's tools (glossaries, indexes, etc.)

Apply prior understandings in a critical way when reading both fiction and nonfiction texts

Level Y-Z Students Can:

Students

Understand and process a wide range of texts, including all genres

Read very long texts with complex sentences and paragraphs, with many multisyllable words

Identify classical motifs such as “the quest” and moral issues

Able to read and interpret more abstract forms of literature (satire), and literary devices, such as

Irony

Read and understand texts with multidimensional characters, texts that can be interpreted on

Several levels, and that are developed in complex ways

Most reading is silent; fluency and phrasing in oral reading is well-established

Challenged by a heavy load of content specific and technical words that require using

Embedded definitions, background knowledge, and reader’s tools (glossaries, indexes, etc.)

Apply prior understandings in a critical way when reading both fiction and nonfiction texts

