

Teachers College Reading and Writing Project

Benchmark Reading Levels and Marking Period Assessments

Updated December 2012

SEPTEMBER	NOVEMBER	JANUARY	MARCH	JUNE
Kindergarten Emergent Story Books Shared Reading	Kindergarten Emergent Story Books Shared Reading A/B (with book intro)	Kindergarten B/C (with book intro)	Kindergarten 1=Early Emergent 2=A/B (with book intro) 3=C (with book intro) 4=D/E	Kindergarten 1=B or below 2=C (with book intro) 3=D/E 4=F or above
Grade 1: 1=B or below 2=C 3=D/E 4=F or above	Grade 1: 1=C or below 2=D/E 3=F/G 4=H or above	Grade 1: 1=D or below 2=E/F 3=G/H 4=I or above	Grade 1: 1=E or below 2=F/G 3=H/I/J 4=K or above	Grade 1: 1=G or below 2=H 3=I/J/K 4=L or above
Grade 2: 1=F or below 2=G/H 3=I/J/K 4=L or above	Grade 2: 1=G or below 2=H/I 3=J/K/L 4=M or above	Grade 2: 1=H or below 2=I/J 3=K/L 4=M or above	Grade 2: 1=I or below 2=J/K 3=L/M 4=N or above	Grade 2: 1=J or below 2=K/L 3=M 4=N or above
Grade 3: 1=K or below (avg. H) 2=L 3=M 4=N or above	Grade 3: 1=K or below (avg. I) 2=L/M (avg. L) 3=N 4=O or above	Grade 3: 1=L or below 2=M/N 3=O 4=P or above	Grade 3: 1=M or below (avg. J) 2=N 3=O 4=P or above	Grade 3: 1=N or below (avg. K) 2=O 3=P 4=Q or above
Grade 4: 1=M or below (avg. J) 2=N/O (avg. N) 3=P/Q (avg. P) 4=R or above	Grade 4: 1=N or below (avg. L) 2=O/P (avg. P) 3=Q/R (avg. Q) 4=S or above	Grade 4: 1=O or below 2=P/Q 3=R/S 4=T or above	Grade 4: 1=O or below (avg. K) 2=P/Q (avg. P) 3=R/S (avg. R) 4=T or above	Grade 4: 1=P or below (avg. L) 2=Q/R (avg. Q) 3=S/T (avg. S) 4=U or above
Grade 5: 1=P or below (avg. M) 2=Q/R (avg. Q) 3=S 4=T or above	Grade 5: 1=P or below (avg. N) 2=Q/R/S (avg. Q) 3=T 4=U or above	Grade 5: 1=Q or below 2=R/S/T 3=U 4=V or above	Grade 5: 1=Q or below (avg. O) 2=R/S/T (avg. R/S) 3=U 4=V or above	Grade 5: 1=R or below (avg. P) 2=S/T/U (avg. S/T) 3=V 4=W or above
Grade 6: 1=R or below (avg. O) 2=S/T/U (avg. S) 3=V/W (avg. V) 4=X or above	Grade 6: 1=S or below (avg. P) 2=T/U/V (avg. T) 3=W 4=X or above	Grade 6: 1=T or below 2=U/V 3=W/X 4=Y or above	Grade 6: 1=T or below (avg. Q) 2=U/V (avg. U) 3=W/X (avg. W) 4=Y or above	Grade 6: 1=U or below (avg. Q) 2=V/W (avg. V) 3=X 4=Y or above
Grade 7: 1=T or below (avg. P) 2=U/V (avg. U) 3=W/X (avg. W) 4=Y or above	Grade 7: 1=T or below (avg. Q) 2=U/V/W (avg. U) 3=X 4=Y or above	Grade 7: 1=U or below 2=V/W 3=X 4=Y or above	Grade 7: 1=U or below (avg. R) 2=V/W (avg. V) 3=X 4=Y or above	Grade 7: 1=V or below (avg. R) 2=W/X (avg. W) 3=Y 4=Z or above
Grade 8: 1=V or below 2=W 3=X/Y/Z 4=Adult Literature	Grade 8: 1=V or below 2=W 3=X/Y/Z 4=Adult Literature	Grade 8: 1=W or below 2=X/Y 3=Z/Adult Literature 4=Adult Literature	Grade 8: 1=W or below 2=X/Y/Z 3=Adult Literature 4=Adult Literature	Grade 8: 1=W or below 2=X/Y/Z 3=Adult Literature 4=Adult Literature

* We expect that many schools will incorporate the reading level as part of the child's grade for reading workshop, but that that assessment will also be informed by reading habits, growth, etc. The level 1-3 benchmarks represent the average text difficulty levels for the majority of readers who achieved that score on the ELA. There is no pattern that allows for prediction of a 4. Because a score of 4 generally only allows for one or two errors, it is hard to assure parents or students that a correlation will exist between level of text difficulty and a score of 4. 8th Grade benchmarks come from Qualitative assessments.