

Teachers College Reading & Writing Project
Benchmark Independent Reading Levels and Marking Period Assessments



Updated for the 2018-2019 School Year

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

©2018 Teachers College Reading and Writing Project

*Be aware that texts at level W and above can contain mature content. Please use professional judgement.

We expect that many schools will incorporate the reading level as part of the child's grade for reading workshop, but that assessment will also be informed by reading volume, reading habits, and stamina. The closest correlations are for students in grades K-4 who achieved proficiency on the NY State ELA. There is not a 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. NOTE: benchmark levels might be revised once the 2018 NY State ELA data has been collected and analyzed.