

Stage Seven—Middle of Grade 2

Comprehension

- Retells stories without prompting by stating important events (retellings becoming shorter)
- Identifies story elements including problem and solution
- Identifies alternative solutions for story problems
- Identifies topic and main idea
- Supports predictions with information from the text
- Able to make personal connections to text
- Begins to make connections to other texts
- Uses background knowledge and experience to interpret story

Word Identification, Vocab and Fluency

- Reads familiar and many new texts independently
- Reads new texts at the stage seven level with some support (assessment level 20 & book level L)
- Reads smoothly with slight pauses at points of difficulty
- Uses efficient strategies to problem-solve unknown words
- Self-corrects miscues quickly
- Has extensive sight vocabulary that allows for reading of familiar topics fluently

Attitudes & Behaviors

- Increases silent reading time to 15-20 minutes

Stage Eight—End of Gr. 2/Beginning Gr. 3

Comprehension

- Begins to summarize stories rather than retell and tells important information from informational texts
- Provides justification from text for inferences and predictions
- Supports topic and main idea with details
- Analyzes texts and responds with higher levels of thinking
- Shows understanding of various points of view

Word Identification, Vocab and Fluency

- Reads new texts at the stage eight level with fluency (assessment level 28 & book level M)
- Analyzes word structure as an aid to word identification and word meaning
- Uses word identification strategies automatically most of the time
- Begins to vary reading rate according to text and purpose

Attitudes & Behaviors

- May avidly pursue a favorite author or series
- Wants to keep reading for longer periods of time (20-30 minutes)

Stage Nine—Middle of Grade 3

Comprehension

- Provides summaries of stories and informational texts using elaborated generalizations, rather than literal, short retellings
- Reflects critically on and responds to fiction and informational text, providing different levels of interpretation and adopting alternative points of view
- Makes connections across texts independently
- Identifies the theme of stories
- Participates in student-led group discussions

Word Identification, Vocab and Fluency

- Reads new texts at the stage nine level with fluency (assessment level 34 & book level O)
- Uses strategies automatically

Attitudes & Behaviors

- Reads for information and pleasure
- Reads literature with emotional involvement and empathizes with characters