Independent Reading Level Assessment Guide

Grade	Expected Level	Student must be able to	Student doesn't need to be able to
PreK	RTM		Read anything.
K	1Y	Listen to first couple of pages of a Yellow book and use the pattern and pictures to give a reasonable "reading" of rest of book.	Track words on a page in Yellow books. "Sound out" anything.
	2Y	Track and self-correct to read one word for each word on the page after being given the pattern to Yellow books.	Use initial consonants to solve unknown words in Yellow books. "Sound out" anything.
	3Y	Use most consonant sounds to prompt unknown words (i.e., *cup* not *glass*) after being given the pattern in Yellow books.	Use initial consonants to read words they've never heard before. Read any Power Words.
	1G	Recognize 25+ Power Words. Use initial consonant sounds and pictures to guess at new word.	Sound out more than the first letter. Know any vowel sounds.
1	2G	Recognize 85+ Power Words. Use initial consonant blends and pictures to guess at new word.	Sound out more than the first 2 letters. Know any vowel sounds.
	1B	Use familiar chunks (vowel families) to figure out most 1-syllable words.	Figure out most 2-syllable words.
	2B	Use familiar chunks (vowel families) to figure out most 2-syllable words.	Figure out most 3-syllable words.
2	1R	Use familiar chunks (vowel families) to figure out most 3-syllable words.	Figure out irregular, multisyllabic words.
	2R	Figure out any word familiar from speech *(mysterious, championship, familiar).* Finish chapter books.	Deduce the meaning of words they've never said or heard *(cantankerous).*
3	Wt	Decode and deduce meaning of words they have never heard in speech *(shrugged, exclaimed)* common to third-grade level books. Finish chapter books.	Deduce the meaning of words appropriate to levels beyond the third grade.

Black, Orange, Purple, Bronze, Silver, and Gold

are distinguished by their content, including:

- Density and frequency level of literary vocabulary
- Technical load of content area materials, including technical vocabulary
- Complexity and familiarity of organizational schemes and genres
- Use of literary devices
- Complexity of sentence structures