

Making Sense of Levels

Sundance stands behind its levels as good guidelines; however, teachers must use them as a point of reference and set their own level standards for their students.

Help your students become successful readers by matching the level to the student.

Grade Level (Basal)	GRL [†]	Early Intervention Level*	DRA [§]	Lexile [‡]	Stages of Reading
Kindergarten					
	–	–	A	200–400	EMERGENT
<i>Readiness</i>	A	1	1		
<i>PrePrimer</i>	B	2	2		
	C	3–4	3		
	D	5–6	4		
	E	7–8	6–9		
Grade One					
<i>PrePrimer</i>	D	5–6	4	200–400	EARLY
	E	7–8	6–9		
<i>Primer</i>	F	9–10	10		
	G	11–12	12		
<i>Grade One</i>	H	13–14	14		
	I	15–16	16		
Grade Two					
	H	13–14	14	300–500	EARLY FLUENCY
	I	15–16	16		
	J–K	17–19	18–20		
	L–M	20–22	24–28		
	–	23–25	–		
	–	26–27	–		
	–	28–30	–		
Grade Three					
	L–M	20–22	24–28	500–800	FLUENCY
	N	–	30		
	O–P	–	34–38		
Grade Four					
	O–P	–	34–38	600–900	FLUENCY
	Q–R	–	40		
	S–T	–	44		
Grade Five					
	S–T	–	44	700–1000	FLUENCY
	U–V	–	44		
	W	–	–		
Grade Six					
	U	–	–	800–1050	FLUENCY
	V	–	–		
	W–X–Y–Z	–	–		
Grades Seven & Eight					
	X–Y–Z	–	–	950–1100	FLUENCY

† Guided Reading Levels (GRL) assigned by Sundance using the text characteristics described by Fountas and Pinnell in *Guided Reading* (Heinemann 1996) and *Guiding Readers and Writers, Grades 3–6* (Heinemann 2001).

* Early Intervention Levels (EIL) are based on Reading Recovery®, a registered trademark of the Ohio State University.

§ Developmental Reading Level Assessment (DRA), developed by Joetta Beaver, is a method of assessing and documenting achievement within a literature-based instructional program.

‡ Lexile Frameworks, developed by MetaMetrics, Inc., provides a common scale for matching reader ability and text difficulty.