

Building Strong Readers Through the Science of Reading

Science of Reading efforts have largely focused on foundational skills in grades K–3, when students learn to read. Yet declining reading performance in grades 4–12 highlights the need to strengthen comprehension, vocabulary, knowledge, and stamina as students read to learn.¹

Built on decades of research, the Lexile® Framework for Reading provides a universal scale for measuring reading comprehension and text complexity across PreK–12. It supports all five pillars of literacy—from early reading development through advanced comprehension—and gives states and districts a consistent, reliable way to measure outcomes across assessments and curricula.



How MetaMetrics® Supports the Five Pillars of Literacy

Foundational Reading and Decoding Offerings

- Evaluate early reading text complexity aligned to how children learn to read.
- Assess pre-literacy with strand-level reporting to provide detailed insight into foundational reading skills.



PHONEMIC AWARENESS



PHONICS



FLUENCY



VOCABULARY



COMPREHENSION

Vocabulary Offerings

- Identify grade-level, domain-specific words from best-selling K–12 textbooks to guide instruction.
- Find challenging words in popular books to support pre-reading and vocabulary activities.
- Access phrases from a 39-million-word textbook corpus, developed with literacy expert Dr. Tim Shanahan.

Decoding Offerings

- Support phonics instruction with decodable texts that align to scope and sequence.
- Build fluency and comprehension with 100+ printable, phonics-aligned passages with comprehension questions and illustrations.

Lexile® Framework for Oral Reading

Assess oral reading fluency on the same scale as read-aloud passages for consistent, accurate measurement. Fluent oral reading is a precursor to silent reading comprehension.

Lexile Framework for Reading

- Search 500,000+ titles by Lexile range, grade, and interests, with vocabulary insights and Lexile measures by chapter.
- Analyze the Lexile level of any short text.
- Track reading growth and set goals toward college and career readiness.
- Explore 600+ careers by reading demand to connect literacy growth with future opportunities.

¹ "The Nation's Report Card." The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). <https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/>.



A Proven Framework for Literacy Success



MetaMetrics' Lexile Framework for Reading meets a high standard of rigor when assessing the scientific validity of educational tools through the lens of the Science of Reading. The Lexile Framework is:



Scientifically Rigorous

Developed by educational psychology researchers with grants from the National Institutes of Health. Grants were designed for small businesses that translate science into useful educational products and services.



Proven Effective, Trusted by Experts

Used in 100+ studies to evaluate text complexity, match readers to text, and/or monitor reading growth. Dozens of leading assessment and edtech companies have conducted their own research to demonstrate effectiveness.



Grounded in Learning Science

Lexile measures help match students with books by interest and within their zone of proximal development for independent reading. The challenge can be dialed up or down based on instructional purpose.



Supports Science of Reading from Pre-K to 12

For early readers, the Lexile Framework provides tools to build phonemic awareness, phonics, decoding, and fluency. For adolescent students, Lexile measures reflect growth in vocabulary and reading comprehension, which support domain-area knowledge and reading stamina.

The Lexile Framework is not a program or curriculum.

The Lexile Framework is an educational tool that maps text complexity and student reading ability on a single scale. We partner with thousands of curriculum developers and publishers to support their programs and curricula, which means we can provide learning insights without additional testing.



The Literacy Pathway

The Lexile scale ranges from BR400L–2000L to measure reading comprehension and forecast future outcomes. BR (Beginning Reader) is a Lexile code given to readers and texts that are below 0L on the Lexile scale.

PreK–2nd grade BR400L–790L

PHONEMIC AWARENESS AND PHONICS

Use Lexile® Find a Decodable Book to select read-aloud texts that emphasize specific sound-spelling patterns.

Use Lexile® Find a Book to plan read-alouds and shared reading with texts higher than students' independent reading levels.

3rd grade 180L–980L

FLUENCY

Lexile measures support the selection of independent reading books based on interest and text complexity.

4th–5th grade 410L–1255L

VOCABULARY

Lexile® WordLists and vocabulary lists, available in the Lexile Find a Book tool, support vocabulary growth.

6th–12th grade 680L–1605L

COMPREHENSION

Lexile measures identify the gap between student ability and text complexity enabling scaffolding, annotation support, and chunking strategies for extended reading. Assess or close gaps in content-area classrooms.

Building the Foundation

Reading to Learn

Learning to Read

Knowledge Building

Disciplinary Literacy

College, Career & Lifelong Learning



Visit the Lexile® & Quantile® Hub

Tools on the Lexile and Quantile Hub (Hub.Lexile.com) are specifically designed to support educators and parents in guiding student reading growth and are available at no cost to educators.*

* Some decodable passages are only available to educators in our partner states.



Learn More

Visit MetaMetrics.com to learn more about how we support learning through actionable measurement.

Email our team at hello@metametrics.com to learn about partnering with MetaMetrics.