

LEXILES AT HOME

- **Lexile® measures defined**

The Lexile Framework® for Reading is a scientific approach to measuring readers and reading materials. A key component of the Lexile Framework is a number called the Lexile measure. A Lexile measure indicates both the difficulty of a text, such as a book or magazine article, and a student's reading ability. Knowing the Lexile text measure of a book and the Lexile reader measure of a student helps to predict how the book matches the student's reading ability—whether the book is too easy, too difficult or just right.

Both a Lexile reader measure and a Lexile text measure are denoted as a simple number followed by an "L" (e.g., 850L), and are placed on the Lexile scale. The Lexile scale ranges from below 200L for beginning readers and beginning-reading text to above 1700L for advanced readers and text.

The Lexile Framework, which comprises both the Lexile measure and Lexile scale, is not an instructional program any more than a thermometer is a medical treatment. But just as a thermometer is useful in managing medical care, the Lexile Framework is useful in managing your child's reading development.

- **Obtaining your child's Lexile measure**

Lexile measures are used at the school-level in all 50 states to improve student achievement across the curriculum. More than 28 million Lexile measures are reported annually from national and state assessments, classroom assessments and reading programs, representing about half of U.S. students. All major standardized reading tests and several popular instructional reading programs report students' scores as Lexile measures. Some schools include Lexile measures with report cards, test results and home reading materials.

- **More meaningful than grade leveling**

Lexile measures do not translate specifically to grade levels. Within any classroom, there will be a range of readers and a range of materials to be read. For example, in a fifth-grade classroom, there will be some readers who are far ahead and some readers who are far below the rest. To say that some books are "just right" for fifth graders assumes that all fifth graders are reading at the same level. Lexile measures track students' reading progress over time, no matter what grade they are in.

- **Managing your child's reading comprehension**

Lexile measures allow you to manage your child's reading comprehension by matching him or her to appropriately challenging text. Matching your child's Lexile measure to a text with the same Lexile measure leads to an expected 75-percent comprehension rate—not too difficult to be frustrating, but difficult enough to encourage reading progress.

You can further help your child by knowing his or her Lexile range. A reader's recommended Lexile range is 50L above and 100L below his or her Lexile measure. These are the boundaries between the easiest kind of reading materials for your child and the hardest level at which he or she should be able to read successfully.

- **Finding books and articles that will help your child**

Once you have your child's Lexile measure, you can connect him or her with tens of thousands of books and tens of millions of articles with MetaMetrics, Lexile, Lexile Framework, Lexile Analyzer, the Lexile symbol, Quantile, Quantile Framework and the Quantile symbol are trademarks or U.S. registered trademarks of MetaMetrics, Inc. The names of other companies and products mentioned herein may be the trademarks of their respective owners. © 2008 MetaMetrics, Inc. All rights reserved.

Lexile measures. Most public libraries have access to online periodical databases that you can use to search for newspaper and magazine articles by Lexile measure. For books, the Lexile Book Database (at www.Lexile.com) and "Find a Book" Web site (at www.lexile.com/findabook) are available to create customized reading lists.

These free databases allow you to search for books based on Lexile measures and by interest categories or school assignment topics. With the “Find a Book” site, you can even check the availability of titles at your local library.

- **Using Lexile measures at home**

Ensure that your child gets plenty of reading practice, concentrating on material within his or her Lexile range (50L above and 100L below his or her Lexile measure). Ask your child’s teacher or school librarian to print a list of books in your child’s range, or search the Lexile Book Database or “Find a Book” Web site.

- Communicate with your child’s teacher and school librarian about his or her reading needs and accomplishments. They can use the Lexile Framework to let you know their assessment of your child’s reading ability.
- When a reading assignment proves too challenging for your child, use activities to help. For example, review the words and definitions from the glossary, and the review questions at the end of a chapter before your child reads the text. Afterwards, be sure to return to the glossary and review the questions to make certain your child understood the material.
- Celebrate your child’s reading accomplishments. One of the great things about the Lexile Framework is that it provides an easy way for readers to keep track of their own growth and progress. You and your child can set goals for reading—sticking to a reading schedule, reading a book at a higher Lexile measure, trying new kinds of books and articles, or reading a certain number of pages per week. When your child hits the goal, make an occasion out of it!

- **The Lexile Framework for Reading**

The Lexile Framework for Reading, developed by educational measurement company MetaMetrics®, Inc., is an indispensable part of any child’s literacy development. Lexile measures take the guesswork out of connecting your child with appropriately challenging reading materials. If you know your child’s Lexile measure, you can tell with a great deal of accuracy which books and articles will encourage reading progress.

For more information on using Lexile measures in your home, call **1-888-LEXILES** or visit

www.Lexile.com.

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