LEXILE® MEASURES & GEORGIA:

INFORMATION FOR LIBRARIANS

Young children and their parents may come into your library this summer and ask for your help finding books that match their reading ability and interests. The following information explains how you can use Lexile® measures and the “Find a Book, Georgia” search utility to help your patrons.

What is a Lexile measure?
A Lexile measure indicates the reading level of an individual or a book, and is represented as a number followed by an “L” (for example, 700L). By comparing a child’s Lexile measure with the Lexile measure of a book, you can decide whether its text demand will be too difficult, too easy or just right for the child’s reading ability. The best way to strengthen his or her reading skills is to have the child read books within his or her Lexile range.

What is a child’s recommended Lexile range?
A child’s Lexile range spans from 100L below to 50L above his or her Lexile measure. When the child reads within his or her Lexile range, he or she should be able to comprehend enough of the book to make sense of it, while still being sufficiently challenged to maintain interest and learning.

How can I obtain a Lexile measure for a child?
There are three ways to determine an approximate Lexile measure for identifying books at a student’s appropriate reading level for summer reading.
1. Lexile measures are reported on the Individual Student Report for the Georgia Milestones English Language Arts Assessment.
2. Students can approximate their Lexile measures by looking at the Lexile measures associated with the last 4-5 readings from the more than 100 million articles, books and websites that have been measured.
3. Visit the “Find a Book, Georgia” site and enter the grade level of the student and check the statement that best describes the student’s comfort with reading and a Lexile range will be generated.

How can you use Lexile measures to help a child find books?
With the free “Find a Book, Georgia” search tool, you can help a child select books that best match his or her reading ability (Lexile measure), interests and goals. It’s easy and fun to use!

1. GO TO Lexile.com/fab/GA
2. ENTER the child’s Lexile measure
3. SELECT the child’s interest categories
4. VIEW AND REFINE the search results
   As you browse books that the child finds interesting, click the “Find in a Library” button next to the book title to check its availability at your local public library.
5. PRINT the child’s custom reading list

Does a child need a Lexile measure to use “Find a Book, Georgia”?
No. “Find a Book, Georgia” can estimate a child’s starting Lexile range based on his or her grade and comfort with the reading material at that grade. Then, based on the book search results, a child can further refine his or her Lexile range to select books that best support successful reading.

Is a Lexile measure the only criteria to consider when picking a book?
A Lexile measure is a measure of text complexity only. It does not address the subject matter or text quality, age-appropriateness of the content or a reader’s interests. The Lexile measure is one piece of information that students can use to select books.

Some books also have a Lexile code—a two-letter designation that appears before the Lexile measure (for example, AD580L)—to provide more information about the book’s developmental appropriateness, reading difficulty and common or intended usage. Visit www.Lexile.com for more information on Lexile codes.

Should a child try to read books outside of his or her Lexile range?
A child can read books that are above or below his or her Lexile range. However, books that are below a child’s Lexile range may offer little challenge in terms of new vocabulary and complex grammatical structure. Similarly, books that are above his or her Lexile range may be too challenging and discourage the reader.

Higher Lexile measures allow an advanced and enthusiastic reader to:
- be challenged with high-interest books above his or her Lexile level
- seek help with a hard but interesting book
- find other books on the same subject but at a higher Lexile level

Lower Lexile measures allow a struggling and reluctant reader to:
- build skills with less challenging books on topics of choice
- select high-low books based on Lexile and development levels
- find other books on the same subject but at a lower level