

# St. Johns County School District

40 Orange Street  
St. Augustine, Florida 32084  
(904) 547-7500  
www.stjohns.k12.fl.us

Joseph G. Joyner, Ed.D.  
Superintendent



## Guidance for Grades K-2 On and Below Grade Level Determinations

In a standards-based curriculum and assessment system, specific grade-level benchmarks serve as the key reference points in determining the level of student performance.

The St. Johns County Instructional Services Department recommends the following:

- “On Grade Level” applies to students whose instruction is based upon the specific grade-level benchmarks. (For example, a first grader is instructed and assessed on first grade benchmarks.)
- “Below Grade Level” applies to students for whom instruction requires that the previous year’s benchmarks are consistently applied in place of benchmarks designed for the current year.

### Note:

- The previous message does not imply that reviewing or re-teaching benchmarks from a previous year is always an indication of below grade level work.
- One of the key indicators in determining “on grade level” reading performance is the student’s independent reading level. Please reference the attached chart for guidance in determining grade level proficiency.
- Students may be above grade level in one subject and below in another. Acceleration options exist for single subjects.
- If a student has demonstrated thorough mastery of the current grade level’s standards and requires instruction at the next year’s level, it is recommended that acceleration be considered. The explanation of and protocol for acceleration are described on pages 18-19 of the Student Progression Guide.

*The St. Johns County School District will inspire good character and a passion for lifelong learning in all students, creating educated and caring contributors to the world.*

School Board

Beverly Slough  
District 1

Tommy Allen  
District 2

Bill Mignon  
District 3

Bill Fehling  
District 4

Carla Wright  
District 5

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<b>Recommended Expectations For Quarterly Text Levels</b>	
<i>("Independent" = 95% accuracy with text)</i>	
<b><u>Kindergarten</u></b> End-of-year:	Independent DRA Level 3 or Guided Reading B
<b><u>First Grade</u></b>  First Quarter: Second Quarter: Third Quarter: Fourth Quarter:	Independent DRA Level 4 or Guided Reading C Independent DRA Level 8 or Guided Reading E Independent DRA Level 12 or Guided Reading G Independent DRA Level 16 or Guided Reading I
<b><u>Second Grade</u></b>  First Quarter: Second Quarter: Third Quarter: Fourth Quarter:	Independent DRA Level 18 or Guided Reading J Independent DRA Level 20 or Guided Reading K Independent DRA Level 24 or Guided Reading L Independent DRA Level 28 or Guided Reading M

*\*If other assessments are utilized, please refer to correlation chart for comparison.*

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## Text Level Correlation Chart

1 Reading Recovery Levels	2 Rigby Catalog Reading Stages	3 Grade Level Equivalent	4 Rigby PM PM Plus Levels	5 Fountas & Pinnell Level	6 Dominle Levels	7 Wright Group McGraw-Hill	8 Success for All	9 DRA2 Levels™	10 Lexiles	11 DRP Degrees of Reading Power	12 SAT10 Scaled Score	13 STAR Reading ™	
A,B	Emergent	Beginning Kindergarten	Starters 1	A	1	A	1-3	A	BR	NA	< 450	0.3	
1		Middle K	Starters 2	B**	2	B		1	BR	NA		0.3	
2		End K	3-4 red	C	3	C		2	BR	NA		0.4	
3	Early	Beginning Grade 1	5-6 red/yellow	D	4	E	4-25	3	BR	NA	450	0.5	
4					5								6
5					6								7
6		Middle Grade 1	7-8 yellow	E	7	F	25	6-8		NA		500	0.6
7					8								9
8					9								10
9					10								11
10		End Grade 1	13-14 green	H	11	H	26-37	10		NA	530	1.2	
11					12								13
12					12								14
14	Early Fluent	Middle Grade 2	19-20 purple	K	13	I	38-48	14	300	NA	550	1.5	
15					14								15
16					15								16
16	Fluent	Grade 3	23 silver	N	16	J	2.0	16		NA		1.9	
17					16								17
18					17								18
18	Early Fluent	End Grade 2	22 gold	M	17	K	2.0	18	300	NA	570	2.4	
19					18								19
20					18								20
20	Fluent	Grade 3	24 silver	O**	19	L	3.0	20	400	38 & 41	590	2.5	
21					20								21
22					20								22
22	Early Fluent	Middle Grade 2	21 gold	L**	21	M	2.0	24	500	43	590	2.5	
23					22								23
24					22								24
24	Fluent	Grade 3	25 emerald	P	22	N	3.0	28	500		610	3.0	
25					23								24
26					23								25
26	Early Fluent	End Grade 2	22 gold	M	24	O	4.0	30	500	44	628	4.0	
27					25								26
28					25								27
28	Fluent	Grade 4	26 emerald	Q,R	25	S,T	4.0	34	600	48 & 50	648	4.5	
29					26								27
30					26								28
28	Early Fluent	Grade 5	29 sapphire*	U,V,W	26			40	700		628	4.0	
29					27								28
30					27								29
30	Fluent	Grade 5	30 sapphire	U,V,W	27			50	750	54	667	6.0	
31					28								29
32					28								30
30	Early Fluent	Grade 6		X,Y	28			60	850	53	667	6.5	
31					29								30
32					29								31
32	Fluent	Grade 6		X,Y	29			70	950	57	688	7.0	
33					30								31
34					30								32
32	Early Fluent	Grade 7		Z	30			80	1000	59	725	8.0	
33					31								32
34					31								33
34	Fluent	Grade 7		Z	31			80	1000	59	725	8.0	
35					32								33
36					32								34

\*29 sapphire corresponds to T (Fountas & Pinnell)

Lexiles are approximate and from Column on Text Range

This table shows how these levels correlate to each other.

1. Reading Recovery™ is a registered service mark of Ohio State University
2. Rigby PM & PM Plus (Rigby, Barrington, IL)
3. Swartz, Shook, Klein, et al. Grade Level Equivalent is based on *Guided Reading & Literacy Centers*, (Dominie Press, Inc., Carlsbad, CA., 2003)
4. Rigby PM & PM Plus (Rigby, Barrington, IL)
5. Fountas and Pinnell, *Matching Books to Readers, Using Leveled Books in Guided Reading K-3 Leveled Books for Readers Grades 3-6* (Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann, 1999)
6. DeFord, D., *Dominie Reading and Writing Assessment Portfolio, K-3 (2001) and 4-8 (2002)*, Dominie Press, Inc., Carlsbad, CA)
7. The Wright Group/McGraw Hill (Bothell, WA)
8. Success for All Foundation (SFAF), Baltimore, MD
9. Beaver, Joetta , *Developmental Reading Assessment Resource Guide 2* (Glenview, IL: Celebration Press, 2006)
10. Stenner, Smith, Burdock, *The Lexile Framework for Reading* (MetaMetrics, Inc. Durham, NC, 1984)  
[www.lexile.com](http://www.lexile.com)
11. DRP Degrees of Reading Power ©Touchstone Applied Science Associates (TASA), Inc.
12. SAT10 (Stanford Achievement Test) scaled scores correlated to reading levels
13. STAR Reading, Renaissance Learning, Inc.