Read Together



Word Challenge Reading Assessment

Determining the proper level for Read Together materials.

A student's grade may not tell you everything about his or her reading level. To select the best reading materials for your student, begin with this Word Challenge. Here's how to use this tool:

Before mentoring session

- Print the word lists
- Print assessment grids
- Read instructions

During assessment

Show your student one list at a time, starting with two or three lists below his grade level. Mark a check for every word pronounced correctly without your help

- If your student corrects himself/herself after five seconds, score it as correct.
- If your student pauses for longer than eight seconds before reading the word, ask him or her to try the next word.
- Stop the assessment when your student misses three words in a grade level.

After assessment

Below is the key for placing your student into the optimal Read Together level. Keep in mind, if you have other data—such as different reading scores or insight into your student's degree of anxiety or confidence – please consider that information when choosing a level.

Word Challenge	Read Together Level
Pre-K Frustration	Kindergarten Level (Cat)
Pre-K Instructional thru 1st Grade Frustration	1st Grade Level (Dog)
2nd Grade Frustration thru 4th Grade Frustration	2nd–3rd Grade Level (Rabbit)
4th Grade Instructional thru 7th Grade Frustration	4th–5th Grade Level (Bird)
7th Grade Instructional or higher	Modify using the 4th–5th Grade Level as a resource

You are now ready to begin the mentor and/or student read aloud series with your student! Choose a book from the reading list provided or consult your school librarian.