

Appendix E

Reading Standards Addressed in Levels 4–6

Standard/Benchmark	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
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Substrand: Word Recognition, Analysis, and Fluency

Standard: The student will apply knowledge of the sounds of the English language (phonemic awareness), sound–symbol relationship (phonics), and/or structural word recognition strategies to read materials with accuracy and fluency.

Benchmarks:

1. Uses word structure and phonics knowledge (including consonants, blends, digraphs, and vowel combinations) to decode words.	●	●	
2. Identifies individual word parts to decode and determine the meaning of compound words.	●	●	
3. Fluently reads 200 high-frequency words.	●	●	
4. Reads text with accuracy, fluency, and expression.	●	●	
5. Identifies when reading breaks down; rereads and uses strategies to self-correct.	●	●	

Standard: The student will apply word recognition strategies to decode unfamiliar multi-syllabic words and will read text with accuracy and fluency.

1. Reads unfamiliar complex and multi-syllabic words using advanced phonetic and structural analysis.		●	●
2. Reads narrative and expository text with fluency, accuracy, and appropriate pacing, intonation, and expression.		●	●
3. Rereads and uses phonetic and other strategies to self-correct.		●	●

Substrand: Vocabulary Expansion

Standard: The student will use a variety of strategies to expand reading, listening, speaking, and signing vocabularies.

Benchmarks:

1. Uses new words through explicit instruction and independent reading.	●	●	●
2. Uses a growing range of descriptive words when speaking of people, places, things, actions, and events.	●	●	●
3. Uses context and word structure to help determine a word's meaning.	●	●	●

Standard/Benchmark	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
4. Identifies morphemes that change word meanings (e.g., prefixes and suffixes).	●	●	●
5. Uses antonyms, synonyms, and multiple-meaning words to express meaning.	●	●	●
6. Uses a grade-appropriate dictionary or glossary to locate word meanings.	●	●	●

Substrand: Vocabulary Expression

Standard: The student will use a variety of strategies to expand reading, listening, and speaking vocabularies.

Benchmarks:

1. Acquires, understands, and uses new vocabulary through explicit instruction and independent reading.		●	●
2. Identifies and correctly uses antonyms, synonyms, homonyms, and multiple-meaning words.		●	●
3. Uses context and word structure to determine the meaning of unfamiliar words.		●	●
4. Uses knowledge of prefixes and suffixes to determine the meaning of unknown words.		●	●
5. Uses dictionaries and glossaries to understand the meaning of new words.		●	●

Substrand: Comprehension

Standard: The student will use a variety of comprehension strategies to comprehend the meaning of texts.

Benchmarks:

1. Reads reading-level appropriate texts (that have not been previewed) with accuracy and comprehension.	●	●	●
2. Uses prior knowledge to preview text and to prepare for reading.	●	●	●
3. Analyzes text (e.g., using pictures, diagrams, titles, and headings).	●	●	●
4. Rereads and uses strategies to self-correct when necessary.	●	●	●
5. Restates the sequence of events or ideas in a text, and summarizes.	●	●	●
6. Identifies the topic, facts, and supporting details in nonfiction texts.	●	●	●
7. Demonstrates literal and inferential comprehension by asking and answering questions about narrative and informational texts.	●	●	●
8. Makes predictions about text and verifies outcomes.	●	●	●
9. Follows two-step written directions.	●	●	●

Standard/Benchmark	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
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Standard: The student will demonstrate literal, interpretive, and evaluative comprehension.

Benchmarks:

1. Reads level-appropriate text (that has not been previewed) with accuracy and comprehension.		●	●
2. Uses prior learning and previews text, using title, headings, and illustrations, to prepare for reading.		●	●
3. Generates and answers literal, inferential, interpretive, and evaluative questions to demonstrate understanding about what is read.		●	●
4. Retells or summarizes information orally, through signing, in writing, and/or through graphic organizers.		●	●
5. Identifies the main idea and relevant details in nonfiction texts.		●	●
6. Uses strategies to self-correct when needed.		●	●
7. Follows three-step written directions.		●	●

Substrand: Literature

Standard: The student will actively engage in and respond to a variety of texts (e.g., fiction, poetic, and nonfiction).

Benchmarks:

1. Reads from and listens to texts representing a variety of genres (e.g., poetry, folktales, drama, fantasy, realistic fiction, informational, and biography).	●	●	
2. Identifies and describes main characters, settings, and plot.	●	●	
3. Uses details from the story to support interpretation.	●	●	
4. Compares and contrasts works in the same genre or regarding the same theme.	●	●	
5. Critically evaluates texts to determine the author's purpose.	●	●	
6. Reads selections for personal enjoyment.	●	●	

Standard: The student will engage in the reading process and respond to, analyze, interpret, and evaluate a wide variety of fiction, poetic, and nonfiction texts.

Benchmarks:

1. Reads from and listens to classical literature selections.			●
2. Identifies, describes, and responds to literary elements of characterization, plot, setting, and theme.			●
3. Identifies and describes patterns such as rhyme and rhythm in poetry.			●
4. Compares and contrasts similar literature in the same genre or the same theme.			●
5. Identifies and determines the meanings of similes and metaphors.			●

Standard/Benchmark	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
6. Critically reads and examines the text to determine the author's purpose.			●
7. Uses information from the text to make literary connections.			●
8. Reads from and responds to a variety of texts for personal enjoyment.			●

Substrand: Spelling, Grammar, and Usage

Standard: The student will apply standard English conventions when writing.

Benchmarks:

1. Applies phonics, structural knowledge, and spelling rules to produce correctly spelled words.	●	●	●
2. Uses correct spelling for high-frequency sight words, regular plurals, and simple compound words.	●	●	●
3. Spells reading-level-appropriate words correctly in final draft.	●	●	●

Substrand: Viewing

Standard: The student will identify the structure of printed material.

Benchmarks:

1. Identifies the cover, title page, and glossary of a book.	●	●	
2. Describes different types of books (e.g., fiction, nonfiction, reference materials) identifying different purposes.	●	●	

Substrand: Research

Standard: The student will locate and use information in reference materials.

Benchmarks:

1. Uses reading-level-appropriate reference material to obtain information.		●	●
2. Alphabetizes by first and second letters.		●	●
3. Uses glossaries.		●	●

Substrand: Types of Writing

Standard: The student will compose various pieces of writing.

Benchmark:

1. Writes in a variety of modes to express meaning, including: a. descriptive b. narrative c. informative d. friendly letter			●
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Note. Standards are based on the Minnesota Department of Education (2010) English Language Arts Standards (http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/Academic_Excellence/Academic_Standards/index.html); Florida Department of Education (2010), Sunshine State Standards for Reading/Language Arts (<http://www.floridastandards.org/Standards/FLStandardSearch.aspx>); Iowa Department of Education (2010) Core Content Standards (http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1350&Itemid=2287); Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (2010) English Language Arts Standards (<http://www.dpi.state.wi.us/standards/>); and the Georgia Department of Education (2010) Georgia Performance Standards (<https://www.georgiastandards.org/Standards/Pages/BrowseStandards/BrowseGPS.aspx>).