

Reading Levels—how to find the right books

There are several different systems for rating a book's reading level. The Shorewood School System uses the Fountas and Pinnell system which assigns letter ratings for reading difficulty.

The Lexile system assigns number ratings for reading difficulty. The MCFLS CountyCat does include information about a book's Lexile rating at the bottom of the catalog record.

Most public libraries do not label books just by reading difficulty because we want to encourage intellectual curiosity and family book sharing, as well as independent reading skill development. Our collection is divided into broad developmental areas. Generally, PrePrimers cover the A—F range. Easy Readers cover the G—M range. MID books cover the N—P range. JFIC covers the R—Y range.

GRADE	FOUNTAS & PINNELL LEVELS	LEXILE
K	A	BR-70
K	A	BR-70
K	B	BR-70
K	C	BR-70
1	D	80-450
1	E	80-450
1	F	80-450
1	G	80-450
1	H	80-450
1	I	80-450
1	J	451-500
2	J	451-550
2	K	501-550
2	L	551-600
2	M	551-650

GRADE	FOUNTAS & PINNELL LEVELS	LEXILE
2	M	601-650
2	M	601-650
3	N	651-690
3	N	651-730
3	O	691-770
3	P	731-770
4	Q	771-800
4	R	771-830
4	S	801-860
5	S	831-860
5	T	861-890
5	U-V	891-980
5+	W-X	920-1070
5+	Y-Z	980-1140
6+	Z	980-1140

Please ask a librarian if you would like more help finding books for your children.