

# **Readability for Scott Foresman Reading Street**

## **Student Edition Selections Readability**

At each grade level, the student edition reading selections are carefully selected to match the skill and concept level of the “average” on-level student. The readability of these selections were computed using standard readability formulas:

Spache at grades 1–3

Dale-Chall at grades 4

In general, these formulas compare sentence length against the number of “hard” words, i.e., words that do not appear on that formula’s familiar word list.

Following is the readability range for each grade.

**Grade 1    1.3 – 2.5**

**Grade 2    1.8 – 3.5**

**Grade 3    2.8 – 4.2**

**Grade 4    3.8 – 5.2**

**Grade 5    4.8 – 6.2**

**Grade 6    5.8 – 7.2**

With the exception of grade 1, each grade begins with selections whose readability is slightly below grade level. The readability at all grade levels progresses gradually so that the final readability in the last unit is slightly above the next year’s grade level.

At grade 1, readability and decodability computations work at odds with each other. In addition, the Spache readability formula does not compute below grade 1.3. However, at Scott Foresman, we understand the need to have readability information on the selections students will be reading. We also understand that additional information can be used to calculate and make decisions concerning the appropriateness of text for students.

Our highest priority in Grade 1 selections is that student text has 100% potential for accuracy (i.e., ALL words and phonics elements have been taught). We, therefore,

provide additional information about each selection, all of which, we feel, should be looked at in combination in order to make decisions about the appropriateness of text for emerging readers. For example:

Total words

Total sentences

Average words per sentence

100% potential for accuracy

New words introduced and practiced in selection

New phonics elements introduced and practiced in selection

Guided Reading Level

Spache Readability Index

The readabilities of the student edition selections were computed by Swinburne. The readability of the first story in each unit is lower than the last story. In addition, the readabilities throughout the book progress in a gradual upward pattern.

### **Lexiles**

Lexile scores have been run on all Student Edition selections, but they are not part of our readability story. Lexile levels, like guided reading levels, are used simply to match students with text. Students are assigned an ability lexile based on a standardized test score and then matched with an appropriate text. The lexiles of the Student Edition selections were computed by Metametrics.

### **SE Guided Reading Levels**

The guided reading levels of all selections in the Student Edition have been determined. Every effort has been made to produce commissioned selections that conform to the guided reading levels by creating writers guidelines that highlight the leveled criteria. Every effort has been made for selections to come close to the appropriate leveled text at each grade, both original (commissioned) text and authentic literature. Guided Reading Levels are not part of our readability story for the Student Edition. Guided Reading Levels are a critical to and reserved for the Leveled Readers that support Reading Street instruction.