

The Good & the Beautiful Library and Book List



Reading Level Assessment

- This reading level assessment is to assess a child's reading level for The Good and the Beautiful Bookshop and Booklist books. There is a different document to assess the language arts course levels. Please note that these tests align with our Bookshop book levels. If your child tests passes a reading assesment for a split level, it means that the child can read any Booklist book on that level.
- This assessment is a rough guide. Some children read more slowly, especially when reading aloud, but still enjoy higher level books. Use your best judgment.
- Children are usually fine to occasionally read books that are one level higher than their reading level. We also suggest letting children read good and beautiful books below their reading level (while also reading books on their level), as all the books in our Bookshop and on our book list are high quality and worthwhile. To improve reading skills, it is also suggested that children read books one or two levels higher than their regular reading level with a parent or teacher on a regular basis, with the parent or teacher helping the children sound out unknown words.

Instructions:

Start at the level you think your child might be currently. If the child passes the level, do the assessment for the next level. Keep going up until the child does not pass a level. Choose the highest level the child can pass.

KINDERGARTEN BOOKS

Children are ready for Kindergarten Books when they have mastered all the letters and their sounds and are ready to read simple two- and three-letter words.

Perfect for children that have just completed The Good and the Beautiful Preschool Language Arts course.

Reading Level Assessment

LEVEL 1

Level 1 A

The child is ready for Level 1 A if he or she can read most of these words aloud without help. If the child misses three or more words, he or she should start on a lower level.

Perfect for children that have just completed The Good and the Beautiful Kindergarten Language Arts course.

was	best	chill	ended
for	what	put	fall
huff	thick	played	little
come	yam	loft	buy
sting	kissed	does	from
fix	risk	spy	sheep
love	said	your	but

Level 1 B

The child is ready for Level 1 B if he or she can read all the words aloud on the Level 1 A chart above without help and most of the words on the chart below without help. If the child misses three or more words on the chart below, he or she should start on a lower level.

park	cube	owl	above
dirty	eight	their	scold
least	blink	goose	burger
around	again	chalk	stormy
wind	mouse	our	blue
yellow	excuse	hoof	thank
multiply	should	were	aunt

Reading Level Assessment

LEVEL 2

Level 2 A

The child is ready for Level 2 A if he or she can read most of these words aloud without help. If the child misses three or more words, he or she should start on a lower level.

Perfect for children that have just completed The Good and the Beautiful Level 1 Language Arts course.

faint	clause	dance	cashew
you're	groan	meadow	who
straw	example	might	don't
oboe	together	whistle	begin
wander	spoil	danger	pillow
young	wriggle	large	alarm
oyster	circus	break	because

Level 2 B

The child is ready for Level 2 B if he or she can read all the words aloud on the Level 1 A chart above without help and most of the words on the chart below without help. If the child misses three or more words on the chart below, he or she should start on a lower level.

quality	America	shampoo	cancel
discover	avenue	touch	knuckle
breakfast	early	strange	guitar
suit	curious	creator	against
weary	nephew	guide	ocean
pleasant	beautiful	straight	barley
ketchup	continue	drought	numb

Reading Level Assessment

LEVEL 3

Level 3 A

The child is ready for Level 3 A if he or she can read most of these words aloud without help. If the child misses three or more words, he or she should start on a lower level.

Perfect for children that have just completed The Good and the Beautiful Level 2 Language Arts course

fidget	cough	listen	caught
receive	typical	cushion	neighbor
doughnut	patience	assign	arrival
analyze	laughter	acheive	course
invitation	gnat	echo	cocoa
journey	ought	salmon	precious
weird	character	women	sugar

Reading Level Assessment

LEVEL 3B

The child is ready for Level 3B if he or she can read the section below aloud in 90 seconds without help and without reading more than four words incorrectly.

Breathless, he arrived just in time for the bell.

The news spread like wildfire. Notes telling the exciting details were wadded into tiny balls and passed about the classroom.

“Nibs has been taken back to the woods.”

The howls of Rip, protesting Nibs’ removal, came seeping through the windows at regular intervals. All ears were trained in that direction, while questioning eyes glanced from schoolbooks to Jim and back again. Jim twisted and squirmed in his seat, keeping his eyes glued to his lessons, hoping to get by the ordeal of the long, dragging afternoon session without being kept in.

“Everybody in the village loved Nibs! They did not want him to be taken away.”

A breakfast of oatmeal with bread and milk and some fresh-pulled clover was left in a pail. Even a lump of rock salt had been borrowed from the widow’s cow pasture for Nibs to lick when he got lonesome.

Reading Level Assessment

LEVEL 4

The child is ready for Level 4 if he or she can read the section below aloud in 90 seconds without help and without reading more than four words incorrectly.

Mama was eager for adventure. Without hesitation, she took the mysterious letter and quickly turned it over. Ernie wondered if she would tear it open right away or wait to get a knife—the way she usually did.

Mining camps like Skillet Gulch bothered her so much. The houses were sprawly and dirty, and the hills around were spoiled by all the mining and digging. Mama had not wanted to come west in the first place. She ached for their farm in Michigan, where Father would plough neat rows of barley and soybeans.

The chemistry teacher picked up a bundle by the trough. It was carefully wrapped in pink flannel. “It’s our most valuable belonging,” she smiled as she opened the package. “I haven’t used it once since we came to Colorado Territory.”

The nature scene was beautiful. Over in the meadow of orchids, on one of the boughs perched a black and white magpie with shining feathers. His cawing echoed in the hills.

Reading Level Assessment

LEVELS 5 AND 6

The child is ready for Level 5 if he or she can read aloud the passage below in two minutes or less with fewer than six incorrect words. The child is ready for Level 6 if he or she can read aloud the passage below in 90 seconds or less with fewer than five incorrect words.

But there was more to hear than just the birds. Violet let their calls fade into the background as she listened to the wind rustling the trees and the morning rain dripping rhythmically on the roof. It was such a pleasant sort of sound that Violet wanted to snuggle in her blankets and go back to sleep. Inside the house, Violet could detect the sounds of cooking from the kitchen and the occasional burst of laughter from the cheerful cooks. Even nearer, she could hear someone humming prettily in the hallway outside her bedroom.

As if time had stopped, Letty watched him try to stand from his crouched position, placing his foot awkwardly on a particularly slick-looking patch of snow as he did. Letty wanted to warn him not to move his foot, but it was too late; his foot twisted terribly before flying out from underneath him. Letty's hand flew to her mouth in shock and horror as he fell hard on his back, knocking the breath from his lungs even with the snow to cushion his fall.

Reading Level Assessment

LEVELS 7 AND 8

The child is ready for Level 7 if he or she can read aloud the passage below in 2.5 minutes or less with fewer than five incorrect words. The child is ready for Level 8 if he or she can read aloud the passage below in two minutes or less with fewer than four incorrect words.

The loudest thunderburst could not have been more deafening to the frightened child than the sound of his own voice as it rang out through the solemn stillness of the mine and was hurled back to his ears by the solid masses of rock and coal that closed in around him.

A thousand echoes went rattling down the wide chambers and along the narrow galleries and played upon the nervous fancy of the frightened child. He would not have shouted like that again if his life had depended on it.

Then silence fell upon him; silence like a pall—oppressive, mysterious, and awful silence, in which he could almost hear the beating of his own heart. He could not endure that. He grasped his cane again and started on, searching for a path, stumbling over caps, falling sometimes, but on and on, though ever so slowly—on and on until, faint and exhausted, he sank down upon the damp floor of the mine, with his face in his hands, and wept, in silent agony, like the lost child that he was.

Jared lay on his back by the brook, watching the tracery of budded boughs sway against the spring sky. They made a pattern of green upon blue, repeating itself down the brook, through the woods, along the roadside, everywhere—everywhere in the world. Jared sat up at the wonder of the thought, the same pattern repeating itself wherever there were trees to move against the sky. It was beauty, Jared thought, here in this New Hampshire pasture; it was beauty everywhere.

Reading Level Assessment

LEVELS 9, 10, 11, AND 12

The child is ready for Level 9 if he or she can read aloud the passage below in two minutes or less with fewer than five incorrect words. The child is ready for Level 10 if he or she can read aloud the passage below in 90 seconds or less with fewer than four incorrect words, and is used to the challenging, slower-paced style of good and beautiful literature. The child is ready for Levels 11 and 12 if he or she can read aloud the passage below in 90 seconds or less with fewer than three incorrect words, and is used to the very challenging, slower-paced style of good and beautiful literature.

Note: Levels 9 and below do not contain romance, other than mild, brief references to romantic relationships. Levels 10 and above may contain major themes of romance while staying with The Good and the Beautiful standards of promoting moral, wholesome behavior.

There was the “cat-hole,” —a contrivance which almost every mansion or cabin in Virginia possessed during the period. This square opening was provided for the purpose of letting the cat pass in and out of the house at will. In the case of our particular cabin, I could never understand the necessity for this ineffectual convenience, since there were many other places in the cabin that would have accommodated the cats.

Poor Nat found them so fascinating that he was with difficulty persuaded to go and deposit his first piece of portable property in Asia’s storeroom. Then they went on again, and having made the acquaintance of the two horses, six cows, three pigs, and one Alderney “Bossy,” as calves are called in New England, Tommy took Nat to a certain old willow tree that overhung a noisy little brook. From the fence it was an easy scramble into a wide niche between the three big branches, which had been cut off to send out from year to year a crowd of slender twigs, till a green canopy rustled overhead. Here little seats had been fixed, and a hollow place a closet made big enough to hold a book or two, a dismantled boat, and several half-finished whistles.