

Reading Performance Level Descriptors for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities

Grade 3/4 Level A

At this grade and level, Reading consists of naming objects and Comprehension refers to listening comprehension

BELOW BASIC (Emerging)	BASIC (Novice)	PROFICIENT
<p>A student in grade 3 or 4 performing at the BELOW BASIC (EMERGING) level on the Level A PASA Reading demonstrates limited engagement with the tasks. The student requires extensive support to perform targeted skills through hand over hand guidance and frequent teacher cues to ensure the correct response. The support given will reduce the cognitive complexity of the skill assessed. The student interacts in a limited way with the array of objects or pictures. These students may passively participate or randomly choose answers. The student demonstrates limited understanding of the task and limited understanding of the vocabulary necessary to complete the task.</p> <p>Tasks on the grade 3/4 Level A PASA Reading assessments are multiple choice with 2 distractors that look very different from the correct response. A student performing at the BELOW BASIC (EMERGING) Level on the grade 3/4 Level A PASA Reading can perform the following independently:</p> <p><u>READING</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orients to materials 	<p>A student in grade 3 or 4 performing at the BASIC (NOVICE) level on the Level A PASA Reading demonstrates engagement with the tasks, but requires moderate support to perform targeted skills. The student needs support such as redirection, modification of the task complexity through reduction of the arrays of objects or pictures, or assistance with task completion that may reduce the cognitive complexity of the skill. The student shows engagement but needs additional prompting. The student demonstrates a basic understanding of the vocabulary necessary to complete the task.</p> <p>Tasks on the grade 3/4 Level A PASA Reading assessments are multiple choice with 2 distractors that look very different from the correct response. A student performing at the BASIC (NOVICE) Level on the grade 3/4 A PASA Reading can perform the following independently:</p> <p><u>READING</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orients to materials • Selects an object named by teacher 	<p>A student in grade 3 or 4 performing at the PROFICIENT level on the Level A PASA Reading independently performs targeted skills. The student independently orients to the task objects or pictures. The student may receive some support such as verbal prompting that does not reduce the cognitive complexity of the skill. The student demonstrates understanding of the vocabulary necessary to complete the task.</p> <p>Tasks on the grade 3/4 Level A PASA Reading assessments are multiple choice with 2 distractors that look very different from the correct response. A student performing at the PROFICIENT Level on the grade 3/4 A PASA Reading can perform the following tasks independently:</p> <p><u>READING</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orients to materials • Selects an object named by teacher • Matches identical objects <p><u>COMPREHENSION</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assigns object to correct category • Selects an object by function or feature specified • Finds related objects • Answers a literal “who” or “what” questions

Reading Performance Level Descriptors for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities

Grade 3/4 Level B

At this grade and level, Reading involves reading pictures, icons, and single words, and Comprehension refers to listening comprehension

BELOW BASIC (Emerging)	BASIC (Novice)	PROFICIENT
<p>A student in grade 3 or 4 performing at the BELOW BASIC (EMERGING) level on the Level B PASA Reading requires extensive support to complete the targeted skills through frequent teacher cues to ensure the correct response. The support given will reduce the cognitive complexity of the skill assessed. The student interacts in a limited way with the array of objects or pictures. The student has a limited understanding of the vocabulary necessary to complete the task.</p> <p>Grade 3/4 Level B PASA Reading consists of mainly selected response items with limited production items; selection items on the have 3 distractors, two of which are related. A student performing at the BELOW BASIC (EMERGING) Level on the grade 3/4 Level B PASA cannot perform reading tasks independently:</p>	<p>A student in grade 3 or 4 performing at the BASIC (NOVICE) level on the Level B PASA Reading requires moderate support to complete the targeted skills. The student needs support such as modification of the task complexity through reduction of the array of objects or pictures, or assistance with task completion that may reduce the cognitive complexity of the skill. The student has a basic understanding of the vocabulary necessary to complete the task.</p> <p>Grade 3/4 Level B PASA Reading consists of mainly selected response items with limited production items; selection items on the have 3 distractors, two of which are related. A student performing at the BASIC (NOVICE) Level on the grade 3/4 Level B PASA Reading can perform the following independently:</p> <p><u>READING</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matches identical words • Names the action depicted in a complex picture <p><u>COMPREHENSION</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matches pictures that are shown from 2 different perspectives 	<p>A student in grade 3 or 4 performing at the PROFICIENT level on the Level B PASA Reading independently performs the targeted skills. Students may need minimal support to discriminate when distracters are compelling. The student may receive some support such as verbal prompting and redirection that does not reduce the cognitive complexity of the skills. The student demonstrates an understanding of the vocabulary, including word endings, necessary to complete the task.</p> <p>Grade 3/4 Level B PASA Reading consists of mainly selected response items with limited production items; selection items on the have 3 distractors, two of which are related. A student performing at the PROFICIENT Level on the grade 3/4 Level B PASA Reading can perform the following independently:</p> <p><u>READING</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matches identical words • Names the action depicted in a complex picture • Identifies pictures of words with the same beginning sounds • Identifies pictures of words that rhyme <p><u>COMPREHENSION</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matches pictures that are shown from 2 different perspectives

- Identifies pictures sharing similar characteristics
- Selects an icon by its function
- Assigns a picture to a category

- Identifies pictures sharing similar characteristics
- Selects an icon by its function
- Assigns a picture to a category
- Selects a picture by named feature
- Identifies details in picture
- Answers a literal comprehension questions (who, what, where) after listening to a sentence

Reading Performance Level Descriptors for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities

Grade 3/4 Level C

At this grade and level, Reading involves reading single words and Comprehension refers to listening comprehension

BELOW BASIC (Emerging)	BASIC (Novice)	PROFICIENT	ADVANCED
<p>A student in grade 3 or 4 performing at the BELOW BASIC (EMERGING) level on the Level C PASA Reading requires extensive support to complete targeted skills through frequent teacher cues to ensure the correct response. The support given will reduce the cognitive complexity of the skill assessed. Support needed may include modification of the task complexity through reduction of the array of pictures or objects, breaking down multi-step tasks into single steps, complete assistance with decoding skills, or being directed back to specific text to locate answers to open-ended questions. The student has a limited understanding of the vocabulary necessary to complete the task.</p> <p>Grade 3/4 Level C Reading contains a majority of production items, and the selected response items have 4 distractors; option choices for the selected response items are often closely related. A student performing at the BELOW BASIC (EMERGING) Level on the grade 3/4 Level C PASA Reading can perform the following independently:</p> <p><u>READING</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selects word named 	<p>A student in grade 3 or 4 performing at the BASIC (NOVICE) level on the Level C PASA Reading requires moderate support to complete targeted skills. Support needed may include modification of the task complexity through reduction of the array of pictures or objects, breaking down multi-step tasks into single steps, moderate assistance with decoding skills, or being directed back to specific text to locate answers to open-ended questions. The student has a basic understanding of the vocabulary necessary to complete the task.</p> <p>Grade 3/4 Level C Reading contains a majority of production items, and the selected response items have 4 distractors; option choices for the selected response items are often closely related. A student performing at the BASIC (NOVICE) Level on the grade 3/4 Level C PASA Reading can perform the following independently:</p> <p><u>READING</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selects word named 	<p>A student in grade 3 or 4 performing at the PROFICIENT level on the Level C PASA Reading performs the majority of targeted skills independently. The student actively performs the tasks, is completely engaged, and requires some support such as verbal prompting that does not reduce the cognitive complexity of the skill. The student needs minimal assistance with decoding skills, such as being prompted to refer back to the text to locate answers. The student may require additional prompting from teacher to complete multi-step tasks. The student demonstrates understanding of the vocabulary necessary to complete the task.</p> <p>Grade 3/4 Level C Reading contains a majority of production items, and the selected response items have 4 distractors; option choices for the selected response items are often closely related. A student performing at the PROFICIENT Level on the grade 3/4 Level C PASA Reading can perform the following independently:</p> <p><u>READING</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selects word named 	<p>A student in grade 3 or 4 performing at the ADVANCED level on the Level C PASA Reading performs the targeted skills independently. The student may request clarification of the question. The student completes multi-step tasks and use strategies such as: self-correction, referring back to text, and mentally eliminating distracters. The student answers questions quickly and accurately, often using complete sentences. The student reads and recalls proper names and non-phonetic words. The student demonstrates understanding of the vocabulary necessary to complete the task.</p> <p>Grade 3/4 Level C Math Reading a majority of production items, and the selected response items have 4 distractors; option choices for the selected response items are often closely related. A student performing at the ADVANCED Level on the grade 3/4 Level C PASA Reading can perform the following independently:</p> <p><u>READING</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selects word named

- Reads printed word and matches to picture
- Reads aloud single word embedded within a paragraph

- Reads printed word and matches to picture
- Reads aloud single word embedded within a paragraph
- Selects a printed word with particular beginning sound

COMPREHENSION

- Reads single words and identifies other words with similar meaning
- Reads nouns and states their function
- Answers literal comprehension question (who, what, where, when) after listening to a 3-sentence story
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- Reads printed word and matches to picture
- Reads aloud single word embedded within a paragraph
- Selects a printed word with particular beginning sound

COMPREHENSION

- Reads single words and identifies other words with similar meaning
- Reads nouns and states their function
- Answers literal comprehension question (who, what, where, when) after listening to a 3-sentence story
- Sequences pictures of 3 events after listening to a story