

GRADE 3 – READING (ENGLISH)

Performance Level Descriptors

ADVANCED

At this level and grade, New Mexico students should be able to:

- Use multiple comprehension strategies to analyze and interpret author's purpose, plots, and genres (fiction, poetry, non-fiction)
- Apply new vocabulary acquired through reading to new comprehension situations
- Use personal experiences to connect and explain traits and events
- Use inferences to draw conclusions
- Summarize stories with good organization
- Analyze similarities and differences between texts.

PROFICIENT

At this level and grade, New Mexico students should be able to:

- Use multiple comprehension strategies to understand author's purpose, plot, and genres (fiction, poetry, non-fiction)
- Acquire new vocabulary through decoding and context
- Use personal experiences to connect to characters and events
- Use inferences to draw conclusions
- Retell stories with good organization
- Find main ideas
- Recognize similarities and differences between texts.

NEARING PROFICIENCY

At this level and grade, New Mexico students should be able to:

- Use strategies for comprehension
- Acquire new vocabulary through context clues, decoding, and dictionaries
- Understand main idea, plot, fiction, and non-fiction
- Connect personal experiences to text and relate to a character's viewpoint
- Identify character traits, form opinions, and make predictions about characters and events
- Recognize similarities and differences between texts

BEGINNING STEP

At this level and grade, New Mexico students should be able to:

- Identify vowel sounds and use context to determine vocabulary
- Recall details
- Identify plot and reference materials
- Describe character traits
- Form opinions about characters
- Make general predictions

GRADE 4 – READING (ENGLISH)

Performance Level Descriptors

ADVANCED

At this level and grade, New Mexico students should be able to:

- Read and comprehend a variety of texts
- Locate and use information from multiple sources
- Determine key words for research and comprehension
- Interpret and analyze maps, charts and graphs
- Use meta-cognitive strategies to comprehend and evaluate text
- Analyze and evaluate an author's word choice and imagery
- Analyze and evaluate the purpose of non-fiction
- Recall details, paraphrase, accurately sequence what they read, draw and explain logical conclusions
- Determine and explain differing perspectives
- Respond to literature using interpretive, critical, and evaluative processes to analyze character's actions and motives.

PROFICIENT

At this level and grade, New Mexico students should be able to:

- Read and comprehend text proficiently
- Know how to locate information
- Use key words for research
- Interpret maps, charts, and graphs
- Use varied strategies to comprehend text and vocabulary
- Recall, paraphrase, and sequence what they read
- Evaluate fiction and non-fiction
- Draw logical conclusions and demonstrate understanding of word choice and perspective
- Understand basic plots and genres
- Interpret character's motives and actions, and justify and support their answers.

NEARING PROFICIENCY

At this level and grade, New Mexico students should be able to:

- Read and comprehend text
- Know how to locate information and use key words for research
- Interpret maps, charts, and graphs
- Use strategies to comprehend text and vocabulary
- Recognize non-fiction and its purpose
- Draw logical conclusions
- Be aware of different perspectives and recognize the author's purpose
- Support answers with details from the text
- Respond to literature by explaining character's actions and motives
- Identify beginning, middle, and end of the plot.

BEGINNING STEP

At this level and grade, New Mexico students should be able to:

- Read and decode text
- Use a dictionary and read simple maps, graphs, and charts
- Identify non-fiction
- Recognize the author's purpose
- Use context clues and draw conclusions
- Identify the beginning, middle, and end of a story
- Respond to literature using personal experience
- Describe a character's actions and support their answers with details.

Grade 5 – READING (ENGLISH)

Performance Level Descriptors

ADVANCED

At this level and grade, New Mexico students should be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of research techniques and understand primary sources
- Evaluate usefulness of various sources for purposes
- Use multiple vocabulary strategies, analysis, prediction, personal experiences, and inferences to summarize and compare story elements, main ideas
- Explain cause and effect
- Draw conclusions
- Analyze connections noted between literary works
- Identify and explain author's purpose
- Use personal experiences to evaluate information.

PROFICIENT

At this level and grade, New Mexico students should be able to:

- Comprehend text in order to determine author's purpose
- Analyze and summarize information
- Distinguish fact and opinion
- Make predictions
- Make judgments about usefulness of information
- Use personal experience to evaluate text
- Identify and compare story details
- Make connections among literary works
- Understand concepts of research techniques and primary sources.

NEARING PROFICIENCY

At this level and grade, New Mexico students should be able to:

- Use personal experiences and vocabulary strategies to make inferences, predictions, and connections between texts
- Identify main idea, fact and opinion, and story elements
- Draw conclusions
- Recognize author's perspective
- Use appropriate resources and basic research techniques
- Understand primary sources.

BEGINNING STEP

At this level and grade, New Mexico students should be able to:

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- Identify key ideas, primary sources, facts, main idea, and details
- State opinions
- Use some vocabulary strategies
- Make predictions, connections and draw conclusions from the text
- Recognize author's perspective
- Connect personal experiences to text.

GRADE 6 – READING (ENGLISH)

Performance Level Descriptors

ADVANCED

At this level and grade, New Mexico students should be able to:

- Analyze and interpret literary elements, author's perspectives, and the perspectives of others, by evaluating bias, apparent messages, emotional factors and persuasive techniques
- Analyze the effects and use of literary techniques and devices.

PROFICIENT

At this level and grade, New Mexico students should be able to:

- Accurately identify literary elements
- Summarize, make judgments, and draw conclusions
- Identify bias, apparent messages, emotional factors, and persuasive techniques
- Distinguish between primary and secondary sources.

NEARING PROFICIENCY

At this level and grade, New Mexico students should be able to:

- Identify and recognize a position based on an author's perspective, themes, literary characteristics and devices of the text
- Attempt to make connections
- Restate or summarize information accurately
- Draw inferences
- Identify primary and secondary sources.

BEGINNING STEP

At this level and grade, New Mexico students should be able to:

- Attempt to identify basic story elements, author's perspectives, and literary techniques
- Attempt to summarize or restate information
- Identify sources for information.

Grade 7 – READING (ENGLISH)

Performance Level Descriptors

ADVANCED

At this level and grade, New Mexico students should be able to:

- Interpret, evaluate and critique an author's perspective
- Interpret, evaluate and critique theme, literary characteristics and devices of various texts
- Critique the credibility of characterization and the degree to which the characters and plot are realistic.

PROFICIENT

At this level and grade, New Mexico students should be able to:

- Analyze, state, and defend a judgment using reasons, examples, details and an organized structure based on an author's perspective, theme, literary characteristics and devices of various texts.
- Consistently use context and vocabulary to understand text
- Recognize relationships among research topics.

NEARING PROFICIENCY

At this level and grade, New Mexico students should be able to:

- Identify their positions using some reasons, examples, and details based on an author's perspective, theme, literary characteristics and devices of various texts
- Sometimes use context and vocabulary to understand a text
- Identify a research topic.

BEGINNING STEP

At this level and grade, New Mexico students should be able to:

- Attempt to identify elements of a story, author's purpose, and basic literary genres
- Minimally be able to use context and vocabulary to understand text
- Recognize a research topic in general.

Grade 8 – READING (ENGLISH)

Performance Level Descriptors

ADVANCED

At this level and grade, New Mexico students should be able to:

- Analyze characteristics of genres, including classical literature and mythology
- Analyze how language and literary elements create meaning in writing and poetry
- Accurately interpret information and detect inconsistencies in a variety of texts
- Identify bias, assumptions, and message to explain the author's purpose
- Consistently understand, make inferences, and support informed opinions about texts and in research products.

PROFICIENT

At this level and grade, New Mexico students should be able to:

- Identify major literary genres, including classical literature and mythology
- Explain how story structures, literary devices, and literary language convey meaning in texts including poetry
- Evaluate the information and views in various texts to select appropriate support for persuasive writing or research.

NEARING PROFICIENCY

At this level and grade, New Mexico students should be able to:

- Identify literary terms, major story elements, literary devices, and some genres
- Identify main ideas and types of information found in various texts including poetry
- Locate facts and opinions
- Use context to predict and draw conclusions
- Determine purpose, audience, and context for a research product.

BEGINNING STEP

At this level and grade, New Mexico students should be able to:

- Recognize literary devices, story elements, and differences among genres
- Distinguish fact and opinion, and cause and effect
- Demonstrate recognition of topic sentences, sound devices, and basic text structures, including poetry
- Students should be able to locate specific information in texts or research sources.