MAPPING OF LEVELS OF EDUCATION[*]
Stuart A. Sutton

This draft document from the U.S. Department of Education includes a summary (non-exhaustive) of the language used in various contexts (including language used in non-U.S. contexts) to express the notion of level of education/training of the target audience for a resource as that language is mapped to the Gateway to Educational Materials (GEM) controlled vocabulary for the GEM.Grade element. The GEM.Grade vocabulary is admittedly very granular in the U.S. K-12 arena and far less so in higher, vocational, and adult education. In Working Group listserv discussions, this aspect of an educational resource was deemed important to networked information discovery and retrieval. The document is submitted to the DC-Education Working Group as a working paper to assist it in thinking through how it should approach the expression of this aspect of the audience for a resource.

Metadata→ User Vocabulary	Pre-K	K	Grade												Two Year College	Higher Education	Vocational Education	Adult Education
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12				
Early Childhood Education (U.S.)	x	x	x	x	x													
Early Childhood Education (non-U.S.)	x	x																
Nursery School	x																	
Prenatal-Kindergarten	x																	
Preschool Education	x	x																
Pre-primary Education	x	x																
Primary Education (U.S.)		x	x	x	x													
Primary Education (non-U.S.)			x	x	x	x	x	x										
Elementary Secondary Education			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				
Elementary Education			x	x	x	x	x	x	x									
Adult Basic Education			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x							
Intermediate Grades						x	x	x										
Secondary Education									x	x	x	x	x	x				
Lower Secondary									x	x	x							
Upper Secondary												x	x	x				
Middle School						x	x	x										
Junior High Schools									x	x	x							
High Schools											x	x	x	x				
Senior High Schools												x	x	x				
Four Year High Schools											x	x	x	x				
High School Diploma														x				

---

[*] *Metadata for ED Web: Definitions, Controlled Vocabularies and Formats.* (Draft: Last Updated: September 18, 2000) Keith Stubbs, Office of the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Department of Education.

User Vocabulary	Pre-K	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Two Year College	Higher Education	Vocational Education	Adult Education
Sixth Forms												x	x	x				
High School Equivalency Programs														x				
Un-graded			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				
K-Adult	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
K-99	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Pre-kindergarten	x																	
Kindergarten		x																
Grade 1, First Grade, 1st Grade			x															
Grade 2, Second Grade, 2nd Grade				x														
Grade 3, Third Grade, 3rd Grade					x													
Grade 4, Fourth Grade, 4th Grade						x												
Grade 5, Fifth Grade, 5th Grade							x											
Grade 6, Sixth Grade, 6th Grade								x										
Grade 7, Seventh Grade, 7th Grade									x									
Grade 8, Eighth Grade, 8th Grade										x								
Grade 9, Ninth Grade, 9th Grade											x							
High School Freshman											x							
Grade 10, Tenth Grade, 10th Grade												x						
High School Sophomore												x						
Grade 11, Eleventh Grade, 11th Grade													x					
High School Junior													x					
Grade 12, Twelfth Grade, 12th Grade														x				
High School Senior														x				
Grade 13															x	x		
College Freshman															x	x		
Grade 14															x	x		
College Sophomore															x	x		
Grade 15																x		
College Junior																x		
Grade 16																x		
College Senior																x		
Postsecondary Education															x	x		
Higher Education															x	x		
Tertiary Education															x	x		
Third Stage Education															x	x		
Community College															x			
Junior College															x			
Technical School, First Cycle															x			
Technical School, Second Cycle															x			
Two Year College															x			

Metadata→ User Vocabulary	Pre-K	K	Grade 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Two Year College	Higher Education	Vocational Education	Adult Education
Four Year College																x		
Undergraduate															x	x		
Graduate																x		
College															x	x		
University																x		
University, First Cycle																x		
University, Second Cycle																x		
University, Postgrade																x		
Non-university Higher Education															x		x	
Adult Continuing Education																		x
Vocational Education																	x	
Career Education																	x	
Graduate Vocational																	x	
VET (Vocational Education & Training)																	x	
Professional School																x		
Professional Higher Education																x		
Associate Degree or Certificate															x			
Bachelor's Degree																x		
Master's Degree																x		
Ph.D. or Advanced Professional Degree																x		
Out-of-School Youth?																		
Rough Mapping of [Developmental] Age to Level																		
Age 3-5	x	x																
Age 6-11			x	x	x	x	x	x										
Age 12-17									x	x	x	x	x	x				
Young Children (birth-8)	x	x	x	x	X													
Children (birth-12)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X									
Toddlers (1-3)	x																	
Preadolescents (9-12)						x	x	x	X									
Adolescents (13-17)									x	x	x	x	x					
Young Adults (18-30)															x	x	x	X
Adults (18-)															x	x	x	x