

How to Test Reading

Paragraph



Ask the child to read either of the 2 paragraphs.

Let the child choose the paragraph herself. If the child does not choose give her any one paragraph to read.

Ask her to read it. Listen carefully to how she reads.



The child is not at 'Paragraph Level' if the child:

- Reads the text like a string of words, rather than a sentence.
- Reads the text haltingly and stops very often.
- Reads the text fluently but with more than 3 mistakes.

The child can read a paragraph, if the child:

- Reads the text like she is reading a sentence, rather than a string of words.
- Reads the text fluently and with ease, even if she is reading slowly.
- Reads the text with 3 or less than 3 mistakes.

If the child is not at 'Paragraph Level' then ask the child to read words.



If the child can read a paragraph, then ask the child to read the story.

Words

Ask the child to read any 5 words from the word list.

Let the child choose the words herself. If she does not choose, then point out 5 words to her.

The child is at 'Word Level' if the child:

• Reads at least 4 out of the 5 words with ease.

Story

Ask the child to read the story.

The child is at 'Story Level' if the child:

- Reads the text like she is reading a sentence, rather than a string of words.
- Reads the text fluently and with ease. The child may read slowly.
- Reads the text with 3 or less than 3 mistakes.

If the child is at **Word Level**', then ask her to try to read the paragraph again and then follow the instructions for paragraph level testing.

If she can correctly and comfortably read words but is still struggling with the paragraph, then mark the child at 'Word Level'.

If the child is not at word level (cannot correctly read at least 4 out of the 5 words chosen), then show her the list of letters.

If the child can read the story then mark the child at 'Story Level'.

If the child is not at 'Story Level', then mark the child at 'Paragraph Level'.



Ask the

Letters

Ask the child to read any 5 letters from the letters list.

Let the child choose the letters herself. If she does not choose, then point out letters to her. The child is at 'Letter level' if the child:

• Correctly recognizes at least 4 out of 5 letters with ease.

If the child can read letters, then ask her to try reading the words again and then follow the instructions for word level testing.

If she can read 4 out of 5 letters but cannot comfortably read words, then mark the child at 'Letter Level'.

If the child is not at letter level (cannot recognize 4 out of 5 letters chosen), then mark the child at 'Nothing Level'.

IN THE SURVEY SHEET, MARK THE CHILD AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL SHE CAN REACH.

What is a mistake and what is not: As you listen to children read, you may hear the following. Here are examples from Hindi:

What is not a mistake

- 'ata' is read as 'atey' or 'chahta' is read as 'chahtey' or 'hai' is read as 'tha' etc. There may be variations in children's reading due to local pronunciation or usage. **Do not consider this a mistake.**
- A word is replaced with another word of the same meaning while reading. For example: the text says 'barsaat ka mausam' but the child reads it as 'barsaat ka samay'. **Do not consider this a mistake**.
- Usually if a child is told to read again carefully, she will read again and in most situations will not repeat these mistakes.
- At times children may read the word wrong such as 'neend' is read as 'nadi' or 'maja' is read as 'jama'. It is also the case that sometimes a child skips a word. Here too, if a child is told to read again carefully either she reads correctly or she continues to make the same mistake.

What is a mistake

- If in spite of reading the same text several times, the child is repeatedly reading a word wrong or not reading it at all, then these have to be treated as mistakes and this means the child is having difficulty in reading that level.
- If the child reads the same word incorrectly more than once, it will be considered as only one mistake.
- In a paragraph, if a child makes more than 3 mistakes of this type then she cannot be considered a 'Paragraph Level' child. Similarly, in a story, if a child makes more than 3 mistakes of this ype then she cannot be considered a 'Story Level' child.

