LEXILES: A TOOL FOR IDENTIFYING YOUR CHILD'S READING ABILITY &
FOR CHOOSING READING MATERIAL THAT MATCHES YOUR CHILD'S READING ABILITY

PAULDING COUNTY SCHOOLS

A Review of Terms to be Used

Text

Complexity

Lexile

Reading Inventory

Vocabulary Related to Lexiles and Reading

Text: A piece of writing, sometimes referred to as a reading passage.

Vocabulary Related to Lexiles and Reading

Complexity: The ease of comprehension, or understanding, of a text.

There are some writing styles and vocabulary that are harder for readers to understand than others.

Examples of Text Complexity

- 300L: Miss Lee had saved the day? Now Posey had something to write about. Posey told her mom about Luca's puppy on the way home.

- 900L: Most times they went from game to game scattered among different cars, or sometimes they'd even have to "hobo"- which means hitch a ride on the back of someone's truck to get to the next time for a game.

- 1300L: At his home in Newport, Nathanael Greene's mentor, the Reverend Ezra Stiles, wrote in his diary almost in disbelief: Thus the Congress has tied a Gordian knot, which the Parliament will find they can neither cut, nor untie.

Vocabulary Related to Lexiles and Reading

Text Complexity is determined by features such as:

- □ word frequency

- □ length of sentences

- □ structure, or organization

- □ levels of meaning

- □ language conventionality

Lexile Text Measure/ Reader Measure

- A Lexile text measure is the specific number assigned to any text, based on an analysis of the reading material.

- A Lexile reader measure is assigned to a student. This number is generated from the results of an assessment. The number indicates the appropriate level of which a student can read material with and without assistance.

What is the Lexile Framework?

- Reading material is assigned a specific Lexile number, determined by its' complexity

- The Lexile Framework is a tool that links what a student is able to read with understanding to the "lexile score"

- Grade levels have a certain number range, (sometimes called Lexile Band)or Lexile score, identified as targets—what is expected at a specific grade level

Lexile Measure
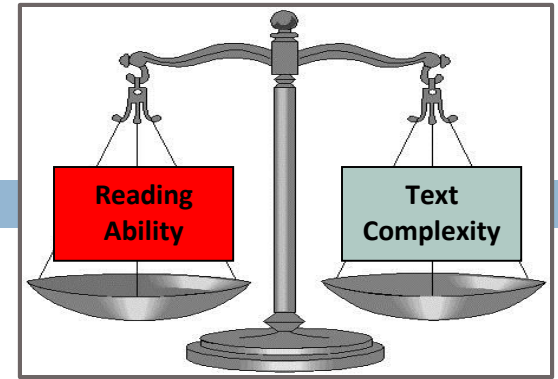
- A Lexile is a standard score developed by MetaMetrics

- Matches a student's reading ability with difficulty of text material, represented as a number

- Interpreted as the level of book that a student can read with 75% comprehension, or understanding

- 75% comprehension is the level identified by experts as offering the reader a certain amount of comfort and yet still offering a challenge

Lexile Scores

□ A student's Lexile score allows parents and educators to know the level of comprehension or understanding a reader is expected to experience with a particular text

□ Most commonly used reading measure
- Over 19 million students receive Lexile scores through commercial and state assessments
- Over 100,000 books and tens of millions of articles have Lexile measures identified

The Lexile® Framework for Reading

COMMON CORE
STATE STANDARDS INITIATIVE
PREPARING AMERICA'S STUDENTS FOR COLLEGE & CAREER

- The Georgia Standards of Excellence prepare students to be ready for college and career after high school

- The most important factor for readiness is a student's ability to read and understand texts of steadily increasing complexity (difficulty) as they progress through school

- The Lexile® Framework provides valuable insights into student reading ability by measuring both the complexity of reading material and a student's ability to comprehend, or understand these texts

The Lexile Scale

- Lexile scores typically range from 200 for beginning readers to 1700 for advanced readers

- Lexile text below 200 represents beginning-reading material A student's Lexile score may have a number in the 100s or the code of BR. BR is a code that stands for Beginning Reading

- The Lexile number applies to both reader ability and text difficulty

- When reader and text measures are the same, the student is expected to read with 75% comprehension

- The score can be used to track reading growth over time

Lexile Bands

Grade	College & Career Ready "Stretch" Lexile Bands
1	190L to 530L
2	420L to 650L
3	520L to 820L
4	740L to 940L
5	830L to 1010L
6	925L to 1070L
7	970L to 1120L
8	1010L to 1185L
9	1050L to 1260L
10	1080L to 1335L
11 and 12	1185L to 1385L

How do we get a Lexile for each student?

- In the fall of 2016 all students in PCSD from kindergarten to 10th grade will take The Reading Inventory. The reading inventory is a computer adaptive reading assessment program that provides immediate data on a student's reading level and growth over time.
  - K-2nd students take the Foundational Reading Assessment
  - 3-10th grade take the Reading Comprehension Assessment

- Students grade 3 and above also receive a Lexile measure along with their regular scale score in the Georgia Milestones Assessment in the ELA assessment report.

Using Lexiles in the Classroom

A student's Lexile measure is a tool for teachers to use in choosing reading material for students.

Teachers can use Lexiles to help them:

☐ Develop individualized or classroom reading lists tailored to provide appropriately challenging reading

☐ Enhance teaching by building a bank of titles at varying levels that support a particular topic. This allows all students to participate successfully in the theme with material at their own reading level

☐ Sequence materials, for example by increasing the difficulty of read-aloud books throughout the year

Parents Can Use Lexiles

- A student's Lexile measure is a tool for parents to use in selecting reading material for their children

- Know your child's Lexile measure: talk with your child's teacher or Media Specialist

- Choose books 50L above and 100L below their reported Lexile measure. This range represents the boundaries between the easiest kind of reading material for your child and the hardest level at which he/she can read successfull.

- Use the Lexile Find a Book Database (at http://lexile.com/fab/) to find books in child's Lexile range; ask your Media Specialist for help

Accessing the Find A Book Tool

http://lexile.com/fab/

READING STRATEGIES... DIGGING DEEPER!

THERE ARE SEVERAL STRATEGIES THAT HELP STUDENTS TO BETTER COMPREHEND WHAT THEY ARE READING. SOME OF THE MOST EFFECTIVE ONES ARE:

- METACOGNITION(BIG WORD FOR THINKING ABOUT WHAT YOU'RE READING AND WHAT ALL STRATEGIES FALL UNDER BASICALLY)
  - VISUALIZING
  - SUMMARIZING
  - QUESTIONING
  - MAKING TEXT CONNECTIONS
  - MONITORING COMPREHENSION
  - USING GRAPHIC/SEMANTIC ORGANIZERS
  - PREDICTING
  - RECOGNIZING TEXT STRUCTURE
  - RE-READING

STRATEGIES FOR 4TH AND 5TH

- THE THIEVES STRATEGY HELPS WITH COMPREHENSION BY ALLOWING STUDENTS TO PREVIEW AND IDENTIFY TEXT STRUCTURE IN AN ORGANIZED MANNER. DURING THIS PREVIEW STUDENTS CAN "STEAL" INFORMATION PRIOR TO READING. STUDENTS SURVEY THE TEXT IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER:

- TITLE-ALTHOUGH SOMETIMES SKIPPED, IT PROVIDES VALUABLE AND USEFUL INFORMATION

- HEADINGS-THESE INDICATE IMPORTANT SECTIONS OF EACH CHAPTER

- INTRODUCTION-PROVIDES AN OVERVIEW OF THE CHAPTER

- EVERY 1ST SENTENCE IN A PARAGRAPH-THESE ARE OFTEN TOPIC SENTENCES AND IT WILL GIVE AN IDEA OF THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE CHAPTER

- VISUALS/VOCABULARY-PICTURES, CHARTS, HIGHLIGHTED/ITALICIZED TEXT, CAPTIONS, AND LABELS SHOULD ALL BE EXAMINED BY THE STUDENT. AS WELL AS, VARIOUS VOCABULARY WORDS TO HELP THE STUDENT UNLOCK THE MEANING OF THE CONTENT.

- END-OF-CHAPTER QUESTIONS-NORMALLY INDICATE IMPORTANT POINTS AND CONCEPTS FROM THE CHAPTER

- SUMMARY-IF THE TEXT HAS A SUMMARY IT WILL HELP A STUDENT TO ACTIVATE PRIOR KNOWLEDGE AND GIVE IDEAS OF THE IMPORTANT CONCEPTS FROM THE CHAPTER

YOUR TURN…

- WITH YOUR GROUP SURVEY THE CHAPTER ON YOUR TABLE

- DISCUSS THE QUESTIONS ON THE "ELEMENTS OF THIEVES" HANDOUT WITH YOUR GROUP

- FILL OUT THE "BECOMING THIEVES" ORGANIZER AS A GROUP

- THIS STRATEGY CAN ALSO BE KINESTHETIC FOR STUDENTS WHO LEARN THAT WAY!
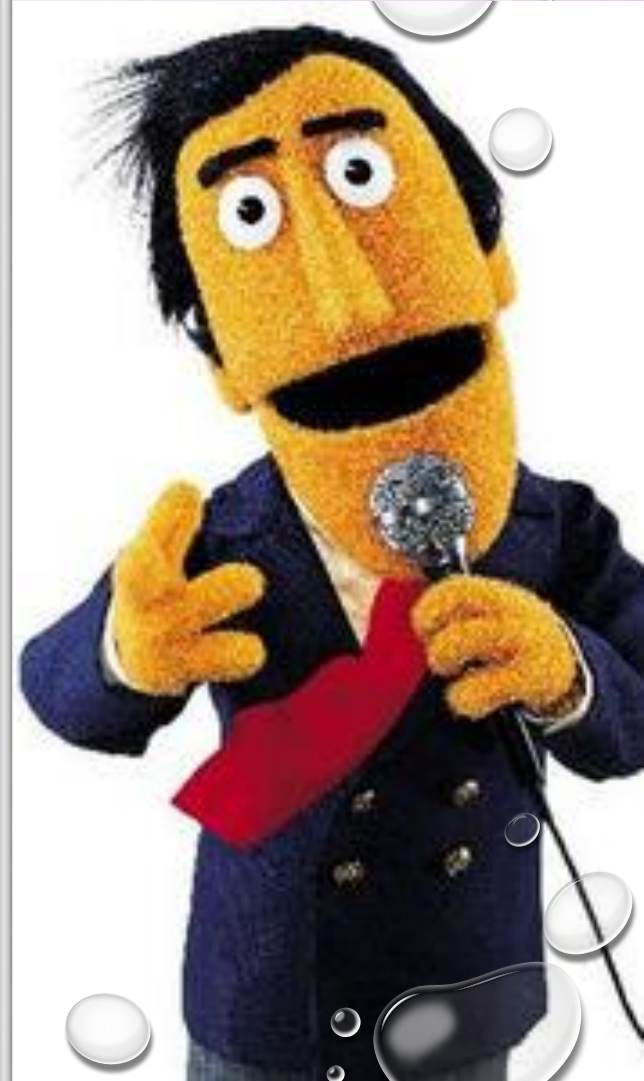
STRATEGY: SKETCH TO STRETCH

- SKETCH TO STRETCH STIMULATES DISCUSSION AND WRITING.

- THIS IS USED AFTER A READING(SHARED)

- IS GREAT WITH THE "LITTLES" BUT CAN BE USED AT ALL LEVELS

- GREAT FOR YOUR ARTSY STUDENTS

- CHOOSE AN "EVENT" OR FACT TO SKETCH(NOT DRAW, COLOR AND PERFECT)
  - THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU LEARNED
  - WHAT YOU LIKED
  - WHAT YOU FELT
  - THE MOST IMPORTANT PART

- TIME LIMIT IS SET AND STUDENTS ARE REMINDED THAT THIS IS A SKETCH, NOT DETAILED ART WORK! THERE IS NO JUDGEMENT ON THE ARTWORK

- AFTERWARDS, EACH STUDENT SHARES WITH THEIR ELBOW PARTNER OR GROUP, THE SKETCH'S CONTENTS AND WHY IT WAS CREATED

- STUDENT'S DECIDE WHETHER TO REVISE THEIR SKETCHES AS THEIR UNDERSTANDING DEEPENS

YOU GUESSED IT….YOUR TURN!

10 minutes on the timer…and sketch!

STRATEGY: GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS

THE HUMAN BRAIN NATURALLY LOOKS FOR CONNECTIONS BETWEEN OLD AND NEW INFORMATION. ADDITIONALLY, STUDIES HAVE SHOWN THAT THE BRAIN PROCESSES INFORMATION MOST EFFICIENTLY IN CHUNKS. GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS COMPLEMENT BOTH OF THESE PROCESSES BY HELPING STUDENTS:

- VISUALLY SORT NEW INFORMATION INTO FAMILIAR CATEGORIES
- ANALYZE THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN OLD AND NEW INFORMATION
- CREATE A SIMPLE STRUCTURE FOR THINKING ABOUT INFORMATION IN NEW WAYS
- REVIEW CONCEPTS AND DEMONSTRATE UNDERSTANDING
- CAN BE USED IN ALL SUBJECT AREAS
- CAN BE USED WITH DIFFERENT GRADE LEVELS!

Examples of graphic organizers

AND…..YOUR TURN!

AFTER WE READ THE BOOK, FILL OUT THE ORGANIZER WITH YOUR GROUP
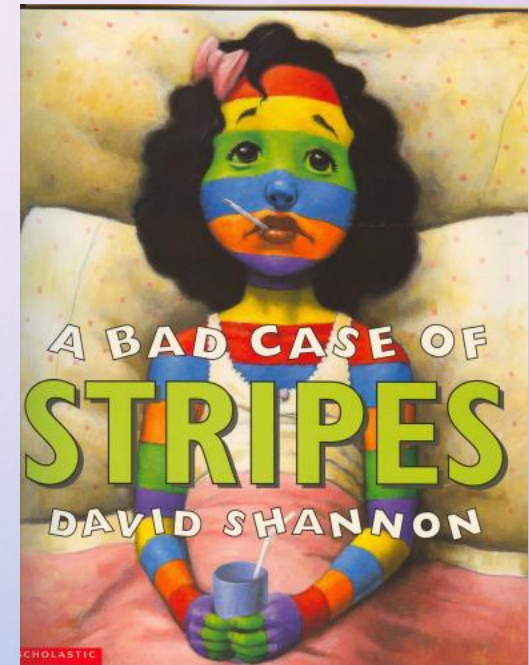
STRATEGY: LET'S PREDICT

- GOOD READERS USE WHAT THEY KNOW(BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCES) TO HELP THEM UNDERSTAND WHAT THEY HEAR AND/OR READ. THEY ALSO USE THAT KNOWLEDGE TO MAKE PREDICTIONS ABOUT THE TEXT.

- THIS STRATEGY IS USED BY TAKING10 TO 20 "STRONG WORDS" OR WORDS THAT ELICIT IMAGES, FROM THE TEXT THAT IS GOING TO BE READ

- THE WORDS ARE USED TO DESCRIBE THE STORY, SIGHT UNSEEN

- STUDENTS SEQUENCE THE WORDS TO PREDICT THE STORY.

- AFTER ALL HAVE COMPLETED THAT, A PICTURE WALK OF THE BOOK IS DONE. STUDENTS MAY CHANGE THEIR PREDICTIONS.

- THE TEXT IS THEN READ ALOUD

YOUR TURN…. HERE ARE YOUR STRONG WORDS.
WITH YOUR GROUP, PREDICT WHAT THE STORY IS ABOUT.

I'm so excited.

hero neighborhood
camp enemies perfect alone
secret disgusting scary
stinky
faded treehouse earthworms magic
recipe
baseball plain nervous
trampoline summer
book
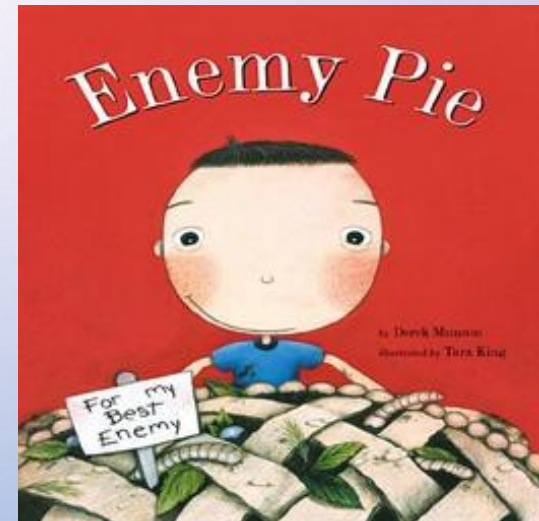
ENEMY PIE READ BY CAMRYN MANHEIM

LAST STRATEGY: ELKONIN BOXES

- ELKONIN BOXES CAN BE USED TO TEACH PHONEMIC AWARENESS BY HAVING STUDENTS LISTEN FOR INDIVIDUAL SOUNDS AND MARKING WHERE THEY HEAR THEM IN THE BOXES.

- EACH BOX IN AN ELKONIN BOX CARD REPRESENTS ONE PHONEME, OR SOUND.

- CAN USE LINKING BLOCKS, PENNIES, BINGO MARKERS OR EVEN CANDY LIKE SKITTLES OR M&M'S

- MOSTLY FOR THE "LITTLES"
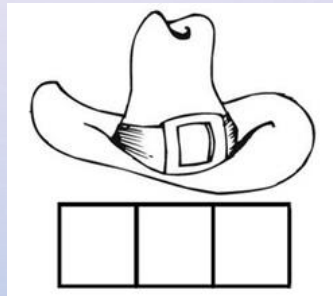
Reading is the key to success in school and to promoting life-long learning