

## Readability and Text Complexity:

THE GREAT BODY SHOP has been reviewed for readability using a number of instruments and has demonstrated developmentally appropriate readability for students in grades 1-8.

Prior to 2000, many school districts and state departments of education used the Fry Readability Instrument. In subsequent years, THE GREAT BODY SHOP has undergone numerous readability analyses for health education instructional materials and was found appropriate for classroom use in grades K-8 in the states where THE GREAT BODY SHOP is listed as a state approved text.

In 2007, THE GREAT BODY SHOP switched to the Lexile® Analyzer® to determine readability scores. The educational levels displayed on the Lexile map indicate approximately the middle 50 percent of materials found in a typical grade-level classroom (see chart below). For example, the instructional materials typically found in a third-grade classroom range from about 500L to 700L, although many use materials with measures below 500L and above 700L. Numerous studies have also been conducted with large student samples to determine approximate reading levels (about the middle 50 percent of students—the interquartile range) for each grade level (see chart below). Remember, about 50 percent of the students are reading above and below these ranges.

Notice there is a considerable overlap between the grades. This is typical of student reading levels and materials published in each grade. In addition, the level of support provided during reading instruction and reader motivation impact the reading experience. Students who are interested in reading about a specific topic (and are therefore motivated) are able to read text that is at a higher level than his or her reading level (about 100L above).

| Grade | Reader Measures<br>(Interquartile Range, Mid-Year) | Text Measures<br>(from the Lexile Map) |
|-------|--|--|
| 1     | Up to 300L   | 200L to 400L                           |
| 2     | 140L to 500L                                       | 300L to 500L                           |
| 3     | 330L to 700L                                       | 500L to 700L                           |
| 4     | 445L to 810L                                       | 650L to 850L                           |
| 5     | 565L to 910L                                       | 750L to 950L                           |
| 6     | 665L to 1000L                                      | 850L to 1050L                          |
| 7     | 735L to 1065L                                      | 950L to 1075L                          |
| 8     | 805L to 1100L                                      | 1000L to 1100L                         |

When THE GREAT BODY SHOP was analyzed by grade level, the averages found in Student Issues were within the Lexile Reader and Text Measures ranges for grades 1-8. The average scores are as follows.

Grade 1: 294

Grade 2: 539 (This score was higher due to the introduction of new vocabulary words. This is not unusual and is considered appropriate when new vocabulary words which are scientific in nature are introduced.)

Grade 3: 637

Grade 4: 669

Grade 5: 815

Grade 6: 857

Grade 7: 898

Grade 8: 958