August 1, 2017

New! Lexile® format now more granular for early grades

MARCIVE offers Reading Notes Enrichment, either as a standalone service, or as a part of Overnight Authorities and Ongoing MARC Record Services, as well as with other one-time services such as Retrospective Conversion, Brief Record Upgrade, and backfile authorities processing. This includes Accelerated Reader and Lexile® data. Reading Counts data is also available through the year 2014.

MetaMetrics is the source of the Lexile® data. The company has completed in-depth studies to try to provide more guidance and resources for educators, publishers and policymakers. They have researched and re-measured the grades K-2 titles, assigning more granular values. Before, all books measuring below 0L were given a "BR" (Beginning Reader) code. However, not all K-2 books are created equally, and there was a need for more specificity in measuring the reading levels. For more in-depth background on this research, go to http://www.Lexile®toolkit.com/.

How does this enhancement affect my records?

The Lexile® data has both the familiar format of alpha-numeric codes as well as the new format, so both will appear in your record. The alpha numeric codes are placed in the MARC 521 field, with a first indicator of 8. Subfield $a includes the numeric value of the Lexile® measure assigned to that title, and subfield $b includes the word "Lexile®."

Examples of the <u>prior format </u>of Lexile® data in a MARC record:

100 1 $aBrown, Margaret Wise,$d1910-1952,$eauthor.
245 10 $aI like bugs $cby Margaret Wise Brown ; illustrated by G.Brian Karas ; with an afterword by Leonard S. Marcus.
250     $a1st Random House ed.
260     $aNew York : $bRandom House, $c[2003]
300     $a1 volume (unpaged) : $bcolor illustrations ;$c23 cm.
336     $a text $btxt $2rdacontent
337     $aunmediated bn 2rdamedia
338     $avolume $bnc $ 2rdacarrier
500     $aOriginally published: New York : Golden Books, ©1999.
520     $aIn brief rhyming text, lists all the types of insects the narrator likes.
521 8 $aBR $bLexile.
526   0 $aRC $bK-2 $c1.1 $d1 $zQuiz: 31231 $zGuided reading level: A.
650   0 $aInsects $vJuvenile fiction.
650   0 $aStories in rhyme.
700 1 $aKaras, G. Brian, $eillustrator.
830   0 $aStep into reading.$ nStep 1 book.

100 1 $aMcKissack, Pat,$d1944-2017
245 10 $aMessy Bessey's garden $cwritten by Patricia and Fredrick McKissack ; illustrated by Dana Regan.
260     $aNew York : $bChildren's Press, $c2002.
300     $a31 p. : $bcol. ill. ; $c19 cm.
520     $aMessy Bessey discovers that with proper care her garden will flourish.
521 8 $aBR $bLexile.
650   0 $aGardening $vJuvenile fiction.
650   0 $a African Americans $vJuvenile fiction.
650   0 $aStories in rhyme.
700 1 $aMcKissack, Fredrick.
700 1 $aRegan, Dana.

The **new format** has additional information not previously included in the past. It contains reading difficulty indicators in four areas:

1. *Decoding demand*. The decoding indicator looks at parts of the words like vowel and consonant patterns, and sounds by evaluating the patterns of letters in a word.
2. *Semantic demand*. Looks at what is going on with the words by evaluating the challenge of word meanings in a text.
3. *Syntactic demand*. Looks at what is going on at the sentence level by evaluating the complexity within sentences and across sentences.
4. *Structure demand*. Looks at what is going on with text as a whole by evaluating the degree of repetition and patterning (such as repeated phrases) in the text. Repeated phrases lower the Structure Indicator.

Each area has a numeric value which places the words, sentences, and text as a whole on a complex reading level scale.

Indicator Value	Indicator Descriptor Display
0-20	Very Low Demand
21-40	Low Demand
41-60	Medium Demand
61-80	High Demand
81-100	Very High Demand

This new information comes to us joined together with the numeric measure. However, we have separated it into a separate MARC 521 field, with a first indicator of 3.

Examples of the <u>new format</u>:

100 1 $aBrown, Margaret Wise,$d1910-1952, $eauthor.
245 10 $aI like bugs $cby Margaret Wise Brown ; illustrated by G.Brian Karas ; with an afterword by Leonard S. Marcus.
250      $a1st Random House ed.
260      $aNew York : $bRandom House, $c[2003]
300      $a1 volume (unpaged) : $bcolor illustrations ;$c23 cm.
336      $a text $btxt $2rdacontent
337      $aunmediated $bn $2rdamedia
338      $avolume $bnc $2rdacarrier
500      $aOriginally published: New York : Golden Books, ©1999.
520      $aIn brief rhyming text, lists all the types of insects the narrator likes.
521 8 $aBR20L $bLexile.
521 3 $aDecoding demand: 12 (very low) $aSemantic demand: 15 (very low) $aSyntactic demand: 8 (very low) $aStructure demand: 7 (very low) $bLexile.
526   0 $aRC $bK-2 $c1.1 $d1 $zQuiz: 31231 $zGuided reading level: A.
650   0 $aInsects $vJuvenile fiction.
650   0 $aStories in rhyme.
700 1 $aKaras, G. Brian, $eillustrator.
830   0 $aStep into reading.$ nStep 1 book.

This title demonstrating the new Lexile® format also includes Accelerated Reader enrichment. It was upgraded through authorities processing with RDA conversion.

100 1 $aMcKissack, Pat, d1944--**2017**
245 10 $aMessy Bessey's garden $cwritten by Patricia and Fredrick McKissack ; illustrated by Dana Regan.
264 1 $aNew York : $bChildren's Press, $c2002.
300      $a31 pages : $bcolor illustrations ; $c18 cm.
336 $atext $btxt $2rdacontent-
337 $aunmediated $bn $2rdamedia-
338 $avolume $bnc $2rdacarrier-
520      $aMessy Bessey discovers that with proper care her garden will flourish.-
521 8 $a0L $bLexile.
526 0 $AR $bLG $c0.8 $d0.5 $z9328.
526 0 $RC $bK-2 $c2.2 $d1 $zQuiz: 14552 $zGuided reading level: I.
650   0 $aGardening $vFiction.-
650   0 $aAfrican Americans $vFiction.-
650   0 $aStories in rhyme.-
700 1 $aMcKissack, Fredrick.-
700 1 $aRegan, Dana.-

According to MetaMetrics, the Lexile® Scale has expanded. "Beginning Reader (BR) is a code given to readers and texts that have measures below 0L on the Lexile® scale. A Lexile® measure of BR100L indicates that the Lexile® measure is 100 units below 0L. Just like -100° is higher (colder) than -30° on a thermometer, a BR100L book is more complex than a BR300L book. The higher the number after the BR code, the less complex the text."

The chart below illustrate some of the changes made.

Grade	Reader Measures, Mid-Year 25th percentile to 75th percentile (IQR)
Pre-K to Kinder	BR10L to BR130L
1st	BR120L to 295L
2nd	170L to 545L
3rd	415L to 760L
4th	635L to 950L
5th	770L to 1080L
6th	855L to 1165L
7th	925L to 1235L
8th	985L to 1295L
9th	1040L to 1350L
10th	1085L to 1400L
11th-12th	1130L to 1440L

For more information on how beginning readers are matched to texts, visit www.Lexile®.com/beginning-readers.

I'm not sure why my library would need the additional information in the second 521 field, or even if our system can index it. Can it be removed?

Yes, we can remove any 521 fields with a first indicator of 3 and a subfield $b of Lexile® upon request at no additional cost. Alternatively, you can display it in the public view, but not index it. This way, the educator or parent can further evaluate the appropriateness of the book.

Did MetraMetrics re-measure all titles?

According to MetaMetrics, all titles were re-measured. 85% of all titles with the Lexile® measure of 650L and lower were enhanced if there was a change of 60L or more, as that signified 1 standard error in measurement. Some titles are out of print, or the change was not significant enough to make a difference. This percentage will grow as older titles are found. All books with a measure of 650L or lower received indicator information. Those above 650L did not get this information.

Here is an example of a record that was previously measured higher. Note that there is no reading indicator information, as the measure is still higher than 650L.

Record before Reading Notes enrichment processing:

```
100 1   $aBunting, Eve, $d1928-
245 10 $aNight of the gargoyles  $cby Eve Bunting ; illustrated by David Wiesner.
264 1   $aNew York : $bClarion Books, $c[1994]
264 4   $ac©1994
300     $a32 unnumbered pages : $billustrations ; $c29 cm
336     $atext $btxt $2rdacontent
337     $aunmediated $bn $2rdamedia
338     $avolume $bnc $2rdacarrier
520     $aIn the middle of the night, the gargoyles that adorn the walls of a museum come to life
and frighten the night watchman
```
521 8 $aAD 1090 $bLexile.
```
526   0 $aAccelerated Reader AR $bMG $c4.1 $d0.5 $z11557.
526   0 $aReading Counts RC $bK-2 $c5.9 $d2 $zQuiz: 16419 $zGuided reading level: P.
650   0 $aGargoyles $vJuvenile fiction.
655   7 $aHorror fiction. $2gsafd
700 1   $aWiesner, David.
```

Record after Reading Notes enrichment processing:

```
100 1   $aBunting, Eve,$d1928-
245 10 $aNight of the gargoyles  $cby Eve Bunting ; illustrated by David Wiesner.
264 1   $aNew York : $bClarion Books, $c[1994]
264 4   $ac©1994
300     $a32 unnumbered pages : $billustrations ; $c29 cm
336     $atext $btxt $2rdacontent
337     $aunmediated $bn $2rdamedia
338     $avolume $bnc $2rdacarrier
520     $aIn the middle of the night, the gargoyles that adorn the walls of a museum come to life
and frighten the night watchman
```

521 8 $aAD 910 $bLexile.
526   0 $a Accelerated Reader AR $bMG $c4.1 $d0.5 $z11557.
526   0 $aReading Counts RC $bK-2 $c5.9 $d2 $zQuiz: 16419 $zGuided reading level: P.
650   0 $aGargoyles $vJuvenile fiction.
655   7 $aHorror fiction. $2gsafd
700 1 $aWiesner, David.

So does this mean I need to have all my legacy Lexile® measures replaced?

It depends on how this data is indexed, viewed, and used in the library catalog. As teachers begin the school year in fall 2017, parents will hear more about the new levels in districts where this reading incentive program is used. We can certainly accept a library's bibliographic records and re-process them, adding the new enhanced Lexile® measures.

You can assist your students and patrons by adding Reading Notes data to your library catalog and indexing it. While this information is readily available on the Internet, it is a multi-step process for librarians and users to search the website for the appropriate titles, then search the library's catalog to see if they are owned—and on the shelf.

Not sure of the cost? Send us your bibliographic records, and we will produce a quote, with no obligation to purchase.

For more information, contact us at 1-800-531-7678 or at info@marcive.com.