

## Choosing Books for the Reading Spine

### ATOS Level

An ATOS level on a book indicates how difficult the text is to read; it can help to match books to a student's reading level. But the ATOS readability formula only measures the readability of the text. It does not (nor do any other readability formulas) take into account literary merit, sophistication of ideas, developmental appropriateness or maturity of theme or language. This is why it is important to know and use three measurements when helping your students choose books: readability (the difficulty of a book's text), reading level (the student's tested reading level) and interest level (the content level of a book).

The ATOS readability formula guides students to appropriate-level books. Confirmed as a valid and reliable text complexity measure for the Common Core Standards, ATOS takes into account the most important predictors of text complexity—average sentence length, average word length, and word difficulty level. The results are provided in a grade-level scale that is easy to use and understand.

**ATOS Scale:** 5 - 5.9 (Year 6)    4 - 4.9 (Year 5)    3 – 3.9 (Year 4)    2 – 2.9 (Year 3)    1 – 1.9 (Year 2)

### Reading Age

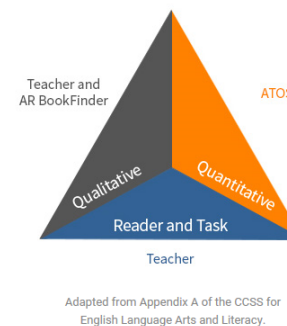
Pupils reading age is ascertained through the NGRT reading tests. This gives an accurate picture of the child's reading ability as well as a confidence band. This is another measure used to support children's progress, ensuring texts we choose provide pupils with a wide range of vocabulary, providing rich cultural capital texts.

### Interest Level

The books included on this reading spine must represent our pupils providing all of them with the opportunity to see themselves represented through stories.

They must provide pupils with a richness of language as well as strong storylines to engage and motivate the children, developing a love of reading. Common themes can create a link, year on year, so pupils are able to grow in their understanding of who they are; their emotions, human nature, differences and challenges that life can present. It provides a stimulus to discuss current issues that may need to be addressed at the time of teaching as well as planned opportunities to teach children right from wrong, acceptance of others and challenging wrongful behaviour.

A range of authors need to be considered including up-to-date authors, new books as well as books which share history and traditions. Some books will be linked to writing outcomes using the Power of Reading Programme whereas other books will be read as class reads promoting enjoyment and interest. These books also need to be available in our school library so pupils have the chance to read them again, at their leisure.



#### Qualitative

Qualitative factors include levels of meaning, structure, language conventionality, clarity, and knowledge demands. Interest level (i.e., content and maturity level of text) and genre are provided in AR BookFinder.

#### Quantitative

Quantitative dimensions include word length or frequency and sentence length that can only be measured efficiently by computer software.

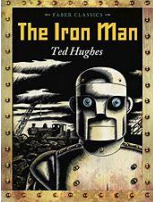

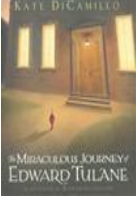
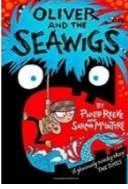

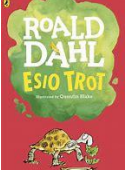



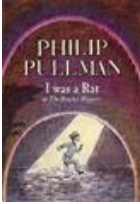

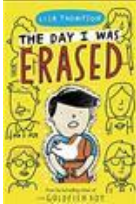


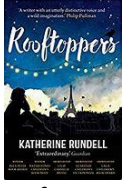



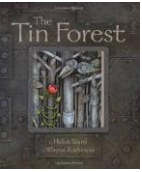
#### Reader and Task





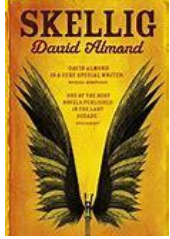
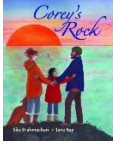


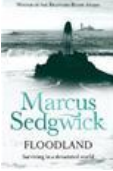





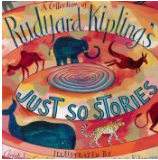

Reader and Task considerations include students' motivation, knowledge, and background interests along with the purpose and complexity of task assigned, and are best made by the teacher.

For more on text complexity's reader and task considerations, [read this blog post](#).

Year	Belonging/Identity	Bravery/Achievement/ Overcoming Adversity/ Determination	Self-Control/ Suffering/Emotion	Equality/Difference	Honesty/ Kindness	Friendship/ Togetherness/Family
Nursery	<u>The Hungry Caterpillar</u> (Eric Karl)	The Little Red Hen (Folk Tale)	Whatever Next (Jill Murphy)	<u>Handa’s Surprise</u> (Eileen Browne)	<u>Goldilocks and the Three Bears</u> (Fairy Tale)	Dear Zoo (Rod Campbell)
	Egg Drop (Mini Grey)	Starting School (Allan Ahlberg)	<u>Billy Goats Gruff</u> (Norwegian Fairy Tale)	<u>The Princess and the Pea</u> (Hans Christian Andersen)	<u>What the Ladybird Heard</u> (Julia Donaldson)	Owl Babies (Martin Waddell)
	The Things I love about me (Trace Moroney)	<u>The Three Little Pigs</u> (Fable)	Not Now Bernard (David McKee)	<u>Barry the Fish with Fingers</u> (Sue Hendra)	<u>Superworm</u> (Julia Donaldson)	Dogger (Shirley Hughes)
	<u>Elmer</u> (David McKee)	<u>We’re Going on a Bear Hunt</u> (Michael Rosen)	It’s a Bear’s Life (Anna Wilson)	Kitchen Disco (Clare Foges)	Tidy (Emily Gravett)	<u>Lost and Found</u> (Oliver Jeffers)
	<u>Look Up</u> (Nathan Bryon)	Dinosaur Sleepover (Pamela Duncan-Edward)	Grr (Rob Biddulph)	Tip, Tip, Dig, Dig (Emma Garcia)	The Enormous Turnip (Folk Tale)	<u>Jack and the Beanstalk</u> (Fairy Tale)
Reception	The Tiger Who Came to Tea (Judith Kerr)	Sam and Dave Dig a Hole (Mac Barnett)	The Night Who Said No (Lucy Rowland)	Grandad’s Secret Giant (David Litchfield)	<u>The Smartest Giant in Town</u> (Julia Donaldson)	Full, Full, Full of Love (Trish Cooke)
	Lights on Cotton Rock (David Litchfield)	The Gruffalo (Julia Donaldson)	The Bad Tempered Ladybird (Eric Karl)	Jolly Tall (Jane Hissey)	The Squirrels That Squabbled (Rachel Bright)	The Bear and the Piano (David Litchfield)
	The Way Back Home (Oliver Jeffers)	The Lion Inside (Rachel Bright)	Where the Wild Things Are (Maurice Sendak)	Giraffes Can’t Dance (Giles Andreae)	Cinderella (Folk Tale)	The Wolf, the Duck and the Mouse (Mac Barnett)
	The Day the Crayons Quit (Drew Daywalt)	The Koala That Could (Rachel Bright)	This Is Not My Hat (or I Want My Hat Back) (Jon Klassen)	The Name Jar (Yangsook Choi)	One Snowy Night (Nick Butterworth)	Star in the Jar (Sam Hay and Sarah Massini)
	The Crocodile Who Didn’t Like Water (Gemma Merino)	<u>Jack &amp; the Bean Stalk</u> (Fairy Tale)	The Heart and the Bottle (Oliver Jeffers)	Odd Dog Out (Rob Biddulph)	<u>The Pea and the Princess</u> (Mini Grey)	<u>The Invisible String</u> (Patrice Carst)
	<u>Sulwe</u> (Lupita Nyong’o)	The Dark (Lemony Snicket)	Angry Cookie (Laura Dockrill)	<u>Amazing grace</u> (Mary Hoffman)	Supertato (Sue Hendra)	The Hoppameleon (Paul Gerraghty)

Year	Belonging/Identity	Bravery/Achievement/ Overcoming Adversity/ Determination	Self-Control/ Suffering/Emotion	Equality/Difference	Honesty/ Kindness	Friendship/ Togetherness/Family
Year 1 Class Read	 ATOS: 3.3	 ATOS 4.6    ATOS: 3.0	 The Twits ATOS: 4.4	 The Story Tree ATOS:	 The Robot and the Bluebird ATOS: 3.6	 Traction Man is Here! ATOS: 3.6
Y1 PoR	 The Jolly Postman ATOS: 2.5 (17 sessions)	 Halibut Jackson ATOS: 2.5 (20 sessions)	 How to Find Gold ATOS: 2.3 (25 sessions)	 Zeraffa Giraffa ATOS: - (20 sessions)	 The Snail and the Whale ATOS: 4.0 (20 sessions)	 Rapunzel ATOS: - (25 sessions)
Year 2 Class Read	 ATOS: 3.3	 ATOS: 5.2	 ATOS: -	 ATOS: 3.3 (poetry)	 ATOS: 4.0	 ATOS: 3.0
PoR	 Beegu ATOS: - (20 sessions)	 The Last Wolf ATOS: 3.7 (30 sessions)	 The Magic Finger ATOS: 3.1 (15 sessions) Chapter Book	 Anna Hibiscus ATOS: 4.1 (20 sessions)	 The Adventures of the Egg Box Dragon ATOS: 4.0 (20 sessions)	 Emperor's Egg ATOS: 4.1 (12 sessions)

Yr Grp	Belonging/Identity	Bravery/Achievement/ Overcoming Adversity/ Determination	Self-Control/ Suffering/Emotion	Equality/Difference	Honesty/ Kindness	Friendship/ Togetherness/Family
Year 3 Class Read	 ATOS: 4.7	 ATOS: 3.8	 The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane ATOS: 4.4 (20 sessions) Chapter Book	 Oliver and the Seawigs ATOS: 5.6 (30 sessions) Chapter Book	 Ice Palace ATOS: 5.0 (20 sessions) Chapter Book	 ATOS: 4.4
PoR	 Belonging ATOS: - (15 sessions)	 Ug ATOS: 2.3 (20 sessions)	Additional Linked Text: Bill's New Frock Anne Fine ATOS: 4.3	Additional Linked Text: Silence Seeker Ben Morley ATOS: 3.0	Additional Linked Text: Mr Stink David Walliams ATOS: 4.7	 The Green Ship ATOS: - (20 sessions)
Year 4 Class Read	 I was a Rat ATOS: 5.2	 The Girl Who Stole an Elephant ATOS: 4.3	 The Day I Was Erased ATOS: 4.5	 The Boy at the Back of the Class ATOS: 5.4 (30 Sessions) Chapter Book	 Charlotte's Web ATOS: 4.4 (20 sessions) Chapter Book	 Rooftoppers ATOS: 3.5
PoR	 The Frog Prince Continued ATOS: 3.2 (9 sessions)	 The Mousehole Cat ATOS: 4.8 (15 sessions)	 Arthur & the Golden Rope ATOS: 5.3 (25 sessions)	Additional Linked Text: Kick Mitch Johnson ATOS: 5.0	Additional Linked Text: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory Roald Dahl ATOS: 4.8	 The Tin Forest ATOS: 2.9

Yr Grp	Belonging/Identity	Bravery/Achievement/ Overcoming Adversity/ Determination	Self-Control/ Suffering/Emotion	Equality/Difference	Honesty/ Kindness	Friendship/ Togetherness/Family
Year 5 Class Read		 The Journey ATOS: 3.2 (26 sessions) Picture Book	 Suffragette: The Battle for Equality ATOS: - (25 Sessions)	 Running on Empty ATOS: 4.0 (25 sessions)	 Skellig ATOS: 3.5 (25 sessions) Chapter Book	 Corey's Rock ATOS: 3.6 (25 sessions)
PoR	Street Child ATOS: 5.0 (25 sessions) Chapter Book	 Shackleton's Journey ATOS: 6.7 (25 sessions)		Additional Linked Text: The Goldfish Boy Lisa Thompson ATOS: 5.0	Additional Linked Text: Sky Chasers Emma Carroll ATOS: 4.5	
Year 6 Class Read	 The Last Wild ATOS: 5.6 (30 sessions) Part of a series	 Floodland ATOS: 3.7 (20 sessions) Chapter Book	 Sky Song ATOS: 6.1	 Cogheart Part of a series ATOS: 5.7	 Mama Miti ATOS: -	 Goodnight Mr Tom ATOS: 5.1 (25 sessions) Chapter Book
PoR	Additional Linked Text: The Girl Who Speaks Bear Sophie Anderson ATOS: 5.2	Additional Linked Text: The Wolf Wilder Katherine Rundell ATOS: 4.5	 MacBeth ATOS: 10.9	 Just So Stories ATOS: 5.3	 Rose Blanche ATOS: 3.2 Additional Linked Text: The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas by John Boyne	Additional Linked Text: The Storm Keeper's Island Catherine Doyle ATOS: 5.5