



It's very common and certainly understandable for parents of our middle school students to ask about their son's or daughter's Lexile score; this inquiry is especially prevalent during the early months in sixth grade. Most parents are not aware of what a Lexile score measures, much less whether their child's Lexile score places him or her on track for the next grade level, college, or a specific career path.

A reader's Lexile (L) score is a measure of his or her reading ability: the higher the score, the better a reader's ability to read and understand complex text. The highest Lexile score is a 2000L, and the scores are measured in intervals of 5. It is anticipated that a student would gain approximately 30-40L points throughout the course of one school year, but that certainly varies from child to child.

Achieve 3000 is the digital literacy program that Toms River currently uses in grades 6-8 to present to students personalized, Lexile-assigned text, which becomes increasingly more difficult as a child grows and matures as a reader. As a student demonstrates proficiency with a level of text, the text complexity increases, continuously challenging readers. Within their cycles, our students in Toms River intermediate schools are using Achieve 3000 at least one time per week, and some students may also be completing Achieve articles at home.

Three times this school year (September, January, and late May), our students in grades 6-8 will complete a Lexile assessment, called LevelSet, through Achieve 3000. The LevelSet assessment provides data to teachers and administrators with which we track students' reading growth. Teachers will use this data to gauge the efficacy of their own instruction and plan future lessons, as well as to help students choose independent reading books and set individual reading goals for the end of a given school year.

In addition to the use of Achieve 3000, we encourage our students to read a tremendous number of "choice" books in their ELA classes and at home. We are optimistic that everything we are doing during both in person and virtual learning will prove effective in helping our students reach their maximum reading potential by the end of the school year!

If you would like to learn more about Lexile measures, the following website may prove helpful:  
<https://lexile.com/parents-students/understanding-your-lexile-measure/lexile-measures-reading/>