

# Usborne Reading Program

	First Reading LEVEL ONE	First Reading LEVEL TWO	First Reading LEVEL THREE	First Reading LEVEL FOUR	Young Reading SERIES ONE	Young Reading SERIES TWO	Young Reading SERIES THREE	Young Reading SERIES FOUR
THEMES	Classic tales (Aesop's Fables) and folktales.	As Level One, including less familiar folktales from around the world.	As Level Two plus original fiction and non-fiction.	As Level Three plus classic fairy tales.	Fairy tales, legends, original fiction and non-fiction.	As Series One, plus adapted classics.	History, biographies, classics.	Original fiction, adapted classics and narrative non-fiction.
GRAMMAR	Present and simple past tenses; modal verb <i>can</i> ; comparative adjectives.	As Level One plus future tense; modal verbs <i>could</i> and <i>must</i> ; comparatives and superlatives.	As Level Two plus present and past tenses; range of modal verbs.	Full range of tenses.	Past tense narratives avoiding passives, embedded clauses, semicolons, and colons.	More challenging sentence structure including embedded clauses.	Full use of grammatical range, comparable with mainstream contemporary fiction or journalism.	Full use of grammatical range, comparable with mainstream fiction or non-fiction for adults.
VOCABULARY	Simple everyday vocabulary, familiar items.	More descriptive and evocative vocabulary, always clear in context.	Powerful verbs and adjectives, clear in context.	More exotic elements and controlled use of idiom.	Wide-ranging everyday vocabulary.	More challenging, building on Series One; specialist or technical terms explained.	Single narrative in chapters. Assume some relevant background knowledge.	Intended for a general readership but incorporating expressive, ambitious vocabulary.
CONTENT	Short single narrative followed by reading and comprehension puzzles.	Single narrative plus character sheets and/or maps, and puzzles.	Single narrative with repeated elements, plus character sheets and/or maps but no puzzles.	Single narrative.	Several linked stories or one longer narrative in chapters. Direct and indirect speech, intertextual references.	Single narrative in chapters, introduce irony and subplot, allowing opportunity for inference and deduction.	Single narrative in chapters. Assume some relevant background knowledge.	Single narrative in chapters with minimal illustration (chapter heading only).
NUMBER OF PAGES	32	32	48	48	48	64-80	64-112	128
NUMBER OF WORDS	Up to 150	Up to 250	Up to 450	Up to 750	1,000 – 1,500	2,000 – 2,500	3,000 – 5,000	18,000 – 20,000
WORDS PER PAGE	Up to 10 (1-3 lines)	Up to 20 (2-4 lines)	Up to 30 (2-5 lines)	Up to 40 (3-6 lines)	Up to 50 (up to 10 lines)	Up to 70 (up to 15 lines)	Up to 120 (up to 20 lines or full page)	Up to 200 (full page)
SENTENCE LENGTH	2-8 words (on average)	6-10 words (on average)	8-12 words (on average)	8-15 words (on average)	Up to 15 words (varied length but generally short)	Up to 20 words (more varied length)	Up to 30 words (varied length)	Up to 40 words, varied length.