

Teacher Copy  
A-I Reading Assessment for Independent Reading Levels

Reader's Name _____	Grade _____	Date _____	Independent Level: Yes No
<b>My Steps, Bebop Books</b> <b>Level J 104 words</b>			

**Book Introduction:** Show the cover of the book to the student and say this to the reader before he or she begins reading.  
*"In My Steps, you will read a story about a little girl and her friend Essie." Let's read this story to find out what happens on the steps."*

<p><b>Check the reading behaviors you notice the child using. These notes may not determine the reader's independent reading level, but will inform your teaching:</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Rereads and self-corrects at points of error.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Monitors for all sources of information: checks to make sure what has been read makes sense, sounds right, and looks right.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Reads with fluency and phrasing.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Uses an increasingly more challenging repertoire of graphophonic strategies to problem solve through text.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Solves unknown words with relative ease.</p>	<p><b>Running Record:</b> Record the reader's miscues (or errors) above the word as he or she reads.</p> <p>2. These are my steps. All five of them One, Two, Three, Four, Five. I can hop up from One to Five and down from Five to One on just one foot.</p> <p>4. Whenever it's a pretty day I play on my steps while cars and buses swoosh down the street and people walk by on the sidewalk. Sometimes I know the people, and then I say, "Morning, Mrs. Johnson," "Afternoon, Preacher Jones." But my mom always says, "Don't you go talking to strangers," so I don't. I look away.</p> <p>6. At the top of my steps is the stoop where I play with my friend, Essie.</p> <p><i>Child reads the rest of the book silently. Say, "Read the rest of the book silently, and we will talk about the book when you are finished."</i></p>	# of Errors	Error MSV	# of SC	SC MSV
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**Accuracy Rate:** Circle the number of miscues & percentage of words read correctly.

100%	99%	98%	97%	96%	95%
0 miscues	1 miscue	2 miscues	3 miscues	4 miscues	5 miscues

**Total Number of Self Corrections:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Literal and Inferential Retelling**

Say, "Retell the important parts of what you just read." Write notes regarding the student's retelling in this box and on the back of this page. If the child has trouble getting started, prompt the child to look at the text. Say to the child, "What happened first?" Make a note that you prompted their retelling.

**Part 1:** Listen to the reader's retelling for the following information and take note of the reader's answers, based on the retelling. If the retelling did not already contain the following information, ask the reader the following questions and take note of the answers.

1. *Literal Question:* What are three things the little girl does on her steps?
  
2. *Literal Question:* What are three things she and Essie bring to the steps to help them play?
  
3. *Literal Question:* What does she have to do to keep her steps clean?
  
4. *Inferential Question:* Why does she like her steps so much?

The reader must answer at least three of these questions adequately in order to determine if this is the child's independent reading level. Try the other Level J text if the child could not answer at least three of these questions.

**Fluency**

At this level students should no longer be pointing under words with their finger. This list will also enable you to better evaluate their fluency in reading. Use the following questions to assess phrasing and fluency.

Did the reader track print with eyes instead of finger pointing?	Yes	No
Did the student respond to punctuation by changing his/her voice?	Yes	No
Did the reader use pitch, stress, and intonation when appropriate to approximate telling important or unusual information?	Yes	No
If the reader paused while reading, were the pauses brief?	Yes	No
At a point of difficulty, did the reader stop to problem-solve words on the run?	Yes	No

**Final Score**

Yes No The reader's accuracy rate was at least 96%.  
 Yes No The reader answered at least three comprehension questions in Part 1 correctly.  
 Yes No Did the retelling express the important parts in the text?  
 Yes No The reader reads with some fluency.

*If the answer is "Yes" to all four questions, this is the child's independent reading level.*