**Retelling Assessment**

**Comprehension:** In order to judge comprehension, students are asked to retell the text and then answer comprehension questions. Students need to give a strong retelling or answer three of the four comprehension questions correctly in order to read independently at that level. Students may use the text to help them retell and teachers should take note if the student needs this. If the student’s retelling does not answer the comprehension questions, the teacher asks the comprehension questions that were not answered until the student answers at least three of them correctly. Prompts and possible answers are provided for each of the books or passages a student reads. You may also wish to use the Rubrics for Assessing Retelling found in this manual.

**How to Use the Rubric:** Quickly look over the student’s retell. A retell of 3 or 4 will be one factor in deciding whether this student is reading independently at this level. After quickly assessing the retell, ask any of the comprehension questions that the student didn’t address in the retell, particularly it it’s easier for you to assess the questions than the retell.

**Guide to Retelling for Level 1**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **4** | **3** | **2** | **1** |
| * Names big events   **OR**   * Order the retell by meaning\*   **OR**   * Summarizes the gist of the story * Names character feelings * Names why the characters do the things they do in the story * Uses setting details in the retell (when setting is clear in the book) | * Names big events   **OR**   * Order the retell by meaning\*   **OR**   * Summarizes the gist of the story * Names character feelings * Names why the characters do the things they do in the story | * Has a few of the big events, but only a partial recounting of them   **OR**   * May retell only the beginning or ending of the passage * Does not talk about character feelings | * Clear misunderstanding of text   **OR**   * Retells only an isolated portion of the text (talks only about one or two sentences from the passage)   **OR**   * Makes up a story   **OR**   * Repeats what the teacher said in the book introduction |

Retelling Score: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Guide to Retelling for Level 2**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **4** | **3** | **2** | **1** |
| * Names big episodes in sequence   **OR**   * Orders the retell by meaning   **OR**   * Summarizes the gist of the story   **OR**   * Tells what it’s mostly about and refers to details in the text * Names character feelings * Names why the characters do the things they do in the story * Uses setting details in the retell (when setting is clear in the book) | * Names big episodes in sequence   **OR**   * Order the retell by meaning   **OR**   * Summarizes the gist of the story   **OR**   * Tells what it’s mostly about and refers to details in the text * Names character feelings * Names why the characters do the things they do in the story | * Has a few of the big episodes, but only a partial recounting of them   **OR**   * May retell only the beginning or ending of the passage * Does not talk about character feelings | * Clear misunderstanding of text   **OR**   * Retells only an isolated portion of the text (talks only about one or two sentences from the passage)   **OR**   * Makes up a story   **OR**   * Repeats what the teacher said in the book introduction |

Retelling Score: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Guide to Retelling for Level 3**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **4** | **3** | **2** | **1** |
| * Names big events in sequence   **OR**   * Order the retell by meaning   **OR**   * Summarizes the gist of the story   **OR**   * Tells what it’s mostly about and refers to details in the text * Names character feelings * Names why the characters do the things they do in the story * Uses setting details in the retell (when setting is clear in the book) | * Names big events in sequence   **OR**   * Order the retell by meaning   **OR**   * Summarizes the gist of the story   **OR**   * Tells what it’s mostly about and refers to details in the text * Names character feelings * Names why the characters do the things they do in the story | * Has a few of the big events, but only a partial recounting of them   **OR**   * May retell only the beginning or ending of the passage * Does not talk about character feelings | * Clear misunderstanding of text   **OR**   * Retells only an isolated portion of the text (talks only about one or two sentences from the passage)   **OR**   * Makes up a story   **OR**   * Repeats what the teacher said in the book introduction |

Retelling Score: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_