

## Reading Comfort Zone (or ZPD)

Grade-Equivalent Score	Suggested ZPD
1.0	1.0 – 2.0
1.5	1.5 – 2.5
2.0	2.0 – 3.0
2.5	2.3 – 3.3
3.0	2.6 – 3.6
3.5	2.8 – 4.0
4.0	3.0 – 4.5
4.5	3.2 – 5.0
5.0	3.4 – 5.4
5.5	3.7 – 5.7
6.0	4.0 – 6.1
6.5	4.2 – 6.5
7.0	4.3 – 7.0
7.5	4.4 – 7.5
8.0	4.5 – 8.0
9.0	4.6 – 9.0
10.0	4.7 – 10.0
11.0	4.8 – 11.0
12.0	4.9 – 12.0

### KEEPING IN THE ZONE!!

#### **Step 1: Determine your child's reading comfort zone using the chart to the left.**

If you don't know your child's reading level, in grade-equivalent terms ask a teacher.

Once you have your child's Grade Equivalent Score, use the table of the left to get the reading comfort zone, or Zone of Proximal Development, ZPD.

For example, if your child is reading at a mid-third grade level, that is a 3-5 grade-equivalent score. This suggests you should be looking for books with a difficulty level of 2.8 to 4.0.

#### **Step 2: Find "just right" books.**

For "just right" book ideas click the "reading lists here" link on this page: [www.GemmLearning.com/tips.php](http://www.GemmLearning.com/tips.php).

Then click the yellow "Next" button to go to the quiz library. You can set the reading level range and search by topic (e.g. sports), author, recommended list, etc. or just to check that there's a quiz.

**Most books are there, so try different search options if at first it does not come up.** Click on the book name for a short summary. Longer and more difficult books have higher point values. Books are listed by **Book Level** (text difficulty) and **Interest Level** (grade appropriateness of the content).

Use BL to decide if student *can* read it, IL to decide if they *should* read it.