

***Fudge-A-Mania*, by Judy Blume – Lexile 490, 146 pages**

The Fudge series, by Judy Blume, is a wonderful series for third-graders, not only for its readability but also for its relatable characters and humorous plotlines. Your students will likely be interested in reading the rest of the books in this series after this one. I recommend placing your students who are reading below grade level in this text.

***Fudge-A-Mania* Text Complexity**

QUALITATIVE MEASURES	QUANTITATIVE MEASURES
<p>Levels of Meaning The central message of this text is that all's well that ends well. Additional themes relate to family and friendship.</p>	<p>The Lexile level for <i>Fudge-A-Mania</i> is 490, based on word frequency and sentence length. This is at the low end of the complexity band for 2nd–3rd grade according to the Common Core State Standards.</p>
<p>Structure Overall, the narrative uses a fairly simple, explicit, and conventional story structure.</p>	<p>READER TASK CONSIDERATIONS</p>
<p>Language Conventionalty and Clarity Although the language used is generally familiar, clear, and conversational, Judy Blume uses some ambiguous language in the text.</p>	<p>These should be determined locally with reference to motivation, knowledge, and experiences as well as to purpose and the complexity of the tasks assigned and the questions posed.</p>
<p>Knowledge Demands General background knowledge about family, friends, and community is needed.</p>	

***The Way to Stay in Destiny*, by Augusta Scattergood – Lexile 650, 179 pages**

Students will enjoy reading another book by Augusta Scattergood! *The Way to Stay in Destiny* is a slightly more challenging than the book *Fudge-A-Mania*, due to its quantitative and qualitative demands. Complex sentence structure used throughout the text will add challenge for third graders, as well keeping track of how the characters in the book change over time. I recommend placing students who are reading on grade level in this text.

***The Way to Stay in Destiny* Text Complexity**

QUALITATIVE MEASURES	QUANTITATIVE MEASURES
<p>Levels of Meaning There are multiple themes throughout the book, increasing the complexity of the text. Themes include love vs. hate, right vs. wrong, and fate vs. free will. The central theme students will focus on throughout the book is that destiny is where you belong.</p> <p>Structure Overall, the narrative uses a fairly simple, explicit, and conventional story structure.</p> <p>Language Conventionalty and Clarity Figurative language and dialect add depth and challenge to this text.</p> <p>Knowledge Demands General background knowledge about family, friends, and community is needed, as well as general background knowledge about Florida, baseball, and piano.</p>	<p>The Lexile level for <i>The Way to Stay in Destiny</i> is 650, based on word frequency and sentence length. This is in the middle range of the complexity band for 2nd–3rd grade according to the Common Core State Standards.</p> <p>READER TASK CONSIDERATIONS</p> <p>These should be determined locally with reference to motivation, knowledge, and experiences as well as to purpose and the complexity of the tasks assigned and the questions posed.</p>

Swindle, by Gordon Korman – Lexile 710, 252 pages

The Swindle series, by Gordon Korman, is an exciting series for third-graders, with relatable characters and fast paced plotlines. A full list of characters, and a lot of pages make this text challenging for young readers. I recommend placing students who are reading above grade level in this text.

Swindle Text Complexity

QUALITATIVE MEASURES	QUANTITATIVE MEASURES
<p>Levels of Meaning There are multiple themes throughout the book, increasing the complexity of the text. Themes include right vs. wrong, and working together to solve a problem. The central theme students will focus on throughout the book is that together you can accomplish the impossible.</p> <p>Structure Overall, the narrative uses a fairly simple, explicit, and conventional story structure.</p> <p>Language Conventionality and Clarity Although the language used is generally familiar, clear, and conversational, Gordon Korman uses some ambiguous language in the text.</p> <p>Knowledge Demands General background knowledge about family, friends, and community is needed, as well as general background knowledge about baseball cards and heists.</p>	<p>The Lexile level for <i>Swindle</i> is 710, based on word frequency and sentence length. This is in the upper range of the complexity band for 2nd–3rd grade according to the Common Core State Standards.</p> <p>READER TASK CONSIDERATIONS</p> <p>These should be determined locally with reference to motivation, knowledge, and experiences as well as to purpose and the complexity of the tasks assigned and the questions posed.</p>