



GUIDE: LEVEL UP OR DOWN?

Guidelines for Changing a Student’s Training Stream

The goal of BrightFish Reading is to help your students develop active, independent reading skills they can apply to all subject areas. Since you have access to all 10 levels in BrightFish Reading, you can make a level change – up or down – based on performance in the current training stream.

There are different metrics that you can use in BrightFish Reading to guide your decisions about whether your student is ready to go up a level for a greater challenge, or down to avoid frustration:

1. **Midyear Gains:** results on the BrightFish midyear test.
2. **Activity Scores:** summary scores from completed stories.
3. **Story Progress:** trends from the completed story work.

Test Results & Midyear Gains

After at least 5 hours of time on task for completed work in BrightFish Reading, you can schedule the midyear administration of the Cloze test to see if your students have made gains in their reading level.

1. **Pre-test level:** What was the pre-test reading range for the student? There are three proficiency “ranges”: independent (80-100%), instructional” (50-79%; and frustration (0-49%). The assigned level of stories will be based on the instructional level found for the student.

First Name	Last Name	Grade	Pre-test Range	Pre-test Level	Mid-test Range	Mid-test Level	Post-test Range	Post-test Level	Level Change	TOT Interval
JODIE	BARNES	6	Frustration	3	Instructional	6	N/A	N/A	3	04:05
AMELIA	BOOTH	6	Instructional	4	Instructional	6	N/A	N/A	2	05:38
JONAH	COOKSON	6	Instructional	5	Independent	8	N/A	N/A	3	04:38

Figure 1: The Gains report shows changes in the student's reading comprehension level.

2. **Midyear test level:** After your students have completed at least 5 stories and about 8 hours of time on task (TOT), you can assign the second test. In the gains report, you can see the pre-test, post-test and gain on the midyear test for each student.

Example: Sarah is in 6th grade. She scored 62% on the grade-level passage and had an overall performance in the instructional range. BrightFish placed her at level 4 and assigned a training stream of 3-4. On the midyear test, Sarah scored 71% and level 5. Her gain is +1.



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Cindy is in 7th grade. She scored 42% on the first test and is assigned a level 4. On the midyear test she goes up in the percent score, to 51%, but her level has not changed. Her gain is 0.

Based on the test results alone, Sarah may be a candidate to level up. Cindy can continue at her current assigned level with additional monitoring. Next, let's look at the Story data.

Activity Scores – Completed Stories

The Activity Score shown in the Stories report shows the average of the vocabulary and comprehension work done in all completed story units. Scores above 80% are in the independent range and indicate that the student is working very well at the current assigned level.

1. How many story units has the student completed?
2. What is the summary score?

Example:

Sarah has completed 6 stories. Her average summary score on those stories is 82%. Cindy has completed only 3 stories. Her average summary score is 58%.

Taken together with the test results, the story scores indicate that Sarah is ready to move up but Cindy needs to do more work at her current level.

The last set of data comes from the story Progress Report.

Progress Report

The Story Progress Report provides detailed metrics on each completed story unit. Color coding shows you whether the story work is trending in the green/independent zone (80% and above); orange/instructional (50-79%) or red/frustration (0-49%).

1. Are all skill areas consistently in the "green" zone – independent?
2. Are the scores in the independent range on 2+ consecutive stories?

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Indicators: Sarah has consistent green zone scores in all skill areas. She's ready to move up!

Story/Level	Word Fluency	Vocabulary	Vocabulary Word Usage	Comprehension	Comprehension Essays
Time to Change / Lvl 6	98% 1.3sec	93%	86%	87%	100%
Skater Girls / Lvl 5	97% 1.3sec	82%	100%	82%	100%
The Fox and the Goat / Lvl 6	99% 1.1sec	90%	80%	68%	100%

Figure 2: The Student Progress report displays trends in story scores. Look for "green" zones with consistent scores of 80%+.

Cindy is in the orange zone for comprehension and has had difficulty with some of her vocabulary work. While she is improving, Cindy needs to show consistency in her accuracy at the current level before moving up. If you're "seeing red" in many of the skills, your student is struggling in the current training stream and may need to go down a level.

Story/Level	Word Fluency	Vocabulary	Vocabulary Word Usage	Comprehension	Comprehension Essays	Top Learning Objectives Missed
Monster Trucks / Lvl 2	92% 2.9sec	Not started	Not started	In progress	Not started	-
Waiting / Lvl 3	95% 1.9sec	80%	100%	75%	80%	3.L.4 3.L.5 3.L.6
The Big Blob Adventure / Lvl 3	97% 3.0sec	40%	100%	74%	100%	3.L.4 3.L.5 3.L.6
Holiday Spectacular / Lvl 3	96% 2.5sec	37%	90%	72%	67%	3.L.1 3.L.2 3.L.3

Change a level in BrightFish Reading

If you determine that your student should level up or down, you can make those changes in your Classes tab. Select Manage Class Roster from the left sidebar menu and choose the class that has the students who need the change.

Locate the student in the list or use the Search box.

1. In the Level column, click on the stacked books icon to make the change.

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2. Click on the new level you want to add. You can also remove a level by deselecting it (click on the checked box to remove it).
3. Save your changes to see them on your class roster. The next time your students log in, they will see a refreshed menu of stories.

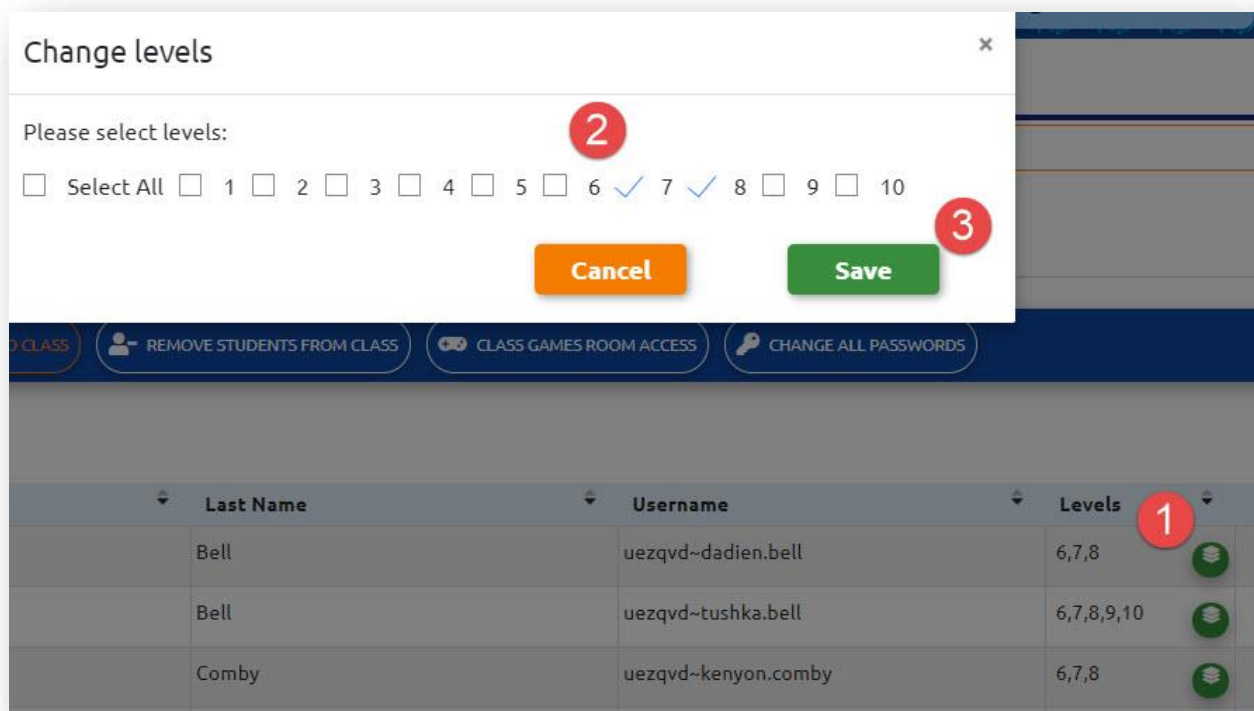


Figure 3: In the Classes tab, select your class and make changes to a student's assigned levels.

Continue to monitor progress

Once you have made changes to a student's training stream, monitor the scores in the next three stories. Schedule data chats to review any errors and missed learning objectives.