

Text-Based Comprehension



Text Complexity Measures

Use the rubric to familiarize yourself with the text complexity of *The Dinosaurs of Waterhouse Hawkins*.

Bridge to Complex Knowledge

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| Quantitative Measures | Lexile | 750 |
| | Average Sentence Length | 10.78 |
| | Word Frequency | 3.53 |

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| Qualitative Measures | Levels of Meaning | understand the elements of a biography |
| | Structure | conventional structure; illustration showing steps in the process; captions; afterword |
| | Language Conventinality and Clarity | clear, conventional language |
| | Theme and Knowledge Demands | a basic knowledge of dinosaurs; simple theme; experiences are very different from one's own |

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| Reader and Task Suggestions | FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT Based on assessment results, use the Reader and Task Suggestions in Access Main Selection to scaffold the selection or support independence for students as they read <i>The Dinosaurs of Waterhouse Hawkins</i> . | |
| | READER AND TASK SUGGESTIONS | |
| | Preparing to Read the Text | Leveled Tasks |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the strategies for using context clues to find the meanings of homonyms. Refer to p. 392e. Explain how events in a biography are typically related in chronological order. Remind students that this selection is nonfiction. They may need to read more slowly to check their comprehension of some dates and facts. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Language Conventinality and Clarity If students will have difficulty with unfamiliar words, have them look for roots or base words that can provide clues to the meanings of unknown words. Theme and Knowledge Demands Students may already have sufficient knowledge of dinosaurs. As they read, have students ask themselves why they think Hawkins wanted to create life-sized models of dinosaurs. |

Recommended Placement A couple of the quantitative measures place this selection slightly below the Grade 4–5 text complexity band. The unfamiliar time period, location, and the scientific nature of the topic increase the level of complexity for readers. The combination of factors makes this text is appropriately placed at this level.