



This document includes information about the familiar texts used in single-Essential Element testlets in grade 8 Dynamic Learning Maps® (DLM®) alternate assessments. In the Dynamic Learning Maps assessment, students with the most significant cognitive disabilities are given the opportunity to become familiar with the books they will encounter in the assessment. These familiar texts are used in all Initial Precursor level testlets and in some other linkage levels for some Essential Elements. Unfamiliar texts are used in some linkage levels for some Essential Elements where access to the text prior to administration is not necessary for the student to demonstrate their understanding. Descriptions of the familiar texts and their features are provided for each Essential Element and linkage level. Example Familiar Text Lessons are linked in the list below to assist educators in using the Familiar Texts during instruction with students working at the initial precursor linkage level. Educators are encouraged to use this information as a resource for planning instruction.

Familiar text information is grouped by Essential Element. Essential Elements for Reading Literature (RL) use stories. Essential Elements for Reading Informational Text (RI) use informational texts. Essential Elements for Language (L) use both stories and informational texts. Texts with an asterisk (*) contain material that some students may find sensitive. Links to each familiar text are included in this document.

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ELA.EE.RL.8.1

Cite text to support inferences from stories and poems.

Initial Precursor | Can identify objects associated with familiar routines

General Text Description

Texts include plots in mostly familiar settings such as home, school, or neighborhood. Objects are associated with familiar routines that are performed in mostly familiar settings. Home includes family members and home-based routines, like getting ready in the morning or helping with dinner. School includes teachers, friends, and school-based routines, like packing a bag. The neighborhood includes friends, neighbors, and play routines, like taking a walk or going to the park.

DLM-Specific Text Descriptions

Collection Source Books	Corresponding DLM Book Title	DLM Book Summary
<i>Touching Spirit Bear</i>	<u>Return to the Island</u>	Cole was a teenage boy who lived on an island by himself. After spending some time away from the island, Cole returns and learns to live by himself again. Example DLM Familiar Text Lesson: <u>Return to the Island</u>
<i>Touching Spirit Bear</i>	<u>Finding Peace</u>	Cole was a teenage boy who lived on an island by himself. Cole was learning how to be a better person, and Edwin taught Cole how to find peace through daily routines.
<i>Hoot</i>	<u>Roy and the Running Boy</u>	Roy was a young boy. In the morning before school, Roy saw a boy running past the bus. Roy decided to find out more about the running boy when he got to school.

ELA.EE.RL.8.2

Cite text to support inferences from stories and poems.

Initial Precursor | Can identify a forward sequence from a familiar routine

General Text Description

Texts include plots in mostly familiar settings such as home, school, or neighborhood. People and objects are associated with familiar routines that are performed in mostly familiar settings. The routines are performed in a linear sequence, with one step occurring after the previous is finished. Texts describe the steps taken to complete the routine.

DLM-Specific Text Descriptions

Collection Source Books	Corresponding DLM Book Title	DLM Book Summary
<i>Hoot</i>	<u>Roy's New School</u>	Roy was a young boy who recently moved to Florida. Roy went to his first day at the new school and learned his way around. Example DLM Familiar Text Lessons: <u>Roy's New School</u>
<i>Hoot</i>	<u>Roy and the Running Boy</u>	Roy was a young boy. In the morning before school, Roy saw a boy running past the bus. Roy decided to find out more about the running boy when he got to school.

ELA.EE.RL.8.3

Identify which incidents in a story or drama lead to subsequent action.

Initial Precursor | Understands that objects have a function

General Text Description

Texts include plots with familiar settings and routines. Objects associated with those settings and routines are explicitly named and described in the texts.

DLM-Specific Text Descriptions

Collection Source Books	Corresponding DLM Book Title	DLM Book Summary
<i>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</i>	<u>Tom Goes Camping</u>	Tom was a young, adventurous boy. Tom decided to go camping in the woods. Example DLM Familiar Text Lessons: <u>Tom Goes Camping</u>
<i>Touching Spirit Bear</i>	<u>Return to the Island</u>	Cole was a teenage boy who lived on an island by himself. After spending some time away from the island, Cole returns and learns to live by himself again.

ELA.EE.RL.8.5

Compare and contrast the structure of two or more texts.

Initial Precursor | Can identify a forward sequence from a familiar routine

General Text Description

Texts include plots in mostly familiar settings such as home, school, or neighborhood. People and objects are associated with familiar routines that are performed in mostly familiar settings. The routines are performed in a linear sequence, with one step occurring after the previous is finished. Texts describe the steps taken to complete the routine.

DLM-Specific Text Descriptions

Collection Source Books	Corresponding DLM Book Title	DLM Book Summary
<i>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</i>	<u>Tom Goes to School</u>	Tom was a young boy. One day, Tom woke up and got ready for school. Then, he went to school and learned from his teacher. Example DLM Familiar Text Lesson: <u>Tom Goes to School</u>

Distal Precursor | Identify the beginning, middle, and end of a familiar, linear story

General Text Description

Texts assigned to this node have a linear structure: the plot consists of a clear beginning, middle, and end. Texts assigned to this node do not include flashbacks, differing points of view, or any other non-linear component. Texts include events that can be directly associated with the beginning, middle, and end of the plot.

DLM-Specific Text Descriptions

Collection Source Books	Corresponding DLM Book Title	Corresponding DLM Book Title
<i>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</i>	<u>Tom Goes to School</u>	Tom was a young boy. One day, Tom woke up and got ready for school. Then, he went to school and learned from his teacher.

ELA.EE.RI.8.1

Cite text to support inferences from informational text.

Initial Precursor | Can identify objects associated with familiar routines

General Text Description

Texts include mostly familiar contexts such as home, school, or neighborhood. Objects are associated with familiar routines that are performed in familiar contexts. Home includes family members and home-based routines like getting ready in the morning or helping with dinner. School includes teachers, friends, and school-based routines like packing a bag. The neighborhood includes friends, neighbors, and play routines like taking a walk or going to the park.

DLM-Specific Text Descriptions

Collection Source Books	Corresponding DLM Book Title	DLM Book Summary
<i>Hoot</i>	<u>Service Dogs</u>	Some dogs have jobs helping people. This text describes service dogs and how they help people.
<i>Hoot</i>	<u>Animal Biologists</u>	Animal biologists study everything about animals. This text describes an animal biologist's job. Example DLM Familiar Text Lessons: <u>Animal Biologists</u>

Distal Precursor | Can identify concrete details in familiar informational texts

General Text Description

Texts include information about familiar contexts and routines. People, objects, and events are associated with these contexts and routines. Texts include concrete details, which are pieces of specific information such as facts, data, or listed options. These concrete details help to explain or justify a claim.

DLM-Specific Text Descriptions

Collection Source Books	Corresponding DLM Book Title	DLM Book Summary
<i>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</i>	<u>Treasure and Pirates</u>	Pirates want treasure because it is valuable. This text describes different types of treasure and how to keep treasure safe from pirates.
<i>Touching Spirit Bear</i>	<u>Animals in Alaska</u>	Alaska is a large, interesting state filled with wildlife. This text describes animal life in Alaska.

ELA.EE.RI.8.2

Provide a summary of a familiar informational text.

Initial Precursor | Can inhibit irrelevant information

General Text Description

Texts include both relevant and irrelevant information about familiar contexts and routines. Objects and their uses are associated with these contexts and routines.

DLM-Specific Text Descriptions

Collection Source Books	Corresponding DLM Book Title	DLM Book Summary
<i>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</i>	Swimming	Swimming is fun to do at the pool or the beach. This text describes swimming, the supplies a person needs to swim, and the different places people can swim. Example DLM Familiar Text Lessons: Swimming
<i>Hoot</i>	Service Dogs	Some dogs have jobs helping people. This text describes service dogs and how they help people.

Target | Can create a summary for a familiar informative text

General Text Description

Texts include main ideas that are supported by main points and described with concrete details. Main points are clearly associated with one another and can be collected to provide a brief account of the main idea.

DLM-Specific Text Descriptions

Collection Source Books	Corresponding DLM Book Title	DLM Book Summary
<i>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</i>	<u>Treasure and Pirates</u>	Pirates want treasure because it is valuable. This text describes different types of treasure and how to keep treasure safe from pirates.
<i>Touching Spirit Bear</i>	<u>Animals in Alaska</u>	Alaska is a large, interesting state filled with wildlife. This text describes animal life in Alaska.

ELA.EE.RI.8.6

Determine an author's purpose or point of view and identify examples from text that describe or support it.

Initial Precursor | Can identify people associated with familiar routines

General Text Description

Texts include mostly familiar contexts such as home, school, or neighborhood. People, objects, events, and routines are associated with these contexts. Texts use descriptive words to associate people with familiar routines and contexts.

DLM-Specific Text Descriptions

Collection Source Books	Corresponding DLM Book Title	DLM Book Summary
<i>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</i>	People at School	Schools are full of people who want to help. This text gives examples of people who work in schools and how they help.
<i>Touching Spirit Bear</i>	School Community	A community is a group of people who live near each other. This text describes the people in a school community and what they do. Example DLM Familiar Text Lessons: School Community
<i>Touching Spirit Bear</i>	Nurses	Nurses are hard workers who help people stay healthy. This text describes the work of nurses at hospitals.
<i>Hoot</i>	Field Trips	Students go on field trips to learn. This text describes where some students go on field trips and what they learn there.

ELA.EE.RI.8.8

Determine the argument made by an author in an informational text.

Initial Precursor | Can demonstrate understanding of personal distinction in thought

General Text Description

Texts include mostly familiar contexts like home, school, or neighborhood. Texts describe topics by providing a range of options or preferences which serve as opportunities for readers to think about their own preferences.

DLM-Specific Text Descriptions

Collection Source Books	Corresponding DLM Book Title	DLM Book Summary
<i>Touching Spirit Bear</i>	Relaxing	People who work hard need to take breaks. This text describes different ways people can relax after working hard.
<i>Hoot</i>	Field Trips	Students go on field trips to learn. This text describes where some students go on field trips and what they learn there. Example DLM Familiar Text Lessons: Field Trips

ELA.EE.L.8.5.a

Demonstrate understanding of the use of multiple meaning words.

Initial Precursor | Can demonstrate understanding of property words

General Text Description

Texts include events, routines, contexts, and people described using property words. Property words include color, size, shape, or texture.

DLM-Specific Text Descriptions

Collection Source Books	Corresponding DLM Book Title	DLM Book Summary
<i>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</i>	<u>Swimming</u>	Swimming is fun to do at the pool or the beach. This text describes swimming, the supplies a person needs to swim, and the different places people can swim. Example DLM Familiar Text Lessons: <u>Swimming</u>
<i>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</i>	<u>Camping Supplies</u>	Camping is fun, but you must bring supplies. This text provides a list of objects to bring camping.