Exploration of Examples of Children’s Reading Development

**Suggested Time:** 20-30 minutes

**Goal:** The purpose of this activity is to enable teachers to use learning outcomes and progression continua to help identify the stage of development a child, or group of children, and to prioritise areas for development.

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### 1. Preparation

Organise teachers into groups of three. Each group will need a Primary Language Curriculum document in order to explore the reading outcomes (page 52) and the progression continua for reading (page 68). Each group will require some paper to make notes and a tablet or laptop to view the examples of children’s reading online. [www.curriculumonline.ie/primary](http://www.curriculumonline.ie/primary)

Alternatively, teachers may prefer to use voice or video evidence of a child/children from their own class reading or demonstrating emergent reading as the basis for this activity.

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### 2. Introduction

One way to identify a starting point for a child, a group of children or a class is by observing children while engaged in reading or pre-reading activities. During this activity teachers will explore some examples of children’s reading so that they can identify the outcome/s they would like to prioritise for this child or group of children. In this way, they are familiarising themselves with the outcomes and the progression continua for reading.

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### 3. Exploration of Reading Examples

Each group of three will watch an example of a child engaged in a reading task. They will then identify and discuss an outcome/s to prioritise and finally, use the progression continua to support them in identifying what this child is able to do in relation to the outcome/s chosen and what he/she is moving towards.

To access the videos go to [www.curriculumonline.ie/primary](http://www.curriculumonline.ie/primary). Scroll down and click on Language New – Infants to 2nd class. The following screen will appear.
Click on Examples of Children’s Language, Learning and Development. In the Filter menu on the left-hand side of the page click Reading and Apply Filter. The following are recommended videos for this exploration activity:

Reading_MilestoneA_Example3
Reading_MilestoneC_Example3
Reading_MilestoneD_Example3
Reading_MilestoneE_Example3
Reading_MilestoneE_Example4
Reading_MilestoneG_Example2
Reading_MilestoneH_Example1

If you are using examples generated in-school, allow the teachers to introduce the examples and discuss the context for the example e.g. ‘The pupil chose the book to read during silent reading time and was engaged and motivated to read.’

Allow 10mins for the teachers to view videos, identify an outcome/s and refer to the progression continua.

4. Learning Experiences

Once teachers have finished that part of the activity allow them time in their groups to identify approaches, methodologies and learning experiences they would use to progress this child’s/children’s learning in relation to the outcome/s they have prioritised.

5. Feedback

Finally, as a whole group identify the outcomes prioritised and discuss the suggested learning experiences. If there are challenges regarding identifying appropriate learning experiences these could be noted so that teachers can be advised to go to the PDST resources, the online curriculum support material and/or request school support from PDST in order to develop teacher confidence when engaging with the curriculum. www.pdst.ie/schoolsupport