

Trend Task:

Reading Record – Fiction

Approach: One to one

Year: 4 & 8

Focus: Accuracy of oral reading

Resources: Reading Band Indicator chart, instruction manual, pack of 12 texts arranged in six reading bands

Questions / instructions:

The procedures for administering this task have been described on pages 14–16.

Reading Band:

	% response	
	Year 4 2004 ('00) ['96]	Year 8 2004 ('00) ['96]
5	35 (25) [10]	66 (53) [51]
4	29 (27) [20]	23 (28) [29]
3	22 (24) [29]	7 (15) [11]
2	7 (12) [22]	3 (2) [7]
1	2 (7) [9]	0 (2) [1]
0	5 (5) [10]	1 (0) [1]

Commentary:

This task has been described as a trend task because comparable data are presented from 2000 (and 1996). However, for technical reasons associated with maintaining long-term trend data for oral reading, the texts used are not being revealed. In essence, this task is being used both to provide trend information and as a *link task* for the 2008 assessments.

After the substantial improvement for year 4 students between 1996 and 2000 that was reported four years ago, and paralleled then by increases on other oral reading and reading comprehension tasks, the results here show that the improvement four years ago, for year 4 students, has been maintained for that cohort of students in the year 8 results this time, with 13 percent more year 8 students scoring in the highest reading band in 2004 than in 2000.

For year 4 students, the 2004 results show further improvement, with 64 percent of the students scoring in the top two bands, compared to 52 percent in 2000 and 30 percent in 1996.

Trend Task:

Reading Record – Non-Fiction

Approach: One to one

Year: 4 & 8

Focus: Accuracy of oral reading

Resources: Reading Band Indicator chart, instruction manual, pack of 12 texts arranged in six reading bands

Questions / instructions:

The procedures for administering this task have been described on pages 14–16. Examples of the reading passages in each of the six bands are shown on pages 17–19.

Reading Band:

	% response	
	Year 4 2004 ('00) ['96]	Year 8 2004 ('00) ['96]
5	31 (24) [11]	66 (57) [55]
4	28 (23) [23]	20 (24) [26]
3	18 (24) [24]	8 (12) [11]
2	8 (13) [15]	3 (5) [5]
1	8 (9) [12]	2 (2) [2]
0	7 (7) [15]	1 (0) [1]

Commentary:

As reported for the previous task, there has been further improvement in performance for year 4 students on this task, between 2000 and 2004. In 2004, 59 percent of year 4 students scored in the top two bands, compared to 47 percent in 2000 and 34 percent in 1996. However, there has been little change over the last four years in the percentage of students scoring in the bottom two bands.

For year 8 students, the improved performance at year 4 level in 2000 has been reflected in improved performance at year 8 level in 2004, with 66 percent of year 8 students scoring in the highest reading band in 2004, compared to 57 percent in 2000 and 55 percent in 1996. The percentage in the bottom three reading bands has changed much less: from eight percent in 1996 to seven percent in 2000 and six percent in 2004.

BAND 0

My Guide Dog, by Jane Buxton, (ill.) Kelvin Hawley, Wendy Pye Publishing Ltd, NZ: 1999.

Introduction: This book is called **My Guide Dog**. It tells us about a blind girl whose guide dog sees everything for her.

Text:

