

What level do I purchase? What level is best for my students? Primary, intermediate, or secondary?

Common Language

As you select *Step Up* products, keep in mind that all three levels contain essentially the same information.

Students at all levels are introduced to the same popular and effective strategies for writing, reading, listening, and speaking. The difference at each level is the age, ability, and grade level activities or instructions. This includes the Tools, reproducible and computer friendly teaching materials.

For example, kindergarten and first grade students, using primary materials, learn to summarize with the same strategies that freshman use. When schools use *Step Up* strategies school and/or district wide, teachers and students share a common language for literacy instruction based on similar high standards.

Also, keep in mind that at all levels teachers will have numerous examples and age/ability level appropriate materials.

Third and Sixth Grade?

Step Up to Writing Third Edition comes in three levels: Primary K-3 (green), Intermediate 3-6 (red), and Secondary 6-12 (blue).

Most third grade teachers, especially teachers who are using and introducing *Step Up* for the first time, should start with the primary level. Students will learn the same strategies they would learn if intermediate materials were used. The activities and practice materials in the primary level are written with kindergarten, first, second, and third grade learners in mind.

If third grade students in a school or district have been using and demonstrate mastery of *Step Up* strategies for several years, teachers might want to consider the intermediate level.

Sixth grade, and other middle level teachers, who will be working with students who have mastered *Step Up* strategies may want to use the same secondary tools and activities students will use in seventh and eighth grades.

Most will want the intermediate level materials for their sixth grade students. These tools and examples work best for students who need to learn the strategies and for students who still need review and practice.

Special Education

Many special education departments purchase all three levels. This gives teachers access to a variety of materials to use with groups of students who have different ability levels.

English Language Learners

Activities and materials from all three levels have been used successfully with ELLs for many years. Upper level students almost always appreciate the examples that come from the primary and intermediate materials; they realize they are learning a new language. Often, looking at these examples helps as they tackle more age appropriate examples.

At Risk and/or Remedial Secondary Learners

Secondary students with limited skills benefit from Tools and examples in the Intermediate sets. The Tools CD can be purchased separately; consider adding the Intermediate CD when you purchase the Secondary materials.