Vocabulary and Stages of Reader Development

Early Reader	☐ Reads the meaning of simple words used to assign dialogue (e.g. dijo)
	☐ Asks and answers questions about unknown words in a text
Beginning	☐ Some words are may be unknown to children, but are related to more
Reading	familiar words (ejemplo: saber que el zapatero es la persona que vende o
	arregla zapatos).
	☐ Exposed to robust vocabulary, learning 2-3+ new words per day.
	☐ Distinguishes between general and specific language (e.g. flower vs.
	rose) in context.
	☐ Matches figurative language to illustrations
Developing	☐ Words and phrases in literary text include words that suggest feelings or
Reader	senses.
	☐ Reads texts with some content-specific words
	☐ Encounters more complex language and vocabulary
	☐ Provides a complete definition of a word or phrase, drawing heavily on
	the text and pictures
	☐ Uses print or digital resources to determine meaning and pronunciation
	of unknown words
	☐ Uses context within and beyond a sentence to determine the meaning of
	unfamiliar words
	☐ Uses a glossary to learn or check the meaning of words.
	☐ Uses context clues.

	☐ Uses scene-level context to explain the meaning of a word or phrase
	☐ Uses affixes, including re-, pre-, -ción, and ísimo/ísima, to determine the
	meaning of words and subsequently use the newly acquired words
	☐ Identifies, uses, and explains the meaning of antonyms, synonyms,
	idioms, and homographs in context
	☐ Differentiates between and use homographs, homophones, and
	commonly confused terms such as porque/porqué/por qué/por que,
	sino/si no, and también/tan bien.
Transitioning	☐ Understands words and phrases with literal and nonliteral meanings
Reader	(ejemplo: Tomar medidas. Está lloviendo a cántaros).
Reader	☐ Understands words that have shades of meaning that describe states of
	mind or degrees of certainty and the use of the subjunctive mode to
	express doubt
	☐ Uses context clues and illustrations to determine meaning of
	words/phrases
	☐ Can read and understand descriptive words, some complex
	content-specific words, and some technical words
	☐ Explains or describes the meaning of a word or phrase using larger
	context, including text features.
Developing	□ Solves new vocabulary words, some defined in the text and some
Independence	unexplained
Reader	☐ Can read and understand descriptive words, some complex

	content-specific words, and some technical words
	☐ Identifies, explains, and gives examples of figures of speech.
	☐ Uses print or digital resources to determine meaning, syllabication, and
	pronunciation
	☐ Uses context within and beyond a sentence to determine the relevant
	meaning of unfamiliar words or multiple-meaning words
	☐ Identifies the meaning of and use words with affixes such as mono-,
	sobre-, sub-, inter-, poli-, -able, -ante, -eza, -ancia, and -ura, and roots,
	including auto, bio, grafía, metro, fono, and tele
	☐ Identifies, use, and explain the meaning of idioms, homographs, and
	homophones such as abrasar/abrazar
	☐ Differentiates between and use homographs, homophones, and commonly
	confused terms such as porque/porqué/por qué/por que, sino/si no, and
	también/tan bien
Independent	☐ Uses knowledge of the story to explain the meaning of a word or phrase
Reader	☐ Able to determine the figurative meaning of words and phrases such as
	metaphors and similes determines the meaning of academic and
	domain-specific words and phrases
	☐ Understands words that are used to indicate perspective or point of view.
	☐ Uses print or digital resources to determine meaning, syllabication,
	pronunciation, and word origin
	☐ Uses context within and beyond a sentence to determine the relevant
	meaning of unfamiliar words or multiple-meaning words

☐ Identifies the meaning of and use words with affixes such as trans-,
super-, anti-, semi-, -logía, -ificar, -ismo, and -ista and roots, including
audi, crono, foto, geo, and terr
☐ Identifies, uses, and explains the meaning of idioms, adages, and puns
☐ Differentiates between and use homographs, homophones, and commonly
confused terms such as porque/porqué/por qué/por que, sino/si no, and
también/tan bien.
☐ Uses print or digital resources to determine the meaning, syllabication,
pronunciation, word origin, and part of speech
☐ Uses context such as definition, analogy, and examples to clarify the
meaning of words
☐ Determines the meaning and usage of grade-level academic Spanish
words derived from Greek and Latin roots, including metro-, grafo-,
scrib-, and port-
☐ Differentiate between and use homographs, homophones, and commonly
confused terms such as porque/porqué/por qué/por que, sino/si no, and
también/tan bien.
☐ Uses context such as contrast or cause and effect to clarify the meaning of
words
☐ Identifies and use words that name actions, directions, positions,
sequences, and locations
☐ Uses multiple-meaning words, homographs, homophones, and commonly
confused terms correctly

