

STUDENT-SPEAK PROGRESSIONS



for reading, writing and maths

Please read this first!

The following 'I can' statements are student-friendly statements relating directly to the [progress markers](#) for the refreshed NZC. They do not provide coverage of the whole curriculum.

The aim is for ākonga to increase student agency and motivation by knowing what they are working towards.

The aim for kaiako is to support our understanding of measuring progress against the [progress descriptors](#), required for reporting to parents.

Notes:

- reading levels for Phase 1 can be found in the first section of the English curriculum, before you get to the teaching statements (scroll down [this page](#)).
- the Year 9-10 statements are a greatly simplified compared to the progress descriptors. You may want to adjust this, depending on your class.

It may not be helpful for ākonga to see the year level that their 'I can' statements relate to, so please think carefully about what will best increase student motivation before using the year level titles. The year levels can be left on or removed, depending on what is best for your cohort of students.

Feel free to use, adapt, or edit to suit your context.

If you have suggestions for improvements, please email:

curriculumdesignnz@gmail.com

Ngā mihi,

Janine

www.curriculumdesign.nz

READING



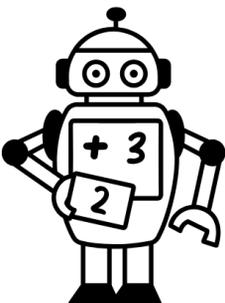
- I can say the name of every letter in the alphabet.
- I can make the short sound for every letter.
- I can read short words like 'cat', 'pen', and 'dog'.
- I can tell you what happened in a story that was read to me.

WRITING



- I can write most of my small letters clearly on the line.
- I can hear the sounds in words and write them down in the right order.
- I can spell at least five words, including my own name.
- I can say a sentence, write it down, and put a full stop at the end.

MATHS



- I can show how I am learning about numbers and space.
- I can see how many things are in a small group without counting them.
- I can use blocks or toys to show adding and taking away.
- I can copy a pattern and keep it going.
- I can explain how I think about number patterns.
- I can match shapes even if they are different sizes or colours.
- I can explain why I put things into different groups.

AFTER 1 YEAR AT SCHOOL

READING



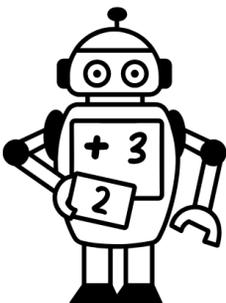
- I can make the sounds for letter groups (like 'sh') and some long vowel sounds.
- I can read words with tricky letter blends.
- I can read Year 1 books (e.g. Tupu or Māhuri from Phonics Plus) and understand what they say.
- I can talk about what I think or know about a story I have heard.

WRITING



- I can write my letters the right way and size, with spaces between my words.
- I can break words into sounds to help me spell them.
- I can write whole sentences with capital letters and full stops.

MATHS



- I can show what I know about numbers and space.
- I can show numbers up to 20 in different ways.
- I can use things to solve adding and taking away problems.
- I can count in 2s to 20 and 10s to 100.
- I can use groups and skip counting to start learning about times and sharing.
- I can find and keep patterns going and sort 2D shapes.
- I can use a picture graph and follow directions to move.

READING



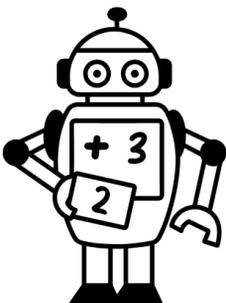
- I can read words with one or two parts that have long vowel sounds.
- I can read Year 2 books (e.g. Māhuri or Rākau from Phonics Plus) and understand the story and some hidden meanings.
- I can say what a book helped me understand.
- I can talk about how a story reminds me of other books I've read.

WRITING



- I can write all my letters clearly and neatly.
- I can spell words with letter blends and long vowel sounds.
- I can write a few sentences to tell a story or share my ideas.

MATHS



- I can use my math skills to solve different kinds of problems.
- I can read and write numbers up to 120.
- I can count in 2s, 5s, and 10s and solve problems up to 100.
- I can tell if a number is odd or even.
- I can find a half, a quarter, and a third.
- I can do times and sharing problems using groups and number lines.
- I can group shapes and change how they look.
- I can see patterns and guess what comes next.
- I can measure things like length, weight, time, and how much a container holds.
- I can sort information and talk about what it shows.

READING



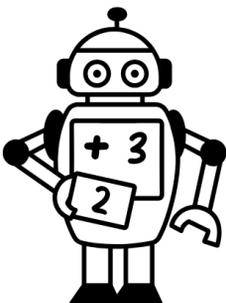
- I can read long words with many parts.
- I can read Year 3 books (e.g. Junior Journals, Purple or Gold levels) in paragraphs and understand the main message.
- I can use different parts of a book to explain what it is about.
- I can talk about how a story connects to the world.

WRITING



- I can write neatly and quickly without having to think too hard about it.
- I can spell most short words and some longer ones with endings.
- I can use different kinds of sentences to share my ideas.
- I can write stories about things that happened or things I imagine.
- I can write a paragraph to explain an idea.

MATHS



- I can use my math brain to solve many different tasks.
- I can use numbers up to 1,000 and understand place value.
- I can use what I know to make a good guess (estimate).
- I can quickly add and subtract up to 20 and use this for bigger numbers.
- I can explain how I solved a problem in my head or on paper.
- I can remember my 2, 3, 5, and 10 times tables.
- I can compare fractions using shapes and number lines.
- I can see how shapes and measurements fit together.
- I can find symmetry in patterns and things around me.
- I can collect information and show it on a graph.

READING



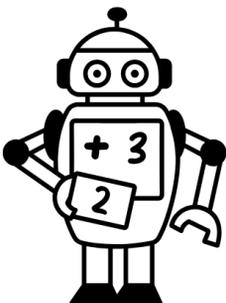
- I can read Year 4 books (e.g. Part 2 journals) with expression and understand the tricky parts.
- I can find clues in a book to help me understand it.
- I can tell how poems, stories, and information books are different.
- I can see how a writer makes me feel about a person or place.

WRITING



- I can spell long words with different endings.
- I can write for a specific person, using the right words and style.
- I can write a good information paragraph with a topic sentence.
- I can write a story with characters, a setting, and a clear order of events.

MATHS



- I can link different math ideas together to solve problems.
- I can use numbers up to 10,000 and understand tenths.
- I can remember all my times tables up to 10×10 .
- I can use my math facts to add, subtract, multiply, and divide.
- I can explain how I use fractions and decimals.
- I can measure things correctly and describe shapes.
- I can collect and understand data that is important to me.
- I can explain my math thinking clearly.

READING



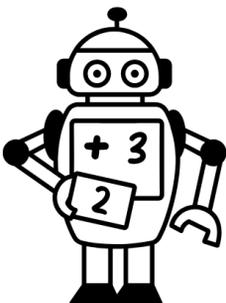
- I can read Year 5 books (e.g. Part 3 journals) well and show I understand the ideas.
- I can use clues to understand what an author is really saying.
- I can sum up a book and explain what I think about it.
- I can see how different books talk about the same ideas.

WRITING



- I can spell most words correctly, even tricky ones that sound the same.
- I can use rules to add endings to my words.
- I can plan my writing for a specific reason and person.
- I can write long pieces with many paragraphs.
- I can write information with a beginning, middle, and end.
- I can write a story that builds up and then solves a problem.

MATHS



- I can connect different math ideas to solve problems.
- I can use numbers up to 1,000,000 and two decimal places.
- I can add and subtract big numbers, decimals, and fractions.
- I can find a fraction of a group or shape.
- I can quickly remember multiplication and division facts.
- I can solve big multiplication and division problems.
- I can explain how a pattern grows.
- I can describe shapes and find their size.
- I can collect data and use it to find answers.
- I can do experiments to see how likely something is to happen.

READING



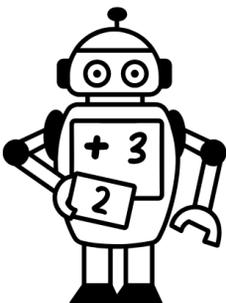
- I can read Year 6 books (e.g. Part 3 journals) fluently and understand the deep meanings.
- I can prove my ideas using evidence from the book.
- I can talk about how a writer uses words and pictures to reach people.
- I can summarise a whole book and connect it to big ideas.
- I can tell if a writer is only showing one side of a story.

WRITING



- I can spell tricky words and use apostrophes correctly.
- I can plan my writing to make it interesting for the person reading it.
- I can write many paragraphs for different reasons.
- I can use headings to help organize my information writing.
- I can write a story that builds tension and has a clear ending.

MATHS



- I can solve problems using percentages, decimals, and minus numbers.
- I can use decimals that go to three places.
- I can use tools and my number skills to solve big math problems.
- I can find the whole amount if I only have a fraction.
- I can see how fractions, decimals, and percentages are related.
- I can find the rule for a pattern and guess what comes next.
- I can find the volume, area, and perimeter of things.
- I can use math to explain angles, lines, and time.
- I can use graphs to show information and explain what it means.

READING



- I can read Year 7 and 8 books (e.g. Part 4 journals) easily.
- I can change my voice to match what I am reading.
- I can use evidence to explain what I think the book means.
- I can summarise a book and explain the author's message.
- I can see how the time and place a book was written changed it.

WRITING



- I can type quickly and correctly.
- I can spell most words right and use punctuation to make my sentences better.
- I can write long pieces and choose the best way to organise them.
- I can write a story that follows a logical order and has a clear ending.
- I can write information with a clear start, middle, and pictures or charts.
- I can write to persuade someone by using facts and reasons.

MATHS



- I can use everything I know about math to solve complex problems.
- I can work with very big numbers and use the right order of operations.
- I can see how multiplying whole numbers and decimals are linked.
- I can use fractions, decimals, and percentages in real life.
- I can add and subtract negative numbers.
- I can tell the difference between decimals and negative numbers.
- I can use math rules (formulas) to find the size of shapes.
- I can collect and show data, find the average, and talk about chance.

READING



- I can read Year 7 and 8 books (e.g. Part 4 journals) well.
- I can change how I read to fit the text.
- I can find clues in a book, even when they are hidden.
- I can put different parts of a book together to understand the message.
- I can compare how different books talk about the same thing.

WRITING



- I can write or type my ideas clearly with good spelling and punctuation.
- I can write long pieces that use different styles to get my message across.
- I can write a story that moves smoothly between different times and places.
- I can write information with a good introduction and clear paragraphs.
- I can write a strong ending that sums up my main points.
- I can write a persuasive piece that looks at both sides of an idea.

MATHS



- I can solve problems by connecting all my math knowledge.
- I can work with factors, multiples, prime numbers, and roots.
- I can show how I use fractions and decimals to solve problems.
- I can explain how percentages and ratios work.
- I can use negative numbers and change measurements.
- I can use and graph algebra equations.
- I can use math rules to solve problems about time, angles, and shapes.
- I can use data and chance to make decisions and explain them.

READING



- I can explain how authors use different styles to share their ideas.
- I can understand how a book's history or culture changes its meaning.
- I can see how a book connects to my own life and the world.

WRITING



- I can write for many different reasons using the right style and language.
- I can use perfect grammar and the right tone for my writing.
- I can plan and write a long piece that flows well from start to finish.
- I can write an essay with a main idea, good paragraphs, and evidence.

MATHS



- I can use math to solve problems in other subjects at school.
- I can work with big and small numbers using powers and roots.
- I can use ratios and percentages to solve real-world problems.
- I can use algebra to solve equations and draw graphs.
- I can use geometry and Pythagoras' theorem to solve shape problems.
- I can show data, look at probability, and find if something is biased.
- I can use math to justify my decisions.

READING



- I can reflect on how books challenge or support what people believe.
- I can understand Year 10 texts and explain why the author wrote them that way.
- I can judge if a website or digital story is true and discuss the impact of misinformation, disinformation or malinformation.

WRITING



- I can plan and write complex pieces that fit exactly what I need.
- I can write with my own voice and use words with precision.
- I can write a strong essay that builds an argument with evidence.
- I can write a conclusion that makes my main points even stronger.

MATHS



- I can use math to solve complex problems across different subjects.
- I can use any math operation with positive and negative numbers.
- I can use exponent rules and explain how I got my answer.
- I can use ratios and percentages to solve problems and explain my steps.
- I can use algebra to change and solve hard equations.
- I can draw and explain graphs for linear relationships.
- I can find missing lengths in triangles and work with similar shapes.
- I can find the surface area and area of circles in real-life tasks.
- I can understand data, probability, and find bias to make good choices.