

Look on the book spine!



Books in the Ready Reader collection are written especially for Kindergartners through Second Graders who are learning to read independently. They span a wide range of reading abilities and the colored tape on a book's spine may be used as a guide in making your selection. The tape color does not indicate a grade level.

Five Finger Rule

We also recommend using the Five Finger Rule. It's your child's own personal book leveling system.

- Have your child read any text-filled page of a book.
- When your child comes across a word they do not know, have them hold up one finger.
- At the end of the page, if your child has five fingers up, then the book is too difficult.
- If your child has no fingers up, then the book is too easy.
- Two or three fingers up is just about right!



Address

7851 Timber Drive,
Tinley Park, IL 60477

Contact

708.532.0160
tplibrary@tplibrary.org

Website

tplibrary.org

Hours

Mon–Fri • 9 am–9 pm
Sat • 9 am–5 pm
Sun • 12–5 pm



Revised Jan 2024

Ready Readers

Children learning to read, start with books
from the Ready Reader collection.



Emergent

Getting Ready to Read

- These books are dedicated to learning letters, the sounds they make, and word recognition
- Simple, short stories
- Large print
- Repetitive, predictable, and/or rhyming text
- One or two lines of text on each page
- Uses decodable words and some sight words
- Basic punctuation
- Illustrations with white space filling in the rest
- Clear visuals that give clues about the words and story
- This level typically requires adult assistance

Early

Beginning to Read:

- Continued clear picture/word connection for reading support or confirmation
- Clear storyline
- More words on each page and frequently used words
- Continued use of repetition, rhyming, and predictable text
- Occasional unfamiliar words and longer sentences
- May be a range of font sizes
- Wider variety of punctuation

Transitional

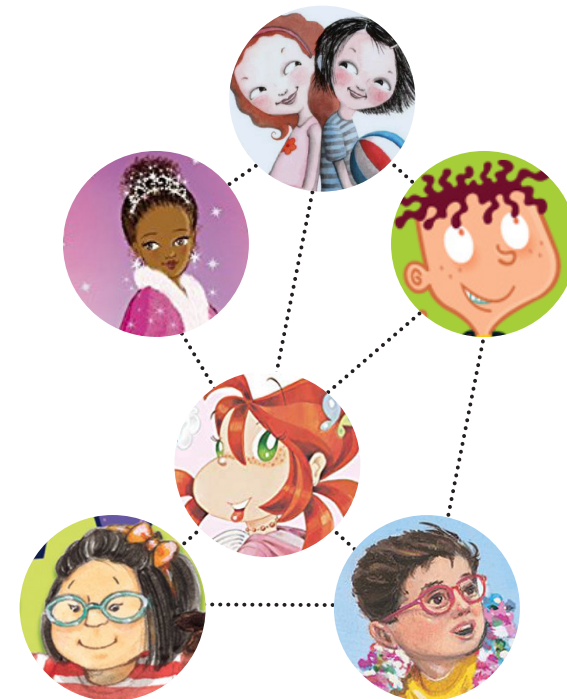
Beginning to Read Independently:

- Longer, more complex sentences and storylines; not as predictable
- Several lines of text per page
- 20 or more words per page
- Fewer repetitive patterns and rhymes
- Illustrations used for reading support and for story "atmosphere"

Fluent

Reading Independently:

- Longer sentences and more complex vocabulary
- More complicated plot
- Includes contractions and conversations in quotes
- Text supports natural breaks (ex. chapters)
- Illustrations used primarily for story "atmosphere"
- Little or no assistance required



For more challenging books, please look in the J Chapter Fiction collection for these popular series:

Ivy + Bean
by Annie Barrows

Heidi Heckelbeck
by Wanda Coven

The Tiara Club
by Vivian French

My Weird School
by Dan Gutman

Owl Diaries
by Rebecca Elliot

Ready Freddy
by Abby Klein

Horrible Harry
by Suzy Kline

Katie Kazoo
by Nancy Krulik

Katie Woo
by Fran Manushkin

Rainbow Magic
by Daisy Meadows

Magic Tree House
by Mary Pope Osborne

Junie B. Jones
by Barbara Park