



Reading Levels



Foundation readers and emergent readers

Level 1

- *Enjoys books.*
- *Reads the pictures – guessing words.*
- *Sometimes points along the lines of text from left to right while re-telling the story.*
- *Needs to point to words.*
- *Understands that text/print conveys meaning.*
- *Reading from memory.*
- *Recognises simple words.*
- *Recognises the same word in different places within the book.*
- *Uses initial letter sounds to give a clue to the words.*
- *Makes ‘meaningful guesses’ at unknown words.*
- *Needs to read on, leaving unknown words out and then guesses what it is after completing a sentence.*
- *Reading with meaning – guessing at a word.*
- *Takes a breath at the appropriate place.*
- *Shows an awareness of punctuation – breaths in the correct place.*
- *Beginning to realise that they need to stop and check when their reading has not clearly made sense.*

Apprentice readers

Level 2

- *Able to use phonic blends.*
- *Needs further work on ch blend.*
- *Needs to look at word endings.*
- *Beginning to look for smaller words within larger words.*
- *Beginning to use vowel sounds.*
- *Is able to look for clues in the text by looking at the context – looking backwards and forwards in the book.*
- *Predicts what may happen next.*
- *Is able to answer questions about what has just been read.*
- *Remembers the story read to parents.*
- *Knowledge of book structure in developing – e.g. chapter, heading/title, index, paragraph, etc.*
- *Is able to make good sense of the story but not reading the difficult vocabulary.*

Fluent readers

Level 3

- *Has the confidence and concentration to persevere with demanding texts.*
- *Reads with fluency.*
- *Can read aloud with appropriate expressive intonation.*
- *Has knowledge of more unusual/irregular phonic patterns.*
- *Is able to choose an appropriate book – based on ‘difficulty’ and maturity level.*
- *Is able to self correct.*
- *Is beginning to read reflectively and to perceive meanings beyond the obvious and literal.*
- *Is beginning to distinguish the main points from a passage.*

Experienced readers

Level 4

- *Reads aloud clearly, conveying meaning well by intonation.*
- *Is beginning to use deduction and inference to engage with more mature fiction and poetry.*
- *Is able to discuss the character and plot in greater depth.*

Established readers

Level 5

- *Can discuss the effects achieved by a poet’s choice of language imagery and structure.*
- *Can present a clearly reasoned response or evaluation about characters or themes, with evidence from the text.*
- *Is learning to evaluate critically the opinions and information offered in any kind of text.*