

## **Finding books for beginner and newly confident young readers**

Our guide to series for younger readers will help you find books at the right level for your child to read.

It will help you to:

- find suitable books for your child to read
- match books to your child's reading ability
- widen your child's choice of books
- find good books to share together
- encourage your child to enjoy reading
- build your child's confidence
- help to improve your child's reading skills

How does it work?

- Think about your child's level of reading. Reading together regularly at home will help you to decide. Most schools send home reading books to practise.
- Talk to your child's teacher about his progress
- Look at the sections in this guide and try to match up your child's reading skills
- Go to the library and look for the series suggested at the end of each section
- Books in the same series usually look similar. They may have the same coloured cover or a distinctive picture logo, making it easy to find others.
- Choose easier books at first to help build your child's confidence
- Only move onto another series once your child is ready
- Ask the library staff for help

### **Beginner readers**

These books have:

- short text matched up with bold illustration – colour or black and white
- large, clear print and well spaced text
- one or only a few words on each page



- repetitive vocabulary.
- text and illustrations in clearly defined areas of the page.
- helpful advice for parents and carers sometimes

Try these series:

- Leapfrog
- Reading corner grade 1
- Reading corner phonics grades 1 & 2
- Tadpoles
- Usborne first reading - levels 1 & 2

## Early readers

These books have:

- a little more text than beginner series offering short, snappy sentences.
- easy repetitive words
- large, clear, well spaced print with simple punctuation
- lively black and white or colour illustrations to encourage discussion.
- stories ideal for shared reading
- helpful advice for parents and carers sometimes

Try these series

- Learn with Dr Seuss
- Hopscotch: adventures; histories; twisty tales; fairy tales; stories of religion; myths
- Reading corner grades 2 & 3
- Ready steady read levels 1 to 4
- Usborne first reading levels 3 & 4
- Zig Zag

## Developing readers

These books have:

- stories featuring rhyme, rhythm and repetition
- clear easy-to-follow text including illustration on all or most pages
- more text with slightly longer sentences and full punctuation
- repetitive phrases to build children's confidence
- clear type with familiar words, as well as some more challenging ones
- short chapters

Try these series

- Animal crackers
- Corgi pups
- Orchard colour crunchies
- Orchard crunchies



- Green bananas
- Happy families
- I am reading
- Spirals
- Start reading bands 5 to 9
- Walker starters

## Confident Readers

These books have:

- stories designed to stretch fluent young readers
- a definite story line with beginning, middle and conclusion
- words that require close attention e.g. want/went/when or the/they/this
- a definite bias towards text with a few pictures interspersed
- longer chapters with harder sentences and more difficult vocabulary
- smaller print

Try these series

- Blue bananas
- Chameleons
- Colour young Puffin
- Comix
- Orchard super crunchies
- Seriously silly stories
- Sprinters
- Tremors
- Usborne young reading series 1,2
- Walker stories

## More challenging reads

These books have:

- longer, more developed stories to increase vocabulary and challenge understanding
- small print
- small spaces
- few or no pictures
- difficult/more complex vocabulary
- more complicated stories with harder concepts and more detail
- descriptive language

Try these series

- Little animal ark
- Red bananas
- Skylarks
- Usborne young reading series 3
- Young Puffin
- Race further with reading

