

Parent Tips For Reading at Home

<http://www.pbs.org/launchingreaders/parenttips.html>

□ **Different strokes for different folks** — Read different types of books to expose your child to different types of writing. Kids love a variety of fiction and non-fiction for-mats including plays, chapter books, series books, books with sequels, short stories, diaries and logs, and graphic texts.

□ **Talk about what you see and do** — Talking about everyday activities helps your child's background knowledge, which is crucial to listening and reading comprehension. Keep up a running patter, for example, while cooking together; take your child someplace new and talk about what you see; or discuss the movie or television show you've just watched together.

□ **Teach your child some mind tricks**— You can give your child tips for figuring out the meaning of what he or she reads. Show your child how to summarize a story in a few sentences, for example, or how to make predictions about what might happen next. Both strategies help a child comprehend and remember. After reading a story together, think out loud so your child can see how you summarize and predict.



"A book is the most effective weapon against intolerance and ignorance."

~Lyndon Baines Johnson(President)

"A capacity and taste for reading gives access to whatever has already been discovered by others."

~Abraham Lincoln (President)

"The man who does not read good books has no advantage over the man who can't read."

~**Mark Twain**

"Every child should be inspired to dream and given the tools to make those dreams a reality."

~**Dr. Lillian Lowery**
MD. State Superintendent of Schools

"Today a reader, tomorrow a leader."
~ Margaret Fuller

A Parents' Guide to Guided Reading Levels W,X,Y,Z

"Parents are a child's first and most important teacher."
~Ran and Ramey



www.aacps.org

* Adapted from the Martin County School District

Parents' Guide to Guided Reading Levels W,X,Y,Z

What are Guided Reading Levels?

Guided Reading is a highly effective form of small-group instruction. Based on assessment, the teacher brings together a group of readers who are similar in their reading development. The teacher supports the reading in a way that enables students to read a more challenging text with effective processing. Guided Reading Levels reflect a continuum of levels from A-Z (grades K-8). Teachers continuously progress monitor students to see how they're moving along the reading continuum.



Young readers must spend time interacting with texts that are "Just Right" for them.

What are characteristics of Level W,X,Y,Z Readers?

At levels W,X,Y,Z readers have developed knowledge of content, including scientific information and historical events and apply prior understandings in a critical way when reading fiction and nonfiction texts.

What are characteristics of W,X,Y,Z texts?

Although many texts are long and have complex sentences, they vary greatly because readers are expected to understand and respond to mature themes such as sexuality, abuse, poverty, and war. Complex fantasy, myths, and legends offer added challenge and require readers to identify classical motifs such as "the quest" and to identify moral issues. Biographies offer a range of individuals who may not be previously known to readers and may not be admirable, requiring critical thinking on the part of readers. In addition, readers will encounter abstract special forms of literature, such as satire and irony. Additional challenges may include parody, allegory, or monologue. Themes and characters are multi-dimensional, may be understood on many levels, and are developed in complex ways.

Books Kids Love

Level W

Eleanor Roosevelt: A Life of Discovery by Russell Freedman

Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire by J. K. Rowling

Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince by J. K. Rowling

Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix by J. K. Rowling

Hoot by Carl Hiaasen

The Lost Colony of Roanoke by Jean Fritz

Missing May by Cynthia Rylant

Mister Monday by Garth Nix

Nightjohn by Gary Paulsen

7 Professors of Far North by John Fardell

Level X

Golden Compass by Phillip Pullman

Matilda Bone by Karen Cushman

The Midwife's Apprentice by Karen Cushman

Dolphin Song by Lauren St. John

Over Sea, under Stone by Susan Cooper

The Matchless Six by Ron Hutchkiss

Oceans by Johnna Rizzo

How to Train Your Dragon series by Cressida Cowell

Cool Stuff 2.0 and how it works by Chris Woodford

Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls

J.K. Rowling-Extraordinary Author by Victoria Peterson-Hilleque



Books Kids Love

Levels Y and Z

Escape: Story of Great Houdini by Sid Fleischman

Dinotopia by Jane Gurney

The Call of the Wild by Jack London

The Giver by Lois Lowry

Series of Unfortunate Events by Lemony Snicket

Tracking Tyrannosaurs by Christopher Sloan

The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton

Ultimate Guide to Baseball by James Buckley

To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee

Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck

The Hobbit by J.R. Tolkien

Parental Caution!

Books at the upper guided reading levels address sophisticated and often mature themes. Even though some accelerated readers are able to read these levels in the early grades, the content of these books may not be appropriate for very young children. Always preview the books your child is reading and monitor the storyline. Our goal is not to race readers through the levels, but rather to allow advanced readers to dig more deeply into each level along the way so the books they are reading parallel their social-emotional development.

