

For Kindergarten students, it is important that good reading behaviors develop. By the end of the school year, it is hoped that students would demonstrate the following knowledge about a book:

How to hold a book

Identify what an author and illustrator each do

Point to the front cover and back cover

Identify what a title is

Point to the title page

Point to ending punctuation marks (period, exclamation point, question mark)

Point to a letter

Point to a word

Show that you read left to right

Show that when you read to the end of a page you return sweep to the next line

Use pictures for clues for what a story is about

Look for words that they know (kindergarten sight words, color words, for example)

Recognize letters and letter sounds

Some kindergarten students begin reading books during the school year. Some suggested beginning books for levels A – D include:

Level A

The Wright Group publishing company has developed many books written at this level.

Rigby has published a series called Literacy 2000 with many books at this level as well.

My Class – J. Stewart

At the Zoo – Carol Kloes

Dig, Dig – Leslie Wood

Books at Level A focus on a single idea or topic. All of the writing is supported by the pictures included. There are 1-4 words per page. The writing consists of easy, one syllable words.

Level B

The Wright Group and Rigby Publishers are good resources for books written at this level.

Here's Skipper – L. Salem

Honk! - Sue Smith

Colors in the City – K. Urmston

Hats Around the World – Liza, Charlesworth

Books at Level B are very similar to Level A books. There may be a slight increase in the number of words on each page. Some repetition may be seen (for example, each page starts with the same phrase).

Level C

When I Grow Up – Jo S. Kittinger

Shadows – Deanna Calvert

All Fall Down – Brian Wildsmith

Cool Off – Nellie Diaz

In the City – Susana Pasternac

It's Football Time – Diana Geddes

Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What do you See? - Eric Carle

Books at Level C are realistic fiction or simple factual texts. There are some simple animal fantasy stories written at this level. Authors use simple narratives with several episodes, so a pattern is seen in the writing from page to page. Simple plurals and contractions may also be used.

Level D

The Chick and the Duckling – Mirra Ginsburg

Dirty Harry – Rookie Readers

Fast Draw Freddie – Rookie Readers

Footprints in the Snow – Cynthia Benjamin

Bears in the Night – Stan and Jan Berenstain

A website with additional books listed which might be helpful to parents is:

<http://home.comcast.net/~ngiansante/index.html>