

Your child reads independently, or on his/her own, at a **level L**. Readers at a **level L** are able to read chapter books with more difficult plots (events in the story) and fewer illustrations. Readers at this level are able to adjust their reading to understand a range of texts such as fantasy, realistic fiction, biographies, and short mysteries. Level L readers understand that chapters of books have multiple things happening related to a single plot. Readers are able to recognize the theme of the book they are reading (for example, friendship, courage, families, etc.) and are able to see more than one point of view in the story. Readers at level L can also describe what a character does, thinks, or feels. A reader at level L can read smoothly and fluently (as if they were talking) silently or while reading aloud.

Your child continues to recognize a large number of sight words. You can find more sight words by clicking on this link and referring to the third hundred word list:

<http://www.spelling-words-well.com/sight-word-list.html>

The following table shows the expected ranges of levels at specific grade levels. Make note of where your child should be by the end of the school year:

Kindergarten	1st Grade	2nd Grade	3rd Grade	4th Grade	5th Grade
RB, A, B, C, D	D, E, F, G, H, I, J	J, K, L, M	M, N, O, P	P, Q, R, S	S, T, U

You can help your child reach the end of year goal by following the ABC's of active reading. Your child can answer the following questions to you aloud or, preferably, in writing.

#### Ask questions

- Explain how (name of character) feels at the end of the story. Use 2-3 details from the story to support your answer.
- If you could rewrite the ending, how would you change it? Why?
- Write about the new facts you learned about the topic of your informational (nonfiction) book and how they changed what you already knew?

#### Build vocabulary

- Ask your child to point out compound words in their books and explain the meanings (for example, football, bedtime, cookbook, etc.).
- Ask your child to identify any words of which he or she did not know the meaning. Have your child write the word and reread the sentences in the text with the words in them. After discussing what the sentences are saying and using any illustrations, ask your child how he/she can determine the meaning of an unknown word next time.

#### Connect with the world

- Have your child identify any text features (such as maps, tables, charts, captions, photos, etc.) that helped him or her to make meaning of the book.
- Ask your child: What features helped you to understand the topic the most? Why? Have your child look for features like these in other books.
- What big problem did your character have to solve? How is that like a problem have you had to solve?

Keep reading every night! Remember your child can read level L books by him/herself and can read level M books with your help. The lists below are additional level L and M books:

<b>Sample Level L Books</b>		
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>AUTHOR</b>	<b>FICTION / NONFICTION</b>
Animal Tracks	Dorros, Arthur	Nonfiction
Antarctica	Fowler, Allan	Nonfiction
Chomp	Berger, Melvin	Nonfiction
Firefighters	Mitten, Christopher	Nonfiction
Great Ghosts	Cohen, Daniel	Fiction
How Kittens Grow	Selsam, Millicent E.	Nonfiction
Amazing Grace	Hoffman, Mary	Fiction
The Biggest Pumpkin Ever	Kroll, Steven	Fiction
A Book of Letters	Wilson-Max, Ken	Fiction
Ella the Rose Fairy: Rainbow Magic	Meadows, Daisy	Fiction

<b>Sample Level M Books</b>		
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>AUTHOR</b>	<b>FICTION / NONFICTION</b>
Kids in Ms. Colman's Class: Author Day	Martin, Ann M.	Nonfiction
Knights Don't Teach Piano	Dadey, Debbie; Jones, Marcia Thornton	Fiction
The Littles and the Terrible Tiny Kid	Peterson, John	Fiction
Pirates Past Noon	Osborne, Mary Pope	Fiction
Katie Kazoo Switcheroo: No Messin' with My Lesson	Krulik, Nancy	Fiction
Our Earth	Rockwell, Anne	Nonfiction
Meet the Monkeys and the Apes	Libby Bereton	Nonfiction

To access online resources, such as Kids A-Z to read leveled books on the iPad, computer, or smartphone, go to <http://bit.ly/CMSfamiliesread>.

You can also refer to your child's mCLASS Literacy Performance Report for more information.