

Your child reads independently, or on his/her own, at a **level O**. Readers at a **level O** can read both chapter books and shorter fiction and informational (nonfiction) texts. Also, they read special types of text such as mysteries, series books (books with the same characters such as Nate the Great and Babysitter’s Club), and short stories. Fiction stories have detailed plots and multiple characters who develop and change over time. Level O readers can solve new vocabulary words in their reading, which may be either defined in the text or unexplained. Word solving is smooth and reading is fluent both orally and silently.

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 why the _____ is important in the story. Use details from the story to support your answer.
- What do characters think about the events in the story? Use specific details from the story to explain your thinking.
- How do the text features in your nonfiction text help you to understand your new learning of the topic?

Build vocabulary

- Ask your child to point out places in the text where personification (giving human features to inanimate objects), hyperbole (an outrageous exaggeration to support a point), or symbolism (when a word is used to represent something entirely different) is used to enhance meaning of the text.
- What’s another word that would mean the same or almost the same as (word or phrase)? (Some examples: A student sees the word “outlandish” in their book - means about the same thing as “strange”. A student sees the phrase “raining cats and dogs” in their book - this phrase means “raining hard”.)
- Select a part of the text that was challenging to read. Ask: How did you make meaning from this part of your text? How did you read it to help it to make sense to you?

Connect with the world

- Have your child write about the importance of the problems the characters are dealing with in the story.
- Have your child write about how the character in the story has shown that he or she is not all good or all bad.
- Ask your child: How does what is happening in your life connect to what is happening in the story?

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

Sample Level O Books		
TITLE	AUTHOR	FICTION / NONFICTION
At 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue	Wirth, Crystal	Nonfiction
Body Battles	Gelman, Rita G.	Nonfiction
I Wonder Why Snakes Shed Their Skins and Other Questions About Reptiles	O'Neill, Amanda	Nonfiction
Let's Find Out about Money	Barabas, Kathy	Nonfiction
Weather	Fleisher, Julian	Nonfiction
Amber Brown Goes Fourth	Danziger, Paula	Fiction
Cat Crazy	Baglio, Ben M.	Fiction
Good Grief . . . Third Grade	McKenna, Colleen	Fiction
Just Plain Cat	Robinson, Nancy K.	Fiction
Rent a Third Grader	Hiller, B. B.	Fiction
Sample Level P Books		
TITLE	AUTHOR	FICTION / NONFICTION
Body Battles	Gelman, Rita G.	Nonfiction
Coral Reefs	Chin, Jason	Nonfiction
Amelia And Eleanor Go For A Ride	Ryan, Pam Muñoz	Nonfiction
Fly Guy Presents: Weather	Arnold, Tedd	Nonfiction
Encyclopedia Brown's Book of Strange But True Crimes	Sobol, Donald J.; Sobol, Rose	Fiction
The Secret Secret Passage	Parker, A. E.	Fiction
Sticks and Stones, Bobbie Bones	Roberts, Brenda C.	Fiction
Dogs Can Fly	Vanessa York	Fiction

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.