

Your child reads independently, or on his/her own, at a **level P**. Readers at a **level P** can read many different types of text including biographies, mysteries, series books, and short stories. They read both chapter books and shorter informational (nonfiction) texts. Fiction books are easy to understand but have detailed plots and multiple characters who develop and change over time. Readers are able to understand mature themes and issues related to race, language and culture and take on diverse perspectives (points of view). Some nonfiction texts provide information on topics beyond a reader's typical experience or knowledge. Level P readers can solve new vocabulary words some of which are defined in the text and some which are not unexplained.

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

- What important issues are the characters dealing with in this book? What makes these issues important in the world?
- What problem does the main character have in this story? How does the character solve the problem?
- Describe a/the/how _____. Use information in the book to support your answer. (some examples: Describe a beaver lodge. Describe the life cycle of a butterfly. Describe how the time period of the story affects the problems of the main character).
- What table or text feature helped you to understand the information in the book?

Build vocabulary

- Ask your child to act out a part of the story using sound, facial expressions, and physical movement to demonstrate what certain words mean.
- Ask your child the meaning of words from the pages and ask them to use the illustrations to help figure out what the words mean.
- Explain the meaning of the word _____ as used in this sentence. Tell what information from the book helped you know the meaning.

Connect with the world

- Have your child write about if he or she were the character in the book? How would he or she solve the problem in the story?
- Have your child write about the facts learned from the informational book and how these new facts might affect his or her life.
- What else would you include in this nonfiction text if you were the author?

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

Sample Level P Books		
TITLE	AUTHOR	FICTION / NONFICTION
Magic School Bus	Cole, Joanna; Degen, Bruce	Fiction
Pagemaster, The	Horowitz, Jordan	Fiction
97 Ways to Train a Dragon	McMullan, Kate	Fiction
Thea Stilton and the Mountain of Fire	Stilton, Geronimo	Fiction
Encyclopedia Brown: Case of the Sleeping Dog	Sobol, Donald J.	Fiction
The Journey of a Butterfly	Scrace, Carolyn	Nonfiction
Animals That Burrow	Woolley, M.; Pigdon, K.	Nonfiction
You Can't See Your Bones with Binoculars	Ziefert, Harriet	Nonfiction
Adventures of Riley: Dolphins in Danger	Lumry, Amanda & Hurwitz, Laura	Nonfiction
The Moon	Simon, Seymour	Nonfiction
Sample Level Q Books		
TITLE	AUTHOR	FICTION / NONFICTION
Help! I'm a Prisoner in the Library	Clifford, Eth	Fiction
Just Juice	Hesse, Karen	Fiction
Ponies at the Point	Baglio, Ben M.	Fiction
Golden Games	Zemanski, Stella	Nonfiction
If You Lived at the Time of Martin Luther King	Levine, Ellen	Nonfiction
Sharks	Arlon, Penelope	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.