

Your child reads independently, or on his/her own, at a **level Q**. Readers at a **level Q** can read many different types of text including biographies, mysteries, series books, books with sequels, 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 understand perspectives (points of view) different from their own as well as different settings and people who in a different time period. Level Q readers can solve new vocabulary words some of which are defined in the text and some which are left unexplained. Readers at this level are challenged by longer descriptive words. They consistently search for information in illustrations and come across increasingly difficult graphics in nonfiction books.

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?
- What are the different points of view of the characters in this book about the problems they are facing?
- Take a look at this graphic. Explain what it means in your own words.

#### 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 new facts he or she has learned from the informational book he or she has read.
- How do the different characters in this book have different points of view about the issues they are facing. Which character's viewpoint do you feel the most connected to and why?

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

<b>Sample Level Q Books</b>		
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>AUTHOR</b>	<b>FICTION / NONFICTION</b>
If You Traveled West in a Covered Wagon	Levine, Ellen	Nonfiction
A Sarah Morton's Day: Day in the Life of a Pilgrim Girl	Waters, Kate	Nonfiction
You Be The Jury	Miller, Marvin	Nonfiction
Wild Earth	Simon, Seymour	Nonfiction
Sharks	Arlon, Penelope	Nonfiction
Fox in the Frost	Baglio, Ben M.	Fiction
Oggie Cooder	Weeks, Sarah	Fiction
Help! I'm a Prisoner in the Library	Clifford, Eth	Fiction
Just Juice	Hesse, Karen	Fiction
<b>Sample Level R Books</b>		
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>AUTHOR</b>	<b>FICTION / NONFICTION</b>
Desert Giant: The World of the Saguaro Cactus	Bash, Barbara	Nonfiction
The Great Kapok Tree	Cherry, Lynne	Nonfiction
Where Have All the Pandas Gone?	Berger, Melvin & Gilda	Nonfiction
Snakes	Simon, Seymour	Nonfiction
America's Most Wanted Fifth-Graders	Lawrence, Jan; Raskin, Linda	Fiction
The Family Under the Bridge	Savage Carlson, Natalie	Fiction
The Library Card	Spinelli, Jerry	Fiction
There's a Tarantula in My Homework	Clymer, Susan	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.