

## Stages of Development

### Early Emergent Readers (Levels aa-C)

Aspiring readers are just beginning to grasp the basic concepts of book and print. They are acquiring a command of the alphabet with the ability to recognize and name upper- and lowercase letters. They are also developing many phonological awareness skills, such as recognizing phonemes, syllables, and rhyme.

Early Emergent readers are beginning to learn sound/symbol relationships--starting with consonants and short vowels--and are able to read CVC (consonant-vowel-consonant) words, as well as a number of high-frequency words.

Books at this level have:

- Strong picture support
- Carefully controlled text
- Repetitive patterns
- Controlled, repeated vocabulary
- Natural language
- Large print
- Wide letter spacing
- Familiar concepts
- Limited text on a page