

Finding Right Fit Books

A "right fit" book is a book that your child can enjoy reading on their own. Reading just right books helps your child develop as a reader. To find a book that is just the right fit for your child, try using the five finger test.

Here's how it works: Turn to a page in the middle of the book. As your child reads, hold up a finger for every word he/she doesn't know. Use the following guidelines:

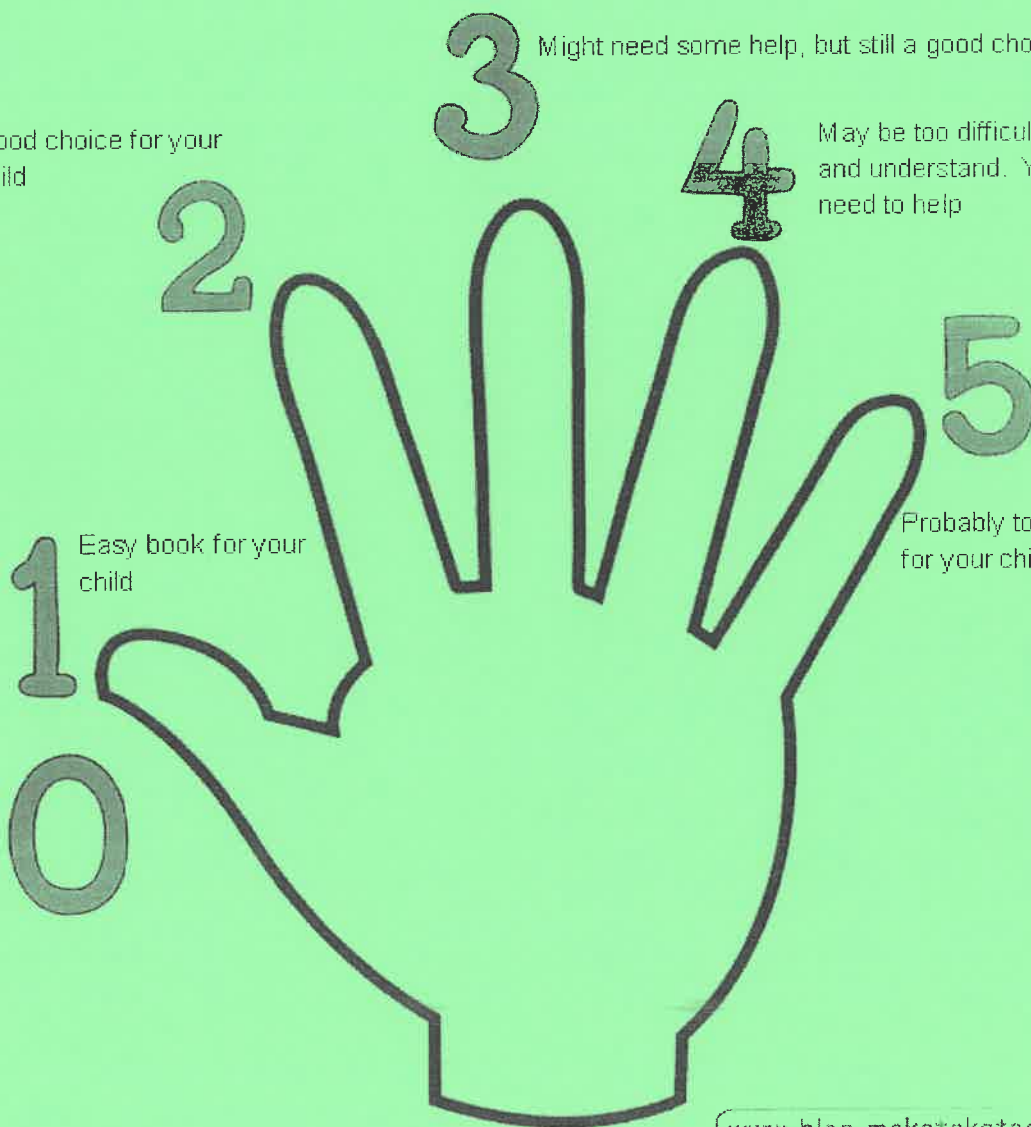
Good choice for your child

Easy book for your child

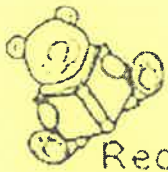
Might need some help, but still a good choice

May be too difficult to read and understand. You may need to help

Probably too difficult for your child



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Reading at Home

Reading at home will make a HUGE difference in your child's school success! Make reading part of your everyday routine.

Choose books that match your child's interests.

Reading for just 10 – 15 minutes day will benefit your child!



Telling, Retelling, and Understanding

- Before reading, make predictions. What is the story going to be about?
- Talk about new words and their meaning
- Make connections to their life, other books, movies/TV. What does this remind you of (another book, something that happened to them, a place they went, a TV show)?
- Talk, comment, and ask questions about the characters & setting as you read the book. How does the character feel? Where is the character at the beginning/middle/end of the book?
- After you read the book, have your child retell you the story in order.
- Act out the story! Make different voices for each character. Use props and have fun..
- Have your child "read" the book (your child will make up the words that may or may not match the text and use the pictures as a guide)..

Building a Reader

- ✓ Have your child turn the pages
- ✓ Encourage them to fill in the rhymes
- ✓ Notice patterns in the text and illustrations
- ✓ Have your child be the "reader" and read the pictures
- ✓ Notice and talk about letters and the sounds they make
- ✓ Help them fall in LOVE with books



Help Your Child Become a Better Reader

Read more!

- ❖ *Make reading fun!*
- ❖ *Read together every day.*
- ❖ *Tell your child, "You are a good reader!"*
- ❖ *Let your child see you reading.*

Ask questions before reading:

- ❖ *"What do you think the book will be about?"*
- ❖ *"What do you think will happen to the character on the cover?"*
- ❖ *"What does the title mean?"*
- ❖ *"Why do you think the author chose that title?"*

Ask questions while reading:

- ❖ *"Why does that boy look so sad?"*
- ❖ *"What is that mom looking for?"*
- ❖ *"What does "endangered" mean?"*
- ❖ *"Where is that dog going?"*

Make predictions:

- ❖ *"I think that she will win the race."*
- ❖ *"I think he will find the bunny."*
- ❖ *"I think that George will tell the truth."*
- ❖ *"I think they are going to get lost in there."*

Point to the words:

- ❖ *This will help your child match the words with the print.*
- ❖ *You can point, and encourage your child to point as time goes on.*
- ❖ *Use mainly on short texts with big words or you both will get tired!*

Make connections to your own lives:

- ❖ *"That cat reminds me of Jenny's cat."*
- ❖ *"This reminds me of that time when we drove to Grandma's house."*
- ❖ *"This boy looks like John"*
- ❖ *"This reminds me of dinner at our house."*

Make connections to other books:

- ❖ *"Charlotte the spider is smart and helpful but Anansi the spider is tricky."*
- ❖ *"In Goodnight Moon, I notice a picture of the bunnies from Runaway Bunny."*
- ❖ *The pigeon is funny in both Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus and The Pigeon Finds a Hot Dog.*
- ❖ *The Gingerbread Baby is kind of like the story of The Gingerbread Man because they both have to run away from the fox.*

Visualize and create sensory images:

- ❖ *Close your eyes and picture it in your head. Can you see it?*
- ❖ *Imagine it. Can you see all those beautiful colors?*
- ❖ *Can you smell that grass right after it is cut?*
- ❖ *Imagine how loud Clifford's bark is! Can you hear it?*
- ❖ *Can you feel that cool wind on your face?*

Reflect on the book:

- ❖ *Did you like it or not? What makes you say that?*
- ❖ *Retell what happened in the story.*
- ❖ *Who else might like it?*
- ❖ *Should we read more by this author?*