

CAN YOUR LEVEL M READER DO THESE THINGS?

- They can read books silently then tell you about what they read.
- They enjoy reading picture story books on their level (*The Day the Crayons Came Home* by Drew Daywalt) but they're also reading chapter books (50-100 pages) like *Stink: Incredible Shrinking Kid series*, *Ivy and Bean series* books.
- When they stumble on a word they don't know they can apply word-solving strategies. They can read past the unfamiliar word to look for clues or think of a word that looks like the unfamiliar word. *I don't know the word "equate", but I know the word "equal".*

HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD MOVE TO THE NEXT READING LEVEL?

- Build in 20 minutes (or more) of reading time per day. Your child can read a short book, then listen to a read aloud or picture book with a parent.
- When reading to a child ask what "genre" or type of book it is. Is it fiction (a made up story) or non-fiction (facts)?
- Explain other genres, like mysteries (a fiction story about a crime or puzzle to be solved), biographies (books about notable people), folktales (storytellers passed down from a long time ago) poems (imaginative, special writing) or fantasy (magical parts in the story).
- As children become more skilled, they'll know the features of genres to more easily understand what they read--for example, using headings to get through informational text or seeing that biographies are usually in chronological order.
- Point out a new or challenging word, give them a kid-friendly definition (*Herbivores are animals that only eat plants*).
- If they had to write a headline in the newspaper for this story, what would it be? Can they give a one sentence summary of what you read?

WHEN MY CHILD READS TO ME:

- Have your child read a level M book to you every day, or a level N book with your help.
- At this level, a book might be read over several days. Have them retell you what happened in the story yesterday before reading today. Seeing the title of the next chapter, what do they think it'll be about?
- Make connections - Sometimes we are "pulled" toward a character in the story. Which character do you like and why?
- What problems do you think the characters will face? What traits of your character (silly, honest, vengeful, loyal) will affect how the character handles the problems they face?
- If the story is non-fiction, what was the book mostly about? Why did the author write this book?
- Were there any special or unusual words? Ask your child to create 2 sentence examples using this new word--one sentence using the word correctly and one using the word incorrectly.

Practice sight words assigned by school each day to help improve your child's reading.
Aim for your child to practice reading a sight word 5 different times to master it.

HOW CAN I FIND OUT THE LEVEL OF A BOOK?

- Instantly get the Guided Reading level letter of any book by entering the title or scanning the barcode using the free app, *BookWizard*.

LEVEL M BOOKS:

Judy Moody series by Megan McDonald
Bink and Golly series by Kate and Alison McGhee
Stone Soup by Heather Forest



Check out [HomeReadingHelper.org](https://www.homerreadinghelper.org) for additional activities, videos and more! Plus, don't forget to sign up for Ready4K, free text messages proven to boost learning at home (birth through 3rd grade). Just text ReadCLT to 70138.