

RECORDING BOOK LEVELS

Recording book levels is helpful for the other tutors who work with the same children you work with.

Like many of the books the children bring, the books in the One to One resource area have levels recorded on the cover. Some systems use a letter system while others use a number system. The list below compares both systems and includes a short description of the criteria for each level.

There will be times when a child reads a book that doesn't indicate a level. When this happens use the category of the level that the book appears to be in. Most of the children you work with will be using early emergent books or mid emergent books.

EARLY EMERGENT: A – C or levels 1 - 4

These books are designed for children who are just beginning to grasp the basic concepts of reading. They are beginning to learn sound/symbol relationships. 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

EMERGENT: D-J or levels 5 - 17

These books are for children who have developed an understanding of the alphabet, phonological awareness, and early phonics. They have command of a significant number of high-frequency words.

- Increasingly more lines of print per page
- More complex sentence structure
- Less dependency on repetitive pattern and pictures
- Familiar topics but greater depth

Note: This is a broad range in this category. If you are estimating the level of a book that appears to be at this level use these terms: **mid emergent** and **advanced emergent**.

EARLY FLUENT: K-P or levels 19 - 25

At this level reading is more automatic, with more energy devoted to comprehension than word attack. Readers are approaching independence in comprehending text.

- More pages
- Longer sentences
- More text per page
- Richer vocabulary
- Greater variation in sentence pattern
- Less reliance on pictures
- More formal and descriptive language

CONSOLIDATING AND EXTENDING FLUENCY: Q + or levels 25 +

These books are for children who read automatically with expression and proper pauses. The reader will have a good command and use of the various comprehension strategies.

- More text
- Less familiar, more varied topics
- Challenging vocabulary
- More complex sentences
- Varied writing styles
- More description