

# Signs of a "Good Fit" Book

How do I tell if my child is reading a "good fit" book? Listen as they read out loud to you. A "good fit" book is one that your child can read independently, and it **will**:

- **be neither too difficult nor too easy**
  - They should know 95 - 100% of the words for levels A - K.
  - They should know 98 - 100% of the words for levels L - Z.
  - (A *Magic Tree House* book is a level M.)
- **allow your child to read fairly fluently** (not too choppy)
  - Reading fluently will sound like talking. This means that words will be chunked in at least three- to four-word phrases, quotations will be read in character, and readers will pause for punctuation.
- **enable your child to understand what they read**
  - At the end of a paragraph or page, your child should be able to tell you **who** they read about and **what** they just read.

There are times when a child will choose a book that is too difficult. This sometimes happens because friends or siblings are reading the same book, the cover looks interesting, or they are drawn to the topic. These books are still great for enjoying together - reading aloud to your child is valuable at any grade level!

## Resources

### Looking for other books in the same level or in the same type?

- Check out [www.scholastic.com](http://www.scholastic.com) and try the following:
  - Click on Teachers
  - Click on Book Wizard
  - Click on Similar Books
- This site allows searches for books by title, author, or by grade level:  
<http://home.comcast.net/~ngiansante/>
- Don't forget your local library – check out the selection online before you check out the books at the library: <http://whitelakelibrary.michlibrary.org/>

### Looking for reading tips and resources?

- Reading Rockets hosts a great site at: <http://www.readingrockets.org/>