



HOW TO CHOOSE A BOOK

Consider the following tips when choosing a book for a child

- Start at a low level book or a book of interest to engage the child.
- Refer to the “Get To Know You” activity sheet to match topics to the child’s interest.
- Pull 3 different books from the cart and give the student a limited choice.
- Look at the cover, talk about it, read the summary, then the first chapter and ask if the child wants to continue the book. Feel free to change the book.
- Refer to the genre chart and choose a different type of book than what you have been reading.
- Browse a specific category of the collection with the child.
- Choose a recommended book from another reading pair.
- Bring a book in from home or the library to match the child’s interest.

General Guide

Picture Books	Some are best for grades K-2
Picture Books for All	Some are enticing for all ages due to content, theme, advanced vocabulary, or length of story. Some are wordless and invite creative critical thinking.
Bridge Books	Grades 2-3 Beginning chapter books, short chapters, large font, illustrations
Shorter Chapter Books	Grades 3-4
Longer Chapter Books	Grade 4
Nonfiction Books	All grades. Feel free to explore just certain aspects of the book such as the pictures and captions, or certain topics in the Table of Contents. The book can still be recorded in the book log even if the whole book is not read. Children benefit from exposure to the characteristics of a nonfiction book as well as the content.