



Dear Families,

Your child was recently assessed in reading to determine his/her reading levels. The independent level is the level at which your son/daughter can read (easily with understanding) without help. Books at the independent level are those that come before the instructional level. Based on the assessment your child is at **Guided Reading/Instructional Level Z**. The instructional reading level is the level that your son/daughter can read with support. While reading at this level, you should observe your child using the reading behaviors listed below.

- After reading silently, engages in critical thinking about the text.
- Employ a wide range of sophisticated reading strategies in difficult texts.
- More background knowledge is required to understand the text.
- Sustains attention to texts with more complex themes.
- More nonfiction and fantasy is read.



Within each reading level some books may be easier or harder. To help determine if the books your child is selecting to read are appropriate for this level, follow these steps:

1. Open to any page in the middle of the book.
2. Have your child read that page.
3. As they read raise a finger each time they get to a word that they don't know. If they read the page without any errors or just one error, the book is too easy (independent level). If they make 2-3 mistakes the book is just right (instructional level). If they make more than 3 errors, the book is too difficult to read independently (frustration level) and should be read aloud to your child.

You can also visit Scholasticbookwizard.com and enter the book title and you will be provided with the guided reading/instructional level. Yes, there is an app for this!

Parent Tip: Readers understand and appreciate literary devices.

The Paterson Public Library (www.patersonpl.org/) offers many titles at each independent reading level. Some books at your child's current independent reading level, that he/she might enjoy, are listed below. Visit your neighborhood branch today to check out some of these great books!

- An American Plague by Jim Murphy
- Detective Stories by Philip Pullman, editor
- Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows by J. K. Rowling
- Malcolm X: By Any Means Necessary by Walter Dean Myers
- The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain
- Seeing Earth from Space by Patricia Lauber
- Tales Mummies Tell by Patricia Lauber
- Stormbreaker by Anthony Horowitz



Happy Reading!