



CHAPTER 1

Helping Your Child Choose a Book / Comment choisir un livre

To become a better reader, a child needs to read every day.
Asking your child questions will determine if a book is easy, just right or too hard.

Easy

Reading easy books is fun and builds your child's confidence as a reader.

If your child answers *yes* to these questions, the book is probably easy.

- Have you read it many times before?
- Does the story make sense to you?
- Do you know and understand almost every word?
- Does your reading sound smooth (like talking)?



Just Right

Reading just right books gives your child the opportunity to practise using different reading strategies.

If your child answers *yes* to these questions, the book is probably just right.

- Is this book new to you?
- Do you understand what you have read so far?
- Are there just 2 or 3 words on each page you don't know?
- Are some places in your reading smooth and other parts a bit choppy?
- Do you know what is happening in the story or what you are learning?

Too Hard

Reading a book that is too hard can be frustrating and makes it difficult for your child to understand what he/she is reading.

If your child answers *yes* to these questions, encourage your child to try this book later or read this book to your child.

- Are there 4 or 5 words on a page you don't know?
- Are you confused about what is happening in most of the book?
- Does your reading sound choppy?

The Five Finger Rule / Règle des 5 doigts

When your child is able to read books with several sentences on a page, encourage him/her to use the Five Finger Rule.



- Choose a page in the middle of the book. / **Choisis une page au milieu du livre.**
- Begin reading. / **Commences à lire.**
- Put up one finger each time you stumble over a word or come to a word you do not know. / **Lèves un doigt à chaque fois que tu ne peux pas lire un mot.**
- Stop reading at the end of the page. / **Arrêtes de lire à la fin de la page.**

If you have 0 to 3 fingers up, go ahead and read the book.
If you have 4 to 5 fingers up, the book is too hard.