

## Guided Reading: Level A

"At Level A, readers are just beginning to learn how print works and that there are relationships between sounds and letters. They are learning to look from left to right across words and to read one line of print. They are learning to use pictures and to use simple language structures to help them learn about print. They differentiate print from pictures and begin to notice the distinctive features of letters, attaching names to them. They are learning to read one line sentences with simple words and on familiar topics. They are learning how to match one spoken word with one word in print. As they read, they begin to learn some easy, high frequency words. They use what they know (i.e., a sound related to a letter) to begin to self-monitor reading. Reading and rereading simple texts will help them gain gradual control of ways to look at and work with print" (Fountas and Pinnell).

At this level, children learn about reading and learn how to read by sharing reading experiences with more fluent readers. The books listed below are enjoyable books that can be read to Level A students who are not yet able to read books independently. A more comprehensive list of family-friendly books that can be read together is available online at [http://www.readaloudamerica.org/books\\_K1.htm](http://www.readaloudamerica.org/books_K1.htm).

TITLE	AUTHOR
<i>My Dog and the Birthday Mystery</i>	Adler, David
<i>Papa, Please Get the Moon for Me</i>	Carle, Eric
<i>Tell Me Again about the Night I Was Born</i>	Curtis, Jamie Lee
<i>Strega Nona</i>	dePaola, Tomie
<i>Frog and Toad</i> (any book in the series)	Lobel, Arnold
<i>There's a Nightmare in my Closet</i>	Mayer, Mercer
<i>If You Take a Mouse to School</i>	Numeroff, Laura Joffe
<i>Alligator Boy</i>	Rylant, Cynthia
<i>Chato Goes Cruising</i>	Soto, Gary
<i>Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day</i>	Viorst, Judith

### Suggested Books for Level A Readers to Explore Independently

- Alphabet books
- Letter books
- Books with one word and a picture showing the word on each page

SOURCE: Pinnell, Gay S, and Irene C. Fountas. *The Continuum of Literacy Learning, Grades K-8: Behaviors and Understandings to Notice, Teach, and Support*. Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann, 2007. Print.