

# Reading Routines at Home

## 1stGrade

Coates E. S. 2020

Dear Parents,

It is a great honor to partner with you in your child's education! Central to your child's education is the ability to read and think critically. In our Home-School Compact, crafted through a series of parent/teacher meetings, we agreed that:

- Parents would promote reading skills and establish a reading routine for their children at home.
- Teachers and staff would teach reading skills and provide families with resources and support for promoting literacy at home.

This short guide was created to help you understand what reading looks like in sixth grade and provides strategies for creating reading routines at home.

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- Identify Books 1<sup>st</sup> graders should be reading at the beginning of the year
- Identify Books 1<sup>st</sup> graders should be reading at the end of the year
- How to get there?
  - What we do at school
  - What you can do at home (your routine)
- What if you're already reading above grade level?



At the **beginning of 1<sup>st</sup> grade**, your child should be reading a level 4 book. Here is an example of DRA 4 from *Reading A–Z*.

Many sight words are repeated.



Mouse runs to tell Wise Old Owl.  
"The sky is falling," says Mouse.  
"No, it is not," says Wise Old Owl.

Pictures support the words.

The story has a predictable storyline.

Students may read slowly. They should be able to retell all events of the story in order with minimal

Find more books at this level at

[https://www.goodreads.com/list/show/97412.Guided\\_Reading\\_Level\\_D](https://www.goodreads.com/list/show/97412.Guided_Reading_Level_D)

### **What if my child starts the year below this level?**

First, do not stress or make your child feel bad if they are not reading on grade level. This often leads to a child shutting down and avoiding reading. So what can you do?

#### **At Home:**

- Encourage a love of reading by finding books your child can enjoy on his or her own and that you can enjoy together.
- Immerse your child in literacy by reading to them and with them, and by listening to them read. Remember, even if they aren't reading on grade level **yet**, they will eventually be able to, and may even surpass it, by discovering the joy of books and by practicing a little bit every day in a quiet environment.
- Remember, your teacher will be working with your child to address the necessary skills to improve his/her reading level as well.

At the **end of 1<sup>st</sup> grade**, your child should be reading a level 16/I book. Here is an example of DRA 16 from *Reading A–Z*.



Ladder trucks have steering wheels in the front and back.

Other kinds of fire trucks include ladder trucks, tanker trucks, and rescue trucks.

Ladder trucks carry ladders of many different sizes.

Big ladder trucks have a ladder that can reach eight stories high.

Tanker trucks carry water to fight fires in places without water.

Rescue trucks carry supplies to help trapped or hurt people.

Level 16 can be fiction or nonfiction.

Longer texts with more decodable words than sight words.

Students should be able to read independently and smoothly (rate & expression) They should be able to retell all events of the story in order with minimal prompting.

Find more books at this level at <https://www.the-best-childrens-books.org/J.html>

**How do I find out my child's reading level?**

Ask your child's **teacher**.

**Should s/he only read books on this level?**

No. It is important to read easier books to improve reading rate and expression. It is also important to read harder books when the topic really interests your child.

**What if my child is already reading this level?**

If your child is reading above this level, your teacher will work with your child to continue to grow as a reader. At home, encourage your child to begin to read chapter books and series.

## At school, we follow the Reading Workshop Model

- Appropriate Level
  - Guided Reading
  - Teacher Modeling
  - Literacy Stations
  - Phonics Instruction
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### • At Home - Establish a Reading Routine

- Make reading a fun, enjoyable part of every day!
- Provide a quiet place to read independently for 10-20 minutes a day to build reading stamina. (No distractions). It's OK to read books online. See the Coates Reading website for good online options.
- Read to your child daily.
- Help memorize sight words
- Help with phonics (sounding our words)
- Listen to your child read books
- Ask questions after reading
  - What connections did you make?  
(What did the book remind you of?)
  - What happened in the story?  
Beginning – Middle - End
  - Who was in the story?



Sight Word List

[https://www.sightwords.com/pdfs/word\\_lists/dolch\\_group.pdf](https://www.sightwords.com/pdfs/word_lists/dolch_group.pdf)