

**Some Popular Authors at the Various Fountas and Pinnell
Guided Reading Levels**

Level	Authors and/or Series
<p>Most books at levels A, B, C are written specifically for school instruction and may be hard to find in local libraries. Some publisher series at this level include “Sunshine” books, “Little Books for Early Readers,” “Literacy 2000,” “PM” books, “Little Celebrations,” etc. However, alphabet books, counting books, and wordless books are wonderful ways for children to begin to familiarize themselves with reading. Books of nursery rhymes, poems and finger plays are also a great way to share books with younger readers. While some authors do write books at these lower levels, please note that these authors may write books at a variety of different levels. For example, Eric Carle’s books span many reading levels.</p>	
<p>Characteristics of books at levels A, B and C include: many photographs or illustrations, text and pictures match, print is always in the same place, print is large and easy to see, 1 to 4 lines of text, many sight words, repetition of words or phrases, simple story lines familiar to children, sentences mimic speech.*</p>	
A	A – Mitsumasa Anno, Tana Hoban, Eric Carle
B	B – Brian Wildsmith, Tana Hoban, Eric Carle, Susan Canizares
C	C – Brian Wildsmith, Bill Martin, Deborah Williams, Tomie de Paola, Harriet Ziefert
<p>At levels D - I, in addition to the following authors, you can begin to look for books designed to support early readers, such as “I Can Read” and “Step into Reading” texts. These books usually have their own numbered leveling systems.</p>	
<p>Characteristics of books at levels D and E include: longer sentences which require attention to print, 2 to 8 lines of print, bold print to introduce intonation and expression, increased decoding and strategy work to solve unknown words, increased sight vocabulary, introduction of word endings (ing, ed, s), opportunities to predict, repetition of 2 – 3 sentence patterns, illustrations provide moderate to high support, text placement varies, sentence patterns vary and begin to sound more like book language.*</p>	
D	D - Stan and Jan Berenstain, Harriet Ziefert, Syd Hoff, Barbro Lindgren, Donald Crews, Brian Wildsmith
E	Many books at this level are easy readers that rhyme. E – Mercer Mayer, Bill Martin, Donald Crews, Dr. Seuss, Philip Eastman, Margaret Hillert, P. Adams, Anne Rockwell, Eric Hill,
<p>Characteristics of books at levels F, G, H, and I include: 3 – 8 lines of text, smaller print, illustrations provide moderate support, story lines include more events or episodes and there is a clear beginning, middle and end, greater variety of dialogue, punctuation supports phrasing and meaning, text carries more of the story meaning, non-fiction formats are introduced, greater range of content extend children’s experiences, authentic literature begins to appear as appropriate texts, beginning opportunities to infer information.*</p>	
F	Harriet Ziefert, Norman Bridwell, Margaret Rey, Frank Asch, Cindy Wheeler, Grace Maccarone, Pat Hutchins, Kevin Henkes, Margaret Hillert, Syd Hoff
G	Allyssa Capucilli, Robert Kraus, Norman Bridwell, Margaret Rey, Lois Ehlert, Harriet Ziefert, Grace Maccarone, Jean Marzolla, Mercer Mayer, Crosby Bonsall, Dr. Seuss, Bill Martin, Patricia Giff, Eric Hill, Pat Hutchins, Mem Fox
H	Brian Wildsmith, Margaret Hillert, Kevin Henkes, Margaret Wise Brown, Syd Hoff, Harriet Ziefert, Margaret Rey, Mercer Mayer, Robert Kraus, Gail Gibbons, Arnold Lobel, P. Adam, Pat Hutchins
I	Maurice Sendak, Marjorie Flack, Anne Rockwell, Philip Eastman, Syd Hoff,

Marjorie W. Sharmat, Audrey Wood, Mem Fox, Pat Hutchins, Robert Kraus, Eric Carle, Patricia McCassack, Rosemary Wells, Aliki, Marc Brown, Miriam Cohen, Crosby Bonsall,

There are many great authors at the following levels that write individual titles. Listed here, however, are mostly authors that write book series. At these levels, we would like to see students involved in reading series books. Reading in a series allows for greater fluency as the story format is familiar to the reader and provides an automatic choice for a next book. Students also learn to gather information about characters and their relationships across books and to predict what will happen based on patterns they've seen in other books in the series. For additional titles and individual authors, go to the Grafflin website at www.ccsd.ws/dg and click on the "leveled books" link to access 2 websites that can help you with your search.

Characteristics of books at levels **J, K, and L** include: illustrations provide low support, greater variety of text layout, print size and font, long and complex stories, extended descriptions and character development, greater opportunities for children to use reading strategies, variety of texts including beginning chapter books, prior knowledge and personal experiences make themes more familiar, lots of dialogue and longer pages of text, book length can vary from 15 to 80 pages, increased opportunities to return to the text to find evidence for comprehension, smaller print size and narrower word and line spacing, many text conventions – ellipses, italics, all capitals, indentations and bold print, greater need for higher level conceptual work to understand more complex ideas and topics, more complex sentences and many multi-syllabic words, reading needs to be sustained over days and support by group discussion, greater range of genre – mysteries, biography, historical fiction, etc.*

J Crosby Bonsall, Marjorie Flack, Frank Asch, Megan McDonald, Philip Eastman, Rosemary Wells, Leo Lionni, Dr. Seuss, Tomie de Paola, Margaret Rey (Curious George), Syd Hoff, Arnold Lobel (Frog and Toad, Mouse stories), Miriam Cohen, Pat Hutchins, Else Minarik (Little Bear), Edward Marshall & James Marshall (Fox stories), Bourgeois & Clark (Franklin stories), Jonathan London (Froggie stories), Laura Ingalls Wilder (Little House stories on an easier level), Dr. Suess, Jan Brett, Cynthia Rylant (Henry and Mudge), Ezra Jack Keats, Leonard Kessler, Peggy Parish, Joanna Cole, Frank Asch (Moonbear stories), Bernard Wiseman (Morris stories), Cynthia Rylant (Mr. Putter and Tabby stories, Poppleton stories), Miriam Cohen, Patricia Giff (Polk Street School stories), David Adler (Young Cam Jansen stories)

K Lillian Hoban (Arthur stories), Marc Brown (Arthur stories), Russel Hoban (Frances stories), Crosby Bonsall (The Case of . . .), Norman Bridwell (Clifford stories), Jane Yolen (Commander Toad stories), Peggy Parish, Bourgeois & Clark (Franklin stories), Arnold Lobel (Frog and Toad stories), Betsy Byars (Golly Sisters stories), Fowler (Rookie Science series), Lauren Numeroff (If You Give a . . .), Stephen Krensky (Lionel stories), Teddy Slater (Littles – first readers), Ludwig Bemelmans (Madeleine stories), Jean Van Leeuwen (Oliver and Amanda Pig stories), Marjorie W. Sharmat (Nate the Great series), Don Freeman (Corduroy stories),

L James Marshall (George & Martha stories), Peggy Parish (Amelia Bedelia stories), Susie Kline (Horrible Harry series and Song Lee series), Harry Allard (Miss Nelson stories), Judy Detton (Pee Wee Scouts series), James Howe (Pinky and Rex series), Debbie Dudley (Triplet Trouble series), Edward Farrell, Andrew Woods (these authors write easy biographies for younger readers), David Adler (Cam Jansen series)

Characteristics of text at these higher levels include: greater number of pages (100+), lots of text per page and few if any pictures, smaller print and narrower word spacing, wide variety of texts with complex language structures and sophisticated vocabulary, highly detailed and descriptive and present abstract concepts and themes, subtleties of these texts require more background knowledge, greater variety and number of primary and secondary characters.*

M	Mary Pope Osborne (Magic Treehouse series), Matt Christopher (sports series), Marc Brown (Buster series), Ellen Conford (Jenny Archer stories), Patricia Giff (Emily Arrow stories), Margaret Davidson (true animal stories), Debbie Dudley (Ghosts, Goblins, Ghouls Don't . . . and Witches, Wizards, Wolfmen series), James Ruller (Jigsaw Jones Mysteries), Barbara Park (Junie B. Jones series), John Peterson (Littles series), Susie Kline (Mary Marony series), Ruth Garnett (My Father's Dragon stories), David Adler (Picture Book of . . . - biographies), Joanna Hurwitz (Russel series), Mike Thaler (Black Lagoon stories), Dick King-Smith (Sophie series),
N	Tomie De Paola, Janice Lee Smith (Adam Joshua series), Paula Danziger (Amber Brown), Joanna Hurwitz (Nora series), James Preller (The Case of Hermie . . . series), Ursula LeGuin (Catwings stories), Ann Cameron (Julian stories), Charlotte Herman (Max Malone stories)
O	Joanna Hurwitz (Also Applesauce series and other stories), Dean Hugher (Angel Park series), Ann Martin (Babysitter's Club series), Beverly Cleary (Henry, Beezus and Ramona series), Betsy Byars (Blossom series), Parker Hinter (Clue Jr. series), Seymour Simon (. . . and other Cases series), Childhood of Famous Americans series, Astrid Lindgren (Pippi series), Jean Betancourt (Pony Pals series), Ann Martin (Stacey series)
Many of the same authors write books for young adult readers at these higher levels. There are fewer series books and many more individual titles by the same author. Caution should be taken when younger readers are capable of reading texts at very high levels to insure that the story line or theme is appropriate for their age and maturity level.	
P	John Erickson (The Case of . . . series), Roald Dahl stories, Gary Paulsen stories, David Sobel (Encyclopedia Brown series), Joanna Cole (Magic Schoolbus series), Jean Craighead George (One Day . . . series), Louis Sachar (Wayside School series), Jon Scieszka (Time Warp Trio series),
Q	American Girl series, Lois Lowry (Anastasia series), Carolyn Keene (Nancy Drew series), Phyllis Reynolds Naylor stories, James Howe (Bunnicula series), Jackie French Koller (Dragon series), Laura Ingalls Wilder stories, Judy Blume (Fudge series), Jean Van Leeuwen (Hannah –Pioneer Daughters series), Todd Strasser (Help I'm Trapped . . . series), Kay Moore, Ann McGovern, Ellen Leving (These 3 authors write a type of If You Lived in the Time of . . . series), Susan Shreve (Joshua T. Bates series), James Herriot stories, Sandra Markle (Inside and Outside series), Marvin Miller (You Be the . . . series)
R	Gary Paulsen (Amos and Dunc series), Patricia MacLachlan stories, Marguerite Henry stories, Jean Fritz series, Dave Taylor (Endangered Animals series), Cynthia Rylant stories, Andrew Clements stories, E. L. Konisberg stories, Mike Venezia (artist biography series), Cornerstones of Freedom series, Jerry Spinelli stories, Marguerite Henry (Misty stories), Phyllis Reynolds Naylor stories, Ralph Fletcher stories, E. B. White stories, Susan Clymer (There's a . . . series),
S	Phyllis Reynolds Naylor stories, Katherine Paterson stories, Mildred Taylor stories, John Bellairs stories, Bruce Coville (My Teacher . . . series), Avi (Poppy stories), Louis Sachar stories, Kathryn Lasky stories, Lois Lowry

	stories, Robert Kimmel Smith stories, Gary Paulsen stories, Jane Yolen (Young Merlin Trilogy)
T	Cornerstones of Freedom, Catherine Applegate (Animorphs series), Bobbie Kalman (books about countries), Pat Rediger (Great African Americans series), John Fitzgerald (Great Brain stories), C. S. Lewis, Elizabeth George Speare, Avi, Karen Hesse,
U	Sid Fleischman, Cynthia Voight, Susan Cooper, Paula Danziger, Jerry Spinelli, Bobby Kalman (books about countries), Jean Craighead George (Julie stories), Rudyard Kipling, Natalie Babbit, Scott O'Dell
V	Sharon Creech, Lemony Snicket, Scott O'Dell, Cynthia Rylant, Sid Fleischman, Gary Paulsen, Theodore Taylor, Virginia Hamilton, J. K. Rowling, Madeleine L'Engle, Robert Brien, Peter Lerangis (Watchers series), John Christopher
W	Laurence Yep (Dragon series), C. S. Lewis (Chronicles of Narnia series), Joan Nixon (Orphan Train series), Bonnie Bryant (Pine Hollow series),
X	Howard Fast, Susan Cooper, Karen Cushman
Y	Brian Jacques (Redwall series), Jack London stories
Z	Irene Hunt, Mark Twain, Margaret Peterson Haddix (Among the Hidden and other stories), George Orwell, Philip Pullman, Orson Scott Card, J. R. Tolkien, John Steinbeck, Robert Louis Stevenson, Sandra Cisneros

***Ideas for leveled text characteristics were gathered from several sources including Guided Reading – Good First Teaching for All Children by Irene C. Fountas and Gay Su Pinnell.**