



My child is reading level **U** books!

What does that mean?

It means Level U text demonstrates characteristics such as:

- ◆ Informational texts cover a wide range of topics and present specific technical information
- ◆ Illustrations require interpretation and connection to the text
- ◆ Narratives are complex with plots and subplots
- ◆ Several different themes and characters
- ◆ Focus on human problems (war, hardship, economic issues)
- ◆ Fantasy and science fiction show struggles between good and evil
- ◆ Long, multi-syllable words
- ◆ Inference used to understand characters and why they change
- ◆ Content appealing to adolescents
- ◆ Fiction texts with no illustrations other than the cover
- ◆ Full range of punctuation, including dashes

How can I support my child in reading?

I can help by listening, noticing when my child uses good reading strategies, and saying:

- ◆ “You made your voice match the punctuation and the story.”
- ◆ You imagined what that word or phrase might look like in order to understand.”
- ◆ “You noticed when someone different started talking.”
- ◆ “You thought about what made sense.”
- ◆ “You had a question and you kept reading to answer it.”

After reading, I can say:

- ◆ “Talk about what you learned in this book/what happened in the story.”
- ◆ “What kind of person is (character’s name)?”
- ◆ “What happened first in the story? Next? Last?”
- ◆ “What was the most important idea in the book?”
- ◆ “Tell me something that was new or surprising.”

What the book may look like:

