

READY★TO★READ



PARENT GUIDE

Level Two ★ Superstar Readers

ALL CHILDREN CAN BE READING STARS!

The key to helping children become reading stars is finding books that they love. Simon & Schuster has created a leveled reading system that will help you do just that! The five Ready-to-Read levels make it easy to determine which of the many wonderful Ready-to-Read books are best suited for your young reader.

This guide explains how to get the most out of the Ready-to-Read levels. It also provides tips for improving your child's reading skills, ideas for motivating your child to read, and suggestions for fun, reading-related activities and projects for the whole family. Whether your child starts out as Stellar Starters, Rising Stars, Reading Stars, Superstars, or Megastars, the Ready-to-Read books will help make their reading experience out of this world!

STELLAR STARTER! ★ Ready-to-Go! ★ Sight Words



RISING STAR! ★ Pre-Level One ★ Recognizing Words



READING STAR! ★ Level One ★ Starting to Read



SUPERSTAR! ★ Level Two ★ Reading Independently



MEGASTAR! ★ Level Three ★ Reading Proficiently





How the Ready-to-Read Leveling System Works

Each Ready-to-Read book has been assigned a level, from Ready-to-Go! (Stellar Starter) to Level 3 (Megastar). When you see the level on a book, you'll know instantly whether it's likely to be too easy, too hard, or just right for your child.

Tip: You can determine if a level is too high by having your child read the first page or paragraph. If they miss three to five words (depending on the length of the passage) the text is on a frustration level. Books need to be on a child's "independent reading level" to move through the levels.

Ready-to-Go!: Stellar Starter

- ★ Phonics
- ★ Rhyming words and repetition
- ★ Choral reading

Is your child using pictures to understand what words mean? Are they exploring letter-sound relationships? The books at this level feature beloved characters and authors, such as Snoopy, Daniel Tiger, and books by Eric Carle.

Pre-Level One: Rising Star Reader

- ★ Shared reading
- ★ Familiar characters
- ★ Simple words

Does your child enjoy listening to you read and sometimes say some of the words along with you? The books at this level—filled with characters that kids know and love, such as Daniel Tiger, and series such as The Adventures of Otto—are just right for your child.

Level One: Reading Star

- ★ Easy sight words and words to sound out
- ★ Simple plot and dialogue
- ★ Familiar topics and themes

Can your child recognize some simple words? Are they starting to sound out words and sentences? Angelina Ballerina, PJ Masks, Robin Hill School, and many more classic and new characters are waiting for your child at this level.

Level Two: Superstar Reader

- ★ Longer sentences
- ★ Simple chapters
- ★ High-interest vocabulary words

Is your child beginning to read longer sentences and stories on their own? At this level, your child can learn and grow with the Peanuts gang, Henry and Mudge, and many more loveable characters as well as exciting nonfiction series.



Level Three: Megastar Reader

- ★ Longer, more complex story plots and character development
- ★ Variety of challenging vocabulary words
- ★ More difficult sentence structure

Is your child a confident reader? Are they ready for a challenge? In the books at this level, many fun and exciting characters, along with engaging nonfiction titles, will take them on journeys they won't soon forget.

How to Pick Books Your Child Will Love

Once you've determined the right level for your child, it's time to pick a book. Every Ready-to-Read level has lots of fantastic books to choose from—so how do you figure out which ones to select? Try these ideas:

- Think of the kinds of books your child has enjoyed reading in the past, and find more like them. For example, do they enjoy books featuring characters they're familiar with? Consider trying the "Peanuts" series, starring Charlie Brown, Snoopy, and the whole iconic Peanuts gang!
- Choose books about experiences that your child can relate to. For example, did they recently enjoy playing outside in the sun? Try *Henry and Mudge in the Green Time* from the Henry and Mudge series.
- What does your child love to do? If they're interested in sports, try the nonfiction series, *Game Day*. If they like learning about outer space, try the *Ready, Jet, Go!* series, based on the PBS show!
- Is your child in a "reading rut"? Are they tired of reading about the same few topics over and over again? If so, try something completely fun and new, such as the *If You Love...* series, which teaches kids what they can grow up to do with their different interests!
- When you were a child, which books did you love? Maybe you grew up reading about the sweet adventures of Henry and Mudge or *Eloise*? Try sharing one of your favorites with your child—your love for these books will be contagious!



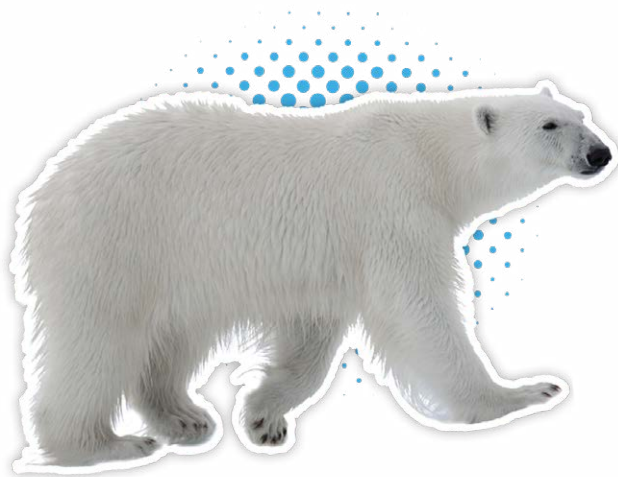


Tips for Reading with Your Child

- Level Two books contain longer sentences and more difficult words. If your child gets stuck on a word, consider giving them the answer and letting them move on. Sometimes it's best to let children sustain their reading with little interruption. Don't forget to review the word and its meaning later!
- Encourage your Superstar readers to monitor their own understanding. In other words, help them learn to recognize when they encounter something they don't quite understand. One way to do this is to have them stop periodically and summarize what they've read so far.
- Help your child develop ways to address misunderstandings. For example, if they're feeling confused, they might reread a few lines, ask you what a certain word or expression means, or look at an illustration for clues.
- Encourage your Superstar reader to visualize what they read. Have them sketch what they see in their mind, and help them write brief captions for the sketches.

Motivating and Encouraging Your Child to Read

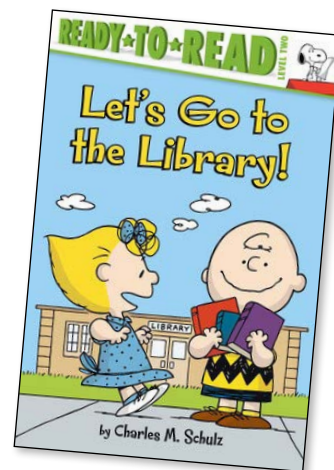
- Many of the Level Two Ready-to-Reads break the text into chapters. Your child will be thrilled to start reading "chapter books"—just like they see older kids reading. Generate extra interest and suspense by reading a new chapter or section each night. Before you start reading, let your child share what they think will happen next.
- Establish a daily or weekly family reading time. Even if it's only 10 or 15 minutes long, let your child see you reading and enjoying a variety of different books—and be sure to have them participate, too. Make sure everyone has a good book and a quiet, cozy spot to read.
- Use the "Reach for the Stars!" reading chart to keep track of your child's progress. Each time your child finishes a new book, add its title to the chart. Have your child read the title aloud and give a quick summary of the book. Then, let them add a sticker to the chart.





Activities and Projects for the Whole Family

- The Tails from History series explores unusual pets and the people who owned them, such as the legendary Mexican artist Frida Kahlo and her parrot Bonito. In *A Parrot in the Painting*, children learn all about Frida Kahlo, her artwork, and Bonito. Provide your child with construction paper, crayons, pencils, markers, and other art supplies and encourage them to create their own self-portrait, just like Frida!
- In the book *A Parrot in the Painting*, Frida Kahlo spent time painting what she saw every day. Give your child a sketchpad or notebook and a pencil and take them on a walk around your neighborhood or nearby park. Have them draw pictures of the sights on their walk—nature, animals, etc.
- Filled with fresh illustrations and loads of history, geography, and cultural goodies, the Living In... series is a perfect introduction to geography and social studies for young children. Read one of the Living In... books and use the location featured in the book as inspiration for family dinner night.
- Get inspired by the different countries featured in the Living In... books and take a deep dive into the history and culture with a virtual museum trip to explore artifacts, photographs, and artwork from one of the Living In... countries.
- The Game Day nonfiction series is perfect for young, sports-obsessed fans who, in addition to watching and playing sports, crave the kind of expert knowledge that only an insider would know. After reading one of the Game Day books, look for a game on TV featuring that sport and encourage your child to point out people, moments, game plays, etc. that they learned about in their Game Day book.



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