



The 5-Finger Rule for choosing a "Just Right" book

The 5-Finger Rule for choosing a "Just Right" book only helps to evaluate student's ability to read the words. In order to use this strategy, have your child open a book to the middle and begin reading. For each word the child doesn't know, have them put up one finger. If at the end of the page you have:

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|----------------------|---|
| 5 or more fingers up | - too hard and challenging, save for later book |
| 4 fingers up | - very challenging |
| 2-3 fingers up | - just right |
| 0-1 fingers up | - too easy, vacation book |

This strategy does not check a child's comprehension level. Thus, as a parent you should check that your child understands the story by asking questions about the book. Some sample questions are:

- Who was in the story?
- What happened in the story?
- Where did the story take place?