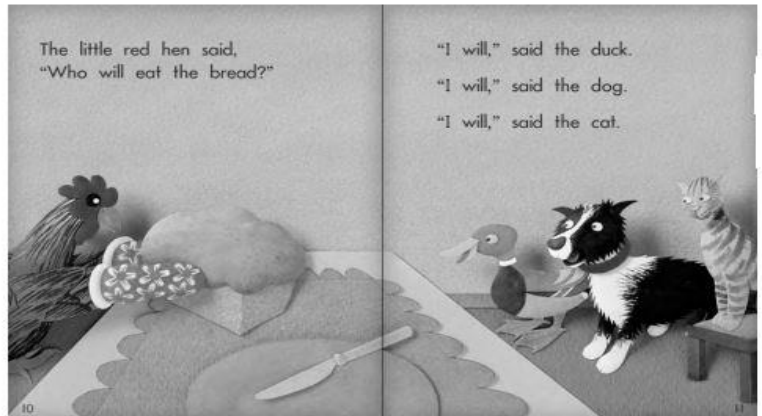


Characteristics of text at an early 1st Grade Level

Level D

- Simple sequence of events
- Uses dialogue
- Longer sentences (6+ words)
- Decodable words with familiar patterns
- New punctuation is included (dashes, ellipses)
- Many high frequency words
- Mostly two to six lines of print per page
- Texts range from 8-10 pages
- Text layout is easy to follow, but font size may vary



What Readers at this level are doing:

- Moving away from pointing at words while reading
- Checking on letter-sound relationships, words and parts of words
- Rereads to confirm or problem solve
- Checks the sources of information (pictures and words) to self-correct
- Actively reads for meaning

Level E

- More multisyllable words and less common spelling patterns
- Some words endings (-ing, -ed)
- Font size may vary
- Texts range from 10-20 pages/2-7 lines per page
- More characters (fiction)
- Longer stretches of dialogue
- Variety of easy spelling patterns
- Full range of punctuation is used
- More details in illustrations



What Readers at this level are doing:

- Tracks print with eyes, not finger, except at a point of difficulty
- Reads with phrasing using knowledge of syntax (does this sound right?) and meaning of the text
- Rereads to check, confirm and search
- Self-corrects using multiple sources of information (pictures, words)
- Uses known words to get to unknown words