

## ★ Best Books for First Graders ★

### Great Read Alouds:

It is important for students growing as readers to *hear* a fluent reader reading to them. Here are some fun read aloud recommendations!

- *Frog and Toad are Friends* by Arnold Lobel
- *My Best Friend* by Pat Hutchins
- *There Is a Bird on Your Head!* by Mo Willems
- *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!* by Mo Willems
- *Emily's First 100 Days of School* by Rosemary Wells
- *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day* by Judith Viorst
- *Henry and Mudge* by Cythinia Rylant
- *How I Became a Pirate* by Melinda Long
- *Diary of a Worm* by Doreen Cronin
- *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse* by Kevin Henkes
- *Owen* by Kevin Henkes
- *Tacky the Penguin (series)* by Helen Lester & Lynn Musinger
- *Strega Nona* by Tomie de Paola
- *Officer Buckle and Gloria* by Peggy Rathmann
- *Skippyjon Jones* by Judy Schachner
- *A Bad Case of the Stripes* by David Shannon
- *Duck on a Bike* by David Shannon

### Independent Reading Recommendations:

- ★ **Students aim to end Kindergarten at a Level C and end First Grade on a Level I.**  
Below are some books at each level that students can select from.
- ★ **A general rule of thumb when picking books for independent reading is that if a child struggles to read 5 or more words on one page, try a book a level down.**

#### Level C

- *All Kinds of Kids* by Christina Mia Gardeski
- *The Berenstain Bears, Big Bear, Small Bear* by Stan Berenstain
- *Biscuit Visits the Big City* by Alyssa Satin Capucilli
- *Fall Leaves* by Don L. Curry
- *One Windy Wednesday* by Phyllis Root

### Level D

- *Bright Eyes, Brown Skin* by Cheryl Willis Hudson
- *Chick and the Duckling* by Mirra Ginsburg
- *From Head to Toe* by Eric Carle
- *Hide and Snake* by Keith Baker
- *One Happy Classroom* by Charnan Simon

### Level E

- *Clifford's Puppy Days* by Norman Bridwell
- *Hats, Hats, Hats* by A. Morris
- *Where's Spot?* by Eric Hill
- *A Tree Can Be* by Judy Nayer
- *Foot Book* by Dr. Seuss

### Level F

- *Itchy, Itchy Chicken Pox* by Grace Maccarone
- *Soccer Game* by Grace Maccarone
- *Harry Takes a Bath* by Harriet Ziefert
- *Bubble Trouble* by Mary Packard
- *The Lady with the Alligator Purse* by Nadine Westcott

### Level G

- *David Gets in Trouble* by David Shannon
- *I Love Trains!* by Philemon Sturges
- *Marvin K. Mooney, Will You Please Go Now!* by Dr. Seuss
- *Barnyard Banter* by Denise Fleming
- *Chicks and Salsa* by Aaron Reynolds

### Level H

- *Danny and the Dinosaur Go to Camp* by Syd Hoff
- *Goodnight Moon* by Margaret Wise Brown
- *Sammy the Seal* by Harriet Ziefert
- *The Teeny-Tiny Woman* by Harriet Ziefert
- *A Kiss for Little Bear* by Else H. Minarik

### **Level I**

- *Froggy Goes to School* by Jonathan London
- *The Gingerbread Man* by Rita Rose
- *New Shoes, Red Shoes* by Susan Rollings
- *Alligators All Around* by Maurice Sendak
- *Stanley* by Syd Hoff