

## **How Does the Home Leveled Reading work?**

### **GRADE ONE-**

*There are 18 levels in grade one. An average grade one student will reach a level 18 by June. There are 10 months of school between September and June. Therefore an average student will go up a couple of levels a month. The teacher will let you know when your child is ready to move up a level. If your child is in the ELI program, I test the students once a month and send home a note letting you know that your child has moved to a new level. Remember that just as kids learn to walk or ride a bike at various ages, this also applies to reading. The best advice I can give you is to be supportive to your child. Every child will learn at a different pace. If a book that was sent home is quite difficult, keep that book for another night to practice it again. If every book that comes home is difficult talk to your child's teacher.*

*Levels 1-4- During this phase of reading the student is learning to follow a pattern within the text, recognize new words and use the pictures to help them with some difficult words. Many parents complain about these levels saying "they are just memorizing the pattern". What we want is for kids to track under the words with their finger. This makes them pay better attention to the text. Ask your child "Point to the word "see". Point to the word "the". This again makes your child pay attention to the text. If there is a picture of a lady bug and the sentence says "I can see a ladybug." Let your child use the picture to help them. They may say "I can see a bug." As a parent you can say, " but the word doesn't start with a "b" it starts with a letter "l".*

*Levels 5-9- Now your child is understanding the patterns, they are using picture cues and they recognize many words. They are also able to sound out some words. With each book, they are learning new words and are sounding out words better with the lessons from the classroom and the guidance from you as a parent. They may also notice words that you cannot sound out because they don't follow the rules. An example of this is the word "was". It should be spelled "wuz". Kids need to be aware of these words. I call these words "jail words". They are bad words that don't follow the rules. That is why we have to memorize these words.*

*Levels 10-18- Your child is getting out of patterned books as they have learned many sight words. They are also able to sound out many words. The stories are beginning to have more of a plot to them. Now is the time as a parent to help develop the comprehension skills of your child. Asking your child questions during or after the story as well as talking about more difficult vocabulary words will help develop these skills. Also predicting what they think may happen next is making your child think about what is going on in the story.*

## **GRADE TWO-**

***In grade two there is only 3 reading levels.***

***2-1- is the beginning of grade two***

***2-2- is the middle of grade two***

***2-3- is the end of grade two***

***In grade two a teacher is looking for comprehension skills and reading fluency. A teacher wants your child to understand what they are reading and to read at an average reading pace. Reading comprehension is a very important skill for the older grades. Reading and answering questions will fall into all subject areas. Reading fluency will help your child complete work at school in the allotted time and they will have less homework in the future as a result. Math is a subject that is also requiring more understanding of problem solving. Reading is the staple of all learning.***