

Reading Chapter Books — Guided Independent Reading

Activity Sheet

Base Sheet

The child selects and reads from a beginning chapter book, practicing sustained reading for 15+ minutes. This lesson establishes independent reading habits and introduces strategies for tackling longer texts with chapters and fewer illustrations.

What You Need:

- 2-3 beginning chapter books at the child's reading level
- Cozy reading spot
- Bookmark
- Reading log or journal

Steps:

1. Present 2-3 beginning chapter books appropriate for the child's level (Frog and Toad, Henry and Mudge, Mercy Watson, Owl at Home)
2. You are a strong enough reader now to read CHAPTER BOOKS! These are longer stories divided into chapters — like sections!
3. Examine the book together: table of contents, chapter titles, fewer pictures.
4. 'When you come to a word you do not know, here are your strategies: sound it out, look at the picture, read the rest of the sentence, or ask me.'
5. Child reads Chapter 1 independently or with minimal support.
6. After reading: 'Tell me what happened in this chapter. Who are the characters? What was the problem?'
7. Discuss: 'Would you like to keep reading this book? What do you think will happen next?'
8. Establish a daily independent reading time (15-20 minutes).

Work Space:

A large, dashed rectangular box occupies the bottom half of the page, intended for the child to draw or write in.

Montessori Homeschool • Print on US Letter (8.5 x 11") • Activity sheet — print on standard paper