EASY READER LEVELS
Sachem Public Library

Pre-emergent - Pink spine label
Kindergarten to beginning first grade
*These books could be memorized by a student

• High level of picture/photo support
• Large print
• Exaggerated spacing between words
• Words in the same spot on each page
• Repetitive, predictable, and/or rhyming text
• One or two lines of text on each page.
• Use of high frequency (the “top forty”) words
• Book topics that are familiar to children and their lives
• Simple and/or natural language
• Very little punctuation
• Simple, short stories

Emergent - orange spine label
End of kindergarten to mid-first grade
*Students need to be able to use the one or more or the three cueing systems and decode unknown words to read at these levels.

• Continued high level of picture/photo support
• May be a range of print sizes
• Spacing between words still somewhat exaggerated
• Words in the same spot of each page
• Some repetition, may still be some rhyming
• More words on each page, more high frequency words used
• More complex sentences
• More lines of text per page - can be up to 8 lines per page
• Use of inflected endings (-s, -ed, -ing)
• Some literacy language (“once upon a time”)
• Wider variety of punctuation (?, !, “”)

Sachem Public Library Children’s Services 588-5024
EASY READER LEVELS
Sachem Public Library

Early fluent – green spine label
Mid-first grade to end of first grade
*You will notice that these books have smaller print, fewer pictures, and more advanced vocabulary.

- Still some picture/photo support – more text, less pictures on a page
- Normal spacing between words
- Words may be on every page, or in different places on the page
- Smaller print
- More and more text, significant decrease in repetitive patterns/rhyming in text
- More complex story structure (may be sub-plots) and language structure
- More episodes and action in the story
- May be some genre stories – fantasy, science fiction, etc.
- Multi-syllabic words

Fluent – blue spine label
End of first grade to beginning second grade
*Early chapter books

- More literary structures and genres
- More challenging ideas and themes
- Episodes are extended, books have chapters
- More complex vocabulary