



Choosing a book for a child with dyslexia



The more one reads, the better reader one becomes.

So how do we choose a book for a child with dyslexia? How does the child choose a book for themselves?

First of all, the reading material needs to be rich and most importantly, of interest to the child. However, it can't be too difficult to read.

You may have heard of the '5 finger rule' whereby if a child reads a passage and gets 5 or more words wrong, the book is considered too difficult for them. You may also have heard that we need to be reading at 95% accuracy in order to understand a text.

The problem with these rules is that if followed, a child with dyslexia may never be able to access texts at their intellectual level.

It is important that children have access to books that peak their interest.

At The Reading Academy, we recommend books that are dyslexia-friendly. Barrington Stoke publishers publish books for children with dyslexia. The stories are written in what they call Hi-Lo, high interest, low level, meaning the content within the text is age-appropriate but written at a lower reading age. These books show both an interest age (IA) and a reading age (RA) discreetly at the back of their books next to the barcode.