## Stages of reading development

<table>
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<th>Pre-reader</th>
<th>Beginning reader</th>
<th>More independent reader</th>
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<td><strong>Beg 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ind 1</strong></td>
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**Pre-reader**
- Does not yet link sounds, words and writing.
- Knows print contains meaning. Begins to match sounds to writing.

**Beginning reader**
- Uses phonics, look-and-say, and context to read longer text.

**More independent reader**
- Mostly reads simple texts independently.

### Pre 1
- Looks at pictures
- Does not tell story
- Does not link sounds with written letters
- Looks at pictures
- Tells story so it sounds as if is reading the story
- May recognise some sounds, letters and words
- Knows text reads left to right

### Pre 2
- Knows sounds of some letters
- Recognises some words
- May finger point matching words to memorised text
- Memorises simple patterned writing

### Beg 1
- Knows more sight words
- Reads patterned writing phrases with understanding
- Knows sounds of most letters and blends sounds into words
- Attempts new words using phonics knowledge
- Identifies syllables in words

### Beg 2
- Sight-reads some longer words
- Recognises some common words
- Uses some phonics, look-and-say, and context strategies to decode new words
- Still makes quite a few mistakes

### Ind 1
- Mainly reads simple texts independently
- Recognises more high-frequency and common words
- Makes fewer mistakes
- Self-corrects

### Ind 2
- Mainly reads simple texts independently
- Recognises more high-frequency and common words
- Makes fewer mistakes
- Self-corrects

Note: some pupils will still need more practice with phonics and/or look-and-say whole-word recognition

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**Book examples:**
- *Chicken and Millipede*
- *I Enjoy Doing* from *African Storybook*

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Chart format inspired by: MS Gunning’s classroom blog