

A Strategy For Choosing Books That Are Just Right

A good way for students to get a quick idea whether or not a book is about right for their independent reading level is to use the “**Five Finger Rule**”.



Five Finger Rule



(a.k.a. Rule of Thumb)

- 1. Choose a book.**
- 2. Open it anywhere.**
- 3. Make a fist.**
- 4. Start to read the page.**
- 5. Put up a finger for each hard word.**

1 finger	→	too easy, try another book
2-3 fingers	→	just right, try another page to be sure
4-5 fingers	→	too hard

(Adapted from: News for Parents, International Reading Association, April 1992)