

MINI LESSON 1: Picking Just Right Books

Learning Objectives:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Define what “just right” means2. Identify strategies to pick a “just right” book3. Evaluate a book for ourselves and determine if it is “just right”
Materials:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Launching curriculum book with appendix- Anchor chart- Markers- Chapter book (too hard)- “Just Right” 1st grade book- Page from children magazine (too easy)
Motivation:	<p>The teacher asks the students if they remember the story about Goldilocks and the Three Bears.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What problems did Goldilocks run into when picking a chair? A bed?2. Why did the baby bear’s things work for Goldilocks?3. How could we think about picking something that's perfect for us when it comes to reading?
Instructional Activity:	<p>The teacher will show three different books as a way to help the students learn about strategies of how to find a “just right book.” She will refer to an anchor chart that explains the book should be something the student is interested in, has lots of words that they already know, and has an easy to understand purpose. First the teacher will show a comic strip from a children’s magazine that is way too easy. Then, a chapter book where she will spend lots of time sounding out words. Finally, she will read from a “just right” first grade book. After showing each book, the teacher will pose questions to the class to see how they determined if the book is too easy, too hard, or just right. She will assess student understanding using thumbs up and thumbs down.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What about this book makes it too easy? How did you know that?2. What am I struggling with while reading the chapter book? Does that mean it is too easy, too hard, or just right?3. Why is this book a “just right” book?4. What would a just right book look like to you? Look back at the anchor char to help answer.
Assessment:	<p>Students will go to the back of the room and select two books for themselves from the baskets that they believe are “just right” books based on what they learned in the lesson. The teacher will watch them during this process and see how they use what they learned. They will ask the students why they selected it as a “just right” book.</p>
Sources:	Reading Fundamentals: Launching Grade 1

