

How to Choose Your Burlington Activity Reader

Some Tips

All the **Burlington Activity Readers** have been carefully graded to level. However, there may be things other than level to consider when choosing readers. Here are some tips to help you choose. Of course, the tips are purely suggestions. We hope these tips help you choose your readers for this school year. You can always feel free to contact your nearest Burlington Books office for additional guidance.

- **GENRE:** When choosing a reader, you should take into account the level and the interests of your students. Show your students the different genres – adventure, classics, horror, etc. – and ask them to choose the one(s) they would prefer to read. Read the information on the back cover to identify the genre and choose the reader you think will suit your students best. You can also ask the students to vote for the books they would like to read. You may prefer to do this activity in the students' own language.
 - with. Another idea is to read books with a seasonal connection at the appropriate time of year – for example *A Christmas Carol* at Christmas time or *A Ghost Collection* or *More Ghost Tales* around Halloween time.
 - **EASE OF READING:** It is important that your students enjoy the reader and aren't frustrated by a text which is too difficult for them. It might be a good idea to start the school year with a collection of short stories, since the shorter length of each story makes them easier to read. We offer many short story collections in the first cycle such as *More Ghost Tales*, *Tales from Greek Mythology*, *Tales of the Alhambra*, *Tales of Arabian Nights* and *A Ghost Collection*. In the second cycle, our collections include *Three Child Rulers*, *Two Explorers*, *Modern Masters*, *Villains!*, *A Sherlock Holmes Collection* and at Bachillerato level, *Oscar Wilde Short Stories*.
 - **FAMILIARITY:** It's easier to read a story if you know the storyline, so adaptations of well-known books like *Doctor Dolittle*, *The Jungle Book*, *The Lost World*, *The Borrowers* or of books which have been made into films like *Madame Doubtfire* and *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*, might be good options to start
 - **SOPHISTICATION OF PLOT:** Generally, the classics tend to be slightly more difficult because they have got a wider variety of characters, a more complicated plot and possibly a higher level of vocabulary. It might be a good idea to leave the classics until later in the year, when the students have developed more confidence in their reading. Our non-fiction range includes some biographies, for example, *People Who Changed the World* and *Gandhi*, and these might also be slightly more difficult, and worth leaving until the third term.
 - **READING COMPETENCE:** We provide a very approximate orientation as to which readers within any level are perhaps more suitable for students as they progress through the year.
 - Easy: To start the year and help the students get back into the habit of reading (i.e. term 1)
 - Medium: To encourage increasing reading confidence (i.e. term 2)
 - Difficult: For confident readers (i.e. term 3)
- Obviously, these cannot be more than suggestions. In the end, each student will read at his or her own pace, but the symbols may help you decide which readers best suit your particular students.