

How to Find a Just Right Book

TOO EASY

- *you know all the words
- *you can read the words fluently (smooth and with an interesting voice)
- *you have lots of schema (background) to help you understand the subject
- *you totally understand the story
- *your reading rate may be quicker
- *you don't have to think much to understand what you are reading
- *you find it a bit dull and uninteresting after a time
- *you can make a clear "mental movie" of what you read

JUST RIGHT

- *you can read most of the words (pass the five finger test)
- *you can figure out the tricky words and still get the meaning of the story
- *you can understand what you are reading
- *you enjoy the book
- *you may have some background information to help you understand the subject
- *you can read the book with smooth fluency but there are some choppy places
- *your reading rate is just right- not too slow and not too fast
- *when you are reading well, you can make a mental movie of what is happening

TOO CHALLENGING FOR NOW

- *many of the words are too hard to decode (failed a five finger test)
- *you don't know what the tricky words MEAN
- *your reading becomes choppy more than it is fluent
- *you don't have any schema for the subject
- *there are often a lot of words on the page
- *you lose focus as you are reading
- *you are not enjoying the book because you have to do too much word work
- *your thinking is confused
- *your reading rate slows way down
- *Your mental movie is fuzzy