Transition from picture books to chapter books with longer stories that aren’t finished in one sitting and have fewer illustrations.

**Ramona the Pest***
X Cleary, Beverly
Ramona Quimby, one of the best loved characters in children’s literature, struggles with the challenges of kindergarten. 211 p.

**Mercy Watson to the Rescue***
X DiCamillo, Kate
Mercy the pig awakens to find her bed teetering on the edge of a giant hole. 68 p.

**Fortunately the Milk***
X Gaiman, Neil
While getting milk, a father is abducted by aliens travelling through time and space. 101 p.

**13-Story Treehouse***
X Griffiths, Andy
Andy and Terry live and have wacky adventures in an amazing 13-story treehouse but can they finish writing their book among all the amazing distractions? 239 p.

**Dory Fantasmagory***
X Hanlon, Abby
Dory stretches her wild imagination all summer long, and drives her family crazy. 151 p.

**Emmaline and the Bunny***
X Hannigan, Katherine
Puddle-splashing Emmaline wants a bunny, but she lives in a very tidy town that would never welcome a messy pet. 94 p.

**Stink: The Incredible Shrinking Kid***
X McDonald, Megan
The shortest kid in the second grade, nicknamed Stink, learns about the shortest president of the United States. 102p.

**Juana & Lucas***
X Medina, Juana
Juana loves to play with her pet dog, Lucas, but she does NOT love learning English. When her abuelos tell her about their special travel plans Juana might be willing to give this new language a try. 88p.

**Dinosaurs before Dark***
X Osborne, Mary Pope
Siblings Jack and Annie find a magic treehouse that whisks them away! 68p.

**Peter and the Starcatchers***
X Barry, Dave
A thrilling prequel to Peter Pan that tells how Peter came to Never-Never Land. 451p.

**Bunnicula***
X Howe, Deborah
Chester, the cat, tries to warn his human family that their baby bunny is a vampire! 98p.

**Alvin Ho: Allergic to Girls, School, and Other Scary Things***
X Look, Lenore
Timid 2nd grader Alvin finally finds a friend in this laugh-out-loud story. 172p.

**The Doll People***
X Martin, Ann
A 100-year-old porcelain doll family is in for changes when the pink plastic Funcraft dolls move into the same humans’ house. 256p.

**Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky***
X Mbalia, Kwame
Tristan expects things to be quiet and boring at his grandparents but he ends up on an adventure of mythic proportions! 482p.

**The Borrowers***
X Norton, Mary
Beneath the floor, a family of tiny people lives on what they “borrow” from humans. 192p.

**Clementine***
X Pennypacker, Sara
8-year-old Clementine is a good-hearted trouble magnet. 136p.

**Poppy***
X Avi
Poppy, a brave, persistent deer mouse, tries to prove that Ocax, the great horned owl, is not her family’s protector after all. 147p.

**Caddie Woodlawn***
X Brink, Carol Ryrie
Based on a true story, 11-year-old Caddie grows up wild on the Wisconsin frontier. 274p.

**Stone Fox***
X Gardiner, John Reynolds
To save his grandfather’s farm, Willy must defeat a huge mountain man in a dogsled race. 85p.

**My Side of the Mountain***
X George, Jean Craighead
Sam learns to live by his wits when he sets up a home in a hollowed out tree. 178p.

* This book has one or more sequels, or is part of a series.
Dragon Pearl
X Lee, Yoon Ha
To find her missing brother, Min will have to stretch her fox-magic, her bravery, and her wits to the limit on an epic space quest through the Thousand Worlds. 310p.

Merci Suárez Changes Gears
X Medina, Meg
Merci, who attends a private school on scholarship, must deal with bullying from a popular student at school and her beloved, but ailing grandfather at home. 355p.

Wonder*
X Palacio, R.J.
Augie wants nothing more than to be treated as a normal kid, but will his classmates get past his extraordinary face? 315p.

Esperanza Rising
X Ryan, Pam Muños
Forced from their life of privilege, Esperanza and her mother must adapt to the harsh conditions faced by Mexican farm workers in 1930’s California. 262p.

Holes*
X Sachar, Louis
Stanley has a bad luck curse. Sent to a correctional camp in Texas, can Stanley find treasure, a friend, and some good luck? 233p.

One Crazy Summer
X Williams-Garcia, Rita
Three young girls get to know their estranged mother the summer of 1968 while also going to a Black Panther’s summer camp for kids. 218p.

* This book has one or more sequels, or is part of a series.

Reading Aloud
And Why It Matters

Reading aloud to your child helps them expand their vocabulary, provides a model of fluent reading, and shows them just how fun reading can be! And the best part is that reading aloud to your child does not have to stop after they learn to read.

Reading together as a family is a great chance to discuss and enjoy books, while bonding with family members and making wonderful memories. This can also be an opportunity to share a genre, or type of book, which your child wouldn’t normally be drawn to, exposing them to new concepts, imaginative ideas, and differing cultures.

This easy (and free) activity can have long lasting benefits for your child, ranging from better reading comprehension to developing a lifelong love of reading.