



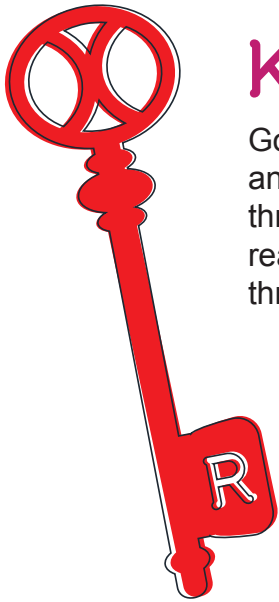
Read “Good-Fit” Books

Keys to
Fluency

**Ruby
Reader**

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Read “Good-Fit” Books



Keys for the Teacher

Good-Fit reading for early learners centers on selecting books of interest and using pictures to access the storyline. Learning to take the time to look through an entire book to determine real interest is a good habit for beginning readers to form. This habit then easily transfers to the next step of browsing through a book to determine text “readability.”

Keys for the Children

Good readers look through all the pages in a book, not just the cover, before deciding if it’s a book they want to read.

Lesson

A good-fit lesson for young children focuses on how to pick a book of interest. Illustrate this idea by showing a big box that has something tiny hidden inside. Ask students to guess what might be in the box. After several guesses, reveal the contents. Some children will be surprised to see something so tiny inside. Make the connection that a book is like the box; you don’t really know what’s inside until you take a look. You can’t really decide if it’s a good-fit for you until you open it and look through it.

Beginning readers need to select books of interest from two categories:

- 1** *“Read the Words” books. These books are short and often follow a predictable pattern. Students are practicing their sight words in context and using pictures clues to decode unknown words. Because of the limited amount of text, students read these books quickly.*
- 2** *“Read the Pictures” books. These books are generally much longer with significantly more text. They are read aloud type books. Because of their length and detailed illustrations, they sustain the student’s interest longer.*

It can be helpful to set some parameters when children are book shopping. Having each child select six “read the words” books and six “read the pictures” books will give students a nice selection to choose from in their reading suitcases.

