A child at this stage is more aware of real-life situations and is less self-centered. She has moved into the world of readers and is able to read independently. She still enjoys being read to and has a longer attention span for listening. To continue to grow as a reader, a 7 or 8-year-old needs experience with many books of various types at different levels of difficulty.

**Tips for selecting books for 7 or 8-year-olds**

- Picture books are still popular, but with more words. Illustrations become a complement to the story and not so much a part of the story itself. A child is ready for chapter books at this reading level.

- A child is more aware of a bigger world and has an understanding of time that includes a sense of past, present, and future. Simple biographies of famous and historical figures are of interest.

- An awareness of others makes children interested in books about other people and their cultures.

- Children will begin to like series books or books by the same author.

- A 7 or 8-year-old will delight in books about children who act on their own without needing help from adults.

- Stories about friendship or stories that give children a sense of belonging are popular.

- Offer books where good behavior is rewarded and bad behavior is punished or where right wins over wrong.

- Choose short chapter books and level reading books.

- When choosing story books for children, always choose good literature. Select books that have interesting and engaging plots and characters and language that is a pleasure to read.

- Make available good reference books for finding answers to children’s questions about the world.
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These suggestions and guidelines are general in nature and are not intended to take the place of any specific instructions provided to you by your supervisors or regulatory agencies. In addition, appropriate caution, reasonable safety precautions, and adult supervision of children are recommended at all times. Do not leave children unattended at any time.