

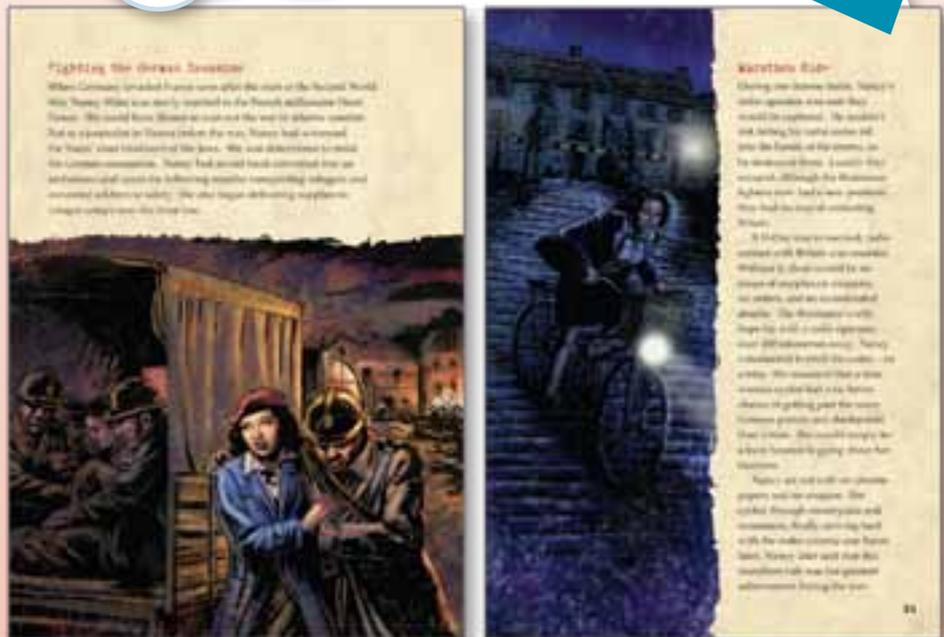
If your child is meeting the Reading Standard by the end of Year 8...

...they will be reading at curriculum level 4.

Your child will be able to find, think about, and bring together information and ideas within and across a range of books, stories and articles. As they do this they will be able to ask and answer questions across all curriculum areas.

“The Gestapo’s Most Wanted”
by Feana Tu’akoi
– *School Journal*, Part 4
Number 2, 2009

Books at this level look like this:



Copyright for the text, illustrations and/or photographs is as stated in the original publication.

To meet the standard your child will be learning to:

- read books:
 - with pictures, photos, boxes, diagrams, maps, charts, and graphs that relate to the story's content
 - that need explanation, such as complicated plots, high-level (teenage) themes, and abstract (non-concrete) ideas
- choose the right skills and technologies (e.g., the Internet) to locate and use a range of stories for particular purposes across the curriculum; e.g., reading to find out information on a science or social studies topic
- use a growing range of strategies to help them when they don't understand what they are reading
- work out more difficult words by using a range of skills.

You may notice that the books your child is reading in Years 7 and 8 are sometimes the same. Your child will be doing more complex tasks with these books in Year 8.

As your child reads this story, they might:

- ask and answer questions in order to work out the risks for the main character
- describe the main character's qualities, such as courage and endurance, and bring together information to consider why she has been hailed as a hero
- make connections to the personal qualities of other people they have read about who have faced similar situations, e.g., Mahatma Gandhi or Nelson Mandela
- ask and answer questions about why these qualities are so important for resisting oppression and injustice.

Work together...

Help support your child's learning by building a good relationship with your child's teacher, finding out how your child is doing and working together to support their learning.

READING

AT HOME

Support their learning

- Help your child gather newspaper, magazine and journal articles for a topic of interest at school.
- Help them find information on Internet sites for a topic your child might be studying at school.
- Talk to your child about what they have been reading on the Internet. What have they learnt? What questions do they still have? Where else could they find information that would be useful?
- Talk to your child's teacher about available books and resources that relate to your child's interests.
- Read through your child's homework tasks and questions together and talk about what they are planning to do to finish the homework.
- Play card and board games as a family. Increase the challenge – it really helps children's learning.

Be a role model. Let your child see you enjoying reading – whether it's the newspaper, a magazine, a comic, a cook book or a novel. Read magazines, newspapers and books in your first language.



Be positive whenever your child is reading, no matter what they are reading. Respect your child's opinion as it shows they are thinking about what they read.

Read together

- Read your child a children's novel that they are interested in – try one or two chapters each day.
- Get your child to listen to younger siblings doing their reading homework (this is a good chance for them to practise some of their own reading skills). You can remind them about pausing while the younger child thinks about a word they don't know, giving them help to work out the word, and giving them praise for their reading, too.
- Have books, magazines, comics, newspapers and other information available for everyone in your family to read on topics that interest your child – e.g., skateboarding, surfing, fashion.
- Listen together to CDs and mp3s of your child's favourite stories, books and songs.

Help your child link what they read to their own life. Remind them about what they have done when a similar thing happens in the story.

Hunt out things to read

- Take a trip to the library and help your child to find books, audio books and magazines that they will enjoy reading – e.g., books about their favourite musician, movie star, sports celebrity or other role model.
- Find books or magazines that tell stories about who your child is and where they have come from.
- Find a difficult puzzle book to work on together.
- Read and talk about advertising signs you see – talk about how the company decided on the words and the design, and who they are trying to appeal to with the advertising.
- Use a map to find directions for a trip you are going on, or follow the journeys of people on travel and adventure programmes.
- Get some instruction books from the library on how to plan for and make food, gifts, or toys, for family birthdays, Matariki or Christmas. Work through the instructions with your child.
- Find some recipes together that your child might like to cook for a family treat. Be there to help your child as they read through the recipe, get all the ingredients and create the final result.

Support your child...

As parents, family and whānau you play a big part in your child's learning every day, and you can support and build on what they learn at school too.