


It is not enough to simply
teach children to read;
we have to give them
something worth reading.
Something that will
stretch their imaginations
—something that will help
them make sense
of their own lives and
encourage them
to reach out toward
people whose lives
are quite different from
their own.

(Katherine Paterson, 2005).

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**How do I choose
quality books
for my child?**

The following questions may be helpful when choosing picture books for your child.



Is the book;

- imaginative? Will it trigger questions, feelings, conversations and wonderings?
- about topics your child has interest in? Will it link to the child's life and experiences?
- interesting and engaging for you and your child? Do you think they will enjoy reading it again and again?
- able to help your child hear and understand new words?
- able to open up new ideas or ways of thinking about others and their worlds?
- genuine? Is the language used real and rich? Does it engage your feelings?

Are the pictures:

- rich and interesting?
- adding to the meaning of the story by sharing new ideas?
- playful?

(adapted from Ewing, Miller and Saxton, 2008, p.126)

