

# The Goldilocks Strategy for Choosing Books

## Too Easy Books

Ask yourself these questions. If you are answering YES, this book is probably a Too Easy Book for you. Have fun reading it.

1. Have you read it lots of times before?
2. Do you understand the story (test) very well?
3. Do you know and understand almost every word?
4. Can you read it smoothly?

## Just Right Books

Ask yourself these questions. If you are answering YES, this book is probably a Just Right Book for you. Go ahead and learn from it.

1. Is this book new to you?
2. Do you understand what you've read so far?
3. Are there just a few words per page you don't know?
4. When you read are some places smooth and some choppy?
5. Can someone help you with this book? Who?

## Too Hard Books

Ask yourself these questions. If you are answering YES, this book is probably a Too Hard Book for you. Give it another try later.

1. Are there more than a few words on a page you don't know?
2. Are you confused about what is happening in most of this book?
3. When you read, does it sound pretty choppy?
4. Is everyone else busy and unable to help you?

From "Lessons from Goldilocks: Somebody's Been Choosing My Books But I Can Make My Own Choices Now!" by Marilyn M. Ohlhausen and Mary Jepsen. The New Advocate, Vol. 5, No. 1, Winter 1992, p. 36 Norwood, MA: Christopher-Gordon Publishers, Inc.

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