What do Book Band levels mean?

Reading books are graded by difficulty by reading levels known as Book Bands. Each Book Band has its own colour. The chart below gives an indication of the range of Book Band levels at which most children will be reading as they progress through primary school.

The chart shows the progress of an 'average' band of children- but no individual child is 'average', so no child makes smooth progress precisely in this way. Children tend to learn in fits and starts – periods of growth followed by periods of consolidation when their progress seems to halt for a while. The periods where you don't see rapid progress may be worrying, especially after a 'growth spurt', but they are important as your child develops confidence in using and applying their newly acquired skills.

If you are ever worried about your child's progress, talk to their teacher.

Book Band Colour	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	
Lilac								Lilac level
Pink								Pink level
Red								Red level
Yellow								Yellow level
Blue								Blue level
Green								Green level
Orange								Orange level
Turquoise								Turquoise level
Purple								Purple level
Gold								Gold level
White								White level
Lime								Lime level
Brown								Brown level
Grey								Grey level
Blue (KS2)								Blue level
Red (KS2)								Red level