At Independent Reading levels, students:

- Can use what they know to figure out the few hard words by themselves.
- Are engaged for long periods of time.
- Want to do it again.
- Can tell you what they've learned from their reading.
- Laugh at the funny parts.
- Read with expression.
- Are relaxed, comfortable, and having fun.
- Get into the habit of fluency, understanding, and success.
- Are learning to love to read.