

## CHOOSING CHILDREN'S BOOKS

Much of the pleasure of a good book comes from hearing a familiar voice read it and sitting in a warm and snugly place while sharing it. A “book” to your child can be a book on loan from the library; or it can be a discarded catalog, the junk mail, or an adult book with appealing pictures. Books are windows to the world. Children enjoy and read books for the same reasons adults do—for entertainment and excitement, for information and to gain skills.

### PICTURE BOOKS

Books by these authors are good enough to read over and over again.

Peek A Boo, by Janet & Allen Alberg  
A baby catalog of everyday life.

Just Like Daddy, by Frank Asch  
Getting up and doing everything “just like Daddy” is fine but catching a big fish “just like Mommy” is even better.

Runaway Bunny, by Margaret Wise Brown  
A little bunny wants to run away from home but his mother can always find him.

Mr. Grumpy's Motor Car, by John Burningham  
Mr. Grumpy and his familiar friends fun into trouble motoring in heavy rains.

Very Hungry Caterpillar, by Eric Carle  
The very hungry caterpillar eats his way through the pages of this book.

Freight Train, by Donald Crews  
Clear, bright, simple illustrations show all the cars in the train.

Tomie De Paola's Mother Goose, by Tomie De Paola  
Crispy, outlined, brightly colored illustrations decorate and interpret a varied gathering of nursery rhymes.

Corduroy, by Don Freeman  
The adventures of a teddy bear in a large department store.

Where's Spot?, by Eric Hill  
Where is the puppy hiding? Open all the doors and find out.

An Evening At Alfie's, by Shirley Hughes  
On the night Alfie's Mum and Dad step out, a pipe bursts, wet chaos ensues, a young boy and his babysitter are left with the mess.

The Snowy Day, by Ezra Jack Keats  
Peter has a day of adventures in the new fallen snow.

One Monster After Another, by Mercer Mayer  
Stolen by a series of monsters, a letter is finally delivered.

Ten, Nine, Eight, by Molly Bang  
A soothing, comforting bedtime book

Leo the Late Bloomer, Robert Kraus  
A tiger family honors their son's individual development time line

I Went Walking, Sue Williams  
A child sees all sorts of farm animals on his walk

Little Gorilla, Ruth Bornstein  
Little Gorilla grows up and learns about friendship and unconditional love

Blueberries For Sal, by Robert McCloskey

While blueberry picking one day, a little girl mistakes a bear for her mother and mom mistakes a bear cub for Sal.

Sleeping, by Jam Omeod

This wordless picture book depicts the bedtime ritual shared by baby and Dad.

Read-Along Rhymes For The Very Young, by Jack Prelutsky

A very readable and delightfully illustrated book of nursery rhymes selected by Jack Prelutsky.

Best Word Book Ever, by Richard Scarry

Join Huckle, Lowly Worm, and friends as they identify the world around us.

Where the Wild Things Are, by Maurice Sendak

Max sails off in his private boat to where the wild things are.

The Snowman, by Raymond Briggs

Winter adventures shared by a boy and a snowman who magically comes to life.

Max's Breakfast, by Rosemary Wells

Toddlers will delight in this zesty board book that slyly shows how young Max avoids eating his egg.

## **BOOKS FOR CHILDREN ON SPECIAL TOPICS:**

### **BEING SICK**

Going to the Dentist, by Fred Rogers

Going to the Doctor, by Fred Rogers

### **SELF-IDENTITY**

Hats, Ann Morris

About how people all over the world wear hats.

Quick as a Cricket, by Audrey Wood

The different facets of a child's sense of self

We are All Alike, We are All Different, Cheltenham Elementary School kindergartners and Laurie Dwight.

A book on multi-cultural awareness.



### **FEELINGS**

Even If I Did Something Awful, Hazen

A mother declares her unconditional love for her child.

Feelings, Canizares

Photos of children expressing feelings.

I Love You the Purplest, Barbara Josse

About temperament and two brothers competing for mother's attention

I Was So Mad!, Mayer

A child tries various ways to deal with his anger.

Mama, Do you Love Me, Barbara Josse

An Inuit child learns about testing the limits of independence and unconditional love.

William's Doll, Zolotow

Only William's grandmother understands how important it is for him to have a doll.

## **DEATH AND DYING**

### The Dead Bird, Brown

A group of children bury a dead bird found in the woods.

### Everett Anderson's Goodbye, Lucille Clifton

A little boy experiences the stages of grief following his father's death.

### Lifetimes, Bryan Mellonie

A beautiful way to explain death to children.

### Saying Goodbye to Lulu, Corinne Damas

About the death of the family dog that a little girl has grown up with.

### The Tenth Good Thing about Barney, Judith Viorst

About a pet cat that has died.

### When a Pet Dies, Rogers

## **NEW EXPERIENCES**

### Going to Day Care, Rogers

Activities and feelings associated with going to day care are described.

## **ACCEPTING A NEW BABY**

### Baby and I Can Play, Hendrickson

Can older brothers and sisters cope with and enjoy a new baby in the family?

### Peter's Chair, Keats

Peter finds it difficult to adjust to his new role as big brother.

### The New Baby, Rogers

Explains some of the changes and disruptions a new baby in the house can cause a sibling.

## **BIRTH**

### How You Were Born, Cole

How a baby is conceived, grows inside the womb, and is born is explained.

### When You Were A Baby, Jonas

Remember all the things you couldn't do as a baby?

### A Baby For Max, Lasky

A five-year old awaits the birth of the family's new baby.

### Baby on the Way, Sears, Sears, and Kelly

An older brother and sister help their parents prepare for a new baby.

