

MORE Books for Beginning Readers

A Bibliography of Trade Books for Young Children

Selected by
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This bibliography supplements **Books for Beginning Readers**, which was originally created in 1996. This edition features newer books, published from 1998 to the present, selected to meet the needs of children learning to read.

A child beginning to read brings a unique set of skills, a personal understanding of what reading is, and a level of confidence that may differ from day to day. Rhythm, rhyme, repetition, a controlled vocabulary, and a text with a clear context and picture clues are each characteristic of trade books appropriate for beginning readers. Relatively few trade books contain all of the above characteristics, although more than one of these characteristics can be identified in many books.

The books selected for this bibliography are categorized according to the dominant characteristic even though many of the books listed here could possibly be listed in more than one category. *Within each category the titles are listed in order of difficulty.* Each section begins with those books that are easier to read and ends with titles more difficult for beginning readers.

The books listed were chosen with the interests of primary-aged children in mind. Almost all of these books can be found in most elementary school libraries or public libraries. The list is not comprehensive. Adults using this bibliography will want to identify other trade books with one or more of these characteristics and make their own additions to each section of the bibliography.

You can find an online version of this bibliography with CCBC annotations for most of the books on the CCBC web site. Go to www.education.wisc.edu/ccbc/ Click on Site Index and scroll down to "Bibliographies and Booklists." You can also access the original bibliography on our web site.

Categories

- 1. Rhythm and Rhyme**
- 2. Repetition**
- 3. Picture Clues**
- 4. Sight Vocabulary**
- 5. Clear Context and Sight Vocabulary**
- 6. Putting It All Together**

Rhythm and Rhyme

The Baby Goes Beep by Rebecca O'Connell. Illustrated by Ken Wilson-Max. Deborah Brodie Book / Roaring Brook Press, 2003

Panda Bear, Panda Bear, What Do You See? by Bill Martin, Jr. Illustrated by Eric Carle. Henry Holt, 2003

Tanka Tanka Skunk by Steve Webb. Scholastic, 2004

We're Going on a Lion Hunt by David Axtell. Henry Holt, 1999

MORE Books for Beginning Readers, page 2

The Hokey Pokey by Larry La Prise, Charles P. Macak and Taftt Baker. Illustrated by Sheila Hamanaka. Simon & Schuster, 1997

Hey, Little Baby! by Nola Buck. Illustrated by R. W. Alley. (Harper Growing Tree) HarperCollins, 1999

Jazz Baby by Lisa Wheeler. Illustrated by R. Gregory Christie. Harcourt, 2007

Rain Play by Cynthia Cotten. Illustrated by Javaka Steptoe. Henry Holt, 2008

Rap a Tap Tap: Here's Bojangles – Think of That! by Leo and Diane Dillon. Blue Sky Press / Scholastic, 2002

This Jazz Man by Karen Ehrhardt. Illustrated by R. G. Roth. Harcourt, 2006

Move Over, Rover by Karen Beaumont. Illustrated by Jane Dyer. Harcourt, 2006.

Repetition

Tuck Me In! by Dean Hacoen and Sherry Scharschmidt. Candlewick Press, 2010

The Bus for Us by Suzanne Bloom. Boyds Mills Press, 2001

Pete the Cat: I Love My White Shoes by Eric Litwin. Illustrated by James Dean. HarperCollins, 2010

The Busy Little Squirrel by Nancy Tafuri. Simon and Schuster, 2007

Not a Box by Antoinette Portis. HarperCollins, 2006

The Doghouse by Jan Thomas. Harcourt, 2008

Let's Play in the Forest While the Wolf Is Not Around by Claudia Rueda. Scholastic Press, 2006

When I Grow Up by Leonid Gore. Scholastic, 2009

I'm the Best by Lucy Cousins. Candlewick Press, 2010

All for Pie, Pie for All by David Martin. Illustrated by Valeri Gorbachev. Candlewick Press, 2006

"Slowly, Slowly, Slowly," said the Sloth by Eric Carle. Philomel, 2002

We're Going on a Picnic by Pat Hutchins. Greenwillow / HarperCollins, 2002

Wait! I Want to Tell You a Story by Tom Willans. Simon and Schuster, 2005

What Did You Do Today? by Kerry Arquette. Illustrated by Nancy Hayashi. Harcourt, 2002

The Mitten by retold by Jim Aylesworth. Illustrated by Barbara McClintock. Scholastic Press, 2009

Hen Hears Gossip by Margaret McDonald. Illustrated by Joung Un Kim. Greenwillow / HarperCollins, 2008

Picture Clues

Carlo Likes Reading by Jessica Spanyol. U. S. edition: Candlewick Press, 2001.

First the Egg by Laura Vaccaro Seeger. A Neal Porter Book / Roaring Brook Press, 2007

This Train by Paul Collicutt. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1999

Maybe a Bear Ate It! by Robie H. Harris. Illustrated by Michael Emberley. Orchard, 2008

Bark, George by Jules Feiffer. HarperCollins, 1999

Inside Mouse, Outside Mouse by Lindsay Barrett George. Greenwillow / HarperCollins, 2004

Play Ball with Me by Lynn Reiser. Alfred A. Knopf, 2006

Little White Rabbit by Kevin Henkes. Greenwillow / HarperCollins, 2011

Can You Top That? by W. Nikola-Lisa. Illustrated by Hector Viveros Lee. Lee & Low, 2000

Mama Cat Has Three Kittens by Denise Fleming. Henry Holt, 1998

White Is for Blueberry by George Shannon. Illustrated by Laura Dronzek. Greenwillow / HarperCollins, 2005

Please Take Me for a Walk by Susan Gal. Alfred A. Knopf, 2010

Snail Trail by Ruth Brown. Crown, 2000

I Love Bugs! by Philemon Sturges. Illustrated by Shari Halpern. HarperCollins, 2005

Has Anyone Seen My Emily Greene? by Norma Fox Mazer. Illustrated by Christine Davenier. Candlewick Press, 2007

My Dad by Anthony Browne. U.S. edition: Farrar Straus Giroux, 2000.

Firefighters A to Z by Chris L. Demarest. Margaret K. McElderry, 2000

Sight Vocabulary

Brave Bear by Kathy Mallat. Walker, 1999

See Pip Point by David Milgrim. Atheneum, 2003

(check out David Milgrim's other books featuring these same characters)

Can I Play Too? by Mo Willems. (An Elephant & Piggie Book) Hyperion, 2010

(check out other "Elephant and Piggie" books by Mo Willems)

A Splendid Friend, Indeed by Suzanne Bloom. Boyds Mills Press, 2005

The Complete Adventures of Big Dog and Little Dog by Dav Pilkey. Houghton Mifflin, 2003

Book! by Kristine O'Connell George. Illustrated by Maggie Smith. Clarion, 2001

The Thingamabob by Il Sung Na. Alfred A. Knopf, 2010

MORE Books for Beginning Readers, page 4

Why is Blue Dog Blue? A Tale of Color by George Rodrigue and Bruce Goldstone. Stewart, Tabori & Chang, 2002

When It Starts to Snow by Phillis Gershator. Illustrated by Martin Matje. Henry Holt, 1998

What James Likes Best by Amy Schwartz. A Richard Jackson Book / Atheneum, 2003

David's Drawings by David Falwell. Children's Book Press, 2008

Hello, Bumblebee Bat by Darrin Lunde. Charlesbridge, 2007

Clear Context and Sight Vocabulary

No by Claudia Rueda. Groundwood, 2010

Up, Down, and Around by Katherine Ayres. Illustrated by Nadine Bernard. Candlewick Press, 2007

Pouch! by David Ezra Stein. Putnam, 2009

I Spy Fly Guy! by Tedd Arnold. Scholastic, 2009 (check out other "Fly Guy" books by Tedd Arnold)

Little Mouse Gets Ready: A Toon Book by Jeff Smith. Toon Books, 2009

Close Your Eyes by Kate Banks. Illustrated by Georg Hallensleben. Frances Foster Books / Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2002

Don't Worry Bear by Greg Foley. Viking, 2008

Cleo and Caspar by Caroline Mockford. Barefoot Books, 2001

Who Likes Rain? by Wong Herbert Yee. Henry Holt, 2007

What a Treasure! by Jane Hillenbrand. Illustrated by Will Hillenbrand. Holiday House, 2007

The Adventures of Max and Pinky: Best Buds by Maxwell Eaton, III. Alfred A. Knopf, 2007

Jack's Talent by Maryann Cocca-Leffler. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2007

Tippy-Toe Chick, Go! by George Shannon. Illustrated by Laura Dronzek. Greenwillow / HarperCollins, 2003

Kitten's First Full Moon by Kevin Henkes. Greenwillow / HarperCollins, 2004

Dog and Bear: Two's Company by Laura Vaccaro Seeger. A Neal Porter Book / Roaring Brook Press, 2008

Fred Stays With Me! by Nancy Coffelt. Illustrated by Tricia Tusa. Little, Brown, 2007

Ling & Ting: Not Exactly the Same! by Grace Lin. Little, Brown, 2010

Gotta Go! Gotta Go! by Sam Swope. Illustrated by Sue Riddle. Little, Brown, 2000

Putting It All Together

I Am a Backhoe by Anna Grossnickle Hines. Tricycle Press, 2010

City Dog, Country Frog by Mo Willems. Illustrated by Jon J Muth. Hyperion, 2010

Drip Drop by Sarah Weeks. Illustrated by Jane K. Manning. (An I Can Read Book) HarperCollins, 2002

When Will Sarah Come? by Elizabeth Fitzgerald Howard. Illustrated by Nina Crews. Greenwillow / HarperCollins, 1999

Goose and Duck by Jean Craighead George. Illustrated by Priscilla Lamont. Laura Geringer Books / HarperCollins, 2008

Fox Tale Soup by Tony Bonning. Illustrated by Sally Hobson. Simon & Schuster, 2002

When Winter Comes by Nancy Van Laan. Illustrated by Susan Gaber. Atheneum, 2000

All the Way to Lhasa: A Tale from Tibet by Barbara Helen Berger. Philomel, 2002

Max's Starry Night by Ken Wilson-Max. Jump at the Sun / Hyperion, 2001

Aggie the Brave by Lori Ries. Illustrated by Frank W. Dormer. Charlesbridge, 2010
(check out the other "Aggie" books by Lori Ries)

Rabbit's Gift: A Fable from China by George Shannon. Illustrated by Laura Dronzek. Harcourt, 2007

Busy Busy Moose by Nancy Van Laan. Illustrated by Amy Rusch. Houghton Mifflin, 2003

Guess the Baby by Simon French. Illustrated by Donna Rawlins. Clarion, 2002

Cowgirl Kate and Cocoa: Partners by Erica Silverman. Illustrated by Betsy Lewin. Harcourt, 2006
(check out the other "Cowgirl Kate" books by Erica Silverman)

Mrs. Chicken and the Hungry Crocodile by Won-Ldy Paye and Margaret H. Lippert. Illustrated by Julie Paschkis. Henry Holt, 2003

Snow Pumpkin by Carole Lexa Schaefer. Illustrated by Pierr Morgan. Crown, 2000

Mouse and Mole: Fine Feathered Friends by Wong Herbert Yee. Houghton Mifflin, 2009

Cork & Fuzz: Good Sports by Dori Chaconas. Illustrated by Lisa McCue. Viking, 2007
(check out other "Cork & Fuzz" books by Dori Chaconas)

Dorothy & Mikey by Keiko Kasza. Putnam, 2000

Next Stop! by Sarah Ellis. Illustrated by Ruth Ohi. Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 2000

A Beach Tail by Karen Lynn Williams. Illustrated by Floyd Cooper. Boyds Mills Press, 2010

The Day Leo Said I Hate You by Robie H. Harris. Illustrated by Molly Bang. Little, Brown, 2008

Duck on a Bike by David Shannon. The Blue Sky Press / Scholastic, 2002

Pie in the Sky by Lois Ehlert. Harcourt, 2004

MORE Books for Beginning Readers, page 6

Jingle Dancer by Cynthia Leitich Smith. Illustrated by Cornelius Wright and Ying-Hwa Hu. Morrow / HarperCollins, 2000

Harley by Star Livingstone. Illustrated by Molly Bang. SeaStar, 2001

Wolf Pie by Brenda Seabrooke. Illustrated by Liz Callen. Clarion, 2010

Grandfather Counts by Andrea Cheng. Illustrated by Ange Zhang. Lee & Low, 2000

Margaret Jensen was a teacher of first and second graders for the Madison Metropolitan School District (MMSD) in Wisconsin for thirty-eight years. Believing in the power of a great story, in 1973 Margaret began seeking literature to use to teach young children how to read. She continues to find and share new titles with beginning readers. A former president of the Madison Area Reading Council, Margaret was the first recipient of the Celebrate Literacy Award given by that organization in 1982.

The Cooperative Children's Book Center (CCBC) of the School of Education at the University of Wisconsin-Madison is a noncirculating examination, study and research library for librarians, teachers, and other adults who work with children and teens or have an interest in literature for youth. The CCBC is a library of the School of Education at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and receives additional support from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction through the Division of Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning.

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