

# Kindergarten Prep & Kindergarten Read-Aloud & Early Readers Suggested Literature List

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## Read-Aloud and Early Readers Suggested for Pre-K through Kindergarten

*"Children are made readers on the laps of their parents."  
- Emilie Buchwald*

*Did you know...  
if parents read one story a day  
to their child for the first three years of life, ...  
the child will have heard 1000 stories by the age of three?"*

Reading aloud to and with your child is an extremely important part of your child's pre-reading and reading skills. For your convenience, we have compiled a list of possible books for you to read to/with your child. We do not expect you to purchase these books, and are not requiring that these specific books be read. Many of the authors below have written multiple books. This is just a sampling of their works. We hope that you and your child enjoy your reading time together!

***Good Night, Baby Bear*** by Frank Asch. As winter approaches, Mother Bear must bring a snack, a drink, and finally the moon to her cub before he can go to sleep in a cave. BL: **2.7** – AR Pts: **0.5**

***Madeline*** by Ludwig Bemelmans. Madeline, smallest and naughtiest of the 12 little charges of Miss Clavel, wakes up one night with an attack of appendicitis. BL: **3.1** – AR Pts: **0.5**

***Bears on Wheels*** by Stan Berenstain. As the gradually increasing number of bears on wheels adds up through all kinds of combinations and permutations, beginning readers are offered a unique counting book, courtesy of the Berenstains. **NO AR**

***Franklin Goes to School*** by Paulette Bourgeois. It is the first day of school for Franklin, but his teacher knows how to make it a wonderful day. BL: **2.9** – AR Pts: **0.5**

***Clifford the Big Red Dog*** by Norman Bridwell. Emily Elizabeth tells the reader about the dilemmas and delights of having a really big, red dog. BL: **1.2** – AR Pts: **0.5**

***Town Mouse, Country Mouse*** by Jean Brett. After trading houses, the country mice and the town mice discover there's no place like home. BL: **4.0** – AR Pts: **0.5**

***Goodnight, Moon*** by Margaret Wise Brown. Goodnight to each of the objects in the great green room; goodnight chairs, goodnight comb, goodnight air. BL: **1.8** – AR Pts: **0.5**

***The Runaway Bunny*** by Margaret Wise Brown. A young bunny plays an imaginary game of hide-and-seek with his lovingly steadfast mother, who finds her child every time. BL: **2.7** – AR Pts.: **0.5**

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*The Little House* by Virginia Burton. Beautifully illustrated story of a little house threatened by progress when tall buildings envelop the countryside. BL: **4.2** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*Mike Mulligan and the Steam Shovel* by Virginia Burton. Mike prefers his steam shovel to the new gas and diesel-engine contraptions and digs his way to a happy ending. BL: **4.4** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle. Follow the progress of a hungry little caterpillar as he eats his way through a large quantity of food (right through the pages), then wraps a cocoon around himself and goes to sleep. BL: **2.9** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*Biscuit* by Alyssa Satin Capucilli. A little yellow dog wants ever one more thing before he'll go to sleep. BL: **1.4** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*Shaoey and Dot* by Mary Beth Chapman. Shaoey & Dot: Bug Meets Bundle is an endearing tale told from the point of view of one little ladybug, Dot, who happens upon a mysterious bundle one sunny day. Dot stays with the little bundle as she is carried to the place "where babies come to be found" and promises to stay with the little one throughout her journeys toward getting a family. Written by Christian music artist Steven Curtis Chapman and his wife Mary Beth, this heartwarming tale is inspired by the true story of their adoption of three little girls from China and is a story of hope and faith for all families who have been blessed by a "lost little bundle of love." **NO AR**

*The Baseball Ballerina* by Kathryn Cristaldi. A baseball-loving girl worries that the ballet class her mother forces her to take will ruin her reputation with the other members of her baseball team. BL: **2.2** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*Click Clack, Moo* by Doreen Cronin. When Farmer Brown's cows find a typewriter in the barn, they start making demands and go on strike when the farmer refuses to give them what they want. BL: **2.3** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*Jamberry* by Bruce Degan. They're off...a boy and an endearing, rhyme-spouting bear, who squires him through a fantastic world of berries. And their adventure comes to a razzamatazz finale under a starberry sky. **NO AR**

*Petunia* by Roger Devoisin. Petunia, the farm goose, realizes that just to carry a book under her arm does not provide her with wisdom until she reads it. BL: **3.1** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*Strega Nona: An Old Tale Retold and Illustrated* by Tommie de Paola. When Strega Nona leaves him alone with her magic pasta pot, Big Anthony is determined to show the townspeople how it works. BL: **3.9** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*Planting a Rainbow* by Lois Ehlert. A mother and child plant a rainbow of flowers in the family garden. BL: **2.6** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*Olivia* by Ian Falconer. Whether at home getting ready for the day, enjoying the beach, or at bedtime, Olivia is a feisty pig who has too much energy for her own good. BL: **2.0** – AR Pts: **0.5**

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*Corduroy* by Don Freeman. A little girl wants a stuffed bear, but her mother refuses to buy it for her. BL: **3.5** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*Is Your Mamma a Llama?* by Deborah Guarino. A young llama asks his friends if their mamas are llamas and finds out, in rhyme, that their mothers are other types of animals. BL: **1.6** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*Kitten's First Full Moon* by Deborah Guarino. When Kitten mistakes the full moon for a bowl of milk and tries to reach it, she ends up tired, wet, and hungry. BL: **2.3** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*Bread and Jam for Frances* by Russell Hoban. Frances decides she likes to eat only bread and jam at every meal until, to her surprise, her parents grant her wish. BL: **3.4** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*Angelina Ballerina* by Katherine Holabird. A pretty little mouse wants to become a ballerina more than anything else in the world. BL: **3.9** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*The Tale of Three Trees: A Traditional Folktale* by Angela Hunt. This is a folktale about three trees that become a manger for the Christ child, a fishing boat that carries Jesus, and timbers that become the cross. BL: **4.0** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*My Pony* by Susan Jeffers. A girl who wants to own her own pony, daydreams about how exciting it would be to ride such a horse, which she names Silver. BL: **2.5** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*The Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats. A small boy experiences the joys of a snowy day. BL: **2.5** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*The Story of Ferdinand* by Munro Leaf. Ferdinand is a little bull who would rather just sit and smell the flowers than fight. BL: **3.7** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*Swimmy* by Leo Lionni. A little fish makes the most of his smallness in a big way. BL: **2.9** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*Days with Frog and Toad* by Arnold Lobel. Frog and Toad spend their days together but find sometimes it's nice to be alone. BL: **2.5** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What do You See?* by Bill Martin, Jr. Illustrations and rhyming text portray a young bear searching for its mother and meeting many North American animals along the way. BL: **2.1** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*Chicka Chicka Boom Boom* by Bill Martin, Jr. An alphabet rhyme/chant that relates what happens when the whole alphabet tries to climb a coconut tree. **NO AR**

*Blueberries for Sal* by Robert McClosky. A bear cub and a little girl each mistakes the other's mother for its own. BL: **4.1** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*Make Way For Ducklings* by Robert McCloskey. A merry picture book; very few words; a gravity that underscores the delightful comedy of the pictures. BL: **4.1** – AR Pts: **0.5**

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*Elmer* by David McKee. Elmer the elephant, a colorful character because of his patchwork hide and sense of humor, tries to blend in with the herd, but soon realizes that he's happiest just being himself. BL: **3.2** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*Winnie the Pooh* by A.A. Milne. Winnie-the-Pooh and all his friends delight readers with their adventurous exploits. BL: **4.6** – AR Pts: **3.0**

*Little Bear* by Else Homelund Minarik. Little Bear's four adventures include taking a trip to the moon and having a birthday party. BL: **2.4** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* by Laura Numeroff. Relating the cycle of requests a mouse is likely to make after you give him a cookie takes the reader through a young boy's day. BL: **2.7** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*Just in Case you Ever Wonder* by Max Lucado. A parent tells a child how special she is, both to the parent and to God. BL: **3.1** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*Fancy Nancy* by Jane O'Connor. A young girl who loves fancy things helps her family to be fancy for one special night. BL: **2.1** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*Amelia Bedelia* by Petty Parrish. Wacky misadventures as that hapless maid Amelia Bedelia interprets her instructions very literally. BL: **2.5** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*Rainbow Fish* by Marcus Pfister. The most beautiful fish in the entire ocean discovers the real value of personal beauty and friendship. The translator is J. Alison James. BL: **3.3** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*The Tale of Peter Rabbit* by Beatrix Potter. This is the classic tale of the little rabbit that didn't listen to his mother. BL: **4.2** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*Curious George* by H.A. Rey. Curiosity gets George the monkey into trouble, until he learns to put it to good use. BL: **2.6** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*Henry and Mudge: The First Book of Their Adventures* by Cynthia Rylant. Henry, feeling lonely on a street without any other children, finds companionship and love in a big dog named Mudge. BL: **2.7** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*A Bad Case of Stripes* by David Shannon. Camilla Cream worries so much about what other people think of her that she's about to break out in a bad case of stripes. BL: **3.8** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*Nate the Great* by Marjorie Sharmat. Super-detective Nate tracks down Annie's missing picture and finds a lost cat in the bargain. BL: **2.0** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*Gregory the Terrible Eater* by Mitchell Sharmat. A very picky eater, Gregory the goat refuses the usual goat diet staples of shoes and tin cans in favor of fruits, vegetables, eggs, and orange juice. BL: **2.8** – AR Pts: **0.5**

*The Cat in the Hat* by Dr. Seuss. Two children sitting at home on a rainy day are visited by the Cat in the Hat who shows them some tricks and games. BL: **2.1** – AR Pts: **0.5**

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***Green Eggs and Ham*** by Dr. Seuss. It takes much effort before Sam-I-am can convince another person to try green eggs and ham. BL: **1.5** – AR Pts: **0.5**

***Mouse Paint*** by Ellen Stoll Walsh. Three white mice discover jars of red, blue, and yellow paint and explore the world of color. BL: **2.2** – AR Pts: **0.5**

***Gigi, God's Little Princess*** by Sheila Walsh. Gigi, who has always known she is a princess, is confused at first by her parents' explanation of what makes her royal. BL: **3.2** – AR Pts: **0.5**

***Will, God's Mighty Warrior*** by Sheila Walsh. Will, who loves to play at being a warrior, is excited when his father tells him about God's armor and that there are real enemies to be fought, both in the world and in his own heart. BL: **3.5** – AR Pts: **0.5**

***Don't Let Pigeon Drive the Bus!*** by Mo Willems. A pigeon that longs to drive a bus sees a chance to make its dream come true when the bus driver takes a short break. BL: **0.9** – AR Pts: **0.5**

***Edwina, the Dinosaur Who Didn't Know She was Extinct*** by Mo Willems. Everyone loves Edwina, except for Reginald Von Hoobie-Doobie. Reginald knows dinosaurs are extinct and is ready to prove it, but will anyone listen to him, and, if they do, what will happen to Edwina? BL: **2.5** – AR Pts: **0.5**

***Wangari's Trees of Peace: A True Story from Africa*** by Jeanette Winter. This true story of Wangari Maathai, environmentalist and winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, is a shining example of how one woman's passion, vision, and determination inspired great change. BL: **3.7** – AR Pts: **0.5**

***Timothy Goes to School*** by Rosemary Wells. Timothy's enthusiasm for starting school is dimmed by seatmate Claude's expertise and know-it-all attitude. BL: **2.4** – AR Pts: **0.5**

***The Napping House*** by Audrey Wood. In this cumulative tale, a wakeful flea atop a number of sleeping creatures causes a commotion with just one bite. BL: **2.8** – AR Pts: **0.5**

***Owl Moon*** by Jane Yolen. On a winter's night under a full moon, a father and daughter trek into the woods to see the Great Horned Owl. BL: **3.2** – AR Pts: **0.5**

***Mr. Rabbit and the Lovely Present*** by Charlotte Zolotow. Mr. Rabbit is trying to help a little girl come up with the best birthday present for her Mother. BL: **2.3** – AR Pts: **0.5**

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1. *The Little Engine That Could*- Piper, Watty
2. *Good Night, Baby Bear*- Asch, Frank
3. *Madeline*- Bemelmans, Ludwig
4. *Bears on Wheels*- Berenstein, Stan
5. *Franklin Goes to School*- Bourgeois, Paulette
6. *Clifford the Big Red Dog*- Bridwell, Norman
7. *Town Mouse, Country Mouse*- Brett, Jan
8. *Goodnight, Moon*- Brown, Margaret Wise
9. *The Runaway Bunny*- Brown, Margaret Wise
10. *The Little House*- Burton, Virginia
11. *Mike Mulligan and the Steam Shovel*- Burton, Virginia
12. *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*- Carle, Eric
13. *Biscuit*- Capucilli, Nancy
14. *Shaoey and Dot*- Chapman, Mary Beth
15. *The Baseball Ballerina*- Cristaldi, Kathryn
16. *Click, Clack, Moo*- Cronin, Doreen
17. *Jamberry*- Degan, Bruce
18. *Petunia*- Devoisin, Roger
19. *Strega Nona: an old tale*- de Paola, Tommie
20. *Planting a Rainbow*- Ehlert, Lois
21. *Olivia*- Falconer, Ian
22. *Corduroy*- Freeman, Don
23. *Is Your Mama a Llama?*- Guarino, Deborah
24. *Kitten's First Full Moon*- Henkes, Kevin
25. *Bread and Jam for Frances*- Hoban, Russell
26. *Angelina Ballerina*- Holabird, Katherine
27. *The Tale of Three Trees*- Hunt, Angela
28. *My Pony*- Jeffers, Susan
29. *The Snowy Day*- Keats, Ezra Jack
30. *The Story of Fernidada*- Leaf, Munro
31. *Swimmy*- Lionni, Leo
32. *Days with Frog and Toad*- Lobel, Arnold
33. *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What do You See?*- Martin, Bill
34. *Chicka Chicka Boom Boom* – Martin, Bill
35. *Blueberries for Sal*- McCloskey, Robert
36. *Make Way for Ducklings*- McCloskey, Robert
37. *Elmer*- McKee, David
38. *Winnie the Pooh*- Milne, A.A.
39. *Little Bear*- Minarik, Else Holmelund
40. *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*- Numeroff, Laura
41. *Just in Case you Ever Wonder*- Max Lucado
42. *Fancy Nancy*- O'Connor, Jane and Robin Glasser
43. *Amelia Bedelia*- Parrish, Peggy

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44. *Rainbow Fish*- Pfister, Marcus
45. *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*- Potter, Beatrix
46. *Curious George*- Rey, H.A.
47. *Henry and Mudge* - Rylant, Cynthia
48. *A Bad Case of Stripes*- Shannon, David
49. *Nate the Great*- Sharmat, Marjorie
50. *Gregory the Terrible Eater*- Sharmat, Mitchell
51. *The Cat in the Hat*- Suess, Dr.
52. *Green Eggs and Ham*- Suess, Dr.
53. *Mouse Paint*- Walsh, Ellen Stoll
54. *Gigi, God's Little Princess*- Walsh, Sheila
55. *Will, God's Little Warrior*- Walsh, Sheila
56. *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!*- Willems, Mo
57. *Edwina the Dinosaur Who Didn't Know She Was Extinct*- Willems, Mo
58. *Wangari's Trees of Peace*- Winter, Jeanette
59. *Timothy Goes to School*- Wells, Rosemary
60. *The Napping House*- Wood, Audrey
61. *Owl Moon*- Yolen, Jane
62. *Mr. Rabbit and the Lovely Present*- Zolotow, Charlotte