



❖ Preschool - 1st Grade ❖

Best Books of 2022



We aim to provide high quality lists featuring books of different genres, interests, maturity levels, and content for children & teens. You and your parents/guardians are the best judge of what's appropriate for you.

Best Books lists from previous years may be obtained by request at the Youth Services desk.
**Additional formats available from other libraries and/or downloadable from Libby.*

Alexander, Jed – *Gold*

++**Alexander, Picture Books**

This wordless picture book plays with our assumptions about family. Is the little girl making food for an uninvited guest, taking advantage of the bear family's open door? Or is she someone else entirely?

Bonilla, Rocio – *In the Neighborhood*

++**Bonilla, Picture Books**

A plethora of animals all live on the same street, but nobody talks to anybody else. One day a chain reaction begins that turns their neighborhood into a true community.

Brimmer, Larry Dane – *Racing Ace: Drive It! Fix It!*

++**Brimmer, Early Readers**

Ace built a go-kart, but when she's ready for a test run it won't start, so she has to figure out which part is missing.

Brockington, Drew – *Puppy Bus*

++**Brockington, Picture Books**

A boy, worried about his first day at a new school, finds himself on a bus full of puppies bound for Puppy School! He discovers that despite the strange food and even weirder bathroom Puppy School is a lot of fun.

Cordell, Matthew – *Cornbread & Poppy*

++**Cordell, Early Readers**

Two mice, Cornbread and Poppy, are the best of friends. When Poppy is left without any food for the long winter, Cornbread volunteers to help her out.

Daly, Niki – *On My Papa's Shoulders*

++**Daly, Picture Books**

In an endearing homage to fathers and sons, a boy relates his daily routine of walking to school. The view from Papa's shoulders is sometimes the best view in the whole world.

Deedy, Carmen Agra – *Wombat Said Come In*

++**Deedy, Picture Books**

Safe in his burrow deep below the ground, Wombat opens his home to five animal friends seeking shelter as Australian bushfires rage above.

Denise, Christopher – *Knight Owl*

++**Denise, Picture Books***

After achieving his dream of becoming a knight, a small owl protects the castle from a hungry dragon.

Derlatka, Caroline – *When You Open a Book*

++**Derlatka, Picture Books**

Two children dine with mermaids, swashbuckle with pirates, and ride on the shoulders of a giant in this beautiful tale about the transformative power of reading.

Eady, Antwan – *Nigel and the Moon*

++**Eady, Picture Books**

Nigel dreams of becoming an astronaut, a dancer, and a superhero. With the moon, his dreams are safe. At school, his class reads about various occupations, but Nigel does not find any books with dancers who look like him.



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Ericson, Nora – *Too Early*

++Ericson, Picture Books

Bedtime books abound, but this winning title invites readers into the morning routine of its characters. Cozy and the perfect way to meet the dawn.

Evans, Gabriel – *Norton and the Bear*

++Evans, Picture Books

Annoyed with an oversized bear who likes to copy his style, fashion-conscious Norton the dog goes to increasingly ridiculous lengths in order to maintain his individuality.

Evans, Rebecca – *Alone Like Me*

++Evans, Picture Books

Set in China, this hopeful, universal story about the power of friendship to dramatically improve the quality of everyday life shows that loneliness can be overcome.

Fan Brothers – *Lizzy and the Cloud*

++Fan Brothers, Picture Books

A whimsical and sweet story about a young girl who cares for a cloud as it grows. She keeps it as a pet until the day it gets too big for her to handle.

Fogliano, Julie – *I Don't Care*

++Fogliano, Picture Books

Two friends share their delight in the little things that set them apart, and the big things that bring them together.

Grant, Shauna J. – *Mimi and the Cutie Catastrophe*

+Grant, Graphic Novels

Meet Mimi. She's charming! She's cheerful! She's cute! But that's not all! She's also a loyal friend and fun playmate, who has the best adventures with Penelope, her magical toy dog.

Goade, Michaela – *Berry Song*

++Goade, Picture Books

On an island at the edge of a wide, wild sea, a girl and her grandmother gather gifts from the earth. Salmon from the stream, herring eggs from the ocean, and in the forest, a world of berries.

Guojing – *The Flamingo*

+Guojing, Graphic Novels

An imaginative little girl and her grandmother search for shells, chase crabs, and play in the sea, but when the girl finds an exquisite flamingo feather in her grandmother's living room, her vacation turns into something fantastical.

Hare, John – *Field Trip to Volcano Island*

++Hare, Picture Books

In this wordless picture book, a student is accidentally left behind on a field trip to a volcanic island.

Harrison, Hannah E. – *Poopsie Gets Lost*

++Harrison, Picture Books

Pampered kitty Poopsie makes her way through a jungle after a pushy narrator pressures her toward adventure. Feline fun with an adorable protagonist.

Hewitt, Dylan – *Giant Giant*

++Hewitt, Picture Books

Every day, a giant spreads terror among the villagers of a peaceful town. The giant does not seem to have a worry in the world! But his misfortune is about to strike, as a giant even more gigantic than him is about to take over.



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Hurst, Elise – *The Storyteller’s Handbook*

++Hurst, Picture Books

Stories are doorways, and there are no limits to where they may lead. This is a wordless picture book for you to create countless stories. Its fantastical illustrations are the beginnings of magical new adventures.

Idle, Molly Schaar – *Witch Hazel*

++Idle, Picture Books

A girl is transformed by the magical power of stories through the shared memories of a kind "witch" named Hazel.

John, Jory – *This Book Will Get You to Sleep*

++John, Picture Books*

Kids won’t hesitate to join in as an overzealous marsupial leads a stadium of critters in a boisterous chant to fall asleep.

Kearney, Brendan – *Adventures with Finn and Skip: Forest*

++Kearney, Picture Books

Join fisherman Finn and his dog, Skip, on their second adventure in this illustrated story book for young children, which teaches them about deforestation and what they can do to help.

Keating, Jess – *Big as a Giant Snail*

+591.4 Kea, Non-Fiction

A collection of interesting facts about some of the biggest animals on the planet. It covers a wide variety of species, while subtly delving into misconceptions and stereotypes associated with size.

Kennen, Sophie – *Some Bodies*

++Kennen, Picture Books

This sweet and inclusive book encourages young readers to acknowledge and accept differences, and offers the perfect opportunity to open up conversations about body acceptance.

Kerascoët – *I Forgive Alex: A Simple Story About Understanding*

++Kerascoët, Picture Books

When an energetic child inadvertently upsets one of his classmates, everyone is reminded that it is important to take responsibility for a mistake, and it is equally important to be ready to forgive.

Knowles, Johanna – *Ear Worm!*

++Knowles, Picture Books

Little Worm finds a song stuck in his head and learns that his friends all have songs of their own to listen to.

Kuefler, Joseph – *The Digger and the Duckling*

++Kuefler, Picture Books*

When a lost duckling waddles onto their jobsite, Digger and his friends learn how to do more than just scoop, hoist, and push. They learn to become a family.

Kurilla, Renée – *The Flower Garden*

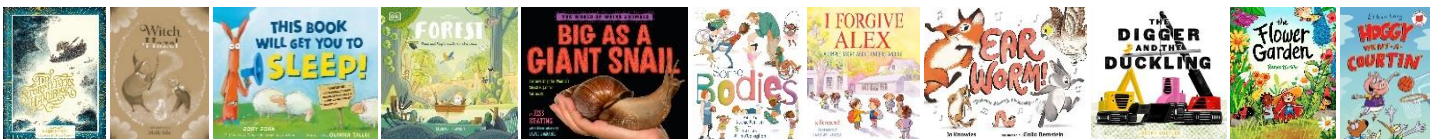
+Kurilla, Graphic Novels

After planting a seed packet in the backyard, things don't go as expected for best friends Anna and Tess. They fall asleep in the sun and wake up to blooms as tall as buildings! Did the seeds really grow that fast or is a garden gnome involved?

Long, Ethan – *Hoggy Went-a-Courtin’*

++Long, Early Readers

Hoggy is eager to show off his skills to the other animals and hogs the ball on the court, until his sister teaches him to share. A sporty introduction to the rules of friendship.



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Lukoff, Kyle – *Mermaid Days: The Sunken Ship*

++Lukoff, Early Readers

Vera the mermaid and her half-octopus friend Beaker go on playful adventures in the underwater town of Tidal Grove.

Lyall, Casey – *A Spoonful of Frogs*

++Lyall, Picture Books

Young readers will have a hopping good time in this hilarious story about a witch who is having a hard time wrangling a bunch of frogs into her frog soup until she comes up with a surprising solution.

Mack, Jeff – *Marcel's Masterpiece: How a Toilet Shaped the History of Art*

+709.04 Mac, Non-Fiction

From drawing a moustache on the Mona Lisa to attaching a bicycle wheel to a stool, Duchamp's work challenged notions of art and how it should be made. People were amused, confused, and sometimes offended, just the way Marcel liked it.

Marcero, Deborah – *Out of a Jar*

++Marcero, Picture Books

Llewellyn, a little rabbit overwhelmed by his emotions, hides away his feelings in glass jars, until he discovers life is more colorful when he sets his emotions free.

Matas, Carol – *Who's Looking? How Animals See the World*

+573.8 Mat, Non-Fiction

A young girl and her baby sister explore the land around them while various animals and insects look on. The art reflects the world as viewed by the animals along with the text explaining some science behind the animal's unique vision.

Meisel, Paul – *See Me Go*

++Meisel, Early Readers

Dozens of fun-loving dogs explore a sunken ship, take a rocket to the moon, and visit an Egyptian tomb.

Petty, Dev – *Don't Eat Bees: Life Lessons from Chip the Dog*

++Petty, Picture Books

Are you a dog in need of advice? Fear not: Chip the dog is ON IT in this super-silly guide to living your best canine life. Chip is seven; he knows things. Like what to eat (important papers, Grandpa's teeth), and what not to eat (bees).

Pumphrey, Jarrett – *Somewhere in the Bayou*

++Pumphrey, Picture Books

Animals want to cross the bayou, but next to the log they are considering as a bridge is a sneaky tail, which may be attached to someone dangerous. Each of the four approach the problem with a different strategy, with varying results.

Reynolds, Aaron – *Creepy Crayon!*

++Reynolds, Picture Books +Readalongs*

When a young rabbit who's struggling in school finds a helpful crayon, everything is suddenly perfect—until it isn't. Chilling in the best ways.

Robertson, Nicholas & Candy – *Archie & Eddie: It Doesn't Scare Me!*

++Candy James, Early Readers

When Archie is woken by a scary noise in the night, he turns to his fox friend Reddie to help him get to the bottom of it.

Ruzzier, Sergio – *Fox + Chick: Up and Down and Other Stories*

++Ruzzier, Early Readers

In three brief episodes about two unlikely friends, Fox talks Chick down from the tree he has climbed, the two go sledding (once they have enough snowflakes), and Chick builds a bookcase.



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Salati, Doug – *Hot Dog*

++Salati, Picture Books

A summery book about mindfulness, featuring an overwhelmed canine in need of sea, sand, and fresh air.

Sayre, April Pulley – *Happy Sloth Day!*

+599.3 Say, Non-Fiction

See where sloths live, what they eat, how they hide from predators, and much more. Learn about the creatures that interact with and depend on sloths in the interconnected and fragile tropical forest ecosystem.

Sicuro, Aimée – *If You Find a Leaf*

++Sicuro, Picture Books

A young artist draws inspiration from the leaves she collects and every leaf sparks a new idea.

Stead, Philip Christian – *Every Dog in the Neighborhood*

++Stead, Picture Books

Louis and his eccentric Grandmother set out to count every dog in the neighborhood when they find out about city hall's woefully inadequate record keeping.

Taylor, Sean – *How to Be Cooler Than Cool*

++Taylor, Picture Books

Follow a savvy little chick who shows all the other animals on the playground that being cool means just having fun.

Torres, Jennifer – *Lola Out Loud*

++Torres, Picture Books

As Lola helps at the family's hotel, she learns about compassion, social injustice, and how one voice can lead to change.

Torres Sanchez, Jenny – *With Lots of Love*

++Torres Sanchez, Picture Books

Rocio and her family move from Central America to the United States, leaving behind their extended family and many happy memories, but Rocio's Abuela finds a way to send her something special for her birthday.

Vo, Young – *Gibberish*

++Vo, Picture Books

When Dat starts school in a country where he does not speak the language, everything around him sound like gibberish until a new friend helps him make sense of his new world.

Woollvin, Bethan – *Three Little Vikings*

++Woollvin, Picture Books

A mysterious creature is running wild and terrorizing a village of Vikings. Can three little girls uncover the source and put an end to the mayhem?

Yaccarino, Dan – *City Under the City*

++Yaccarino, Picture Books*

Bix lives in a city where people rarely talk or play together, and no longer read books. Instead, they stare at small portable screens, monitored by giant eyeballs. The Eyes are here to help, but Bix would like to do things for herself.

Yoshitake, Shinsuke – *I Can Explain*

++Yoshitake, Picture Books

A little boy tries to justify all his bad habits to his mother with increasingly unlikely explanations. For example, nose pickers are actually pushing a nasal button that releases “cheerful beams” that put everyone in a better mood.



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