



Great Big Book Drive

Tips and Book Suggestions, developed in partnership with Dr. Barbara A. Wasik, Temple University

Tips for Selecting Age-Appropriate Books

For birth to 3-year-olds, select books that:

- Have brightly colored pictures that are attractive to young children
- Have simple text (4-5 words per page)
- Have rhymes
- Contain pictures of objects in their world, such as people, clothing, food or animals
- Lend themselves to interacting with children
- Are durable such as board books and cloth books

For 4-and 5-year olds, select books that:

- Have brightly colored pictures that are attractive to young children
- Have lots of action and repetition of words and phrases
- Have rhyming and rhythm and funny words
- Include text that can be read in 5 – 10 minutes (about 20 words per page)
- Tell a story OR provide real-life information
- Engage children by making them laugh or piquing their curiosity

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Book Suggestions

Suggestions for birth to 3-year-olds:

- Baby Faces, by Margaret Miller
- Bears, by Ruth Krauss
- Big Red Barn, by Margaret Wise Brown
- Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What do You See?, by Bill Martin Jr and Eric Carle
- The Carrot Seed, by Ruth Krauss
- Dear Zoo, by Rod Campbell
- Goodnight, Gorilla, Peggy Rathmann
- Goodnight Moon, by Margaret Wise Brown
- Families, by Rena D. Grossman
- Freight Train, Donald Crews
- Full, Full, Full of Love, by Trish Cooke
- Moo, Baa, La La La!, by Sandra Boynton
- Mr. Brown Can Moo! Can You?, by Dr. Seuss
- My Farm Friends, by Wendell Minor
- My Very First Book of Food, by Eric Carle
- The Napping House, by Audrey Wood
- On the Night You Were Born, by Nancy Tillman
- Pat the Bunny, by Dorothy Kunhardt
- Ten Little Fingers and Ten Little Toes, by Mem Fox
- Time for Bed, by Mem Fox
- Toes, Ears, & Nose!, by Marion Dane Bauer
- Trucks, by Byron Barton
- Where is Baby's Belly Button?, by Karen Katz
- Where's Spot?, by Eric Hill

Suggestions for 4- and 5-year-olds:

- Bear Snores On, by Karma Wilson
- Bear Wants More, by Karma Wilson
- Bread, Bread, Bread, by Ann Morris
- Caps for Sale, by Esphyr Slobodkina
- A Chair for My Mother, by Vera B. Williams
- Chicka Chicka Boom Boom, by Bill Martin Jr.
- Corduroy, by Don Freeman
- Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus, by Mo Willems
- Feast for Ten, by Cathryn Falwell
- From Seed to Plant, by Gail Gibbons
- Green Eggs and Ham, by Dr. Seuss
- Harry the Dirty Dog, by Gene Zion
- The Hat, by Jan Brett
- If You Give a Mouse a Cookie, by Laura Joffe Numeroff
- Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse, Kevin Henkes
- The Mitten, by Jan Brett
- Pete the Cat series, by James Dean
- Planting a Rainbow, by Lois Ehlert
- The Rainbow Fish, by Marcus Pfister
- Sheep in a Jeep, by Nancy Shaw
- The Snowy Day, by Ezra Jack Keats
- Swimmy, by Leo Lionni
- Ten, Nine, Eight, by Molly Bang
- The Three Billy Goats Gruff, by Paul Galdone
- The Very Busy Spider, by Eric Carle
- The Very Hungry Caterpillar, by Eric Carle
- Why Should I Recycle?, by Jen Green

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