

Building A Home Library

Ages 4-7

The ALA-Children's Book Council (CBC) Joint Committee, with cooperation from the ALSC's Quicklists Consulting Committee, has created this bibliography to provide guidance to parents, grandparents, and others interested in assembling a high-quality library for their children at home.



We suggest the following sites for more book titles:

www.cbcbooks.org/reading-lists

www.ala.org/alsc

Questions?

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Welcome to the world of books for your home!

Here are suggested classic and contemporary book titles either for a great start to or enhancement of your home library, an ever-present resource for children and adults. The American Library Association - Children's Book Council Joint Committee and the ALSC Quicklists Consulting Committee recommend these titles for children ages 4-7.

Three other pamphlets recommend books for children ages 0-3, 8-11, and 12-14. Ask your librarian or bookseller about multiple formats for these books and for more suggestions to add to your growing collection.

Barton, Chris. Illustrated by Tom Lichtenheld. **Shark vs. Train.** Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, 2010.

Shark and Train compete to see who is best in seriously silly contests like high diving and marshmallow-roasting.

*Bell, Cece. **Rabbit and Robot: The Sleepover.** Candlewick Press, 2012.

Rabbit is excited for his friend to spend the night, but nothing seems to go as planned.

Brown, Peter. **Mr. Tiger Goes Wild.** Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, 2013.

Mr. Tiger upsets everyone's proper expectations when he decides to go back to his uncivilized roots.

Carter, David. **600 Black Spots: A Pop-Up Book for Children of All Ages.** Little Simon / Simon & Schuster, 2007.

A mesmerizing pop-up book that introduces modern art and higher-level counting.

Daywalt, Drew. Illustrated by Oliver Jeffers. **The Day the Crayons Quit.** Philomel Books / Penguin, 2013.

Duncan opens his box of crayons to find they have left him notes and quit. Can he get them happy and working again?

*Dewdney, Anna. **Llama Llama and the Bully Goat.** Viking Children's Books / Penguin, 2013.

When Gilroy Goat misbehaves and bullies other children, Llama Llama stands up to him before going to the teacher for help.

*DiCamillo, Kate and Alison McGhee. Illustrated by Tony Fucile.

Bink & Gollie. Candlewick Press, 2010. Best friends Bink and Gollie have many grand adventures together.

Duffy, Chris, ed. **Fairy Tale Comics: Classic Tales Told by Extraordinary Cartoonists.** First Second / Macmillan, 2013.

A collection of both classic and obscure fairy tales, told in zany comics.

Fleischman, Paul. Illustrated by Bagram Ibatoulline.

The Matchbox Diary. Candlewick Press, 2013. Great Grandfather tells his family history with the mementos he's collected in matchboxes over the years.

*Hills, Tad. **How Rocket Learned to Read.** Schwartz & Wade / Random House, 2010.

Once Rocket the dog learns how to read, there is no stopping him!

*Hoberman, Mary Ann. Illustrated by Michael Emberley

You Read to Me, I'll Read to You: Very Short Scary Tales to Read Together. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, 2007.

Take turns reading out loud in this sweet, safe, and "spooky" collection filled with short poems about zombies, ghosts, and ghouls.

Joubert, Beverly and Dereck. **African Animal Alphabet.** National Geographic, 2011.

From antelopes to zebras, learn about the animals of Africa through beautiful photographs and fun facts.

LaRochelle, David. Illustrated by Mike Wohnoutka.

Moo! Bloomsbury Children's Books and Walker Books for Young Readers, 2013.

If readers can say the word "Moo!" they too can express all of the various emotions of a cow driving a car.

*Lin, Grace. **Ling & Ting: Not Exactly the Same.** Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, 2010.

Ling and Ting are identical twins that people think are exactly the same, but time and time again they prove to be different.

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

Pete the Cat loves his new shoes in this delightful read-aloud. When they become dirty, does that bother this cool cat? Goodness, no!

Nelson, Kadir. **Nelson Mandela.** Katherine Tegen Books / HarperCollins, 2013.

An accessible and beautiful introduction to the life of Nelson Mandela.

Pinkwater, Daniel. Illustrated by Adam Stower.

Mrs. Noodlekugel. Candlewick Press, 2012. When Nick and Maxine move into a new apartment, they discover a neighbor who owns a talking cat and mice that love to cook.

Pizzoli, Greg. **The Watermelon Seed.** Disney Publishing Worldwide, 2013.

Crocodile just swallowed a watermelon seed. Will a watermelon grow in his tummy? A silly story for early readers.

Prelutsky, Jack. Illustrated by Carin Berger. **Stardines Swim High Across the Sky: and**

Other Poems. Greenwillow / HarperCollins, 2013.

Fantastical creatures are created by a children's poetry master and brought to life in diorama-based illustrations.

Ray, Mary Lyn. Illustrated by Marla Frazee. **Stars.** Beach Lane Books / Simon & Schuster, 2011.

Explore the many types of stars here on earth and in the sky.

Say, Allen. **Grandfather's Journey.** Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 1993.

A Japanese American man recounts his grandfather's journey to America, which he later also undertakes, and the feelings of being torn by a love for two different countries.

Snicket, Lemony. Illustrated by Jon Klassen. **The Dark.** Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, 2013.

Laszlo is afraid of the dark until it leads him to the basement to find night-light bulbs, turning his "night fears" into "night friends."

Vamos, Samantha R. Illustrated by Rafael López.

The Cazuela That the Farm Maiden Stirred. Charlesbridge; bilingual edition, 2011.

In the style of "The House that Jack Built," a farm maiden prepares to stir her pot of rice pudding. How will the animals help?

*Willems, Mo. **A Big Guy Took My Ball!** Disney Publishing Worldwide, 2013.

A stolen ball becomes a reason to make a new friend in this funny beginning reader that also teaches about the concept of size.

Wisniewski, David. **Sundiata: Lion King of Mali.** Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 1999.

The story of Sundiata, who overcame physical handicaps, social disgrace, and strong opposition to rule Mali in the thirteenth century.

* **Book is part of a series (including sequels and trilogies)**