

The 2024-2025

BUILDING READERS[®]

Book List

Recommended Books for Preschool Children

Beneath by Cori Doerrfeld (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers). Join Finn and Grandpa on a nature walk as they talk about things that lie “beneath” the surface. This award-winning book is a sweet reminder that things and people are not always what they seem. (*fiction*)

Construction Site: Taking Flight! by Sherri Duskey Rinker (Chronicle Books). The construction site crew is taking on an airport expansion! Meet new types of vehicles as they build new runways and prepare planes for their trips. Detailed illustrations make this a perfect interactive read-aloud for truck-loving kids! (*fiction*)

Love, Lah Lah by Nailah Blackman (Knopf Books for Young Readers). Travel to the islands of Trinidad and Tobago as Lah Lah and her papa dance through the streets to soca music during the spring festival of Carnival. (*fiction*)

The Crayons Love Our Planet by Drew Daywalt (Philomel Books). The Crayons are proud of their colorful contributions to the world. Celebrate the many hues of Earth’s beauty with this silly hardcover picture book. (*fiction*)

Sleepy Sheepy and the Sheepover by Lucy Ruth Cummins (Flamingo Books). Sleepy Sheepy is having his very first sleepover at Grammy and Grampy’s house. But getting to sleep away from home isn’t easy! (*fiction*)

I Am a Masterpiece!: An Empowering Story About Inclusivity and Growing Up with Down Syndrome by Mia Armstrong (Random House Books for Young Readers). Mia knows she is different, but doesn’t like when strangers stare at her. This book offers a glimpse into the life and thoughts of a child with Down syndrome. (*biography*)

Benita and the Night Creatures by Mariana Llanos (Barefoot Books). Benita refuses to let monsters distract her while she is reading in bed. Find out how she does it in this fun-to-read picture book filled with bright illustrations and a big dose of humor. (*fiction*)

Fox Has a Problem by Corey R. Tabor (Balzer + Bray). As Fox struggles to rescue his kite caught in a tree, his actions end up causing more problems for him and his friends. Readers will learn the importance of cooperation in the face of challenges. (*fiction*)

Can You Dance Like a Peacock? by Rekha S. Rajan (Sourcebooks Explore). Learn how animals use movement to communicate. Then, get up and get moving with this fun, interactive picture book! (*fiction*)

Jumper: A Day in the Life of a Backyard Jumping Spider by Jessica Lanan (Roaring Brook Press). Discover the tiny world of a backyard jumping spider and learn about this creature’s traits and abilities in this illustrated picture book. (*nonfiction*)



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Mr. S: A First Day of School Book by Monica Arnaldo (Katherine Tegen Books). A kindergarten class shows up on the first day to find “Mr. S” written on the board and a sandwich, but no teacher. Is the sandwich their new teacher? Find out in this zany school-day adventure. *(fiction)*

Everyone Starts Small by Liz Garton Scanlon (Candlewick). Celebrate the Earth’s resilience and the cycle of life in this book about natural processes. Lyrical text and detailed illustrations will make this a family favorite. *(poetry)*

Buffalo Fluffalo by Bess Kalb (Random House Studio). A playful buffalo attempts to appear larger than life, but learns the value of being authentic in this humorous tale about self-acceptance. *(fiction)*

Just One More Sleep by Jamie Lee Curtis (Philomel Books). For young children, time spent waiting can be tough, and is often counted in “sleeps” until the big day arrives. This story shows why patience pays off in the end! *(fiction)*

Nat the Cat Takes a Nap by Jarrett Lerner (Simon Spotlight). Nat the Cat is trying to nap, but the narrator is making it difficult! Children will enjoy the repetitive text and short sentences in this laugh-out-loud, ready-to-read book. *(fiction)*

A Plate of Hope: The Inspiring Story of Chef José Andrés and World Central Kitchen by Erin Frankel (Random House Studio). This biography of chef José Andrés and his work with the World Central Kitchen encourages kids to make a difference in their communities. *(biography)*

Dog’s Colorful Day: A Messy Story About Colors and Counting by Emma Dodd (Puffin Books). When Dog is covered in ten colorful spots, bath time turns into a fun way to learn about colors and numbers! *(fiction)*

A Very Cranky Book by Angela DiTerlizzi (Quill Tree Books). A book named Cranky doesn’t want to be read; he just wants to be left alone. But at story time, the fun other books are having makes Cranky think again. *(fiction)*

Later, When I’m Big by Bette Westera (Eerdmans Books for Young Readers). This sweet story, brimming with lively watercolor illustrations and engaging text, follows a young child’s dreams of what she’ll achieve as she grows older. *(fiction)*

Ready to Soar by Cori Doerfeld (Dial Books). Riley loves to make paper airplanes. But when several birds criticize his designs, Riley’s confidence crashes. Perhaps a new friend can help Riley believe in himself again. *(fiction)*

Big by Vashti Harrison (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers). This award-winning picture book is about a young girl who learns valuable lessons about belonging, being unique, and how wonderful it feels when people accept you. *(fiction)*

Why Does It Rain?: Weather with the Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle (World of Eric Carle). Explore the essence of rain and its purpose. This book is part of an early-learning series that dives into the wonders of nature, focusing on different weather phenomena. *(nonfiction)*

