

The 2013-2014

BUILDING  READERS

Book List

Recommended Books for Elementary School Children

Come Fly With Me by Satomi Ichikawa (Philomel). Cosmos, the toy airplane, and Woggy, the stuffed dog, decide to go Somewhere. Together, they travel through the city to the White Dome. Up and up they fly—until they meet the Cloud Monster. Will the two friends make it all the way to Somewhere safely?

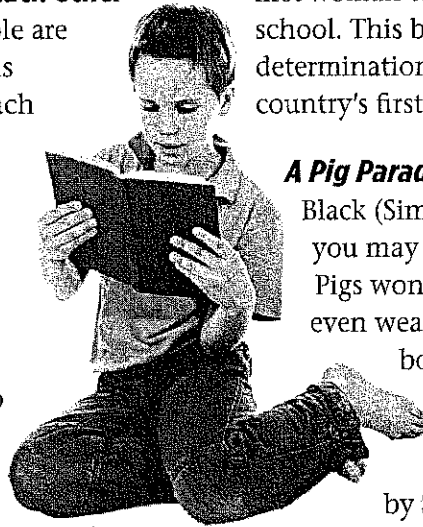
I'm Like You, You're Like Me: A Book About Understanding and Appreciating Each Other

by Cindy Gainer (Free Spirit). People are alike in many ways. But everyone is different, and that's what makes each person special! This colorful book reminds us to love and appreciate each other, even if someone isn't quite the same as you.

ZooZical by Judy Sierra (Alfred A. Knopf). In the middle of the cold, dark winter, the animals at the zoo are sad and lonely. Just when it seems that the zoo will never be fun again, a hippo and a kangaroo come up with a plan.

Red Knit Cap Girl by Naoko Stoop (Megan Tingley Books). All that Red Knit Cap Girl wants to do is reach the moon. She asks wise Mr. Owl for some advice, then Red Knit Cap Girl and her friends wait patiently for the moon to come out.

Fiesta Fiasco by Ann Whitford Paul (Holiday House). It's Culebra's birthday, so all of his friends go shopping to find him the perfect present. Luckily, Conejo says that he knows exactly what Culebra wants. But does he really? Join these friends on their comical trip to the market and to Culebra's birthday party.



The Hello, Goodbye Window by Norton Juster (Michael Di Caula Books). The kitchen window at Nanna and Poppy's house is a very special place. One little girl explains all of the exciting things that can happen outside this magical window.

Who Says Women Can't Be Doctors? The Story of Elizabeth Blackwell

by Tanya Lee Stone (Christy Ottaviano). In 1847, Elizabeth Blackwell was the first woman to enroll in an American medical school. This biography describes Blackwell's determination and success as she became the country's first female doctor.

A Pig Parade is a Terrible Idea by Michael Ian Black (Simon and Schuster). No matter what you may think, a pig parade is a terrible idea. Pigs won't cooperate to march in lines or even wear majorette uniforms. This funny book details exactly why a pig parade will go horribly wrong.

The Yawn Heard 'Round the World

by Scott Thomas (Tricycle Press). Sara isn't ready to go to bed—but then she lets out a great big yawn, which causes her mom to feel a little sleepy, too. Sara's dad yawns while he's on the phone, and suddenly, Sara's great big yawn travels all around the world.

Don't Read This Book! by Jill Lewis (Tiger Tales). The King is about to star in a brand new story—until he discovers that the pages have disappeared! The King and his story writer journey through Storyland to put together the pieces of the new story, meeting characters from classic fairytales along the way. Complicating the matter even more is that someone keeps reading (you!), even after the King tells them stop!

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Velma Gratch and the Way Cool Butterfly by Alan Madison (Schwartz and Wade Books). Velma is the youngest of three Gratch sisters, and she wants to make herself stand out from her older sisters. Since science is her favorite subject, Velma learns all she can about butterflies—something neither of her sisters ever did.

Me and My Dragon by David Biedrzycki (Charlesbridge). Forget a dog or a fish—this boy wants a pet dragon. He knows exactly how he'd take care of him, from taking him to get his checkup to giving him baths. And he's already thought about some of the more practical benefits of having a pet dragon, like clearing neighbors' driveways of snow and lighting campfires in the summer.

The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate (HarperCollins). Ivan is a silverback gorilla who lives at the Exit 8 Big Top Mall and Video Arcade with an elderly circus elephant and a stray dog. When Ruby, a baby elephant, comes to join them, Ivan promises to make Ruby's life better than the rest of theirs. This emotional tale of captivity and friendship is best read by parents and children together.

Janey and the Famous Author by Mary Downing Hahn (Clarion). Janey loves reading, especially books about Bob the Dog Detective by Lily May Appleton. When her class goes to a book festival where Lily May Appleton is speaking, Janey can hardly contain her excitement. But will her plans of meeting her absolute favorite author go as planned?

Goldilocks and the Three Dinosaurs by Mo Willems (Balzer+Bray). Three dinosaurs are just waiting for an unsuspecting girl to wander into their house, eat chocolate pudding and fall asleep—so they can eat her! See how Goldilocks puts a wrench in their plan in this hilarious twist on the classic fairy tale.

Owen & Mzee: The True Story of a Remarkable Friendship by Isabella Hatkoff, Craig Hatkoff and Dr. Paula Kahumbu (Scholastic). When a baby hippopotamus is separated from his pod, animal researchers rescue him and bring him to live in Haller Park. The hippo, named Owen, soon develops a close friendship with the most unlikely of animals: Mzee, a 130-year-old giant tortoise.

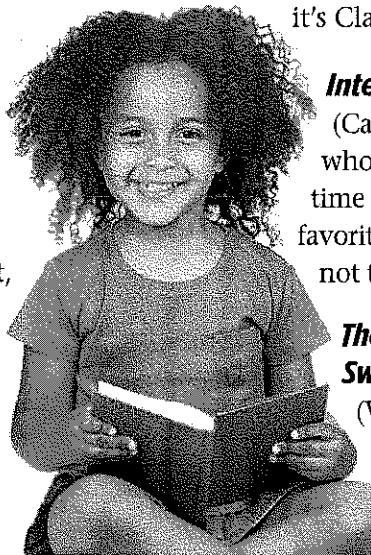
Crazy Hair Day by Barney Saltzberg (Candlewick). Stanley Birdbaum can't wait for Crazy Hair Day at school today. His mom helps him make his hair perfect with rubber bands, styling gel and colored hair spray. But when Stanley gets to school, he quickly learns that today isn't Crazy Hair Day—it's Class Picture Day.

Interrupting Chicken by David Ezra Stein (Candlewick). It's bedtime for Chicken, who asks Papa to read her a story. Each time Papa tries to read one of Chicken's favorites, Chicken interrupts—and she's just not tired enough to fall asleep!

There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly by Simms Taback (Viking). In this updated version of the classic rhyming story, see what's inside the old lady's stomach as she swallows a fly, a spider and so much more.

Georgie Lee by Sharon Phillips Denslow (Greenwillow). J.D. is spending the summer at his grandmother's farm. Over the course of the summer, he learns to love Georgie Lee, Grandmother's sweet old cow, while having many other adventures.

Our Three Bears by Ron Hirschi (Boyd Mills). There are three types of bears that roam around North America: the black bear, the grizzly bear and the polar bear. Learn fascinating facts about each type of bear, including about their habitat and habits, as well as how they are each adapting to changes in the environment.



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Recommended Books for Preschool Children

Dancing with the Dinosaurs by Jane Clarke (Imagine Publishing). From a tap-dancing raptor to moonwalking Miss Maia and the All-saur All-star ballet, these dinosaurs sure know how to move!

Brave Squish Rabbit by Katherine Battersby (Viking). Squish is a little rabbit who is afraid of a lot of things—especially the dark. But playing with his friend Twitch makes things not so scary. One day, Twitch doesn't show up at their secret tree house. See what happens when Squish is a very brave little rabbit and conquers his fears.

Toot Toot Zoom! by Phillis Root (Candlewick). Pierre is in search of a friend, so he gets in his little red car to drive over the mountain to find one. On his way, he meets Goat, Sheep and Bear, who join in his search—and turn out to do much more than just go along for the ride.

I Want to Be an Astronaut by Byron Barton (HarperCollins). Flying on the shuttle, wearing a space suit and sleeping in zero gravity ... who wouldn't want to be an astronaut? Discover even more components of space travel as you and your child explore what goes into being an astronaut.

One Mitten by Kristine O'Connell George (Clarion). There's so much to do with just one mitten, like have a mitten shadow show or make a mitten flag. And with two mittens, you can do even more, from making binocular eyes to waving mitten goodbyes!

Press Here by Hervé Tullet (Chronicle). What will happen when your child presses the yellow dot on the cover of this book? Follow the directions and see what happens as the dots multiply, change color and move all across the pages.

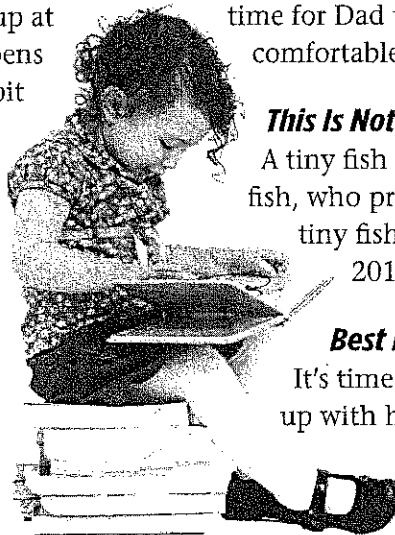
Musical Beds by Mara Bergman (Margaret K. McElderry). It's time for bed, but Josie, Ruby and Little Rick can't sleep! They each search for somewhere more comfortable ... until it's time for Dad to go to bed, and he can't get comfortable either.

This Is Not My Hat by Jon Klassen (Candlewick). A tiny fish steals a tiny hat from a much bigger fish, who probably won't even notice. See if the tiny fish gets away with his caper in the 2013 Caldecott Award winner.

Best Bear by Emma Dodd (Good Books). It's time for bed, and one little boy snuggles up with his best bear friend. Even though the teddy bear is a little worn, he's still a wonderful companion for jumping on the bed—and keeping monsters away.

One Foot, Two Feet by Peter Maloney and Felicia Zekauskas (G.P. Putnam's Sons). One foot—and two feet. One mouse—and three mice. Practice counting with this clever, colorful book that reviews some irregular plurals.

Lemons Are Not Red by Laura Vaccaro Seeger (Roaring Brook). Your child knows that lemons aren't red—they're yellow! With fun cutouts and bright illustrations, this book reviews the color of regular, everyday objects.



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Ollie by Paola Opal (Simply Read). Ollie is a little elephant trying to help his Mommy. After she sends him to play down in the river, Ollie thinks of a way to help. This board book shows that even the simplest of things can be a big help!

Up! Tall! And High! by Ethan Long (G.P. Putnam's Sons). Which bird is tallest? Who can fly highest? See how a few birds hold a friendly competition—and work together to help each other out (like figuring out a way for their penguin friend to fly!). This charming, bright book is also a great review of opposites.

My Little Polar Bear by Claudia Rueda (Scholastic). When a polar bear cub asks his mom if she's sure he's a polar bear, she replies that he most certainly is: He is white as snow, he can smell seals from far away and he can walk on snow and melting ice. The cub gets some extra reassurance from his mother that she'll teach him all of the things he still needs to know.

No, David! by David Shannon (Blue Sky). David is an energetic little boy who keeps getting in trouble. See what kind of mischief David gets into, from playing with his food to tracking dirt into the house. And your young reader will love chiming in with David's mom, saying, "No, David!"

Red Leaf, Yellow Leaf by Lois Ehlert (Harcourt). Learn about the life cycle of a sugar maple tree, from the seeds sprouting through its journey to the nursery and to the narrator's backyard. Included in this bright book are labels of animals and plants, as well as even more facts about sugar maple trees.

Hurry! Hurry! by Eve Bunting (Harcourt). It's a big day on the farm! Hurry over to see what's happening! Filled with repetition and colorful illustrations, your young reader will love identifying familiar farm animals in this book.

My Truck Is Stuck! by Kevin Lewis and Daniel Kirk (Hyperion). A great big dump truck is driving down the road—and it goes right into a hole! See who comes along to help the truck. What rotten luck. Will he ever get un-stuck?

The Artist Who Painted a Blue Horse by Eric Carle (Philomel). Meet a talented artist who loves painting animals in unusual colors, from a pink rabbit to a black polar bear in this beautiful book from the classic author.

And Then It's Spring by Julie Fogliano (Roaring Brook). Waiting for spring can take quite a while. Join a boy and his dog as they plant a garden. Watch the yard transform from brown at the end of winter to a beautiful green in spring.

Melvin and the Boy by Lauren Castillo (Henry Holt and Company). One little boy really wants a pet, even though his parents keep saying *no*. They finally let him take a turtle home from the park, and the boy names his new friend Melvin. But soon, the boy realizes that Melvin may not be the perfect pet that he was hoping for.

Three Feet Small by Michael J. Rosen (Gulliver). A little bear is tired of being small in a world of big things. He can't touch the floor when he sits at his desk, he can't see what's in the sink, and he definitely can't reach the ice cream in the freezer. But when he starts needing new shoes and others tell him he's getting bigger, he starts to wonder: Could he finally be growing?

Hot Hot Hot! by Neal Layton (Candlewick). Meet Oscar and Arabella, woolly mammoths who lived a long time ago in the Ice Age. They love the winter, and they don't like summer at all. When summer comes around, the woolly mammoths and the other animals start thinking of ways that they can stay cool.

