

Great Books for Preschoolers

This list will help you introduce concepts to your preschool children (ages 3-5) that will help them begin school successfully. There are many great authors on this list – explore other titles by these authors too! Each title has information about where the book is located in the Youth Department – if it is not available, ask at the Youth Desk to reserve the book.

Alphabet Books – these books will help your child recognize the letters of the alphabet in a fun way. Encourage your child to say the letters along with you, and trace the letters with your finger.

McPhail, David. *Animals A to Z*. (Picture Book McPhail)
Ehlert, Lois. *Eating the Alphabet*. (Alphabet Ehlert)
Gag, Wanda. *The ABC Bunny*. (Alphabet Gag)
Seuss, Dr. *Dr. Seuss' ABC*. (Reader Seuss)

Counting Books – help your child learn to count and develop narrative skills as they learn that one thing leads to another. Use your child's age as a starting point and then look at the world around you for more numbers.

Bang, Molly. *Ten, Nine, Eight*. (Counting Bangs)
Calmenson, Stephanie. *Dinner at the Panda Palace*. (Picture Book Calmenson)
Crews, Donald. *Ten Black Dots*. (Counting Crews)
Ehlert, Lois. *Fish Eyes*. (Counting Ehlert)
Falwell, Catherine. *Feast for 10*. (Counting Falwell)

Information Books – these books are selected to provide an easy introduction to the world around your child. Select books in your child's interest area and incorporate the new words you learn in everyday conversation.

Bancroft, Henrietta. *Animals in Winter*. (591.42 B213a)
Chocolate, Deborah. *My First Kwanzaa Book*. (Holiday Chocolate)
Crews, Donald. *Freight Train*. (Picture Book Crews)
Flanagan, Alice K. *Learning is Fun with Mrs. Perez*. (371.4237 F5831)
Fowler, Allan. *Corn on and off the Cob*. (633.15 F785c)
Kalan, Robert. *Rain*. (Picture Book Kalan)
Jordan, Helene. *How a Seed Grows*. (582 J82h)
Maass, Robert. *When Spring Comes*. (508 M111ws)
McMillan, Bruce. *Eating Fractions*. (Picture Book McMillan)
Marzollo, Jean. *Happy Birthday, Martin Luther King*. (Biography King)
Morris, Ann. *Bread, Bread, Bread*. (641.815 M875b)
Morris, Ann. *On the Go*. (Picture Book Morris)
Rockwell, Anne. *Apples & Pumpkins*. (Holiday Rockwell)
Rockwell, Anne. *One Bean*. (Front Row Picture Book Rockwell)
Rogers, Paul. *What Will the Weather Be Like Today?* (Picture Book Rogers)
Showers, Paul. *Sleep is for Everyone*. (612.821 S559s)

Waters, Kate. *Lion Dancer: Ernie Wan's Chinese New Year*. (Picture Book Waters)
Wells, Rosemary. *Read to Your Bunny*. (Picture Book Wells)

Recounting – it's important for your child to learn to tell stories. These stories are interesting enough to read and talk about over and over again.

Browne, Anthony. *I Like Books*. (Picture Book Browne)
Carle, Eric. *Pancakes, Pancakes*. (Front Row Picture Book Carle)
DePaola, Tomie. *Charlie Needs a Cloak*. (Front Row Picture Book DePaola)
Fleming, Denise. *In the Tall, Tall Grass*. (Picture Book Fleming)
Jackson, Ellen. *Brown Cow, Green Grass, Mellow Yellow Sun*. (Picture Book Jackson)
Martin, Bill. *Brown Bear, Brown Bear What Do You See?* (Picture Book Martin)
Titherington, Jeanne. *Pumpkin, Pumpkin*. (Picture Book Titherington)
Ward, Cindy. *Cookie's Week*. (Picture Book Ward)

Folk Tales – folk tales help children develop their imagination. Try having your child create different endings for the stories or add themselves into the story.

Brett, Jan. *The Mitten*. (Front Row Picture Book Brett)
Kimmel, Eric. *The Gingerbread Man*. (Picture Book Kimmel)
DePaola, Tomie. *The Legend of the Indian Paintbrush*. (398.24 O4191)
Galdone, Paul. *The Little Red Hen*. (Picture Book Galdone)
Galdone, Paul. *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*. (Picture Book Galdone)
Galdone, Paul. *The Three Little Pigs*. (Picture Book Galdone)
Marshall, James. *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*. (Picture Book Marshall)

Wordless – wordless books have no words, so use the pictures to help you talk about the story with your child. Help your child use the pictures to help identify the feelings of the characters.

DePaola, Tomie. *Pancakes for Breakfast*. (Picture Book DePaola)

Hutchins, Pat. *Changes, Changes*. (Picture Book Hutchins)
Rathmann, Peggy. *Good Night, Gorilla*. (Picture Book Rathmann)

Poetry – books of poetry help introduce your child to rhyme and words that sound alike. Make up your own silly rhymes – remember, they don't always have to make sense.

Ahlberg, Janet. *Each Peach Pear Plum*. (Picture Book Ahlberg)
Cauley, Lorinda. *Clap Your Hands*. (Picture Book Cauley)
Degen, Bruce. *Jamberry*. (Picture Book Degen)
Lear, Edward. *The Owl and the Pussycat*. (Picture Book Lear)
London, Jonathan. *Puddles*. (Picture Book London)
Moore, Clement. *The Night Before Christmas*. (Holiday Moore)
Prelutsky, Jack. *It's Thanksgiving!* (811.54 P924i)
Sendak, Maurice. *Chicken Soup with Rice*. (Picture Book Sendak)
Wood, Audrey. *Quick as a Cricket*. (Picture Book Wood)
Wood, Audrey. *Silly Sally*. (Picture Book Wood)

Songs – songs help children realize that words are made up of smaller parts (sounds). Singing songs on a daily basis with your children also helps their rhyming skills.

Cabrera, Jane. *Over in the Meadow*. (Counting Cabrera)
Carle, Eric. *Today is Monday*. (Front Row Picture Book Carle)
Sweet, Melissa. *Fiddle-I-Fee*. (Picture Book Sweet)

Stories – enjoy reading stories with your child everyday. These stories can help form a bond with your child and get them interested in learning the skill of reading. Point out words in the books as you read.

Allard, Harry. *Miss Nelson is Missing*. (Picture Book Allard)
Asch, Frank. *Happy Birthday, Moon*. (Picture Book Asch)
Carle, Eric. *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. (Front Row Picture Book Carle)
Ginsburg, Mirra. *Across the Stream*. (Picture Book Ginsburg)
Hennessy, B.G. *Jake Baked the Cake*. (Picture Book Hennessy)
Hoban, Russell. *Bread and Jam for Frances*. (Picture Book Hoban)
Hubbard, Patricia. *My Crayons Talk*. (Picture Book Hubbard)
Hutchins, Pat. *Don't Forget the Bacon*. (Picture Book Hutchins)

Hutchins, Pat. *The Doorbell Rang*. (Picture Book Hutchins)
Hutchins, Pat. *Rosie's Walk*. (Picture Book Hutchins)
Johnson, Crockett. *Harold and the Purple Crayon*. (Picture Book Johnson)
Keats, Ezra Jack. *The Snowy Day*. (Picture Book Keats)
Kraus, Robert. *Leo the Late Bloomer*. (Picture Book Kraus)
Krauss, Ruth. *The Carrot Seed*. (Picture Book Krauss)
Lindbergh, Reese. *The Day the Goose Got Loose*. (Picture Book Lindbergh)
London, Jonathan. *Froggy Gets Dressed*. (Picture Book London)
London, Jonathan. *Froggy Goes to School*. (Picture Book London)
Lowell, Susan. *The Three Little Javelinas*. (Picture Book Lowell)
Mosel, Arlene. *Tikki Tikki Tembo*. (Picture Book Mosel)
Most, Bernard. *The Cow that Went OINK!* (Picture Book Most)
Neitzel, Shirley. *The Jacket I Wear in the Snow*. (Picture Book Neitzel)
Rathmann, Peggy. *Officer Buckle and Gloria*. (Picture Book Rathmann)
Root, Phyllis. *One Windy Wednesday*. (Picture Book Root)
Rylant, Cynthia. *The Relatives Came*. (Picture Book Rylant)
Sendak, Maurice. *Where the Wild Things Are*. (Picture Book Sendak)
Slate, Joseph. *Miss Bindergarten Gets Ready for Kindergarten*. (Picture Book Slate)
Slobodkina, Esphyr. *Caps for Sale*. (Picture Book Slobodkina)
Tafari, Nancy. *Have You Seen My Duckling?* (Picture Book Tafari)
Waddell, Martin. *Can't You Sleep, Little Bear?* (Picture Book Waddell)
Wells, Rosemary. *Noisy Nora*. (Picture Book Wells)
Wood, Donald. *The Little Mouse, the Ripe Red Strawberry and the Big Hungry Bear*. (Picture Book Wood)

Looking for fun programs for preschoolers? Visit the library!! Storytimes are held regularly throughout the week, and we also offer other special programs to fit your preschooler's needs. Pick up a calendar at the Youth Desk for more information.