



READING LIST

Birth-
Preschool

BOOKS

3 2 1 TO THE MOON! A COUNTING BOOK

BY STACY MCANULTY,
ILLUS. BY JOEY CHOU

ODD DOT, 2025
ISBN: 9781250381583

From its rotating cover showing the moon's phases to a final countdown, this quirky little sibling to the Our Universe picture books (also by McAnulty) is a fun introduction to everything lunar. Chou's pastel rendition of an anthropomorphic moon with twinkling eyes and blushing craters will draw in young space travelers ready to blast off!

THE BEDTIME BOOK

BY TODD PARR

LB KIDS/LITTLE, BROWN, 2025
ISBN: 9780316427968

In true Todd Parr-style, this bright and humorous board book shows various animals getting ready for bed and the various reasons they can't get to sleep!

BIG FAMILY BEACH DAY

BY NINA CREWS

GREENWILLOW, 2025
ISBN: 9780063390225

This short and simple picture book depicts a large, extended family spending a fun, love-filled day at the beach.

BLUE

BY SUZANNE KAUFMAN

LITTLE, BROWN, 2025
ISBN: 9780316311663

A child and a great blue heron spend a day together by the water, splashing, chasing, and soaring the day away. You get to decide if it really happened or was all in the child's imagination.

BROKEN

BY X. FANG

TUNDRA, 2025
ISBN: 9781774882009

Mei Mei accidentally broke Ama's favorite cup! When Mei Mei decides to blame the innocent cat, her emotions become too much.

EVERY MONDAY MABEL

BY JASHAR AWAN

SIMON & SCHUSTER, 2025
ISBN: 9781665938150

Mabel gets up early every Monday, the best day of the week, to sit outside and wait for the garbage truck as it goes from house to house collecting the week's trash.

FLUSH! FLUSH! FLUSH!

BY DOUGLAS FLORIAN,
ILLUS. BY CHRISTIANE ENGEL

LITTLE BEE, 2025
ISBN: 9781499817928

This rhyming board book on potty training shows children with can-do attitudes.

HOME

BY MATT DE LA PEÑA,
ILLUS. BY LOREN LONG

PUTNAM, 2025
ISBN: 9780593110898

Where is home? Is it a place? Is it people? De la Peña's lyrical prose and Long's beautiful illustrations show that home is where you are.

HOW WE LOVE

BY KATI DOUGLAS AND
ASHLEY JEFFERSON

ABRAMS APPLESEED, 2025
ISBN: 9781419780141

Bright photographs of families fill the pages of this engaging board book. Love is a big concept, handled here in inviting, short

sentences with corresponding photos that joyfully reflect a variety of people and family types.

LET'S BE BEES

BY SHAWN HARRIS

NEAL PORTER BOOKS, 2025
ISBN: 9780823457090

A child and parent play a joy-filled game of pretend, imagining all of the things they could be in the animal and natural world.

MAISY'S ROCKET

BY LUCY COUSINS

CANDLEWICK, 2024
ISBN: 9781536239065

A bright rocket-shaped board book featuring a favorite character's trip to space.

MENUDO SUNDAY: A SPANGLISH COUNTING BOOK

BY MARÍA DOLORES ÁGUILA,
ILLUS. BY ERIKA MEZA

DIAL, 2025
ISBN: 9780593462256

A big family with lots of kids and dogs gathers; what could go wrong? Practice counting in Spanish as they prepare their meal and then again as they clean up the spill. Includes a Spanish glossary in the back.

NITA'S FOOD SIGNS

BY KATHY MACMILLAN,
ILLUS. BY EKATERINA LADATKO

FAMILIUS, 2025
ISBN: 9781641709514

A sturdy board book with sliding flaps features a family using American Sign Language to discuss common toddler foods.

THE PIGEON WON'T COUNT TO TEN!

BY MO WILLEMS

UNION SQUARE KIDS, 2025
ISBN: 9781454964407

Everyone's favorite sassy pigeon unwittingly counts from one to eleven.

TEN LITTLE DINOSAUR EGGS

BY ROGER PRIDDY
ILLUS. BY SAMANTHA MEREDITH

PRIDDY BOOKS, 2025
ISBN: 9781684494552

Raised touch-and-feel eggs, vibrant colors, rhymes, matching fun, and dinosaurs! What else do you need in a board book for summer fun?

TIGER, DON'T WORRY!

BY DAISHU MA

POST WAVE, 2025
ISBN: 9798895090077

Tiger and Mei want to help their family prepare tea, but their enthusiasm leads to less-than-ideal results.

TO ACTIVATE SPACE PORTAL, LIFT HERE

BY ANTOINETTE PORTIS

NEAL PORTER BOOKS, 2025
ISBN: 9780823459858

This clever interactive book about aliens is sure to make you laugh. Read and find out who the aliens are when the space portal is open.

TODDLER TALK: ALL GONE!

ILLUS. BY CAROLINA BÚZIO

NOSY CROW, 2025
ISBN: 9798887771656

This board book—designed with first phrases related to mealtimes—supports toddlers' language development.



ALSC reading lists are created by children's librarians as a resource to share with patrons. These titles may also be available in ebook, audio book, braille, and large print formats. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to explore this list to find resources that may match or spark their child's interest. Connect with your local library to find out what's happening this summer.

YOU DESERVE EVERYTHING

BY STEPH STILWELL

LITTLE BEE, 2024
ISBN: 9781499817126

Shaped like a bagel, this circular board book is full of punny affirmations and delightful illustrations. Stillwell's other books include *Dough Much Love*, *Pie Love You*, and *A Pizza My Heart*. This book gets a round of applause!

YOUR FOREST

BY JON KLASSEN

CANDLEWICK, 2025
ISBN: 9781536230833

This title joins *Your Farm* and *Your Island* as part of a sweet, comforting series of board books. With smooth, slow pacing, Klassen creates a world built just for you, for whenever you want to go there. Whimsical illustrations of common objects, all with eyes, allow a layer of humor to shine.

YOU'RE MY LITTLE STAR

BY ERIC CARLE

LITTLE SIMON, 2025
ISBN: 9781665984393

This beloved author's eye-catching touch-and-feel board book features lift-the-flaps, soft animals, and a mirror.

ZIP ZAP WICKETY WACK: A STORY ABOUT SHARING

BY MATTHEW DIFEE

NEAL PORTER BOOKS, 2025
ISBN: 9780823458714

Sheep and Goat each want to be the only animal that says Baaaa. Can they work out their disagreement with the help of the other animals on the farm?

DIGITAL

KIDLITTV

kidlit.tv

This website offers videos, a podcast, and craft ideas to inspire a love of reading.

PBS KIDS

pbskids.org

This website hosts videos and games related to PBS Kids television programming for children ages two to eight.

SMALL WONDERS (FOR FAMILIES)

gse.harvard.edu/apps/early-literacy

Families are encouraged to play together with games, songs, and activity ideas in this digital app from the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Available in English and Spanish.

www.ala.org/alsc

The 2026 Summer Reading List was created by the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association (ALA). Titles on this list were selected by members of ALSC's Quicklists Consulting Committee.

For more booklists, please visit www.ala.org/alsc/booklists.

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