GREAT BOOKS TO READ IN KINDERGARTEN 2015

SELECTED BY MS. BOCK
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Cover image by Ms. Amanda Bock, with help from Ms. Deb Kramer. Next year, we’ll have a contest for students in each grade, so start thinking about ideas.
Introduction from the Librarian

Dear students, teachers, and families,

I am so pleased to offer these book lists to you. All year, students, teachers, and parents ask me for suggestions for reading material, and giving recommendations is one of my favorite things to do. I hope that these lists will offer a starting point for anyone looking for something excellent to read.

The most important thing in elementary school is that students find books they enjoy reading. I firmly believe that there is a book out there for every reader. If you haven’t yet found books that make you want to stay up all night reading under the covers, don’t worry. Maybe you’ll discover some in this booklet! The important thing is to keep trying different books until you find the ones that are perfect for you.

I sincerely hope that there will be something for everyone on this list. There are picture books, novels, informational books, poetry, and graphic novels. There are books in every genre, classics, and new releases. What they all have in common is that every single one is worth reading.

The lists are made up of books that will be of interest to students in that grade. I have paid little attention to reading level, except to make sure that there is a wide range on each list. For some students, this will mean listening to an audiobook or having someone read a book aloud to them. I encourage everyone to access the stories in whatever way suits them. Family read-alouds are a fantastic way to spend time together, regardless of anyone’s age.

I hope you’ll tell me if the lists are helpful. I already have some ideas for how to make them even better next year. When you find a new favorite, be sure to come and tell me about it!

Happy reading!

Amanda Bock
How to Use This Book

The list has been divided into broad categories.

**Stories** This section includes fictional and true stories, including folk and fairly tales. They may be picture books, early readers, chapter books, graphic novels, or novels.

**Information** These books contain factual information designed to teach about a topic or explore an idea. They tend to be heavily illustrated, and some may be designed for early readers, but most are geared towards fluent readers (i.e. adults).

**Poetry** This section is mostly made up of collections of poetry. Occasionally, there will be a book that is a single poem, illustrated.

Whether a book is a read-to-self or a read-aloud will depend on the reading skills of each individual student. Families are encouraged to read together as much as possible.

The authors and illustrators listed are generally recommended. Due to space considerations, not all of their works are listed. If you find an author or illustration who you like, look at the library or bookstore for their other books!

Within each section, the books are arranged in alphabetical order by the author’s last name.

Almost all of the books will be available at any self-respecting bookstore. There are a few under-appreciated gems that will only be available at the public library or a used bookstore. When that is the case, I have tried to include that information in the annotation.

Most of the annotations come from publishers’ websites, although some have been written especially for this list. The source or contributor is indicated in parentheses at the end. Can you do a better job describing a book or series? Write it up and bring it to the Library! Maybe it will be included in next year’s booklet!
What’s Great About Being a Reader in Kindergarten

Students learn a tremendous amount in their Kindergarten year. Reading helps them find out about the world beyond their own home and classroom. Students learn new vocabulary by listening to stories, and begin to recognize common words by following along. As a Kindergarten reader, students will become familiar with a wide range of picture books and informational books. Most importantly, they will experience the wonder of reading books with family and friends.

Ms. Bock’s Top Picks for Kindergarten

Overwhelmed by the number of books on this list? Start with these. Find the annotations in the main list.

Stories
Urgency Emergency by Dosh Archer (series)
The Paper Bag Princess by Robert Munsch
Cat the Cat, Who is That? by Mo Willems (series)
Duck on a Bike by David Shannon
Yummy: Eight Favorite Fairy Tales by Lucy Cousins
Shh! We Have a Plan by Chris Haughton
Press Here by Herve Tullet
The Gruffalo by Julia Donaldson
An Extraordinary Egg by Leo Lionni
A Good Day by Kevin Henkes
Z Is for Moose by Kelly Bingham
Frog and Toad are Friends by Arnold Lobel (series)
Bark, George by Jules Feiffer
Sheep Trick or Treat by Nancy E. Shaw (series)
Today I Will Fly by Mo Willems (Elephant & Piggie series)
Milo’s Hat Trick by Jon Agee
Scaredy Squirrel by Melanie Watt (series)
Traction Man Is Here! by Mini Grey (series)
Dinotrux by Chris Gall
Seven Blind Mice by Ed Young
Three Tales of My Father’s Dragon by Ruth Stiles Gannett
George and Martha by James Marshall (series)
Miss Nelson is Missing! by Harry Allard
Tuesday by David Wiesner
The Seven Silly Eaters by Mary Ann Hoberman
Hooway for Wodney Wat by Helen Lester
Roller Coaster by Marla Frazee
Stone Soup by Jon J. Muth
Duck and Goose by Tad Hills
Orange Pear Apple Bear by Emily Gravett

Information
An Egg is Quiet by Dianna Hutts Aston
Building Our House by Jonathan Bean
Farm by Elisha Cooper
Faces of the Moon by Bob Crelin
Monarch and Milkweed by Helen Frost
I Spy a Butterfly by Jean Marzollo (series)
First the Egg by Laura Vaccaro Seeger
Where in the Wild? by David Schwartz

Poetry
Timothy Tunny Swallowed a Bunny by Bill Grossman
Dreaming Up: a Celebration of Building by Christy Hale
Pocketful of Posies: a Treasure of Nursery Rhymes by Salley Mavor
New Recommended Books for Everyone

These books were published in the last year and may be of interest to all readers, regardless of age.

**Arégui, Matthias. Before After**
Which came first? No words are necessary in this beautiful, artfully humorous book, in which every turn of the page offers a surprise. (candlewick.com)

**Barnett, Mac. Sam and Dave Dig a Hole**
Sam and Dave are on a mission. A mission to find something spectacular. So they dig a hole. And they keep digging. And they find... nothing. Yet the day turns out to be pretty spectacular after all. Attentive readers will be rewarded with a rare treasure in this witty story of looking for the extraordinary — and finding it in a manner you’d never expect. (candlewick.com)

**Cronin, Doreen. The Chicken Squad: The First Misadventure**
No job is too big or small for the shortest, yellowest, fuzziest detectives around: The Chicken Squad. Follow Dirt, Sugar, Poppy and Sweetie as they piece together the mysteries of their backyard friends while stirring up some trouble too! (simonandschuster.com)

**DiPucchio, Kelly. Gaston**
A bulldog and a poodle learn that family is about love, not appearances in this adorable doggy tale from New York Times bestselling author Kelly DiPucchio and illustrator Christian Robinson. (simonandschuster.com)

**Escoffier, Michaël. Take Away the A**
Take Away the A is a fun, imaginative romp through the alphabet. The idea behind the book is that within
every language there are words that change and become a
different word through the simple subtraction of a single letter.
(enchantedlion.com)

**Florian, Douglas. Poem Depot: Aisles of Smiles**
In the vein of Shel Silverstein and Jack Prelutsky, this
illustrated book of humorous poems will guarantee
giggles! (penguinrandomhouse.com)

**Frazee, Marla. The Farmer and the Clown**
Whimsical and touching images tell the story of an
unexpected friendship and the revelations it inspires in
this moving, wordless picture book from two-time Caldecott Honor
medalist Marla Frazee. (simonandschuster.com)

**Himmelman, John. Tales of Bunjitsu Bunny**
Introducing Isabel, aka Bunjitsu Bunny! She is the BEST
bunjitsu artist in her school, and she can throw farther,
kick higher, and hit harder than anyone else! But she
never hurts another creature... unless she has to.
(us.macmillan.com)

**Janeczko, Paul B.. Firefly July: A Year of Very Short
Poems**
Celebrated poet and anthologist Paul B. Janeczko
pairs with Caldecott Honoree Melissa Sweet for a
collection of short poems to sample and savor.
(candlewick.com)

**Mora, Pat. Water Rolls, Water Rises Water Rolls, Water
Rises: El agua rueda, el agua sube**
Here is a poetic ode to the beauty of the natural
world as expressed by the movement and moods of
water on Earth. (leeandlowbooks.com)
Morales, Yuyi. *Viva Frida*
Distinguished author/illustrator Yuyi Morales illuminates Frida’s life and work in this elegant and fascinating book. (us.macmillan.com)

Myers, Christopher. *My Pen*
My pen rides dinosaurs and hides an elephant in a teacup. What can your pen do? Acclaimed author and illustrator Christopher Myers uses rich black-and-white illustrations to bring a sketchbook to life, showing that with a simple pen, a kid can do anything! (books.disney.com)

Peña, Matt De La. *Last Stop on Market Street*
This energetic ride through a bustling city highlights the wonderful perspective only grandparent and grandchild can share, and comes to life through Matt de la Pena’s vibrant text and Christian Robinson’s radiant illustrations. (penguinrandomhouse.com)

Pizzoli, Greg. *Tricky Vic: The Impossibly True Story of the Man Who Sold the Eiffel Tower*
In the early 1900s, Robert Miller, a.k.a. “Count Victor Lustig,” moved to Paris hoping to be an artist. A con artist, that is. (penguinrandomhouse.com)

Samworth, Kate. *Aviary Wonders Inc. Spring Catalog and Instruction Manual*
What can you do when all the birds are gone? Build your own! This comic environmental fable offers a businessman’s dollars-and-sense solution to the drastic effects of deforestation. (hmhco.com)

Schatz, Kate. *Rad American Women A-Z: Rebels, Trailblazers, and Visionaries who Shaped Our History . . . and Our Future!*
American history was made by countless rad—and often radical—women. By offering a fresh and diverse
array of female role models, we can remind readers that there are many places to find inspiration, and that being smart and strong and brave is rad. (citylights.com)

Spires, Ashley. *The Most Magnificent Thing*
Award-winning author and illustrator Ashley Spires has created a charming picture book about an unnamed girl and her very best friend, who happens to be a dog. (kidscanpress.com)

Willems, Mo. *Waiting Is Not Easy!*
The newest book in the Elephant & Piggie series! (Ms. Bock)
Stories

Adler, David A., *Bones and the Dinosaur Mystery*
Detective Jeffrey Bones solves crimes, but this time it’s personal. He’s at a science museum when his blue Tyrannosaurus rex goes missing. Could someone have stolen it? Bones must find his T-rex! Hopefully there’s something in Bones’s detective bag that can help him solve this roar of a mystery!

(penguinrandomhouse.com) Bones solves many mysteries. His books can be read in any order.

Agee, Jon, *Milo’s Hat Trick*
Milo the magician is a mess. Not only does he botch his card tricks and tangle his rope tricks, but he can’t even manage the old standby: pulling a rabbit from a hat. Spurred on by his manager’s fury, Milo heads out of the city to find himself a rabbit. Dangling a carrot over his top hat, our magnificent magician captures... a bear. Here is where his luck turns. As it happens, this particular bear is adept at jumping into hats: "You just pretend your bones are made of rubber," he says. "It’s a secret I learned from a rabbit." Returning to the city, (after a brief mix-up on the subway), the two quickly become a smash sensation. But after popping in and out of 762 hats, the bear is positively pooped. Can Milo carry on without his rubber-boned buddy? Jon Agee illustrates his eccentric story with strange yet wonderful illustrations of blank-eyed, big-nosed, redhead Milo in too-short trousers, and the cavalier, hat-hopping bear. Perfect comedic timing and a nutty plot ensure that readers of all ages will adore this tale of a misfit’s triumph.

(books.google.com)

Ahlberg, Allan, *The Jolly Postman*
A collection of letters from famous fairy-tale characters features an apology from Goldilocks to the Three Bears, an advertisement for the Wicked Witch from Hobgoblin Supplies Ltd., and other correspondence delivered by the Jolly Postman.

(books.google.com)

Allard, Harry, *Miss Nelson Is Missing!*
The students don’t proffer a shred of respect for their good-natured teacher Miss Nelson, but when the witchy substitute Miss Viola Swamp appears on the
scene, they start to regret their own wicked ways. James Marshall’s scrifty, cartoonish full-color ink and wash illustrations are hilarious. (hmhco.com) There are three books about Miss Nelson.

**Angleberger, Tom, Crankee Doodle**

“Yankee Doodle went to town / a-riding on a pony / stuck a feather in his hat / and called it macaroni.” Many know the song “Yankee Doodle Dandy,” but few understand it. This unapologetically silly picture book reveals that the legendary ride to town (and the whole macaroni thing) was all suggested by Mr. Doodle’s overeager pony. This just makes Mr. Doodle cranky: “I do not want macaroni. I do not want a feather. I do not want any other clothing, any other pasta, or any other parts of a bird. I do not want anything that they have in town!” A historical note ends this colorful, comical take on a nonsensical old song. (hmhco.com)

**Archer, Dosh, Urgency Emergency! Big Bad Wolf**

A choking wolf is rushed to City Hospital, and a lost little girl in a red coat has been found, looking for her missing granny. What on earth did the wolf eat? Early readers have never been such fun! With bright color illustrations on every page, minimal easy-to-read text and a brilliantly fast-paced plot, this animal hospital adventure story will have young readers devouring the pages. (albertwhitman.com) This is one book in the the Urgency Emergency series. They can be read in any order.

**Aylesworth, Jim, The Mitten**

When a little boy loses a mitten in the snow, a passing squirrel finds it’s the perfect place to warm his icy toes. So he squeezes inside. But he’s not the only animal with that idea. How many animals can fit inside a little boy’s mitten? Jim Aylesworth’s rollicking rhyming refrains and Barbara McClintock’s delightfully expressive characters are sure to make this book every child’s storytime favorite. (scholastic.com) Compare and contrast this version with Jan Brett’s more famous one. Which do you like better?

**Baker, Keith, Just How Long Can A Long String Be?!**

Has something ever gotten in your way that seems way too big to handle? What if you could break down that problem into pieces... until it wasn’t a
problem at all? Meet Ant. Meet his friend Bird. And help them turn
a big ball of string into kite tails, jump ropes, top spinners, and just
about anything else that you can imagine.

(arthuralevinebooks.com)

**Baker, Keith, LMNO Peas**
Get ready to roll through the alphabet with a jaunty
cast of extremely cute and busy little peas in this
Classic Board Book edition of Keith Baker’s hit
concept book. This fresh and fun alphabet book
features bright colors, bouncy rhyming text, and silly pea
characters who highlight the wide variety of interests, hobbies,
and careers that make the world such a colorful place!

(books.simonandschuster.com)

**Bang-Campbell, Monika, Little Rat Sets Sail**
It’s time for Little Rat to start sailing lessons. But there’s a
BIG problem—she’s afraid of water! She’s scared she’ll
fall in, she’s scared her boat will sink, and she’s sure the
other students will laugh at her. Isn’t it lucky, then, that
Little Rat ends up with an instructor who helps her realize she is
braver than she thinks? (books.google.com) This is the first book
about Little Rat. They can be read in any order.

**Bang, Molly, When Sophie Gets Angry, Really, Really
Angry**
In this Caldecott Honor-winning, head-on exploration
of the causes of and solutions to anger, Sophie gets
angry and runs out into the woods, where she climbs
a tree to calm down, and is soon ready to come
home to her loving family. Everybody gets angry
sometimes. And for children, anger can be very upsetting. In this
Caldecott-honor book, children will see what Sophie does when
she gets angry. Parents, teachers, and children can talk about it.
People do lots of different things when they get angry. What do
you do? (scholastic.com)

**Barnett, Mac, Count the Monkeys**
Kids will giggle as they count all the animals that have
frightened the monkeys off the pages. Full of fun
reader interactions and keeps readers guessing until
the very last page! Matching Mac Barnett’s brilliant wit
are Kevin Cornell’s luminous illustrations, which will have young
readers begging to count the monkeys all over again. (books.disney.com)

**Barnett, Mac, Telephone**
It’s time to fly home for dinner! In this witty picture book from award-winning and bestselling author Mac Barnett, a mother bird gives the bird next to her a message for little Peter. But passing messages on a telephone line isn’t as simple as it sounds. Each subsequent bird understands Mama’s message according to its own very particular hobbies. Will Peter ever get home for dinner? This uproarious interpretation of a favorite children’s game will get everyone giggling and is sure to lead to countless rereads. (chroniclebooks.com)

**Bartoletti, Susan Campbell, Naamah and the Ark at Night**
Naamah is the wife of Noah, and her name means “great singer.” For forty days and forty nights, as the ark tosses on storm-wracked seas, Naamah sings. She sings to the animals, two by two. She sings to her husband, her sons, and their wives. She sings, and they all sleep, finally at peace. Acclaimed author Susan Campbell Bartoletti’s rhythmic, lyrical text pairs with Caldecott Honor winner Holly Meade’s luminous collage for a cozy, tender lullaby, and an ode to the power of song. (candlewick.com)

**Bate, Lucy, Little Rabbit’s Loose Tooth**
What should Little Rabbit do with her loose tooth when it comes out in a dish of chocolate ice cream? Throw it away? Wear it on a necklace? Draw stars around it and hang it on the wall? Try to buy some candy with it? Or leave it under her pillow for the tooth fairy? (scholastic.com)

**Bean, Jonathan, At Night**
On some nights, a snug bedroom is a hard place to fall asleep. On some nights, it’s better to get away from slumbering, snoring family members and curl up alone with one’s thoughts in the cool night air, under wide-open skies. In this charming bedtime fantasy, a sleepless city girl does just that, finding her surprising way to a serene rooftop version of a backyard campout. With captivating ink-and-watercolor illustrations and a simple, lyrical text, newcomer
Jonathan Bean has created a soothing bedtime story that is sure to charm children and parents alike. (us.macmillan.com)

Bearn, Emily, *Tumtum & Nutmeg: Adventures Beyond Nutmouse Hall*  
Tumtum and Nutmeg lead cozy and quiet lives, secretly looking after Arthur and Lucy, the disheveled human children of the cottage, never dreaming that so many exciting adventures will soon find them. But when evil Aunt Ivy, a squeamish schoolteacher named Miss Short, and pirating pond rats threaten the safety of those they hold dear, the courageous pair will stop at nothing to save the day. In three thrilling tales of daring and wit, Tumtum and Nutmeg—along with veteran hero General Marchmouse, Ms. Tiptoe’s bouncing ballerina army, and a team of caged gerbils—prove that small-size mice can have world-size hearts. (lb-kids.com)

A dab of blue here, a splash of red there, a goopy smear of green . . . everywhere. To the tune of "It Ain’t Gonna Rain No More," one creative kid floods his world with color, painting first the walls, then the ceiling, then himself! Before this feisty artist is through, he’ll have painted his head, back, hands, legs, feet, and . . . Oh, no, here comes Mama! Karen Beaumont’s zippy text and David Catrow’s zany illustrations turn an infamous childhood activity into raucous story-time fun, giving a silly twist to the fine art of self-expression. (hmhco.com)

Becker, Bonny, *A Visitor for Bear*  
Bear is quite sure he doesn’t like visitors. He even has a sign. So when a mouse taps on his door one day, Bear tells him to leave. But when Bear goes to the cupboard to get a bowl, there is the mouse -- small and gray and bright-eyed. In this slapstick tale that begs to be read aloud, all Bear wants is to eat his breakfast in peace, but the mouse -- who keeps popping up in the most unexpected places -- just won’t go away! (candlewick.com)
Bemelmans, Ludwig, *Madeline*
Nothing frightens Madeline—not tigers, not mice, not even getting sick. To Madeline, a trip to the hospital is a grand adventure. (penguinrandomhouse.com)

Bently, Peter, *King Jack and the Dragon*
Jack, Zack, and baby Caspar spend all day fighting dragons in their homemade fort. But when Sir Zack and Caspar are taken inside for bed, King Jack—alone on his throne—finds himself feeling a bit less brave... especially when he hears a thing approaching, a thing with four legs. (goodreads.com)

Berger, Samantha, *Martha Doesn’t Say Sorry*
Adorably clad in her pink dress and matching headband, Martha is ready to do just about anything—except say those three little words: I am sorry. But when this sweet but stubborn otter learns that niceties like cookies, piggyback rides, and hugs are for people who apologize our mischievous heroine learns the ultimately rewarding feeling that comes with saying she’s sorry. (hachettebookgroup.com)

Beskow, Elsa, *Children of the Forest*
The children of the forest live deep in the roots of an old pine tree. They collect wild mushrooms and blueberries and shelter under toadstools when it rains. They play with the squirrels and frogs, and when autumn comes, they collect and prepare food to see them through the long winter, until the warm spring breeze starts to blow. (florisbooks.co.uk)

Bingham, Kelly, *Z Is for Moose*
Zebra thinks the alphabet should be simple. A is for Apple. B is for Ball. Easy! But his friend Moose is too excited to wait his turn, and when M isn’t for Moose (Mouse gets the honor), the rest of the letters better run for cover. Exuberant and zany storytelling brings to life two friends and one laugh-out-loud comedy of errors that’s about friendship, sharing, and compromise. The incomparable Paul O. Zelinsky’s artwork is bursting at the seams—literally—with child appeal. Breaking the borders of the page, and creating the art both digitally and traditionally, Zelinsky turns convention on its head. The result is a
picture book that is innovative, hilarious, and begging to be read over and over again. (harpercollins.com)

**Bloom, Suzanne, A Splendid Friend, Indeed**

**Bluemle, Elizabeth, Tap Tap Boom Boom**
When a thunderstorm hits a city street, children and grown-ups dash to the subway for shelter — and an impromptu friendly gathering. The clouds are gathering above a city street and soon — tap, tap, boom, boom! As a thunderstorm rolls in, people of all stripes race down to the subway to get away from the crackling rain and wind. With quirky wordplay and infectious rhymes, Elizabeth Bluemle crystallizes an unexpected moment of community, while G. Brian Karas’s warm illustrations show the smiles to be had when a storm brings strangers together as friends. (candlewick.com)

**Boutignon, Beatrice, Not all Animals Are Blue**
Sharing simple concepts, Not All Animals Are Blue prompts discussion about colors, movement, attitude, and even accessories. It is an interactive book for adults and children to enjoy together—reading, listening, discussing, and laughing. (books.google.com)

**Boyd, Lizi, Flashlight**
Inside a tent it’s cozy. But what is going on outside? Is it dark? Is it scary? Not if you have your trusty flashlight! Told solely through images and using a spare yet dramatic palette, artist Lizi Boyd has crafted a masterful exploration of night, nature, and art. Both lyrical and humorous, this visual poem—like the flashlight beam itself—reveals that there is magic in the darkness. We just have to look for it. (chroniclebooks.com)
Brown, Monica, *Marisol McDonald Doesn't Match: Marisol McDonald no combina*

Marisol McDonald has flaming red hair and nut-brown skin. Polka dots and stripes are her favorite combination. She prefers peanut butter and jelly burritos in her lunch box. To Marisol, these seemingly mismatched things make perfect sense together. Other people wrinkle their nose in confusion at Marisol—can’t she just choose one or the other? Try as she might, in a world where everyone tries to put this biracial, Peruvian-Scottish-American girl into a box, Marisol McDonald doesn’t match. And that’s just fine with her.

(leeandlow.com)

Brown, Monica, *Tito Puente, Mambo King/Tito Puente, Rey del Mambo (Pura Belpre Honor Books - Illustration Honor)*

In this vibrant bilingual picture book biography of musician Tito Puente, readers will dance along to the beat of this mambo king’s life. Tito Puente loved banging pots and pans as a child, but what he really dreamed of was having his own band one day. From Spanish Harlem to the Grammy Awards—and all the beats in between—this is the true life story of a boy whose passion for music turned him into the "King of Mambo."

(harpercollins.com)

Brown, Ruth, *The Tale of Two Mice*

In the big old house, Bo and Billy have run out of food and must venture out of their mouse hole to search for some. While Bo fearlessly explores every nook and cranny, he chides Billy for being afraid of everything—but maybe Billy has good reason to be! With Ruth Brown's enchanting artwork full of rich details and visual sleight-of-hand, this novelty tale of brotherly adventure and bravery will send eagle-eyed readers on a storybook hunt of their own. Children will love being in on the joke in this tale of two mice on a hunt for food, one oblivious to the whiskered menace lurking in the shadows.

(candlewick.com)

Browne, Anthony, *One Gorilla: A Counting Book*

What better attention-getter for small children than primates in all their variety? And who better to render them than Anthony Browne? In this elegant counting book, the author-illustrator outdoes himself with a vivid
presentation of primates from gorillas to gibbons, macaques to mandrills, ring-tailed lemurs to spider monkeys. With his striking palette, exquisite attention to detail, and quirky flair for facial expressions, Anthony Browne slyly extends the basic number concept into a look at similarities and differences — portraying an extended family we can count ourselves part of. (candlewick.com)

Bryan, Ashley, Beautiful Blackbird
Long ago, Blackbird was voted the most beautiful bird in the forest. The other birds, who were colored red, yellow, blue, and green, were so envious that they begged Blackbird to paint their feathers with a touch of black so they could be beautiful too. Although Blackbird warns them that true beauty comes from within, the other birds persist and soon each is given a ring of black around their neck or a dot of black on their wings -- markings that detail birds to this very day. Coretta Scott King Award-winner Ashley Bryan's adaptation of a tale from the Ilia-speaking people of Zambia resonates both with rhythm and the tale's universal meanings -- appreciating one's heritage and discovering the beauty within. His cut-paper artwork is a joy. (books.simonandschuster.com)

Buehner, Caralyn, Dex: The Heart of a Hero
Dexter the dog is so little that Cleevis the tomcat bullies him. But little Dex has dreams—big dreams. He wants to be a superhero. So he reads all the comic books he can, builds his muscles, and even orders a hero suit. Suddenly, even Cleevis needs his help! Dexter has determination, spirit, and heart as he proves, above all, that no matter how little you are, you can still do very big things. (harpercollins.com) (This book was originally called Superdog, which I think is a much better title. -Ms. Bock)

Burgess, Thornton W., Old Mother West Wind
Fifteen tales that explain why Danny Meadow Mouse has a short tail, the reason Reddy Fox has no friends, and other mysteries about the residents of the Green Meadow. (books.google.com)
Butterworth, Oliver, *The Enormous Egg*
Young Nate Twitchell is surprised when one of the hens on his family farm lays a giant egg. After a painstaking wait, Nate is even more surprised when it hatches and out pops a baby triceratops that he names Uncle Beazley! But when Nate decides to keep the dino and raise it on his own, he has no idea what he’s getting himself into. As Uncle Beazley grows, Nate and his family realize they are not equipped to take care of a full-sized dinosaur, and so with the help of their scientist friend, Nate and Uncle Beazley set off for the National Museum in Washington, D.C., on the hunt for the perfect home for a modern-day dinosaur---then the real trouble begins! (hachettebookgroup.com)

Byars, Betsy Cromer, *Hooray for the Golly Sisters!*
Big rivers, magic pigs, and high-wire waltzes can mean only one thing - the Golly sisters are here again! Five more adventures star those western showgirls, May-May and Rose, as they dance and sing their way out west. (books.google.com) These books are often out of print, so you’ll have better luck if you look in a library than in a bookstore.

Capucilli, Alyssa Satin, *Biscuit*
Biscuit is a little yellow puppy. And like most puppies, he would rather play than go to bed. Will Biscuit ever go to sleep? It’s Biscuit’s bedtime, but this lively little puppy doesn’t want to go to sleep! Before he gets into bed, Biscuit plays out the familiar bedtime drama of wanting just one more thing. A perfect story for young readers who won’t be able to resist reading about this adorable puppy for themselves. (harpercollins.com) (There are many books about Biscuit. You can read them in any order.)

Carnesi, Monica, *Little Dog Lost: The True Story of a Brave Dog Named Baltic*
On a cold winter day, a curious dog wandered onto a frozen river, and before he knew it he was traveling fast on a sheet of ice. Many people tried to help, but the dog could not be reached. Finally, after two nights and seventy-five miles, the little dog was saved by a ship out in the Baltic Sea. The gallant rescue of the little dog nicknamed Baltic made international news. Mônica Carnesi’s simple text and
charming watercolor illustrations convey all the drama of Baltic’s journey. His story, with its happy ending, will warm readers’ hearts. An author’s note and map are included.
(penguinrandomhouse.com)

**Carre, Lilli, Tippy and the Night Parade**
When Tippy wakes up, there’s a peacock in her bedroom, a bird in her hair, and mice dancing on the headboard... Yet all Tippy remembers is falling asleep. In her first book for children, award-winning cartoonist Lilli Carré takes Tippy on an nocturnal adventure up a mountain, down a hole, and back home for endless bedtime enjoyment. (toon-books.com) This is a graphic novel.

**Child, Lauren, I Am Going to Save a Panda!**
It’s Save an Animal Week at school, and Lola and Lotta are going to raise money to save a panda. To do this, Lola gets sponsored to hop for as long as she can, and Lotta will skip. But then Lola gets the chicken pox. Now how will she save a panda? (penguinrandomhouse.com) (There are about a million books about Charlie and Lola. Look for the ones that are actually by Lauren Child and not just based on her characters.)

**Cleary, Beverly, Socks**
Socks is one happy cat. He lives the good life with his affectionate owners, Mr. and Mrs. Bricker. Ever since the day they saved him from a life spent in a mailbox drop slot, Socks has been the center of their world. And he always has everything he needs—tasty kitty treats and all the lap room he could want! But when a new baby arrives, suddenly the Brickers have less and less time for Socks. Little Charles William is the one getting all the attention. Socks feels left out—and to show it, he starts getting into all sorts of trouble! What will it take to make Socks realize just how much the Brickers care about him? (harpercollins.com)

**Cochran, Bill, My Parents Are Divorced, My Elbows Have Nicknames, and Other Facts About Me**
Ted’s parents are divorced, but that’s just one fact about him. The fact that he has named his elbows Clyde and Carl? Or that Ted walks around with soap in his hair and likes to squawk like a chicken on the
phone? Now, that's definitely weird. As shown in this lighthearted yet heartfelt account, life with divorced parents isn't always easy, but above all Ted knows he's loved—and there's nothing weird about that at all. (harpercollins.com)

**Coffelt, Nancy, *Fred Stays With Me!***

Told from the point of view of a young child whose parents are divorced, *Fred Stays with Me* follows a girl and her dog, Fred, from one parent's house to the other's, giving her a sense of continuity and stability. With a simple text and childlike language, the story expresses and addresses a child's concerns, highlights the friendship between child and pet, presents a common ground for the parents, and resolves conflict in a positive way. Tricia Tusa's charming and whimsical artwork adds a light, happy feel to this poignant—but not overly sentimental—story. (hachettebookgroup.com)

**Compestine, Ying Chang, *The Real Story of Stone Soup***

A stingy fisherman always makes his three young helpers do all his work. One day he scolds the “lazy boys” for forgetting to provide lunch. “Don’t worry,” they say. “We can make stone soup.” The boys dig a hole and fill it with water and “flavored” stones. They trick the fisherman into making bowls and chopsticks, and fetching salt and sesame oil. While he's busy, they stir in bird eggs, add wild vegetables, and slip fish into the soup. By the time the old man returns, they have a feast fit for a king. To this day, “Egg Drop Stone Soup” is a traditional dish in southeast China. A recipe is included. (penguinrandomhouse.com)

**Cooney, Barbara, *Hattie and the Wild Waves: A Story From Brooklyn***

Hattie, who enjoys spending time at her family's summer home near the ocean, is determined to become an artist. (scholastic.com)

**Cousins, Lucy, *Yummy: Eight Favorite Fairy Tales***

Eight classic stories take on new energy as Lucy Cousins ramps up her artwork. In this bold, funny, and unflinching collection, the beloved author-illustrator retains all the emotion and humor of the original fairy tales: the heroes are courageous, the villains are horrible, and the children are tasty. With her sly, simple language and vibrant
illustrations, even the scariest fiends become the stuff of shared hilarity and shivery thrills. (randomhouse.com)

Crimi, Carolyn, Where's My Mummy?
Little Baby Mummy wants just one more game of hide-and-shriek with Big Mama Mummy before bedtime. The night is deep and dark, full of friendly creatures that click their clacky teeth and whoosh past on flippy-floppy wings. But who will comfort Little Baby Mummy if a small, scritchy- scratchy someone gives him a scare? Big Mama Mummy, of course! Fresh, comical illustrations complement this ever-so-slightly suspenseful story with a satisfying ending. (candlewick.com)

Crowley, Ned, Nanook & Pryce: Gone Fishing
Two oblivious fishermen and an intrepid dog who scares away sharks star in this cleverly written, whimsically illustrated story with a subtle environmental message. Nanook, Pryce, and Yukon go out ice fishing for breakfast one morning when the next thing they know, they are adrift on the high seas. The accidental tourists escape sharks (or are the sharks escaping them?) and giant squid, wriggle out of fishnets, dodge hungry pelicans, and inadvertently partake in all kinds of adventures. (harpercollins.com)

Crum, Shutta, Thunder-Boomer!
It's a hot day on the farm, and a little girl, her brother, and their mother are trying to cool off by the pond. Suddenly, dark clouds roll in. A thunder-boomer is on the way! The storm brings pounding rain and hail—and an unexpected visitor: a soggy wet stray kitten. Colorful descriptions of the storm are accompanied by lots of playful sound effects, making this free-verse poem perfect for reading aloud. Charming watercolor illustrations capture all the drama, humor, and tenderness of the text. (hmhco.com)

Cumpiano, Ina, Quinito, Day and Night/Quinito, día y noche
From the author and illustrator of Quinito's Neighborhood comes this delightful story full of opposites. From first thing in the morning until he goes to sleep at night, Quinito is up and running-fast or slow, depending on the day. If it's sunny, he's off to the park to swing high and low. If it's
rainy, Quinito stays home, where he can be quiet at nap-time and loud at playtime. There’s so much to do before the sun sets. (leeandlow.com)

**Cunnane, Kelly, *Chirchir Is Singing***  
Chirchir just wants to make herself useful like all her other family members. But she drops Mama’s water bucket, spills Kogo’s tea, and sends Baba’s potatoes tumbling down the hill. Isn’t there something that Chirchir does best? Set in the rolling hills of rural Kenya, this is a wise and lyrical story about belonging from Kelly Cunnane, the author of the Ezra Jack Keats Award winner *For You Are a Kenyan Child*, accompanied by Jude Daly’s beautiful folk art-style illustrations. (randomhouse.com)

**Cushman, Doug, *Inspector Hopper***  
Inspector Hopper is a detective with a feel -- and feelers -- for mysteries. With the help of his partner, McBugg, this tiny supersleuth can crack any case! (harpercollins.com)

**Cutbill, Andy, *The Cow That Laid an Egg***  
Marjorie is an insecure cow who wishes she had some special talent. She can’t ride a bicycle or do handstands like the other cows. Then one morning (thanks to a bunch of scheming chickens and a paintbrush), Marjorie is astonished to discover something extraordinary: she’s laid an egg! (harpercollins.com)

**Cuyler, Margery, *The Bumpy Little Pumpkin***  
All summer, Little Nell has tended the garden with big Mama, big Sarah, and big Lizzie, and finally the pumpkins are ready for Halloween. Her sisters choose smooth, round pumpkins to carve, but Little Nell likes a bumpy little one best. Sarah and Lizzie jeer, "It’s bumpy and little and ugly!" But Little Nell perseveres. With help from her animal friends, she scoops and carves it into a wonderful jack-o’-lantern! (scholastic.com)

**Daly, Cathleen, *Prudence Wants a Pet***  
“No,” says Mom, “pets make noise.” But Prudence is determined. She finds her own pet. It is a...branch. But Branch isn’t exactly the pet of her dreams, and neither are Twig, Mr. Round (a car tire), or her baby brother Milo. Poor Prudence. Will she ever find the perfect pet? (us.macmillan.com)

**Davis, Jacky, *Ladybug Girl and Bumblebee Boy***
Lulu and her dog Bingo meet up with Sam on the playground and want to play together. Sam likes the sandbox but Lulu thinks the monkey bars are better. They just can’t agree...until Lulu asks, “Have you ever played Ladybug Girl?” Quickly, Sam becomes the brave Bumblebee Boy, and he and Lulu, a.k.a Ladybug Girl, are superheroes who save the playground from scary monsters and mean robots. New friends want to join their game too, and soon the Bug Squad is formed with Ladybug Girl, Bumblebee Boy, Dragonfly Girl, and Butterfly Girl using their imaginations to keep the playground safe. (penguinrandomhouse.com) (There are many books about Ladybug Girl.)

**Denise, Anika, *Pigs Love Potatoes***
One pig wants potatoes... then so does his brother. . . . his sister makes it three pigs, and Papa makes four. Then there are the neighbors! Now all the piggies want potatoes, and soon it’s one big potato party! Anika and Christopher Denise have teamed up to create this most charming, classic counting book, full of picture-perfect pigs and pleasing rhyme. Children will love Pigs Love Potatoes as much as, well, pigs love potatoes. And as you’ll see, that’s quite a bit! (books.google.com)

**Dewdney, Anna, *Llama Llama Red Pajama***
In this infectious rhyming read-aloud, Baby Llama turns bedtime into an all-out llama drama! Tucked into bed by his mama, Baby Llama immediately starts worrying when she goes downstairs, and his soft whimpers turn to hollers when she doesn’t come right back. But just in time, Mama returns to set things right. Children will relate to Baby Llama’s need for comfort, as much as parents will appreciate Mama Llama’s reassuring message. (penguinrandomhouse.com) There are several books about this lovable Llama. They can be read in any order.
Dominguez, Angela, *Maria Had a Little Llama / María Tenía Una Llamita*

Everyone knows about Mary and her little lamb. But do you know Maria? With gorgeous, Peruvian-inspired illustrations and English and Spanish retellings, Angela Dominguez gives a fresh new twist to the classic rhyme. Maria and her mischievous little llama will steal your heart. (us.macmillan.com)

Dominguez, Angela, *Santiago Stays*

Santiago stays. He does not budge when offered a walk. He does not budge when offered a treat. Not even a turkey leg can lure this stubborn French bulldog away from his post, despite the growing disappointment of the little boy who is trying to engage him. After several futile attempts, the boy’s frustration bubbles over into a yell, which wakes the baby, and the reader realizes whom Santiago has been resolutely guarding all along. This familiar theme of an attention-seeking older sibling, paired with the comically and characteristically stubborn French bulldog, makes for a humorous and cathartic tale for dog lovers of all ages! (abramsbooks.com)

Donaldson, Julia, *The Gruffalo*

A mouse is taking a stroll through the deep, dark wood when along comes a hungry fox, then an owl, and then a snake. The mouse is good enough to eat but smart enough to know this, so he invents... the gruffalo! As Mouse explains, the gruffalo is a creature with terrible claws, and terrible tusks in its terrible jaws, and knobbly knees and turned-out toes, and a poisonous wart at the end of its nose. But Mouse has no worry to show. After all, there's no such thing as a gruffalo... (penguinrandomhouse.com)

Dubowski, Cathy East, *Pirate School*

While studying the tough, seafaring life of a pirate at P.S. 1, two young pirates discover buried treasure at the same time, and the amusing results are observed by everyone. (penguinrandomhouse.com)

Dubuc, Marianne, *Animal Masquerade*

Come one, come all to the animal masquerade! The lion is going as an elephant, the elephant as a parrot, and the parrot as a turtle! Each costume gives way to another, yielding new surprises
on every page, and revealing a menagerie of familiar and unusual animals. Young children will delight in the absurd and amusing images (who wouldn’t love a ladybug dressed as a hippopotamus?) and will also appreciate the gags (a fish costumed as a cat is dubbed a “catfish”) and other bits of silly sweetness. Recapping this reading adventure: a detailed panorama at book’s end, showing all the party guests in their fanciful finery. (kidscanpress.com)

**Durand, Hallie, *Mitchell Goes Bowling***
Mitchell liked to knock things down. That’s just how he rolled. One Saturday, when Mitchell almost knocks down his dad, his dad catches him and puts him in the car. And when they step into the bowling alley, Mitchell feels right at home. Pizza! Giant crashing noises! Special shoes! But as Mitchell picks up the biggest ball and quickly learns the word gutter, and when Dad does a little kick with his leg and earns a big X on the scoreboard, Mitchell starts to get peevish. How can Mitchell get a chance to do a steamin'-hot-potato-dance too? With wit, warmth, and comedic charm, Hallie Durand and Tony Fucile roll another strike with this tale of a lovably rambunctious child and his doting dad. (candlewick.com)

**Dusen, Chris Van, *The Circus Ship***
When a circus ship runs aground off the coast of Maine, the poor animals are left on their own to swim the chilly waters. Staggering onto a nearby island, they soon win over the wary townspeople with their kind, courageous ways. So well do the critters blend in that when the greedy circus owner returns to claim them, villagers of all species conspire to outsmart the bloated blowhard. With buoyant rhymes and brilliantly caricatured illustrations evoking the early nineteenth century, Chris Van Dusen presents a hugely entertaining tale about the bonds of community -- and a rare hidden-pictures spread for eagle-eyed readers of all ages. (candlewick.com)

**Dyckman, Ame, *Wolfie the Bunny***
The Bunny family has adopted a wolf son, and daughter Dot is the only one who realizes Wolfie can—and might—eat them all up! Dot tries to get through to her parents, but they are too smitten to listen. A new
brother takes getting used to, and when (in a twist of fate) it's Wolfie who's threatened, can Dot save the day? (hachettebookgroup.com)

**Eager, Edward, Half Magic**
Half Magic is the uproarious tale of four siblings who discover a charm that grants exactly half of whatever they wish for—with results that are twice as predictable (and hilarious) as you might expect. Jane, Mark, Katharine, and Martha manage to cope with an unexpected trip to the Sahara and nearly a disastrous trip to the time of King Arthur. But can these plucky and resourceful children deal with the changes magic is bringing to their tight-knit family? (penguinrandomhouse.com) This is the first book in the series. I suggest you read this one first, but then you can read the others in any order.

**Ehlert, Lois, Color Zoo**
Shapes and colors in your zoo, lots of things that you can do. Heads and ears, beaks and snouts, that's what animals are all about. I know animals and you do too; make some new ones for your zoo. (harpercollins.com)

**Ehlert, Lois, Feathers for Lunch**
Exuberant pictures and simple text send children on a fun backyard adventure as a sneaky cat tries to catch tasty birds for lunch. A wonderful introduction to bird-watching, this book can be enjoyed by the entire family. (scholastic.com)

**Ehlert, Lois, Leaf Man**
Fall has come, the wind is gusting, and Leaf Man is on the move. Is he drifting east, over the marsh and ducks and geese? Or is he heading west, above the orchards, prairie meadows, and spotted cows? No one's quite sure, but this much is certain: A Leaf Man's got to go where the wind blows. With illustrations made from actual fall leaves and die-cut pages on every spread that reveal gorgeous landscape vistas, here is a playful, whimsical, and evocative book that celebrates the natural world and the rich imaginative life of children. (hmhco.com)
Ehlert, Lois, RR Ralph
Would you believe that Ralph the dog can talk? Yip, yip, yip--it’s true! With bestselling author Lois Ehlert’s simple, funny, call-and-response text and bold, playful collage illustrations, this fresh, young book is sure to get little ones laughing (and talking to their dogs!) (books.simonandschuster.com)

Elliott, David, Knitty Kitty
What could Knitty Kitty be knitting? Something to keep three mischievous kittens toasty and comfy, of course. But after the snow falls and the moon comes up and it’s bedtime for kittens everywhere, what will keep them all warm and snug? Knitty Kitty has the answers! With a fun, rhythmic text and delightfully detailed illustrations, the storybook team of David Elliott and Christopher Denise knit together a cozy read-aloud. An ever-patient kitty knits away with one watchful eye on three impish kittens in a charming tale that’s purr-fect for bedtime -- or anytime. (candlewick.com)

Elya, Susan Middleton, Rubia and the Three Osos
The Oso family is going out for a stroll, and Rubia has her eye on their empty casita. A nice bowl of sopa, a comfortable chair, a perfecta little bed Who wouldn’t want to open la puerta and come in? This is the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears, retold in a musical combination of English and Spanish, illustrated with great humor and heart by a Caldecott Honor-winning artist, and featuring a surprise ending that’s downright fabuloso. Just right for bilingual families, new Spanish speakers, and anyone who likes a bueno twist on a classic. (goodreads.com)

Enright, Elizabeth, The Saturdays
Meet the Melendys! The four Melendy children live with their father and Cuffy, their beloved housekeeper, in a worn but comfortable brownstone in New York City. There’s thirteen-year-old Mona, who has decided to become an actress; twelve-year-old mischievous Rush; ten-and-a-half-year-old Randy, who loves to dance and paint; and thoughtful Oliver, who is just six. Tired of wasting Saturdays doing nothing but wishing for larger allowances, the four Melendys jump at Randy’s idea to start the Independent Saturday Afternoon Adventure Club (I.S.A.A.C.). If
they pool their resources and take turns spending the whole amount, they can each have at least one memorable Saturday afternoon of their own. Before long, I.S.A.A.C. is in operation and every Saturday is definitely one to remember. Written more than half a century ago, The Saturdays unfolds with all the ripe details of a specific place and period but remains, just the same, a winning, timeless tale. The Saturdays is the first installment of Enright's Melendy Quartet, an engaging and warm series about the close-knit Melendy family and their surprising adventures. (us.macmillan.com) This is the first in the Melendy Quartet. You may read them in any order.

**Estes, Eleanor, *The Moffats***
Meet the Moffats. There is Sylvie, the oldest, the cleverest, and-most days at least-the responsible one; Joey, who though only twelve is the man of the house...sometimes; Janey, who has a terrific upside-down way of looking at the world; Rufus, who may be the littlest but always gets in the biggest trouble; and their mother. Even the most ordinary Moffat day is packed with extraordinary fun. Only a Moffat could get locked in a bread box all afternoon, or dance with a dog in front of the whole town, or hitch a ride on a boxcar during kindergarten recess. And only a Moffat could turn mistakes and mischief into hilarious one-of-a-kind adventure. (scholastic.com)

**Feiffer, Jules, *Bark, George***
George likes to please his mother, but when she tells him to bark he says "meow" and "quack-quack" and "oink" and "moo" - until she takes him to the vet, who finally figures out what's going on with George. Or does he? Children will roar with laughter at this funny, silly story, told by the master of foolishness and farce. (scholastic.com)

**Feiffer, Jules, *The Daddy Mountain***
Before your very eyes, this little redhead is about to do something extremely daring. And scary. And she'll show you-she'll actually document, step-by-step-exactly how she does it. First, she takes her Daddy and makes him stand very still. Then, balancing herself on his shoe, she wraps her arms tightly around a leg and starts her perilous ascent to the summit. Thrills and chills, guaranteed. LOOK OUT BELOW!! (books.google.com)
**Fienberg, Anna, Tashi**
For twenty years Tashi has been telling fabulous stories. He escaped from a war lord in a faraway place and flew to this country on the back of a swan. And he wished he would find a friend just like Jack. In this first book of his daring adventures, Tashi tells Jack about the time he tricked the last dragon of all. Now, a whole generation of readers know that when Tashi says, 'Well, it was like this...' a new adventure is about to begin. (allenandunwin.com)

**Fleming, Candace, Oh, No!**
Young children will delight in repeating the refrain "OH, NO!" as one animal after another falls into a deep, deep hole in this lively read-aloud. This simple and irresistible picture book by hugely popular picture book creators—Candace Fleming and Caldecott medalist Eric Rohmann—feels like a classic-in-the-making. Fans of Rohmann's Caldecott Medal-winning My Friend Rabbit, will be thrilled to see a new book created in the same expressive and comical style. (goodreads.com)

**Fleming, Denise, Beetle Bop**
They crawl up walls, they hide in cracks, they flip, they fly, and sometimes . . . crrrash. Beetles come in all shapes and sizes, and they are everywhere in this thoroughly buggy, beautifully designed book. There are striped beetles, spotted beetles, all-over-dotted beetles—and don't forget the noisily gnawing beetles! Whether you love bugs or whether the sight of them makes you itch, you'll adore this infested offering from the beloved Denise Fleming. (hmhco.com)

**Fleming, Denise, Lunch**
It's time for lunch, and one little mouse is famished! In fact, he's so hungry that once he starts eating, he can't stop. He sinks his teeth into a crisp white turnip, gobbles up some orange carrots, devours an ear of yellow corn, then tosses back some tender green peas. He's full, but this mouse keeps on munching until his bulging belly won't hold another bite. Parents will see their own children in this perky tale, and toddlers won't get enough of the gregarious little mouse. They'll proudly identify the colors of his (and their)
favorite foods, and enjoy guessing what fruit or vegetable he’ll eat next. Color-savvy readers are sure to spot the rainbow contained in the background pages— and almost everyone will agree that this is one book about colors that makes the plain old primaries look positively pale! (us.macmillan.com)

**Fogliano, Julie, And Then It’s Spring**
Following a snow-filled winter, a young boy and his dog decide that they've had enough of all that brown and resolve to plant a garden. They dig, they plant, they play, they wait . . . and wait . . . until at last, the brown becomes a more hopeful shade of brown, a sign that spring may finally be on its way. (us.macmillan.com)

**Franceschelli, Christopher, Alphablock**
With thick pages cut into the shape of each letter, children and parents will enjoy this peek-through guessing game around the letterform itself. Sprinkles, hot fudge, and cherries hint at I's ice cream sundae, while aquarium accessories hint at F's fish. As readers interact with the pages, they will familiarize themselves not only with the 26 letters and associated words, but also with each letter’s physicality—angles, holes, and curves, both front and back. With Peskimo’s animated, stylish visuals, this fresh ABC book encourages readers to manipulate the alphabet in a whole new way. (abramsbooks.com)

**Frazee, Marla, Roller Coaster**
Clickity, clackity. Clickity, clackity.
The roller coaster car is going up, up, up to the highest spot. And at least one of the people in the car has never ridden on a roller coaster before . . . ever. Wheeeeee!!! Get ready to experience the thrill of riding a coaster for the very first time in this vibrant adventure from acclaimed picture book creator Marla Frazee. (hmhco.com)

**Funke, Cornelia, The Princess Knight**
Violet is a young princess who wishes she could show the world that she is just as brave and strong as her brothers. But her strict father insists that she get married, and her brothers only mock her when she wants to be included in their fun. So Violet decides to use her
intelligence and bravery to show everyone — once and for all — what she's made of. Disguising herself as a boy, Violet takes part in a knights' jousting tournament. When she wins the contest, she reveals her true identity — and wins the prize of freedom! (scholastic.com)

**Gall, Chris, *Dinotrux***

*Dinotrux* is the story of the mighty part-dinosaur, part-truck creatures that rumbled, plowed, and bulldozed their way through the centuries, demolishing anything in their path. From the nosy Craneosaurus and the mega-hungry Garbageadon to the bully of the jungle, Tyrannosaurus Trux, Chris Gall guides readers on a super safari through the wild world of these mechanical monsters! (hachettebookgroup.com)

**Gannett, Ruth Stiles, *Three Tales of My Father's Dragon***

When Elmer Elevator hears about the plight of an overworked and underappreciated baby flying dragon, he stows away on a ship and travels to Wild Island to rescue the dragon. (penguinrandomhouse.com) This trilogy is usually available in bookstores with all three stories in one book. You may also find it as three separate books: *My Father's Dragon, Elmer and the Dragon*, and *The Dragons of Blueland*. They are best read in order.

**Gerstein, Mordicai, *The Night World***

Everyone in the house is sleeping, but outside, the night world is wide-awake. It's a wonderful night to explore! Perfect for bedtime, this book from Caldecott Medalist Mordicai Gerstein celebrates the secrets of the night world and the joys of the sunrise. (hachettebookgroup.com)

**Godin, Thelma Lynne, *The Hula Hoopin' Queen***

A spunky African American girl has a hula-hooping competition with her friends in Harlem, and soon everyone in the neighborhood—young and old alike—joins in on the fun. With vibrant illustrations by Vanessa Brantley-Newton, *The Hula-Hoopin’ Queen* is a charming celebration of family and community ties. Set in Harlem, this
intergenerational story shows the importance of staying young at heart. (leeandlow.com)

**Graham, Bob, *April and Esme Tooth Fairies***
April Underhill, seven-year-old tooth fairy, gets a call on her cell phone. This is it! Her first tooth collection. April and her little sister, Esme, must convince Mom and Dad to let them take on the task all by themselves. But soon, two tiny fairies fly off into the night, over a highway of thundering eighteen-wheelers, eager to prove how grown up they can be. As always, the charm is in the visual details: the pony-tailed, winged dad in baggy jeans; the snug fairy house with teeth dangling from the rafters like wind chimes. Once again, Bob Graham has crafted a tale of heartwarming adventure, magical yet very real. (books.google.com)

**Gravett, Emily, *Orange Pear Apple Bear***
Destined to become a contemporary classic, this book has spare text and sweet illustrations but contains only five words: apple, pear, orange, bear—and there. Emily Gravett creates clever variations on this theme by rearranging the words—on one spread, a brown bear juggles an orange, apple, and pear; on another spread, there is an orange-colored apple and a pear-shaped bear. Simple and compelling, children will enjoy reading this book over and over again as they learn many different concepts. (simonandschuster.com)

**Grey, Mini, *Traction Man Is Here!***
Traction Man—wearing combat boots, battle pants, and his warfare shirt—comes in a box, but very quickly finds the way into the imagination of his lucky boy owner. This superhero searches for the Lost Wreck of the Sieve as the boy makes a game of doing the dishes, and later in the bathtub, he conquers the Mysterious Toes that are stealing his pet, the brave little Scrubbing Brush. These are just a few of the action-packed adventures played out by the boy and his new toy that may not be able to leap tall buildings in a single bound, but can vanquish all manner of villains lurking around the house. Mini Grey’s story in words and pictures is an irresistible invitation to the private world of a child’s play. (penguinrandomhouse.com)
are several books about Traction Man. You don’t have to read them in order, but you might want to.

**Haley, Gail E., A Story A Story : An African Tale Retold**

Once, all the stories in the world belonged to Nyame, the Sky God. He kept them in a box beside his throne. But Ananse, the Spider man, wanted them -- and caught three sly creatures to get them. This story of how we got our own stories to tell is adapted from an African folktale. (books.simonandschuster.com)

**Harper, Charise Mericle, Bean Dog and Nugget: The Ball**

Bean Dog and Nugget lose Bean Dog’s shiny new ball in a bush. They dream up elaborate and silly ways to get it back while they argue about who is actually going to go and get it. Enter Superdog and Ninja Nugget for a hilarious ending that kids will love and relate to. (penguinrandomhouse.com) This is the first book in the series. You can read them in any order. This is a graphic novel.

**Haughton, Chris, Shh! We Have a Plan**

Four friends creep through the woods, and what do they spot? An exquisite bird high in a tree! “Hello birdie,” waves one. “Shh! We have a plan,” hush the others. They stealthily make their advance, nets in the air. Ready one, ready two, ready three, and go! But as one comically foiled plan follows another, it soon becomes clear that their quiet, observant companion, hand outstretched, has a far better idea. Award-winning author-illustrator Chris Haughton is back with another simple, satisfying story whose visual humor plays out in boldly graphic, vibrantly colorful illustrations. (candlewick.com)

**Heder, Thyra, Fraidyzoo**

It’s a great day to go to the zoo! As her family hustles to get out the door, Little T lags behind. She’s afraid to go back to the zoo; the only trouble is, she can’t remember why. As an ingenious solution to help her remember, her mom, dad, and sister construct homemade costumes and act out zoo animals—in alphabetical order, no less! The costumes and scenes grow increasingly elaborate and breathtakingly creative. An umbrella and bubble wrap magically
transform into a jellyfish, bath towels and a can of soda become a parrot, and many, many more. At the end of the day, Little T has conquered her fear and no longer feels like a “fraidyzoo.” (abramsbooks.com)

**Henkes, Kevin, A Good Day**

It started out as a bad day for little yellow bird, little white dog, little orange fox, and little brown squirrel. Until... A discovery, and love, and luck and persistence, and a different point of view changed all that. What can turn a bad day into a good day? You decide. (harpercollins.com)

**Henkes, Kevin, Old Bear**

Snug and warm, curled and furry, Old Bear sleeps. Red, orange, and brown leaves fly through the air, and it is snowing hard. Old Bear doesn’t notice. Old Bear is dreaming about being a cub again. He is dreaming about the beauty of the world. He is dreaming of everything he loves about the forest that is his home. Turn the page and you will see! (harpercollins.com)

**Hest, Amy, Charley’s First Night**

On Charley’s first night, Henry carries his new puppy in his old baby blanket all the way to his house. He shows Charley every room, saying, “This is home, Charley.” He says that a lot so that Charley will know that he is home. Henry’s parents are very clear about who will be walking and feeding Charley (Henry will, and he can’t wait). They are also very clear about where Charley will be sleeping: Charley will be sleeping in the kitchen. But when the crying starts in the middle of the night, Henry knows right away that it’s Charley! And it looks like his parents’ idea about where Charley is going to sleep may have to change. With warmth, humor, and endearing simplicity, Amy Hest tells a tale familiar to everyone who has loved a puppy, while Helen Oxenbury renders each tender gesture and charming detail in a beauty of a book that children will be eager to take home. (candlewick.com)

**Hills, Tad, Duck and Goose**

Duck and Goose have to work at getting along. You see, Duck doesn’t much care for Goose at first, and Goose isn’t fond of Duck. But both want the egg that
each claims to be his. As the two tend to their egg, and make plans for the future, they come to appreciate one another’s strengths. And when a bluebird points out that it isn’t really an egg—it’s a polka dot ball—the two are not dismayed. After all, it is a lovely ball.... (penguinrandomhouse.com)

Hoban, Russell, *Bread and Jam for Frances*
In this memorable story, Frances decides that bread and jam are all she wants to eat, and her understanding parents grant her wish — at breakfast, lunch, dinner, and even snacktime. Can there ever be too much bread and jam? (scholastic.com) There are many stories about Frances. They can be read in any order.

Hobbie, Holly, *Toot & Puddle*
One day Toot takes off to see the world, while Puddle decides to stay home. This is the story of their wonderful adventures both far away and right at home. It's a story about being yourself and being a good friend. (hachettebookgroup.com)

Hoberman, Mary Ann, *The Seven Silly Eaters*
Peter wants only milk, Lucy won't settle for anything but homemade lemonade, and Jack is stuck on applesauce. Each new addition to the Peters household brings a new demand for a special meal. What's a mother to do? Even though Mrs. Peters picks, peels, strains, scrapes, poaches, fries, and kneads, the requests for special foods keep coming. It isn't until her birthday arrives that a present from her children solves the problem with a hilarious surprise that pleases everyone. (hmhco.com)

Hoberman, Mary Ann, *You Read to Me, I'll Read to You: Very Short Stories to Read Together*
Here's a book With something new - You read to me! I'll read to you! We'll read each page To one another - You'll read one side, I the other. But who will read - Now guess this riddle - When the words are In the middle? The answer's easy! Plain as pie! We'll read together, You and I. (hachettebookgroup.com) There are now several collections of these stories that are designed for an adult and a child to read together.
Hoff, Syd, *Danny and the Dinosaur*
Danny loves dinosaurs! When he sees one at the museum and says, "It would be nice to play with a dinosaur," a voice answers, "And I think it would be nice to play with you." So begins Danny and the Dinosaur's wonderful adventures together. For Danny and his prehistoric playmate, even the most everyday activities become extraordinary, like finding a big-enough place to hide a dinosaur in a game of hide-and-seek. Kids will delight in Syd Hoff's charming, comical illustrations as they read about how Danny teaches a very old dinosaur some new tricks. (harpercollins.com)

Hoff, Syd, *Grizzwold*
Grizzwold the lovable bear is having a tough time finding somewhere to live. He's too big for most places, and too clumsy for others. He's not even any good as a live bearskin rug! Will Grizzwold ever find a home that's just right? (harpercollins.com)

Hoff, Syd, *The Littlest Leaguer*
Of all the players in the little league, Harold was the littlest. No matter how hard he tries, Harold is no good at baseball. The ground balls always bounce over his head, and his little legs never get him to the pop flies fast enough. So the only place Coach Lombardi puts him is on the bench. Until one day, during a very important game, Harold gets his big chance to show that being little isn't so bad after all. (harpercollins.com)

Holabird, Katharine, *Angelina Ballerina*
Angelina Ballerina is the picture book that first introduced Angelina to her adoring fans. This tiny dancer has proved to have enormous staying power — she has been a hugely popular character for more than twenty years. The original story about the feisty little mouse who wants nothing more than to dance still keeps young ballerinas leaping with delight. (scholastic.com)

Holub, Joan, *The Garden That We Grew*
After planting the seeds and watching them grow, huge pumpkins appear in a patch. Now we can make pumpkin pie and jack-o'-lanterns! Planting a garden is
so much fun, and this rhyming reader shows us how. (penguinrandomhouse.com)

**Horse, Harry, Little Rabbit Lost**

It is Little Rabbit's birthday and his family surprises him with wrapped presents and a special trip to Rabbit World Theme Park. Mama Rabbit packs a special birthday picnic and the family sets off for the amusement park with Little Rabbit and his red balloon leading the way. Little Rabbit is excited by the noise, color and crowded activity of the park. He insists he is a big rabbit now and ignores his parents' warnings to stay close. But when he suddenly finds himself all alone, he doesn't feel quite so grown up anymore. Young readers will cheer Little Rabbit's triumphant reunion with his beloved family and will identify easily with the young character's conflicting desire for independence and his need of loving supervision. Harry Horse's colorful and buoyant illustrations vividly depict Little Rabbit's growing excitement and bring to life the exhilarating atmosphere of the amusement park. (peachtree-online.com)

**Howe, James, Pinky & Rex**

Pinky has twenty-seven stuffed animals, and Rex has twenty-seven dinosaurs. They have everything the same, and that's the way it should be with best friends. So what do they do when there's only one pink dinosaur in the museum gift shop, and they both want it? Could Pinky's pesky little sister Amanda have the answer? (books.simonandschuster.com) (This is the first book in the series. You can read them in any order.)

**Hubbell, Will, Pumpkin Jack**

The first pumpkin Tim ever carved was fierce and funny, and he named it Jack. When Halloween was over and the pumpkin was beginning to rot, Tim set it out in the garden and throughout the weeks he watched it change. By spring, a plant began to grow! Will Hubbell's gentle story and beautifully detailed illustrations give an intimate look at the cycle of life. (albertwhitman.com)

**Idle, Molly, Flora and the Flamingo**

In this innovative wordless picture book with interactive flaps, Flora and her graceful flamingo friend explore the trials and joys of friendship through an elaborate
synchronized dance. With a twist, a turn, and even a flop, these unlikely friends learn at last how to dance together in perfect harmony. Full of humor and heart, this stunning performance (and splashy ending!) will have readers clapping for more! (chroniclebooks.com) (If you enjoy this book, look for Flora and the Penguin by the same author.)

**Intriago, Patricia, Dot**

Dots here, dots there, you can see dots everywhere! Some are loud, and some are quiet. Some are happy, and some are sad. Some dots even taste yummy, while others taste bad. Graphic designer Patricia Intriago sets bold, circular shapes against a stark white background to emphasize opposite dot relationships. (us.macmillan.com)

**Isadora, Rachel, Old Mikamba Had a Farm**

Old Mikamba had a farm, E-I-E-I-O. And on this farm he had . . . a giraffe, a baboon, and an elephant! Meet Old Mikamba, who watches over a wide variety of animals on his game farm in the plains of Africa. Children will discover a whole new set of fun animal sounds as they are invited to sing along and roar with the lions, bellow with the rhino, whinny with the zebras, honk with the wildebeests, and more! (penguin.com)

**Isadora, Rachel, Yo, Jo!**

While Jomar and his brother, Franklin, are on their stoop waiting for Grandpa, friends and neighbors come by—whizzing on skates, showing off their new treads, or bouncing a ball. Whether it’s Whassup? or Yo!, Jo’s got a greeting for everyone—until Grandpa arrives and only classic words will do: I love you. With a fresh new style, Caldecott Honor-winning illustrator Rachel Isadora fashions an exuberant intergenerational celebration of language, neighborhoods, and family. (books.google.com)

**Jansson, Tove, Finn Family Moomintroll**

It is spring in the valley and the Moomins are ready for adventure! Moomintroll and his friends Snufkin and Sniff find the Hobgoblin’s top hat, all shiny and new and just waiting to be taken home. They soon realize that his is no ordinary hat; it can turn anything—or
Jenkins, Emily, *Toys Go Out: Being the Adventures of a Knowledgeable Stingray, a Toughy Little Buffalo, and Someone Called Plastic*

Lumphy is a stuffed buffalo. StingRay is a stuffed stingray. And Plastic… well, Plastic isn’t quite sure what she is. They all belong to the Little Girl who lives on the high bed with the fluffy pillows. A very nice person to belong to. Together is best for these three best friends. Together they look things up in the dictionary, explore the basement, and argue about the meaning of life. And together they face dogs, school, television commercials, the vastness of the sea, and the terrifying bigness of the washing machine. (penguinrandomhouse.com) This is the first book in the Toys trilogy. The others are *Toy Dance Party* and *Toys Come Home*. They can be read in any order.

Ji, Zhaohua, *No! That's Wrong!*

A serendipitous breeze starts off this playful journey which begs the seemingly simple question, When is a hat not a hat? Along the way, Rabbit manages to learn a little bit about friendship, fashion, and the importance of believing in himself. (goodreads.com)

Johnson, Crockett, *Harold and the Purple Crayon*

One evening Harold decided to go for a walk in the moonlight. But there wasn't any moon, and Harold needed a moon for a walk in the moonlight. Fortunately, he had brought his purple crayon. So he drew a moon. He also needed something to walk on. So he drew a path… And thus begins one of the most imaginative and enchanting adventures in all of children’s books. The creative concept behind this beloved story has intrigued children and kept them absorbed for generations, as page by page unfolds the dramatic and clever adventures of Harold and his purple crayon. (harpercollins.com)

Jr., Bill Martin, *Chicka Chicka Boom Boom*

“A told B, and B told C, I'll meet you at the top of the coconut tree.”

In this lively alphabet rhyme, all the letters of the
alphabet race each other up the coconut tree. Will there be enough room? Oh, no; Chicka Chicka Boom Boom! (scholastic.com)

**Juster, Norton, *The Hello, Goodbye Window***

In this Caldecott-winning title with art by Chris Raschka, an exuberant, imaginative little girl explains how she spends her time with her grandparents while her parents are at work. Raschka’s style resembles the spontaneous drawings of children, perfectly mirroring the guileless young narrator’s exuberant voice. White space balances the density of the layered colors, creating a visual experience that is surprisingly sophisticated. (scholastic.com)

**Kang, Anna, *You Are Not Small***

Two fuzzy creatures can’t agree on who is small and who is big, until a couple of surprise guests show up, settling it once and for all! The simple text of Anna Kang and bold illustrations of New Yorker cartoonist Christopher Weyant tell an original and very funny story about size -- it all depends on who’s standing next to you. (goodreads.com)

**Karas, G. Brian, *The Village Garage***

Through the year and no matter the weather, workers at the Village Garage are always busy. With the help of their trusty trucks, they clean the streets of sticks and leaves in the spring; patch potholes in preparation for summer traffic; pick up the leaves in the fall; and spray the roads with sand and salt during winter. Young truck enthusiasts will love watching the garage workers operate their terrific trucks and keep the roads in top shape through every season! (us.macmillan.com)

**Keats, Ezra Jack, *The Snowy Day***

No book has captured the magic and sense of possibility of the first snowfall better than *The Snowy Day*. Universal in its appeal, the story has become a favorite of millions, as it reveals a child’s wonder at a new world, and the hope of capturing and keeping that wonder forever. (penguinrandomhouse.com)
Kennedy, Anne Vittur, *The Farmer’s Away! Baa! Neigh!*
What mischief do the animals get up to when the farmer’s back is turned? Anne Vittur Kennedy lets us know in the animals’ own words! There will be boating, of course, and a picnic, a rollercoaster ride, Jet Skiing, a hot-air balloon, ballroom dancing — oh, no! Could that arf! arf! arf! mean the farmer’s heading back? Even the youngest listeners can read this book aloud by following along with the pictures and making each animal’s sound. (randomhouse.com)

Kerley, Barbara, *One World, One Day*
Through exquisite storytelling and moving photographs, this book conveys a simple yet profound concept: we are one global family. Follow the course of one day in our world in this collection of beautiful photographs by top international photographers. The first meal of the day takes on a whole new dimension as an American pancake breakfast is contrasted with porridge in North Korea and churros in Spain. At the book's end, each image is reprinted as a thumbnail and accompanied by a detailed caption. Selected images feature photographers' notes that reveal fascinating behind-the-scenes information. (nationalgeographic.com)

King-Smith, Dick, *Lady Lollipop*
Lollipop is no ordinary pig. According to her young owner Johnny Skinner, she’s the cleverest pig in the whole kingdom. When people stare into Lollipop’s bright, intelligent eyes, it seems to change them for the better. But will Lollipop win over spoilt Princess Penelope and the King and Queen? (penguinrandomhouse.com)

Kipling, Rudyard, *A Collection of Rudyard Kipling’s Just So Stories*
How did the rude Rhinoceros get his baggy skin? How did a ‘satiably curious Elephant change the lives of his kin evermore? First told aloud to his young daughter ("O my Best Beloved"), Rudyard Kipling's inspired answers to these and other burning questions draw from the fables he heard as a child in India and the folktales he gathered from around the world. Now, in this sumptuous volume, Kipling's playful, inventive tales are brought to life by eight of today's celebrated illustrators, from Peter Sís’s elegantly graphic cetacean in "How the
Whale Got His Throat" to Satoshi Kitamura's amusingly expressive characters in "The Cat That Walked by Himself." From one of the world's greatest storytellers come eight classic tales just begging to be heard by a new generation -- and a visual feast that offers a reward with every retelling. (candlewick.com) (There are many editions of these stories. The one published by Candlewick has beautiful illustrations and is particularly recommended.)

**Kitamura, Satoshi, Millie's Marvellous Hat**
Millie loves hats, but she has no money and she can't afford to buy any of the lovely hats in town. But the man in the hat shop has an idea. He produces a box containing a hat too fine and beautiful to behold, but with the most perfect shape and colour imaginable, if Millie dares to imagine it. Millie does dare, and soon she can not only see her own beautiful hat, but everyone else's hats as well. (andersenpress.co.uk)

**Knapman, Timothy, Guess What I Found in Dragon Wood**
Here's a wonderful twist on the familiar theme of "boy meets dragon." This time, it's not the boy who finds a dragon-it's the dragon who's found the boy. "It's called a Benjamin," the dragon drolly explains to his family. The Benjamin is a true novelty (no wings, no tail, no fire-breath!), and all of the dragons gather round to examine the strange creature, right down to his plastic boots and leaking eyes. Chock full of clever situations and charmingly illustrated, this unique picture book-one part fantasy, one part fairy tale, and one part tear jerker-is sure to entertain children on many levels. (bloomsbury.com)

**Knudsen, Michelle, Library Lion**
Miss Merriweather, the head librarian, is very particular about rules in the library. No running allowed. And you must be quiet. But when a lion comes to the library one day, no one is sure what to do. There aren't any rules about lions in the library. And, as it turns out, this lion seems very well suited to library visiting. His big feet are quiet on the library floor. He makes a comfy backrest for the children at story hour. And he never roars in the library, at least not anymore. But when something terrible happens, the lion quickly comes to the rescue in the only way he knows how. Michelle Knudsen's disarming story, illustrated by the matchless Kevin Hawkes in an
expressive timeless style, will win over even the most ardent of rule keepers. (candlewick.com)

**Kohara, Kazuno, Ghosts in the House!**
At the edge of town lives a clever girl with a spooky problem: Her house is haunted! Luckily, she happens to be a witch and knows a little something about taking care of ghosts. She catches them, puts them in the washing machine, airs them out to dry, and gives them new lives as sofa covers, table cloths, and, of course, bed sheets to cozy up under. Fresh and charming illustrations in dynamic orange, black and white bring this resourceful heroine and these spooky ghosts to life. (us.macmillan.com)

**Kolar, Bob, Big Kicks**
Biggie Bear lives in a quiet corner of a busy little town. He collects stamps, plays jazz, and enjoys being by himself. One day, the town soccer team knocks on his door, and they need BIG help. Biggie’s never played soccer before, and once they are out on the field, Biggie realizes that maybe there is more to soccer than just being big. Bob Kolar’s droll, vibrantly illustrated tale about a lovable (but rather clumsy) bear and his endearing (but rather unlucky) team is sure to win some BIG fans. (candlewick.com)

**Krauss, Ruth, The Carrot Seed**
When a little boy plants a carrot seed, everyone tells him it won’t grow. But when you are very young, there are some things that you just know, and the little boy knows that one day a carrot will come up. So he waters his seed, and pulls the weeds, and he waits... (harpercollins.com)

**Krosoczka, Jarrett J., Punk Farm**
After a long day of work, Farmer Joe goes home to bed. But meanwhile, back at the barn... Cow sets up her drums. Pig plugs in his amp. Goat tunes his bass. Chicken sets up her keyboards. And Sheep checks the microphone. They are Punk Farm and tonight they’re ready to ROCK! With adorable farm animals – and a surprise tribute to Old MacDonald – this rollicking tale is sure to have kids cheering–and singing–along. (penguinrandomhouse.com)
Kvasnosky, Laura McGee, Zelda and Ivy
Zelda and Ivy are fox sisters with a flair for the dramatic. Their exploits unfold with plenty of sugar and sass in this spirited trio of stories. Wry and genuine, the linked episodes and expressive illustrations will strike home with beginning readers, especially those who’ve experienced the warmth — and occasional wrath — of a sibling’s attentions. (books.google.com)

Lamb, Albert, Tell Me the Day Backwards
Just before going to bed, Timmy Bear and his mama play a game they call Tell Me the Day Backwards. Timmy tries to remember everything that happened to him that day in reverse, from watching the sunset on the hill to the picnic supper before that, from being chased by bees to finding honey in an old tree stump, all the way back to waking up that morning from his winter-long hibernation. Albert Lamb and David McPhail spin a charming bedtime story sure to have parents and children sharing their own day -- backwards -- with each other. (candlewick.com)

Landry, Leo, Space Boy
This world, decides Nicholas, is too noisy for him. Time to take a trip. He packs a snack, puts on his suit, and takes off . . . to the utterly quiet craters and vast deserts of the distant moon. In this utterly charming picture book, the allure of space travel and the longing for peace and quiet entice a young boy to take his space rocket to the moon for a picnic. (hmhco.com)

LaRochelle, David, Moo!
When Cow gets her hooves on the farmer's car, she takes it for a wild ride through the country. Mooo! But a bump in the road brings this joy ride to a troublesome end. Moo-moo. . . Has Cow learned her lesson about living life in the fast lane? Moo? Pairing two talented creators who managed to tell a complete story with just one word-MOO-this imaginative picture book will have readers laughing one moment and on the edge of their seats the next, as it captures the highs and lows of a mischievous cow's very exciting day. (bloomsbury.com)
LaRochelle, David, *The Haunted Hamburger and Other Ghostly Stories*

What's scarier than a ghost story? Three ghost stories, of course. And these three stories, told to little ghosts at bedtime, are the scariest kind of ghost stories there are—they're about people! From a ghost who becomes the victim of a baby in need of a diaper to a hamburger that can win a scaring contest just by lifting its bun, these hilariously illustrated silly stories are sure to bring Halloween laughs to even the littlest ghosts. (books.google.com)

Lawson, Robert, *Rabbit Hill*

It has been a while since Folks lived in the Big House, and an even longer time has passed since there has been a garden at the House. All the animals of the Hill are very excited about the new Folks moving in, and they wonder how things are going to change. It’s only a matter of time before the animals of the Hill find out just who is moving in, and they may be a little bit surprised when they do. (penguinrandomhouse.com)

Leaf, Munro, *The Story of Ferdinand*

All the other bulls run, jump, and butt their heads together in fights. Ferdinand, on the other hand, would rather sit and smell the flowers. So what will happen when Ferdinand is picked for the bullfights in Madrid? (penguinrandomhouse.com)

Leeuwen, Jean Van, *Tales of Amanda Pig*

Amanda Pig, her brother Oliver, and their parents share a busy day, working and playing together from breakfast to bedtime. (scholastic.com)

Leonetti, Mike, *In the Pocket: Johnny Unitas and Me*

Billy wants to be a great quarterback like his hero Johnny Unitas but his coach is worried he'll get hurt. When Billy meets his hero the legendary football star tells him about his own challenges. And after watching Johnny’s amazing performance in the 1958 National Football League championship Billy is more determined than ever to beat the odds. (chroniclebooks.com)
Lester, Helen, *Me First*
Pinkerton Pig will do anything to be first—first down the slide, first in line at the trough-a-teria, first on the bus. His pushy ploys backfire on a Pig Scouts hike when he hears the magic words “Would you care for a sandwich?” Little does he know, he’s being tricked by a sandcastle-dwelling Sandwich in need of care! How long will Pinkerton be doomed to powder her warty nose? (hmhco.com)

Lies, Brian, *Bats at the Beach*
Quick, call out! Tell all you can reach: the night is just perfect for bats at the beach! So pack your buckets, banjos, and blankets—don’t forget the moon-tan lotion—and wing with this bunch of fuzzy bats to where foamy sea and soft sand meet. Brian Lies’s enchanting art and cheery beachside verse will inspire bedtime imaginations again and again. Come visit a bedazzling world of moonlight, firelight, and . . . bats! (hmhco.com)

Light, Steve, *Have You Seen My Dragon?*
In the heart of the city, among the taxis and towers, a small boy travels uptown and down, searching for his friend. Readers will certainly spot the glorious beast, plus an array of big-city icons they can count. Is the dragon taking the crosstown bus, or breathing his fiery breath below a busy street? Maybe he took a taxi to the zoo or is playing with the dogs in the park. Steve Light’s masterful pen-and-ink illustrations, decorated with meticulous splashes of color, elevate this counting book (numbers 1–20) to new heights. Maybe the dragon is up there, too! (randomhouse.com)

Lindgren, Astrid, *Pippi Longstocking*
The beloved story of a spunky young girl and her hilarious escapades. Tommy and his sister Annika have a new neighbor, and her name is Pippi Longstocking. She has crazy red pigtails, no parents to tell her what to do, a horse that lives on her porch, and a pet monkey named Mr. Nilsson. Whether Pippi’s scrubbing her floors, doing arithmetic, or stirring things up at a fancy tea party, her flair for the outrageous always seems to lead to another adventure. (books.google.com) I suggest getting the edition that is illustrated by Lauren Child. It was the first new translation in 50 years, and it updates the language a bit.
Lionni, Leo, *An Extraordinary Egg*
While taking a walk, three frogs discover what they believe to be a chicken egg and eagerly wait for it to hatch. When a scaly, four-legged creature with a long snoutful of teeth emerges a few days later, the frogs are still convinced it’s a chicken and are thrilled to have a new friend. Soon the frogs and "chicken" are inseparable, at least until the day "chicken" finds and returns to her mother...an enormous "hen" who looks suspiciously like an alligator! (penguinrandomhouse.com) (Leo Lionni has written many award-winning picture books and you should look for them all.)

Litwin, Eric, *Pete the Cat and His Four Groovy Buttons*
Pete the Cat is wearing his favorite shirt—the one with the four totally groovy buttons. But when one falls off, does Pete cry? Goodness, no! He just keeps on singing his song—after all, what could be groovier than three groovy buttons? Count down with Pete in this rocking new story from the creators of the bestselling Pete the Cat books. (harpercollins.com)

Livingstone, Star, *Harley*
Harley is a young llama who lives on a ranch. He is learning to be a pack animal, but he is having a hard time. He kicks. He screams. He spits! But then a shepherd calls; she needs a llama to watch over her sheep. She decides to take a chance on Harley. Through the seasons, a series of challenges both great and small turn the temperamental llama into a loving leader whether he’s facing mischievous lambs, a bullying ram, or a pack of coyotes who prey on the sheep. With its poetic language and captivating artwork by Caldecott Honor-winning Molly Bang, this distinctive book speaks to all those who sometimes march to the beat of a different drummer. (chroniclebooks.com)

Liwska, Renata, *Little Panda*
In the misty mountains a little panda bear climbs tall trees, munches sweet bamboo, and curls up in his favorite perch to sleep. It is just right—until Mother Panda goes looking for a snack and Little Panda’s nap
is disturbed by something unexpected. What was it that his mother told him he should do? This is the perfect story to reassure little ones that parents always return. (hmhco.com)

**Lobel, Arnold, Frog and Toad Are Friends**  
One summer day Toad was unhappy. He had lost the white, fourholed, big, round, thick button from his jacket. Who helped him look for it? His best friend, Frog. Another day, Frog was unhappy. He was sick in bed and looking green. Who gave him some tea and told him a story? His best friend, Toad. From the first enchanting story to the last, these five adventures of two best friends are packed with excitement, gaiety, and tender affection. Children will find this book delightful to read and beautiful to look at, either story by story, or from cover to cover. (harpercollins.com)

**Logue, Mary, Sleep Like a Tiger (Caldecott Medal - Honors Winning Title(s))**  
In this magical bedtime story, the lyrical narrative echoes a Runaway Bunny – like cadence: “Does everything in the world go to sleep?” the little girl asks. In sincere and imaginative dialogue between a not-at-all sleepy child and understanding parents, the little girl decides “in a cocoon of sheets, a nest of blankets,” she is ready to sleep, warm and strong, just like a tiger. (hmhco.com)

**Long, Ethan, Duck’s Not Afraid of the Dark**  
The duck is back in another rollicking novelty book that kids will enjoy for hours on end. This time, our familiar duck insists he is not afraid of the dark...but please don’t turn the lights off! Complete with a light switch that lights up and makes an audible CLICK when pressed, kids will roll with laughter as they turn the light on and off until the duck finally admits his fears are unfounded! (goodreads.com)

**Long, Ethan, Up, Tall and High**  
In three laugh-out-loud situations, an irresistible cast of colorful birds illustrate the concepts of “up,” “tall” and “high.” First, a short peacock proves that he may not be tall, but he definitely isn’t small. Then, a resourceful bird helps his penguin friend find a way to fly. Finally,
two birds want to live in the same tree, but what goes up must come down! Each short story features a flap that reveals a surprise twist. (penguin.com)

**Long, Heather, Max & Milo Go to Sleep! (Max and Milo)**

Milo can’t get to sleep: He tosses and turns; he turns and he tosses. And then finally he calls on his older brother: “MAX! WAKE UP!” But no matter what helpful sleeping tip Max suggests, Milo turns it riotously on its head and is as far from rest as ever. Will Milo finally get to sleep? Will he ever stop driving Max crazy? Will the beaver brothers be up half the night in search of forty winks? (books.simonandschuster.com)

**Lovelace, Maud Hart, Betsy-Tacy**

There are lots of children on Hill Street, but no little girls Betsy's age. So when a new family moves into the house across the street, Betsy hopes they will have a little girl she can play with. Sure enough, they do—a little girl named Tacy. And from the moment they meet at Betsy's fifth birthday party, Betsy and Tacy become such good friends that everyone starts to think of them as one person—Betsy-Tacy. Betsy and Tacy have lots of fun together. They make a playhouse from a piano box, have a sand store, and dress up and go calling. And one day, they come home to a wonderful surprise—a new friend named Tib. Ever since their first publication in the 1940's, the Betsy-Tacy stories have been loved by each generation of young readers. (harpercollins.com)

**Mahy, Margaret, Bubble Trouble**

When little Mabel’s bubble gets away from her, it’s her baby brother who gets into trouble. Soon he’s floating out of the house, above the fence, and all over town! And it’s up to Mabel, Mother, and the rest of the townspeople to get him safely back down. Who knew that so much trouble could come from one little bubble? (hmhco.com)

**Marshall, Edward, Fox at School**

Starring in the school play means hard work, and being left in charge means keeping the class under control, but - uh-oh! - Fox thinks there’s nothing to it. But will Fox retreat? Never! (goodreads.com) This is one of many books about Fox and his friends. They can be read in
Marshall, James, *The Three Little Pigs*
Retells the familiar tale in which one of three brother pigs survives a wolf’s attacks by using his head and planning well. (books.google.com)

Martin, Jacqueline Briggs, *Chicken Joy on Redbean Road: A Bayou Country Romp*
When people danced to Joe Beebee’s music they forgot about bad knees, tight shoes, backaches, blisters, and beetles . . . They forgot sickness, sadness, and sin. Joe Beebee’s music, folks say, will take you up so high, your problems look small enough to stomp on. But, worries a plain brown hen, can it make a quiet rooster sing? Can it save her best friend from becoming Quiet Rooster Stew? Will Joe Beebee even play for chickens? With art as fun as waltzing on the moon and with words as lively as a fiddle, this book captures the power of music to heal and of friendship to endure. (hmhco.com)

McClements, George, *Dinosaur Woods: Can Seven Clever Critters Save Their Forest Home?*
Rojo and his pals have a problem: The forest where they live is about to be torn down and replaced with a Plas-Tic Trees factory. The animals are at a loss, until they come up with a plan to scare away the builders using sticks, burlap, power tools—and a gigantic dinosaur. Have these seven endangered friends got what it takes to save their home? Turns out they do... in ways they never expected. (books.simonandschuster.com)

McClements, George, *Night of the Veggie Monster*
When a single pea touches the lips of this determined vegetable hater, our hero doesn’t cry, whine, or refuse to swallow. He turns into a VEGGIE MONSTER! Ready to smash the chairs! Ready to tip the table! Ready to . . . GULP . . . down his peas? With inventive mixed-media illustrations and a short, snappy text that combines a child’s dinnertime drama with a hilarious parents’-eye-view, George McClements has created a wry and funny story that just might inspire a few veggie monsters out there to give peas a chance. (bloomsbury.com)
McCloskey, Robert, *Homer Price*
Welcome to Centerburg! Where you can win a hundred dollars by eating all the doughnuts you want; where houses are built in a day; and where a boy named Homer Price can foil four slick bandits using nothing but his wits and pet skunk. (penguinrandomhouse.com)

Mcmullan, Kate, *I Stink!*
Know what I do at night while you're asleep? Eat your trash, that's what! See those bags? I smell breakfast! With ten wide tires, one really big appetite, and an even bigger smell, this truck’s got it all. His job? Eating your garbage and loving every stinky second of it! And you thought nighttime was just for sleeping. (harpercollins.com)

Meddaugh, Susan, *Martha Speaks*
When Helen Finney feeds alphabet soup to her dog, Martha, it goes straight up to her brain, and Martha begins to speak! But having a talking dog isn’t always as much fun as it seems. (hmhco.com) Before Martha was on TV, she was in books. There are half a dozen books about her that pre-date the TV show. Look for books that are authored by Susan Meddaugh (not based on her characters) and illustrations that don’t look like cartoons. (Ms. Bock)

Merveille, David, *Hello Mr. Hulot*
Meet Mr. Hulot—he’s always in the middle of the action! Created and played by French comic actor and filmmaker Jacques Tati, Mr. Hulot is a beloved character in France. David Merveille’s comic strip style illustrations depict 23 captivating scenes with a page turn that builds suspense for each surprise ending. From buying a snow globe on a warm summer day—shaking it—and causing the sky to snow, to a crazy visit to the zoo where Mr. Hulot has something in common with every animal at the zoo—Merveille’s creations are a delight to the observant and curious eye. This almost wordless picture book is entertaining, unique, and oh so very French! Children will love Mr. Hulot’s boundless imagination and enthusiasm, as well as his Gallic charm. The books were turned into a series of short French films in the 1960’s, and Rowan Atkinson cites them as inspiration for his Mr. Bean character. (books.google.com)
Meschenmoser, Sebastian, *Waiting for Winter*
Squirrel has never seen it snow, and this year he is determined not to miss it. He wants his friends, Hedgehog and Bear, to see it snow too, but it's hard to stay awake. Finally, winter arrives and snow is falling ... or is it? (goodreads.com)

Messner, Kate, *Over and Under the Snow*
Over the snow, the world is hushed and white. But under the snow exists a secret kingdom of squirrels and snow hares, bears and bullfrogs, and many other animals that live through the winter safe and warm, awake and busy, under the snow. Discover the wonder and activity that lies beneath winter's snowy landscape in this magical book. (chroniclebooks.com)

Michalak, Jamie, *Joe and Sparky Go to School*
Sparky the turtle may be cautious, but when the strange vehicle full of noisy short people pulls away from Safari World, he finds himself stuck on the bus's roof just the same. Luckily his giraffe friend, Joe, is adventurous enough to take a running jump, too! When they arrive at school, they discover that there’s a lot to learn, like the fact that the restroom is full of little magic “ponds,” that you’re supposed to count the peas, not eat them, and that the goal of the day seems to be to get a star. But just when Joe fears that he may have to go home starless, Sparky reminds him of all the ways that his loyal friend already shines. Readers will roll over laughing — and find lots to relate to — in this hilarious new adventure. (candlewick.com) (This is the first book in the series. They can be read in any order.)

Milgrim, David, *My Dog, Buddy*
When Dad tells Buddy to sit, Buddy stands up and barks. When Mom tells Buddy to get the paper, Buddy rips it. When Brother Pete tells Buddy to roll over, he takes Pete's shoe and runs away! Only the youngest in the family knows how to get Buddy to do what he should: with hugs and cuddles and lots of love. (scholastic.com)
Minarik, Elsa Holmelund, Little Bear
Meet Little Bear, a friend to millions of children. And meet Mother Bear, who is there whenever Little Bear needs her. When it is cold and snowy outside, she finds just the right outfit for Little Bear to play in. When he goes to the moon, she has a hot lunch waiting for him on his return. At night she helps him get to sleep. And, of course, she never forgets his birthday. (harpercollins.com)

Miura, Taro, The Tiny King
Once upon a time there was a tiny king who lived in a big castle guarded by lots of big soldiers. Every day the tiny king eats dinner at his big table (he can never finish it all), rides on his big horse (he is thrown off every time), bathes in his big bath (not much fun), and sleeps, not very well, in his big bed. The tiny king is very sad and lonely, until one day he meets a big princess and asks her to be his queen. Not long after, they are blessed with children — lots of children. Now everything is just the right size, bath time is a real riot, and the tiny king sleeps soundly at last. With bright, bold cutouts and a whimsical use of collage, Japanese artist Taro Miura creates a witty, heartwarming story with huge appeal for readers big and small. (candlewick.com)

Mosel, Arlene, Tikki Tikki Tembo
This classic Chinese legend tells the story of a boy who nearly drowns in a well because his brother cannot pronounce his very, very long name fast enough for an old man to save him. The lovely drawings capture the beauty of rural China. (scholastic.com)

Munsch, Robert N., The Paper Bag Princess
The Princess Elizabeth is slated to marry Prince Ronald when a dragon attacks the castle and kidnaps Ronald. In resourceful and humorous fashion, Elizabeth finds the dragon, outsmarts him, and rescues Ronald — who is less than pleased at her un-princess-like appearance. (scholastic.com)

Muth, Jon J, Stone Soup
An award-winning artist adds a Zen twist to a favorite tale. As three monks travel along a mountain road, they encounter villagers ravaged by harsh times,
making them cold to strangers. When the monks entice them to make soup from stones, the villagers discover how much they have to give. In this inspiring story about the strength people possess when they work together, Muth takes a simple, beloved tale and adds his own fresh twist. (scholastic.com) There are many versions of this folktale. This beautifully illustrated edition by Jon Muth is particularly recommended, as is the classic edition by Marcia Brown. (Ms. Bock)

**Nakagawa, Chihiro, Who Made This Cake?**
Little people use BIG machines to make a GIANT birthday cake! Imagine an industrialized Lilliput. Imagine today. Imagine an enormous construction site. Imagine a birthday cake like no other. What if the people you order your next birthday cake from are tiny, and what if they build cakes the way we build buildings? Tractor-trailers and giant cranes, catwalks, and helicopters. Hundreds of workers. Never have you seen such a construction site in this Horn Book Fanfare Award winner! (boydsmillspress.com)

**Naujokaitis, Pranas T., The Totally Awesome Epic Quest of the Brave Boy Knight**
A young boy and his best buddy Butterscotch search for hidden treasure, save the city from an angry monster, and patrol a kingdom. Amazing adventures ensue as brave boy knight saves the day! (blueapplebooks.com) This is a graphic novel.

**Nesbit, E., Books**
E. Nesbit is one of the most famous authors in English history. Many people say she invented the children's adventure story, particularly those that have characters who find magical objects in our own world (not a separate fantasy world). Her books were first published in the early 1900s and have been in print and loved by people ever since. Her most famous book is probably The Story of the Treasure
Seekers, or perhaps The Railway Children. Both books feature siblings who appear in several books. I think my favorite is Five Children and It, in which some kids find a creature that grants wishes. (Ms. Bock)

**Newberry, Clare Turlay, Marshmallow**

Oliver is a tabby cat who is always the center of attention. Marshmallow is a baby rabbit who moves into Oliver’s home. At first Oliver does not welcome Marshmallow, but the little bunny’s charms are impossible to resist. This is the true story of how Oliver and Marshmallow become friends. (harpercollins.com)

**Newbery, Linda, Posy**

Posy may be one of the cheekiest, most inquisitive kittens around but that doesn’t stop her being the most lovable one too! Follow the delightful Posy kitten as she bounces and pounces through her adventure-filled day. This beautifully illustrated picture book by an award-winning author and illustrator team is bound to be adored by cat lovers of all ages, everywhere! (hachette.co.uk)

**Noll, Amanda, I Need My Monster**

One night, when Ethan checks under the bed for his monster, he finds a note instead: “Gone fishing. Back in a week. –Gabe” What will Ethan do? He needs a monster under his bed. How is he supposed to get to sleep if his monster is gone? Substitute monsters appear, but none are just right. Herbert’s teeth aren’t sharp enough, Mack’s slobbering induces giggles, Cynthia’s tail isn’t scary at all, and Ralph has nail polish on his claws! This will never work! How will Ethan ever get to sleep without his monster? (flashlightpress.com)

**Norton, Mary, The Borrowers**

The Borrowers—the Clock family: Homily, Pod, and their fourteen-year-old daughter, Arrietty, to be precise—are tiny people who live underneath the kitchen floor of an old English country manor. All their minuscule home furnishings, from postage stamp paintings to champagne cork chairs, are “borrowed” from the “human beans” who tromp around loudly above them. All is well until Pod is spotted upstairs by a human boy! Can the
Clocks stay nested safely in their beloved hidden home, or will they be forced to flee? (books.google.com)

O'Connor, Jane, *Fancy Nancy*  
Meet Nancy, who believes that more is ALWAYS better when it comes to being fancy. From the top of her tiara down to her sparkly studded shoes, Nancy is determined to teach her family a thing or two about being fancy. How Nancy transforms her parents and little sister for one enchanted evening makes for a story that is funny and warm -- with or without the frills. (harpercollins.com) There are many books about Nancy. Look for the early readers as well as the picture books.

O'Connor, Jane, *Fancy Nancy at the Museum*  
Nancy’s class is going on a trip to the museum, and Nancy wants to be extra fancy for the occasion. After a bumpy bus ride, she doesn’t feel very well. Luckily for Nancy, her teacher, Ms. Glass, has a few fancy tricks of her own. Nothing can keep Nancy from making this trip magnifique! (That’s a fancy French word for great!) (harpercollins.com)

Olson-Brown, Ellen, *Hush Little Digger*  
Hush, little digger, don't say a wordPapa's gonna scoop you a pile of dirt. And if that dirt starts to overflowPapa's gonna find you a red backhoe.There's rough and tumble fun to be had in the sandbox where a father and his little digger construct a larger-than-life world of dump trucks, backhoes, bulldozers, and more. (books.google.com)

Onishi, Satoru, *Who's Hiding?*  
Invites young readers to examine different groups of animals and answer questions about which animal in the group is hiding, sleeping, angry, has horns, and is standing backward. (books.google.com)

Orgel, Doris, *The Bremen Town Musicians: And Other Animal Tales from Grimm*  
Six delightful stories, some familiar, some, less so, freshly translated by a noted author and sumptuously illustrated by a renowned artist. There have been many collections of tales from the Brothers
Grimm over the years but few as engaging, and as handsome, as this one. Doris Orgel, who treasured these stories as a child in Vienna, has chosen six of her favorites, all featuring animal characters, and brought them to life for contemporary audiences. In addition to the title story the collection includes The Hare and the Hedgehog, King of the Birds, How the Birds and Beasts Went to War, The Wolf and the Seven Young Kids, and The Fox and the Geese. (books.google.com)

Otoshi, Kathryn, One
Blue is a quiet color. Red's a hothead who likes to pick on Blue. Yellow, Orange, Green, and Purple don't like what they see, but what can they do? When no one speaks up, things get out of hand — until One comes along and shows all the colors how to stand up, stand together, and count. As budding young readers learn about numbers, counting, and primary and secondary colors, they also learn about accepting each other's differences and how it sometimes just takes one voice to make everyone count. (from the publisher)

Park, Linda Sue, Xander's Panda Party
Xander planned a panda party. Yes, a dandy whoop-de-do! But Xander was the only panda. Just one panda at the zoo. The zoo’s paucity of pandas doesn’t impede Xander’s party planning for long. He decides to invite all the bears. But Koala protests. She’s not a bear—she’s a marsupial! Does that mean she can’t come? Xander rethinks his decision to invite only bears, and “Calling all bears” evolves into “Calling all creatures.” The Newbery Medal author Linda Sue Park introduces animal taxonomy in a wonderfully engaging way, and the celebrated artist Matt Phelan’s charming ink and watercolor paintings are the icing on the cake. A read-aloud whoop-de-do! (hmhco.com)

Patricelli, Leslie, Higher! Higher!
One child. One swing. An obliging dad. The inevitable plea to go Higher! Higher! Add Leslie Patricelli’s wildly expressive illustrations, and an everyday pastime reaches new heights of humor and whimsy. (randomhouse.com)
**Patricelli, Leslie, *The Patterson Puppies and the Rainy Day***

It’s a rainy day, and the Patterson puppies have run out of things to do. If only it were sunny and warm, they could go to the beach! But then Petra gets an idea. Indoor beach party! Buckets! A blue-carpet ocean! The surfing and undersea diving are a blast, until... mom and dad appear on the shore. Uh-oh! Will a mop-brigade party be as much fun? Rambunctious pups are sure to relate to this cautionary tale -- and be eager to dive right in. (candlewick.com)

**Peña, Matt De La, *Last Stop on Market Street***

Every Sunday after church, CJ and his grandma ride the bus across town. But today, CJ wonders why they don’t own a car like his friend Colby. Why doesn’t he have an iPod like the boys on the bus? How come they always have to get off in the dirty part of town? Each question is met with an encouraging answer from grandma, who helps him see the beauty—and fun—in their routine and the world around them. This energetic ride through a bustling city highlights the wonderful perspective only grandparent and grandchild can share, and comes to life through Matt de la Pena’s vibrant text and Christian Robinson’s radiant illustrations. (penguinrandomhouse.com)

**Perkins, Lynne Rae, *The Cardboard Piano***

When Debbie gives Tina a cardboard piano, she is sure that Tina will love it. After all, Debbie spent a long time making it, and it looks just like a real piano. Now Tina can learn to play, too. It will be so amazing. But just because you are friends with somebody, and just because you are the same in most ways, doesn’t mean that you will always see eye to eye. Friendship can be tricky. Really, really tricky. Even for true best friends. Even for Debbie and Tina. (harpercollins.com)

**Pinkney, Jerry, *The Lion & the Mouse***

In award-winning artist Jerry Pinkney’s wordless adaptation of one of Aesop’s most beloved fables, an unlikely pair learn that no act of kindness is ever wasted. After a ferocious lion spares a cowering mouse that he’d planned to eat, the mouse later comes to his rescue, freeing him from a poacher’s trap. With vivid depictions of the landscape of
the African Serengeti and expressively-drawn characters, Pinkney makes this a truly special retelling, and his stunning pictures speak volumes. (hachettebookgroup.com)

**Pinkney, Jerry, The Tortoise & the Hare**
Even the slowest tortoise can defeat the quickest hare, and even the proudest hare can learn a timeless lesson from the most humble tortoise: Slow and steady wins the race! Here is a superbly rendered journey from starting line to finish that embodies the bravery, perseverance, and humility we can all find inside ourselves. (hachettebookgroup.com)

**Portis, Antoinette, Froodle**
In a normal neighborhood, on a typical day, the birds chirp, the dogs bark and the cats meow. When Little Brown Bird decides she doesn't want to sing the same old song, out comes a new tune that shakes up the neighborhood and changes things forever in this funny, innovative book that kids will love to read out loud. (us.macmillan.com)

**Ransom, Jeanie Franz, What Do Parents Do? (When You're Not Home)**
Two children set off to spend the night at their grandparents'. Throughout the course of the day, the young boy's imagination runs wild as he imagines what his parents are doing while he's away. Jumping on beds, he thinks, or sledding down the stairs on pillows. Watching hours and hours of television, playing ball in the house, dressing up the dog, eating junk food, playing video games, and in general making one VERY big mess! The next morning when the kids come home the house looks tidy. "It was pretty quiet," says Dad... but was it? Mom is hiding something behind her back. And those socks hanging from the ceiling fan... they weren't there yesterday. Cyd Moore's antic illustrations contrast the wild adventures at home with the more wholesome fun at their grandparents' house. Jeanie Ransom's clever tale will keep young readers laughing long after the story has ended. (peachtree-online.com)

**Raschka, Chris, A Ball for Daisy**
Any child who has ever had a beloved toy break will relate to Daisy's anguish when her favorite ball is destroyed by a bigger dog. In the tradition of his nearly wordless picture book Yo! Yes?, Caldecott
Medalist Chris Raschka explores in pictures the joy and sadness that having a special toy can bring. Raschka’s signature swirling, impressionistic illustrations and his affectionate story will particularly appeal to young dog lovers and teachers and parents who have children dealing with the loss of something special. (penguinrandomhouse.com)

Rau, Dana M., Robot, Go Bot! (Step into Reading Comic Reader)
Simple, graphic paneled layouts introduce emergent readers to the joy of comics. This Step 1 comic reader tells the story of a girl and a robot whose friendship is tested when one of them gets a bit bossy. (randomhousekids.com)

Rey, H. A., The Complete Adventures of Curious George
“This is George. He lived in Africa. He was a good little monkey, and always very curious.” With these words, H. A. and Margret Rey introduced the world to Curious George in 1941, and the world has loved him ever since. The tales of this cheerful and resilient little hero have kept generations of readers enthralled and entertained. (hmhco.com)

Ries, Lori, Aggie the Brave
A trip to the vet requires bravery. They met and became best friends in AGGIE AND BEN. They learned to behave in GOOD DOG, AGGIE. Now Aggie and Ben must conquer their fears in their third book for beginning readers. Aggie has to go to the vet, but it’s Ben who needs to be brave as he deals with a night without his best friend. When Aggie returns home, she is unable to play. Ben must do his best to take care of her and make her feel better. Frank W. Dormer’s expressive illustrations tell the story of the special bond between a boy and his loyal dog. Young readers will love the continuing adventures of Aggie and Ben. (books.google.com)

Rinker, Sherri Duskey, Goodnight, Goodnight Construction Site
As the sun sets behind the big construction site, all the hardworking trucks get ready to say goodnight. One
by one, Crane Truck, Cement Mixer, Dump Truck, Bulldozer, and Excavator finish their work and lie down to rest—so they’ll be ready for another day of rough and tough construction play! With irresistible artwork by best-selling illustrator Tom Lichtenheld and sweet, rhyming text, this book will have truck lovers of all ages begging for more. (chroniclebooks.com)

Root, Phyllis, Mouse Goes Out
As the seasons change, Mouse tries fishing, making a snowman, swimming, and camping. (books.google.com)

Rosenstiehl, Agnes, Silly Lilly and the Four Seasons
Lilly is a spunky little girl who delights in the unexpected pleasures of each season, peering inside shells in the summer and tasting different kinds of apples in the fall. In this charming and subtle book by one of France’s premier children’s book authors, Lilly learns more about the outdoors and introduces the youngest readers to the colors, words, and shapes that arise in nature. Silly Lilly’s intimate monologues deftly capture a child’s sense of wonder in five whimsical episodes that cycle through the calendar from Spring back to Spring again. (toon-books.com) This is a graphic novel.

Rylant, Cynthia, Henry And Mudge First Book
Henry, feeling lonely on a street without any other children, finds companionship and love in a big dog named Mudge. The Henry and Mudge series has grown into one of the most beloved and acclaimed beginning-reading series ever. These books have been recommended by the American Library Association, the Library of Congress, the American Booksellers Association, and, most importantly, the thousands of children who belong to the Henry and Mudge fan club. (scholastic.com) This is the first of many Henry and Mudge books. You can read them in any order.

Rylant, Cynthia, Poppleton
Poppleton the pig makes a friend, reads a library book about adventure, and helps a sick friend get better. (goodreads.com)
**Sakai, Komako, Snow Day**
One morning a little rabbit awakes to find snow falling, falling, falling. That means A SNOW DAY! Games, giggling, snow monsters. But will Daddy be able to get home? Whatever the season, you can open this book and enjoy the fun of a snow day.
(arthuralevinebooks.com)

**Santat, Dan, The Adventures of Beekle: The Unimaginary Friend**
This magical story begins on an island far away where an imaginary friend is born. He patiently waits his turn to be chosen by a real child, but when he is overlooked time and again, he sets off on an incredible journey to the bustling city, where he finally meets his perfect match and— at long last— is given his special name: Beekle.
(hachettebookgroup.com)

**Savage, Stephen, Ten Orange Pumpkins: A Counting Book**
From a sneaky spider to a ghostly chef to a sly mummy and crafty witch, join your favorite spooky creatures as ten orange pumpkins disappear in a countdown to a Halloween surprise. Bright, bold, and fun, Ten Orange Pumpkins is a perfect read-aloud and is sure to capture the imagination of the littlest trick-or-treaters.
(penguinrandomhouse.com)

**Scanlon, Liz Garton, All the World**
All the world is here.
It is there.
It is everywhere.
All the world is right where you are.

Now.
Following a circle of family and friends through the course of a day from morning till night, this book affirms the importance of all things great and small in our world, from the tiniest shell on the beach, to warm family connections, to the widest sunset sky.
(books.simonandschuster.com)
Schaefer, Lola M., *One Special Day*
Does having a new brother or sister make you into MORE than you already are? Spencer is about to find out. (lolaschaefer.com)

Schwarz, Viviane, *There Are Cats in This Book*
Our lovable feline friends Tiny, Moonpie, and Andre have returned, and this time they’re filled with the spirit of adventure: they want to go off to explore the world! They have their suitcases packed and are ready to set out, but can’t get out of the book. They try pushing their way out and jumping their way out, but nothing seems to work. Finally, they get a brilliant idea: they decide to wish themselves out! But they’re going to need help. Will it work? Are you missing them yet? The interactive cats are back, but not for long! They’re eager to go off to see the world. So will someone please help them get out of the book? (candlewick.com)

Scotton, Rob, *Russell the Sheep*
This is Russell. Sometimes Russell is just a little bit out of step with the rest of the flock. All the sheep are falling asleep -- except Russell. What’s a sheep to do? Russell tries everything ... until, at last, he falls asleep. (harpercollins.com)

Seeger, Laura Vaccaro, *Bully*
Bully doesn’t have a kind word for any of his friends. When the other animals ask him to play, he responds in the way he’s been taught: Chicken! Slow poke! You stink! Laura Vaccaro Seeger’s bold, graphic artwork, along with her spare but powerful words, make for a tender, hilarious, and thoughtful tale. (us.macmillan.com)

Seeger, Laura Vaccaro, *Dog and Bear*
Dog and Bear are best friends. When Bear is stuck on a chair, Dog helps him get down. When Dog wants to play, Bear plays with him. And when Dog wants to change his name, Bear helps him choose a new one . . . or does he? (us.macmillan.com)

Seeger, Laura Vaccaro, *What If?*
What If a boy found a beach ball and kicked it into the ocean? WHAT IF two seals found it and began to play? WHAT IF a third
Seuss, Dr., The Cat in the Hat
The Cat in the Hat by Dr. Seuss—the classic, deliciously anarchic story of a giant cat in a hat whose unexpected arrival turns a dull, rainy day into a madcap adventure. Although written for beginning readers, The Cat in the Hat makes an ideal read-aloud for children of all ages. (penguinrandomhouse.com)

Shannon, David, Duck on a Bike
A duck on a bike? From Sheep to Horse to Chicken to Goat...everyone in the barnyard has something to say about Duck's zany idea. But what are they really thinking? And what will happen next? (scholastic.com)

Shannon, George, White Is for Blueberry
Is a blueberry blue? Is a crow black? Is fire yellow? Is snow white? If you think you know, then think -- and look again! (harpercollins.com)

Shaw, Nancy E., Sheep Trick or Treat
What will happen when the sheep go trick-or-treating? Could there be wolves lurking in the woods, hoping to waylay them as they return home with their bags full of goodies? In crisp verse and whimsically eerie pictures, Nancy Shaw and Margot Apple tell the lively story of a remarkable Halloween adventure. Simple sentences, rhyming text, and a humorous tone make this the perfect treat for beginning readers. Fans of this adventuresome flock of sheep will not want to miss this Halloween treat. (hmhco.com)

Shea, Bob, Dinosaur vs. Bedtime
Roaaaaar! Roaar! Nothing can stop me! Nothing can stop little dinosaur—not talking grownups, spaghetti, or even bath time. But what happens when he faces the biggest
challenge of all...bedtime? With spare text and irresistible dinosaur roaaars, little dinosaurs will be begging for this book to be read again and again. (books.disney.com)

Shea, Susan A., *Do You Know Which Ones Will Grow?* A duckling grows and becomes a duck, so can a car grow into a truck? This beguiling book about growth will spark kids' imaginations, as gatefolds playfully transform a watch into a clock and a shovel into a plow. The interactive format of question and answer will entrance young readers as living things that grow are compared to inanimate objects that don't. Ingenious! (blueapplebooks.com)

Sherry, Kevin, *I'm The Biggest Thing in the Ocean* When a giant squid takes inventory of all of the creatures in the ocean, he realizes that he's way bigger than most of them! Of course, there are bigger things lurking around... but maybe this giant squid with a giant touch of hubris doesn't really care? First-time author-illustrator Kevin Sherry is sure to garner fans of all sizes for his perfect-for-preschool read-aloud with simple text, bold and delightful collage art, and a lovable squid whose spirit just cannot be crushed. (penguinrandomhouse.com)

Slobodkina, Esphyr, *Caps for Sale: A Tale of a Peddler, Some Monkeys and Their Monkey Business* Caps for Sale is a timeless classic, in print for over fifty years, and beloved by generations of readers. This easy-to-read story about a peddler and a band of mischievous monkeys is filled with warmth, humor, and simplicity and teaches children about problem and resolution. Children will delight in following the peddler's efforts to outwit the monkeys and will ask to read it again and again. This is an excellent easy-to-read book that includes repetition, patterns, and colors, perfect for early readers. (harpercollins.com)

Smith, Jeff, *Little Mouse Gets Ready* There's lots to do before Little Mouse is ready to go visit the barn. Will he master all the intricacies of getting dressed, from snaps and buttons to Velcro and tail holes? Eisner Award-winning cartoonist Jeff Smith and his determined Little Mouse reveal all the smallest pleasures of this daily task. (toon-books.com) This is a graphic novel.

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**Snicket, Lemony, The Dark**
Laszlo is afraid of the dark. The dark lives in the same house as Laszlo. Mostly, though, the dark stays in the basement and doesn’t come into Lazslo’s room. But one night, it does. This is the story of how Laszlo stops being afraid of the dark. With emotional insight and poetic economy, two award-winning talents team up to conquer a universal childhood fear. (hachettebookgroup.com)

**Stead, Philip C., A Sick Day for Amos McGee**
Friends come in all sorts of shapes and sizes. In Amos McGee’s case, all sorts of species, too! Every day he spends a little bit of time with each of his friends at the zoo, running races with the tortoise, keeping the shy penguin company, and even reading bedtime stories to the owl. But when Amos is too sick to make it to the zoo, his animal friends decide it’s time they returned the favor. (us.macmillan.com)

**Stead, Philip C., Bear Has a Story to Tell**
Bear found his friend Mouse, but Mouse was busy gathering seeds and didn’t have time to listen to a story. Then Bear saw his friend Duck, but Duck was getting ready to fly south. What about his friend Toad? He was busy looking for a warm place to sleep. By the time Bear was through helping his friends get ready for winter, would anyone still be awake to hear his story? (us.macmillan.com)

**Stewart, Sarah, The Library**
Elizabeth Brown doesn’t like to play with dolls, and she doesn’t like to skate. What she does like to do is read books. Now that she’s grown up, her collection is so big all the shelves are collapsing. Her front door has disappeared entirely. What in the world will she do? The reclusive Elizabeth Brown surprises everyone with her splendid solution. (franceslincoln.com)

**Swanson, Susan Marie, The House in the Night**
A spare, patterned text and glowing pictures explore the origins of light that make a house a home in this bedtime book for young children. Naming nighttime things that are both comforting and intriguing to preschoolers—a key, a bed, the moon—this timeless
book illuminates a reassuring order to the universe. (hmhco.com)

Tankard, Jeremy, *Grumpy Bird*

Bird wakes up feeling grumpy. Too grumpy to eat or play — too grumpy even to fly. "Looks like I'm walking today," says Bird. He walks past Sheep, who offers to keep him company. He walks past Rabbit, who also could use a walk. Raccoon, Beaver, and Fox join in, too. Before he knows it, a little exercise and companionship help Bird shake his bad mood. This winsome, refreshingly original picture book is sure to help kids (and grown-ups) giggle away theirs, too! (scholastic.com)

Tellegen, Toon, *The Squirrel's Birthday and Other Parties*

A whale and a seagull dance silently on a moon-drenched beach. A grasshopper pays a fortune for a speck of dust. A squirrel and an ant discover a mysterious feast, with an invisible host, in the depths of a forest. Toon Tellegen's whimsical animal tales are perfectly complemented by Jessica Ahlberg's delicate illustrations in this collection of lyrical stories that will captivate readers of all ages. (boxerbookslimited.co.uk)

Thomas, Jan, *A Birthday for Cow!*

Pig and Mouse are hard at work baking the best birthday cake EVER for Cow. But it would be a lot easier if Duck weren't hanging around, yammering on about turnips or some nonsense. (Sheesh!) With all this silliness going on, how will they manage to throw Cow a spectacular birthday party? Well, as it turns out, crazy Duck just might have had the right idea all along! (hmhco.com)

Thomas, Jan, *Rhyming Dust Bunnies*

Bug! Rug! Mug! Hug! These dust bunnies love to rhyme. Well, except for Bob. Much to the other bunnies' frustration, Bob can never get the rhythm right. Then he saves everyone from a big, scary monster wielding—gasp!—a broom, and they all breathe a sigh of relief. But can Bob save them from the big, scary monster's next attack? Vrrrrroooommm... (books.simonandschuster.com)
Thompson, Lauren, *Mouse's First Fall*
One cool day Mouse and Minka venture out to play. From leaves of all colors — red, yellow, orange, and brown — to leaves of all shapes and sizes — from pointy to round — Mouse learns that fall is a season full of fun! And before the day is done he just might take the biggest leap of all. (scholastic.com)

Tullet, Herve, *Press Here*
Press the yellow dot on the cover of this book, follow the instructions within, and embark upon a magical journey! Each page of this surprising book instructs the reader to press the dots, shake the pages, tilt the book, and who knows what will happen next! Children and adults alike will giggle with delight as the dots multiply, change direction, and grow in size! Especially remarkable because the adventure occurs on the flat surface of the simple, printed page, this unique picture book about the power of imagination and interactivity will provide read-aloud fun for all ages! (chroniclebooks.com) (If you enjoy this book, look for *Mix It Up!* by the same author.)

Urban, Linda, *Mouse Was Mad*
Who knows the best way to be mad? Bear stomps. Hare hops. Bobcat screams. Mouse? He just can't get it right. But when he finds the way that works for him—still and quiet—he discovers his own way might be the best of all. A light-hearted exploration of how to manage anger from the critically acclaimed author and illustrator duo of Urban and Cole. (hmhco.com)

Urbanovic, Jackie, *Duck Soup*
Max the duck is cooking up an amazing soup. But what's this? A feather floating in the soup! And where's Max? Brody the dog, Dakota the cat, and Bebe the bird race about in their hilarious search for the missing Max. But remember, sometimes things just aren't as they appear. (harpercollins.com)

Vozar, David, *Yo, Hungry Wolf! - a Nursery Rap*
Here are Little Red Riding Hood, The Three Little Pigs, and The Boy Who Cried Wolf retold hilariously in rap. The stories may be familiar, but the telling is fresh, new and alive. Full-color illustrations capture the mood
Watt, Melanie, Scaredy Squirrel
Scaredy Squirrel never leaves his nut tree. It's way too dangerous out there. He could encounter tarantulas, green Martians or killer bees. But in his tree, every day is the same and if danger comes along, he's well-prepared. Scaredy Squirrel's emergency kit includes antibacterial soap, Band-Aids and a parachute. Day after day he watches and waits, and waits and watches, until one day ... his worst nightmare comes true! Scaredy suddenly finds himself out of his tree, where germs, poison ivy and sharks lurk. But as Scaredy Squirrel leaps into the unknown, he discovers something really uplifting... (kidscanpress.com) There are many books about Scaredy Squirrel. They are all hilarious and can be read in any order.

Wells, Rosemary, Voyage to the Bunny Planet
In each book of this beloved trio of mini-picture books- First Tomato, Moss Pillows, and Island Light-a little rabbit who has had a particularly bad day is transported to the Bunny Planet. There, the bunnies experience the day that should have been-a day filled with warmth, love, and peaceful activities. (books.google.com)

White, E. B., Stuart Little
Stuart Little is no ordinary mouse. Born to a family of humans, he lives in New York City with his parents, his older brother George, and Snowbell the cat. Though he's shy and thoughtful, he's also a true lover of adventure. Stuart's greatest adventure comes when his best friend, a beautiful little bird named Margalo, disappears from her nest. Determined to track her down, Stuart ventures away from home for the very first time in his life. He finds adventure aplenty. But will he find his friend? (harpercollins.com)

Willems, Mo, Books
Mo Willems is one of the current rock stars of the children's book world, and you are probably already familiar with his books. His first series of picture books is about the Pigeon who would like to do something that he's not supposed to. His Elephant & Piggie series of early readers are wonderful for showing different moments in a friendship. You may not have heard of the Cat the Cat books, but they are especially
Stories good for kids who are just beginning to learn to read. They have a surprise ending that keeps everything fun. All of his books are funny and have characters that will remind you of yourself or a person that you know. You can find lots of fun games and other goodies at mowillems.com and pigeonpresents.com. (Ms. Bock)

Willis, Jeanne, Who's in the Bathroom?
Jeanne Willis and Adrian Reynolds put the hog back in hogging the bathroom as two urgent kids try to imagine what's at the end of an enormously long line for the toilet:
"They are taking forever. Now, who could it be? A whale who is doing the world's biggest pee?"
With a pooping elephant, a farting rhino, and a piddling penguin, this hilarious picture book is full of toilet fun. don't be too shy to ask, "Who's in the bathroom?" (books.google.com)

Wood, Audrey, Quick as a cricket
This cheerful read-aloud picture book reinforces the concept of individuality and feeling good about one’s self. The protagonist, a happy little boy, uses simple rhyming verse to compare his best characteristics to animals in the wild. "I'm as quick as a cricket, I'm as slow as a snail, I'm as small as an ant, I'm as large as a whale!" The boy’s enthusiasm leads him to swing through the trees and sip a cup of tea with a poodle. "Put it together," he declares, "and you've got me!" (scholastic.com)

Woodson, Jacqueline, Pecan Pie Baby
All anyone wants to talk about with Mama is the new "ding-dang baby" that’s on the way, and Gia is getting sick of it! If her new sibling is already such a big deal, what’s going to happen to Gia’s nice, cozy life with Mama once the baby is born? (penguinrandomhouse.com)
**Yolen, Jane, Owl Moon**

Late one winter night a little girl and her father go owling. The trees stand still as statues and the world is silent as a dream. Whoo-whoo-whoo, the father calls to the mysterious nighttime bird. But there is no answer. Wordlessly the two companions walk along, for when you go owling you don’t need words. You don’t need anything but hope. Sometimes there isn’t an owl, but sometimes there is. (penguinrandomhouse.com)

**Young, Ed, Hook**

With beautiful, sweeping artwork and spare, lyrical text, Ed Young tells the story of a boy who finds an egg and gives it to a flock of chickens. When the egg hatches not a chick but an eaglet, the hens, the roosters, and the boy all band together to help the young bird fly. In this lovely story about friendship and dedication, the eaglet perseveres and leaves behind the dusty earth for endless pastel skies. (books.google.com)

**Young, Ed, Seven Blind Mice**

“It’s a pillar,” says one. “It’s a fan,” says another. One by one, the seven blind mice investigate the strange Something by the pond. And one by one, they come back with a different theory. It’s only when the seventh mouse goes out-and explores the whole Something-that the mice see the whole truth. Based on a classic Indian tale, Ed Young’s beautifully rendered version is a treasure to enjoy again and again. (penguinrandomhouse.com)

**Yuly, Toni, Early Bird**

Early Bird wakes up before the sun. She is hungry. What will she have for breakfast? With language that emphasizes action words, this is a fun story for morning, nighttime, any time. (us.macmillan.com)

**Yum, Hyewon, Mom, It's My First Day of Kindergarten!**

It’s a child’s first day of kindergarten, but who is worried about all the new people and the different things he’ll meet—the child? No! The mother. In a refreshing reversal of roles, the child takes it upon himself to comfort and reassure his mother that everything will be fine, she’ll get used to him going to big-kid school, and yes, he is
ready for the first day of kindergarten. Utterly charming in its simplicity, Yum playfully uses size and color to reveal emotions of this milestone beginning. (us.macmillan.com)

Zion, Gene, *Harry the Dirty Dog*
Harry is a white dog with black spots who loves everything . . . except baths. So one day before bath time, Harry runs away. He plays outside all day long, digging and sliding in everything from garden soil to pavement tar. By the time he returns home, Harry is so dirty he looks like a black dog with white spots. His family doesn't even recognize him! (books.google.com)
Aston, Dianna Hutts, *An Egg Is Quiet*
This book introduces children to more than 60 types of eggs and an interesting array of egg facts. From tiny hummingbird eggs to giant ostrich eggs, oval ladybug eggs to tubular dogfish eggs, gooey frog eggs to fossilized dinosaur eggs, it magnificently captures the incredible variety of eggs and celebrates their beauty and wonder. (chroniclebooks.com)

Aston, Dianna Hutts, *Dream Something Big*
Between 1921 and 1955, Italian immigrant Simon Rodia transformed broken glass, seashells, pottery, and a dream to “do something big” into a U.S. National Landmark. Readers watch the towers rise from his little plot of land in Watts, California, through the eyes of a fictional girl as she grows and raises her own children. Chronicled in stunningly detailed collage that mimics Rodia’s found-object art, this thirty-four-year journey becomes a mesmerizing testament to perseverance and possibility. A final, innovative “build-your-own-tower” activity makes this multicultural, intergenerational tribute a classroom natural and a perfect gift-sure to encourage kids to follow their own big dreams. (diannahaston.com)

Bean, Jonathan, *Building Our House*
In this unique construction book for kids who love tools and trucks, readers join a girl and her family as they pack up their old house in town and set out to build a new one in the country. Mom and Dad are going to make the new house themselves, from the ground up. From empty lot to finished home, every stage of their year-and-a-half-long building project is here. And at every step their lucky kids are watching and getting their hands dirty, in page after page brimming with machines, vehicles, and all kinds of house-making activities! As he imagines it through the eyes of his older sister, Building Our House is Jonathan Bean’s retelling of his own family’s true experience, and includes an afterword with photographs from the author’s collection. (us.macmillan.com)

Blackford, Harriet, *Elephant’s Story*
Elephant’s Story follows the life of a young elephant calf as she grows up surrounded by her family on the
vast African savanna. With clear, informative text and stunning paintings, Elephant’s Story delivers non-fiction to a young audience with freshness, clarity and drama. Packed with facts, conservation information and parental notes, this is a must-have book for every child. (boxerbooksLtd.co.uk)

**Brown, Monica, Pele, King of Soccer/Pele, El rey del futbol**
Do you know how a poor boy from Brazil who loved football more than anything else became the biggest soccer star the world has ever known? Turn the pages of this book to read the true life story of Pelé, King of Soccer, the first man in the history of the sport to score a thousand goals and become a living legend. Rudy Gutiérrez’s dynamic illustrations make award-winning author Monica Brown’s story of this remarkable sports hero truly come alive! (harpercollins.com)

**Campos, Maria de Fatima, Victoria Goes to Brazil**
Victoria’s mother was born in Brazil, but she and her daughter live in London. Now it’s time for a visit to the country where Mom grew up. From a coffee farm to a saint’s day procession, from a street children’s shelter to a huge family barbeque, Victoria learns about her mother’s country and enjoys getting to know her large Brazilian family. Using vibrant photographs and a first-person narrative based on the fresh perceptions of a child, Victoria Goes to Brazil stimulates young imaginations by showcasing the unfamiliar yet fascinating food, clothing, customs, and culture of this colorful and diverse country. (books.google.com)

**Coat, Janik, Hippopposites**
Behold: an opposites book like no other. Simple pairings of words, both expected (small/large) and unexpected (clear/blurry), are humorously illustrated with a graphic and lovable red hippopotamus. Bold colors and surprising die-cuts and textures spice up this elegantly engaging board book. (abramsbooks.com)

**Cooper, Elisha, Farm**
There is so much to look at and learn about on a farm — animals, tractors, crops, barns, even a rooster named Breakfast! And children feeding animals for morning chores, which “would be better if they didn’t happen in
the morning.” With lyrical writing and beautiful illustrations that capture the rhythms of the changing seasons, Elisha Cooper brings the farm to life. (scholastic.com)

**Crelin, Bob, *Faces of the Moon***
Why does the Moon seem to change shape from night to night? In this unique book, innovative die-cuts and playful poetry introduce the names and shapes of the lunar phases to explain the role light and shadow play in this transformation. (charlesbridge.com)

**Crews, Donald, *Ten Black Dots***

**Davies, Nicola, *Just Ducks!***
The young girl in this story may live in the city, but outside her window there’s a river full of mallard ducks! She hears them as soon as she wakes up, and on the way to school she sees them upside down bobbing for food. Interspersed with fun facts, her enthusiastic commentary about her feathered neighbors — what they look like, how they behave, where they nest, where they sleep — pairs swimmingly with cheerful watercolor illustrations. (randomhouse.com)

**Daynes, Katie, *Firefighters***
Fires, accidents, earthquakes and floods - firefighters are never far from danger. This thrilling book shows where they work, how they fight fires and how they rescue people. (usborne.com)

**French, Vivian, *Yucky Worms: Read and Wonder***
Who would want to be friends with a wiggly, slimy worm? You can’t even tell which end is which! But there’s more to these lowly creatures than meets the eye. Kids are invited to find out where worms live, see how they move, and understand why gardeners consider them friends with the help of this humorous and informative look at an unappreciated — and fascinating — creature. (goodreads.com)
**Frost, Helen, Monarch and Milkweed**
Every spring the monarch butterfly migrates thousands of miles in search of the ideal milkweed plant. When she finds it, she lays her eggs on the plant, so when each egg hatches, the baby caterpillar can feed on the milkweed leaves. The milkweed plant then provides the perfect protection as the caterpillar turns into one of nature's wonders, a chrysalis, before transforming into an even greater wonder: a monarch butterfly. And once the newborn butterfly soars away, the milkweed seeds fly away on the wind and start this cycle over again. The exacting prose and jewel-toned illustrations echo the harmony of monarch and milkweed in this carefully researched book, explaining one of nature's most spectacular displays in a refreshingly simple manner. (books.simonandschuster.com)

**Guiberson, Brenda Z., Life in the Boreal Forest**
The great northern forest--the boreal forest--is home to a unique ecosystem of animals and plants. It covers one-third of the earth's total forest area and is home to so many birds that it is known as "North America's bird nursery." The forest is a treasure trove of riches, but it's threatened by increased human development and climate changes. This gorgeous book teaches readers about the boreal forest and reminds them that it's up to us to make sure the beauty and bounty survive. (us.macmillan.com)

**Guiberson, Brenda Z., Rain, Rain, Rain Forest**
Come explore the rain forest!
A downpour wakes the creatures of the rain forest. Howler monkeys roar and drink the water that drips from nearby leaves. Birds with rainbow beaks fly in search of shelter. A poison dart frog finds a tiny pool where her tadpoles can grow. In a place that gets twenty feet of rain a year, it is a way of life. Vibrant, colorful collages and an inviting text take young readers on an exhilarating tour of the tropical rain forest. (us.macmillan.com)

**Hatanaka, Kellen, Work: An Occupational ABC**
An alphabetical tour through the coolest jobs you can imagine—and some you might never have heard of! With a sophisticated, minimalist design and visual
jokes to interpret on every page, Work: An Occupational ABC introduces children both to the alphabet and to a range of alternative careers. (houseofanansi.com)

**Henkes, Kevin, *Birds***
Birds come in all sizes, shapes, and colors. Birds are magic. Birds are everywhere. If you listen very carefully you will hear them, no matter where you live. And if you look very closely you will see them, no matter where you are. And if you can’t go outside right this minute, you can always read this book! (harpercollins.com)

**Jenson-Elliott, Cindy, *Weeds Find a Way***
Weeds are wonderful! Persistent, exuberant...these plants have personalities, and this nonfiction picture book puts them on colorful display! From bright yellow dandelions popping through cracks in sidewalks to purple loosestrife growing rampant along roadways, weeds offer unexpected splashes of color and life to the least likely of places. With lovely language and a sly sense of humor, this beautiful picture book celebrates the tenacious temperaments of these pesky plants and is sure to have little ones chanting, “Way to go, weeds!” (simonandschuster.com)

**Khan, Hena, *Golden Domes and Silver Lanterns: A Muslim Book of Colors***
Magnificently capturing the colorful world of Islam for the youngest readers, this breathtaking and informative picture book celebrates Islam’s beauty and traditions. From a red prayer rug to a blue hijab, everyday colors are given special meaning as young readers learn about clothing, food, and other important elements of Islamic culture, with a young Muslim girl as a guide. Sure to inspire questions and observations about world religions and cultures, Golden Domes and Silver Lanterns is equally at home in a classroom reading circle as it is being read to a child on a parent’s lap. (chroniclebooks.com)

**Komiya, Teruyuki, *Life-Size Zoo: From Tiny Rodents to Gigantic Elephants, An Actual Size Animal Encyclopedia***
An elephant’s trunk is so nimble, it can pick up a single blade of grass, and yet so strong, it can knock over a tree. Giraffes have eyelashes. Sloths hang from trees
for days at a time without going to the bathroom. These are just some of the insights featured in Life-Size Zoo. Acclaimed wildlife photographer Toyofumi Fukuda visited Japan’s premier zoos to capture remarkably vivid and detailed close-up photographs of 21 animals, from pandas and meerkats to giraffes, rhinos, and elephants (adult and baby). Each photograph is accompanied by a profile including body length, weight, and natural habitat, as well as fun facts about the animal. (perseusbooksgroup.com) For more life-size animals, try Actual Size by Steve Jenkins.

**Ljungkvist, Laura, *Follow the Line through the House***
Follow the line on a journey from the city to the country, from the sky to the ocean, from morning till night. Laura Ljungkvist uses her trademark continuous line style to create the perfect counting book for young children. Each scene contains questions designed to get children looking, counting, and thinking. For example, in the underwater picture, children can count seashells, turtles, and the legs on an octopus. Each page is packed with colorful, artful objects and animals—and young counters can follow the line from the front cover to the back cover, through each stunning scene. (penguinrandomhouse.com)

**Marzollo, Jean, *I Spy A Butterfly***
All-new, easy-to-read riddles by Jean Marzollo are paired with fun photographs culled from previously published I Spy books to create the ninth I Spy reader. With rhythm, rhyme, and picture clues, this book is written to support the newest reader. (scholastic.com)

**McCarthy, Meghan, *Astronaut Handbook***
Do you have what it takes to be an astronaut? Meghan McCarthy blasts readers off to astronaut school in her new, young, nonfiction picture book. Take a ride on the “Vomit Comet” and learn how it feels to be weightless. Have your measurements taken—100 to be exact—for your very own space suit. Meghan McCarthy has created the perfect book to share with children who want to be astronauts when they grow up. (penguinrandomhouse.com)
McLiman, David, Gone Wild
Feast your eyes on these amazing creatures before they disappear. This stampede of wild animals, from Chinese Alligator to Grevy’s Zebra, are so rare, they’re all endangered. David McLiman’s bold and playful illustrations transform each letter into a work of art, graphically rendered with animal characteristics. Scales, horns, even insect wings transform the alphabet into animated life. Once you take this eye-opening safari, you’ll never look at letters or animals with the same way again. A striking work of art and a zoological adventure, Gone Wild is sure to be loved by children and adults alike. (scholastic.com)

Mortensen, Lori, A Day at the Fire Station
What happens at a fire station when the alarm sounds? Firefighters are on the job 24 hours a day. They eat, sleep, and work at the fire station. (capstone.com) This is a graphic novel.

Reid, Barbara, Picture a Tree
Picture a tree--what do YOU see? Picture a tree, from every season, and from every angle. These wonderous beings give shade and shelter. Now look again. Look closer. The possibilities are endless. In this gorgeous new picture book, Barbara Reid brings her vision, her craft, and her signature Plasticine artwork to the subject of trees. Each page is a celebration, and you will never look at trees in quite the same way again. (albertwhitman.com)

Rose, Deborah Lee, One Nighttime Sea
All night long, while you are asleep, millions of sea creatures move through the deep... This lavishly illustrated counting book offers a fascinating peek at ocean nightlife. Richly-textured collage art and infectious rhyme reveal the habits and habitats of otters, spider crabs, turtle hatchlings, and other nocturnal ocean dwellers. (scholastic.com)

Ryder, Joanne, Panda Kindergarten
Follow a day in the life of the panda cubs at China Conservation and Research Center for the Giant Panda at the Wolong Nature Preserve, the largest research facility for giant pandas in China. Cubs are
raised together in a protected setting—dubbed panda kindergarten—where they grow strong and learn skills that will help prepare them to be released into the wild when they are older. With spare text by veteran nonfiction writer Joanne Ryder and irresistible full-color photographs by Katherine Feng, whose work has appeared in National Geographic, Panda Kindergarten will delight young readers as they learn more about these amazing creatures. (harpercollins.com)

**Sayre, April Pulley, Eat Like a Bear**
Can you eat like a bear? A sleepy bear awakes in spring and goes to find food. But what is there to eat in April? In May? Follow along and eat like a bear throughout the year: fish from a stream, ants from a tree, and delicious huckleberries from a bush. Fill up your belly and prepare for the long winter ahead, when you'll snuggle into your warm den and snore like a bear once again. (us.macmillan.com)

**Schwartz, David, Where in the Wild?: Camouflaged Creatures Concealed ... and Revealed**
Ten creatures await, camouflaged in artful, full-page photographs, while playful poems offer clues about each animal’s identity and whereabouts. Think you've spotted one? Lift one of ten gatefolds to find out. A full page of fascinating information accompanies each animal so readers can learn how nature’s camouflage serves hunter and hunted alike. Why do fawns have spots during their first year of life? How did killdeer birds get their name? What makes a crab spider so good at ambushing its prey? (penguinrandomhouse.com)

**Seeger, Laura Vaccaro, First the Egg**
Which came first? The chicken or the egg? Simple die-cuts magically present transformation-- from seed to flower, tadpole to frog, caterpillar to butterfly. The acclaimed author of Black? White! Day? Night! and Lemons Are Not Red gives an entirely fresh and memorable presentation to the concepts of transformation and creativity. Seed becomes flower, paint becomes picture, word becomes story--and the commonplace becomes extraordinary as children look through and turn the pages of this novel and winning book. (us.macmillan.com)
Stewart, Melissa, *Under the Snow*
When snow falls, we love to sled and skate and have snowball fights. But at the end of the day, we go home where it is warm and safe. What about all those animals out there in the forests and fields? What do they do when snow blankets the ground? Award-winning science writer Melissa Stewart offers a lyrical tour of a variety of habitats, providing young readers with vivid glimpses of animals as they live out the winter beneath the snow and ice. Constance R. Bergum’s glowing watercolors perfectly capture the wonder and magic that can happen under the snow. (peachtree-online.com)

Stockdale, Susan, *Bring on the Birds*
Brightly colored, richly textured illustrations and an energetic rhyming text introduce young readers to distinctive birds and their unique qualities. From the Blue-footed Booby to the Red-billed Oxpecker, the breadth of bird life depicted in this stunning book will captivate young ornithologists. An afterword identifies each animal and tells a little bit about it and where it lives. (peachtree-online.com)

Sutton, Sally, *Demolition*
Crush the stone. Crush the stone.
Chip and grind and munch.
Make new concrete from the old.
Whirr! Churr! Crunch!
From the huge crane with a swinging ball (crack! ) to the toothy jaws that ram the walls (thwock! ), this rambunctious demolition, reverberating with sound words, is guaranteed to have small kids rapt. Bright spreads showcase the gargantuan machines in all their glory, and a pictorial glossary explains what each one can do. (candlewick.com)

Weill, Cynthia, *Opuestos: Mexican Folk Art Opposites in English and Spanish*
Cynthia Weill’s book of Mexican folk art teaches kids about opposites in Spanish and English! These whimsical little animals from Oaxaca, carved and painted by hand, make learning about opposites fun. Up and down, tall and short, left and right—all inside a beautiful book. (cincopuntos.com)
Zuckerman, Andrew, *Creature ABC*

An elegant addition to any library, this deluxe alphabet book features 120 pages of Andrew Zuckerman’s breathtaking wildlife photography. From alligator to zebra, each featured animal boasts two striking studio portraits against a clean white background, offering a unique up-close view of the animal kingdom. Readers can flip to a helpful glossary in the back for extra information. From the sleek beauty of a smiling hippo to the powerful majesty of a roaring lion, this gorgeous new book is both a stunning work of art and a ferociously fun way for young animal-lovers to learn their ABCs. (chroniclebooks.com)
Poetry

**Authors, Various, Nursery Rhyme Comics: 50 Timeless Rhymes from 50 Celebrated Cartoonists**

Featuring fifty classic nursery rhymes illustrated and interpreted in comics form by fifty of today's preeminent cartoonists and illustrators, this is a groundbreaking new entry in the canon of nursery rhymes treasuries. From New Yorker cartoonist Roz Chast’s “There Was a Crooked Man” to Bad Kitty author Nick Bruel’s “Three Little Kittens” to First Second’s own Gene Yang’s “Pat-a-Cake,” this is a collection that will put a grin on your face from page one and keep it there. (us.macmillan.com)

**Copeland, Misty, Firebird**

In her debut picture book, Misty Copeland tells the story of a young girl--an every girl--whose confidence is fragile and who is questioning her own ability to reach the heights that Misty has reached. Misty encourages this young girl's faith in herself and shows her exactly how, through hard work and dedication, she too can become Firebird. Lyrical and affecting text paired with bold, striking illustrations that are some of Caldecott Honoree Christopher Myers's best work, makes Firebird perfect for aspiring ballerinas everywhere. (indiebound.org)

**Dillon, Leo & Diane, Mother Goose Numbers on the Loose**

The numbers are on the loose--hiding and dancing, skipping and laughing through the rhymes of Mother Goose! It's a good thing Caldecott Medal-winning artists Leo and Diane Dillon have helped gather up all these mischievous numbers in a stunning celebration of counting, rhymes, and imagination. The rhymes, both familiar and lesser known, are ordered from simple (1, 2, 3) to more complex numbers, making this a collection to grow with. The illustrations are filled with surprising wit and whimsy. And this vibrant, playful volume is irresistible as an introduction to Mother Goose or as a new delight for her longtime fans. (books.google.com)
**Frost, Helen, Step Gently Out**
What would happen if you walked very, very quietly and looked ever so carefully at the natural world outside? You might see a cricket leap, a moth spread her wings, or a spider step across a silken web. In simple, evocative language, Helen Frost offers a hint at the many tiny creatures around us. And in astonishing close-up photographs, Rick Lieder captures the glint of a katydid’s eye, the glow of a firefly, and many more living wonders just awaiting discovery. Fascinating facts about all the creatures pictured may be found at the end. (candlewick.com)

**Grossman, Bill, Timothy Tunny Swallowed a Bunny**
Timothy Tunny
Swallowed a bunny.
The bunny got stuck in his throat.
"That bunny looks funny,"
His mom said, "but Honey,
Be thankful it isn't a goat."
In the best tradition of children's poetry, Bill Grossman has created a delightful collection of verses. Each poem is accompanied by a witty and whimsical illustration by celebrated artist Kevin Hawkes. From Kevin I Moses, who has seventeen noses, to Walter Lackwards, whose head is on backwards, these poems are full of hilarious characters who will tickle the funny bones of children and adults alike. (books.google.com)

**Hale, Christy, Dreaming Up: A Celebration of Building**
Children building—
Concrete poetry—
Pair them with notable structures from around the world and see children’s constructions taken to the level of architectural treasures. Here is a unique celebration of children’s playtime explorations and the surprising ways childhood experiences find expression in the dreams and works of innovative architects. Come be inspired to play—dream—build—discover! (leeandlow.com)

**Hughes, Langston, My People**
Langston Hughes's spare yet eloquent tribute to his people has been cherished for generations. Now, acclaimed photographer Charles R. Smith Jr. interprets this beloved poem in vivid sepia photographs that capture the
glory, the beauty, and the soul of being a black American today. (simonandschuster.com)

**Krensky, Stephen, Snack Attack**

A cat and a rat in a shack -- ham and jam, what a treat, smack, smack! Both cat and rat agree -- it's time for a snack attack! (books.simonandschuster.com)

**Mavor, Salley, Pocketful of Posies: A Treasury of Nursery Rhymes**

This hand-picked collection of classic nursery rhymes, all delicately and painstakingly illustrated by Salley Mavor, who is reknown for her incredibly detailed fabric and cloth scenes. It took Mavor ten years to develop her own fabric relief technique to a level where she felt comfortable even considering illustrating a book. Now, Mavor embroiders and sews illustrations, each scene taking nearly a month to complete. In this book, Mavor renders a new and visionary nursery rhyme world with precision and intricacy for many a generation to treasure for years and years to come. (hmhco.com)

**Mora, Pat, Water Rolls, Water Rises Water Rolls, Water Rises: El agua rueda, el agua sube**

Here is a poetic ode to the beauty of the natural world as expressed by the movement and moods of water on Earth. With every evocative verse in English and Spanish, we visit one of fourteen different water landscapes and cultural areas around the world, each stunningly illustrated with a breathtaking view of a place of natural beauty and conveying a sense of the drama, joy, power, serenity, grandeur, or peacefulness of water. From the Grand Canal of Venice to Qutang Gorge in China, from the Sahara in Morocco to the Andes of Chile, we learn about the world through the lens of water, our most precious, life-giving resource. (leeandlowbooks.com)

**Muth, Jon J, Hi, Koo!: A Year of Seasons**

With a featherlight touch and disarming charm, Jon J Muth--and his delightful little panda bear, Koo--challenge readers to stretch their minds and imaginations with twenty-six haikus about the four seasons. (scholastic.com)
Ray, Mary Lyn, *Stars*
A star is how you know it’s almost night.
As soon as you see one, there’s another, and another.
And the dark that comes doesn’t feel so dark.
What if you could have a star?
From acclaimed author Mary Lyn Ray and two-time Caldecott Honor winner Marla Frazee comes this tender, evocative—and profound—exploration of stars both near and far. (simonandschuster.com)

Ross, Tony, *Three Little Kittens and Other Favorite Nursery Rhymes*
Every child needs a good nursery rhyme book, and parents will be thrilled with the comical art in this one. Ross's inimitable illustrations portray these classic rhymes with a contemporary edge and more than a touch of gleeful wit. Perfect for reading together, this humorous book is one to be treasured for many years to come. (us.macmillan.com)

Schertle, Alice, *Button Up!: Wrinkled Rhymes*
Did you actually think shoes, jackets, and hats didn't have personalities? Think again! The outfits in this book are brought to vivid life by Alice Schertle's wry poetry and Petra Mathers's exuberant cast of young animal characters. From Joshua's cozy jammies to Emily's frilly undies, the duds on display in this perfectly stitched poetry collection are as unique as the critters who wear them. (hmhco.com)

Ward, Jennifer, *Mama Built a Little Nest*
There are so many different kinds of birds—and those birds build so many different kinds of nests to keep their babies cozy. With playful, bouncy rhyme, Jennifer Ward explores nests large and small, silky and cottony, muddy and twiggy—and all the birds that call them home! (simonandschuster.com)

Webb, Steve, *Tanka Tanka Skunk!*
Tanka and Skunk love to sing the names of their animal friends to the beat of drums. In Steve Webb's innovative and visually stunning picture book, young readers will have a blast reading aloud to the simple
rhythms introduced in this riot of shout-out-loud words and cavorting animals. Children will love singing the words out loud to the Skunka Tanka beat! (scholastic.com) This book is sadly out of print, so look for it in a library or used bookstore. It’s worth hunting down!
About Ms. Bock

Amanda Bock is the Library Teacher at the Angier School in Newton, MA. She has been a Librarian for 14 years and a children’s bookseller for nearly as long. Ms. Bock has Masters degrees in Library Science and Children’s Literature, which means she went to school for 4 extra years after college. A voracious reader as a younger person, Ms. Bock now identifies more with reluctant readers. She spends more time carrying books around to look cool instead of actually reading them. But, she’s trying to get back in the habit of reading and has made a goal to read 100 books this year. You can see how far behind she is at goodreads.com/amandabock.

My Notes

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