

The RCS Library List of Recommended Books for Beginning and Early Readers (PreK - Grade 3)

Key: P = Picture Book; E = Early Reader; C = Chapter Book; G = Graphic Novel; 1 = 1st in a Series

- 8 Class Pets + 1 Squirrel ÷ 1 Dog = Chaos^{C/1}
– Vande Velde
- 50 Below Zero^P – Munsch
- The 13-Story Treehouse^{G/1} – Griffiths
- The Absent Author^{C/1} – Roy
- The Adventures of Captain Underpants^{G/1}
– Pilkey
- Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good,
Very Bad Day^P – Viorst
- The Amazing Hamweenie^P – Bowman
- Amelia Bedelia^{E/1} – Parish
- Angelina Ballerina^P – Holabird
- Angry Cookie^P – Dockrill
- The Astonishing Secret of Awesome Man^P
– Chabon
- Babymouse: Queen of the World^{G/1} – Holm
- A Bad Case of Stripes^P – Shannon
- Bad Guys^{G/1} – Blabey
- Bad Kitty Gets a Bath^{C/1} – Bruel
- The Bad Seed^P – John
- Battle Bunny^P – Scieszka
- Be Quiet!^P – Higgins
- The Bear Ate Your Sandwich^P – Sarcone-Roach
- Bear Snores On^P – Wilson
- Bedtime at the Swamp^P – Crow
- Bedtime for Batman^P – Dahl
- The Biggest Bear^P – Ward
- The Bill Martin Jr. Big Book of Poetry^E – Martin
- Bink & Gollie^{G/1} – DiCamillo
- Black Dog^P – Pinfold
- The Book Hog^P – Pizzoli
- The Book With No Pictures^P – Novak
- The Boss Baby^P – Frazee
- The Boy of a Thousand Faces^C – Selznick
- Brief Thief^P – Escoffier
- Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?^P
– Martin
- Caps for Sale^P – Slobodkina
- The Cat in the Hat^P – Seuss
- Chicken Cheeks^P – Black
- Chrysanthemum^P – Henkes
- Chu's Day^P – Gaiman
- Click, Clack, Moo: Cows That Type^P – Cronin
- Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs^P – Barrett
- Count the Monkeys^P – Barnett
- Creepy Carrots!^P – Reynolds
- Curious George^P – Rey
- The Dark^P – Snicket
- The Day the Crayons Quit^P – Daywalt
- Dinosaurs Before Dark^{C/1} – Osborne
- Dog Man^{G/1} – Pilkey
- The Doghouse^P – Thomas
- Dogku^P – Clements
- Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus^P – Willems
- Don't Throw It to Mo^{E/1} – Adler
- Dr. De Soto^P – Steig
- Dragonbreath^{G/1} – Vernon
- Dragon Was Terrible^P – DiPucchio
- Dragons Love Tacos^P – Rubin
- Duck for President^P – Cronin
- Duck! Rabbit!^P – Rosenthal
- The Dumb Bunnies^P – Pilkey
- The Enormous Crocodile^P – Dahl
- Eraser^P – Kang
- Eva's Treetop Adventure^{E/1} – Elliott
- Exclamation Mark^P – Rosenthal
- Fancy Nancy^P – O'Connor
- Fangbone: Third-Grade Barbarian^{G/1} – Rex
- The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr. Morris
Lessmore^P – Joyce
- The Field Guide^{C/1} – DiTerlizzi and Black
- Flat Stanley: His Original Adventure!^{C/1}
– Brown
- Forget-Me-Nots: Poems to Learn by Heart^E
– Hoberman
- Frankie Pickle and the Closet of Doom^{G/1}
– Wight
- Freckle Juice^C – Blume
- Frog and Toad Are Friends^{E/1} – Lobel
- Frog on a Log?^P – Gray
- Froggy Gets Dressed^{P/1} – London
- Game Over, Super Rabbit Boy!^{C/1} – Flintham
- The Gardener^P – Stewart
- Gingerbread Man Loose in the School^P
– Murray
- The Giving Tree^P – Silverstein
- Go Away, Big Green Monster!^P – Emberley
- Goldie^{C/1} – Miles
- Good Night Owl^P – Pizzoli
- Green Eggs and Ham^P – Seuss

- Gregory the Terrible Eater^P – Sharmat
- Groundhog Stays Up Late^P – Cuyler
- The Gruffalo^P – Donaldson
- Harriet the Invincible^{C/1} – Vernon
- Harry the Dirty Dog^P – Zion
- Heidi Heckelbeck Has a Secret^{C/1} – Coven
- Henry and Mudge: The First Book^{E/1} – Rylant
- Hi! Fly Guy^P – Arnold
- The Hidden Stairs and the Magic Carpet^{C/1} – Abbott
- Horrible Harry in Room 2B^{C/1} – Kline
- Hoot Owl, Master of Disguise^P – Taylor
- How Do Dinosaurs Say Goodnight?^P – Yolen
- I Don't Want to Be a Frog^P – Petty
- I Need My Monster^P – Noll
- I Want to Be in a Scary Story^P – Taylor
- I Yam a Donkey^P – Bell
- If You Ever Want to Bring an Alligator to School, Don't!^P – Parsley
- If You Give a Mouse a Cookie^P – Numeroff
- Interrupting Chicken^P – Stein
- The Invisible Boy^P – Ludwig
- It's Only Stanley^P – Agee
- Ivy + Bean^{C/1} – Barrows
- Jabari Jumps^P – Cornwall
- Jack B. Ninja^P – McCanna
- Job Wanted^P – Bateman
- John, Paul, George & Ben^P – Smith
- Juana & Lucas^C – Medina
- Judy Moody Was in a Mood. Not a Good Mood. A Bad Mood.^{C/1} – McDonald
- Jumanji^P – Van Allsburg
- Junie B. Jones and the Stupid Smelly Bus^{C/1} – Park
- Kidnapped at Birth?^{C/1} – Sachar
- King & Kayla and the Case of the Missing Dog Treats^{E/1} – Butler
- Knuffle Bunny^P – Willems
- Last Stop on Market Street^P – de la Peña
- The Legend of Rock Paper Scissors^P – Daywalt
- The Legend of the Teddy Bear^P – Murphy
- Leo the Late Bloomer^P – Kraus
- Let's Sing a Lullaby with the Brave Cowboy^P – Thomas
- Library Mouse^P – Kirk
- The Lima Bean Monster^P – Yaccarino
- The Lion & the Mouse^P – Pinkney
- Lion vs. Rabbit^P – Latimer
- Lost Treasure of the Emerald Eye^{C/1} – Stilton
- Love Monster^P – Bright
- Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile^P – Waber
- Madeline^P – Bemelmans
- Make Way for Ducklings^P – McCloskey
- Mary McScary^P – Stine
- Mercy Watson to the Rescue^{E/1} – DiCamillo
- Miss Daisy Is Crazy!^{C/1} – Gutman
- Miss Nelson Is Missing!^P – Allard
- The Mitten^P – Brett
- Moldylocks and the Three Beards^{G/1} – Jones
- Moosetache^P – Chaplin
- Mr. Duck Means Business^P – Sauer
- Mr. Putter & Tabby Pour the Tea^{E/1} – Rylant
- Mrs. McNosh Hangs Up Her Wash^P – Weeks
- Mrs. Watson Wants Your Teeth^P – McGhee
- My Teacher Is a Monster!^P – Brown
- The Mystery of the Stolen Diamonds^{C/1} – Adler
- Narwhal: Unicorn of the Sea^{G/1} – Clanton
- Nate the Great^{E/1} – Sharmat
- Night Animals^P – Marino
- No, David!^P – Shannon
- Noodlehead Nightmares^{E/1} – Arnold
- Officer Buckle and Gloria^P – Rathman
- Oh No, George^P – Haughton
- Olive, the Other Reindeer^P – Seibold
- Olivia^P – Falconer
- Once Upon a Banana^P – Armstrong
- Otis^P – Long
- Parts^P – Arnold
- Peanut Butter & Cupcake^P – Border
- Pete the Cat: I Love My White Shoes^P – Litwin
- A Pig, a Fox, and a Box^E – Fenske
- Pinkalicious^P – Kann
- Planting a Rainbow^P – Ehlert
- Plants vs. Zombies: Lawnmageddon^{G/1} – Tobin
- Please, Mr. Panda^P – Antony
- Posy the Puppy^{C/1} – Clarke
- Potato Pants^P – Keller
- Princess: The Essential Guide^P – Bray-Moffat
- Princess in Black^{C/1} – Hale
- The Purple Kangaroo^P – Black
- Rabbit and Robot: The Sleepover^E – Bell
- The Rainbow Fish^P – Pfister
- The Real Mother Goose^E – Wright
- Rhyming Dust Bunnies^P – Thomas
- Rotten Ralph^P – Gantos
- Ruby: The Red Fairy^{C/1} – Meadows
- Russell the Sheep^P – Scotton
- Scaredy Squirrel^P – Watt
- The School Is Alive!^{C/1} – Chabert
- The Secret Chicken Society^C – Cox
- The Secret Life of Squirrels^P – Rose
- The Seven Silly Eaters^P – Hoberman
- Shh! We Have a Plan^P – Haughton
- Skippyjon Jones^P – Schachner

- Sleeping Cinderella and Princess Mix-Ups^P
– Clarkson
- Snowmen at Night^P – Buehner
- Some Pets^P – DiTerlizzi
- The Spider and the Fly^P – Howitt and DiTerlizzi
- Stink: The Incredible Shrinking Kid^{C/1}
– McDonald
- The Stinky Cheese Man^P – Scieszka
- Stone Soup^P – Muth
- Surf's Up^P – Alexander
- Swimmy^P – Lionni
- Sylvester and the Magic Pebble^P – Steig
- Telephone^P – Barnett
- The Terrible Plop^P – Dubosarsky
- That Is Not a Good Idea^P – Willems
- Thelma the Unicorn^P – Blabey
- There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly^P
– Taback
- There's a Nightmare in My Closet^P – Mayer
- This Book Just Ate My Dog^P – Byrne
- This Is a Ball^P – Stanton
- This Is a Moose^P – Morris
- This Is Not My Hat^P – Klassen
- Those Darn Squirrels!^P – Rubin
- The Three Billy Goats Gruff^P – Galdone
- Today I Will Fly!^{E/1} – Willems
- The Too-Scary Story^P – Murguia
- The Totally Secret Secret^{P/1} – Shea
- The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs!^P – Scieszka
- Two Bad Ants^P – Van Allsburg
- Vampires Don't Wear Polka Dots^{C/1} – Dadey
- The Velveteen Rabbit^P – Williams
- Waiting^P – Henkes
- Waking Beauty^P – Wilcox
- The Wall in the Middle of the Book^P – Agee
- The Watermelon Seed^P – Pizzoli
- We Are Growing^E – Keller
- We Don't Eat Our Classmates^P – Higgins
- What the Dinosaurs Did Last Night^P – Tuma
- What's Your Favorite Animal?^P – Carle
- Where the Wild Things Are^P – Sendak
- Wild About Books^P – Sierra
- The Wolf, the Duck & the Mouse^P – Barnett
- Wolfie the Bunny^P – Dyckman
- The Worrywarts^P – Edwards
- You Will Be My Friend!^P – Brown
- Z Is for Moose^P – Bingham