



# READING LIST

Birth—  
Preschool

## BOOKS

### ALMA AND HER FAMILY / ALMA Y SU FAMILIA

BY JUANA MARTINEZ-NEAL

CANDLEWICK, 2023  
ISBN: 9780763693626

In this bilingual (Spanish and English) board book, Alma expresses love for her family members with a kiss, a squeeze, a song, and more.

### ANZU THE GREAT LISTENER

BY BENSON SHUM

ROARING BROOK, 2023  
ISBN: 9781250776136

Anzu, a kind and loving kaiju who is also struggling with anxiety, learns the importance of patience and empathy.

### BIG KIDS NO EVERYTHING

BY WEDNESDAY KIRWAN

LITTLE SIMON, 2023  
ISBN: 9781665932417

Sometimes a “NO” can become a “yes.” Kids will have fun exploring different scenarios that are NO, with all the nuances in between. A great book to explore with kids and help them find their voice.

### BUFFALO FLUFFALO

BY BESS KALB,  
ILLUSTRATED BY ERIN KRAAN

RANDOM HOUSE STUDIO, 2024  
ISBN: 9780593564530

Buffalo Fluffalo sure likes to act tough(alo), but a rainstorm shows his true colors in this sweet, rhyming story with beautiful illustrations.

## CELEBRATIONS

BY BROOK SITGRAVES TURNER

LITTLE FEMINIST PRESS, 2022  
ISBN: 9781734182484

This board book offers a window into the many ways people experience holidays and celebrations, told through real photographs of diverse families.

### HOW TO COUNT TO ONE: (AND DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT BIGGER NUMBERS!)

BY CASPAR SALMON,  
ILLUSTRATED BY MATT HUNT

NOSY CROW, 2023  
ISBN: 9798887770246

A tricky, silly picture book about counting to one—and only to one.

## IN BETWEEN

BY APRIL PULLEY SAYRE,  
ILLUSTRATED BY APRIL PULLEY SAYRE  
AND JEFF SAYRE

BEACH LANE, 2023  
ISBN: 9781534487819

Beautiful close-up photography and spare poems highlight that even animals have awkward stages and need to be patient as they grow up.

## IN THE NIGHT GARDEN

BY CARIN BERGER

NEAL PORTER BOOKS, 2023  
ISBN: 9780823449866

The dark really is not so scary.

### LOOK UP HIGH! THINGS THAT FLY

BY VICTORIA ALLENBY

PAJAMA PRESS, 2023  
ISBN: 9781772782905

In this big/little concept book, large photos of various aircraft—from toy planes to water bombers to the space station—are paired with patterned rhyming text and suggested activities.

## MILO WALKING

BY JAMES HOWE,  
ILLUSTRATED BY SAKIKA KIKUCHI

ABRAMS, 2023  
ISBN: 9781419755200

Milo and his mother go for a walk on a summer day, and then he goes home to write a story about it. Or are we reading the story he wrote? A beautiful book about observing and loving the world around us.

## MISTER KITTY IS LOST!

BY GREG PIZZOLI

LITTLE, BROWN, 2023  
ISBN: 9780316056540

This interactive book uses colors and numbers to help preschoolers find the beloved Mister Kitty.

### THE NATURE JOURNAL: A BACKYARD ADVENTURE

BY SAVANNAH ALLEN

VIKING, 2023  
ISBN: 9780593524930

A boy enjoys foraging in his backyard and creating scrapbooks of his findings, yet he misses his dad’s company while his dad works. After a trip to the attic, he learns that his dad loves nature, too.

### ODD BIRDS: MEET NATURE'S WEIRDEST FLOCK

BY LAURA GEHL,  
ILLUSTRATED BY GARETH LUCAS

ABRAMS APPLESEED, 2022  
ISBN: 9781419742231

Young readers are introduced to interesting birds through beautiful illustrations and simple text. Back matter includes photographs of each bird and more interesting facts. Perfect for any budding ornithologist!

## ONCE UPON A BOOK

BY GRACE LIN AND KATE MESSNER,  
ILLUSTRATED BY GRACE LIN

LITTLE, BROWN, 2023  
ISBN: 9780316541077

Bored on a snowy day, Alice travels through the pages of her book on a magical adventure that reveals the power of reading.

## OUR DRAGON

BY MEM FOX,  
ILLUSTRATED BY LINDA DAVICK

BEACH LANE, 2023  
ISBN: 9781534453333

Two loving and patient parents teach a young dragon to control his fire-breathing, even though accidents can happen.

## PLOOF

BY BEN CLANTON AND  
ANDY CHOU MUSSER

TUNDRA, 2023  
ISBN: 9781774881927

Ploof is a cloud with a lot of personality! Young kids will feel like they have a new friend after interacting with Ploof so thoroughly throughout the book.

## RAFA COUNTS ON PAPÁ

BY JOE CEPEDA

LITTLE, BROWN, 2022  
ISBN: 9780316540896

A boy and his father love to measure things together. How high can the dog jump? How tall is the sandwich? But how do you measure love? A beautiful story of a father and son spending time together.



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

## SIMON AND THE BETTER BONE

BY COREY R. TABOR

BALZER + BRAY, 2023  
ISBN: 9780063275553

This book opens from the top, not the left, in order to accurately portray how difficult life can be when you are a dog.

## SUMMER IS FOR COUSINS

BY RAJANI LAROCCA,  
ILLUSTRATED BY ABHI ALWAR

ABRAMS, 2023  
ISBN: 9781419757334

Ravi loves spending vacations by the lake with his cousins, particularly older cousin Dhruv, who shares his love of a special ice cream flavor.

## TWENTY QUESTIONS

BY MAC BARNETT, ILLUSTRATED BY  
CHRISTIAN ROBINSON

CANDLEWICK, 2023  
ISBN: 9781536215137

A series of open-ended questions sparks conversation in this inventive book by two greats.

## WOMBAT

BY PHILIP BUNTING

CHARLESBRIDGE, 2023  
ISBN: 9781623543914

"Wombat. Twobats. Threebats. Morebats" is the beginning of this delightfully designed book. There are more complex representations, too, such as a wombat holding a musical triangle and the word dingbat written in a dingbat font, to amuse grown-ups reading this aloud.

## DIGITAL

### NATURE NUGGETS

<https://pbslearningmedia.org/collection/nature-nuggets/>

This website presents short videos from the PBS documentary film series NATURE show animals in their habitats, set to music.

### SESAME FOR FAMILIES

<https://sesameworkshop.org/resources/>

Excellent resources, activities, videos, printables, and tips for family conversations and learning are presented on this website from Sesame Workshop. Available in English and Spanish.

[www.ala.org/alsc](http://www.ala.org/alsc)

The 2024 Summer Reading Book List was created by the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association (ALA). Titles on this list were selected by members of ALSC's Quicklists Consulting Committee.

For more booklists, please visit [www.ala.org/alsc/booklists](http://www.ala.org/alsc/booklists).

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