



# READING LIST

Grades  
K—2

## BOOKS

### ANIMALS IN PANTS

BY SUZY LEVINSON,  
ILLUSTRATED BY KRISTEN HOWDESHELL  
AND KEVIN HOWDESHELL

CAMERON KIDS, 2023  
ISBN: 9781951836627

These wacky poems featuring zany animals wearing all kinds of pants will have you giggling—and perhaps looking at your own pants with fresh eyes.

### THE APARTMENT HOUSE ON POPPY HILL

BY NINA LACOUR,  
ILLUSTRATED BY SÓNIA ALBERT

CHRONICLE, 2023  
ISBN: 9781797213736

Throughout three short episodes, a spunky girl welcomes new neighbors to her apartment building and introduces them to the other tenants.

### BEST FRIENDS

BY SAMANKA DUMOND-DESIR,  
ILLUSTRATED BY CHRISTINA OYEBADE

PAW PRINTS, 2023  
ISBN: 9781223187778

In the first book of a new beginning reader series, Liline, a Haitian American girl, meets a new best friend: a cat! What should Liline's family name her?

### BUTT OR FACE? CAN YOU TELL WHICH END YOU'RE LOOKING AT?

BY KARI LAVELLE

SOURCEBOOKS EXPLORE, 2023  
ISBN: 9781728271170

Can kids guess if they are looking at the top or bottom of animals? A hilarious guessing game book that will have kids exploring over and over. Filled with colorful photos, clever puns, and fascinating facts.

### DRAWING OUTDOORS

BY JAIRO BUITRAGO,  
ILLUSTRATED BY RAFAEL YOCKTENG,  
TRANSLATED BY ELISA AMADO

GREYSTONE KIDS, 2022  
ISBN: 9781771648479

A class goes outdoors and spends the day drawing and imagining dinosaurs in the landscape. A great invitation to get outside, explore, and use your imagination. Also available in Spanish.

### FINDING FAMILY: THE DUCKLING RAISED BY LOONS

BY LAURA PURDIE SALAS,  
ILLUSTRATED BY ALEXANDRIA NEONAKIS

MILLBROOK, 2023  
ISBN: 9781728442990

In this true story, a pair of loons raise an orphaned duckling over the course of a summer in northern Wisconsin.

### A GARDEN IN MY HANDS

BY MEERA SRIRAM,  
ILLUSTRATED BY SANDHYA PRABHAT

KNOPF, 2023  
ISBN: 9780593427101

On the night before a family wedding, a mother applies henna to her daughter's hands while sharing the stories of their family's history.

### GOTTA GO!

BY FRANK VIVA

TOON BOOKS, 2023  
ISBN: 9781662665073

A fun look at the ways we divert ourselves when the need to pee takes over. Kids will enjoy the graphics and intergenerational antics of the boy and his grandfather while waiting in line to use the bathroom.

### HAVE YOU SEEN MY INVISIBLE DINOSAUR?

BY HELEN YOON

CANDLEWICK, 2023  
ISBN: 9781536226256

It's tricky to see something invisible, unless you have mud, rain, snow, or leaves to help you find the outline! The visual cues in this book, paired with the happy reunion of girl and invisible dinosaur, make for a fun and sweet read.

### INVISIBLE THINGS

BY ANDY J. PIZZA AND SOPHIE MILLER

CHRONICLE, 2023  
ISBN: 9781797215204

Let your kids interact with more invisible things in this book! Pizza (not his real last name, alas) and Miller personify emotions, ideas, and other invisible experiences in undeniably cute and thought-provoking ways.

### HARRIET TELLS THE TRUTH

BY ELANA K. ARNOLD,  
ILLUSTRATED BY DUNG HO

WALDEN POND, 2024  
ISBN: 9780063092181

A quaint series set on an idyllic island follows young Harriet as she stays at her grandmother's inn over the summer. She befriends neighbor Clarence, and together they solve long-cold mysteries affecting island residents. This latest title follows *Just Harriet* and *Harriet Spies*.

### A LETTER FOR BOB

BY KIM ROGERS,  
ILLUSTRATED BY JONATHAN NELSON

HEARTDRUM, 2023  
ISBN: 9780063044555

Katie pens a letter to beloved family car Bob, thanking him for being with the family through life events ranging from the spectacular to the mundane.

## MINIVAN MIX-UP

BY JULIANA GADDIS,  
ILLUSTRATED BY JOHN JOSEPH

PAW PRINTS, 2023  
ISBN: 9781223187327

Two different families in two identical minivans pull up to the grocery store. What happens when two playing toddlers switch keys in the store? Most of the story is told through pictures!

## MOLE IS NOT ALONE

BY MAYA TATSUKAWA

HENRY HOLT, 2023  
ISBN: 9781250869647

Mole is very nervous to go to Bunny's party. We travel through all his tunnels, enjoying the woodland town above him, as he works up the courage to go to the party. He makes a friend who is just as shy and does not like loud, crowded parties either.

## MOLLY'S TUXEDO

BY VICKI JOHNSON,  
ILLUSTRATED BY GILLIAN REID

LITTLE BEE, 2023  
ISBN: 9781499813142

It's picture day, and Molly wants to look her best. Her mother wants Molly to wear a dress. Molly wants to wear her brother's tuxedo. It's up to Molly to decide what feels right for her and to make picture day the best day ever.

## THE NORTH WIND AND THE SUN

BY PHILIP C. STEAD

NEAL PORTER BOOKS, 2023  
ISBN: 9780823455836

This retelling of a classic folktale uses beautiful illustrations and simple prose to teach patience and resiliency.

## NOT A MONSTER

BY CLAUDIA GUADALUPE MARTÍNEZ,  
ILLUSTRATED BY LAURA GONZÁLEZ

CHARLESBRIDGE, 2023  
ISBN: 9781623543037

Using both English and Spanish vocabulary, this book explores the fascinating life cycle of the axolotl and ways we can protect this wondrous amphibian.



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## ONCE UPON A FAIRY TALE HOUSE: THE TRUE STORY OF FOUR SISTERS AND THE MAGIC THEY BUILT

BY MARY LYN RAY,  
ILLUSTRATED BY GISELLE POTTER

BEACH LANE, 2023  
ISBN: 9781481479820

The true story of four sisters who used their talents to make real-life fairy tale homes.

## REINA RAMOS WORKS IT OUT!

BY EMMA OTHEGUY,  
ILLUSTRATED BY ANDRÉS LANDAZÁBAL

HARPERCOLLINS, 2022  
ISBN: 9780063223110

Reina knows exactly who she will be in her class's wax museum: Frida Kahlo! But when her best friend Nora chooses Frida first, she is heartbroken. Will she find another artist to portray? Also available in Spanish.

## SHERMY & SHAKE: THE NOT-SO-NICE NEIGHBOR

BY KIRBY LARSON,  
ILLUSTRATED BY SHINJI FUJIOKA

CANDLEWICK, 2023  
ISBN: 9781536219425

Shermy's patience and hospitality are tested by his neighbor's boisterous grandson, Shake, who is visiting for the entire summer while his mother and stepfather are honeymooning.

## SUPER MAGIC BOY: I AM A DINOSAUR

BY JAROD ROSELLÓ

RANDOM HOUSE GRAPHIC, 2023  
ISBN: 9780593427781

When Hugo transforms into a dinosaur, he

sets off on a series of hilarious adventures with his best friend, Dino.

## DIGITAL

### COOKING WITH KIDS

<https://www.foodnetwork.com/recipes/packages/recipes-for-kids/cooking-with-kids>

Kid-friendly and fun recipes abound on this website where families can choose from categories such as "picky eaters," kid-friendly kitchen tasks, kid recommendations, and favorite foods.

### GRACE LIN

<https://gracelin.com/activities/>

Grace Lin's website presents a multitude of fun activities that tie in with her books.

### HIGHLIGHTS KIDS

<https://www.highlightskids.com/>

All the fun of *Highlights* magazine—on a colorful, interactive website.

### PRODIGY

<https://play.prodigygame.com/>

Kids may use this website at school, but the free game mode for home is also great, with customizable characters, daily prizes, and exclusive items that make practicing math or English fun!

### STORY TIME FROM SPACE

<https://storytimefromspace.com/>

This website is brimming with stories and science shared by astronauts in space.

[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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# READING LIST

Grades  
3—5

## BOOKS

### BETWEEN MONSTERS AND MARVELS

BY ALYSA WISHINGRAD

HARPERCOLLINS, 2023  
ISBN: 9780063244870

Adventure, mystery, and fantasy combine perfectly as Dare Coates learns about her family's role in a much larger operation. Kids will love the monster lore, surprising twists, and ways the world Wishingrad has built is and isn't similar to ours.

### THE BOOK OF TURTLES

BY SY MONTGOMERY,  
ILLUSTRATED BY MATT PATTERSON

CLARION, 2023  
ISBN: 9780358458074

Intelligent and enduring, turtles have been around since the time of the dinosaurs. Learn what we know—and don't yet know—about these surprising reptiles. Illustrated with detailed, realistic paintings of more than thirty different turtle species.

### THE DO-OVER

BY JENNIFER TORRES

SCHOLASTIC, 2022  
ISBN: 9781338754193

Fans of realistic fiction will enjoy this tale that tackles the challenges of blending a family during the COVID-19 pandemic, while remaining light and fun. Also available in Spanish.

### A FEW BICYCLES MORE

BY CHRISTINA USS

MARGARET FERGUSON BOOKS, 2022  
ISBN: 9780823450879

In this sequel to *The Adventures of a Girl Called Bicycle*, adventure takes Bicycle and her bike, Fortune, to Harpers Ferry, where she meets her long-lost family and finds out she's a quintuplet! Her new family brings new adventures—first up is teaching the four sisters to ride their own bikes.

### GLITTER EVERYWHERE! WHERE IT CAME FROM, WHERE IT'S FOUND AND WHERE IT'S GOING

BY CHRIS BARTON,  
ILLUSTRATED BY CHAAYA PRABHAT

CHARLESBRIDGE, 2023  
ISBN: 9781623542528

A fascinating look at a controversial art supply, offering insights about the human love for sparkle, the science behind the creation of glitter, and ways to improve its environmental impact.

### THE HUMAN KABOOM

BY ADAM RUBIN, ILLUSTRATED BY DANIEL SALMIERI AND OTHERS

PUTNAM, 2023  
ISBN: 9780593462393

A hilarious collection of six short stories, all with the same title. Includes a popcorn recipe and a bonus chapter titled "The Human Kaboom: (the one that hasn't been written yet)," providing inspiration for kids to write their own story!

### INTO THE SHADOW MIST

BY CHRISTINA SOONTORNVAT,  
ILLUSTRATED BY KEVIN HONG

SCHOLASTIC, 2023  
ISBN: 9781338759174

Who doesn't love a book with a map? In book two of the Legends of Lotus Island series, the adventure continues with Plum and her friends, who must figure out what is putting the entire ecosystem at risk.

### JOVITA WORE PANTS: THE STORY OF A MEXICAN FREEDOM FIGHTER

BY AIDA SALAZAR,  
ILLUSTRATED BY MOLLY MENDOZA

SCHOLASTIC, 2023  
ISBN: 9781338283419

In Mexico during the Cristero War, Jovita Valdovinos felt helpless at home while her father and brother fought. This book tells the story of how she became one of the most famous revolutionaries and was finally able to wear pants.

### LEEVA AT LAST

BY SARA PENNYPACKER,  
ILLUSTRATED BY MATTHEW CORDELL

BALZER + BRAY, 2023  
ISBN: 9780063114425

Young Leeva learns that there is a whole world outside of the home that she has been trapped in. Funny and perfect for multigenerational reading, the book shows how to make friends in new environments and pokes fun at bureaucracy.

### LISTEN TO THE LANGUAGE OF THE TREES: A STORY OF HOW FORESTS COMMUNICATE UNDERGROUND

BY TERA KELLEY,  
ILLUSTRATED BY MARIE HERMANSSON

SOURCEBOOKS/DAWN, 2022  
ISBN: 9781728232164

An exploration of how trees, with the help of fungi, can connect and communicate with one another.

### MAKING MEMORIES: PRACTICE MINDFULNESS, LEARN TO JOURNAL AND SCRAPBOOK, FIND CALM EVERY DAY

BY AMY TANGERINE,  
ILLUSTRATED BY TRACEY ENGLISH

DK CHILDREN, 2022  
ISBN: 9780744026559

This book is a beautiful way to keep busy during the summer, providing ways to record and celebrate the good days and work through the hard ones. It includes activities like making mandalas with found objects or a feeling box made with origami.

## MARSHMALLOW CLOUDS: TWO POETS AT PLAY AMONG FIGURES OF SPEECH

BY TED KOOSER AND CONNIE WANER,  
ILLUSTRATED BY RICHARD JONES

CANDLEWICK, 2022  
ISBN: 9781536203035

Illustrated poems based on the four elements—fire, water, earth, and air—that take place during all seasons.

## MY HEAD HAS A BELLYACHE: AND MORE NONSENSE FOR MISCHIEVOUS KIDS AND IMMATURE GROWN-UPS

BY CHRIS HARRIS,  
ILLUSTRATED BY ANDREA TSURUMI

LITTLE, BROWN, 2023  
ISBN: 9780316592598

Even the glossary, subject indexes, and title get caught up in this goofy, laugh-out-loud book of poetry and rhymes. Hand this appealing and silly book to fans of Shel Silverstein and Jon Scieszka.

## THE REMARKABLE RESCUE AT MILKWEED MEADOW

BY ELAINE DIMOPOULOS,  
ILLUSTRATED BY DOUG SALATI

CHARLESBRIDGE, 2023  
ISBN: 9781623543334

Butternut, who is learning the art of storytelling, spins tales of adventure for her rabbit colony while also questioning the validity of the colony's rules, overcoming biases about egg-layers and other non-rabbit denizens of Milkweed Meadow, and orchestrating a remarkable rescue.

## SEARCH FOR A GIANT SQUID: PICK YOUR PATH

BY AMY SETO FORRESTER,  
ILLUSTRATED BY ANDY CHOU MUSSER

CHRONICLE, 2023  
ISBN: 9781797213934

Dive into the science of deep-sea research in this engaging choose-your-own-adventure-style informational book.



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## SOMETHING LIKE HOME

BY ANDREA BEATRIZ ARANGO

RANDOM HOUSE, 2023  
ISBN: 9780593566183

Laura Rodríguez Colón moves in with her aunt and is forced to adjust to a new homelife and school, but she finds hope and companionship in the dog she adopts.

## THINGS IN THE BASEMENT

BY BEN HATKE

FIRST SECOND, 2023  
ISBN: 9781250836618

When Milo searches for a lost sock in the basement of his new home, he discovers a new world, strange creatures, and how to be brave when faced with the unknown.

## DIGITAL

### BRAINS ON!

<https://www.brainson.org/>

From American Public Media, each weekly episode of this podcast, cohosted by Molly Bloom and a kid guest host, explores a science question. Past episodes include: "What's inside a jellyfish?" "How heavy is the sky?" and "Can boredom be good for you?"

### THE FIRST CAT IN SPACE ATE PIZZA LIVE CARTOONS

BY SHAWN HARRIS AND MAC BARNETT

[https://www.youtube.com/  
@TheFirstCatInSpace](https://www.youtube.com/@TheFirstCatInSpace)

These YouTube videos were made during the COVID lockdown and led to the book by the same name. A nice inspiration to

make your own stories with friends over the summer.

## MONTEREY BAY AQUARIUM LIVE CAMS

[https://www.montereybayaquarium.org/  
animals/live-cams](https://www.montereybayaquarium.org/animals/live-cams)

Check out the different sea creatures on live streams from the Monterey Bay Aquarium! Animals to observe include sharks, penguins, spider crabs, and more.

## NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC KIDS

<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/>

Fun trivia and video games for STEM-loving kids on this interactive website.

## SCISHOW KIDS

[https://www.youtube.com/@SciShowKids/  
videos](https://www.youtube.com/@SciShowKids/videos)

Discover the wonders of science and get answers to big questions in YouTube videos with Jessi, Squeaks the Robot Lab Rat, and all their friends.

## SPELLIE

<https://spelliegame.com>

Wordle website for kids! Figure out a different word daily, with three levels of difficulty to choose from and hints available to help figure out the correct answer.

## WONDEROPOLIS

<https://wonderopolis.org/>

Celebrate curiosity with the "Wonder of the Day," which provides answers to kids' most interesting questions, on this website hosted by the National Center for Families Learning.

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

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CHRIST *the* KING  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Entering 6th:

**Required: Restart by Gordon Korman**

Choose 1:

Ban this Book by Alan Gratz

White Bird by R.J.Palacio

Harry Potter & the Sorcerer's Stone by J.K. Rowling

Entering 7th:

**Required: Hidden Figures by Margot Lee Shetterly**

Choose 1:

The House on Mango Street by: Sandra Cisneros

I am Malala by Malala

Number the Stars by: Lois Lowry

Entering 8th:

**Required: The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins**

Choose 1:

Born a Crime by: Trevor Noah

The Hate You Give by: Angie Thomas

Boy in Striped Pajamas by: John Boyne

A test will be administered to each grade level about the required reading the first week of school. A project will be assigned for the optional reading text the first week of school.