



# 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 SÒNIA 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.



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.

## 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.

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