



Building A Home Library

Ages 0-3



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<http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/alscresources/summerreading/recsummerreading/recommendedreading.htm>

<http://www.cbcbooks.org/>



For more information about books, programs, and events for children, visit one of our eight easy locations, call 616.988.5400, or visit www.grpl.org.

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Welcome to the world of books for your home!

Here are suggested contemporary book titles either for a great start to or enhancement of your home library. A home library collection is an ever-present resource for children and adults. The American Library Association/Children's Book Council Joint Committee and the ALSC Quicklists Consulting Committee recommend these titles for children ages 0-3. Three other pamphlets recommend books for children ages 4-7, 8-11, and 12-14. Ask your librarian or bookseller for more suggestions.

Banks, Kate.

Close Your Eyes. Illus. by Georg Hallensleben. Farrar, Straus, and Giroux/Frances Foster, 2002.
A mother tiger encourages her restless cub to settle down to sleep by describing the dreams he may have and reassuring him that she'll be there when he wakes. Lush paintings capture the charm of the lively cub, the off-kilter world of dreams and the beauty of the natural world.

Brown, Margaret Wise.

Goodnight Moon. Illus. by Clement Hurd. HarperCollins, 1947.
A little rabbit tucked into bed says goodnight to everything in his room as well as all the stars, air and noises everywhere. This classic bedtime story features black-and-white drawings alternating with the boldly-colored illustrations of the room, which darkens as slumber nears.

Christelow, Eileen.

Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed. Clarion, 1989.
Extending the well-known song, this picture book features five little monkeys preparing for bed. Once there, the jumping, phone calls to the doctor and childhood hilarity commence.

Church, Caroline Jayne.

Do Your Ears Hang Low? Chicken House, 2002.
Two long-eared puppies frolic and play in this picture book version of the familiar sing-along song.

Dunrea, Olivier.

Gossie. Houghton Mifflin, 2002.
Gossie the gosling loves her red boots and wears them every day until suddenly they disappear. Engaging illustrations and gentle humor make this book a hit with both young children and adults.

Fleming, Denise.

In the Tall, Tall Grass. Henry Holt, 1991.
Bold, colorful illustrations show animals and insects found in a child's backyard as they crunch, munch, zip and sip their way through the day. Children will enjoy looking for the yellow and orange caterpillar on each page.

Guarino, Deborah.

Is Your Mama a Llama? Illus. by Steven Kellogg. Scholastic, 1989.
Simple rhyming stanzas encourage young listeners to guess what animal comes next in this engaging story with bright, humorous illustrations.

Henkes, Kevin.

Kitten's First Full Moon. Greenwillow, 2004.
Black-and-white illustrations show the warm glow of the full moon and follow Kitten's determined efforts to reach the white circle that she believes is a bowl of milk. A Caldecott Medal winner.

Intrater, Roberta Grobel.

Peek-a-boo! Scholastic, 1997.
Close-up photographs of babies' faces capture their many moods, from laughing to yawning to crying, in this board book from the Baby Faces series.

Johnson, Crockett.

Harold and the Purple Crayon. HarperCollins, 1955.
In this perennial favorite, Harold goes for an imaginative walk in the moonlight with a purple crayon.

Keats, Ezra Jack.

The Snowy Day. Viking, 1996.
This classic picture book depicting the wonder and magic a child can find when snow blankets his world, first published in 1962, is now available in board book format for little hands.

Mayo, Margaret.

Emergency! Illus. by Alex Ayliffe. Carolrhoda, 2002.
"Emergency! Help is coming. It's on the way!" Bright illustrations and rhyming text describe a wide variety of emergency vehicles, including a police car, a snowplow, and a helicopter.

My Very First Mother Goose. Edited by Iona Opie. Illus. by Rosemary Wells.

Candlewick, 1996.
Cheerful illustrations featuring Wells' stylized animal characters accompany nursery rhymes both familiar and less well known and help to introduce young listeners and their parents to the pleasures of sharing playful language and engaging artwork.

Pearson, Tracey Campbell.

Diddle, Diddle, Dumpling. Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 2005.
Watercolor paintings show parents reading Mother Goose bedtime stories to their toddler son. A pet dog appearing on each page adds comfort to the already cozy rhyme.

Raffi.

Wheels on the Bus. Illus. by Sylvie Kantorovitz Wickstrom. Crown, 1988.
Children can participate in the repeated lyrics and motions of this familiar song that features an old bus moving an assortment of passengers through a village. Traditional musical notation and lyrics are included. Available in picture-book and board-book formats.

Savadier, Elivia.

Time to Get Dressed! Roaring Brook, 2006.
Solomon insists on dressing himself but gets everything wrong until Daddy looks at the clock and steps in to help. Expressive illustrations burst with energy and capture Solomon's fierce independence and his father's love.

Schindel, John, and Jonathan Chester.

Busy Penguins. Tricycle, 2000.
In this photographic board book simple rhyming word pairs introduce the daily life of penguins.

Shahan, Sherry.

Spicy Hot Colors/Colores Picantes. August House, 2004.
Bold artwork and simple rhythmic text introduce nine colors in Spanish and English.

Whitford, Rebecca.

Little Yoga: A Toddler's First Book of Yoga. Illus. by Martina Selway. Henry Holt, 2005.
Toddlers imitate animals and try simple yoga exercises in this fun interactive book. Practice tips and additional information about yoga is included in the back.

Williams, Vera B.

"More More More," Said the Baby: 3 Love Stories. Greenwillow, 1990.
Diversity of gender, race and age is apparent in the lilting text and warm pastel illustrations, showing that the love between caregiver and child is universal. Available in picture-book and board-book formats, and in Spanish. A Caldecott Honor Book.