

Kindergarten Social Science--book & activity ideas

1. Manners & Relationships
 - a. Manners, see also Early Learning <https://www.learninglab.site/learning>
 - b. Social Skills
 - c. Feelings: self & others
 - d. Self Development, likes, interests, talents, thinking skills
 - e. Friends & Family
2. Community & Cultures
 - a. Rules
 - b. Division of Labor
 - i. Community helpers
 - ii. Jobs
 - c. Environment/culture
 - i. Homes
 - ii. Clothes
 - iii. Cooking/cuisine
 - iv. Holidays & Celebrations
3. Values, Wisdom, Morals & Ethics, concepts of right/wrong & good/bad, choices/consequences, the Good Life, scripture stories
 - a. Adam & Eve—Gen 1-3, family, choices/consequences, deception, work, trials
 - b. Cain & Abel—Gen 4, the Golden Rule, responsibility
 - c. Community/Division of Labor—Gen 4; herders, growers, hunters, rulers (family, tribe, community, civilization), traders, musicians & artists, artisans/manufacture
 - d. Noah & the Flood—Gen 6-9; stewardship, development of Law
 - e. Tower of Babel--Gen 11, societies, social classes, misunderstandings & problem-solving
 - f. Abraham—Gen 11-25, family & tribe, character, righteousness
 - g. Isaac & Rebekah—Gen 24; marriage, faith, prayer, dedicated service
 - h. Jacob/Israel—Gen 25-37, 42-49 family heritage
 - i. Joseph—Gen 37, 39-50; injustice, integrity, greater purposes
 - j. Moses—Exodus through Deuteronomy; 10 commandments & other laws
 - k. Joshua—courage
 - l. Deborah--leadership
 - m. Gideon—God's help
 - n. Samson—choices & consequences
 - o. Ruth—loyalty & work ethic
 - p. Samuel—integrity, faithfulness
 - q. David & Psalms (150+... need 180 to 365 days daily devotionals)—praise God
 - r. Solomon & Proverbs—choose wisdom
 - s. Daniel—courage, integrity
 - t. Esther—courage
 - u. Jesus—be Good
4. History/Folklore (time, place, change)

One idea for K US History sequence

 - 1500s--exploration
 - 1600s--settlers
 - 1700s--colonies

- Revolutionary Era
- 1800s-preCivil War
- Civil War
- 1800s—post Civil War
- 1900-1950
- 1950-2000
- 2000-present

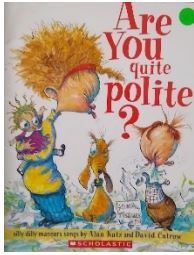
Another idea for K US History sequence

- a. Sept--Native American cultures, Hiawatha & Native folklore/culture (& geography)
 - b. Oct—Columbus, oceans/continents, sailing ships
 - c. Nov--Pocahontas/John Smith; Squanto/Pilgrims
 - d. Dec—immigrant Christmas/Hanukkah traditions
 - e. Jan—Blacks in America: Sojourner Truth/Harriet Tubman, Dave the Potter, MLK Jr, Jackie Robinson/Jesse Owens, & Black heroes
 - f. Feb—US presidents & wives; esp. Geo Washington, Abe Lincoln, favorites, current
 - g. Mar—inventors, such as Ben Franklin, Edison, Morse, Bell
 - h. Apr—moving west: Johnny Appleseed, Boone/Crockett, Buffalo Bill, folk heroes
 - i. May—FDR & Eleanor, JFK & Jackie ...
 - j. June—personal & family history (3 generations: favorite music, dance, memories...)
 - k. July—founding fathers & pioneers
 - l. Aug—US National Parks & places of note to see
5. Geography & maps
- a. Oceans & Continents
 - b. Major US rivers & mountains, habitats
 - c. (National Parks)
 - d. New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Washington DC, San Francisco, home town

Scholastic Reading Level Chart

<https://www.scholastic.com/parents/books-and-reading/reading-resources/book-selection-tips/lexile-levels-made-easy.html>

Manners



Are You Quite Polite? By Alan Katz, illustrated by David Catrow

Humorous text (which can be sung to familiar tunes) and illustrations. 32pp, ages 2-8, grades PreK-3. Links below to video browse, a publisher, video of illustrator in action

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DR-s2L7tNY&ab_channel=JAMSBOOKNOOK

<https://www.simonandschuster.com/books/Are-You-Quite-Polite/Alan-Katz/9780689869709>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H6svSfTC14&ab_channel=CityofAllen-ACTV

Fun titles pictured & reviewed at Early Learning <https://www.learninglab.site/learning>

Are Pirates Polite? Fun!

Suppose You Meet a Dinosaur also fun

Clifford's Manners loveable & humorous

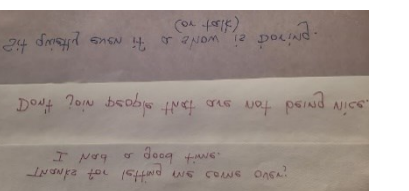
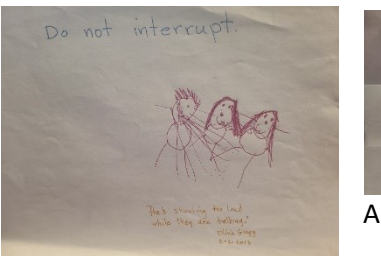
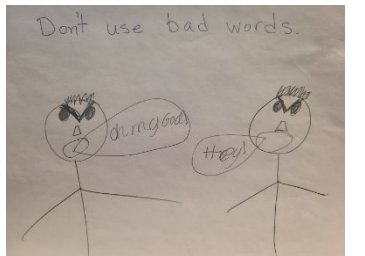
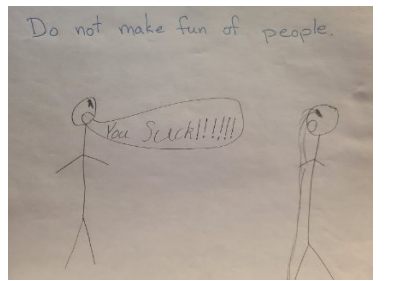
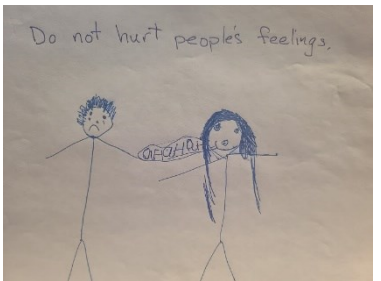
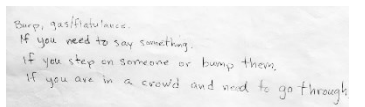
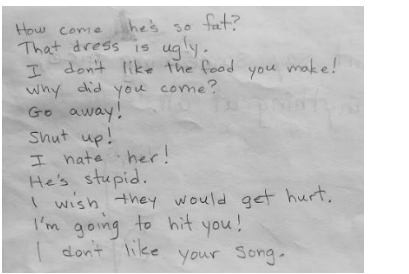
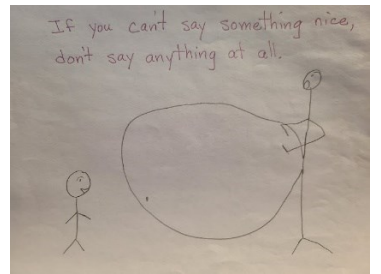
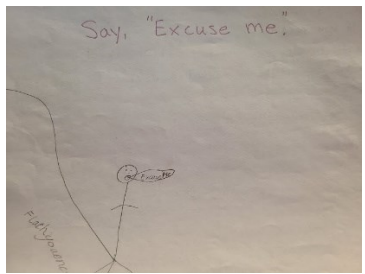
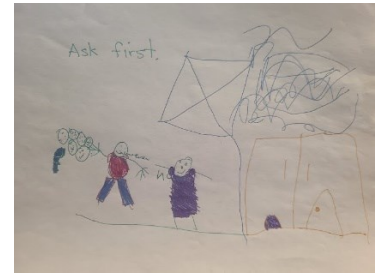
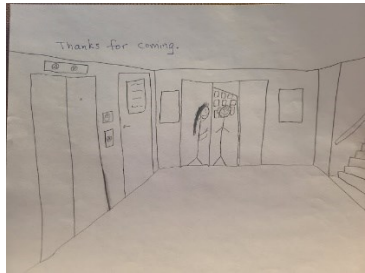
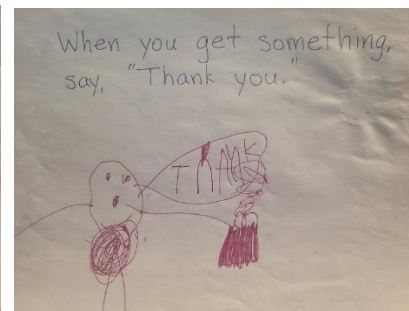
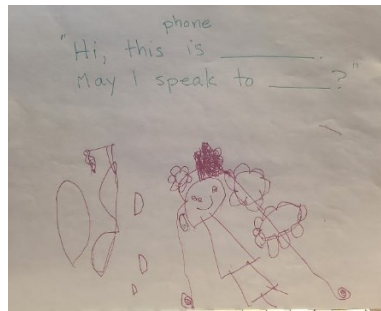
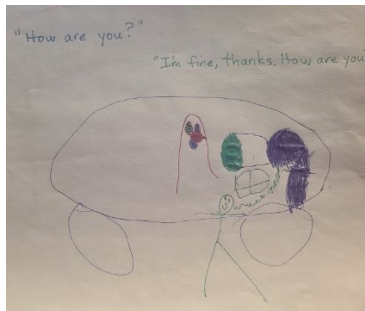
May I Please Have a Cookie? Creative vs simple way to get something

Activity Ideas:

Make Manners booklets—each day each child draws a picture to illustrate one concept, such as,

1. Greetings in person
2. Greetings by phone
3. Please & Thankyou
4. Table manners
5. Don't interrupt (in class raise your hand), if needed, say, "Excuse me . . ." and wait a minute
6. Say "Excuse me" or "I'm sorry" if you accidentally bump someone
7. Wait in line without pushing or annoying others
8. Listen quietly, even if the speakers or program are boring
9. Knock first, ask first, before entering or using something
10. "If you can't say something nice, don't say anything at all"
11. Try not to hurt other's feelings. People don't want to be told they are fat, no name calling, etc.; you don't have to say everything you think (in fact, you shouldn't—let others have a turn to talk)
12. Don't use bad language
13. Cough or sneeze into your elbow, shoulder, a napkin, or handkerchief
14. Don't pick your nose, teeth, or ears in public
15. Hold the door for others, especially the elderly, people with kids or packages, etc
16. Be helpful even without being asked, ask if/how you can help
17. Be cheerful, even when asked to do something you don't want to do
18. Be thankful, show appreciation for those that help/care for you; even for gifts you don't like, etc

Write a short phrase for the child to illustrate. Don't worry if the illustration doesn't look exactly like the concept—the child has spent time considering the concept. Adults or other writers can scribe the child's comments. Examples and help can be given for how to draw the concepts. Some of the following were done by an older child, some younger.



Additional ideas.

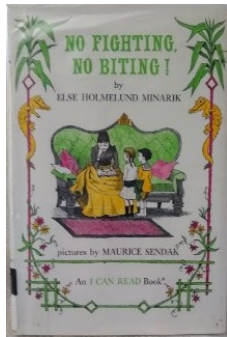
Role play/practice polite behavior. You may develop a short show to enact for grandparents, neighbors, lonely persons . . .

Take photos or find photos of people acting impolite and polite, label & sort into categories.



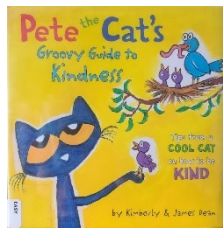
Social Skills

Read, discuss/respond to, retell stories like these:



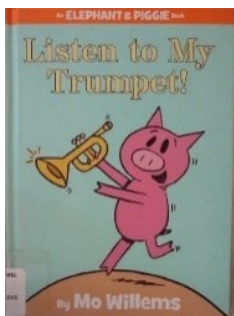
No Fighting, No Biting! By Else Holmelund Minarik (ills. By Maurice Sendak; I Can Read series)

Contents, 4 chapters. 1st grade reading level. A clever little story within a story. Cousin Joan wants to read, but two little ones, who want to sit by her, have a hard time getting along. They beg her to tell them a story, so she tells them a story about alligator siblings learning to get along. Engaging. A good introduction to discussing how to solve problems, get along, etc. Other titles listed with a little description on back cover. Address to write for a full list of titles in the series.



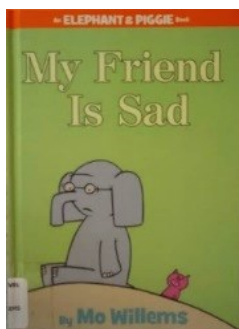
Pete the Cat's Groovy Guide to Kindness by Kimberly & James Dean

A collection of quick quotes about kindness, with a few comments from Pete. Some will need to be explained to Kindergarteners because of the complexity of the language/sentences. Text in a large but less clean font. 48pp, suitable as a read-aloud/discussion ages 4-8.



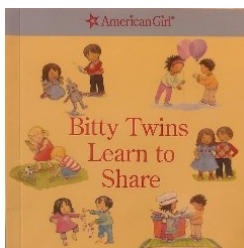
Listen to My Trumpet by Mo Willems (Elephant & Piggie Book)

Lots of noise words. How do you tell a friend something uncomfortable? How can you be kind but truthful? Are true friends truthful with each other? What about tact? All good questions to explore in an off-hand way with this story. 1st grade reading. List of other titles at the back.



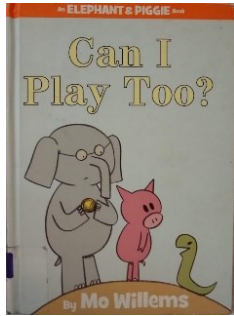
My Friend is Sad by Mo Willems (Elephant and Piggie series)

What do you do when your friend is sad? Friends like to share happy and cool experiences. Sometimes friends just need to “be there”. Told simply with simple illustrations and humor. List of more Elephant and Piggie adventures at the end of the book.



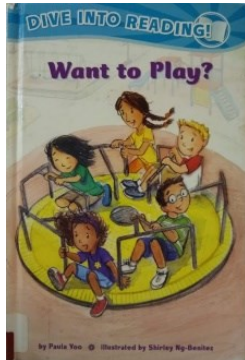
Bitty Twins Learn to Share (American Girl series)

Small book, cute illustrations; read-aloud, brief text, reading level grade 2; note to parents at back.

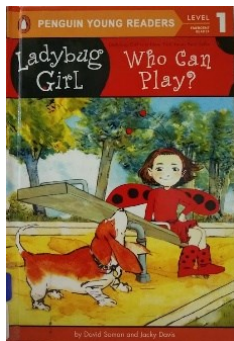


Can I Play Too? By Mo Willems (Elephant and Piggie series)

Two friends are playing. Another character comes along and wants to play. Stop the story to talk about when that happens in real life. Then, the snake has a handicap at playing catch. They try different things, but none works. What ideas do you have about how to make it work? In the end they find a way to play together and be friends. How might you help people with disabilities interact and have fun with others?

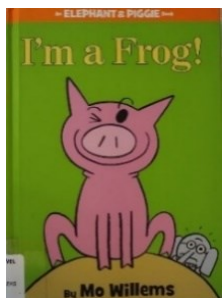


Want to Play? By Paula Yoo (Dive into Reading! “Emergent: Predictable story episodes, simple dialogue, high frequency words and familiar vocabulary.”) Letter to Parents, Educators, and guardians, and labeled pictures of characters. Contents: divided into 3 simple parts/chapters. Pablo and his diverse group of friends find lots of things to play together. Suggested activities at the end of the book.



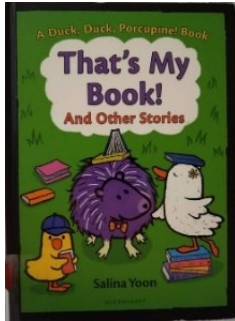
Who Can Play? By David Somon & Jacky Davis (Penguin Young Readers, Ladybug Girl, Level 1)

Level 1, guided reading level D, “Emergent Reader: simple vocabulary, word repetition, picture clues, predictable story and sentence structures, familiar themes and ideas.” Counting players, one plays, two play, three play, four play . . . About the simplest of readers.



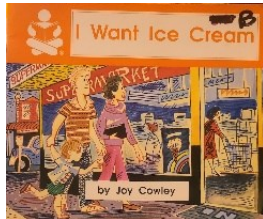
I'm a Frog! By Mo Willems (Elephant and Piggie series)

An exploration on both child and adult levels. Ideas about identity, pretend and pretentious, arguing vs listening . . . not all developmentally appropriate for discussion with young children, but tongue-in-cheek for adults, to give the story interest. List of more Elephant and Piggie adventures at the end of the book



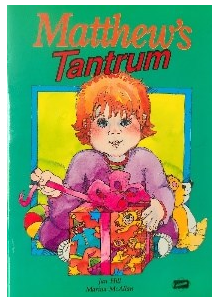
That's My Book! and other stories by Salina Yoon (a Duck, Duck, Porcupine! Book)

First grade reading with some help. Three short stories/chapters about 3 friends. They discover the fun of books, they discover their different talents, they explore pretending. Two other titles pictured on back cover.



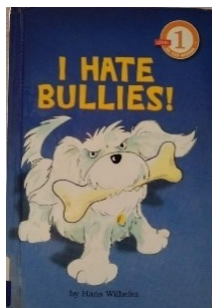
I Want Ice Cream by Joy Cowley

Very simple beginning reading. Tantrum doesn't work. More titles inside back cover.



Matthew's Tantrum by Jan Hill

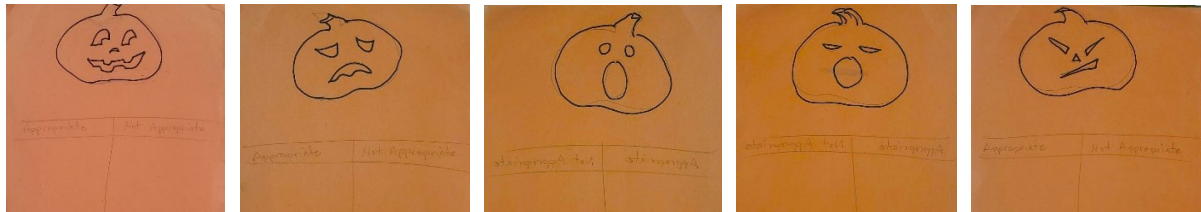
"Mathew is my little brother. He's only two and a half years old . . ." A good way to discuss tantrums without directing it at the Kindergartener. Various school activities, choices & consequences, age appropriate expectations. DRA 18, but good read-aloud for K. Other titles listed inside back cover.



I Hate Bullies! By Hans Wilhelm (Paw Prints/Scholastic Reader Level 1)

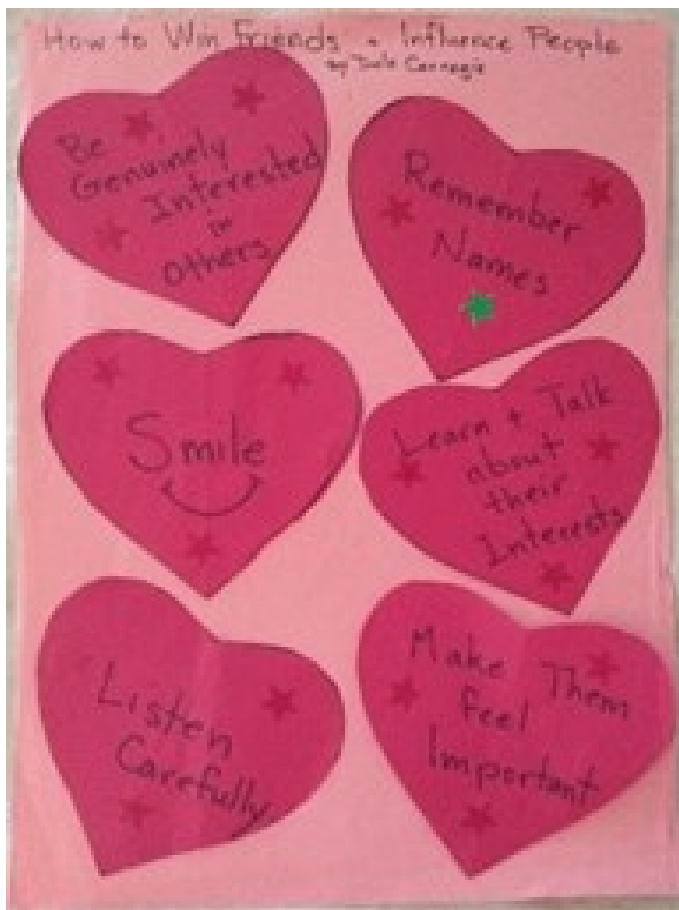
"50-250 words; Sight words, words to sound out & simple sentences." This story: guided reading level G, Lexile 20L, word count 96. A bigger dog comes and takes Noodles' bone away. At first Noodles outwits him by going through a fence the other dog can't fit. But then the gate is open. The dog gets Noodles' bone. Noodles turns the hose on him, and he runs away, leaving the bone. Noodles enjoys it indoors. A good segue into talking about how to deal with bullies. A water hose may not always be the best or available option. Additional Noodles titles pictured on back cover: I Love School, I Lost My Tooth, No New Pets, I Won't Share, I Love Snow . . .

What Should Danny Do? By Adir and Ganit Levy (The Power to Choose Series, 5 titles)



Draw pumpkin (or other) faces on colored paper (for fun). Make a T chart under each face, labeled “Appropriate” and “Not Appropriate”. Brainstorm behavior for each category for each feeling depicted.

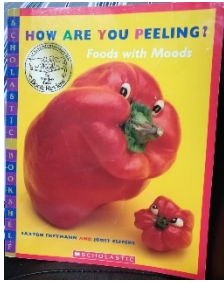
It’s fun (but not obligatory) to use pumpkin faces to talk about different feelings and appropriate/inappropriate behavior while these feelings have a hold on us. It’s not OK to take out your negative feelings on others. Talk about strategies for dealing with negative (or even positive) feelings in a healthy way. It’s not wrong to have negative feelings, unless we dwell and stew on them until they warp our lives and thinking. How we cope and carry on through times of working our way through negative feelings affects not just our mental and emotional health, but even our physical health as well. It affects our families, friends, communities, even our nation.



Fold red paper to cut out hearts. Label them with the ideas from Dale Carnegie’s How to Win Friends and Influence People, decorate with stars. Give each child or team a heart to glue onto base paper/poster. Briefly discuss or role play each idea before attaching it to the base paper/poster. A game of charades could engage children in both role playing as well as recognizing the behaviors. You can even play “No-No Charades”, where the children play the opposite behavior.

Options	When 2 people want to play with the same the thing at the same time.
1	Play together, share, cooperate.
2	Divide things equally.
3	Take turns.
4	One choose another game.
5	Trade for something else.
6	Put it away—no one play.

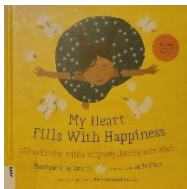
Feelings: self and others'



How Are You Peeling? By Saxton Freymann (Scholastic)

Cute use of foods to show feelings. Few words each page, great large photos. 48pp, ages 2-6, grades PreK-3rd. Video of a reading linked below.

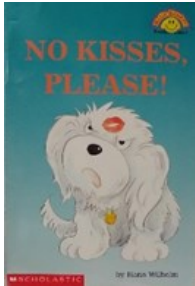
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JLbpa5RPbtU&ab_channel=TFC%3ATheFeelingsChannel



My Heart Fills With Happiness by Monique Gray Smith

Bi-lingual (English & Plains Cree), limited & simple poetic text in large font. One of several readings of the English version online

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JYlthMLdnG0&ab_channel=ChildinMindNY



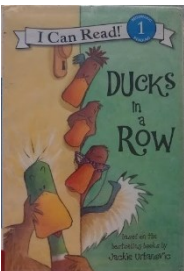
No Kisses, Please! By Hans Wilhelm (HelloReader! Preschool to Grade 1 reading level)

Ages 3-6. Letter to family & friends of young readers gives suggestions at the beginning. One simple sentence each page in large font. Appealing illustrations. Storyline is one children often face in their own lives, not wanting to be kissed by relatives. Help them guess how the character will or can solve the problem and help them consider what would be appropriate ways for children to act (surely not digging a hole to get dirty).

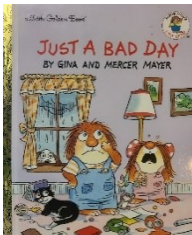


I Can Help! By Hans Wilhelm (Scholastic Reader, Level 1)

DRA level 2, mid-Kindergarten. Letter to Parents at front. One simple sentence each page. Character tries to be helpful but keeps making mistakes. He feels like a failure. He decides to try again, carefully, and succeeds.

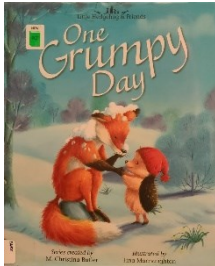


Ducks in a Row by Lori Haskins Houran, based on books by Jackie Urbanovic (I Can read! Level 1—beginning reading). “Short sentences, familiar words, and simple concepts for children eager to read on their own.” Letter to parents in the beginning, explaining different levels. Fun little story about Max, who wants to be helpful, and gets his chance. It’s nice also, to relax from a lot of demands.

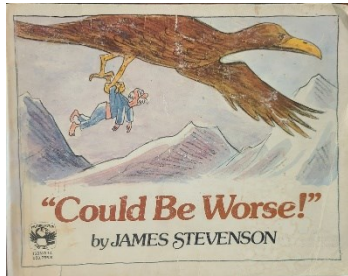


Just a Bad Day by Gina and Mercer Mayer (a Little Golden Book)

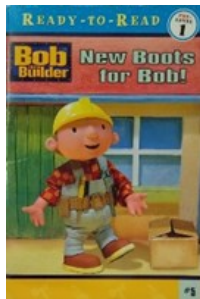
One of a number of titles in the Little Critter series addressing so many of childhood experiences. Brief text in a large font. 24pp, ages 2-5+, Lexile AD500.



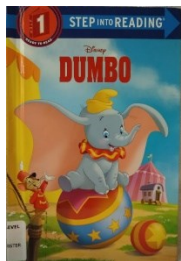
One Grumpy Day series created by M. Christina Butler (Little Hedgehog & Friends). Fox is in a bad mood. Friends try to help him out of it. 32pp, ages 3-7, grades PreK-2



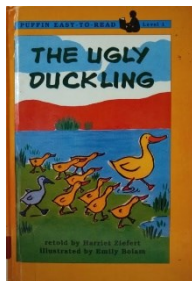
Could Be Worse by James Stevenson (Picture Puffins)
Grandpa's life seems always the same: uninteresting. No matter what happens to the kids, he says, "Could be worse!" But one morning Grandpa tells a far-out tale of disastrous dramatic proportions. "Now, what do you think of that?" They kids run to him with hugs, "Could be worse!" Discuss the value of keeping things in perspective. Additional titles inside back cover.



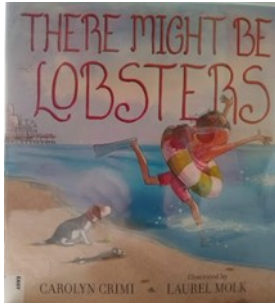
New Boots for Bob Adapted by Kiki Thorpe (Ready to Read, Pre-level 1)
"Recognizing words, word repetition, familiar words and phrases, simple sentences". Letter to Parents and Teachers explaining series reading levels and philosophy. Bob's new boots squeak. Mice like the sound and follow him. Lofty doesn't like mice, is scared, and runs away. Bob follows. Spud comes along with a bun that the mice want, and they run after Spud. Lofty is happy the mice are gone; Bob is happy he has new boots. Several things to explore: sounds, mice, fears, wants, being happy.



Dumbo by Christy Webster (Step into Reading, Level 1)
Letter to Parents at the front explaining series levels. Level 1 "Ready to Read; Preschool to Kindergarten. Big type and easy words, rhyme and rhythm, picture clues. For children who know the alphabet and are eager to begin reading." Follows the Disney film in simple sentences. Feelings, friends, believing in yourself.

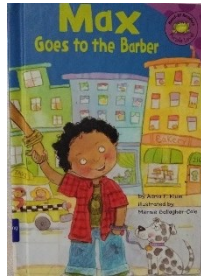


The Ugly Duckling retold by Harriet Ziefert (Puffin or Viking Easy to Read Classic, Level 1)
"Level 1: Ages 4-7 Just Getting Started." Famous story retold in simple sentences. How does it feel when you are different, and others don't accept you because they don't see you for who you really are? Can you believe the cruel words and judgments of others? Have patience, you may one day be a swan.



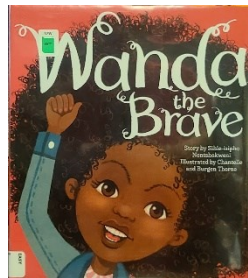
There Might Be Lobsters by Carolyn Crimi

Engaging story and illustrations, about facing fears/worries/anxieties, and learning to be brave when you need to be. Good opportunity to talk about realistic fears/worries, vs unlikely ones, and not letting unrealistic fears keep you from having fun. Could also discuss safety rules at the beach. Fairly brief text in med large font (some italicized). Read aloud. About 2nd grade reading level.



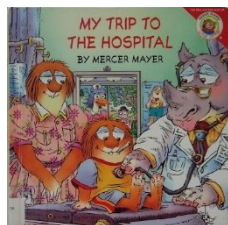
Max Goes to the Barber by Adria F. Klein (Read It! Readers—purple level)

Description of levels in front: purple level is the first—“presents basic topics and objects using high frequency words and simple language patterns.” First grade reading level. Max likes to go to the barber, description of what happens there. Possibly good to read with children who have fears about going to get their hair cut. Website at the end has games & puzzles, etc.



Wanda the Brave by Sihle-isipho Nontshokweni

Wanda goes to have her hair done, must be brave about it. Picture book, 32pp, for ages 3-9, grades PreK-3.

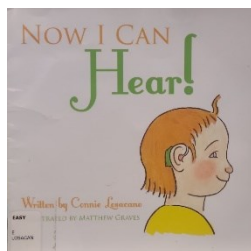


My Trip to the Hospital by Mercer Mayer

Little Critter breaks a leg, and must go to the hospital in an ambulance.

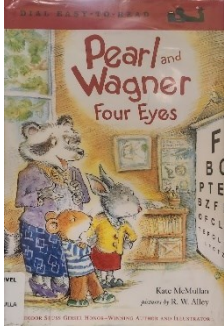
“Mom came with me in the ambulance. I held her hand because she looked a little scared.” A good book to allay fears about going to the hospital.

About 2nd grade reading, but a great read-aloud for younger children.

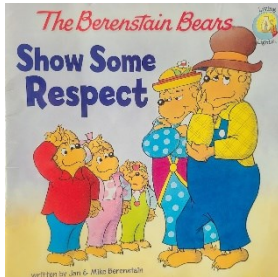


Now I Can Hear! By Connie Losacano

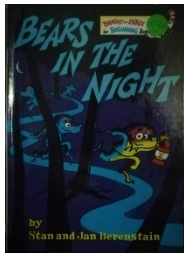
Simple, easy but beautiful text, illustrations. Addresses hearing disability.



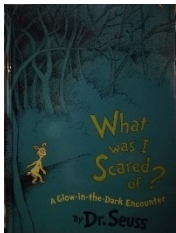
Pearl and Wagner Four Eyes by Kate McMullan (Dial Easy to Read)
Feeling hurt over name calling conquered through the help of friends.
48pp, ages 5-8, grades K-3, Lexile 450.



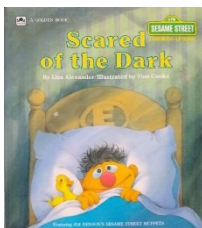
The Berenstain Bears Show Some Respect
Good segue into a discussion about showing respect to elders and others. Activities and Questions at the end. Additional titles in the Berenstain Bears series pictured on back cover.



Bears in the Night by Stan and Jan Berenstain (Bright & Early for Beginning)
Fun easy reading—few words in large font. Good book to ask, What do you think will happen next? (anticipation/predicting) 36pp, ages 2-4+, grades PreK-3rd. DRA 5-6.

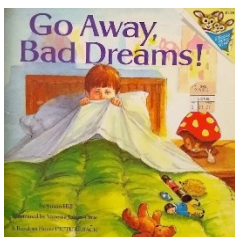


What Was I Scared Of? by Dr Seuss
Rhyming quatrains. Fears chase the character until he faces them. 32pp, ages 3-6, grades K-4. Reading level AD530 Lexile.



Scared of the Dark by Liza Alexander (Sesame Street)
After watching a scary movie Ernie's imagination gets out of control. 25pp, infant to 2+ years. Reading level grade 2-3. Video reading at link below:

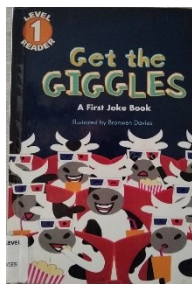
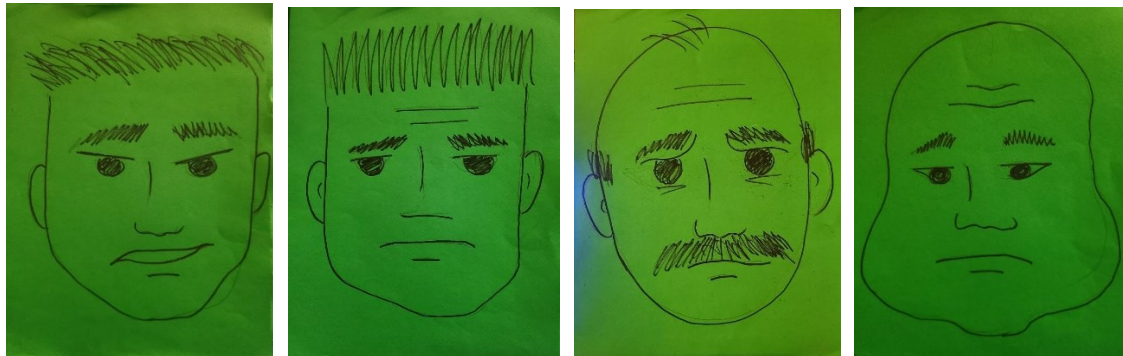
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f9qVHKFH07A&ab_channel=SprocketWalker



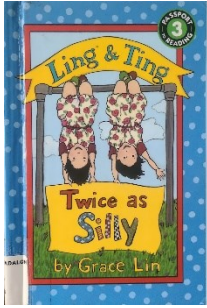
Go Away, Bad Dreams by Susan Hill
Mom helps her son beyond bad dreams. 32pp.

Some activities to learn about feelings

Pumpkin or paper plate faces. Draw various feeling faces on paper pumpkin or paper plate faces. Try a group guessing exercise to name what feeling is depicted on each face. Look at the eyes, the eyebrows, the mouth. It's not always easy to tell how a person feels on the inside from what shows on the outside, but it's a good clue. Compare the faces and notice details. Asking/allowing a person to speak for him/herself is important as well.

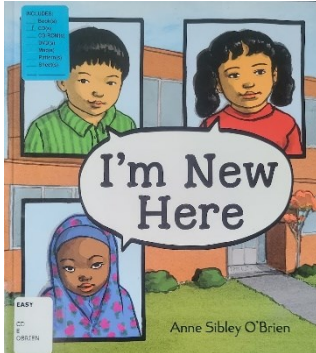


Get the Giggles: A First Joke Book illustrated by Bronwen Davies (Paw Prints, Scholastic, Reader, Level 1: sight words, words to sound out & simple sentences) “Appeals to PreK to 1st graders; reading level grade 1”. Nice enough simple illustrations, and one sentence each page. Page on the right asks the riddle, turn the page for the answer. “Doyouthinkhesaurus”? depends a little on pronunciation, which is different in different areas . . . it’s a way of saying “Do you think he saw us?” Great little first joke book and expansion of genres for early readers.



Ling & Ting Twice as Silly by Grace Lin (Passport to Reading level 3)

Six cute, short, humorous stories. Brief text in large font, simple illustrations. 1st-2nd grade reading—1205 words in the book (of which 111 are Dolch sight words), Guided Reading level K. The last story could be integrated with writing for grades 1-2. Wonderbook has an electronic recording of the story attached to the inside front cover, which includes a “Learning Mode” that asks questions about the stories.



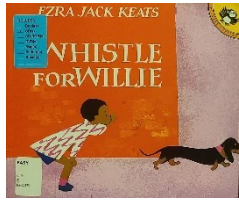
I'm New Here by Anne Sibley O'Brien

Three children from different countries tell their experience coming to school in the US, and eventual integration. Simple, very limited text in large font. Grades 1-2 reading. CD included reads the story and the Author's note. She experienced moving to a new country in her youth as well.

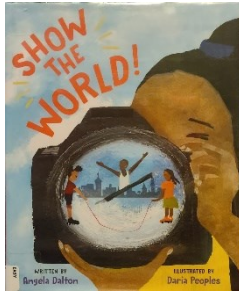


Sometimes children can more easily talk about their feelings with or through pretend or play. Puppets can offer one option. They can also give low-pressure hugs.

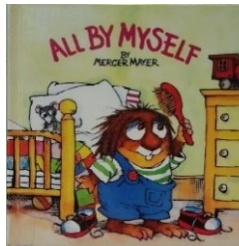
Self Development, likes, interests, talents, thinking skills



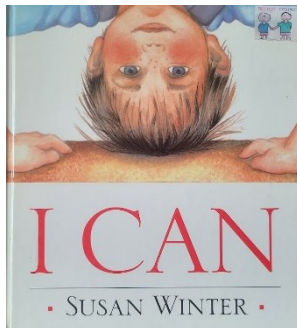
Whistle for Willie by Ezra Jack Keats (Penguin Picture Puffins)
Simple story simply told, limited text in large font. Simple effective illustrations. 32pp, for ages 1-5, reading level AD 490 Lexile. CD included. Also available in Spanish. Other titles by the author: The Snowy Day, Peter's Chair, Pet Show!, Hi, Cat!, Jennie's Hat, A Letter to Amy



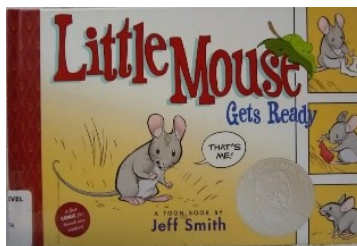
Show the World! By Angela Dalton
Encourages pursuing dreams, making a difference for good in the world through any means or medium. Brief text in large font; illustrations like collages. 32pp, for ages 4-8, grades PreK-3.



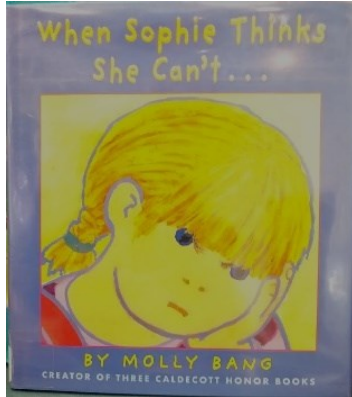
All By Myself by Mercer Mayer
One of many Little Critter books by the author, about real issues for children, but done with humor. A simple sentence for each page. As the character goes through his day, he tells all the things he can do all by himself. But at the end of the day, he likes to have dad read him a bedtime story. 24 more titles listed on the back cover.



I Can by Susan Winter (DK)
Young boy compares all he can do with what his toddler sister can't do. The ending will give adults a smile. Very limited text in a large font, appealing illustrations. 1st grade reading level, great read-aloud for K. By the same author, Me Too (toddler sister's point of view)

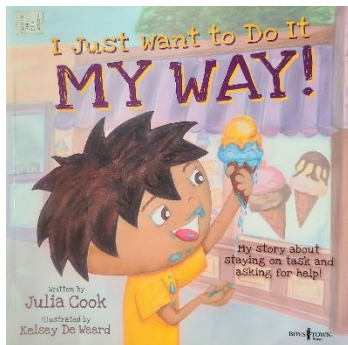


Little Mouse Gets Ready by Jeff Smith (Toon Books, Easy to Read Comics)
Little Mouse gets dressed, step by step, to go to the barn with his mom and siblings. When he is finally ready, momma comes, and says, "mice don't wear clothes!" He pops out of them in one picture, and is off to the barn. Good steps of dressing sequence and humorous ending. 3 levels of reading chart inside back cover.



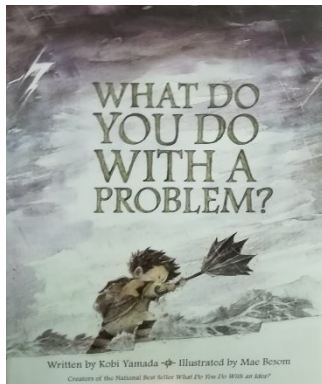
When Sophie Thinks She Can't . . . by Molly Bang

Great story of problem solving, exercising brains like muscles, including the idea of “yet” (I haven’t solved it yet, but I will keep trying). Includes math problem at school about creating rectangles from squares. An important way to open a discussion about discouragement, coping skills, keeping a positive outlook and self-talk. Brief text in large handwritten-like font. 2nd grade reading level, but important to share with younger children. Other titles by the Author: When Sophie’s Feelings Are Really, Really Hurt, and When Sophie Gets Angry—Really, Really Angry . . .



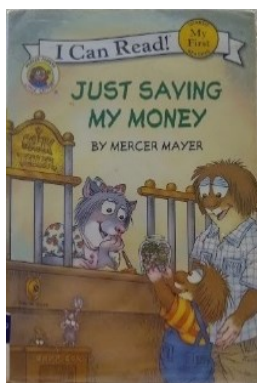
I Just Want to Do It My Way!: My Story about Staying on Task and Asking For Help by Julia Cook (Boys Town Press)

A valuable and fun yet realistic story about learning to succeed in school, especially for those who don’t like math. Useful for talking about problem-solving in a wider sense. Ideas for staying on task and asking for help. Tips for parents & educators, more “Kid-friendly books to teach social [and personal] skills” pictured at back. Text in large font, grade 2 reading, but good K read-aloud.



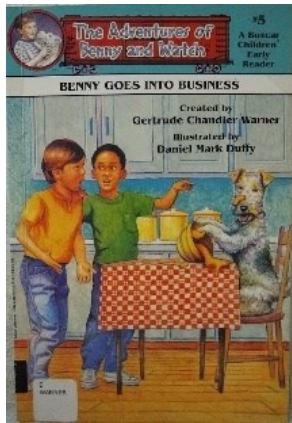
What Do You Do With a Problem by Kobi Yamada

An understanding, a skill everyone needs to know, the sooner understood the less feeling frustrated, helpless, hopeless. 36pp ages 4-8, AD500L



Just Saving My Money by Mercer Mayer (I Can Read! My First Shared Reading)

Letter to parents in the beginning. “My First Shared Reading: basic language, word repetition, and whimsical illustrations, ideal for sharing with your emergent reader.” 1-3 simple sentences per page written in present tense. Pictures offer humor. Nice chance for conversation. Responsibility, work, earning and saving money. Little Critter series.



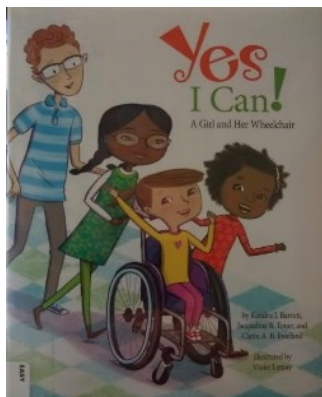
Benny Goes Into Business by Gertrude Chandler Warner (Boxcar Children Early Reader)

Brief explanation of who the Boxcar Children are at the front. 540L Lexile (grades 1-2) reading level. Benny tries several business ideas that fall flat for one reason or another. At last he finds something that looks like it will work. Good discussion about making business decisions and how to be successful. What might your child like to do to earn money. Builds great self esteem to feel capable and a certain independence from earning your own money. More titles in the front.



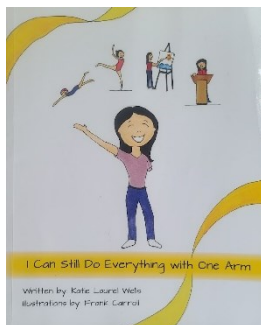
Kiwi Cannot Reach! By Jason Tharp (Ready to Read, Level 1)

“Level One—Star Reader! Easy sight words and words to sound out, Simple plot and dialogue, Familiar topics and themes.” Problem solving, anticipating, and analyzing results/consequences. Great opportunity for interactive discussion.



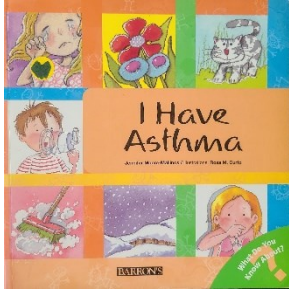
Yes I Can! A Girl and Her Wheelchair by Kendra J. Barrett, Jacqueline B. Toner, and Claire A.B. Freeland

A great book about adapting to disabilities. Carolyn has a great attitude about all she can do, despite her disability. She has learned to adapt so that she can be involved. Her classmates soon accept her and help her to be involved. The story also addresses feeling left out when some activities aren't adaptable, and finding options. A Note to Parents, Caregivers, and Teachers at the end of the story answers a lot of questions.



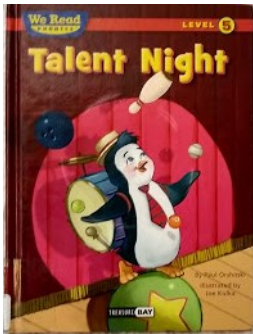
I Can Still Do Everything with One Arm by Katie Laurel Wells

Written by a US Paralympic swimmer, this is a great affirmation of making a good life for oneself, despite difficulties (which we all have). Simple text in large font. Grade 2 reading level, but too valuable to wait to share until then. Read-aloud for K.

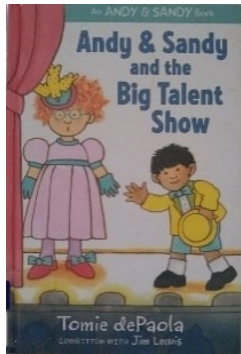


I Have Asthma by Jennifer Moore-Mallinos (What Do You Know About series)

A good way to help all children understand about Asthma and how our respiration system works, as well as affirming those who experience having asthma. Nice illustrations, activities, guidelines for parents. 36pp, grade 2 reading level, good read-aloud for K. More titles listed on back cover.

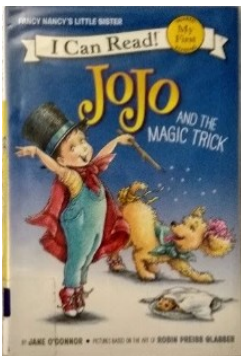


Talent Night by Paul Orshoski (We Read Phonics Level 5—1st grade)
Suggestions for parents, phonics game, sight word game at the beginning, 2 more phonics games at the end. 1-2 short sentences per page in large font. Rhyming. Humor.

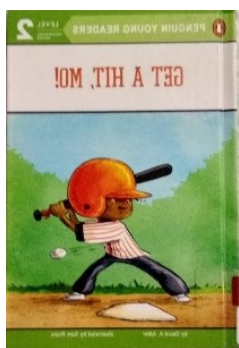


Andy & Sandy and the Big Talent Show by Tomie dePaola and Jim Lewis (Andy & Sandy books, Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, ages 4-8) 1st grade reading. One simple sentence per page, with picture cues. Humor in the dePaola illustrations. Sandy seems to be able to do everything, Andy flops. But she gets stage fright, and he saves the act, so they are winners together. Great way to talk about different kinds of talents than the usual, working as a team, being supportive, getting past stage fright. More books about Andy & Sandy:

<https://www.simonandschuster.com/series/An-Andy-Sandy-Book>



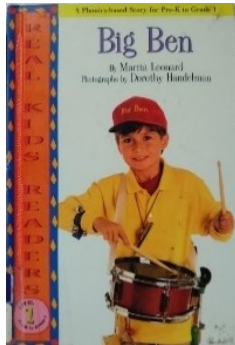
JoJo and the Magic Trick by Jane O'Connor (I Can Read! My First Shared Reading—Basic language, word repetition, and whimsical illustrations, ideal for sharing with your emergent reader”). Very simple sentences, 1-3 per page, in a large font. JoJo meets with disappointments as she tries to make flowers appear; in the end she is able to make cookies and milk disappear. Humor. Trial and error, coping with failure, love, belonging, kindness...



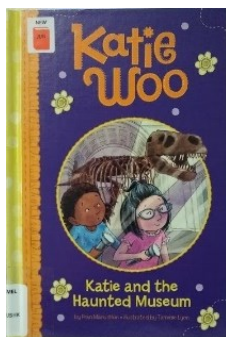
Get a Hit, Mo! By David A. Adler (Penguin Young Readers Level 2--guided reading G—“Progressing Reader, Longer sentences, Simple dialogue, Picture and context clues, More in-depth plot development, Nonfiction and fiction”). Suggestions for parents at the beginning. Simple, brief text in a large font. Mo is younger and smaller than the others on his team. Mo is feeling unsuccessful, but watches to try to learn from others, still doesn't connect with the ball. He is last up in the last inning. Two strikes—then as he turns to hear coach, the ball hits his bat, two runners make it in, and his team wins!



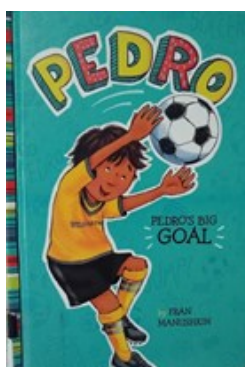
Snoopy Came to Play by Charles M. Schulz (Ready-to-Read, Ready-to-Go! Stellar Starter! “Sight words, Word families, Rhythm, rhyme, and repetition”). Info for caregivers and word chart at the beginning, questions at the end. Very simple sentences in very large font, one per page. Statements, questions, exclamations. Adorable characters/pictures, humor. Working through challenges, friendship, finding alternatives.



Big Ben by Marica Leonard (Real Kids Readers level 1) A note to parents in the front. “Level 1 is for children who are just beginning to read.” Guidelines at the end. “A Phonics-based story for Pre-K to Grade 1”. Story has interest even with repetition. Ben is able to do all sorts of musical things. He’s a one boy band. A good preliminary to trying all sorts of instruments and ways of making music.

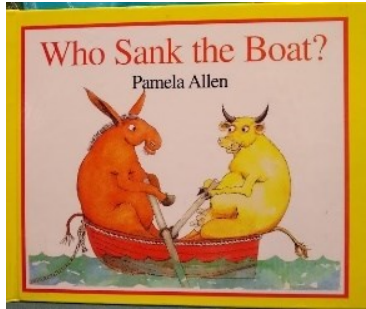


Katie and the Haunted Museum by Fran Manushkin (Katie Woo series) Contents, 3 chapters. First grade reading level. 3 friends and a dad sleep over at a natural history museum. They choose a room that is exciting, but won’t fill them with fears/scary dreams. In the night they can’t sleep, take a walk, and get separated from Dad. They see a scary shadow . . . what is it? Extensions: talk about fears, problem/mystery solving, any of the animals from the museum. Glossary, ideas for discussion, writing, drawing, and a website for more games, puzzles, etc. at the back.



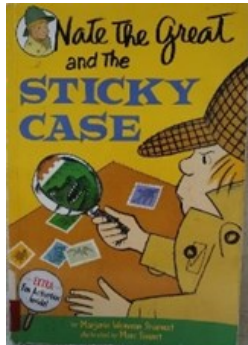
Pedro’s Big Goal by Fran Namushkin (Pedro series) Contents, 3 chapters. First grade reading level. Pedro loves soccer, but he has to work on his skills to get the goalie position he wants. Discussions: favorite sports, dealing with failure, practicing, friends encouraging each other, helping others . . . Glossary, ideas for discussion, writing, jokes, website for more videos, games, puzzles, etc. at the end.

Thinking skills/Intellectual development

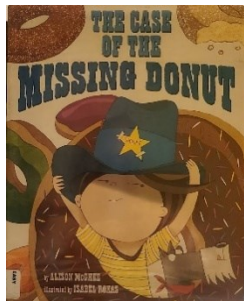


Who Sank the Boat? by Pamela Allen

Problem solving with humor. Rhyming text, large font, fun illustrations. Lexile AD470L (perhaps 2nd grade level reading?) Too fun a story to wait to share, and 2nd grader could enjoy reading for himself.

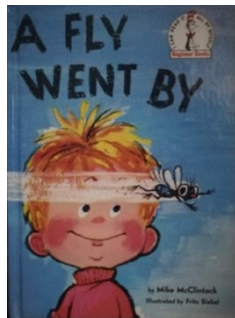


Nate the Great and the Sticky Case by Marjorie Weinman Sharmat
Nate solves mysteries. Always humorous. 500L Lexile (grades 1-2 reading level). Extras at the end: notes on dinosaurs, stamps, a dinosaur egg recipe, and yard sale dinosaur lollipops; 24 titles listed at the back of the book.



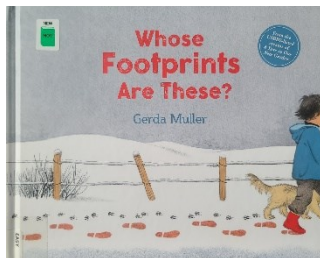
The Case of the Missing Donut by Alison McGhee

Cute story of a young man sent to bring home donuts, and by the time he gets there one is missing. The clues to solve the case are on the face. Good chance to notice details.



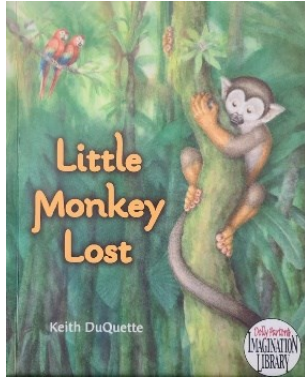
A Fly Went By by Mike McClintock (I Can Read it All By Myself, Beginner Books)

Humorous cumulative story with a variety of characters chasing one another, building anticipation ... can you predict what will happen next? Short rhyming quatrains. 72pp, for ages 1-5+, PreK-2+, reading level Lexile 430.



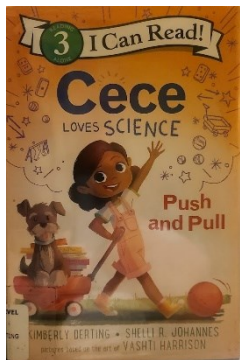
Whose Footprints Are These? by Gerda Müller

Clever and intriguing wordless book inviting discussion. 36pp pass quickly. Ages 3-6, no need to read, just think.



Little Monkey Lost by Keith Duquette

Engaging little story about a monkey on a fun adventure and finding his way back at the end. But this must be accompanied by a discussion about the realities of young animals that get separated from the group (most likely to be preyed upon), and what children should do when they are lost (safety rules/problem-solving). Compare the movies “Home Alone” and “Baby’s Day Out”. Brief info about different kinds of monkeys at the end. Could be part of a science unit. Beautiful illustrations, brief text in large font. 2nd grade reading, fine for K read-aloud.



Cece Loves Science: Push and Pull by Kimberly Derting (I Can Read! Level 3)

Every day ways to understand physics. 40pp, ages 4-8

Various cards for matching, Concentration, etc.

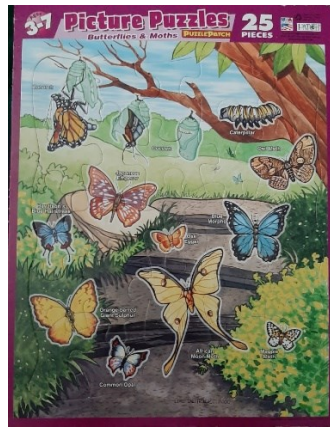


Right: various games develop thinking skills
Below: various puzzles develop visual acuity, skills

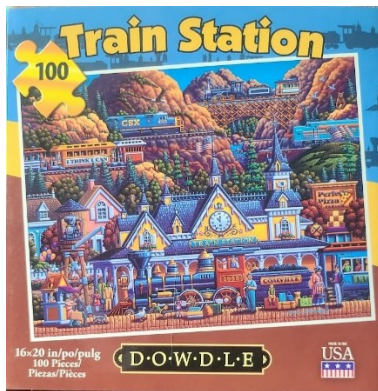


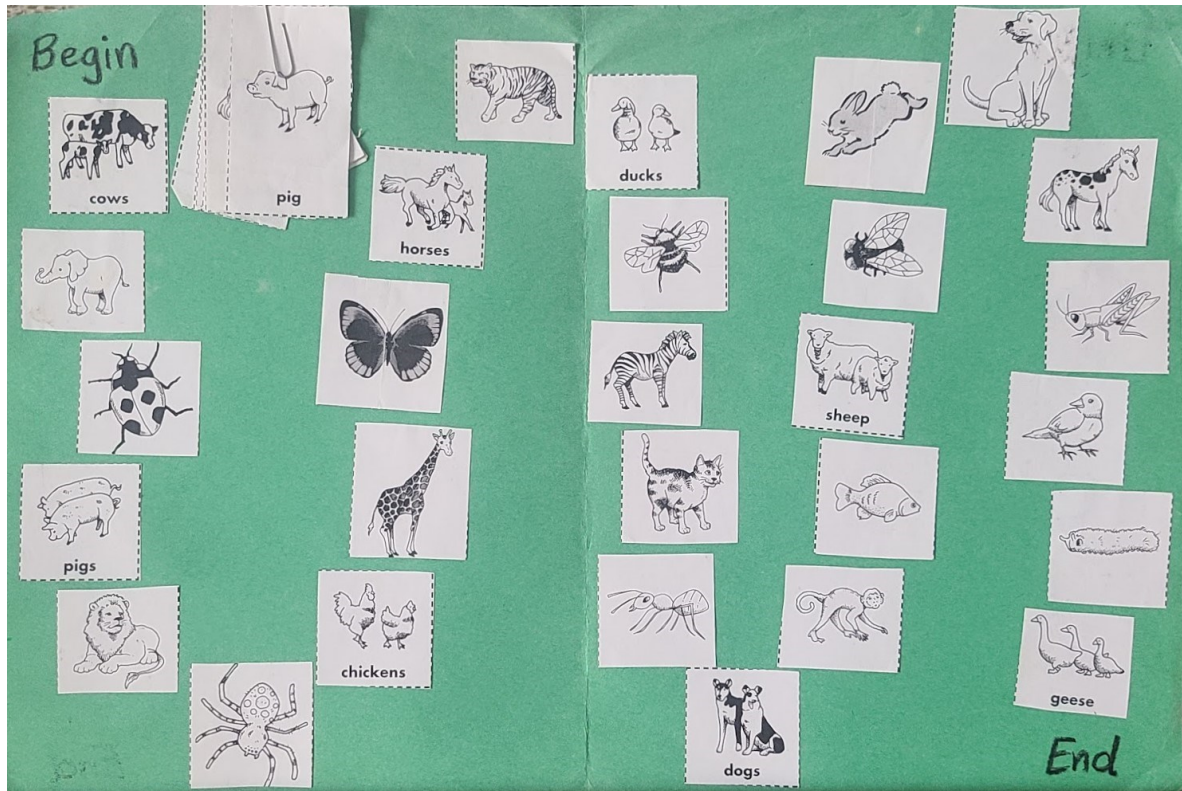
For easy independent work.





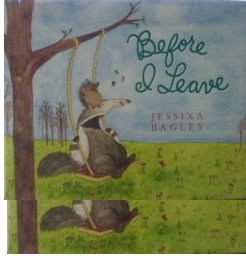
Puzzles can be worked as a team with more experienced individuals.





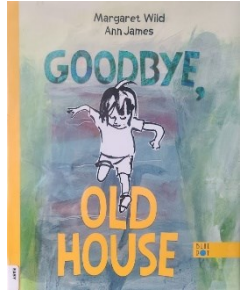
You can make a simple game like this by attaching small pictures of any category of items in a winding path from start to finish. You can use a die, a spinner, or in this case, an extra set of the animal pictures to draw from. The person whose turn it is to draw a card finds an animal that is similar in some way (such as having 4 legs, or fur, or paws, or wings, or tail ...). The person must tell how the animals are similar, then puts his/her piece on that animal. Continue taking turns until all get to the end.

Friends & Family/Home



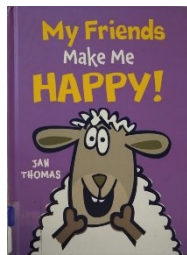
Before I Leave by Jessixa Bagley

About moving away from a friend. A lot said in few words, writ in large letters. Includes some humor. Nice illustrations. 1st grade reading level.



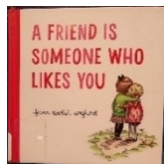
Goodbye, Old House by Margaret Wild

Beautiful book about moving. Illustrations are intriguing line drawings with color added only as emphasis. Few words with lots of repetition. Large font. 32pp ages 3-7, AD230 Lexile reading



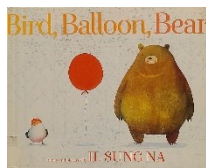
My Friends Make Me Happy! By Jan Thomas (Giggle Gang series)

Guessing with clues. Humor. 250L Lexile (first grade reading level). Three simple steps to get a child ready to read, at the back: 1. I read: read the book to your child, 2. We read: read the book together, 3. You read: encourage your child to read the book over and over again.



A Friend is Someone Who Likes You by Joan Walsh Anglund

Pretty little book/illustrations. Brief text in medium-large font. Lexile reading level 500L (2nd grade), but a nice read-aloud for younger children. A good way to begin talking about what makes a good friendship and how friends treat each other.



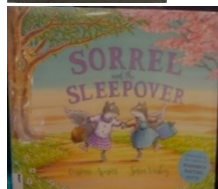
Bird, Balloon, Bear by Il Sung Na

Delightful little story about friendship, told with few words and simple pleasant illustrations. 32pp, ages 2-5, Lexile AD340.



Monkey and Elephant by Carole Lexa Schaefer

Contents: divided into 3 parts/chapters/stories. It's a hot day, the two friends look for a way to cool off. Lots of word play, adjectives, adverbs, and descriptive verbs. It's clear the friends have different perspectives. But in the end they appreciate and value one another for their uniqueness.

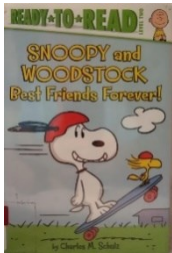


Sorrel and the Sleepover by Corrinne Averiss

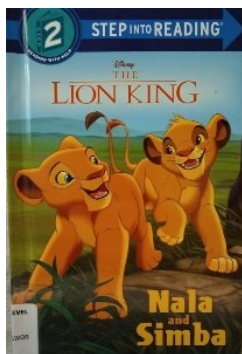
After a disappointing sleepover experience at a friend's, Sorrel makes excuses not to reciprocate. She thinks friends can't be different. Brief text, large font, 2nd grade reading level. Good to share with younger children. Cute illustrations.



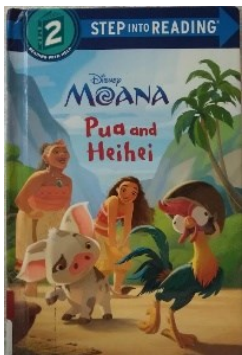
Anna's Best Friends by Christy Webster (Step into Reading, Level 2, Reading with Help) Letter to Parents at front explains the series reading levels. "Reading with Help—preschool to grade 1: basic vocabulary, short sentences, simple stories. For children who recognize familiar words and sound out new words with help." Based on the Disney Film "Frozen". Follows the story with simple sentences and rhymes. Implied: friends stick together, help each other, sometimes disagree, care about each other, are self-sacrificing for one another, have fun together.



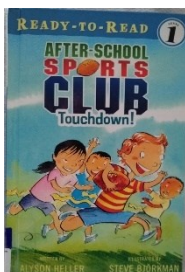
Snoopy and Woodstock, Best Friends Forever! By Charles M. Schulz (Ready to Read, Level 2) "Level 2: Superstar Reader! Longer sentences, simple chapters, high-interest vocabulary words." What does it mean to be best friends? Most of the story tells about when Snoopy and Woodstock first became friends. But Woodstock doesn't know what kind of bird he is. Snoopy considers some possibilities, but in the end, it doesn't matter, because they will always be best friends. Talk about the experiences and memories they share and how that develops their friendship. More titles available.



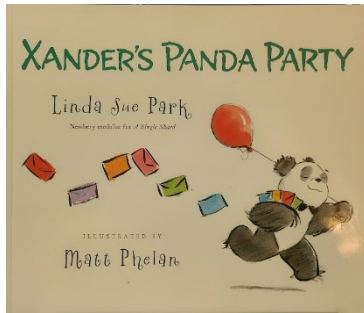
Nala and Simba by Mary Tillworth (Step into Reading, Level 2, Reading with Help) Letter to Parents at front explains the reading levels of the series. "Level 2 Reading with Help—Preschool to Grade 1; basic vocabulary, short sentences, simple stories. For children who recognize familiar word and sound out new words with help." Based on Disney's film "The Lion King." Nala and Simba get in trouble. Simba's dad is unhappy (abbreviated story doesn't mention they disobeyed the rule). Story continues, eventually Simba becomes king, thanks to friend Nala believing in him. Discuss: True friends help you be your best self.



Pua and Heihei adapted by Mary Tillworth (Step into Reading, Level 2) Letter to parents at front explaining the reading levels of the series. "Level 2 Reading with Help—Preschool to Grade 1; basic vocabulary, short sentences, simple stories. For children who recognize familiar word and sound out new words with help." Based on Disney's film "Moana". It's feast day. Pua and Heihei have all kinds of misadventures, but what's important happens.

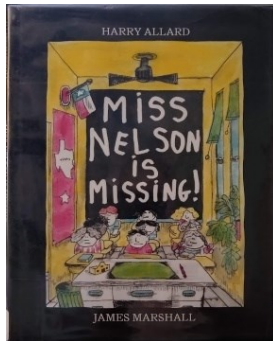


After-School Sports Club: Touchdown! by Alyson Heller (Ready to Read, Level 1) "Level 1: Starting to Read: simple stories, increased vocabulary, longer sentences [than pre-Level 1]." One sentence per page in large font, likeable enough illustrations. JB doesn't think girls can play football. At first it looks like he's right, but is proven wrong in the end. Apology and acceptance. Great little story.



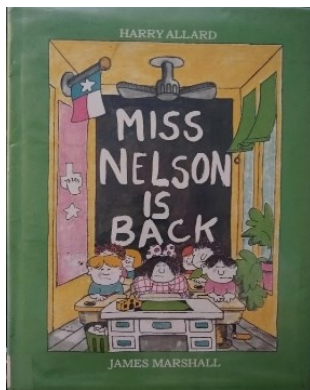
Xander's Panda Party by Linda Sue Park

Xander wants to invite a small group of friends to his party, but it keeps expanding until he has invited the whole zoo, and has to accommodate all their different diets. And at the end, another panda comes to live at the zoo. Picture book with brief text, cute illustrations. Author's note at the end is enlightening. Unpagged, but not long



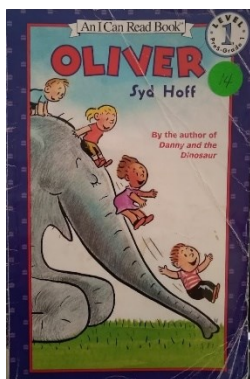
Miss Nelson is Missing! by Harry Allard

"The kids in Room 207 were misbehaving again," the story begins to enumerate their lack of respect for their teacher, who is very nice. One day Miss Nelson doesn't come to class. The kids think they can get away with even more. "Not so fast!" hissed an unpleasant voice." It's Miss Viola Swamp. She is not gentle in whipping the class into shape. Day after day. The children try to figure out what happened to Miss Nelson. Then one day Miss Nelson shows up to class. The children treat her nicely. At home through the closet door an ugly black dress is seen, like the one Miss Swamp wore.



Miss Nelson is Back by Harry Allard

Miss Nelson announces she will be gone a week to get her tonsils out. Apparently this is a new class, because as they talk about their plans to misbehave, an older kid warns them about Miss Swamp. But Monday morn the principal says he's going to take over the class. His efforts to entertain the class flop. They hatch a plot to get rid of him, then go on a spree. Miss Nelson sees them with a fake Miss Nelson, out of school. The kids return to school, and Miss Swamp arrives. She gets the kids in order quick, and as she leaves, Miss Nelson returns, to the kids' relief. Check out Miss Nelson Has a Field Day.



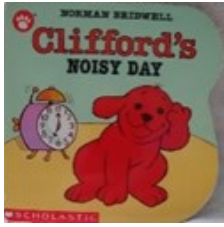
Oliver by Syd Hoff (An I Can Read Book, level 1)

Fun story, one of several by a fun author. Reading level PreK-1st grade, DRA 14.

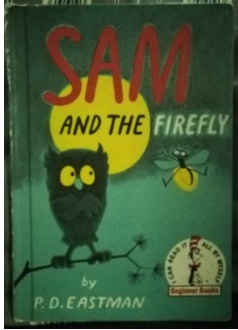


Clifford the Big Red Dog

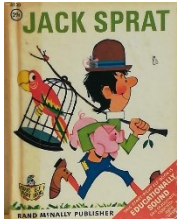
Shaped Board Book. Simple, very limited text presents Clifford's friendly, helpful character (beside his huge size), and his owner's love. Good chance to talk about various issues, such as appropriate size pets, pretend/real, beside friendship and the value and responsibility of pets. Lovable characters and humor even for adults.



Clifford's Noisy Day by Norman Bridwell (Scholastic, Clifford the Small Red Puppy Board Books) Sounds that Clifford hears throughout the day. Very simple, limited text. Could be used in a science unit on sound. Additional titles listed on the back: Clifford's Animal Sounds, Clifford's Bathtime, Clifford's Bedtime, Clifford Counts Bubbles.

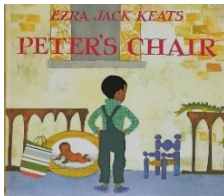


Sam and the Firefly by PD Eastman (I Can Read It All By Myself Beginner) 72pp, reading level AD270L, repetition, large font.



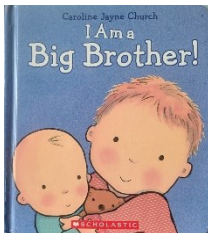
Jack Sprat

Another oldie but goodie. The rhyme is carried way beyond the usual 1-2 stanzas, has a happy family ending.



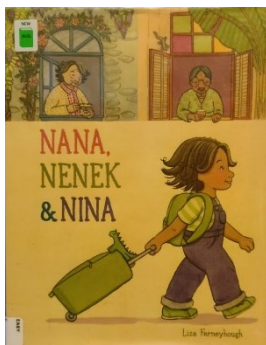
Peter's Chair by Ezra Jack Keats

Addresses the issue of the arrival of a baby sibling, and wanting to hold on to one's place in the family, and one's possessions.



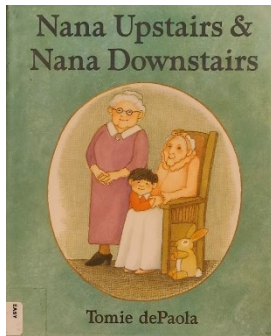
I Am a Big Brother by Caroline Jayne Church (Scholastic)

Board book. A great way to help older kids love and accept new additions to the family. "I used to be a little baby, too. But now I'm big! Look what I can do!"



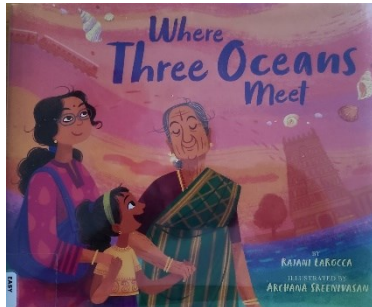
Nana, Nenek & Nina by Liza Ferneyhough

Touching beautiful story of a girl and her 2 grandmas on opposite sides of the world. Nice illustrations. 32pp, ages 4-8, grades PreK-3. Reading level AD540 Lexile.



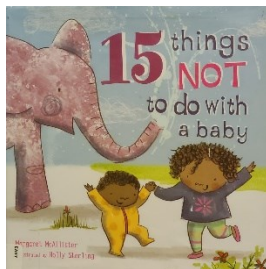
Nana Upstairs & Nana Downstairs by Tomie dePaola

Popular, prolific author, illustrator; grand & great grandmother, other family members, family love, death, autobiographical. Easy picture book.



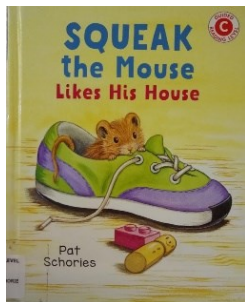
Where Three Oceans Meet by Rajani LaRocca

Picture book of a girl, her mother, and grandmother on a trip in southern India illustrating the culture thereof, including author's & illustrator's notes, simple map. Beautiful story. 40pp, for ages 4-8, PreK-3+



15 Things Not to do with a Baby by Margaret McAllister

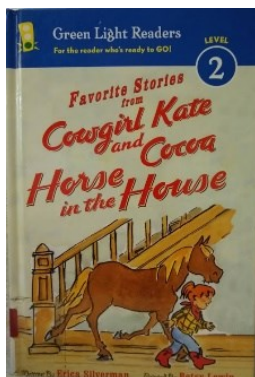
Delightful & humorous little story about loving little ones (new baby in the family). 32pp, for ages 3-6, grades PreK-1+.



Squeak the Mouse Likes His House by Pat Schories (I Like to Read series)

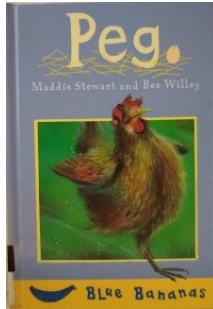
Guided Reading Level C, grades K-1. Cute illustrations, humor. Website for flash cards for each title, activities, and more about the series

www.holidayhouse.com/ILiketoRead



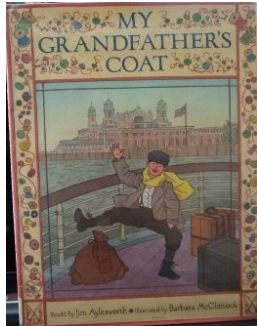
Horse in the House by Erica Silverman (Favorite Stories from Cowgirl Kate and Cocoa; Green Light Readers, Level 2 "Start the Engine! Reading with Help")

2 short chapters. Cocoa explores Kate's house. He decides he want to live there. Kate shows him the benefits of his barn, and he at last decides he likes living there.



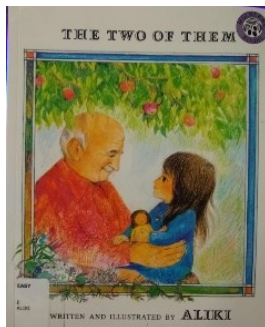
Peg by Maddie Stewart and Bee Willey (Blue Bananas series)

“Ages 5-7; Guided Reading 1.” Peg is a hen with only 1 leg. The farmer leaves her out as having no value. Benjamin takes her under his wing. He shows her around the farm, and when she sees all the mothers, she feels useless. Benjamin gets eggs from various people, and Peg mothers a variety of chicks. When someone puts her down as worthless, her babies all stand up for her.



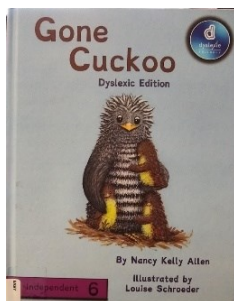
My Grandfather's Coat retold by Jim Aylesworth

Appealing text and illustrations, and a great story (story of a Jewish immigrant, thrift, family...). Read Author's and Artist's notes at back. Compare to Joseph Had a Little Overcoat by Simms Taback, and Something from Nothing by Phoebe Gilman, all reworkings of an old Yiddish tale/folksong (“I Had a Little Overcoat”). Cookie recipe back cover.



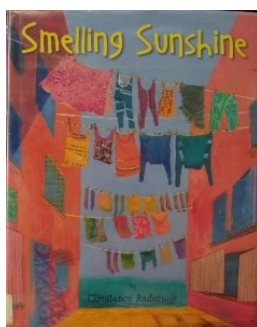
The Two of Them by Aliki

The developing relationship between a girl and her grandfather, from her birth through his death. I couldn't read it without crying. A good opportunity to talk about life and death, relationships, love, and remembering. Text in large font. 2nd grade reading level. Pleasant illustrations. Similar theme: Love You Forever by Robert Munsch



Gone Cuckoo by Nancy Kelly Allen (Dyslexic Edition)

Mama Cuckoo places her egg/chick to be raised by a family of Warblers. An adoption story entertainingly told. The cuckoo chick doesn't do well at warbler school, and feels a failure. But he is good at flying, his report card says. His adoptive parents praise him for his successes and never mind his differences. He becomes a successful delivery bird. Dyslexic font is explained at the end, and the reasoning at the front. Learn more at www.dyslexiafont.com and get books in that font at www.mcp-store.com



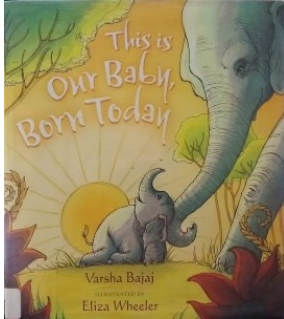
Smelling Sunshine by Constance Anderson

Wash day around the world, in illustrations, and poetically told. Children are involved with moms on washing day as they find fun in hanging them out to dry and taking them in from the line. At night the smell of the fresh sheets gives a feeling of security. Artistic illustrations.



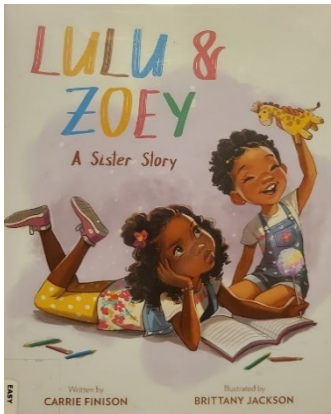
Time Out! by Ale Barba

The story starts with a big CRASH! Our boy is in Time Out. What does an imaginative, active guy do with Time Out? From outside the door typical parent words are heard. When you have an imagination, five minutes goes so fast! (Compare Where the Wild Things Are). Limited text in large easy-to-read font. First grade reading with help for 2 words. Can also be used in talking about house rules, problem solving, attitude (making an adventure instead of being miserable).



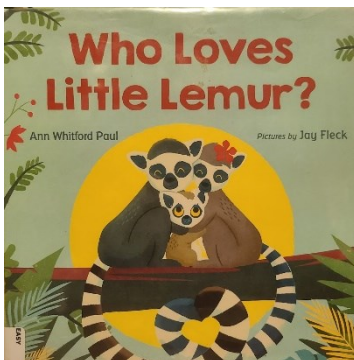
This is Our Baby, Born Today by Varsha Bajaj

Limited rhyming, repeating text in large font. Beautiful illustrations. Baby elephant joins a jungle herd. It's not hard to draw connections between elephant and human need to be a cherished member of a group/relatives. Be sure to read the author's note at the end.



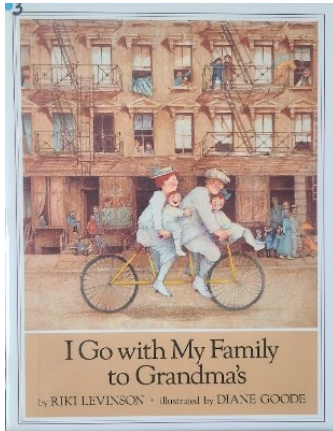
Lulu & Zoey: a Sister Story by Carrie Finison

Delightful story of sisters in brief rhyming text, large font, appealing illustrations. Sometimes they don't get along, sometimes they spend time on their own, sometimes they spend time together. Parents come home with a surprise at the end. Grades 1-2 reading level. Read-aloud for K.



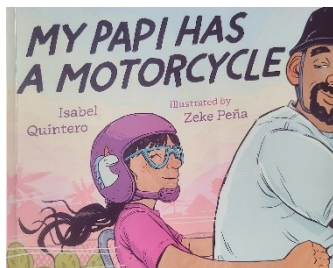
Who Loves Little Lemur by Ann Whitford Paul

Simple illustrations, brief alliterative text describes the love of the extended family; facts about lemurs at the end. Reading level grades 1-2. Read-aloud for K.



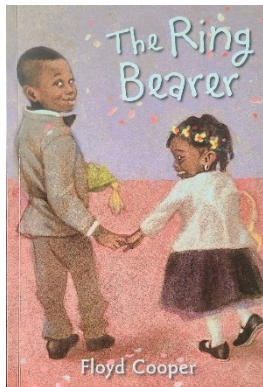
I Go With My Family to Grandma's by Riki Levinson

Engaging gentle and humorous illustrations to go with limited, repeating text. Members of an extended family all travel in different ways to get to Grandma's house. It's mayhem! But they all get settled for a huge family photo.



My Papi Has a Motorcycle by Isabel Quintero

An engaging story and illustrations about family and community set in California. Includes some Spanish words. Grandfather takes a girl for a ride through their community on his motorcycle. Grades 2-3 reading, but great read-aloud, too.



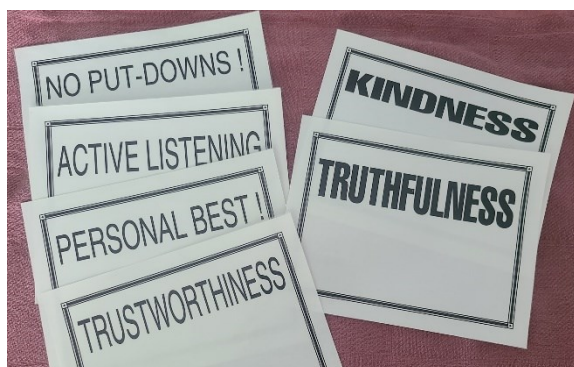
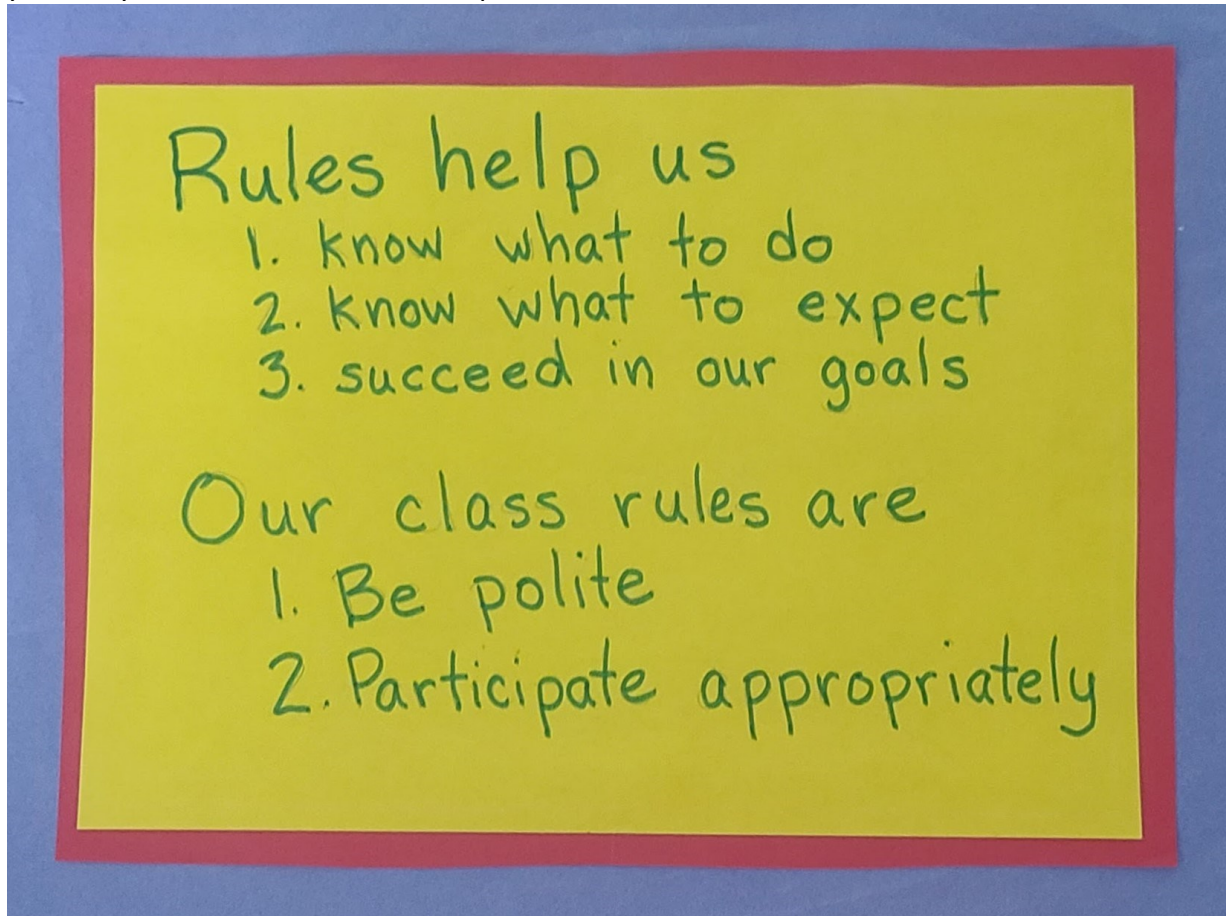
The Ring Bearer by Floyd Cooper

Good as a part of a discussion about stepfamilies and/or facing anxieties. Sweet story with a happy ending. Lovely illustrations. Grade 2 reading.

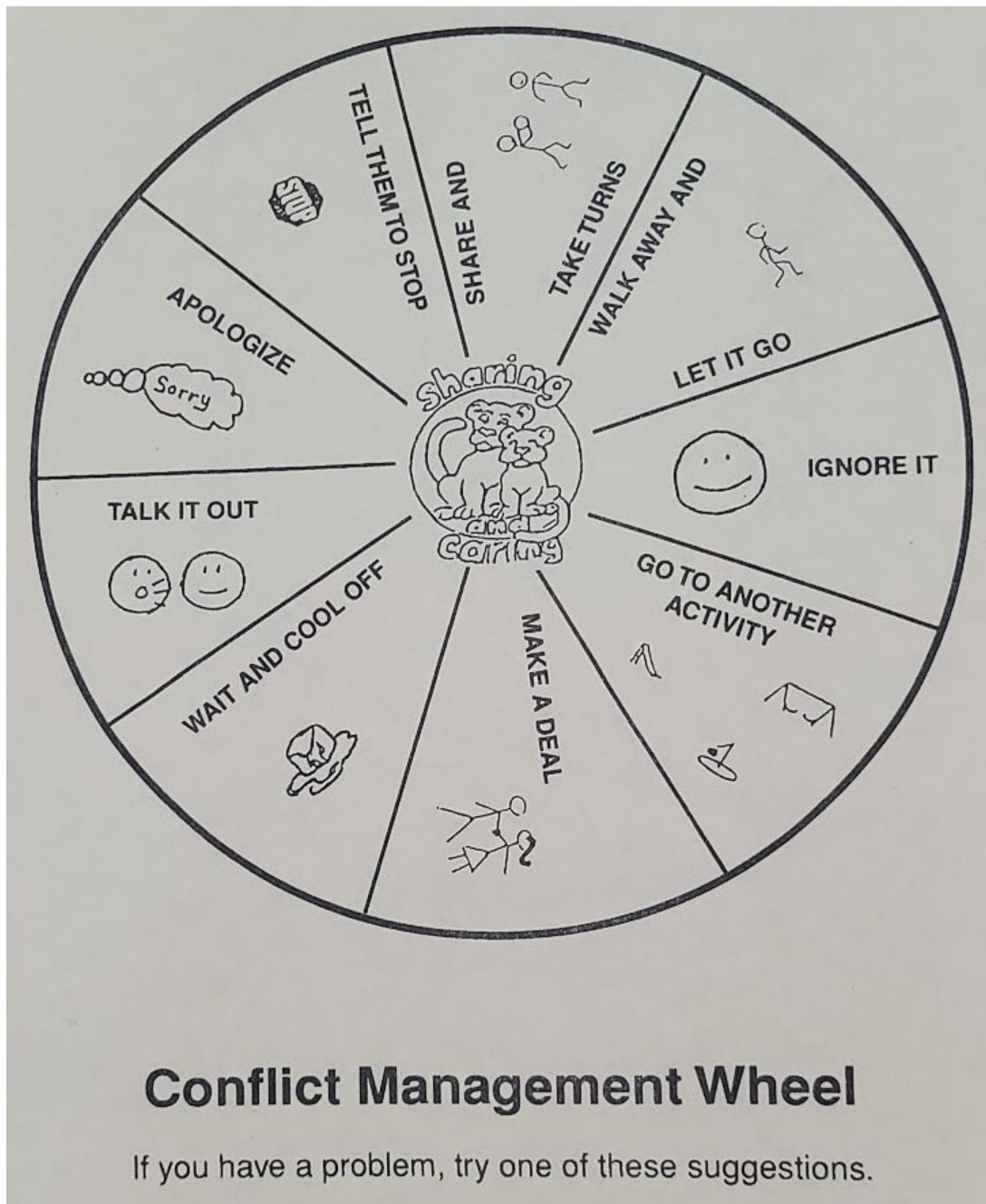
Community & Culture

Rules

Talk about why we have rules. Choose 3-4 generalized rules and discuss what they entail. Imagine trying to drive without any rules of the road/traffic rules—it would be very dangerous. For instance, rules tell drivers when it is their turn to go through an intersection. If everyone went at once it would be disastrous! Swimming and boating rules help keep us safe. Have you ever played a game with a person who is cheating? It's not fun! If you win by cheating, have you really won? Classroom rules help us:



Rules for Success



From the local elementary school.

Division of Labor

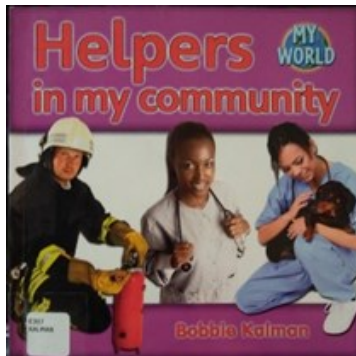
- Discuss the saying, "Many hands make light work." Is it fair if one or a few have to do all the work/chores? Does that show responsibility? Does that help everyone be their best selves? Does it help get the job done?
- If you want more freedoms/privileges, show more responsibility/dependability.
- In our world, people can specialize in a job/career/field so they can learn more about it, practice, and do higher quality work. Just like in football or other team sports, some are better at one task and others better at another. Having/developing different talents makes our world a better place.

Community Helpers



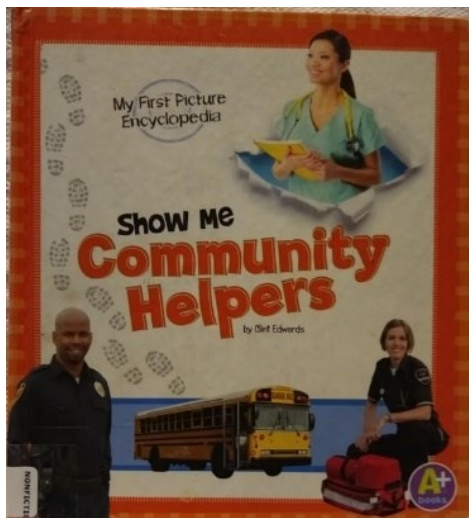
Helpers in Your Neighborhood by Shira Evans (National Geographic Kids Pre-reader)

“Pre-reader books are just right for kids who are ready to read.” Vocabulary tree at the front, a drawing activity at the end. People: mail carrier, librarian, police officer, firefighter, waiter, teacher, doctor, nurse (and reference to others). Places: post office, library, police station, fire station, restaurant, school, hospital. Helpers around the world. Extensions could be to look for, take photos, draw pictures, or look at a book with pictures of the pertinent vehicles, tools, uniforms/clothing/hats; role play, dress-up, invite guest helpers, play Concentration to match 2 of a kind, or complimentary cards, etc.

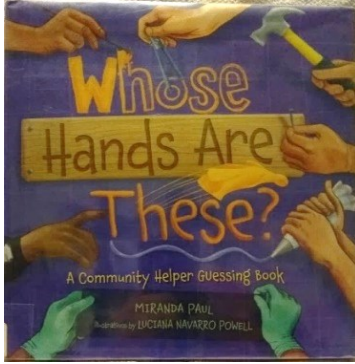


Helpers in My Community by Bobbie Kalman (My World)

Guided Reading level G (end of 1st grade). Contents, pictured words to know and index. Good read-aloud for K or pre-K. Simple explanations of different people and jobs in the community: builders (& machines they use), electricians, plumbers, teachers, librarians, crossing guard, bus driver, nurse, principal, caretakers (custodians), dentists, EMTs, paramedics (ambulances), firefighters (& trucks), police, volunteers. List of 64 other books in the series by reading levels A-H. K and pre-K appropriate topics.

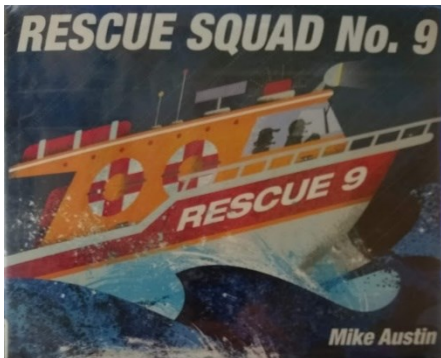


Show Me Community Helpers by Clint Edwards (My first Picture Encyclopedia, A+Books) Contents, Read More, Internet Sites. Covers police, firefighters, EMTs, doctors, nurses, pharmacists, dentist & hygienists, veterinarians, teachers, librarians, bus drivers, cafeteria workers, custodians, farmers, construction workers, electric utility workers. A lot of words for young ones, may need to be summarized and can cover more in later re-readings. Point to the pictures as you read about the items, until the child is ready to have you point to the words as you read. Can be a browsing book as well. “Titles in this set” under “Read More” cover dinosaurs, dogs, insects, polar animals, reptiles, space, transportation. Projects, games, etc. at www.capstonekids.com



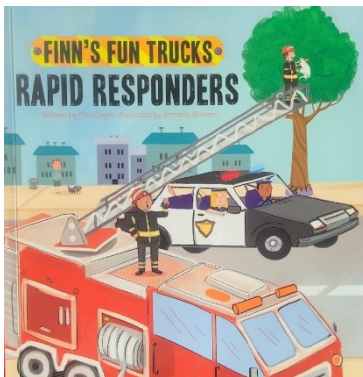
Whose Hands Are These? by Miranda Paul

“A Community Helper Guessing Book”. Simple brief rhyming text in large font. Nice illustrations, engaging story. Covers farmers, cooks, police, scientists, potters, reporters, mechanic, architects, referees, physicians, teachers. Ends with “What could your hands do?” More information about the people in the book at the end. Great message at the end from the author.



Rescue Squad No. 9 by Mike Austin

Great book for PreK and K. Very limited text and huge letters, repeating words. Great bold illustrations. Rescue boats, helicopters, people, equipment, dog. Do Your Part—Be Water Smart safety tips from American Red Cross at end of story. Also check out Fire Engine No. 9.



Rapid Responders by Finn Coyle (Finn's Fun Trucks)

Limited text in large font. Repeats “This is a ... Can you guess what it does?” Facing page is a simple labeled illustration followed by illustrated answers to the question, including the people involved. Includes fire truck, police car, ambulance, rescue helicopter, coast guard cutter. Grade 1 reading level, great read-aloud for K.

My 1st Book of Community Superheroes: Learn About Community Helpers by Sara Kale

Firefighters Are Heroes! By Sunny Mai

Jobs

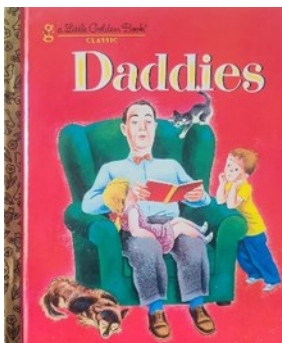


100 piece career puzzles: astronaut, male & female doctors, president



You can find kids' card games with community helpers or various jobs, to play Hearts, Old Maid, Crazy Eights, Go Fish, Concentration, etc. Of course you could make your own, but for most of us that's a little overwhelming prospect. Talk about where they work, clothes, vehicles, tools/equipment/instruments ...

Another option is to collect magazine pictures of various workers/careers and make a collage or group of collages for discussion of what they do, education, pros and cons . . .



Daddies by Janet Frank (a Little Golden Book)—talks about the different kinds of work Daddies do

Maybe You Should Fly a Jet! Maybe You Should Be a Vet! By Dr Seuss & Kelly Kennedy

When I Grow Up: Young Minds with Big Dreams by Althea Hurlock

When I Grow Up I want to Be _____ A-Z of Careers for Kids by Baby Professor

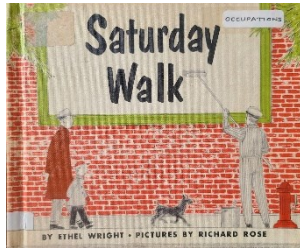
What Can I Be? STEM Careers from A to Z by Tiffani Teachey

Career Day by Anne Rockwell

Clothesline Clues to Jobs People Do by Kathryn Heling

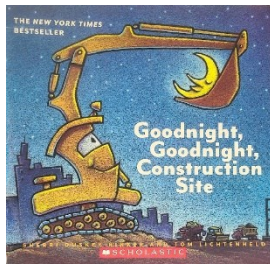
Whose Tools Are These?: A Look at Tools Workers Use—Big, Sharp, and Smooth by Sharon Katz Cooper

Whose Hat is This?: A Look at Hats Workers Wear by Sharon Katz Cooper



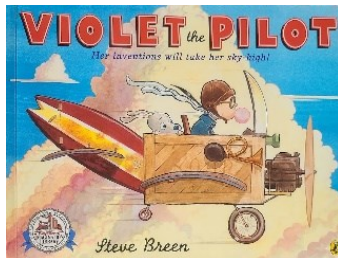
Saturday Walk by Ethel Wright

Dad & son go for a weekly walk in their neighborhood, see lots of different kinds of vehicles and work being done. Copyright 1941 and 1954—retro, historic.



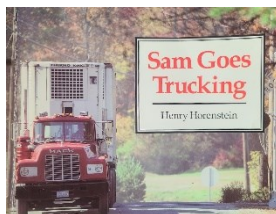
Goodnight, Goodnight, Construction Site by Sherri Duskey Rinker and Tom Lichtenheld (Scholastic)

Rhyming quatrains, not in large font. Good size illustrations. Affecting read aloud for K. Nice way to talk about construction jobs. Appropriate for science unit as well.



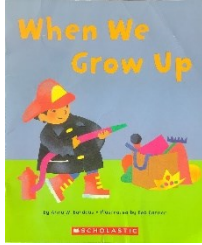
Violet the Pilot by Steve Breen (Puffin Books)

“Her inventions will take her sky-high!” Violet is a little odd (like her family), suffers persecution, but very talented and imaginative. She builds a plane to participate in an air show, but misses it when she rescues folks in trouble. She finally achieves recognition. Good chance to talk about being different (and accepting others), developing talents, persevering, re-purposing, engineering & mechanics. Caution imaginary tale vs reality (safety issues). Schematic drawings at front and back. Read-aloud K-2, 3rd grade reading level.



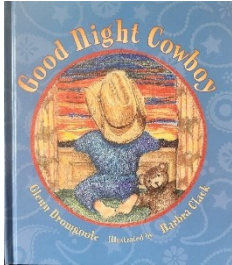
Sam Goes Trucking by Henry Horenstein

Follows a day in the life of a trucker (son rides along with dad). 1-2 sentences each page. 40pp, grade 2-3 level reading, but great read-aloud for K, along with great photos.



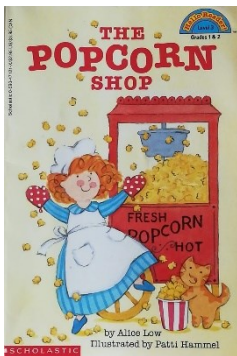
When We Grow Up by Anna W. Bardaus (Scholastic)

Different kids want to be a variety of things when they grow up: farmer, doctor, baker, fire fighter, singer, dancer . . . “But right now, we’re just kids. Ms. McKenzie is our teacher. She teaches us that if we put our minds to it, we can do lots of great things . . . when we grow up.” Includes storytime tips.



Good Night Cowboy by Glenn Dromgoole

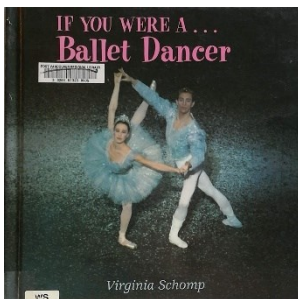
Limited rhyming text with lovely illustrations, touching ending. Shows equipment, environment, animals. Reading level grade 1, excellent read-aloud for K.



The Popcorn Shop by Alice Low (Scholastic, Hello Readers! Level 3, grades 1-2)

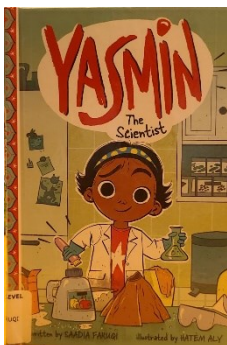
Want to be an entrepreneur? What do you need to know and to do to be a success? And yet sometimes things can go wrong! How will you be a problem solver?

See When I’m an Entrepreneur: Dreaming is Believing by Dr Samantha Pillay (Inspirational Careers for Kids)



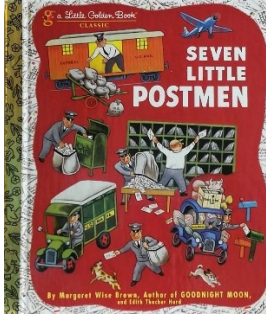
If You Were a ... Ballet Dancer by Virginia Schomp

How many young girls dream of being a ballet dancer? We can encourage their dreams, but also inject some reality.

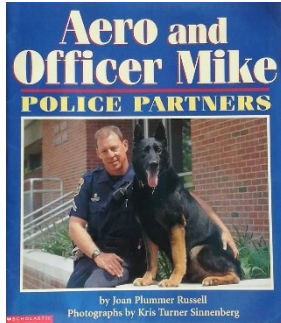


Yasmin the Scientist by Saadia Faruqi

What to do for the science fair? Kitchen science? 32pp, ages 5-8, reading level 500 Lexile. Several titles in the Yasmin series, such as, Yasmin the Writer, Yasmin the Teacher, Yasmin the Painter, Yasmin the Chef, Yasmin the Zookeeper, Yasmin the Builder, Yasmin the Librarian, Yasmin the Gardener, Yasmin the Explorer, Yasmin the Soccer Star . . .

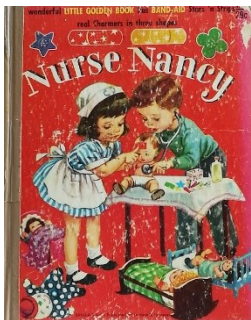


7 Little Postmen by Margaret Wise Brown (a Little Golden Book)
Another retro book of a bygone era.



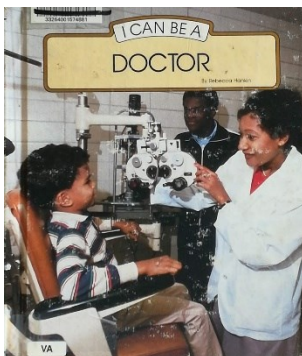
Aero and Officer Mike: Police Partners by Joan Plummer Russell
(Scholastic)
Nice photos, engaging with a police dog involved.

Also Officer Buckle and Gloria



Nurse Nancy (a Little Golden Book)
The “Big Boys” don’t want to play with Nancy, until motivation strikes, then she is busy as any grown up nurse. Retro title (1950s). 24pp, ages 2-5

Also, My Mommy is a Nurse by Jina & Danielle Giusto Maqsood
(My Mommy is series, 7 titles)



I Can Be a Doctor by Rebecca Hankin
Came in a Spanish edition as well.

Also:

I Want to Be a Doctor by Laura Driscoll and Catalina Echeverri (I Can Read level 1)

Other books about Careers:

When I Grow Up: I Want to Be a Dentist by Penelope Bunsen

When I’m a Surgeon: Dream is Believing by Dr. Samantha Pillay (Inspirational Careers for Kids)

Maybe I’ll be an Architect by Tenile Bettenhausen and Ira Baykovska (has a Spanish edition)

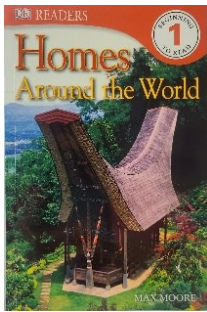
Andrew Learns About Engineers by Tiffany Obeng (Career Books for Kids, 7 in series)

Andrew Learns About Lawyers by Tiffany Obeng (Career Books for Kids, 7 in series)

When I’m an Astronaut: Dreaming is Believing (Inspirational Careers for Kids) by Samantha Pillay

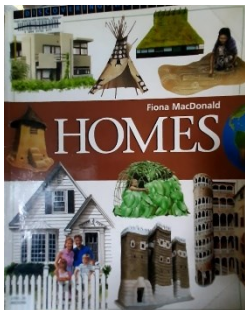
Environment/Culture

Homes and more



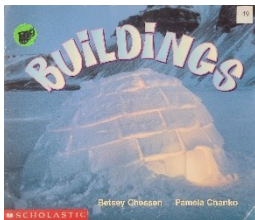
Homes Around the World by Max Moore (DK Readers level 1)

Fascinating to look at different ways of living and building homes. Talk about environment and culture.



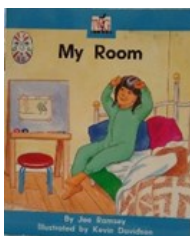
Homes by Fiona MacDonald (Discovering World Cultures)

Homes around the world, different environments, designs, cost, building materials, and through history.



Buildings by Betsey Chessen (Scholastic)

Buildings made of wood, brick, carved from rock, stone, metal, mud, glass, ice, straw, logs, gold. Talk about circumstances, such as environment, availability of materials, cost, needs, traditions, etc. Useful in a science unit as well. One sentence per page in large font: "Some are made of ...", followed by extra info at back.



My Room by Joe Ramsey

Earliest of reading levels. Two word sentences for what the child does in her room. Illustration clues. "Things to Know" at the end gives a little history of bedrooms in different cultures. "Things to Do" are suggestions to engage the child in the story and to extend the learning, inside back cover.



The House That Jack Built

By the price it's obvious I've had this a long time, prob 50 years. Simple yet entertaining, repetitive text, pleasant illustrations.



Gingerbread House stamps entice the imagination. For Kindergarten, the houses should either be just a flat cookie, or a simple pre-assembled house, with lots of frosting and candy. If you have a child that is a perfectionist or on the autism spectrum, show simpler designs instead of these complex ones. They don't have to come out pretty, just so the children have fun. Some families establish a yearly tradition of building gingerbread houses at Christmas. We've also done train stations. Be sure to take photos. If annually, make a photo album that shows the development/change over time.



A Castle Cake can be part of a summer Princess & Plunderers/pirates unit, or knights and kingdoms, or dragons and defenders, etc. Just a fun thing to engage in any time, any month, any season.

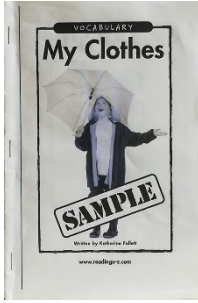
Kids love to build houses, forts, tunnels, etc. with blankets and pillows, blocks of any sort (including Jenga, dominoes, Legos, etc), big boxes, recycled building materials in the yard if appropriate—it's a fantastic way to engender engineering skills and interests, develop imagination.

Along with building places to play, kids love dress-up, playing store, or various careers/jobs...



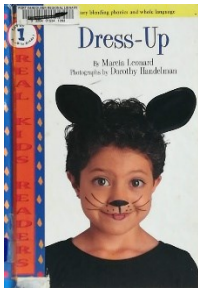
A chicken house/coop, designed to look like a people cottage.

Clothes



My Clothes by Katherine Follett (www.readinga-z.com)

This company provides a comprehensive curriculum from the very beginning of the alphabet and learning to read on up. They also have a science division.



Dress-Up by Marcia Leonard

“Blending phonics and whole language” Level 1, PreK-1st grade.

Clothes Around the World by Clare Lewis (Around the World, 6 titles), 24pp

What We Wear: Dressing Up Around the World by Maya Ajmera & Elise Hofer Derstine, 32 pp

Clothes in Many Cultures by Heather Adamson (Life Around the World, 6 titles), 24pp

Where Did My Clothes Come From? By Christine Butterworth (Exploring the Everyday series), 32pp

The Costume History by Auguste Racinet (adult level, possibly browsing for Kindergarten)

Pictorial Encyclopedia of Historic Costume: 1200 full-color figures by Albert Kretschmer (Dover Fashion and Costumes); reference & browsing

What People Wore When: A Complete Illustrated History of Costume from Ancient times to the Nineteenth Century by Melissa Leventon; reference & browsing

Foods/Cuisine

Look under the topic "holiday", "French", "Italian", "German", "Hawaiian", "Greek", "NativeAmerican", "Thai", or search "Russian" or other at

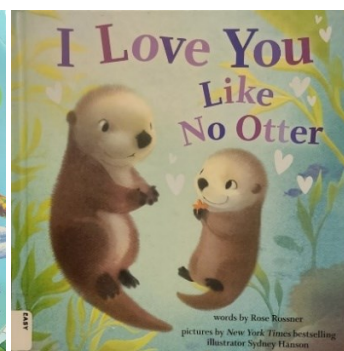
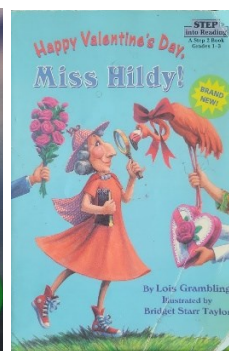
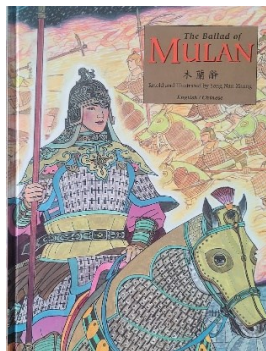
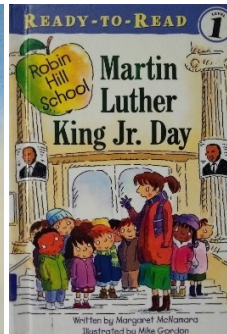
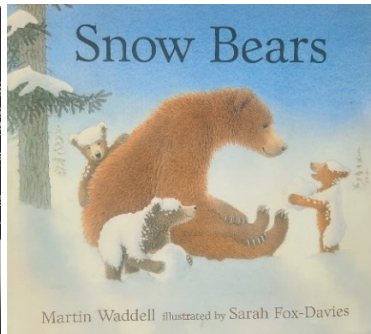
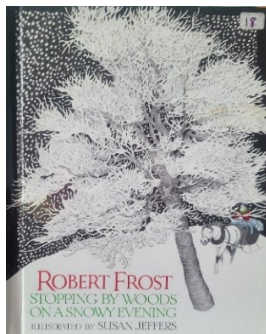
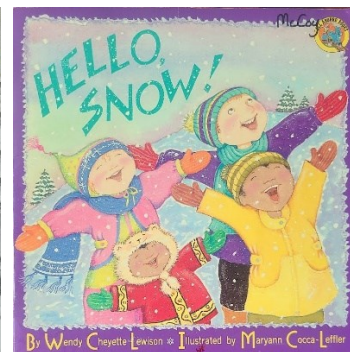
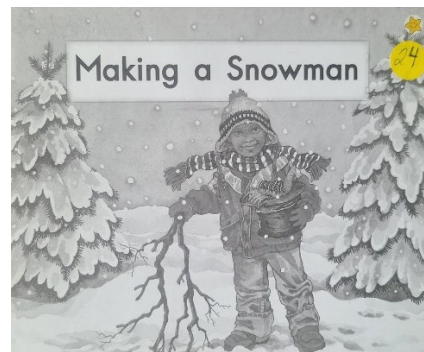
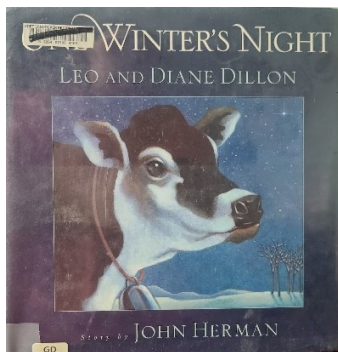
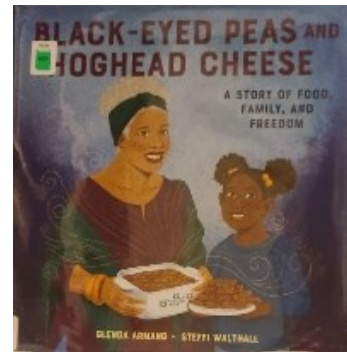
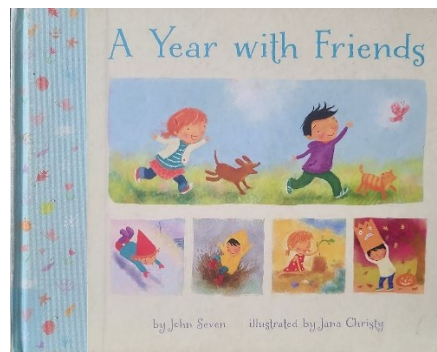
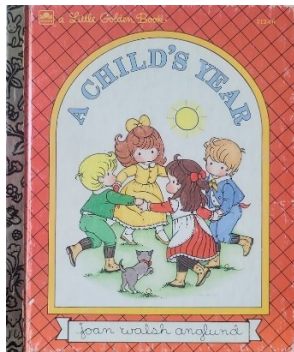
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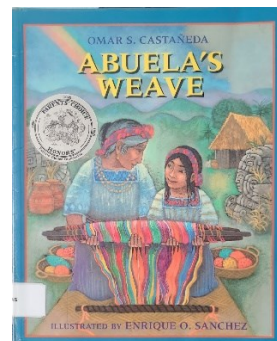
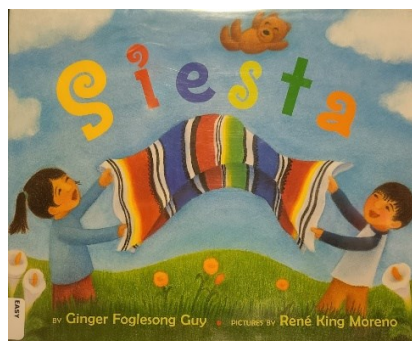
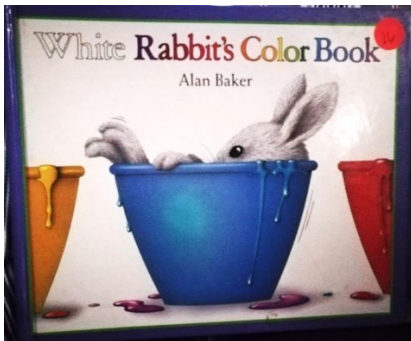
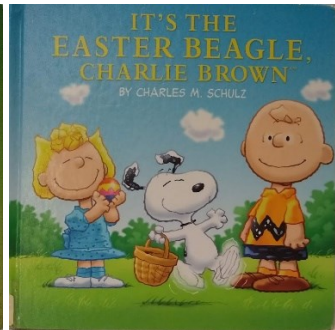
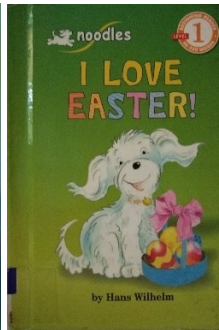
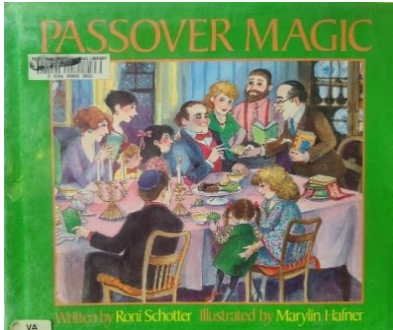
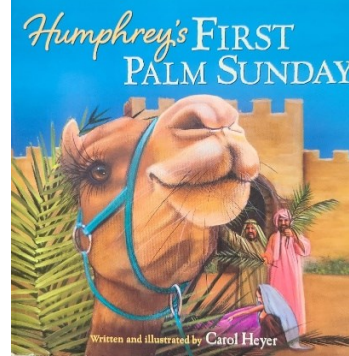
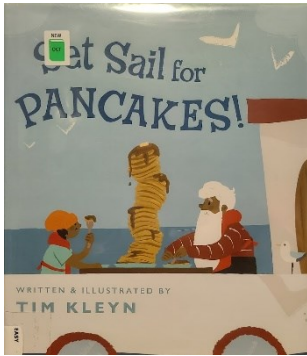
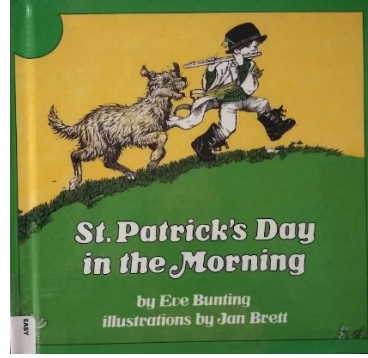
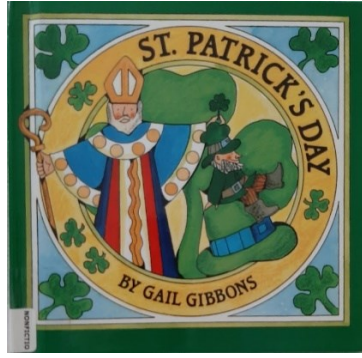
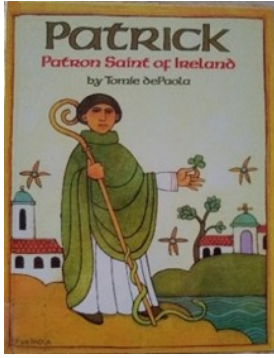
For Music & Dance see

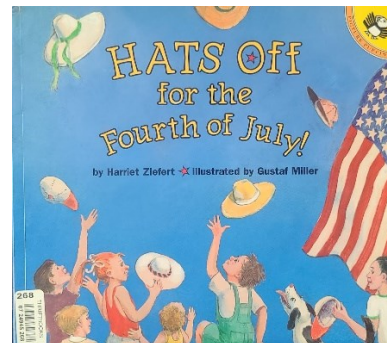
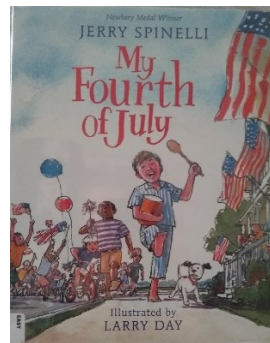
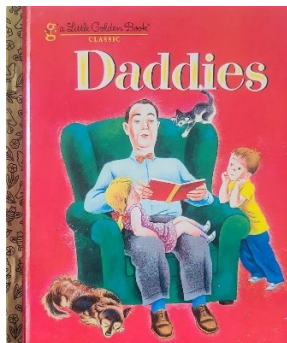
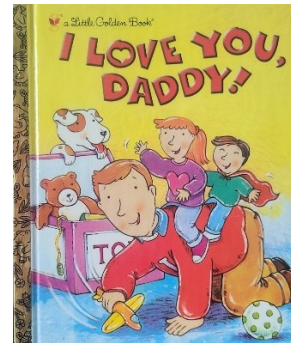
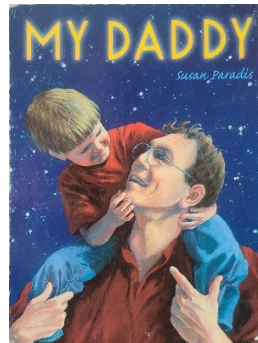
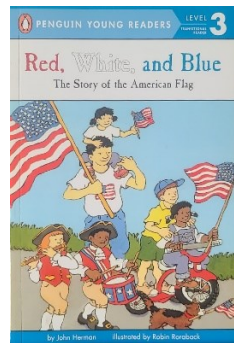
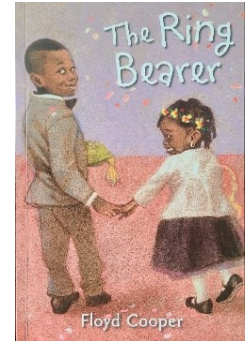
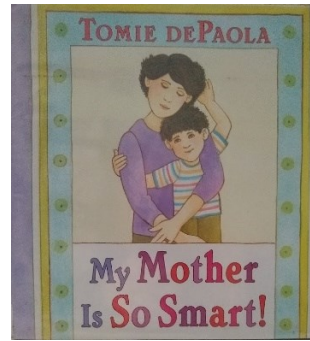
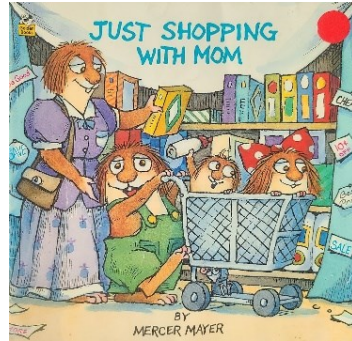
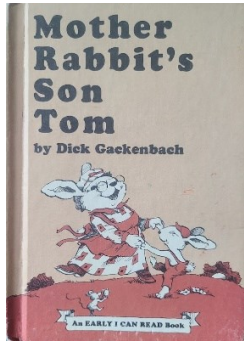
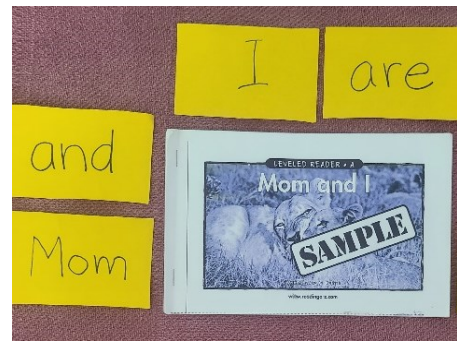
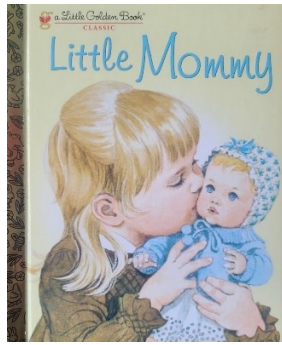
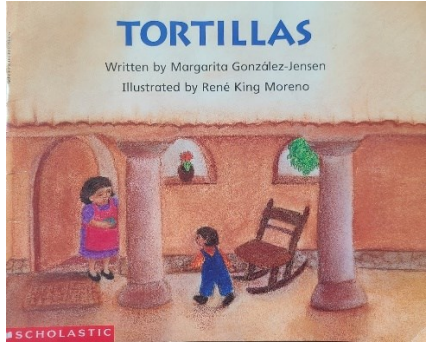
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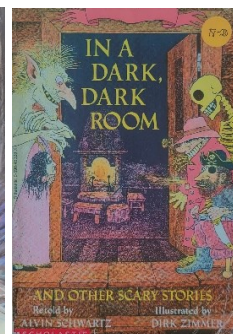
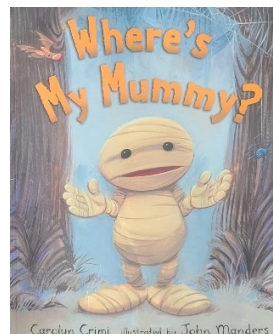
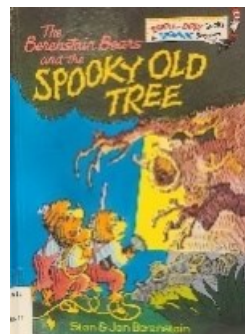
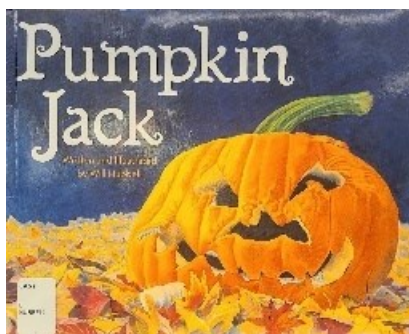
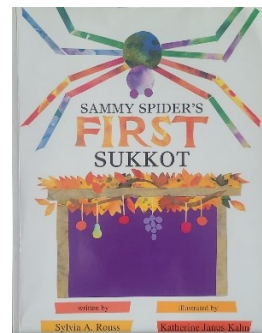
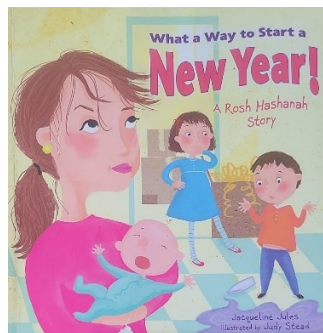
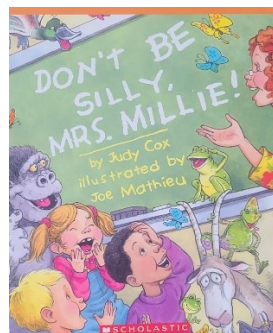
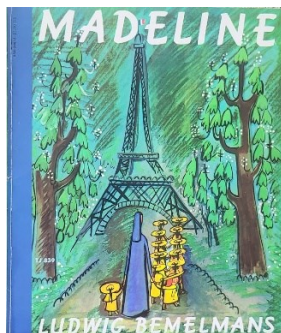
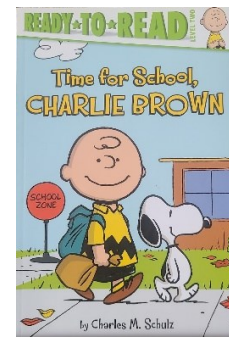
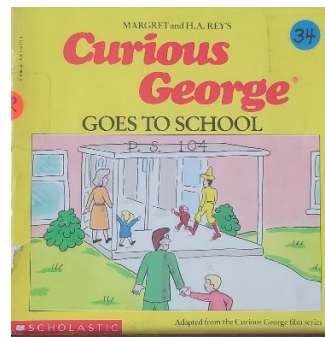
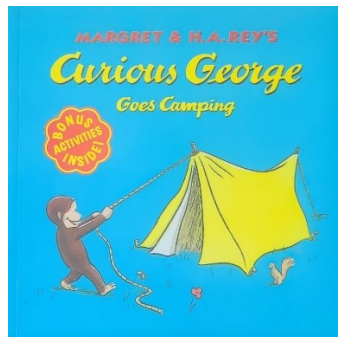
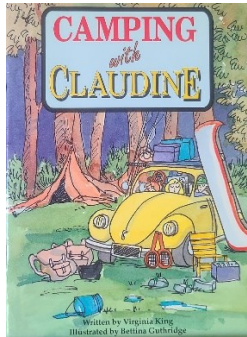
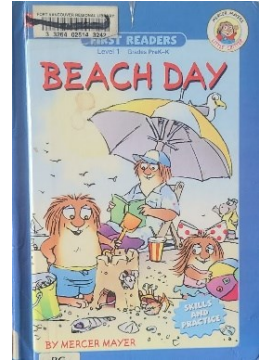
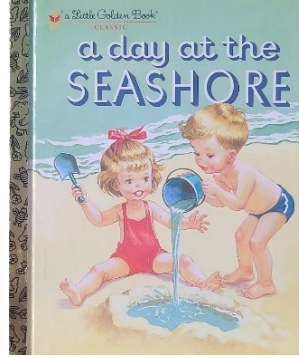
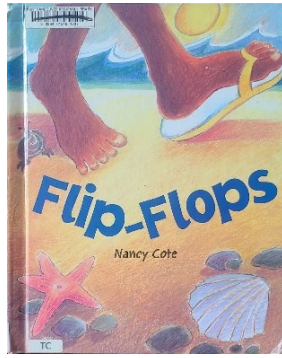
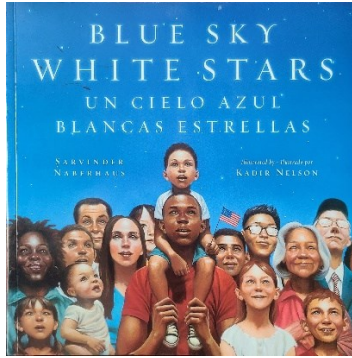
Holidays, Seasons & Celebrations—see also

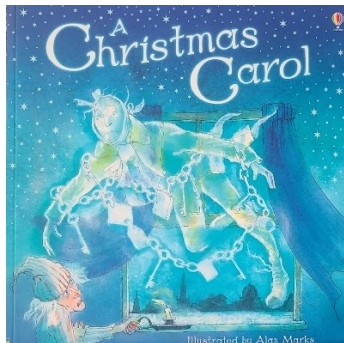
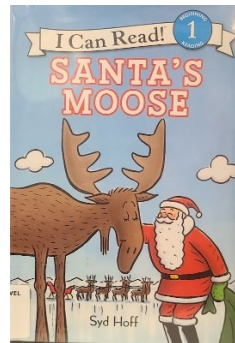
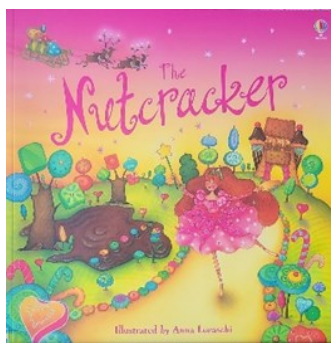
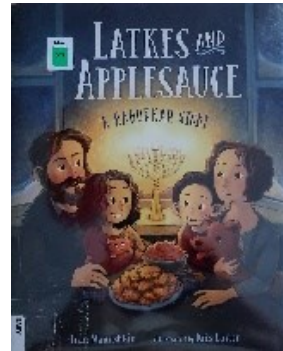
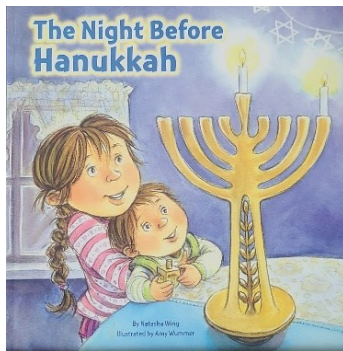
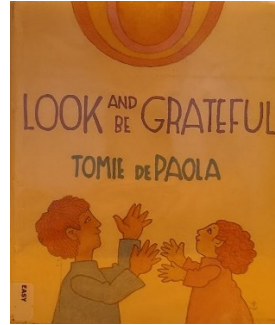
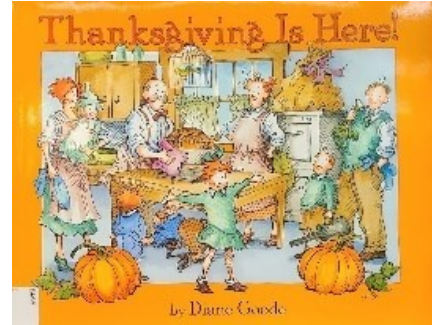
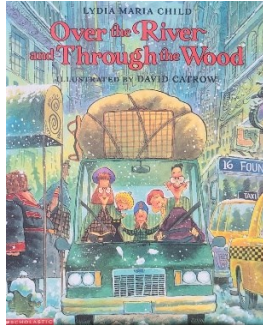
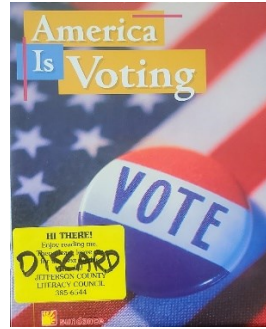
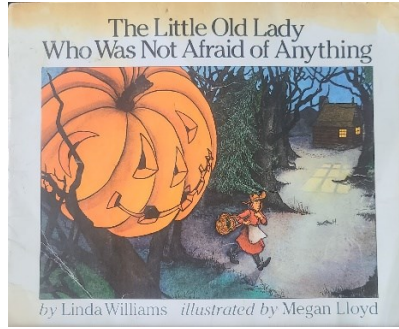
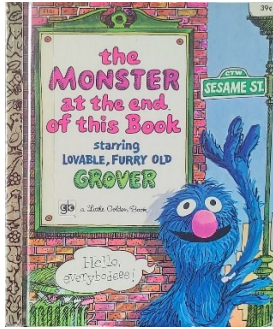
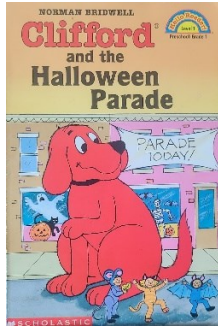
- https://www.learninglab.site/files/ugd/383023_9326fea9f5354afeb36ac3fd1493fd76.pdf

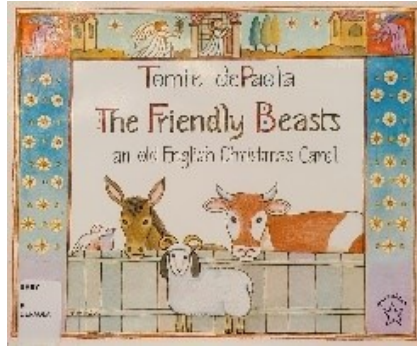
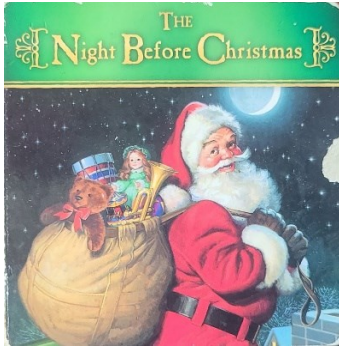












A Child's Year by Joan Walsh Anglund (a Little Golden Book)

A Year with Friends by John Seven

Black-eyed Peas and Hoghead Cheese by Glenda Armand (New Year's Day, New Orleans; or Mardi Gras)

One Winter's Night by John Herman

Making a Snowman by Natalia De La Rosa

Hello Snow by Wendy Cheyette Lewison

Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening by Robert Frost, DRA 18

Snow Bears by Martin Waddell

Snow Day for Mouse by Judy Cox (Scholastic)

The Magical Snowman by Catherine Walters (Scholastic)

The Biggest Snowman Ever by Steven Kroll (Scholastic)

Martin Luther King Jr. Day by Margaret McNamara (Robin Hill School series Ready to Read level 1)
(for Martin Luther King Jr day, see also “History” section below)

A Sweet New Year For Ren by Michelle Sterling (Lunar New Year with extended family)

The Ballad of Mulan retold by Song Nan Zhang, bi-lingual English & Chinese

Groundhog Day by Lisa M. Herrington

Happy Valentine's Day, Miss Hildy by Lois Grambling (Step into Reading level 2) grades 1-3

I Love You Like No Otter by Rose Rossner (Valentine’s Day—punny love for various animal offspring)
(for Presidents’ Day, see “History” section below)

Set Sail For Pancakes! By Tim Kleyn (Shrove Tuesday—imagination, problem solving, boat, grandparent)

Festival of Colors by Kabir & Surishtha Sehgal (Holi, India)

Patrick, Patron Saint of Ireland by Tomie dePaola

St Patrick's Day by Gail Gibbons

St Patirck's Day in the Morning by Eve Bunting (illustrations by Jan Brett)

Humphrey's First Palm Sunday by Carol Heyer, board book

Passover Magic by Roni Schotter (may need summarizing for Kindergarteners)

The Not-Quite-Perfect Passover Ruby Celebrates by Laura Gehl (Ruby Celebrates!)

I Love Easter (Noodles series, Beginning Reader level 1, 50-250 words) by Hans Wilhelm

It's the Easter Beagle, Charlie Brown by Charles M. Schulz, ages 4up, 32pp, 550 Lexile, humor

White Rabbit's Color Book by Alan Baker (DRA level 16)

Siesta by Ginger Foglesong Guy (Cinco de Mayo or Mexican Independence; simple bi-lingual, colors)

Abuela's Weave by Omar S. Castaneda (Cinco de Mayo or Mexican Independence)

Tortillas by Margarita Gonzalez-Jensen (very limited text in large font, grade 1 reading)

Little Mommy by Sharon Kane (a Little Golden Book)

Mother Rabbit's Son Tom by Dick Gackenbach (An Early I Can Read Book)

Mom and I by Ava G. Kalisch (readinga-z.com)

Just Shopping with Mom by Mercer Mayer (Little Critter series) shows challenges of being mom

My Mother is So Smart! By Tomie dePaola

The Ring Bearer by Floyd Cooper (June brides) good to discuss step families and facing anxieties

The Star-Spangled Banner by Peter Spier (Flag Day)

Red, White, and Blue The Story of the American Flag by John Herman (Penguin Young Readers level 3)

My Daddy by Susan Paradis, board book

I Love You, Daddy by Edie Evans (a Little Golden Book)

Daddies by Janet Frank (a Little Golden Book)

My Fourth of July by Jerry Spinelli

Hats Off for the Fourth of July by Harriet Ziefert

Independence Day by Lori Dittmer

Blue Sky White Stars/Un Cielo Azul Blancas Estrellas by Sarvinder Naberhaus (bilingual; beautiful & poetic)

Flip-Flops by Nancy Cote

A Day at the Seashore by Kathryn and Byron Jackson (a Little Golden Book)

Beach Day by Mercer Mayer (Little Critter, First Readers level 1) Grades PreK-K

Camping with Claudine by Virginia King

Curious George Goes Camping Margret & H.A. Rey

Curious George Goes to School adapted from Margret and H.A. Rey stories (Scholastic) DRA 34

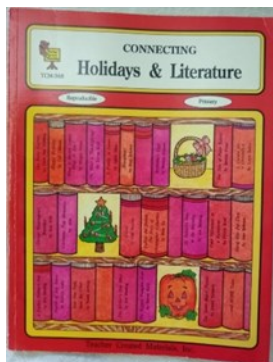
Time for School, Charlie Brown by Charles M. Schulz (Ready to Read level 2)

Madeline by Ludwig Bemelmans

Don't Be Silly Mrs. Millie by Judy Cox (Scholastic)
(for Labor Day, look under “Community Helpers” & “Jobs” section above)

What a Way to Start a New Year: A Rosh Hashanah Story by Jacqueline Jules

Sammy Spider's First Sukkot by Sylvia A. Rouss
 (for Columbus Day, see "History" section below)
Pumpkin Jack by Will Hubell (Halloween)
The Berenstain Bears and the Spooky Old Tree
Where's My Mummy? by Carolyn Crimi
The Berenstain Bears and the Spooky Old Tree (Halloween)
In a Dark, Dark Room and Other Scary Stories, retold by Alvin Schwartz (Scholastic) DRA 18-20
Clifford and the Halloween Parade by Norman Bridwell (Scholastic Hello Reader level 1) PreK-1st grade
The Monster at the End of This Book by Jon Stone (Sesame Street, a Little Golden Book)
The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything by Linda Williams
The Runaway Pumpkin by Kevin Lewis (Scholastic) DRA 16-18
America is Voting by Judy Dashman (Sundance) perhaps summarize, simplify for Kindergarteners
Over the River and Through the Wood lyrics by Lydia Maria Child (Scholastic), modern take on a classic
Thanksgiving is Here! by Diane Goode
Look and Be Grateful by Tomie dePaola
 (for more books about Thanksgiving, see "History" section below)
The Night Before Hanukkah by Natasha Wing
Latkes and Applesauce: A Hanukkah Story by Fran Manushkin and Kris Easler
Is It Hanukkah Yet? by Chris Barash
The Nutcracker (Usborne books)
Santa's Moose by Syd Hoff (I Can Read level 1) humor; like Rudolf, Milton comes to the rescue
A Christmas Carol (Usborne books)
The Night Before Christmas board book
The Friendly Beasts: an Old English Christmas Carol by Tomie dePaola
The Twelve Days of Christmas (Usborne books)
Kwanzaa by Lisa M. Herrington, Scholastic Rookie Read-About Holidays (and others)



Connecting Holidays & Literature (Teacher Created Materials), reproducibles, Primary grades. Suggested books and activities for First Day of School, Grandparents' Day, Columbus Day, Teddy Bear Day, Halloween, Sandwich Day, National Children's Book Week, Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa, New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Chinese New Year, Groundhog Day, President's Day, Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, Easter, April Fool's Day, Earth Day, Cinco de Mayo, Children's Day, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Fourth of July, Bastille Day, Birthdays.



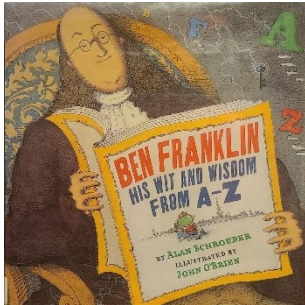
Holidays stencils

Festivals and Celebrations (DK Reader level 2)
Holiday! Celebration Days Around the World (DK Readers level 2)

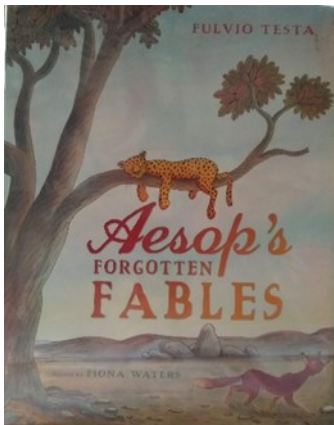
Cultural Field trips:

- <https://www.travelpacificnw.com/accessible-travel-blog/celebrating-chinese-style>
- <https://www.travelpacificnw.com/accessible-travel-blog/hanukkah-holocaust>
- <https://www.travelpacificnw.com/accessible-travel-blog/japanese-american-journeys>
- <https://www.travelpacificnw.com/accessible-travel-blog/savor-the-latin-flavors>
- <https://www.travelpacificnw.com/accessible-travel-blog/mt-angel-oktoberfest>

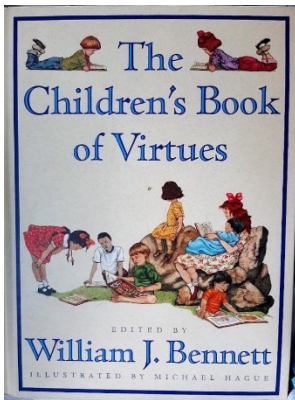
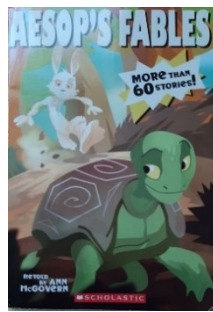
Values, Wisdom, Morals & Ethics, concepts of right/wrong & good/bad, choices/consequences, the Good Life, scripture stories...



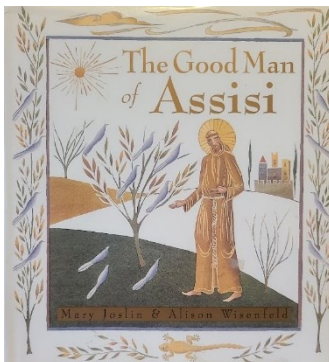
Ben Franklin, His Wit and Wisdom from A-Z by Alan Schroeder
Tidbits of Ben's life and wisdom by the alphabet. Suggest one letter a day for K.



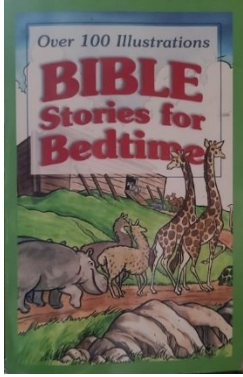
Aesop's Forgotten Fables retold by Fiona Waters



The Children's Book of Virtues ed by William J. Bennett
Not really a complete/exhaustive work, but gives some ideas for taking character lessons from children's literature. 112pp, for grades K-3.
Read what Amazon.com has to say about the contents.

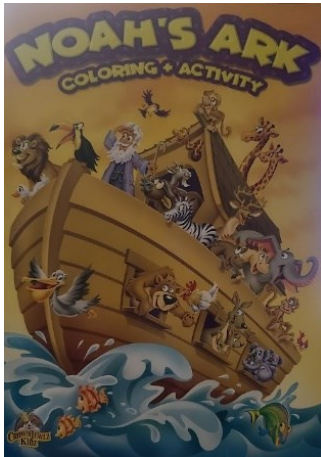


The Good Man of Assisi by Mary Joslin
The life and purposes of St Francis of Assisi simply told. About 3rd grade reading, but a great read-aloud as well. 832 Lexile



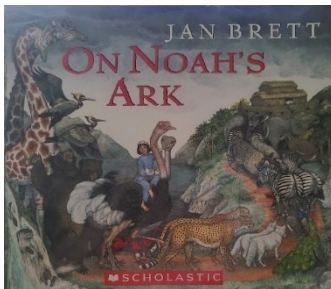
Bible Stories for Bedtime by Daniel Partner.

Each story is a page or less, simply told, and includes a question. The stories are accurate enough to the text, even if an occasional detail might be debated. Good for discussion. It's ok that we all have different perspectives, and it's good for children to know that.



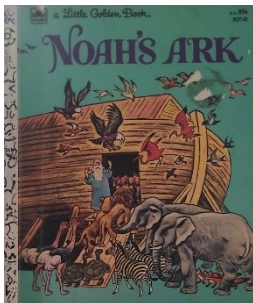
Noah's Ark coloring & Activity book, most pictures suitable for K skills.

(below: Noah's Ark wall hanging and 3-D picture; right: Tupperware Noah's Ark toy.



On Noah's Ark by Jan Brett
(Scholastic)

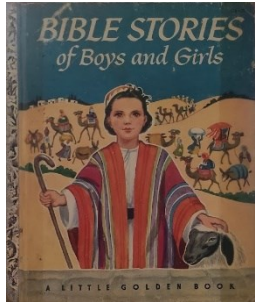
As usual, high quality illustrations from Ms. Brett, with details worth noting. Creative license taken with the story. Such chaos & mayhem doesn't seem true to God's character. Still worth enjoying and discussing.



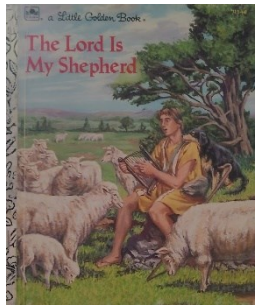
Noah's Ark by Barbara Shook Hazen (a Little Golden Book)

A pretty good depiction of the story, even though the chaos & mayhem shown would be unlike a successful undertaking.

For a group retelling/re-enactment, it's fun to play up a little on chaos. Have each child choose an animal to be, and make the sound of it. Rock side to side in the pretend ark, as if in a storm. Maybe even pretend a bit of sea sickness. Choose snacks that relate in some way to the animals.



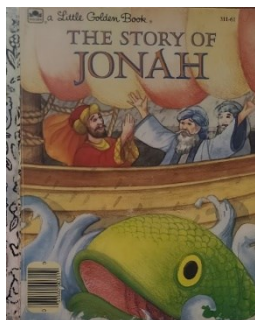
Bible Stories of Boys and Girls retold by Jane Werner (a Little Golden Book) Rebekah at the Well, Joseph and his Dreams, Miriam the Good Sister (of Moses), Samuel the Lord's Child, David the Shepherd King. I might disagree on a detail or two of characterization, but it's good to have a reason to talk together while reading the stories.



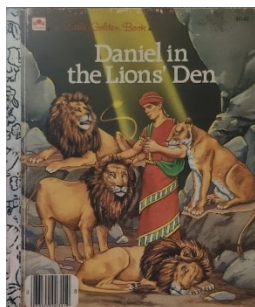
The Lord is My Shepherd: the Twenty-third Psalm (a Little Golden Book) Includes a short preface about the Psalms and musical notation for a Scottish Psalter of 1650.



Solomon by Victoria Kovacs (Little Bible Heroes) Jonah on the flip side; Very simple retelling of a small part of Solomon's life, thought questions at end. While the cutesy illustrations are no doubt an attempt to appeal, they seem to trivialize the story a bit to me. Grade 1 reading level.



The Story of Jonah adapted by Pamela Broughton (a Little Golden Book) Pretty accurate to the source, nice illustrations--of course no one knows what the fish looked like. This would also be a fun one to re-enact.



Daniel in the Lions' Den retold by Pamela Broughton (a Little Golden Book) Follows the text pretty well, predictably some detail is lost in such a summary. Covers Dan 1-2, 4-6: from the time Daniel was taken captive to his release from the lions' den.

Also,

Deborah and the Very Big Battle by Tim Thornborough (Very Best Bible Stories) 24pp

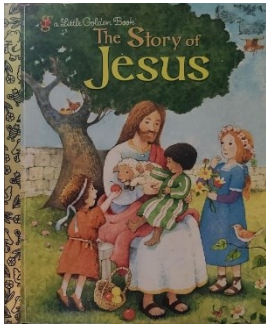
Esther and the Very Brave Plan by Tim Thornborough (Very Best Bible Stories) 24pp

The Story of Ruth: Rhyming Bible Fun for Kids! By Phil A. Smouse (Oh, What God Will Go & Do!)

Ruth and Naomi by Karen Nordberg Sander (Arch Books) 16pp rhyming; list of titles at back

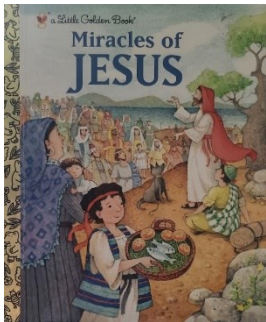
Deborah/Abigail by Victoria Kovacs (Flip-Over Book, Little Bible Heroes

Series includes Samson/Gideon, Elijah/John the Baptist, etc. see Solomon above



The Story of Jesus by Jane Werner Watson (a Little Golden Book)

A little creative license taken with the text, but within acceptable limits.



The Miracles of Jesus retold by Pamela Broughton and Diane Muldrow (a Little Golden Book)

The main focus is on the Feeding of 5000 and Walking on Water afterward. A detail or two are missing, of necessity in a work so short, but provides an ideal reason to talk about the events.

Compatible with a theme of folk stories, Kindergarten is a good time to read & talk about Jesus' parables—here are a few titles:

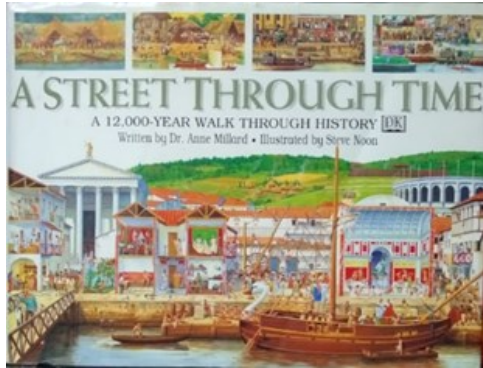
The Parables of Jesus by Tomie dePaola, 32pp, 17 parables, age 5+

Best Loved Parables of Jesus by various authors (Parables and Lessons of Jesus) 104pp/6 rhyming stories, ages 5-9

Jesus Told Parables (A Bible Coloring Book by Jupiter Kids) 44pp

History/Folklore (time, place, change)

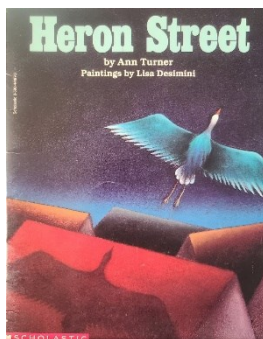
Although folklore doesn't present history in the way that we typically tell non-fiction, beside often being beautiful stories, it reveals a lot about the society and times, and truths that have value in being passed along. So I'm including folk tales in this list of Kindergarten history texts, complimentary to my Kindergarten Literacy Connections (folktales).



A Street Through Time by Dr. Anne Millard (DK)

An excellent browsing book to show how human life has changed over time. When kids get older they can appreciate more of the text, and there are plenty of details to look at, so the book is well worth having around for reference, and to go back to through the years.

Also worth acquiring through the years: A City Through Time, A Child Through Time, A Farm Through Time, A Port Through Time, The Story of the Nile.



Heron Street by Ann Turner (Scholastic)

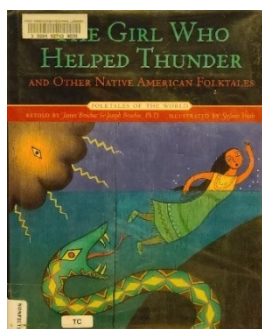
Changes in place and over time, where Heron Street came to be constructed. Brief text in a large font, lots of sound words.

75 year history of Little Golden Books (first published 1942, for 25 cents each)

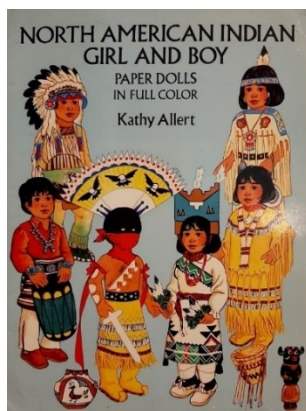
<http://www.littlegoldenbooks.com/about/>



Map from <https://motivasi.my.id/> , site has another that shows the state lines



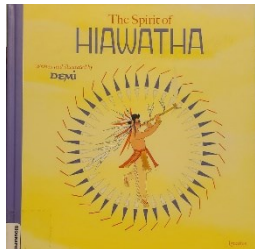
The Girl Who Helped Thunder and Other Native American Folktales retold by James Bruchac & Joseph Bruchac Ph.D
 K read-aloud, one story at a time. Only about 1 illustration per story, which could be projected during the reading of the story, and the children could be drawing their own illustrations. Afterward a group activity might be to put 3-4 pictures depicting elements of the story in order. The stories are presented by groupings: Northeast, Southeast, Great Plains, Southwest, California, Northwest, Far North (like Alaskan).



North American Indian Girl and Boy Paper Dolls by Kathy Allert
 "In full color".

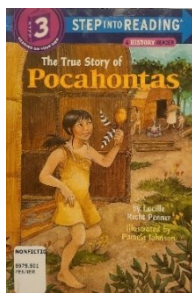
Finding My Dance by Ria Thundercloud; 40pp picture book by a contemporary dancer

“The Song of Hiawatha” by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow is famous, but rather long (probably longer than a Kindergartener can sit for, but perhaps for the pictures), quite full of inaccuracies about the Hiawatha of legend, though **Susan Jeffers has illustrated** a beautiful rendition of his poem. Hiawatha, Onondaga and/or Mohawk leader, lived in the 1500s, co-founded the Iroquois Confederacy (Union of the 5 Tribes).



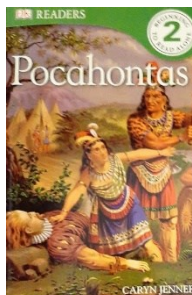
The Spirit of Hiawatha by Demi

Tales of Hiawatha and the beginning of the Iroquois League of 5 Nations, from a Christian perspective. Read-aloud or tell to K.



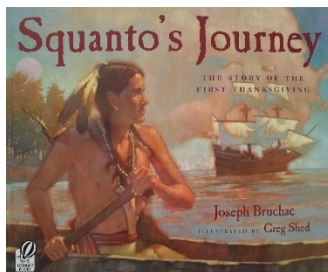
The True Story of Pocahontas by Lucille Recht Penner (Step into Reading, 3)

Reading level 2nd grade, great read-aloud for Kindergarten. 48pp, 550 Lexile.



Pocahontas by Caryn Jenner (DK Readers level 2)

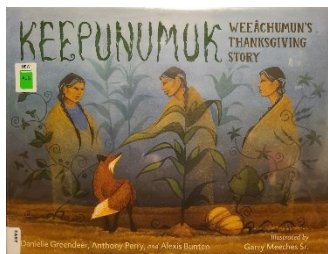
32pp, ages 6-8yrs, though fine for K read-aloud. However, if the summary on Amazon.com correctly reflects the information in the book, it erroneously claims that Pocahontas married John Smith. Lexile 290.



Squanto's Journey: The Story of the First Thanksgiving by Joseph Bruchac

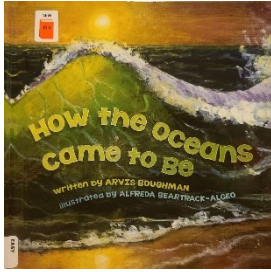
An excellent and beautiful picture book by a writer of many books with Native American themes. His grandfather had Native American ancestry. More about him at

<https://josephbruchac.wordpress.com/about-me/>



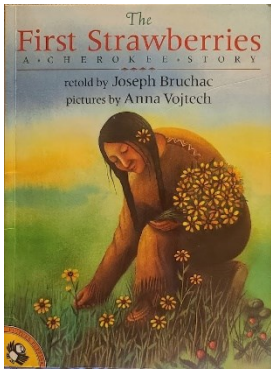
Keepunumuk, Weeachumun's Thanksgiving Story by Danielle Greendeer, Anthony Perry, and Alexis Bunten

Beautiful book. Brief text in large font, grade 2-3 reading level. 1st Thanksgiving from Wampanoag perspective. Map and more info about the Wampanoag people at the end, including a recipe.



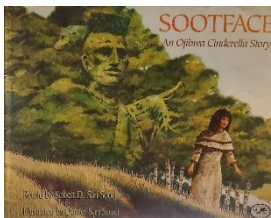
How the Oceans Came to Be by Arvis Boughman

Another beautiful picture book, a traditional Lumbee story, North Carolina tribe; grades K-2, limited text in large font.

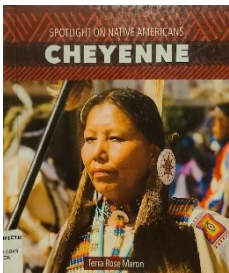


The First Strawberries: A Cherokee Story retold by Joseph Bruchac (Puffin Books)

A beautiful book with a beautiful message about kindness and respect. Brief text in large font; 1st grade read, great read-aloud.



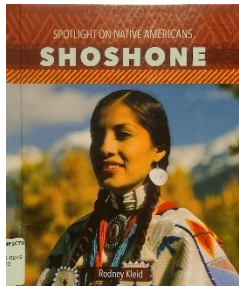
Sootface: An Ojibwa Cinderella Story retold by Robert D. San Souci (Dragonfly Books) A beautiful story beautifully illustrated. Text in a large font. Grades 2-3 reading. Additional titles inside back cover.



Cheyenne by Terra Rose Maron (Spotlight on Native Americans)

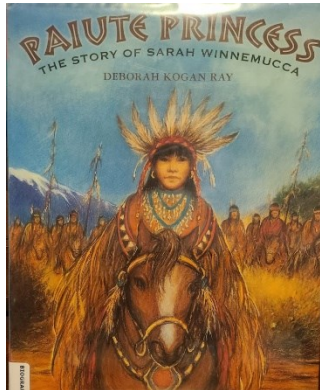
Contents, glossary, books & websites for more info, index. More titles listed on back cover. Grade 3-5 reading level, can be adapted to Kindergarten by choosing a few sentences or summarizing the text, and showing the pictures on an overhead.

Example: "... the Cheyenne people were a woodland people living in the Great Lakes region in permanent villages. Their lifestyle, based on hunting, fishing, and farming, was similar to ... other woodland people. During the early 1700s the Cheyennes were driven west to the northern Great Plains by their enemies the Assiniboins and Ojibwes, and became nomadic [moving from place to place] buffalo hunters ... The Cheyenne acquired [got] horses from other Native American groups ... American traders brought whiskey to exchange with the Cheyennes for their buffalo robes. Alcoholism became a big problem for the tribe... the Cheyenne tribe ... separated into Northern Cheyennes, who lived mainly in northern Wyoming and southeastern Montana [point out on map], and Southern Cheyennes, who stayed mainly in the Arkansas and ... in eastern Colorado, southwester Kansas, and northwestern Oklahoma." With the settling of the west by the people of the United States, there were many years of wars and treaties (agreements) made and broken. Eventually the Native Americans were forced onto reservations where their ways were not respected. [read pp 14-17]



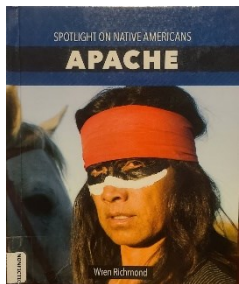
Shoshone by Rodney Kleid (Spotlight on Native Americans)

More titles listed on back cover--grade 3-5 reading level, can be adapted to Kindergarten by choosing a few sentences or summarizing the text, and showing the pictures on an overhead.



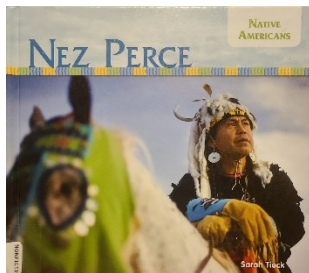
Paiute Princess: The Story of Sarah Winnemucca by Deborah Kogan Ray

Summarize or extract for K, the earliest info about the Paiutes in the book (her father & grandfather & people). Her own story is a part of mid-1800s or so; illustrations, photos, nice map, author's note, timeline, background.



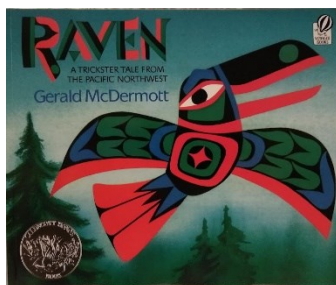
Apache by Wren Richmond (Spotlight on Native Americans)

More titles listed on back cover--grade 3-5 reading level, can be adapted to Kindergarten by choosing a few sentences or summarizing the text, and showing the pictures on an overhead.



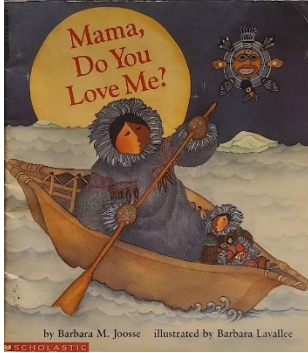
Nez Perce by Sarah Tieck (ABDO publishing)

Great large photos, brief text in large font. Contents, timeline, glossary, links, index; 2nd grade reading level. More titles back cover: Algonquin, Apache, Aztec, Blackfoot, Cherokee, Cheyenne, Chumash, Creek, Hopi, Iroquois, Maya, Navajo, Nez Perce, Seminole, Shawnee, Sioux. This is such a great company, publishing excellent books for young children. My wish list would be full of their titles.

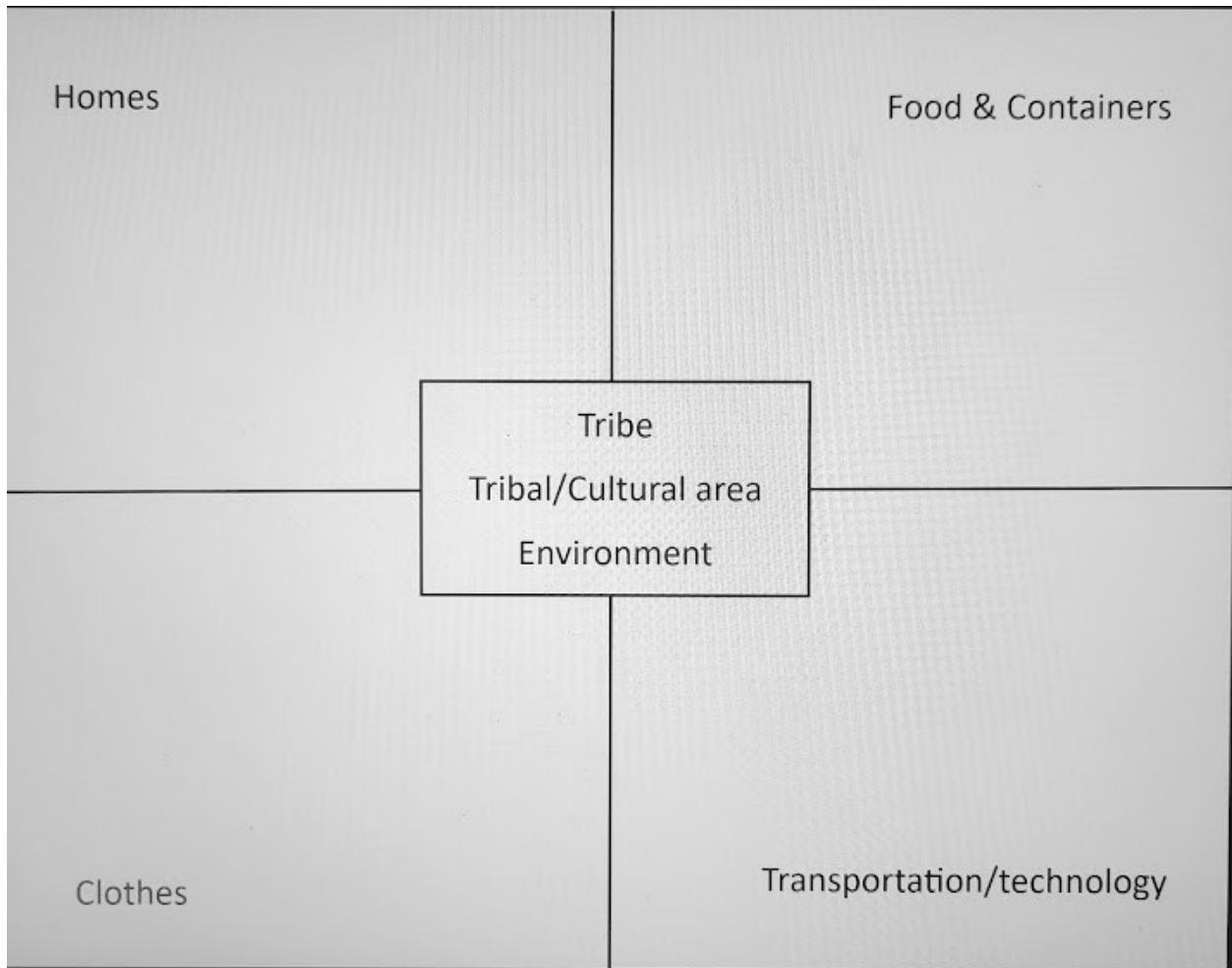


Raven: A Trickster Tale From the Pacific Northwest by Gerald McDermott

Illustration backgrounds are evocative of Pacific Northwest weather, Raven is depicted as in Native art. Raven has in mind to bring light to mankind. 32pp, reading level AD380 Lexile. One of 5 trickster tales by the author, including Coyote: A Trickster Tale from the American Southwest; he has also written Arrow to the Sun: A Pueblo Indian Tale.

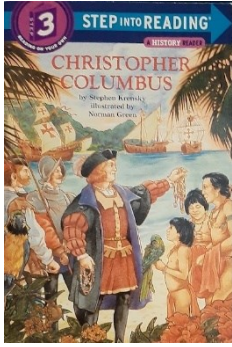


Mama, Do You Love Me? by Barbara M. Joose (Scholastic)
A beautiful book about love and feelings with an Inuit theme; brief text in large font, 26pp with extra info at back.

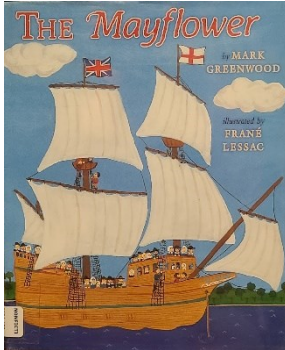


For each tribe studied, draw pictures to illustrate the categories, first as a teacher led group, then have the children use that as a pattern to do their own. This makes a good foundation for being able to use such a graphic independently in 1st grade.

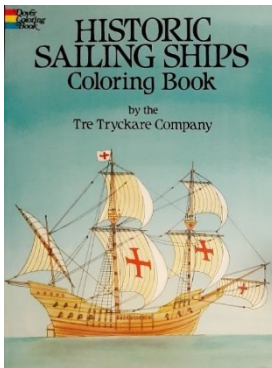
Adapt this graphic for any biography or other topic. Choose 4 interesting facts, parts of a story, or other categories.



Christopher Columbus by Stephen Krensky (Step into Reading level 3)
Good read-aloud for K; more titles listed for levels 2 & 3

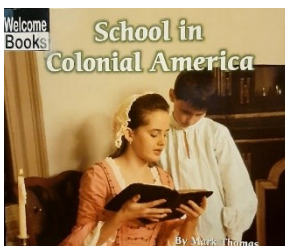


The Mayflower by Mark Greenwood; picture book with simple unlovely illustrations, good K read-aloud. Includes a timeline list and resources. (see Squanto's Journey above, and books about Holidays above)



Historic Sailing Ships Coloring Book by the Tre Tryckare Co (Dover Coloring Book)

Probably too detailed for Kindergarten coloring (unless one traces a simpler drawing), but could be instrumental in showing pictures of various sailing ships that are a part of US and world history.

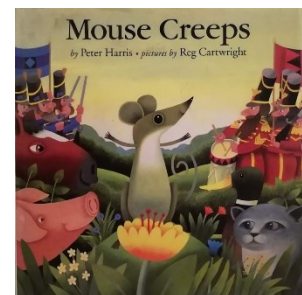


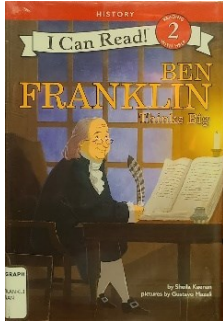
School in Colonial America by Mark Thomas (Welcome Books)
24pp, ages 4-7, reading level 460 Lexile



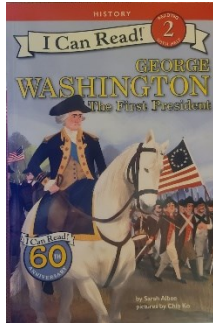
Drummer Hoff by Barbara Emberley
A cumulative tale of rhyme based on the folk song of 7 soldiers. Caldecott Medal. 32pp, ages 2+ years.

Mouse Creeps by Peter Harris
A gentle story of peace and war. 32pp, ages 5+

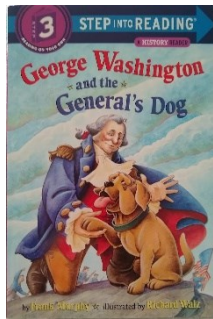




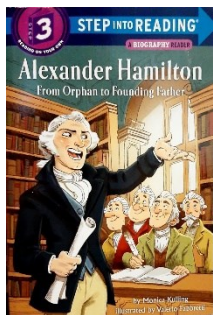
Ben Franklin: Thinking Big by Sheila Keenan (I Can Read level 2)
Great read-aloud for K, timeline and extras at back. Nicely comprehensive bio of Franklin's life.



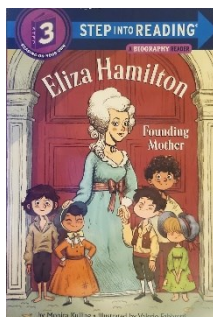
George Washington: The First President by Sarah Albee (I Can Read! Level 2)
Covers more than just his presidency. 32pp, ages 4-8yrs. Series includes simple biographies of Long, Tall Lincoln; Alexander Hamilton: A Plan for America; Harriet Tubman: Freedom Fighter, Helen Keller: the World at her Fingertips; John F. Kennedy the Brave . . . (I Can Read Level 2 has at least 116 titles).



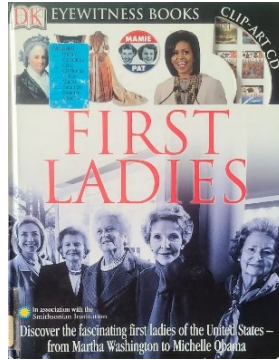
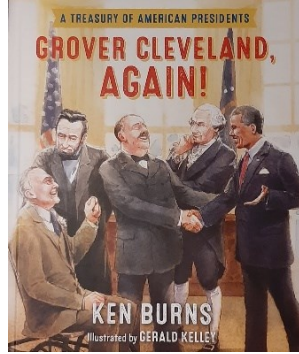
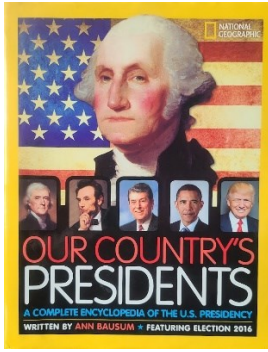
George Washington and the General's Dog by Frank Murphy (Step into Reading level 3)



Alexander Hamilton: From Orphan to Founding Father by Monica Kulling (Step into Reading level 3) Valuable intro to an influential Founding Father.



Eliza Hamilton: Founding Mother by Valerio Fabbretti (Step into Reading level 3) An interesting life story gives an idea about life for a woman during her time, though she was perhaps exceptional.



Background/reference for the teacher—President's Day etc.

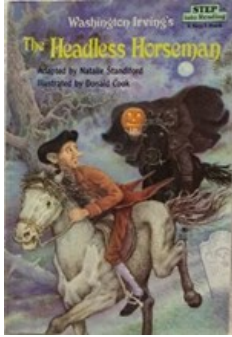
Our Country's Presidents: A Complete Encyclopedia of the U.S. Presidency by Ann Bausum (National Geographic) includes related info about the White House, elections, etc.

Grover Cleveland, Again!: A Treasury of American Presidents by Ken Burns, NC1140L

First Ladies by Amy Pastan (DK Eyewitness Books with Smithsonian Institute) inclu clipart CD

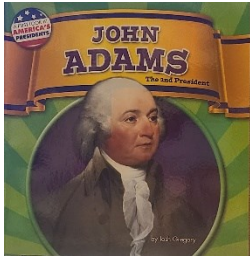
A Kid's Guide to America's First Ladies by Kathleen Krull (from a certain perspective)





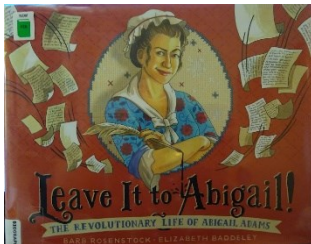
The Headless Horseman adapted by Natalie Standiford (Step into Reading, Level 2)

Note to Parents at front explaining series levels. Based on “The Legend of Sleepy Hollow” by Washington Irving. Although it is a fictional tale, the engaging illustrations give a historical feel for life in the US not long after the American Revolution. Compare “Rip Van Winkle” (who slept through the American Revolution) by Irving. See also Disney animated film “The Adventures of Ichabod and Mr. Toad” (1949), including singing by Bing Crosby.



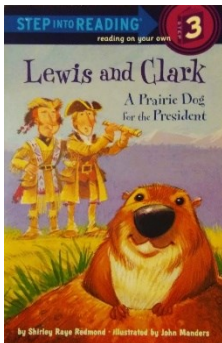
John Adams: The 2nd President by Josh Gregory (A First Look at America’s Presidents)

Great photos & illustrations, simple text in large font, but some big words. 2nd grade reading, but great read/discuss aloud. 24pp includes contents, 3 chapters plus timeline, facts & quotes, glossary, index, more info.



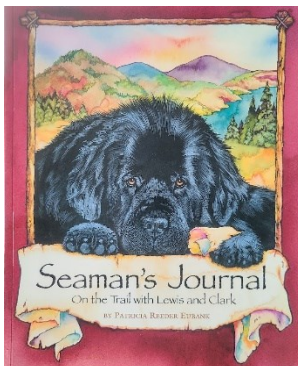
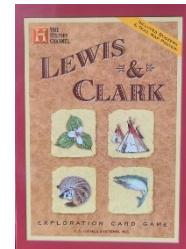
Leave it to Abigail: The Revolutionary Life of Abigail Adams by Barb Rosenstock

Engaging story and illustrations, ok for K read-aloud. 40pp, rated for 4-8 yrs.



Lewis and Clark: A Prairie Dog for the President by Shirley Raye Redmond (Step into Reading level 3)

Lewis & Clark Exploration Card Game
(The History Channel)
For Kindergarteners just match the cards.



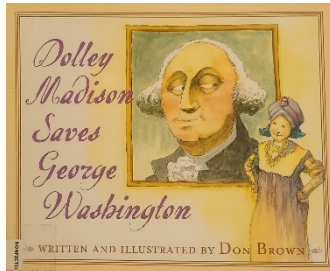
Seaman's Journal: On the Trail with Lewis and Clark

by Patricia Reeder Eubank

Map at front shows the trail on the way west, map at back shows the trail back east. Includes recipe for pemmican. Engaging story of the Corps of Discovery with wonderful illustrations. Grade 3 reading, but great read-aloud as well.

Sacajawea/Lewis & Clark/Corps of Discovery trail—travel virtually, choose a site to visit, etc.

- <https://www.travelpacificnw.com/accessible-travel-blog/the-sacajawea-trail-lewis-clark-corps-of-discovery>
- <https://www.travelpacificnw.com/accessible-travel-blog/sacajawea-trail-part-2-traveling-down-the-columbia-river-to-the-pacific-ocean>

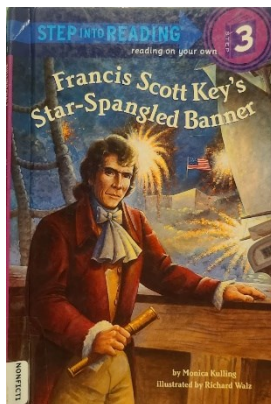


Dolley Madison Saves George Washington by Don Brown; picture book with fairly brief text in large font, reading level 2-3, more info at the end. Other titles by the author inside back cover.



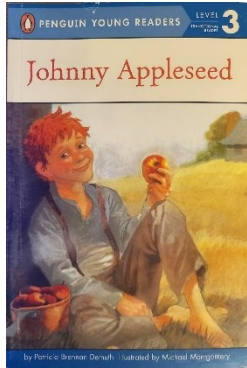
The Star-Spangled Banner by Peter Spier

The lyrics of the Star-Spangled Banner wonderfully illustrated by scenes from the War of 1812 and more modern settings; musical notation and verses, pages of additional info, and “A Collection of Flags of the American Revolution and Those of the United States of America, Its Government, and Its Armed Forces”. Other titles by the author/illustrator on back cover.



Francis Scott Key's Star-Spangled Banner by Monica Kulling (Step into Reading level 3)

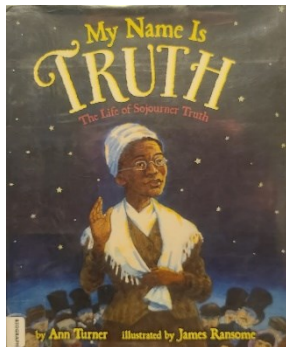
Simple enough as a read-aloud, but perhaps a little long for K.



Johnny Appleseed by Patricia Brennan Demuth (Penguin Young Readers level 3)

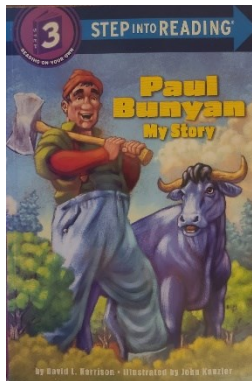
Or,

Johnny Appleseed: My Story by David Harrison & Mike Wohnoutka (Step into Reading, level 3)



My Name is Truth, the Life of Sojourner Truth by Ann Turner
A beautiful book for ages 6-10; important Author's Notes and further reading inside back cover. Read aloud for K

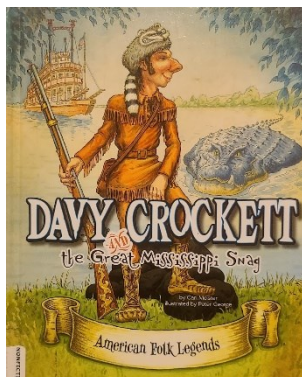
Dave the Potter: Artist, Poet, Slave by Laban Carrick Hill and Bryan Collier
Beautiful picture book about a slave with a trade: pottery. 40pp, ages 5-9, AD1100 Lexile.



Paul Bunyan: My Story by David Harrison
(Step into Reading level 3) 48pp, ages 5-8, reading level Lexile 510.



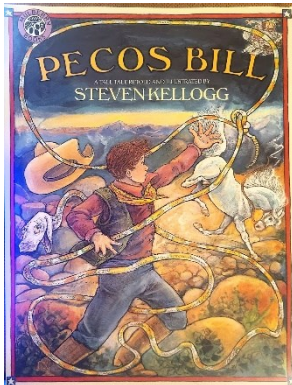
Paul Bunyan & Babe his Blue-eyed Ox
Trees of Mystery near Crescent City CA



Davy Crockett and the Great Mississippi Snag by Cari Meister,
Humorous illustrations and brief text in the main in large font; more info and other like titles at the end: John Henry vs. the Mighty Steam Drill, Johnny Appleseed Plants Trees Across the Land, Pecos Bill Tames a Colossal Cyclone. 2nd grade reading level.



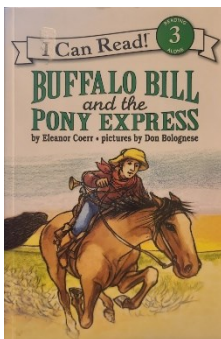
Sally Ann Thunder Ann Whirlwind Crockett, A Tall Tale retold and illustrated by Steven Kellogg. Engaging & humorous illustrations and brief text in large font. Interesting author's note at the beginning. 2nd grade reading level.



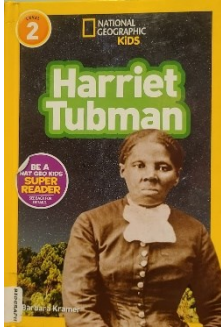
Pecos Bill: A Tall Tale retold and illustrated by Steven Kellogg
Rated for ages 6-8, grades 1-2.

Oregon Trail—travel virtually, visit a site or sites, do an information “scavenger hunt” . . .

- <https://www.travelpacificnw.com/accessible-travel-blog/traveling-the-oregon-trail-part-1>
- <https://www.travelpacificnw.com/accessible-travel-blog/traveling-the-oregon-trail-part-2>
- <https://www.travelpacificnw.com/accessible-travel-blog/traveling-the-oregon-trail-part-3-the-barlow-road-applegate-trail>



Buffalo Bill and the Pony Express by Eleanor Coerr (I Can Read level 3)
Engaging story and illustrations. 64pp, 4 chapters; not too much for a K read-aloud.

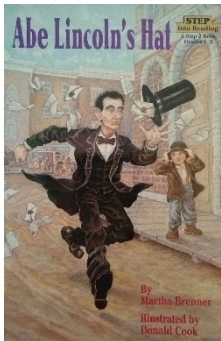


Harriet Tubman by Barbara Kramer (National Geographic Kids level 2)
National Geographic readers are generally more sophisticated than other level 2 readers. 32pp, rated for ages 5-8; 720L which is 3rd grade.

Other options:

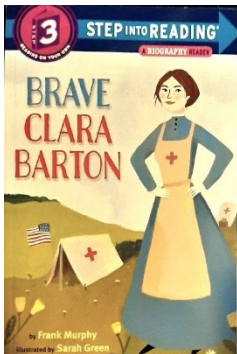
Harriet Tubman by JaNay Brown-Wood (a Little Golden Book) 24pp, ages 2+
Moses: When Harriet Tubman Led Her People to Freedom by Carole Boston Weatherford, picture book; 48pp, ages 4-8; reading level AD660 Lexile
A Picture Book of Harriet Tubman by David Adler, 32pp, ages 4-8; AD760L

Picture Book series by David A. Adler includes many biographies, including Frederick Douglass

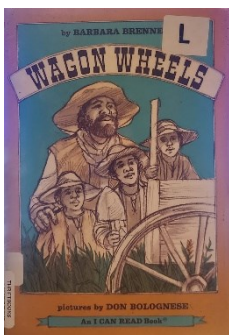


Abe Lincoln's Hat by Martha Brenner (Step into Reading level 2)
Engaging anecdotes well and simply told. Grades 1-3, fine for K read-aloud.

Also, Long, Tall Lincoln (I Can Read level 2)



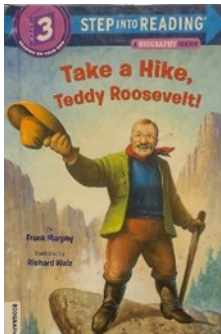
Brave Clara Barton by Frank Murphy (Step into Reading level 3)
Brief simple text in large font. 48pp, 550Lexile. Great read-aloud for K. Civil War era.



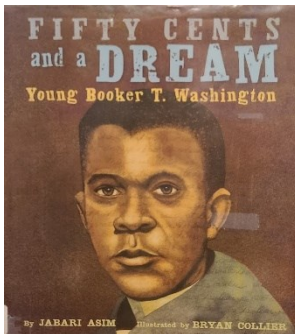
Wagon Wheels by Barbara Brenner (I Can Read)
Intriguing story and line drawings with limited color. Moving to Kansas in 1878. 64pp, 4 chapters, easy text in large font, 500 Lexile.



John Henry, An American Legend story and pictures by Ezra Jack Keats
Poetic text. 32pp, ages 3-7, reading level AD670 Lexile. Well-loved copy pictured.



Take a Hike, Teddy Roosevelt! By Frank Murphy (Step into Reading level 3)
A force of & for Nature, grade 2 reading, read-aloud, nice illustrations, skim, summarize for K; 48pp, ages 4-7, 600L

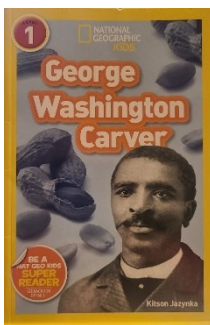


Fifty Cents and a Dream: Young Booker T. Washington by Jabari Asim
Beautiful realistic picture book Brief appealing text Grade 3 reading, good read-aloud. Timeline, author's note, 48pp, ages 4-8 yrs, NC650 Lexile [lived 1859-1915 born a slave, founded Tuskegee University when it was a teacher's and vocational school; 1901 autobiography Up From Slavery]

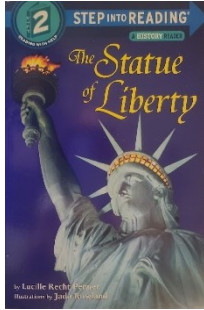
Brick By Brick: A Snippet of the Life of Booker T. Washington; 28pp; children to 6yrs

5 min video "Who Is Booker T. Washington"

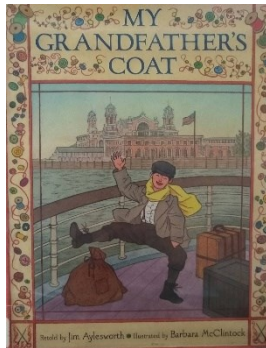
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bS_gFQJo4OA&ab_channel=PragerU



George Washington Carver by Kitson Jazyka (Nat Geographic Kids level 1)
This amazing man/scientist lived from about 1864-1943.

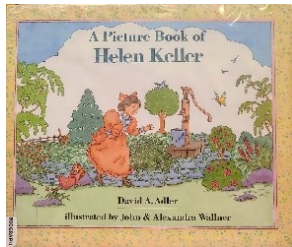


The Statue of Liberty by Lucille Recht Penner (Step into Reading level 2)
Statue was unveiled 1886. Engaging story of how the statue was created and erected, and what it has meant to immigrants. Great illustrations. More titles pictured at back. Fine as a Kindergarten read-aloud.

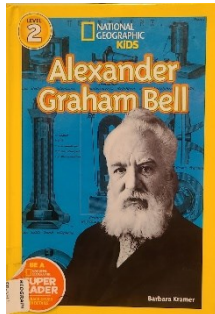


My Grandfather's Coat retold by Jim Aylesworth
Delightful picture book based on a favorite folksong about a young man who immigrates to America, and over the years re-purposes his coat. 32 pp, for Pre-K to 3rd grade, 4-8 years, reading level AD810 Lexile, includes recipe.

Compare Grandfather's Journey by Allen Say



A Picture Book of Helen Keller by David A. Adler
Interesting story, nice illustrations; 32pp ages 4-8 years, grades 1-3, reading level AD660 Lexile. Part of a series about many historic figures.



Alexander Graham Bell by Barbara Kramer (National Geographic Kids level 2)
Lots of good features, grade 2 reading.

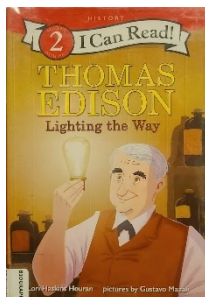
Other options for K read-aloud:

Alexander Graham Bell by Lola M. Schaefer (First Biographies) ages 4-8

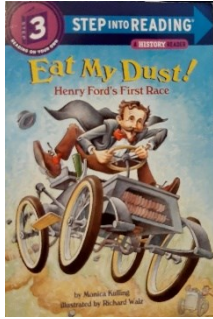
Alexander Graham Bell: A Life of Helpfulness by Sheila Rivera, ages 5-6

Alexander Graham Bell by Elizabeth MacLeod (Kids Can Read!) 32pp, ages 6-8

Alexander Graham Bell Answers the Call by Mary Ann Fraser, 32pp, ages 6-9



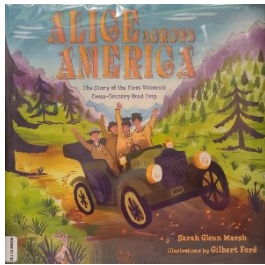
Thomas Edison: Lighting the Way by Lori Haskins Houran (I Can Read level 2)
Engaging text & info; fine for K read-aloud.



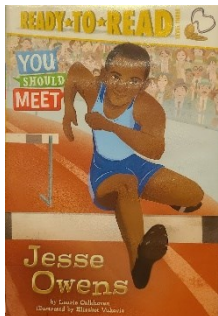
Eat My Dust! Henry Ford's First Race by Monica Kulling (Step into Reading level 3)

First Flight: The Story of Tom Tate and the Wright Brothers by George Shea (I Can Read level 4) 48pp, for ages 4-8, reading level Lexile 580.

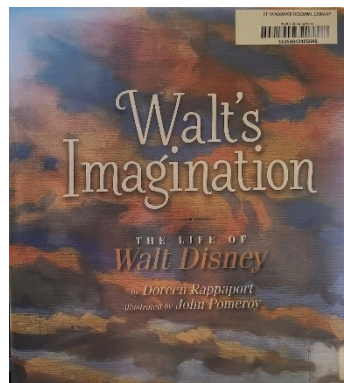
Susan B. Anthony: Her Fight for Equal Rights by Monica Kulling (Step into Reading level 2) 540L



Alice Across America: The Story of the First Women's Cross-Country Road Trip by Sara Glenn Marsh; 1909 trip, 48pp ages 5-9

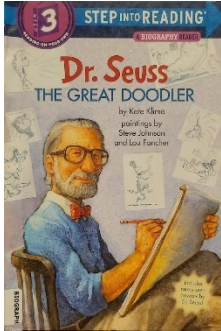


Jesse Owens by Laurie Calkhoven (Ready to Read level 3, You Should Meet series) 48pp, 5 chapters plus more info; fine for K read-aloud.

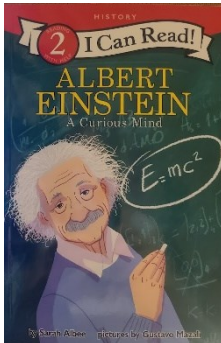


Walt's Imagination: The Life of Walt Disney by Doreen Rappaport
Engaging simple text, large font and realistic paintings, quotes; fascinating life, film making. Grade 3 reading summarize for younger. Served in WWI.

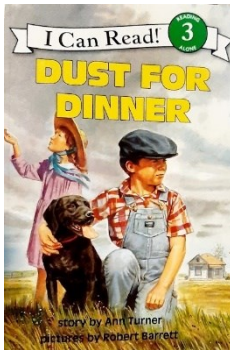
Walt Disney by Barbara Kramer (National Geographic Readers level 3) [lived 1901-1966]
“Steamboat Willie” 1928 was the beginning of Mickey Mouse.



Dr Seuss: The Great Doodler by Kate Klimo (Step into Reading level 3) Interesting life story (1904-1991, bullied as a kid during WWI, met Teddy Roosevelt, 1st book published 1937, patriot during WWII) and his work; simply told in large font grades 2-3 reading, long for K: summarize.



Albert Einstein: A Curious Mind by Sarah Albee (I Can Read level 2) Nice little biography and illustrations, timeline, and more info. [1879-1955, Nobel Prize for Physics 1921; immigrated to US when Nazis came to power in Germany] Additional titles pictured at back include Alexander Hamilton, Harriett Tubman, Helen Keller, John F. Kennedy...



Dust for Dinner by Ann Turner (I Can Read level 3) The Great Depression of the 1930s.

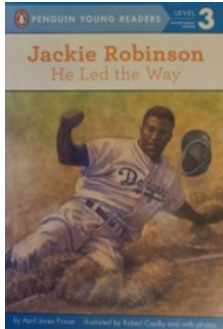
Franklin D. Roosevelt by Erin Edison (Presidential Biographies, 9 titles) 24pp, 610 Lexile



Eleanor Makes Her Mark: How Eleanor Roosevelt Reached Out, Spoke Up, and Changed the World by Barbara Kerley
Nice illustrations, read-aloud picture book, photos of her life at the end.

Also:

A Picture Book of Eleanor Roosevelt by David A. Adler 32pp, ages 4-8
AD680 Lexile



Jackie Robinson: He Led the Way by April Jones Prince (Penguin Young Readers level 3)

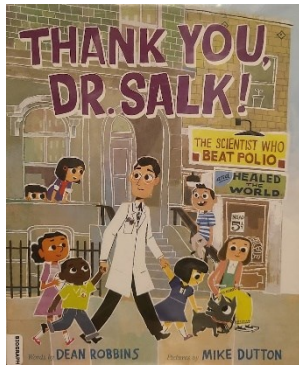
Guided Reading level K, text in large font; 48pp, but not too much for a K read-aloud. Great illustrations and photos.

Also:

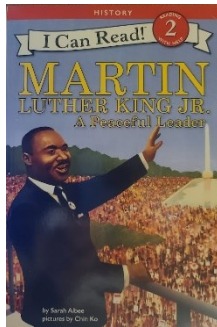
My Little Golden Book About Jackie Robinson by Frank Berrios

A New Coat for Anna by Harriet Ziefert (Dragonfly Books)

A mother's resourcefulness in difficult times, post-WWII. 40pp, grades PreK+, 690 Lexile.



Thank You, Dr Salk The Scientist Who Beat Polio and Healed the World by Dean Robbins Simple brief text in large font grade 2 reading & read-aloud author's note, vaccine timeline.



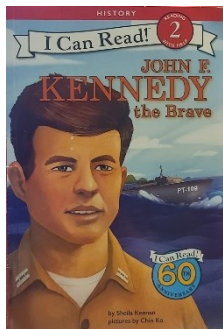
Martin Luther King Jr: A Peaceful Leader by Sarah Albee (I Can Read level 2)

Main text in large font. Timeline and additional info at back.

Audrey Hepburn (Inspired Inner Genius series) 37pp, ages 5-10

Born in Belgium 1929, courageous role in WWII, actress, dancer, humanitarian.

Just Being Audrey by Margaret Cardillo; Picture book, 32pp, ages 4-11; 740 Lexile



John F. Kennedy the Brave by Sheila Keenan (I Can Read level 2)

Life of JFK simply told, including WWII. Large font, grades 2-3 reading or read-aloud. Timeline & photos at back.

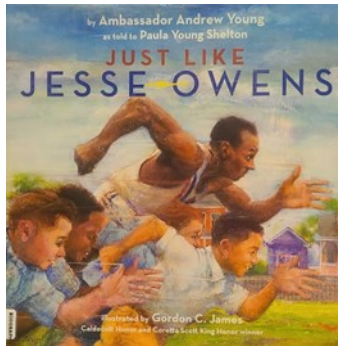


When Jackie Saved Grand Central The True Story of Jacqueline Kennedy's Fight for an American Icon by Natasha Wing Simply told story in large font, pleasant illustrations. 48pp ages 6-9; Grades 2-3 reading or read-aloud.

Also:

Just Being Jackie by Margaret Cardillo and Julia Denos ages 4-8
Jackie and the Mona Lisa by Debbie Rovin Murphy, 40pp ages 6-9 770 Lexile

My Little Golden Book About the First Moon Landing by Charles Lovitt
24pp, AD 820 Lexile
Moon Landings (DK Reader level 3)



Just Like Jesse Owens by Ambassador Andrew Young (Scholastic)
Engaging story with valuable insights as well as telling it like it was. Could be a good read-aloud for K. Author & Illustrator notes at back.

Ray Kroc: A Kid's Book About Persistence (Mini Movers and Shakers, book 11 of 29)
McDonalds exec.

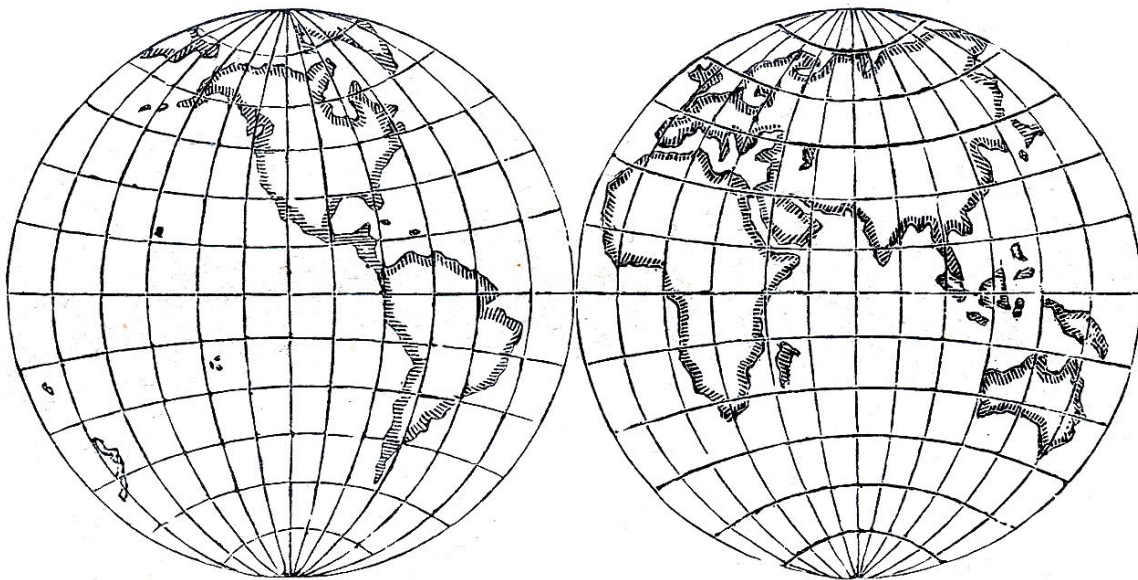
Sam Walton: A Kid's Book About Daring to be Different (Mini Movers and Shakers) age 4-11
Founder of Walmart & Sam's Club.

Elon Musk: A Kid's Book About Inventions by Mary Nhin & Grow Grit Press (Mini Movers and Shakers) 35pp, ages baby to 12

Geography

Use a picture like the one below to label the continents and oceans with marker. Use crayons to color the continents green and the oceans blue. Cut out the two circles (eastern & western hemispheres) and glue them back to back like 2 sides of a coin. Optionally, put a little stuffing between and a string from which to hang the world. Note that the latitude and longitude lines are just pretend, which we use to find the position of things or ourselves on the earth. You can use them to glue the 2 hemispheres together correctly oriented, or, don't cut all the way through between the hemispheres, and fold them together.

Another option would be to cut out a sun and other planets of the solar system (in scale if possible—except the sun, which is too large), to hang from the ceiling as well as the earth. Cut and hang the moon and some stars as well.



A globe or a ball/sphere of the world is indispensable. Perhaps a ping pong ball could represent the moon, if the earth ball is about 6" diameter. For a 12" globe, the moon would be about the size of a baseball.

An interesting comparison of habitats in reading the following:

[We're Going on a Bear Hunt](#) by Michael Rosen (Scholastic)

[We're Going on a Lion Hunt](#) by David Axtell (Scholastic)

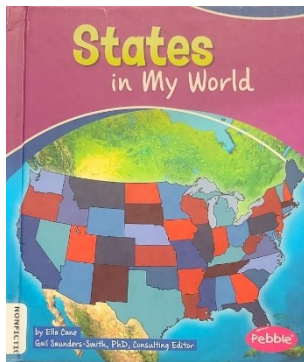
[We All Went on Safari: A Counting Journey Through Tanzania](#) by Laurie Krebs



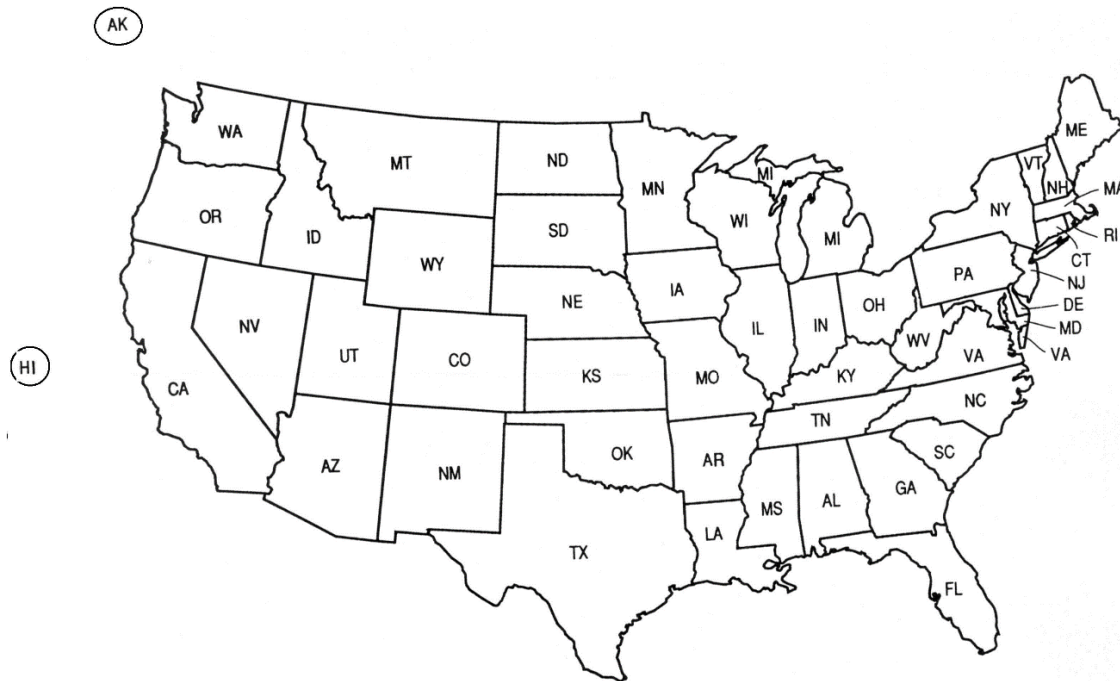
Map of the USA placemat

A Kindergartener doesn't need to memorize all the 50 states (yet should be able to point to the state where s/he lives, and perhaps some where loved ones live), but a simple placemat or wall hanging of the US can make the map familiar and more easily learned later.

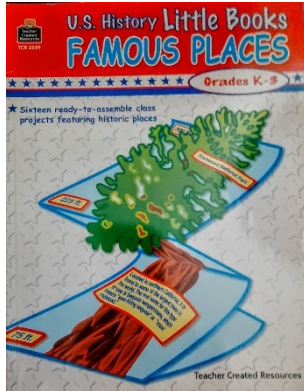
If you have a map on the wall, you can add a star, sticker, or pin for each place you visit. You can attach little pictures of loved ones in the states where they live, or make a booklet about where loved ones live.



States in My World by Ella Cane, Pebble 24pp, ages 4-8, 520L



Use a similar map outline on which to add simplified major mountain ranges and rivers (teacher demonstrate with overhead, children copy for their own). Use clear overlays to show the general areas different habitats (forests, prairies, deserts) and historic native cultures.



Famous Places (US History Little Books) grades K-3
16 ready to assemble class projects featuring historic places

On another clear overlay of the US map, place a colored dot indicating the location of the places in this book.

Important 1st settlements in what would become the US

Place a little square on an overlay of a US map—have the children do likewise.

1565 St Augustine, Florida <https://www.citystaug.com/693/Our-History>

St Augustine A to Z A Young Reeder's Guide to America's Oldest City by Susan Shipe Calfee

1607 Jamestown, Virginia (Pocahontas & Capt John Smith)

1607 Santa Fe, New Mexico <https://www.santafe.org/visiting-santa-fe/about-santa-fe/history/>

1614 Albany, New York <https://history.nycourts.gov/legal-history-by-era/new-york-under-dutch-rule/>

1620 Plymouth, Massachusetts (Pilgrims)

1624 New Amsterdam/New York City <https://www.colonialvoyage.com/dutch-new-york/>

For each of the cities below, place a star on an overlay of the US map. Have the children do likewise.

(In addition to the cities below, My Little Golden Books have books for Seattle, Boston, Chicago)

New York City

Good Night New York City board book

Good Night Statue of Liberty board book

Good Night Central Park board book

Good Night Broadway board book

There Are No Sheep in New York City by Aiden Adams

Read by Anna Thurston (child)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VQVYzX5Wb9s&ab_channel=AndrewThurston

Lonely Planet Kids Pop-up New York by Andy Mansfield; 8pp, 6 pop-ups

ABCs of New York City by Sandra Magsamen, board book (A for Big Apple, simplified map of boroughs)

New York Is . . . by Elisa Parhad, board book, 26pp

My First Book of New York by Ingela P. Arrhenius, 32pp picturebook, simplified illustrations

My Little Golden Book About New York City by Apple Jordan and Melanie Demmer, 24pp

A Walk in New York by Salvatore Rubbino, 40pp, ages 4-8yrs

Philadelphia

Good Night Philadelphia by Cooper Kelly, board book

Hello, Philadelphia! By Martha Zschock (Hello Board Books, 52 titles)

Larry Gets Lost in Philadelphia by John Skewes and Michael Mullin

On the Loose in Philadelphia by Sage Stossel (Find the Animals)

My Little Golden Book About Philadelphia by Jennifer Dussling and Lenny Wen

Philadelphia history for teacher background

<https://www.ushistory.org/philadelphia/index.html>

9 min video "Philadelphia Overview: What You Should Know About the City of Brotherly Love"

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ds7D2ddm7rs&ab_channel=CityGeek

Pittsburgh

Good Night Pittsburgh by Mark Jasper and Ruth Palmer

Pittsburgh from A To Z: A Children's Alphabet Book with Photographs of the Steel City by Aaron Geraud; 32pp

The East Egg Hunt in Pittsburgh by Laura Baker; 40pp, 3-8yrs

Pittsburgh history for teacher background

In the 1740s William Trent built a trading post which the French captured and built Fort Duquesne (est 1754), hotly contested in the French & Indian War. In 1758 it became Fort Pitt, which would eventually come to be called Pittsburgh

https://ohiohistorycentral.org/w/Fort_Duquesne

<https://www.visitpittsburgh.com/things-to-do/arts-culture/history/>

6.5 min video "Pittsburgh Overview: An informative introduction to Pittsburgh PA"

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6J6uDDATGsk&ab_channel=CityGeek

Washington DC

Good Night Washington, DC by Adam Gamble and Joe Veno

My Little Golden Book about Washington, DC by Rich Volin

Washington DC ABCs by Mr Boddington's Studio (5 books in series) board book

Washington, DC History in 5 min for teacher reference

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Z7GAPet4tc&ab_channel=HistoryonMaps

San Diego

Good Night San Diego by Adam Gamble, board book

Larry Loves San Diego! By John Skewes, board book

Larry Gets Lost in San Diego by John Skewes

The Easter Bunny is Coming to San Diego by

Hello, San Diego by Martha Zschock

San Francisco

Good Night San Francisco by Adam Gamble and Santiago Cohen

San Francisco, Baby! By Ward Jenkins, 32pp

My Little Golden Book About San Francisco by Toyo Tyler and Courtney Dawson

Larry Gets Lost in San Francisco by John Skewes and Michael Mullin

Map our Room activity

Use a graph paper overhead to create a map of the room. As a teacher-led group draw first an outline of the walls of the room, then add the furnishings of the room (compare the children's outstretched arms to a yardstick; if similar, have the children stand with arms outstretched to make a rough measure of cabinets, etc). Hand out graph paper and let the children do the best they can to copy the map of the room. Make allowance for their age/abilities and praise their efforts.