

Summer Reading List

Birth—Preschool

100 ANIMALS

BY STEVE JENKINS

HMH BOOKS, 2021

ISBN: 9780358105459

An early word book that explores animals from across the world, shown through cut-paper illustrations and flaps to lift on each page.

AS BABIES DREAM

BY LESLÉA NEWMAN, ILLUSTRATED BY TAIA MORLEY

MAGINATION PRESS, 2021

ISBN: 9781433836817

In this soothing bedtime story, the sun sets and reveals a starry night over animal and human families.

BEST DAY EVER!

BY MARILYN SINGER, ILLUSTRATED BY LEAH NIXON

CLARION, 2021

ISBN: 9781328987839

This rhyming story features a boy and his dog as their day goes from best to worst and back to best.

CHAIWALA!

BY PRITI BIRLA MAHESHWARI, ILLUSTRATED BY ASHLEY BARRON

OWLKIDS, 2021

ISBN: 9781771473682

When the train makes a brief stop, a mother and young child watch and experience the sounds, sights, and delicious smells of a hot cup of chai being made.

CIRCLE UNDER BERRY

BY CARTER HIGGINS

CHRONICLE BOOKS, 2021

ISBN: 9781797205083

This unusual concept book works as an observation game, a tongue twister, and a primer on spatial awareness. Read it fast or slow; it's oodles of fun.

DON'T HUG DOUG

BY CARRIE FINISON, ILLUSTRATED BY DANIEL WISEMAN

PUTNAM, 2021

ISBN: 9781984813022

Doug does not like hugs in this picture book about personal boundaries and consent. He does like high fives though.

FLUFFY MCWHISKERS: CUTENESS EXPLOSION

BY STEPHEN W. MARTIN, ILLUSTRATED BY DAN TAVIS

MARGARET K. MCELDERY BOOKS, 2021

ISBN: 9781534441453

Enjoy the deadpan humor of a story about a cat so adorable that anyone who sees her explodes.

A HOME UNDER THE STARS

BY ANDY CHOU MUSSER

LITTLE BIGFOOT, 2021

ISBN: 9781632173270

In the city, Toby feels lost and angry without the stars at night. When a lion appears in search of the North Star, they journey together through the city to find it.

A HOUSE

BY KEVIN HENKES

GREENWILLOW, 2021

ISBN: 9780063092600

This book poses a series of simple questions about a house for readers to answer and consider what makes a house a home.

INSIDE CAT

BY BRENDAN WENZEL

CHRONICLE BOOKS, 2021

ISBN: 9781452173191

Inside Cat only sees the world through windows until one day its perspective changes with the opening of a door.

LITTLE BIRD'S DAY

BY SALLY MORGAN, ILLUSTRATED BY JOHNNY WARRKATJA MALIBIRR

BLUE DOT KIDS, 2021

ISBN: 9781736226469

Follow a day in the life of a silver-crowned friarbird. The poetic, rhyming text is complemented by images of Australian wildlife.

THE LOST PACKAGE

BY RICHARD HO, ILLUSTRATED BY JESSICA LANAN

ROARING BROOK, 2021

ISBN: 9781250231352

The package a young girl mails at the start of this book is lost. However, it gets to where it's meant to be due to kindness from others.

MEL FELL

BY COREY R. TABOR

BALZER + BRAY, 2021

ISBN: 9780062878014

Today is the day Mel will fly! Turn the book vertically to follow Mel's leap from her branch and past neighboring creatures who worry and then cheer for the little bird's success.

THE NIGHT IS DEEP AND WIDE

BY GILLIAN SZE, ILLUSTRATED BY SUE TODD

ORCA BOOK PUBLISHERS, 2021

ISBN: 9781459824812

This board book is a beautiful, poetic ode to the night. It features vivid imagery, color contrast, and rich, yet sparse text.

OFF-LIMITS

BY HELEN YOON

CANDLEWICK, 2021

ISBN: 9781536207316

A child is lured into her dad's home office by the tempting office supplies, leading to a playful explosion of paper clips, sticky notes, tape, and more.



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

OLLIE FEELS FINE

BY TONY YULY

LITTLE BIGFOOT, 2021

ISBN: 9781632173010

Ollie the octopus comes to understand his many feelings with the help of his friend Stella the starfish. This board book introduces the complexities of emotion.

OUR SKIN: A FIRST CONVERSATION ABOUT RACE

BY MEGAN MADISON AND JESSICA RALLI, ILLUSTRATED BY ISABEL ROXAS

RISE X PENGUIN WORKSHOP, 2021

ISBN: 9780593382639

A clear, direct book for young children about skin color and race, accompanied by questions to spark conversation. Part of the First Conversations series.

THE PRONOUN BOOK

BY CHRIS AYALA-KRONOS, ILLUSTRATED BY MELITA TIRADO

CLARION, 2022

ISBN: 9780358653158

With very few words and expressive art, this board book answers the

question, "How do you know what someone wants to be called?"

RAINBOWS IN BLOOM: DISCOVERING COLORS WITH FLOWERS

BY DARROCH PUTNAM AND MICHAEL PUTNAM

PHAIDON PRESS, 2021

ISBN: 9781838662981

This board book is bright and bold. With real images of colorful flowers on each page, this is a primer for little ones on color theory.

SHAPES AND COLORS

BY JOHN CANTY

BERBAY, 2021

ISBN: 9780645069686

The patterned text of this concept book invites children to use the colors of the rainbow to guess the identities of silhouetted objects.

SHHH! THE BABY'S ASLEEP

BY JANAY BROWN-WOOD, ILLUSTRATED BY ELISSAMBURA

CHARLESBRIDGE, 2021

ISBN: 9781580895224

Every member of the family is shushed while the baby sleeps in this humorous, rhyming picture book about the effort it takes to get in a good nap.

SOMETHING'S WRONG! A BEAR, A HARE, AND SOME UNDERWEAR

BY JORY JOHN, ILLUSTRATED BY ERIN KRAAN

FARRAR, STRAUS AND GIROUX, 2021

ISBN: 9780374313883

Jeff has eaten breakfast, watered the plants, and tried on the underwear his grandma gave him. Still, he feels he's forgotten something in this hilarious picture book.

¡VAMOS! LET'S CROSS THE BRIDGE

BY RAÚL THE THIRD

VERSIFY, 2021

ISBN: 9780358380405

Little Lobo needs to deliver party supplies, but everyone is stuck in traffic. They pass the time joyfully with the help of food trucks, music, and friends.

WHAT ARE LITTLE GIRLS MADE OF?

BY JEANNE WILLIS, ILLUSTRATED BY ISABELLE FOLLATH

NOSY CROW, 2021

ISBN: 9781536217339

This collection updates popular nursery rhymes from a feminist perspective and features eye-catching illustrations.

WHEN I WAKE UP

BY SETH FISHMAN, ILLUSTRATED BY JESSICA BAGLEY

GREENWILLOW, 2021

ISBN: 9780062455802

A child wakes up in a house where the adults are still sleeping and wonders what to do with their day. Each rainbow-hued adventure represents a different imagined possibility.

WONDER WALKERS

BY MICHA ARCHER

NANCY PAULSEN BOOKS, 2021

ISBN: 9780593109649

Poetic text and collage artwork provide an opportunity for curiosity and imagination while looking at the natural world.

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The 2022 Summer Reading Book List was created by the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association (ALA). Titles on this list were selected by members of ALSC's Quicklists Consulting Committee.

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