Great Books to Check Out This Summer

There are so many adventures to find in books! If you’re looking for ideas or a book you haven’t read yet, PBS KIDS has drawn together a list of books we think are pretty great. We’ve sorted our recommendations into lists of books you can read aloud to your kids, read along with your kids, and books that are fun for kids to read on their own.

20 Great Read-Along Books

- Chicka Chicka Boom Boom, Bill Martin, Jr. and John Archambault (2-6)
- Dragons Love Tacos, Adam Rubin (2-6)
- Press Here, Herve Tullet (2-6)
- Don’t Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!, Mo Willems (2-6)
- Harold and the Purple Crayon, Crockett Johnson (3-6)
- Curious George, H.A. Rey and Margaret Rey (3-6)
- Madeline, Ludwig Bemelmans (3-7)
- Alligator Pie, Dennis Lee (3-7)
- Stellaluna, Janell Cannon (3-7)
- Z is for Moose, Kelly Bingham (3-8)
- No, David!, David Shannon (3-8)
- Jazz, Walter Dean Myers (3-8)
- Leo: A Ghost Story, Mac Barnett (3-9)
- Olivia, Ian Falconer (4-6)
- Click Clack Moo: Cows That Type, Doreen Cronin (4-7)
- The Lorax, Dr. Seuss (4-6)
- Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day, Judith Viorst (4-9)
- Invisible Boy, Trudy Ludwig (5-9)
- Joyful Noise: Poems for Two Voices, Paul Fleischman (6-9)
- My Brother Charlie, Holly Robinson Peete and Ryan Elizabeth Peete (6-9)

You’ll see age bands for each book (in parentheses), but you should use your own judgment when choosing books for your children. If you’re on the fence, have your child take a look and read a sentence or two to see how challenging the book is for them. Don’t be afraid to keep looking if the first one or two don’t seem right.

For more summer fun and games visit pbskids.org
We know there are so many more great books for children, and we’d love to share more book recommendations during the summer. You can let us know about your favorites through social media @pbskids #PBSKIDSRead

---

20 Great Read-Aloud Books:

- Goodnight Moon, Margaret Wise Brown (2-5)
- The Very Hungry Caterpillar, Eric Carle (2-5)
- The Snowy Day, Ezra Jack Keats (2-5)
- The Day the Crayons Quit, Drew Daywalt (2-6)
- Interrupting Chicken, David Ezra Stein (2-6)
- If You Give a Mouse a Cookie, Laura Joffe Numeroff (2-6)
- Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile, Bernard Waber (2-6)
- Corduroy, Don Freeman (3-5)
- Green is a Chile Pepper: A Book of Colors, Roseanne Greenfield Thong (3-5)
- Marisol McDonald Doesn’t Match/Marisol McDonald no combina, Monica Brown (3-6)
- Pinkalicious, Victoria Kann and Elizabeth Kann (3-6)
- I Want My Hat Back, Jon Klassen (3-6)
- Where the Sidewalk Ends, Shel Silverstein (3-7)
- The Secret Footprints, Julia Alvarez (3-8)
- Hello, Rock, Roger Bradfield (3-8)
- Two is Enough, Janna Matthies (3-8)
- Lowriders in Space, Cathy Camper (5-8)
- The Stories Julian Tells, Ann Cameron (5-9)
- Salsa Stories, Lulu Delacre (5-9)
- The Tale of Despereaux, Kate DiCamillo (6-9)

---

15 Great Read-on-Your Own Books

- The Cat in the Hat, Dr. Seuss (4-7)
- May I Please Have A Cookie?, Jennifer E. Morris (4-7)
- Hop on Pop, Dr. Seuss (4-6)
- Go, Dog. Go!, P.D. Eastman (4-8)
- Bark, George, Jules Feffer (4-8)
- Diary of a Wombat, Jackie French (4-8)
- Library Lion, Michelle Knudsen (4-8)
- Pete the Cat, I Love My White Shoes, Eric Litwin (4-8)
- Hi! Fly Guy, Tedd Arnold (5-8)
- My Name is Yoon, Helen Recorvits (5-8)
- Tales for Very Picky Eaters, Josh Schneider (5-8)
- We Are in a Book, Mo Willems (5-9)
- The Princess in Black, Shannon Hale and Dean Hale (6-9)
- Nate the Great, Marjorie Weinman Sharmat (6-9)
- The Adventures of Captain Underpants, Dave Pilkey (6-9)