

Suggested reading for PreK-K 2020

Picture Book Fiction

*Bernstrom, Daniel; illustrated by Shane W. Evans. **Big Papa and the Time Machine.** 2020.*

When a little boy does not want to go to school, his grandfather takes him back in time to share the times he had to make brave decisions despite fear. "Wasn't you scared?" asked the boy. "Oh, I was scared," Big Papa said. "Sometimes you gotta walk with giants if you ever gonna know what you made of. That's called being brave." E BERNSTROM

*Biedrzycki, David. **SumoKitty.** 2019.*

A stray kitty gets a job in a sumo stable chasing mice in exchange for food. When eating like a sumo wrestler slows our feline hero down, he realizes he must train like a wrestler, too. Through hard work and perseverance (and a little help from a big buddy) SumoKitty is born! E BIEDRZYCKI, eBook

*Blabey, Aaron. **The Return of Thelma the Unicorn.** 2020.*

The world misses its favorite unicorn, but Thelma is reluctant to don her horn and sparkles again. However, with the support of her best friend Otis, she realizes the importance of spreading love and joy — no matter what people think. E BLABEY

*Boldt, Mike. **Bad Dog.** 2019.*

Rocky doesn't listen or obey like other dogs (because Rocky is a cat). Rocky hates her leash and doesn't seem to like other dogs (probably because Rocky is a cat), and rather than play fetch, Rocky prefers to... lick between her toes? Ew. Rocky is a bad "dog"! BUT Rocky doesn't bark, and is so cute when she sleeps in sunny spots... maybe Rocky IS a good dog? E BOLDT, eBook

*Cole, Henry. **Nesting.** 2020.*

Follow two robins as they build a nest with twigs and grass. Mother robin lays four beautiful blue eggs and will keep the eggs warm in the nest until they hatch into four baby robins. **Nesting** provides introductory biology and animal science concepts for very young children. E COLE

*Cowan, Stephen; illustrated by Ed Young. **The Weather's Bet.** 2020.*

Rendered in exquisite mixed-media collage by Caldecott Medalist Ed Young, this retelling of the well-known Aesop's fable **The Wind and the Sun** proves that sometimes gentle persuasion and kindness are the best virtues of all. E COWAN, eBook

Cummings, Troy. I Found a Kitty! 2020.

Arfy from **Can I Be Your Dog** is back in a brand-new picture book. Arfy writes persuasive letters to prospective owners about what a great pet his friend Scamper would make. Will he find this kitten a home? Another great read-aloud from Troy Cummings, with helpful tips at the end about how children can help homeless animals. E CUMMINGS, eBook

Doi, Kaya; illustrated by David Boyd. Chirri & Chirra on the Town. 2020.

In their 5th adventure, Chirri and Chirra head down forest paths and alleyways into a yarn shop and an old woman's house where they enjoy hot drinks and soup. When they're done, they find a surprise hidden in the branches of a tree. Try the other books in this charming series! E DOI

Ferry, Beth; illustrated by Chow Hon Lam. The Bold, Brave Bunny. 2020.

After his brothers and sisters ruin his favorite alphabet book, Teetu the bunny runs away. What he discovers is more marvelous than he ever dreamed! He writes his adventures in a book he creates all by himself. But what will happen when Teetu tires of being alone? Look for the hidden animals in the artwork. E FERRY

Forsythe, Matthew. Pokko and the Drum. 2019.

When Pokko's drum gets to be too loud, her mother and father suggest that she play outside for a bit. She is soon joined by other instrument-playing animals. Her mother and father might not like drawing attention to themselves, but Pokko's leading the way. E FORSYTHE, eBook

Grabenstein, Chris; illustrated by Leo Espinosa. No More Naps! 2020.

Like stubborn toddlers everywhere, Annalise Devin McFleece refuses to take a nap. One by one, everyone falls asleep except Annalise, and when she's finally ready for her nap, all the naps are taken! Is there anyone who has an extra nap to spare? E GRABENSTEIN, eBook

Henkes, Kevin; illustrated by Laura Dronzek. Summer Song. 2020.

Kevin Henkes introduces basic concepts of language and the summer season with striking verbal imagery, repetition, and alliteration. Laura Dronzek's glowing paintings beautifully illustrate the wonders of summer. Savor it like a summer day. E HENKES

John, Jory; illustrated by Pete Oswald. The Cool Bean. 2019.

Everyone knows the cool beans. They're sooooo cool. Then there's the uncool has-bean... always on the sidelines. One bean unsuccessfully tries everything he can to fit in with the crowd—until one day the cool beans show him how it's done. E JOHN, eBook

Judge, Lita. When You Need Wings. 2020.

Lita Judge takes readers on a wonder-filled exploration of a child's imagination, thoughtfully weaving in a gentle suggestion of how to explore that bountiful inner world and let it help them shine with courage in the real one. E JUDGE, eBook

*Kang, Anna; illustrated by Christopher Weyant. **It Is (Not) Perfect.** 2020.*

Two fuzzy creatures are happily putting the finishing touches on their sandcastle when each of them thinks of something that would make it even better. This latest book in the beloved series featuring the pals from Theodor Seuss Geisel Award winner **You Are (Not) Small** reminds us that perfection is in the eye (and heart) of the beholder. E KANG

*Le, Minh; illustrated by Gus Gordon. **The Perfect Seat.** 2019.*

A child and parent are almost ready for story time, but first, they must find the perfect seat. This cozy picture book takes readers through various opposites ("Too rough! Too slippery!") as the characters search for just the right spot. E LE

*London, Jonathan. **Froggy for President!** 2020.* Froggy is running for class president and his opponent is Frogilina! Froggy presents his platform, which includes ten snack times per school day and recess all day long. Frogilina has a platform, too: a lunch-sharing program and a talent show to benefit the school library. Which candidate will voters choose? E LONDON, eBook

*Loomis, Ilima; illustrated by Kenard Pak. **Ohana Means Family.** 2020.*

Join the family, or ohana, as they farm taro for poi to prepare for a traditional luau celebration with a poetic text in the style of **The House That Jack Built**. A glossary and notes in the back of the book round out the story. E LOOMIS

*Mabbitt, Will. **I Can Only Draw Worms.** 2019.*

The author teaches the reader to count to ten using worms that have great adventures or everyday experiences — described but not illustrated due to the author/illustrator's inability to draw anything but worms! E MABBITT

*Mantchev, Lisa; illustrated by Jessica Courtney-Tickle. **The Perfectly Perfect Wish.** 2020.*

When a girl finds an extraordinary thing that grants her just one wish, she asks those around her what they would wish for, but nothing seems quite right. What will her perfect wish be? The author takes the concept of a magic wish and uses it to explore real world empathy, kindness, and good will. E MANTCHEV

*Maillard, Kevin; illustrated by Juana Martinez-Neal. **Fry Bread.** 2019.*

Using illustrations that show the diversity in Native America and spare poetic text that emphasizes fry bread in terms of provenance, this volume tells the story of a post-colonial food that is a shared tradition for Native American families all across the North American continent. Includes a recipe and an extensive author note that delves into the social ways, foodways, and politics of America's 573 recognized tribes. Winner of the Sibert Medal! E MAILLARD, eBook

Meddour, Wendy; illustrated by Daniel Egnéus. Lubna and Pebble. 2019.

A sensitive and subtle story exploring the personal experience of a child in the midst of a refugee crisis. "Lubna's best friend is a pebble. Pebble always listens to her stories. Pebble always smiles when she feels scared. But when a lost little boy arrives in the World of Tents, Lubna realizes that he needs Pebble even more than she does." — from the publisher. E MEDDOUR

Mora, Oge. Saturday. 2019.

When all of their special Saturday plans go awry, Ava and her mother still find a way to appreciate one another and their time together. Check out the author's other award-winning picture book, **Thank You, Omu!** E MORA, eBook, eAudio

Morris, Richard; illustrated by LeUyen Pham. Bear Came Along. 2019.

Once there was a river flowing through a forest. The river didn't know it was capable of adventures until a big bear came along. Adventures aren't any fun by yourself, and so enters Froggy, Turtle, Beaver, Raccoon, and Duck. This Caldecott Honor book celebrates the joy and fun that's in store when you embark together on a ride of a lifetime. E MORRIS, eBook

Myers, Matt. Hum and Swish. 2019.

All Jamie wants is to spend some time alone at the beach and finish her art project in the sand, but everyone around keeps asking her pesky questions she doesn't know how to answer: what are you making? Aren't you clever? Jamie does her best to tune it all out and focus on her creation, until she finds a like-minded friend. E MYERS

Nicholls, Sally; illustrated by Bethan Woollvin. The Button Book. 2020.

Follow a group of animal friends as they discover a collection of mysterious buttons, all of which do different things. From a blue singing button to a purple tickle button, from a rude sound button to a mysterious white button, there's only one way to find out what they do: press them all! A perfect shared read for adult and child. E NICHOLLS, eBook

O'Connor, Jane. Fancy Nancy Storybook Favorites. 2020.

A vocabulary-building collection of six stories featuring perennial favorite **Fancy Nancy**. Includes **Fancy Nancy and the Late, Late, Late Night; Pajama Day; Fancy Nancy Sees Stars; Fancy Nancy and the Delectable Cupcakes; The Show Must Go On;** and **Dazzling Book Report.** E O'CONNOR

Papp, Lisa. Madeline Finn and the Shelter Dog. 2019.

After a visit to her local animal shelter, Madeline Finn comes up with an idea to help the animals there and requests the aid of some friends and a few good books. E PAPP

Park, Linda Sue; illustrated by Brian Pinkney. Nya's Long Walk: A Step at a Time. 2019.

When her little sister, Akeer, becomes sick when they are returning home from the water hole, Nya must carry her and the water back to their village, one step at a time. A picture book companion to Park's popular novel. E PARK, eBook

Petty, Dev; illustrated by Brandon Todd. The Bear Must Go On. 2020.

Bear is more than happy to help his friends put on a show, as long as he gets to work behind the scenes! Need hats? Or a curtain? Or shiny tickets? Bear has it covered. However, when the audience takes their seats, Bear's woodland pals can't help but feel like they've forgotten a very important piece of the production. Can Bear overcome his stage fright to save the day? E PETTY, eBook

Pizzoli, Greg. Book Hog. 2019

The Book Hog loves books — the way they look, the way they feel, the way they smell — and he'll grab whatever he can find. There's only one problem: he can't read! When a kind librarian invites him to join storytime, this literature-loving pig discovers the treasure that books really are. A Geisel Honor Book. E PIZZOLI

Pilutti, Deb. Old Rock (Is Not Boring). 2020.

Old Rock's forest friends wonder if it's boring sitting in one place and never moving. Old Rock insists it's quite the opposite: it has taken quite a journey! Old Rock's journey takes us on a very brief history of the natural world, and demonstrates that there is more than one way to enjoy life. E PILUTTI, eBook

Portis, Antoinette. A New Green Day. 2020.

If you listen, nature speaks. Explore nature through evocative riddles and bold imagery that take the reader from day to night and back again. Great also for active readers who will delight in the clever language! E PORTIS, eBook

Reidy, Jean; illustrated by Lucy Ruth Cummins. Truman. 2019.

After his best friend Sarah leaves for her first day of school, a tortoise named Truman goes on an adventure across the living room and learns to be brave in this thoughtful and heartwarming twist on a first experience story. E REIDY, eBook

Reynolds, Peter. Be You! 2020.

This joyfully illustrated book is a jubilee of people in all of their many forms, growing and learning and helping and changing into the person they are supposed to become. Full of affirmations for younger readers. E REYNOLDS, eBook

Saltzberg, Barney. One of These Is Not Like the Others. 2020.

Sandra Boynton fans will love this cheerfully illustrated tribute to individuality. Each spread features three things that are alike, and one that is decidedly different. Rabbits and a bicycle? Snails and an alien? Pies and a monster? Find out how they all fit together in this quirky, giggle-inducing book. E SALTZBERG

Scanlon, Liz Garton; illustrated by Frann Preston-Gannon. One Dark Bird. 2019.

In this lyrical counting book, a single starling is joined by hundreds more, and together they dance across the sky, finally settling into the trees. E SCANLON, eBook

Shea, Bob. Unicorn is Maybe Not So Great After All. 2019.

Unicorn returns in a second picture book! Concerned about losing friends during the first week of school, Unicorn upgrades his fabulousness, but will it work? E SHEA

Shea, Bob; illustrated by Zachariah Ohora. Who Wet My Pants? 2019.

When Reuben the bear brings doughnuts to his forest friends, they discover that his pants are wet and he angrily accuses them of the dirty deed. This book isn't a potty-training book, it's a story about embarrassment and anger, empathy and acceptance, and ultimately... forgiveness. E SHEA, eBook

Sullivan, Mary. Up on Bob. 2020. Bob the dog doesn't mind hard work when it means he can reward himself with a nap, but *Someone* is watching him sleep! Hopefully they will just go away if Bob lies really still. *Someone*, who happens to be a cat, has other things in mind. Simple text and charming illustrations make this great for beginning readers. E SULLIVAN, eBook

Willems, Mo. Pigeon Has To Go To School! 2019.

Mo Willems brings back Pigeon for another picture book! Why does the Pigeon have to go to school? He already knows everything! What if he doesn't like it? What if the teacher doesn't like him? What if he learns too much?! E WILLEMS

Zimmerman, Andrea and David Clemesha; illustrated by Dan Yaccarino. Smashy Town. 2020.

As a follow up to their popular **Trashy Town**, Zimmerman, Clemesha and Yaccarino bring us a book about demolition. Need more smashing and crashing in your life? This book is for you! E ZIMMERMAN

Nonfiction

Barretta, Gene; illustrated by Frank Morrison. The Secret Garden of George Washington Carver. 2020. Gene Barretta's moving words and Frank Morrison's beautiful paintings tell the inspiring life and history of George Washington Carver, from a baby born into slavery to celebrated botanist, scientist, and inventor. J BIO CARVER

*Bové, Jennifer. **I Wish I Was a Monarch Butterfly.** 2019.*

Ranger Rick explorers can learn all about monarch butterflies in this Level 1 I Can Read book full of fascinating facts, vivid wildlife photographs, and a Wild Words glossary. J 595.789 BOVE, eBook

*Gagne, Tammy. **Caring for Dogs.** 2019*

Are you ready for a puppy or dog? Learn how to feed, walk, groom, and protect your pup to keep your new best friend healthy, happy, and safe. There is also a **Caring for Cats** book in this First Facts series. J 636.7 GAGNE, eBook

*Gravel, Elise. **What is a Refugee?** 2019.*

An accessible picture book that introduces the term 'refugee' to help children better understand the world around them. Who are refugees? Why do they need to leave their country? Why are they sometimes not welcome in their new country? This relevant picture book explores what it means to be a refugee in bold, graphic illustrations and spare text. J 305.9069 GRAVEL, eBook

*Manley, Curtis; illustrated by Jessica Lanan. **Just Right: Searching for the Goldilocks Planet.** 2019.*

The illustrations tell a story of a young girl visiting a planetarium with her family, while the text informs the reader on the ongoing search for life on exoplanets. J 523.2 MANLEY, eBook

*Marshall, Linda Elovitz. **Saving the Countryside: The Story of Beatrix Potter and Peter Rabbit.** 2020. If you like Peter Rabbit, you will love to learn how Beatrix Potter found freedom and inspiration in the countryside. J BIO POTTER*

*Perish, Patrick. **Bumblebees.** 2019.*

Developed by literacy experts for students in Kindergarten, this Level 1 Blastoff Reader* introduces young readers to bumblebees through leveled text and colorful photographs. Try other Level 1 Blastoff Readers for your early readers. J 595.799 PERISH

*Portis, Antoinette. **Hey, Water!** 2019.*

Join a young girl as she explores her surroundings and sees that water is everywhere. Water doesn't always look the same, it doesn't always feel the same, and it shows up in lots of different shapes. Water can be a lake, it can be steam, it can be a tear, or it can even be a snowman. A Sibert Honor Book. J 553.7 PORTIS, eBook

*Reynolds, A.M. **Let's Look at Japan.** 2019*

Simple text and big illustrations introduce readers to the country of Japan. This is part of the Let's Look at Countries series. Pebble Plus* books can be found for most subjects in our nonfiction collection and are the right level for preschoolers and kindergarteners! J 952 REYNOLDS, eBook

Thimmesh, Catherine. A Baby Like You. 2019.

Connecting babies across ecosystems, from polar bear cubs, giraffe calves, and zebra colts to human babies, Sibert medalist Catherine Thimmesh shows how we are all more similar than we realize. J 591.392 THIMMESH, eBook

Vegara, Maria Isabel Sánchez; illustrated by Mai Ly Degnan. Martin Luther King, Jr. 2020.

Check out the Little People, Big Dreams series of biographies. They are short biographies with simple text for the youngest readers. J BIO KING

Waxman, Laura Hamilton. Nurse Tools. 2020.

Bumba Books Community Helpers: Tools of the Trades series is designed for ages 4-7. Simple text with bold photographs introduces young readers to the tools used by nurses. Other titles in the series include **Construction Worker Tools**, **Police Officer Tools**, **Doctor Tools**, and **Dentist Tools**. J 610.73 WAXMAN, eBook

Ask the librarian for help finding **Pebble Plus books and **Blastoff Readers (Level One)** in the juvenile nonfiction section. These books are great for preschoolers and kindergarteners! A Pebble Plus book has a star on its spine and a Blastoff Reader has - you guessed it! - a little rocket.*



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