

Cultivating Readers

Tree-mendous Book Ideas

Fiction and Nonfiction
for Grades K – 5



ncfi
National Center for
Families Learning

Created by the National Center for Families Learning.

Animals

Grades K – 2

- ✔ *They Call Me Woolly: What Animal Names Can Tell Us* by Keith Duquette
- ✔ *Dinosaurs? The biggest, baddest, strangest, fastest* by Howard Zimmerman
- ✔ *Stronger than Steel* by Bridget Heos
- ✔ *About Birds* by Catherine Sill
- ✔ *Dolphins* by Penelope Arlon

Grades 3 – 5

- ✔ *On the Trail of Incredible Dinosaurs* by William Lindsay
- ✔ *Animal School: What Class Are You?* by Michelle Lord
- ✔ *125 True Stories of Amazing Animals* by National Geographic Kids
- ✔ *TIME for Kids Book of Why: Awesome Animal Kingdom* by Editors of TIME for Kids Magazine
- ✔ *Ultimate Bugopedia: The Most Complete Bug Reference Ever* by Darlyne Murawski




Crafts and Hobbies

Grades K – 2

- ✔ *What Can You Do With a Paper Bag?*
by Metropolitan Museum of Art
- ✔ *Creative Crafts for Kids: Over 100 Projects for Two to Ten Year Olds* by Gill Dickinson
- ✔ *Ed Emberley's Great Thumbprint Drawing Book* by Ed Emberley
- ✔ *Easy-to-Make Pop-Ups* by Joan Irvine
- ✔ *The Jumbo Book of Outdoor Art*
by Irene Luxbacher

Grades 3 – 5

- ✔ *The Klutz Book of Paper Airplanes*
by Doug Stillinger
 - ✔ *Ed Emberley's Drawing Book of Animals*
by Ed Emberley
 - ✔ *The Kid's Guide to Service Projects*
by Barbara A. Lewis
 - ✔ *Craft Camp: Over 40 Fun Projects for Kids*
by Lark Crafts
 - ✔ *Coin Collecting for Kids* by Steve Otfinoski
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Science and Nature

Grades K – 2

- ✔ *The Sky is Full of Stars* by Franklyn Branley
- ✔ *A Place for Fish* by Melissa Stewart
- ✔ *The Stunning Science of Everything: Science with the Squishy Bits Left In* by Nick Arnold
- ✔ *Nature in a Nutshell for Kids* by Jean Potter
- ✔ *What is the World Made Of? All About Solids, Liquids, and Gases* by Kathleen Weidner Zoehfeld

Grades 3 – 5

- ✔ *Nature's Fury* by Carole G. Vogel
- ✔ *The Top of the World: Climbing Mount Everest* by Steve Jenkins
- ✔ *The Everything Kids' Science Experiments Book* by Tom Robinson
- ✔ *How Come?: Every Kid's Science Questions Explained* by Kathy Wollard
- ✔ *The Kids' Guide to Exploring Nature* by Brooklyn Botanic Garden Educators

History

Grades K – 2

- ✔ *By the Dawn's Early Light: The Story of the Star-Spangled Banner* by Steven Kroll
- ✔ *Call Me Ahnighito* by Pam Conrad
- ✔ *Rosa's Bus: The Ride to Civil Rights* by Jo Kittinger
- ✔ *Shhh! We're Writing the Constitution* by Jean Fritz
- ✔ *I Am Amelia Earhart* by Brad Meltzer

Grades 3 – 5

- ✔ *Disaster! Catastrophes That Shook the World* by Richard Bonson and Richard Platt
- ✔ *Encounter* by Jane Yolen
- ✔ *Rutherford B., Who Was He? Poems About Our Presidents* by Marilyn Singer
- ✔ *Founding Mothers: Remembering the Ladies* by Cokie Roberts
- ✔ *I Survived the Battle of Gettysburg, 1863* by Lauren Tarshis

Sports

Grades K – 2

- ✔ *She Loved Baseball: The Effa Manley Story* by Audrey Vernick
- ✔ *Skiing Has its Ups and Downs* by Scott Nickel
- ✔ *Salt in His Shoes: Michael Jordan in Pursuit of a Dream* by Deloris Jordan and Roslyn M. Jordan
- ✔ *The Magic Hockey Stick* by Peter Maloney
- ✔ *I've Got the No-Skateboard Blues* by Anita Yasuda

Grades 3 – 5

- ✔ *No Easy Way: The Story of Ted Williams and the Last .400 Season* by Fred Bowen
- ✔ *Saving the Team* by Alex Morgan
- ✔ *Incredible Stories of Courage in Sports* by Brad Herzog
- ✔ *Catch that Pass* by Matt Christopher
- ✔ *Stealing Home: The Story of Jackie Robinson* by Barry Denenberg

Transportation

Grades K – 2

- ✔ *Freight Train* by Donald Crews
- ✔ *Locomotive* by Brian Floca
- ✔ *Hovercraft* by Sarah Tieck
- ✔ *Planes, Trains, and Automobiles* by Chris Oxlade
- ✔ *How Cars Work* by Nick Arnold



Grades 3 – 5


- ✔ *Flight* by Von Hardesty
- ✔ *My First Bicycle Book* by Susan Akass
- ✔ *Old Ironsides* by David Weitzman
- ✔ *Titanic Sinks* by Barry Denenberg
- ✔ *Bikes, Trains, and Other Land Machines* by Ian Graham

Health

Grades K – 2

- ✔ *My First Human Body Book* by Patricia J. Wynne
- ✔ *Good Enough to Eat: A Kid's Guide to Food and Nutrition* by Lizzy Rockwell
- ✔ *Is a Worry Worrying You?* by Ferida Wolff
- ✔ *The ABCs of Yoga for Kids* by Teresa Power
- ✔ *The Monster Health Book: A Guide to Eating Healthy, Being Active & Feeling Great for Monsters & Kids* by Edward Miller

Grades 3 – 5


- ✔ *What to Do When You Worry Too Much: A Kid's Guide to Overcoming Anxiety* by Dawn Huebner
 - ✔ *ChopChop: The Kids' Guide to Cooking Real Food with Your Family* by Sally Sampson
 - ✔ *Sports Nutrition for Teen Athletes: Eat Right to Take Your Game to the Next Level* by Dana Meachen Rau
 - ✔ *Food & You (American Girl)* by Dr. Lynda Madison
 - ✔ *Eyewitness Book: Medicine* by Steve Parker
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Graphic Novels

Grades K – 2

- ✔ *Frankie Pickle and the Closet of Doom* by Eric Wight
- ✔ *Airplane Adventure* by Cari Meister
- ✔ *A Day at the Fire Station* by Lori Mortensen
- ✔ *Otto's Orange Day* by Jay Lynch
- ✔ *You Can't Take a Balloon into the Museum of Fine Arts* by Jacqueline Preiss Weitzman

Grades 3 – 5

- ✔ *The Storm in the Barn* by Matt Phelan
 - ✔ *Giants Beware! (The Chronicles of Claudette)* by Jorge Aguirre
 - ✔ *Lunch Lady and the Cyborg Substitute* by Jarrett Krosoczka
 - ✔ *Explorer: The Mystery Boxes* by Kazu Kibuishi
 - ✔ *Secret Coders* by Gene Luen Yang & Mike Holmes
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Fantasy

Grades K – 2

- ✔ *Stellaluna* by Janell Cannon
- ✔ *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs* by Judi Barrett
- ✔ *The Velveteen Rabbit* by Margery Williams
- ✔ *Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White
- ✔ *Where the Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak

Grades 3 – 5

- ✔ *Tuck Everlasting* by Natalie Babbitt
- ✔ *The BFG* by Roald Dahl
- ✔ *The Bridge to Terabithia* by Katherine Paterson
- ✔ *Savvy* by Ingrid Law
- ✔ *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* by Roald Dahl



Realistic Fiction

Grades K – 2

- ✔ *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day* by Judith Viorst
- ✔ *Owl Moon* by Jane Yolen
- ✔ *Thunder Cake* by Patricia Polacco
- ✔ *Saturdays and Teacakes* by Lester L. Laminack
- ✔ *Mr. Peabody's Apples* by Madonna

Grades 3 – 5


- ✔ *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio
- ✔ *The One and Only Ivan* by Katherine Applegate
- ✔ *Holes* by Louis Sachar
- ✔ *Because of Winn Dixie* by Kate DiCamillo
- ✔ *Dear Mr. Henshaw* by Beverly Cleary

Poetry

Grades K – 2

- ✔ *Brothers & Sisters: Family Poems* by Eloise Greenfield
- ✔ *Foot in the Mouth: Poems to Speak, Sing, and Shout* by Paul Janeczko
- ✔ *Honey, I Love* by Eloise Greenfield
- ✔ *The New Kid on the Block* by Jack Prelutsky
- ✔ *Sports! Sports! Sports! A Poetry Collection* by Lee Bennett Hopkins

Grades 3 – 5

- ✔ *If I Were in Charge of the World and Other Worries* by Judith Viorst
 - ✔ *If You're Not Here, Please Raise Your Hand: Poems About School* by Kalli Dakos
 - ✔ *Where the Sidewalk Ends* by Shel Silverstein
 - ✔ *Casey at the Bat* by Ernest L. Thayer
 - ✔ *Lives: Poems About Famous Americans* by Lee Bennett Hopkins
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Wordless Picture Books

Grades K – 5

- ✔ *Robot Dreams* by Sara Varon
- ✔ *Chalk* by Bill Thomson
- ✔ *The Lion & the Mouse*
by Jerry Pinkney
- ✔ *Flotsam*
by David Wiesner
- ✔ *The Arrival* by Shaun Tan



Folktales

Grades K – 2

- ✔ *Whiskers, Tails, and Wings: Animal Folktales from Mexico* by Judy Goldman
- ✔ *Tales Told in Tents: Stories from Central Asia* by Sally Pomme
- ✔ *Why the Sky is Far Away: A Nigerian Folktale* by Mary-Joan Gerson
- ✔ *Stone Soup* by Marcia Brown
- ✔ *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs* by Jon Scieszka

Grades 3 – 5


- ✔ *The People Could Fly: American Black Folktales* by Virginia Hamilton
- ✔ *Best-Loved Folktales of the World* by Joanna Cole
- ✔ *Nelson Mandela's Favorite African Folktales* by Nelson Mandela
- ✔ *The Ogress and the Snake and Other Stories from Somalia* by Elizabeth Laird
- ✔ *The Day it Snowed Tortillas* by Joe Hayes

Fairy Tales

Grades K – 2

- ✔ *Prince Cinders* by Babette Cole
- ✔ *Princess Tales: Once Upon a Time in Rhyme with Seek-and-Find Pictures* by Grace Maccarone
- ✔ *The Field Guide* by Holly Black and Tony DiTerlizzi
- ✔ *The Random House Book of Fairy Tales* by Amy Ehrlick
- ✔ *Honestly, Red Riding Hood Was Rotten!: The Story of Little Red Riding Hood as Told by the Wolf* by Trisha Speed Shaskan

Grades 3 – 5

- ✔ *The Serpent Slayer and Other Stories of Strong Women* by Katrin Tchana
 - ✔ *Hans Andersen's Fairy Tales translated* by L.W. Kingsland
 - ✔ *Igraine the Brave* by Cornelia Funke
 - ✔ *The Classic Fairy Tales* by Maria Tatar
 - ✔ *Chinese Fairy Tales* by Frederick H. Martens
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Fables

Grades K – 2

- ✔ *City Mouse - Country Mouse: And Two More Mouse Tales from Aesop* by John Wallner
- ✔ *Lon Po Po: A Red Riding Hood Story from China* by Ed Young
- ✔ *Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears: A West African Tale* by Verna Aardema
- ✔ *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs* by Jon Scieszka
- ✔ *Frederick* by Leo Lionni

Grades 3 – 5

- ✔ *Aesop's Fables* by Aesop
- ✔ *Fables* by Arnold Lobel
- ✔ *Aesop's Fables* by Jerry Pinkney
- ✔ *Chinese Fables: The Dragon Slayer and Other Timeless Tales of Wisdom* by Shiho S. Nunes
- ✔ *Founders' Fables* by Laurie Cockerell



Legends

Grades K – 2

- ✔ *Johnny Appleseed* by Steven Kellogg
- ✔ *Paul Bunyan* by Steven Kellogg
- ✔ *How the Stars Fell into the Sky: A Navajo Legend* by Jerrie Oughton
- ✔ *Iktomi and the Coyote: A Plains Indian Story* by Paul Goble
- ✔ *Thirteen Moons on Turtle's Back* by Joseph Bruchac

Grades 3 – 5

- ✔ *The Arabian Nights Retold* by Brian Alderson
 - ✔ *The Adventures of Sir Lancelot the Great* by Gerald Morris
 - ✔ *Native American Tales and Legends* by Allan A. MacFarlan
 - ✔ *King Arthur: Tales from the Round Table* by Andrew Lang
 - ✔ *Favorite North American Indian Legends* by Philip Smith
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Myths

Grades K – 2

- ✔ *Max and Ruby in Pandora's Box* by Rosemary Wells
- ✔ *The Gods and Goddesses of Olympus* by Alik
- ✔ *The Chocolate Touch* by Patrick Skene Catling
- ✔ *Classic Starts: Roman Myths* by Diane Namm
- ✔ *The Golden Flower: A Taino Myth from Puerto Rico* by Nina Jaffe

Grades 3 – 5

- ✔ *The Beautiful Stories of Life: Six Greek Myths, Retold* by Cynthia Rylant
- ✔ *Black Ships Before Troy: The Story of the Iliad* by Rosemary Sutcliffe
- ✔ *The Wanderings of Odysseus: The Story of the Odyssey* by Rosemary Sutcliffe
- ✔ *D'Aulaires' Book of Greek Myths* by Ingri Parin d'Aulaire and Edgar Parin d'Aulaire
- ✔ *D'Aulaires' Book of Norse Myths* by Ingri Parin d'Aulaire and Edgar Parin d'Aulaire

Biography

Grades K – 2

- ✔ *Skit-Scat Raggedy Cat: Ella Fitzgerald* by Eileen L. Ordover
- ✔ *Abe Lincoln: The Boy Who Loved Books* by Kay Winters
- ✔ *The Little Plant Doctor: A Story About George Washington Carver* by Jean Marzollo
- ✔ *Ella Fitzgerald: The Tale of a Vocal Virtuosa* by Andrea Pinkney
- ✔ *Dreamers from the Village: The Story of Marc Chagall* by Michelle Markel

Grades 3 – 5

- ✔ *Snowflake Bentley* by Jacqueline Martin
- ✔ *Starry Messenger: Galileo Galilei* by Peter Sis
- ✔ *To Dare Mighty Things* by Doreen Rappaport
- ✔ *Abe Lincoln Crosses a Creek: A Tall, Thin Tale* by Deborah Hopkinson
- ✔ *Who Was Albert Einstein?* by Jess Brallier

Historical Fiction

Grades K – 2

- ✔ *The Wall* by Eve Bunting
- ✔ *All the Way to America: The Story of a Big Italian Family and a Little Shovel* by Dan Yaccarrino
- ✔ *Queen of the Falls* by Chris Van Allsburg
- ✔ *I Will Come Back for You: A Family in Hiding During World War II* by Marisabina Russo
- ✔ *Back of the Bus* by Aaron Reynolds

Grades 3 – 5

- ✔ *Old Yeller* by Fred Gipson
- ✔ *Sarah, Plain and Tall* by Patricia Maclachlan
- ✔ *Bud, Not Buddy* by Christopher Paul Curtis
- ✔ *Storyteller* by Patricia Reilly Giff
- ✔ *The Star Maker* by Laurence Yep



Math

Grades K – 2

- ✔ *100th Day Worries* by Margery Cuyler
- ✔ *Marvelous Math: A Book of Poems* by Lee Bennett Hopkins
- ✔ *Millions, Billions, and Trillions: Understanding Big Numbers* by David Adler
- ✔ *The Boy Who Loved Math: The Improbable Life of Paul Erdos* by Deborah Heiligman
- ✔ *Math Fables: Lessons That Count* by Greg Tang

Grades 3 – 5

- ✔ *That's a Possibility: A Book About What Might Happen* by Bruce Goldstone
- ✔ *The Everything Kids' Math Puzzles Book: Brain Teasers, Games and Activities for Hours of Fun* by Meg Clemens
- ✔ *Multiplying Menace: The Revenge of Rumpelstiltskin* by Pam Calvert
- ✔ *Sir Cumference and the First Round Table* by Cindy Neuschwander
- ✔ *If You Were a Fraction* by Trisha Speed Shaskan

Humor

Grades K – 2

- ✔ *Amelia Bedelia* by Peggy Parish
- ✔ *The Day the Crayons Quit* by Drew Daywalt
- ✔ *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!* by Mo Willems
- ✔ *Click, Clack, Moo: Cows That Type* by Doreen Cronin
- ✔ *Interrupting Chicken* by David Ezra Stein



Grades 3 – 5

- ✔ *The Random House Book of Humor for Children* selected by Pamela Pollack
- ✔ *The Terrible Two* by Mac Barnett
- ✔ *The Timmy Failure Series* by Stephan Pastis
- ✔ *The Creature from my Closet series* by Obert Skye
- ✔ *Frindle* by Andrew Clements