

## PRESCHOOL & EARLY ELEMENTARY

Solidly into the preschool and early school-age years, a child can usually sit for a longer or more complex story. Humor is recognizable, and it often helps a child through daily uncertainties.

Alko, Selina, **I'm Your Peanut Butter Big Brother**. A child in an interracial family wonders what his yet-to-be-born sibling will look like.

Beaumont, Karen, **Who Ate All the Cookie Dough?** Kanga and her friends try to discover who ate all of her cookie dough. Children will have fun guessing after following the clues.

Hicks, Barbara, **Monsters Don't Eat Broccoli**. Rhyme and rhythm make this book for picky eaters laugh and WANT to eat broccoli.

Otoshi, Kathryn, **One**. Red picks on Blue while Yellow, Orange, Green and Purple wonder what they can do until One unites the colors and helps everybody learn about acceptance, tolerance and boundaries amidst bullying while the reader learns numbers, primary and secondary colors.

Pinkney, Jerry, **The Lion and the Mouse**. In this wordless retelling of an Aesop fable, an adventuresome mouse proves that even small creatures are capable of great deeds when he rescues the King of the Jungle. Beautiful pictures tell the story, but children will enjoy making up their own as well.

Other books include:

Barnett, Mac, **Billy Twitters and His Blue Whale Problem**

Nakagawa, Chihiro, **Who Made This Cake?**

Oppel, Kenneth, **The King's Taster**

Pichon, Liz, **Penguins**

## EARLY READERS

As children approach reading on their own, they may find times of shared reading even more enjoyable. Allowing the child to help with the reading and providing a variety of situations to read about will help a child grow. More mature subjects, as well as the truly imaginative and funny, are appreciated.

Adler, David, **Bones and the Roller Coaster Mystery**. Junior sleuth Jeffrey Bones and his grandfather enjoy a day at the amusement park until their tickets to ride the giant roller coaster mysteriously disappear.

Howe, James, **Houndsley and Catina Plink and Plunk**. Houndsley likes canoeing and his friend Catina likes bicycling, but each has to help the other learn to enjoy these activities in order to do them together.

Lobel, Arnold, **Frog and Toad Together**. This pair of amphibian pals likes to do everything together, from list making to flower growing to dragon vanquishing. And when Toad bakes cookies one day, the two try to develop willpower together.

Rylant, Cynthia, **Henry and Mudge and the Great Grandpas**. When Henry and his dog Mudge go with Henry's parents to visit Great-Grandpa Bill in the home with lots of other grandpas, they lead them all on a wonderful adventure.

Willems, Mo, **There is a Bird on Your Head!** Gerald the elephant discovers there is something worse than a bird on your head – two birds on your head! Piggie will try to help her best friend.

Other books include:

Cushman, Doug, **Dirk Bones and the Mystery of the Missing Book**

Kenah, Katherine, **The Best Chef in the Second Grade**

Rylant, Cynthia, **Annie and Snowball and the Cozy Nest**

Scieszka, Jon, **Spooky Tire Town**

# Family Reading Connection Guide

## *Together is Better!*



## 23rd Annual Child & Family Awareness Month



Summit County  
**CHILDREN SERVICES**  
*Building Families . . . Building Futures*



**Akron-Summit County  
Public Library**

[www.akronlibrary.org](http://www.akronlibrary.org)

Reading together each day is an important step to building family community and lifelong learning. Here are some suggestions for books that will be enjoyed by reader and listener alike.

## BOOKS BABIES WILL LOVE

Share these books with babies up to age two. For the youngest, find board books and other books with simple text and large pictures or photographs. Babies and toddlers enjoy seeing other babies and children playing and doing everyday things. As they get older, they start to explore wider concepts.

Bedford, David, **In-O-Saur, Out-O-Saur**. Colorful illustrations depicting different kinds of dinosaurs, such as the fast-o-saur and slow-o-saur, teach children about opposites.

Light, Steve, **Trucks Go**. Eight noisy trucks grumble, roar, and crunch their way through this board book.

Opal, Paola, **Saffy**. Saffy, the little giraffe, is too small to reach the leaves on the tree, but is determined to try anyway.

Opal, Paola, **Totty**. A baby sea turtle has trouble getting to the sea, but ends up handling the problem in a unique way.

Snyder, Betsy, **Haiku Baby**. A collection of simple nature haiku in board book format.

Other books include:

Adler, Victoria, **All of Baby, Nose to Toes**

Ajmera, Maya, **Global Babies**

Silariya, David, **All About Me: A Baby's Guide to Babies**

Wilson, Karma, **Play Nice, Calico**

## TIME FOR TODDLERS

At two and three years old, attention spans start to lengthen, so try books using simple text, but making concepts broader and stories longer. Toddlers and a bit older enjoy a one-on-one story experience where they can identify objects and characters as they are read to.

Andreasen, Dan, **The Treasure Bath**. A young boy explores a creature-filled world beneath the bubbles in his bathtub in this wordless picture book.

Brown, Margaret Wise, **A Child's Good Morning Book**. As the sun rises, birds, horses, rabbits, flowers, bugs and finally children get up to start their day. The edition illustrated by Karen Katz has bright, cheerful illustrations.

MacDonald, Suse, **Shape By Shape**. Colorful, die-cut illustrations introduce basic shapes to children and encourage them to guess the identity of a dinosaur.

Parenteau, Shirley, **Bears On Chairs**. Four bears are happily seated on four chairs until Big Brown Bear shows up and demands a seat. A gently rhyming story that encourages sharing.

Schwarz, Viviane, **There Are Cats In this Book**. The reader is invited to lift flaps and follow the cats as they play with yarn, boxes, pillows and fish.

Taback, Simms, **Simms Taback's City Animals**. A succession of clues appears as parts of each folded page are unfolded, inviting readers to guess which animal is hidden there.

Other books include:

Bang, Molly, **All of Me! A Book of Thanks**

Kemp, Moira, **Baa Baa Black Sheep**, **Hey Diddle Diddle** and **Hickory, Dickory, Dock**

## EARLY PRESCHOOLERS

Children four and five enjoy longer books with lots of humor. They will explore even more diverse topics and concepts such as feelings, imagination and friendship. They may even start noticing patterns of letter sounds with repetitive readings.

Bell, Cece, **Itty Bitty**. A tiny dog named Itty Bitty finds an enormous bone and hollows it out to make it his home. It feels incomplete until he discovers a section of a department store with miniature furniture.

Davis, Nancy, **A Garden of Opposites**. Opposites abound in a colorful garden, including a closed bud, an open blossom, a short caterpillar, and a long snake.

Elliott, David, **What the Grizzly Knows**. When night falls magical things begin to happen to Teddy, taking the reader on an adventure around the countryside and seeing the world through the senses of a bear.

McCarty, Peter, **Jeremy Draws a Monster**. A young boy who spends most of his time alone in his bedroom makes new friends after the monster in his drawing becomes a monstrous nuisance.

Oldland, Nicholas, **Big Bear Hug**. A big bear who loves to hug everything meets a human who is about to chop down a tree.

Other books include:

Alexander, Martha, **Max and the Dumb Flower Picture**

Dewdney, Anna, **Llama Llama Misses Mama**

Emberley, Rebecca, **Chicken Little**

Yum, Hyewon, **Last Night**