

Welcome to 1st Grade, CTA Readers

Anytime is a great time for reading! Children who read daily are more likely to be successful in school. It provides practice of important skills that support learning and thinking. It builds self-esteem and independence, and reading is fun! Reading to and with young children helps them develop a love for reading and become confident and able readers. Besides, reading is fun!

Here are some thoughts to encourage your readers:

- Try to visit the library! Encourage your children to read for pleasure.
- Let children choose. Children may have favorite authors, favorite characters, special interests, or just like the story or pictures. Their selection encourages them to read.
- It's okay to reread old favorites and try new ones.
- Books that are "just right", not too hard and not too easy, are best for independent reading. Reading is a meaning making process so if your child can't read and understand most of what is on the page, save it for the future or read it together.
- Read aloud to your children. Reading to children builds background knowledge, encourages vocabulary development, and fosters critical thinking. Besides, it is great for cuddling!

Most importantly, have a great summer and make reading part of the fun!

It has been a joy working with your children. Happy Reading!

Cheryl Miller, CTA Library 2021

Great for Reading Aloud!

Ada Twist, Scientist by Andrea Beaty 2016 Ada Twist has imagination and lots of curiosity. She's in search of discovery and uses science to find answers. This book shows girls that science is for them!

The Adventures of Beekle: An Unimaginary Friend by Dan Santat 2015 Caldecott Medal
Beekle, an imaginary friend, tired of waiting to be found, searches for his person.

Alma and How She Got Her Name by Juanita Martinez-Neal 2019 Caldecott Honor Children will love this little girl's explanation of how she got her name. Then they'll want to know their own story.

Anansi's Party Time by Eric Kimmel 2008 When Anansi, the spider, invites Turtle to a party just so he can play a trick on him, Turtle gets revenge.

Arthur series by Marc Brown Enjoy the everyday and extraordinary situations of the loveable aardvark and his friends.

Bad Kitty by Nick Bruel 2005 Kitty's favorite foods are gone. All that's left is an alphabetical array of Asparagus, Beets, Cauliflower and 21 more – all yucky! So, Kitty misbehaves, in ABC order!

Be Kind by Pat Zietlow Miller 2018 This sweet story shows how acts of kindness, both big and small, can make a huge difference in someone's life, and yours too!

A Big Mooncake for Little Star by Grace Lin 2019 Caldecott Honor Little Star loves the mooncake she and Mom baked but she can't eat it yet. What happens if she does? Enjoy the story and learn about the phases of the moon.

Bedtime for Frances Russell Hoban 1995 It's her bedtime but Frances isn't ready – not without some milk, kisses and other bedtime delays young children and parents know so well.

Caps for Sale by Esphyr Slobodkina First published in 1938, this is the classic story of a salesman who wears his entire stock of caps on his head. But when he falls asleep under a tree full of monkeys...!?

Chrysanthemum by Kevin Henkes 2008 Chrysanthemum loved her name until she went to school.

Cinderella by Marcia Brown 1955 Caldecott Medal Classic story based on the French version of a kind girl, her evil stepmother and sisters, a fairy godmother, a pumpkin coach, glass slipper and a prince .

Creepy Pair of Underwear by Aaron Reynolds 2015 Jasper Rabbit is NOT a little bunny anymore. He's not afraid of the dark, and he's definitely not afraid of something as silly as underwear. But when the lights go out ...!

The Day You Begin by Jacqueline Woodson 2018 Have you ever gone into a room and felt different? It's not easy to go where no one knows you but somehow you go ahead. And you make friends!

Dear Girl, A Celebration of Wonderful, Smart, Beautiful You 2017

A special book for the girl in your life!

And for your wonderful boy: ***Dear Boy, A Celebration of Cool, Clever, Compassionate You!*** 2019

Both by Paris Rosenthal & Jason Rosenthal Enjoy it together.

Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus by Mo Willems 2004 Caldecott Honor When the bus driver takes a break, he asks the reader to "make sure the pigeon doesn't drive the bus". But guess who shows up as soon as he's gone? The pigeon begs and whines his way through the book, hoping he can drive. Will you let him?

Giggle, Giggle, Quack by Doreen Cronin 2000 Farmer Brown is going on vacation and asks his brother to care for the animals "but watch out for Duck. He's trouble". Sequel to ***Click, Clack, Moo***.

The Gingerbread Man by Eric Kimmel 1993 Classic folk tale about a gingerbread man who runs away from the woman who baked him and meets other animals, and at the end, a clever fox.

Giraffes Can't Dance by Giles Andreae 2001 Gerald wants to dance but he has four left feet. The other animals make fun of him. Perhaps he just needs to dance to his own music.

Farfallina and Marcel by Holly Keller 2002 Farfallina, a caterpillar, and Marcel, a gosling are great friends. They love spending time together. But one everything changes. Will they still be best friends?

Goldilocks and the Three Bears by Jan Brett 1987 Much loved fairy tale. Wonderful illustrations.

Good Night Owl by Greg Pizzoli 2017 Geisel Honor Owl can't go to sleep until he figures out what's making that strange noise. Enjoy 2014 Geisel Medal, ***The Watermelon Seed***, too.

Another winner from Greg Pizzoli: ***The Book Hog*** 2020 Geisel Honor Hog *loves* books and he'll grab as many as he can find. But there's a problem. He can't read! How can this be fixed?

The Hello, Goodbye Window by Norton Juster and Chris Raschka 2006 Caldecott Medal Everything important happens near, through, or beyond the kitchen window at Nanna and Poppy's.

How Do Dinosaurs Stay Friends by Jane Yolen & Mark Teague 2016 Children can relate as these friends get mad and make up, too. Beautiful illustrations.

Ice Cream Summer by Peter Sis 2015 It's always time for ice cream even when learning history, math, and new vocabulary.

If You Give a Mouse a Cookie by Laura Numeroff 2015 What happens if you give a mouse a cookie? Well, he'll need a glass of milk, a straw, a napkin and more. Children will laugh and groan at this story.

Interrupting Chicken by David Ezra Stein 2011 Caldecott Honor Little red chicken just cannot help interrupting her favorite bedtime stories.

Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse by Kevin Henkes 2006 Lilly can't wait for sharing to show her new purse at school. Her impatience causes conflict with her favorite teacher.

Little Red Hen by Paul Galdone 1985 Well-loved cautionary folktale about how we reap what we sow!

The Little Red Fort by Brenda Maier 2018 Ruby always has ideas so when she finds some old boards, she decides to build something. She asks her brothers to help but they just laugh. Compare this modern take on The Little Red Hen with the original.

Officer Buckle and Gloria by Peggy Rathmann 1996 Caldecott Medal Officer Buckle loves teaching safety to school children but it's his dog Gloria who is really the star.

Olivia and the Fairy Princesses by Ian Falconer 2012 Olivia wants to stand out, not be one of those ordinary sparkly princesses. After all, she *is* special! Series

Pinkalicious by Victoria Kann 2016 Pinkalicious loves pink! But what happens when she eats too many pink cupcakes! Read about Purplicious, Aqualicious and more in the series.

Pete the Cat: I Love My White Shoes by James Dean 2010 Pete proudly walks down the street in his new white shoes. But along the way they change to red, blue, brown and wet! Pete doesn't mind, he just keeps singing his song.

Sam and Dave Dig a Hole by Mac Barnett and Jon Klassen 2015 Caldecott Honor Sam and Dave are digging to find something spectacular! They dig and dig and dig. What do they find?

The Seven Silly Eaters by Mary Ann Hoberman 1997 Funny story about a family with very odd eating habits. Rhyming text.

A Snowy Day by Ezra Jack Keats 1963 Caldecott Award Share the adventures of a little boy in the city on a very snowy day. It may be summer but cool off with the NYC library's most checked out book!

Speak Up, Molly Lou by Patty Lovell 2020 Molly Lou Melon's mother taught her to use her big voice for good--to speak up for what's right, for those who can't, even when it's hard. So, she does. In ***Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon***, Molly's confidence helps her stand up to a bully.

Sylvester and the Magic Pebble by William Steig 1970 Caldecott Medal Sylvester the donkey asks his magic pebble to turn him into a rock, but then he can't wish himself back to normal again!

Strega Nona by Tomi de Paola 1976 Caldecott Honor Strega Nona's magical pot makes the best pasta. Big Anthony loves pasta but what happens when magic words bring the unexpected!

Thank You, Omu! by Oge Mora 2019 Caldecott Honor Omu is very kind to her neighbors, but when she has given her all, can she count on them?

Thelma, the Unicorn by Aaron Blabey 2017 Thelma, a pony, yearns to be a unicorn. When she miraculously becomes, one is she really happy?

This is Not My Hat by Jon Klassen 2013 Caldecott Winner A tiny fish wearing a blue hat swims along, but trouble could be close behind! Don't forget to read the author's 2011 Caldecott Honor, ***I Want My Hat Back*** and 2016's ***We Found a Hat***.

Three Billy Goats Gruff by Jerry Pinkney 2017 In this classic the hungry goats have to cross a troll's bridge to eat the delicious grass. Should the goat be so greedy? What happens to the mean troll?
The Little Mermaid 2020 New retelling of this classic from Jerry Pinkney.

Truman by Jean Reidy 2019 Truman the tortoise lives with Sarah, high above the traffic until one day Sarah does something Truman's not seen before. She boards the bus! Truman waits and waits for her until he just can't wait any longer!

Waiting by Kevin Henkes 2016 Caldecott Honor & Geisel Honor An owl, puppy, bear, rabbit and pig, wait on a child's windowsill for something special to happen.

Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak 1964 Caldecott Medal When Max acts up, he's sent to his room. Not content to sulk, he has a great adventure. Modern classic that children can relate to.

Early Readers Children entering Gr. 1 will enjoy reading these books together and some may read them independently now or as the school year progresses.

Amanda Pig and the Wobbly Tooth by Jean Van Leeuwen 2008 Will Amanda Pig decide to pull her first loose tooth?

Amelia Bedelia by Peggy Parish First published in 1963, and widely popular ever since! Children love this series about a housekeeper who literally follows instructions.

Biscuit series by Alyssa Satin Capucilli Biscuit, the adorable little tan puppy, has many adventures.

The Cat in the Hat by Dr. Seuss The classic "I can read" book! Other Dr. Seuss favorites for early readers include ***The Cat in the Hat Comes Back***, ***Green Eggs and Ham***, ***Fox in Socks***.

Charlie & Mouse by Laurel Snyder 2018 Geisel Medal Join brothers, Charlie and Mouse, in four hilarious adventures that include inventing a bedtime banana. Sequel: ***Charlie & Mouse & Grumpy***

Fox on the Job by James Marshall 1995 When Fox breaks his bike, he tries different jobs to earn money to fix it. Read ***Fox and Friends***, ***Fox Outfoxed*** and all the books in this series.

Frog and Toad are Friends by Arnold Lobel 1971 Caldecott Medal Best friends, Frog and Toad, are always there for each other. Great classic series.

Get a Hit, Mo! By David Adler 2017 Mo often strikes out, but what happens when the bases are loaded? Meet Mo in 2016 Geisel Medal, ***Don't Throw It to Mo***. Read the whole sports series!

Henry and Mudge by Cynthia Rylant 1996 Henry is lonely and really wants a pet. So, his parents let him get a huge, loveable dog named Mudge. Another great series.

Hi Fly Guy! by Tedd Arnold 2005 This is the first in the multi- book series – where Fly Guy and Buzz meet. Kids love to read about this hilarious duo!

King and Kayla and the Case of the Missing Dog Treats by Dori Hillestad Butler 2018 Geisel Honor Three dog treats are missing. Kayla thinks King is guilty but he's not. Who is the intruder? Series

Ling & Ting Not Exactly the Same by Grace Lin 2012 Geisel Award Ling and Ting are twins. They stick together. They have fun together. But they are very different even if they look the same. Series

Mr. Putter and Tabby Turn the Page by Cynthia Rylant 2015 Geisel Honor Mr. Putter and Tabby, are excited about a library program but have second thoughts when Mrs. Teaberry and her dog join in. Series

Penny and Her Marble by Kevin Henkes 2014 Geisel Honor Penny finds a beautiful marble on her neighbor's lawn but is keeping it the right thing to do? Also read ***Penny and her Song***.

Pete the Cat: Pete at the Beach by James Dean 2013 It's a hot summer day at the beach. Pete wants to cool off, but the water looks scary. Will Pete join his brother in the water?

Pigs Make Me Sneeze by Mo Willems 2009 Gerald thinks he's allergic to his best friend. Will he have to stay away from Piggie forever? Kids love all the Gerald and Piggie books and this author! ***Waiting is Not Easy, We Are in a Book, The Thank You Book*** are a few other books starring this duo.

Sam and Charlie (and Sam, too) by Leslie Kimmelman 2013 Sam has new friend. Charlie's a girl with a little sister named Sam! They have lots of fun on adventures and sharing their Jewish traditions. Series

Poppleton by Cynthia Rylant 2019 Poppleton is the new pig in town! He makes friends with his neighbor. He visits the library every Monday. And he helps his sick friend.

Tales for Very Picky Eaters by Josh Schneider 2011 A father's stories trick his picky son into eating healthy foods.

What About Worms!? by Ryan Higgins 2021 Geisel Honor Meet Gerald and Piggie's friend Tiger. He's big and brave and not afraid of anything...except worms!

Chapter books for Reading Aloud – Some young children enjoy a story read over time. Here are some great stories to read aloud and enjoy together. Here are just a few suggestions:

Amelia Bedelia Means Business by Herman Parish

Flat Stanley series by Jeff Brown

Junie B. Jones series by Barbara Park

Magic Tree House series by Mary Pope Osborne

Mercy Watson to the Rescue by Kate DiCamillo

The Mouse and the Motorcycle by Beverly Cleary

Owl Diaries: Eva's Treetop Festival by Rebecca Elliott

The Princess in Black by Shannon Hale

Ramona the Brave by Beverly Cleary

Non-fiction There are lots of great nonfiction books. Let your readers' interests guide their selections.

All the Water in the World by George Ella Lyon 2001 Lyrical verse explores and informs about the water cycle. Beautiful illustrations.

A Butterfly is Patient by Dianna Hutts Aston 2011 A celebration of the butterfly from the tiny Western Pygmy Blue to the largest Queen Alexandra's Birdwing.

Gorillas by Gail Gibbons 2011 Informational text and color illustrations explain how gorillas live, what they eat and more. Also from Gibbons: *Dinosaurs, From Seed to Plant* and other informational books.

Fly Guy Presents Sharks by Tedd Arnold 2013 Buzz Boy and Fly Guy visit the aquarium and learn about these fearsome sea creatures. Learn about Bats, Space, Dinosaurs and more from *Fly Guy Presents*

Honeybee: The Busy Life of Apis Mellifera. By Candace Fleming & Eric Rohmann 2021 Siebert Medal Poetically written and beautifully illustrated description of the life cycle of the honeybee.

If You Decide to Go to the Moon by Faith McNulty 2005 Readers accompany a boy on a trip to the moon. What would you pack? What will the trip be like?

Me...Jane by Patrick McDonnell 2011 A story of young Jane Goodall and her toy chimpanzee, Jubilee. The young Jane dreams of one day helping animals. As an adult that's just what she does.

My Five Senses by Aliki 2015 reprint Sight, smell, taste, hearing, and touch—our five senses teach us about our world.

National Geographic Readers various authors Color photographs support nonfiction text in this series. Learn about Ponies, Tadpoles to Frogs, Seeds to Plants, Weird Sea Creatures, and more in this series.

Packard Takes Flight: A Bird's-Eye View of Columbus by Susan Levine 2010 After falling from his nest atop The Rhodes Tower, Packard, a baby peregrine falcon, must find his way back home. On his trip he visits the sights of Columbus! Get some great ideas for day trips around town!

Red-Eyed Tree Frog by Joy Cowley 2006 In a tropical rain forest in Central America, a red-eyed tree frog spends the night looking for food while avoiding predators.

Tornadoes by Gail Gibbons updated 2019 Simplified text, colorful illustrations work together to explain this weather phenomenon and how to stay safe during a tornado.