**RAISING A READER: YOU ARE YOUR CHILD’S FIRST AND MOST LOVED TEACHER**

Children need to see and hear hundreds of books before they are ready to learn how to read. Families that read with their child just 20 minutes a day are building essential pre-reading and learning skills, plus strong and loving relationships.

These recommended read-aloud books will entertain, teach, and inspire your child’s imagination. They will connect your child with outstanding authors and illustrators. But this list is only the beginning. At the library check-out one recommended book, and then choose others that interest your child. At home, reread favorite books together often. Aim to read three picture books most days.

Have fun reading together! Snuggle with your child and books for 20 minutes every day. You are giving your child a valuable, lasting advantage: A strong reading foundation that supports a lifetime of learning and reading enjoyment.

**BASEBALL AND BOOKS: PARENTS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE**

Imagine a kid who practices batting and pitching a ball to his dad an hour every day all summer, from the time the child is three until he is 8. [May, June, July, August = 120 hours a year for 5 years.]

Imagine a second kid – no practice, no training, has never slipped his hand in a baseball glove, has never run the bases, has never swung a bat, has never seen a full game played.

Imagine that they turn out the same day for Little League tryouts. The skill level between these two young ball players is like the skill level in reading readiness of our incoming kindergartners.

The 90% Reading Goal by Lynn Fielding, Nancy Kerr, Paul Rosier (1998) page 49.

**MY FAVORITE BOOKS**

There are 1,000s of terrific picture books, and your child is sure to have favorites that aren’t in this brochure. Look for other books by authors your child likes, such as Jan Brett, Eric Carle, Dr. Seuss, Paul Galdone, Robert Munsch, Jane Yolen, and many others.

Make your own list here!

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Visit www.ReadingFoundation.org for more reading tips and titles.

Titles recommended by officers and directors of The Children’s Reading Foundation.

Written by Nancy N. Kerr

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Talk about what happened in the story, and mention the main idea, such as, "We counted 10 ladybugs." Or "The Little Engine never gave up trying." Did your child like this picture book? Why or why not? These conversations help your child grow up to be a confident reader and thinker.

31. *Fuzzy Yellow Ducklings* by Matthew Van Fleet
32. *Good Night, Gorilla* by Peggy Rathmann
33. *Goodnight Moon* by Margaret Wise Brown
34. *Goodnight, Goodnight Construction Site* by Laura Numeroff
35. *Green Eggs and Ham* by Dr. Seuss
36. *Guess How Much I Love You* by Sam McBratney
37. *Harold and the Purple Crayon* by Crockett Johnson
38. *Harry the Dirty Dog* by Gene Zion
39. *He Came with the Couch* by David Stanim
40. *How a Seed Grows* by Helene J. Jordan
41. *How Do Dinosaurs Say Goodnight?* by Jane Yolen
42. *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* by Laura Numeroff
43. *Incredible Book Eating Boy* by Vivian Ward
44. *Is Your Mama a Llama?* by Deborah Guarino
45. *It Looked Like Split Milk* by Charles Shaw
46. *Jackson and Brian* by Susan Murphy
47. *Jamberry* by Bruce Degen
48. *Jump, Frog, Jump!* by Robert Kalman
49. *J. J. & O. P. Oat* by Kevin Henkes
50. *Leo the Late Bloomer* by Joseph Slate
51. *Letters and Sounds* by Rosemary Wells
52. *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse* by Kevin Henkes
53. *Little Mama Forgets* by Barbara McPhail
54. *Love You Forever* by Robert N. Munsch
55. *Lunch* by Kevin Henkes
56. *Lunch Box* by Bruce Degen
57. *Madeline* by Ludwig Bemelmans
58. *Malachy and the Magic Flute* by Kevin Henkes
59. *May I Bring a Friend?* by Beatrice Schenk de Regniers
60. *Miss Bindergarten Gets Ready for Kindergarten* by Joseph Slate
61. *Mr. Gumby's Outing* by John Burningham
62. *My Father's Dragon* by Ruth Stiles Gannett
63. *My Map Book* by Sibylle von Olfers
64. *On the Day I Was Born* by Debi Gliori
65. *On the Night You Were Born* by Kady Donovan
66. *One Duck Stuck* by Phyllis Root
67. *Owen* by Kevin Henkes
68. *Pancakes for Breakfast* by Tomie dePaola
69. *Pete's a Pizza* by William Steig
70. *Press Here* by Herve Tullet
71. *Rain, Rain, Rain Forest* by Brenda Z. Guiberson
72. *Read-Aloud Rhymes for the Very Young* by Jack Prelutsky
73. *Rosie's Walk* by Pat Hutchins
74. *Skippyjon Jones* by Judy Schachner
75. *So Much* by Trish Cooke
76. *Sort It Out* by Barbara Mariconda
77. *Stellaluna* by Janell Cannon
78. *Swirl by Swift* by Joyce Sidman
79. *Swimmy* by Leo Lionni
80. *Taxi, Taxi* by Caralyn Buehner
81. *Ten Little Ladybugs* by Melanie Gerth
82. *Ten, Nine, Eight* by Bill Martin
83. *The Big Trip* by Valeri Gorbachev
84. *The Cat in the Hat* by Dr. Seuss
85. *The Gruffalo* by Julia Donaldson
86. *The Kissing Hand* by Audrey Penn
87. *The Little Engine That Could* by Walterältzer
88. *The Little Red Hen* by Paul Galdone
89. *The Mitten* by Jan Brett
90. *The Napping House* by Audrey Wood
91. *The Neighborhood Mother Goose* by Nina Crews
92. *The Rainbow Fish* by Marcus Pfister
93. *The Random House Book of Mother Goose* by Arnold Lobel
94. *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle
95. *The Wide Mouthed Frog* by Keith Faulkner
96. *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* by Julia Donaldson
97. *Where the Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak
98. *Who's Up?* by Eric Hill
99. *Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge* by Mem Fox
100. *Woof* by Sally Lloyd Jones