

Green Acres School

Suggestions for Reading

For Students Entering Pre-K

This is a list of suggested books, taken from several sources, including Green Acres student recommendations. Try other books by these authors, too. We hope that your child's schedule will allow for many relaxing times to read and ponder.

Anderson, Peggy. **Chuck's Truck**

Lots of rhyming and fun as the farmer takes animals to town in his old pick-up truck, which breaks down.

Appelt, Kathi. **Bubba and Beau, Best Friends**

A baby and a puppy have a lot in common, including a favorite blanket. Amusing cartoon-like drawings.

Appelt, Kathi. **Bubba and Beau Go Night-Night**

Best friends, a baby and a puppy, tire out everyone but themselves. Delightful humor with matching illustrations.

Aylesworth, Jim. **The Mitten**

A retelling of the traditional tale of how a boy's lost mitten becomes a refuge from the cold for an increasing number of animals.

Bang, Molly. **Ten, Nine, Eight**

Numbers from ten to one are part of this lullaby which observes the room of a little girl going to bed.

Barton, Byron. **Trucks; Trains; Machines at Work**

Simple pictures about vehicles and machines that kids love.

Becker, Bonny. **A Visitor for Bear**

Bear's efforts to keep out visitors to his house are undermined by a very persistent mouse.

Berger, Carin. **The Little Yellow Leaf**

A yellow leaf is not ready to fall from the tree when autumn comes, but finally, after finding another leaf still on the tree, the two let go together.

Bloom, Suzanne. **A Splendid Friend Indeed**

When a studious polar bear meets an inquisitive goose, they learn to be friends.

Brown, Ruth. **The Tale of Two Mice**

When Bo and Billy need to leave their cozy mouse home and search the big old house for food and supplies, Bo fearlessly explores every nook and cranny while Billy tries to warn him about the cat he sees.

Browne, Anthony. **Little Beauty**

When a gorilla that knows sign language tells his keepers that he is lonely, they bring him a very special friend.

Carle, Eric. **"Slowly, Slowly, Slowly," Said the Sloth**

A humorous introduction to the animals of the Amazon rain forest.

Carle, Eric. **The Very Hungry Caterpillar**

The beginning reader can watch a hungry caterpillar eat his way to the cocoon (chrysalis) stage, to emerge as a beautiful butterfly.

Chodos-Irvine, Margaret. **Ella Sarah Gets Dressed**

A sassy young lady with her own sense of style. Simple, colorful illustrations.

Cooke, Trish. **Full, Full, Full of Love**

For Jay Jay the best part of Sunday dinner at Grannie's is not the luscious food but the warmth and comfort of a loving family.

Cowen-Fletcher, Jane. **It Takes a Village**

On market day in a small village in Benin, Yemi tries to watch her little brother Kokou and finds that the entire village also is watching out for him.

Dunrea, Olivier. **Gossie**

Gossie is a gosling that likes to wear bright red boots every day, no matter what she is doing, and so she is heartbroken the day the boots are missing and she can't find them anywhere. (Related titles are available.)

Emberley, Ed. **Go Away, Big Green Monster!**

Die-cut pages revealing bits of a monster are designed to help a child control nighttime fear of monsters.

Falconer, Ian. **Olivia**

Whether at home getting ready for the day, enjoying the beach, or at bedtime, Olivia is a feisty pig who has too much energy for her own good. (Related titles are available.)

Feiffer, Jules. **Bark, George**

George's mother is trying to teach him to bark like a dog, but he is making the sounds of other animals even though he is a dog.

Fisher, Valorie. **My Big Brother**

A celebration of brotherly love as seen through the eyes of an infant. Delightful text and photographs.

Foreman, Jack. **Say Hello**

Written when the author was ten years old, tells of a dog and a boy who are both lonely until others include them.

Freeman, Don. **Corduroy**

A not-so-perfect teddy bear finds a home with a caring little girl.

French, Jackie. **Diary of a Wombat**

Deadpan humor and the daily grind of a sweetly engaging, manipulative Australian marsupial will keep kids (and parents) giggling.

Freymann, Saxton. **Fast Food**

Cleverly uses different foods to make a means of transportation.

Guarino, Deborah. **Is Your Mama a Llama?**

A young llama asks his friends if their mothers are llamas and finds out, in rhyme, that they are other types of animals.

Henkes, Kevin. **Kitten's First Full Moon**

When Kitten mistakes the full moon for a bowl of milk, she ends up tired, wet, and hungry from trying to reach it.

Hest, Amy. **Little Chick**

Little Chick is very curious, and Old-Auntie helps him to be patient.

Hughes, Langston; photographs by Charles R. Smith, Jr. **My People**

A pictorial view of African American poet Langston Hughes' people.

Hutchins, Pat. **Changes, Changes**

Two wooden dolls rearrange wooden building blocks to form various objects in this wordless book.

James, Simon. **Little One Step**

The littlest duckling discovers that he can keep up when he puts one foot in front of the other.

Jenkins, Steve. **Actual Size**

Discusses and gives examples of the size and weight of various animals and parts of animals.

Kasza, Keiko. **A Mother for Choco**

A lonely little bird named Choco goes in search of a mother.

Lee, Ho Baek. **While We Were Out**

A rabbit finds a way into an empty apartment and watches a movie, plays with some toys, and takes a nap before the owners return.

Lee, Suzy. **The Wave**

This wordless picture book shows a little girl's first experiences at the beach, as she goes from being afraid of the roaring waves to playing on the shore while gulls soar overhead.

Lin, Grace. **Dim Sum for Everyone!**

A child describes the various little dishes of dim sum that she and her family enjoy on a visit to a restaurant in Chinatown.

Long, Loren. **Otis**

When a big new yellow tractor arrives, Otis the friendly little tractor is cast away behind the barn, but when trouble occurs Otis is the only one who can help.

Marzollo, Jean. **Pretend You're a Cat**

Rhyming verses ask the reader to purr like a cat, scratch like a dog, leap like a squirrel, and bark like a seal.

McMullan, Kate and Jim McMullan. **I Stink!**

A city garbage truck's nightly rounds are described informatively and humorously.

Miller, Margaret. **Where Does It Go?**

Suggests both right and wrong answers for where children should put their socks, dolls, crayons, and other possessions.

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

When a boy and his parents go on an outing, little people invade the house and use their big construction equipment to bake a cake.

Newbery, Linda. **Posy**

Posy the kitten has lots of adventures catching spiders, swiping crayons, tangling yarn, and cuddling.

Numeroff, Laura Joffe. **If You Give a Mouse a Cookie**

What happens when you feed a hungry little mouse? (Related titles are available.)

Pinkney, Jerry. **The Lion and the Mouse**

In award-winning artist Jerry Pinkney's wordless adaptation of one of Aesop's most beloved fables, an unlikely pair learn that no act of kindness is ever wasted.

Pinkney, Jerry. **The Little Red Hen**

A newly illustrated edition of the classic fable of the hen who is forced to do all the work of baking bread and of the animals who learn a bitter lesson from it.

Rathman, Peggy. **Good Night, Gorilla**

An unobservant zookeeper is followed home by all the animals he thinks he has left behind in the zoo.

Rohmann, Eric. **My Friend Rabbit**

Rabbit means well, but his big ideas get his friend Mouse into a lot of trouble.

Rosen, Michael. **We're Going on a Bear Hunt**

Cold rivers, oozy mud, and snowstorms aren't scary, but what about a BEAR!

Sakai, Komako. **Emily's Balloon**

A little girl's new friend is round, lighter than air, and looks like the moon at night.

Sayre, April Pulley. **One Is a Snail, Ten Is a Crab: A Counting by Feet Book**

Number combinations from one to one hundred, using feet and starring snail! Humorous illustrations.

Scieszka, Jon. **Truckery Rhymes**

All the favorite rhymes about trucks are here -- from "Peter Peter Payload Eater" to "Little Dan Dumper" and all the way to "Pop! Blows the Diesel."

Seeger, Laura Vaccaro. **Dog and Bear** (series)

Easy-to-read stories reveal the close friendship between a dachshund named Dog and a stuffed bear.

Simont, Marc. **The Stray Dog**

While picnicking, a family enjoys the company of a dog and saves him from the dogcatcher. From a true story by Reiko Sassa. Delightful watercolors.

Sis, Peter. **Fire Truck**

Matt, who loves fire trucks, wakes up one morning to find that he has become a fire truck with one driver, two ladders, three hoses, and ten boots.

Smee, Nicola. **Clip-Clop**

After Mr. Horse asks his friends whether they want to go for a ride, Cat, Dog, Pig, and Duck try to hang on as they urge Mr. Horse to go faster and faster.

Soya, Kiyoshi. **A House of Leaves**

Sheltering from the rain, Sarah shares a house of leaves with a praying mantis, a ladybug, and other small creatures of the wild.

Steig, William. **Pete's a Pizza**

Mom and Dad lovingly teach Pete about imaginative play when a rainy day washes out his plans.

Valckx, Catharina. **Lizette's Green Sock**

Lizette tries to figure out what to do with the one green sock that she finds while out walking one day.

Voake, Charlotte. **Ginger Finds a Home**

An orphan cat finds the perfect home, and a little girl finds the perfect cat.

Weeks, Sarah. **Overboard!**

As *School Library Journal* says, “this book celebrates the great joy toddlers have in tossing or pulling things overboard!”

Wells, Rosemary. **Max Cleans Up**

Max helps Ruby clean up the mess in his room in a most original way. Delightful story and illustrations.

Willems, Mo. **Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus**

A very determined pigeon tries every trick it knows but cannot persuade the riders on the bus to let him drive.

Willems, Mo. **Knuffle Bunny**

Trixie, Daddy, and Knuffle Bunny take a trip to the neighborhood laundromat, but their exciting adventure takes an unexpected turn when Trixie realizes that something is missing.

Wood, Audrey. **The Napping House**

In this cumulative tale, a wakeful flea atop a number of sleeping creatures causes a commotion, with just one bite.

Zelinsky, Paul. **The Wheels on the Bus**

The traditional song with movable parts.

Zimmerman, Andrea and David Clemesha. **Dig!**

Follows Mr. Rally and his dog, Lightning, as they travel around the town on a big yellow digging machine, taking care of five important jobs.