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John C. Towner
Western Washington State College

Theodore A. Mork
Western Washington State College

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BOOKS FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

John C. Towner and Theodore A. Mork

WESTERN WASHINGTON STATE COLLEGE

Children love to be held on parents' laps and they love to be read to. The parents' question is, "Which books would be good for my youngster? How do I select them?" Here is a list that can help.

We selected seven sources that recommend books for children. The recommendations in all seven are made and/or supported by authorities in the field of children's literature. Most of them reflect children's responses to the books as well as adult reaction.

From the seven sources, we listed all the books that were recommended for children of preschool and kindergarten age. The list included 400 books. To reduce the number to a more manageable and usable size, we selected from that list all the children's books that had been recommended by at least four out of the seven sources. The final list includes 52 books. Books with a single asterisk (*) were recommended in five of the seven sources. A double asterisk (**) indicates the book was recommended by six or seven of the seven sources.

RECOMMENDED BOOKS FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

- * Ardizzone, Edward, *Little Tim and The Brave Sea Captain*. Walck, 1955.
Beim, Lorraine and Jerrold Beim, *Two is a Team*. Illustrated by Ernest Crichlow. Harcourt, 1945.
- * Bemmelmans, Ludwig, *Madeline*. Viking, 1939.
Bishop, Claire Huchet, *The Five Chinese Brothers*. Coward-McCann, 1938.
Brooke, L. Leslie, *Johnny Crow's Garden*. Warne, 1903.
Brown, Margaret Wise, *Goodnight Moon*. Illustrated by Clement Hurd. Harper, 1947.
- * De Angeli, Marguerite, *Book of Nursery and Mother Goose Rhymes*. Doubleday, 1954.
- * Dennis, Wesley, *Flip*. Viking, 1941.
De Regniers, Beatrice S., *A Little House of Your Own*. Illustrated by Irene Haas. Harcourt, 1954.
- * Duvoisin, Roger, *A For Ark*. Lothrop, 1952.
- * Eichenberg, Fritz, *Dancing in the Moon*. Harcourt, 1955.
Ets, Marie Hall, *Play With Me*. Viking, 1955.
- ** Fatio, Louise, *The Happy Lion*. Illustrated by Roger Duvoisin. McGraw, 1954.

- * Flack, Marjorie, *Angus and the Ducks*. Doubleday, 1930.
- Flack, Marjorie, *Ask Mr. Bear*. Macmillan, 1932.
- * Flack, Marjorie, *The Story About Ping*. Illustrated by Kurt Wiese. Viking, 1933.
- * Francoise, *Jeanne-Marie Counts Her Sheep*. Scribner, 1957.
- ** Gag, Wanda, *The ABC Bunny*. Coward, 1933.
- ** Gag, Wanda, *Millions of Cats*. Coward, 1928.
- * Grammtky, Hardie, *Little Toot*. Putnam, 1939.
- * Guilfoile, Elizabeth, *Nobody Listens to Andrew*. Illustrated by Mary Stevens. Follett, 1957.
- Hader, Berta, and Elmer Hader, *The Big Snow*. Macmillan, 1948.
- Heyward, Du Bose, *The Country Bunny and the Little Gold Shoes, as told to Jenifer*. Illustrated by Marjorie Flack, Houghton, 1939.
- Ipcar, Dahlov, *Brown Cow Farm*. Doubleday, 1959.
- Kahl, Virginia, *The Duchess Bakes a Cake*. Scribner, 1955.
- ** Keats, Ezra Jack, *The Snowy Day*. Viking, 1962.
- Keats, Ezra Jack, *Whistle for Willie*. Viking, 1964.
- * Langstaff, John, *Frog Went A-Courtin!* Illustrated by Feodor Rojankovsky. Harcourt, 1955.
- * Langstaff, John, *Over In The Meadow*. Illustrated by Feodor Rojankovsky. Harcourt, 1957.
- ** Leaf, Munro, *The Story of Ferdinand*. Illustrated by Robert Lawson. Viking, 1936.
- Lionni, Leo, *Inch by Inch*. Astor-Honor, 1960.
- Lionni, Leo, *Swimmy*. Pantheon, 1963.
- ** McCloskey, Robert, *Make Way For Ducklings*. Viking, 1940.
- McGinley, Phyllis, *All Around the Town*. Illustrated by Helen Stone. Lippincott, 1948.
- * Minarik, Else Holmclund, *Little Bear*. Illustrated by Maurice Sendak. Harper, 1957.
- * Minari, Bruno, *Bruno Munari's ABC*. World, 1960.
- ** Potter, Beatrix, *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*. Warne, 1903.
- ** Rey, Hans A., *Curious George*. Houghton, 1941.
- * Sendak, Maurice, *Where the Wild Things Are*. Harper, 1963.
- * Seuss, Dr., *And To Think That I Saw It On Mulberry Street*. Vanguard, 1937.
- Seuss, Dr., *Horton Hatches the Egg*. Random House, 1940.
- Shulevitz, Uri, *One Monday Morning*. Scribner, 1967.
- * Slobodkina, Esphyr, *Caps For Sale*. Scott, 1947.

- Tresselt, Alvin, *Rain Drop Splash*. Illustrated by Leonard Weisgard. Lothrop, 1946.
- * Tresselt, Alvin, *White Snow, Bright Snow*. Illustrated by Roger Duvoisin. Lothrop, 1956.
- Tudor, Tasha, *1 Is One*. Walck, 1956.
- Udry, Janice May, *A Tree Is Nice*. Illustrated by Marc Simont. Harper, 1956.
- * Ward, Lynd, *The Biggest Bear*. Houghton, 1952.
- ** Wildsmith, Brian, *Brian Wildsmith's ABC*. Watts, 1963.
- ** Yashima, Taro, *Umbrella*. Viking, 1958.
- Zion, Gene, *Harry By The Sea*. Illustrated by Margaret Bloy Graham. Harper, 1965.
- Zolotow, Charlotte, *The Storm Book*. Illustrated by Margaret Bloy Graham. Harper, 1962.

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1. Solomon, Doris, Compiler, *Best Books for Children*. 1970 edition. New York: R. R. Bowker Company, 1970.
2. *Let's Read Together*. Chicago: American Library Association, 1969.
3. Shor, Rachel, and Estelle A. Fidell, *Children's Catalog*. Eleventh edition. New York: H. W. Wilson Company, 1966. Supplements to *Children's Catalog*, 1967-1970.
4. Gaver, Mary V., Editor, *The Elementary School Library Collection*. Fifth edition. Newark, New Jersey: Bro-Dart Foundation, 1970.
5. Mathes, Miriam Snow, Compiler, *A Basic Book Collection for Elementary Grades*. Seventh edition. Chicago: American Library Association, 1960.
6. Hodges, Elizabeth D., Editor, *Books for Elementary School Libraries: An Initial Collection*. Chicago: American Library Association, 1969.
7. Arbuthnot, May Hill, Margaret Mary Clark, Ruth M. Hadlow, and Harriet G. Long, *Children's Books Too Good To Miss*. Cleveland: Western Reserve University Press, 1971.