Summer Reading List

Birth—Preschool

100 ANIMALS
BY STEVE JENKINS
HMH BOOKS, 2021
ISBN: 9780358105459
An early word book that explores animals from across the world, shown through cut-paper illustrations and flaps to lift on each page.

AS BABIES DREAM
BY LESLÉA NEWMAN, ILLUSTRATED BY TAIA MORLEY
MAGINATION PRESS, 2021
ISBN: 9781433836817
In this soothing bedtime story, the sun sets and reveals a starry night over animal and human families.

BEST DAY EVER!
BY MARILYN SINGER, ILLUSTRATED BY LEAH NIXON
CLARION, 2021
ISBN: 9781328987839
This rhyming story features a boy and his dog as their day goes from best to worst and back to best.

CHAIWALA!
BY PRITI BIRLA MAHESHWARI, ILLUSTRATED BY ASHLEY BARRON
OWLKIDS, 2021
ISBN: 9781771473682
When the train makes a brief stop, a mother and young child watch and experience the sounds, sights, and delicious smells of a hot cup of chai being made.

CIRCLE UNDER BERRY
BY CARTER HIGGINS
CHRONICLE BOOKS, 2021
ISBN: 9781797205083
This unusual concept book works as an observation game, a tongue twister, and a primer on spatial awareness. Read it fast or slow; it’s oodles of fun.

DON’T HUG DOUG
BY CARRIE FINISON, ILLUSTRATED BY DANIEL WISEMAN
PUTNAM, 2021
ISBN: 9781984813022
Doug does not like hugs in this picture book about personal boundaries and consent. He does like high fives though.

FLUFFY MCMWHISKERS: CUTENESS EXPLOSION
BY STEPHEN W. MARTIN, ILLUSTRATED BY DAN TAVIS
MARGARET K. McELDERRY BOOKS, 2021
ISBN: 9781534441453
Enjoy the deadpan humor of a story about a cat so adorable that anyone who sees her explodes.

A HOME UNDER THE STARS
BY ANDY CHOU MUSSER
LITTLE BIGFOOT, 2021
ISBN: 9781632173270
In the city, Toby feels lost and angry without the stars at night. When a lion appears in search of the North Star, they journey together through the city to find it.

A HOUSE
BY KEVIN HENKES
GREENWILLOW, 2021
ISBN: 9780063092600
This book poses a series of simple questions about a house for readers to answer and consider what makes a house a home.

INSIDE CAT
BY BRENDAN WENZEL
CHRONICLE BOOKS, 2021
ISBN: 9781452173191
Inside Cat only sees the world through windows until one day its perspective changes with the opening of a door.

LITTLE BIRD’S DAY
BY SALLY MORGAN, ILLUSTRATED BY JOHNNY WARRKATJA MALIBIRR
BLUE DOT KIDS, 2021
ISBN: 9781736226469
Follow a day in the life of a silver-crowned friarbird. The poetic, rhyming text is complemented by images of Australian wildlife.

THE LOST PACKAGE
BY RICHARD HO, ILLUSTRATED BY JESSICA LANAN
ROARING BROOK, 2021
ISBN: 9781250231352
The package a young girl mails at the start of this book is lost. However, it gets to where it’s meant to be due to kindness from others.

MEL FELL
BY COREY R. TABOR
BALZER + BRAY, 2021
ISBN: 9780062878014
Today is the day Mel will fly! Turn the book vertically to follow Mel’s leap from her branch and past neighboring creatures who worry and then cheer for the little bird’s success.

THE NIGHT IS DEEP AND WIDE
BY GILLIAN SZE, ILLUSTRATED BY SUE TODD
ORCA BOOK PUBLISHERS, 2021
ISBN: 9781459824812
This board book is a beautiful, poetic ode to the night. It features vivid imagery, color contrast, and rich, yet sparse text.

OFF-LIMITS
BY HELEN YOON
CANDLEWICK, 2021
ISBN: 9781536207316
A child is lured into her dad’s home office by the tempting office supplies, leading to a playful explosion of paper clips, sticky notes, tape, and more.
ALSC reading lists are created by children’s librarians as a resource to share with patrons, and may also be available in ebook, audiobook, braille, and large print formats. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to explore this list to find resources that may match or spark their child’s interest. Connect with your local library to find out what’s happening this summer.

**OLLIE FEELS FINE**
*BY TONY YULY*
*LITTLE BIGFOOT, 2021*
*ISBN: 9781632173010*
Ollie the octopus comes to understand his many feelings with the help of his friend Stella the starfish. This board book introduces the complexities of emotion.

**OUR SKIN: A FIRST CONVERSATION ABOUT RACE**
*BY MEGAN MADISON AND JESSICA RALLI, ILLUSTRATED BY ISABEL ROXAS*
*RISE X PENGUIN WORKSHOP, 2021*
*ISBN: 9780593382639*
A clear, direct book for young children about skin color and race, accompanied by questions to spark conversation. Part of the First Conversations series.

**THE PRONOUN BOOK**
*BY CHRIS AYALA-KRONOS, ILLUSTRATED BY MELITA TIRADO*
*CLARION, 2022*
*ISBN: 9780358653158*
With very few words and expressive art, this board book answers the question, “How do you know what someone wants to be called?”

**RAINBOWS IN BLOOM: DISCOVERING COLORS WITH FLOWERS**
*BY DARROCH PUTNAM AND MICHAEL PUTNAM*
*PHAIDON PRESS, 2021*
*ISBN: 9781838662981*
This board book is bright and bold. With real images of colorful flowers on each page, this is a primer for little ones on color theory.

**SHAPES AND COLORS**
*BY JOHN CANTY*
*BERBAY, 2021*
*ISBN: 9780645069686*
The patterned text of this concept book invites children to use the colors of the rainbow to guess the identities of silhouetted objects.

**SHHH! THE BABY’S ASLEEP**
*BY JANAY BROWN-WOOD, ILLUSTRATED BY ELISSAMBURA CHARLESBRIDGE, 2021*
*ISBN: 9781580895224*
Every member of the family is shushed while the baby sleeps in this humorous, rhyming picture book about the effort it takes to get in a good nap.

**SOMETHING’S WRONG! A BEAR, A HARE, AND SOME UNDERWEAR**
*BY JORY JOHN, ILLUSTRATED BY ERIN KRAAN*
*FARRAR, STRAUS AND GIROUX, 2021*
*ISBN: 9780374313883*
Jeff has eaten breakfast, watered the plants, and tried on the underwear his grandma gave him. Still, he feels he’s forgotten something in this hilarious picture book.

**¡VAMOS! LET’S CROSS THE BRIDGE**
*BY RAÚL THE THIRD*
*VERSIFY, 2021*
*ISBN: 9780358380405*
Little Lobo needs to deliver party supplies, but everyone is stuck in traffic. They pass the time joyfully with the help of food trucks, music, and friends.

**WHAT ARE LITTLE GIRLS MADE OF?**
*BY JEANNE WILLIS, ILLUSTRATED BY ISABELLE FOLLATH*
*NOSY CROW, 2021*
*ISBN: 9781536217339*
This collection updates popular nursery rhymes from a feminist perspective and features eye-catching illustrations.

**WHEN I WAKE UP**
*BY SETH FISHMAN, ILLUSTRATED BY JESSICA BAGLEY*
*GREENWILLOW, 2021*
*ISBN: 9780062455802*
A child wakes up in a house where the adults are still sleeping and wonders what to do with their day. Each rainbow-hued adventure represents a different imagined possibility.

**WONDER WALKERS**
*BY MICHA ARCHER*
*NANCY PAULSEN BOOKS, 2021*
*ISBN: 9780593109649*
Poetic text and collage artwork provide an opportunity for curiosity and imagination while looking at the natural world.