

Some of My Favorite Children's Books

List compiled by Paula Lillard Preschlack, <http://paulalillardpreschlack.com>

TO READ ALOUD TO YOUR CHILDREN (This list is just to get you started!):

For all ages: The Best Loved Poems of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, by Caroline Kennedy

For infants and very young children:

Lifetimes: The beautiful way to explain death to children, Bryon Mellonie & Robert Ingpen

The Little Family (series by Lois Lenski)

Hats, Hats, Hats (series by Ann Morris)

The Little Lamb, Judy Dunn

Ox-Cart Man, Donald Hall

All the Places to Love, Patricia MacLachlan

All Things Bright & Beautiful, Cecil Frances Alexander

Owl Moon, Jane Yolen

About Amphibians: A Guide for Children, Cathryn Sill (series: Reptiles/Mollusks/Arachnids)

Read aloud to age 5 (approximately):

Owen and Mzee, C. Hatkoff

Blaze Shows the Way, C. W. Anderson (a series)

James Harriot's Treasury for Children, illustrations by Ruth Brown and Peter Barrett

Grandad's Prayers of the Earth, Douglas Wood (wrote several beautiful ones)

Where the River Begins, Thomas Locker

Little House on the Prairie, Laura Ingalls Wilder (series)

All of A Kind Family, Sydney Taylor

The Christmas Miracle of Jonathan Toomey, Susan Wojciechowski, illustrations by PJ Lynch

I like the books above for their realistic content, beautiful illustrations, useful information, and/or poetic language for very young children.

Read aloud to ages 6/7:

The Gardener, S. Stewart

One Morning in Maine, R. McCloskey

Paddle to the Sea, Holling

If You Lived at the Time of the American Revolution (series)

The Boxcar Children, Blyton

Henry and Ribsy, Beverly Cleary

B is for Betsy, Carolyn Haywood (wrote many!)

Justin Morgan Had a Horse, M. Henry

Read aloud to ages 7/8:

Charlotte's Web, EB White
King of the Wind, M. Henry
Homer Price, R. McCloskey
The Wizard of Oz, Baum
Caddie Woodlawn, Brink
Little Lord Fauntleroy, Burnett
Misty of Chincoteague, M. Henry
The Railway Children, E. Nesbit
The Treasure Seekers, E. Nesbit
Heidi, J. Spyri
The Trumpet of the Swan, EB White

Read aloud to ages 9 and up:

The Wind in the Willows, EB White
Cheaper by the Dozen, F. Gilpreth
The Secret Garden, Burnett
A Little Princess, Burnett
Anne of Green Gables, LM Montgomery
Old Yeller, Fred Gibson
Chronicles of Narnia, CS Lewis
The Banner in the Sky
The Yearling, Rawlings
Pollyanna, Porter
Black Beauty, A. Sewell
The Hobbit, JR Tolkien

Read aloud to ages 10 and up:

The Incredible Journey, S. Burnford
A Christmas Carol, Dickens
Little Women, (or Little Men), Louisa May Alcott
The Princess Bride, W. Goldman
All Creatures Great and Small (series)
Where the Red Fern Grows, W. Rawls
Treasure Island, R. Stevenson
The Adventures of Tom Sawyer, M. Twain
To Kill a Mockingbird, Harper Lee
The Merry Adventures of Robin Hood, by Howard Pyle

King Aurthur and His Knights of the Round Table, edited by Sidney Lavier, Junior Library Classics

For Children Beginning to Read:

Choose books that have phonetic words first and short text. It is best when the text has real meaning or has some interest to incentivize the reader to find out what it says. Progress as the reader gains confidence and interest. Choose topics they love, and read the words they get to and struggle over to keep the flow of the sentence going. When children are struggling, it is much more important to read *to* them, and always, always read something to them out loud that is *above* their own reading level. This is because comprehension precedes deciphering skills, and we want to feed the thinking brain and attach our children to literature.

Note: Some of these are older books and may be found on e-bay or with “used books” sellers.