

Great Books for Preschoolers

Amazing Grace

Hoffman, Mary

Find It: E HOF

Although a classmate says that she cannot play Peter Pan in the school play because she is black, Grace discovers that she can do anything she sets her mind to do.

Are You My Mother?

Eastman, P. D.

Find It: E BR EAS

A little bird asks animals, planes, and boats, "Are you my mother?" until he finds his own mother.

Bark, George

Feiffer, Jules

Find It: E FEI

A mother dog tries to teach her pup how to bark, and is surprised at why he wasn't learning.

Bear's Busy Family

Blackstone, Stella

Find It: E BLA

Use each of the senses and follow the friendly bear around his house to discover why his family is so busy.

Bread and Jam for Frances

Hoban, Russell

Find It: E HOB

Frances decides she likes to eat only bread and jam at every meal--until to her surprise--her parents grant her wish.

Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?

Martin, Bill

Find It: E MAR, E CD-KIT MAR

Children see a variety of animals, each one a different color, and a teacher looking at them.

Caps for Sale

Slobodkina, Esphyr

Find It: E CD-KIT SLO

A band of mischievous monkeys steals every one of a peddler's caps while he takes a nap under a tree.

The Carrot Seed

Kraus, Ruth

Find It: E KRA

Despite everyone's dire predictions, a little boy has faith in the carrot seed he plants.

The Cat in the Hat

Seuss, Dr.

Find It: E BR SEU

One rainy day, a mischievous cat shows up at Sally and her brother's house while their mom is away.

The Caterpillar and the Polliwog
Kent, Jack

Find It: E CD-KIT KEN

Impressed by the proud caterpillar's boast that she will turn into a butterfly when she grows up, a polliwog determines to watch the caterpillar very carefully and turn into a butterfly too.

Click, Clack, Moo: Cows That Type
Cronin, Doreen

Find It: E CRO

When Farmer Brown's cows find a typewriter in the barn they start making demands and go on strike when the farmer refuses to give them what they want.

Come Along, Daisy
Simmons, Jane

Find It: E SIM

Duckling Daisy becomes so engrossed playing with dragonflies and lily pads that she temporarily loses her mother.

Corduroy
Freeman, Don

Find It: E FRE,E CD-KIT FRE

A toy bear wants a number of things, but when a little girl finally buys him, he finds what he's always wanted most.

Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut
Barnes, Derrick

Find It: E BAR

Celebrates the magnificent feeling that comes from walking out of a barber shop with newly-cut hair.

Curious George
Rey, H.A.

Find It: E REY

The curiosity of a newly-captured monkey gets him into continual trouble.

The Day the Crayons Quit
Daywalt, Drew

Find It: E DAY

Poor Duncan just wants to color. But when he opens his box of crayons, he finds only letters, all saying the same thing: his crayons have had enough! They quit! What can Duncan possibly do to appease all of the crayons and get them back to doing what they do best?

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

Find It: E WIL

No matter how hard he pleads and begs, the pigeon is not supposed to drive the bus while the driver is away, but pigeon tries every persuasive trick a young child knows to get you to say, "Yes."

Duck on a Bike
Shannon, David

Find It: E SHA

A duck decides to ride a bike and soon influences all the other animals on the farm to ride bikes too.

Fancy Nancy
O'Connor, Jane

Find It: E OCO

A young girl who loves fancy things helps her family to be fancy for one special night.

Fire Truck
Sis, Peter

Find It: E TRA SIS

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.

First the Egg
Seeger, Laura Vaccaro

Find It: E SEE

A story that uses word play and illustration to explain the concept of transformation.

Fred Stays With Me
Coffelt, Nancy

Find It: E COF

A child lives sometimes with her mom and sometimes with her dad, but her dog is her constant companion.

Freight Train
Crews, Donald

Find It: E TRA CRE

Brief text and illustrations trace the journey of a colorful train as it goes through tunnels, by cities, and over trestles.

Frog and Toad Are Friends
Lobel, Arnold

Find It: E BR LOB, E CD-KIT LOB

The adventures of best friends Frog and Toad, including Frog's suffering a bad cold and Toad's embarrassment over his unflattering bathing suit, are included in this multi-story volume.

Froggy Gets Dressed
London, Jonathan

Find It: E CD-KIT LON

Froggy hops out into the snow but is called back by his mother to put on some necessary articles of clothing.

The Girl Who Loved Wild Horses
Goble, Paul

Find It: E GOB

Though she is fond of her people, a girl prefers to live among the wild horses where she is truly happy and free.

Go Away, Big Green Monster!
Emberley, Ed

Find It: E EMB

Die-cut pages through which bits of a monster are revealed are designed to help a child control nighttime fears of monsters.

Goin' Someplace Special

McKissack, Pat

Find It: E MCK

In segregated 1950s Nashville, a young African American girl braves a series of indignities and obstacles to get to one of the few integrated places in town: the public library.

Goodnight Moon

Brown, Margaret Wise

Find It: E BRO

Goodnight to each of the objects in the great green room: goodnight chairs, goodnight comb, goodnight air.

Grandfather's Journey

Say, Allen

Find It: E SAY

A Japanese American man recounts his grandfather's journey to America which he later also undertakes, and the feelings of being torn by a love for two different countries.

Green Eggs and Ham

Seuss, Dr.

Find It: E BR SEU

In verse, Sam-I-am tells a grumpy companion of the virtues of green eggs and ham.

Guess How Much I Love You

McBratney, Sam

Find It: E CD-KIT MCB

During a bedtime game, every time Little Nutbrown Hare demonstrates how much he loves his father, Big Nutbrown Hare gently shows him that the love is returned even more.

Happy Birthday, Moon

Asch, Frank

Find It: E ASC

Bear decides to give the moon a birthday present, so he climbs a mountain to get close enough to ask what day is the moon's birthday.

Harold and the Purple Crayon

Johnson, Crockett

Find It: E JOH

Harold goes for an adventurous walk in the moonlight with his purple crayon.

Harry the Dirty Dog

Zion, Gene

Find It: E ZIO

When Harry runs away from his bath, he soon becomes so dirty that his family no longer recognizes him.

The Hello, Goodbye Window

Juster, Norton

Find It: E JUS

Looking through the kitchen window, a little girl and her doting grandparents watch stars, play games, and, most importantly, say hello and goodbye.

How Do Dinosaurs Say Good Night?

Yolen, Jane

Find It: E YOL

Mother and child ponder the different ways a dinosaur can say goodnight, from slamming his tail and pouting to giving a big hug and kiss.

Hush! A Thai Lullaby

Ho, Minfong

Find It: E HO

A lullaby asking animals such as a lizard, monkey, and water-buffalo to be quiet to not disturb the sleeping baby.

I Stink!

Mullan, Kate

Find It: E TRA MCM

A big city garbage truck makes its rounds, consuming everything from apple cores to leftover ziti with zucchini.

If You Give a Mouse a Cookie

Numeroff, Laura

Find It: E NUM

Relating the cycle of requests a mouse is likely to make after you give him a cookie takes the reader through a young child's day.

Is Your Mama a Llama?

Guarino, Deborah

Find It: E CD-KIT GUA

A young llama asks his friends if their mamas are llamas and finds out their mothers are other types of animals.

It Is (Not) Perfect

Kang, Anna

Find It: E KAN

Two fuzzy creatures are happily putting the finishing touches on their sandcastle when each of them thinks of something that would make it even better. As they work furiously to incorporate each new change, their tiny sandcastle becomes an over-the-top palace, but is it really perfect?

It Looked Like Spilt Milk

Shaw, Charles

Find It: E SHA

Uses illustrations and text to tell about the shapes of clouds

The Kissing Hand

Penn, Audrey

Find It: E PEN, E CD-KIT PEN

When Chester the raccoon is reluctant to go to kindergarten for the first time, his mother teaches him a secret way to carry her love with him.

Kitten's First Full Moon

Henkes, Kevin

Find It: E HEN

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

Little Blue and Little Yellow: A Story for Pippo and Ann and Other Children
Lionni, Leo **Find It: E LIO**

A little blue spot and a little yellow spot are best friends, and when they hug each other they become green.

The Little Engine That Could **Find It: E TRA PIP**
Piper, Watty

The story of a train filled with toys and gifts for little boys and girls that breaks down before reaching the children. After asking several passing trains for help over the hill, a little blue train agrees to help the stranded toys. Even though she is small, the blue train tries her best to bring the toys to the children on the other side of the hill.

Madeline **Find It: E BEM**
Bemelmans, Ludwig

Madeline, smallest and naughtiest of Miss Clavel's twelve little charges, wakes up one night with an attack of appendicitis.

Make Way for Ducklings **Find It: E MCC, E CD-KIT MCC**
McCloskey, Robert

Mr. and Mrs. Mallard proudly return to their home in the Boston Public Garden with their eight offspring.

Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel **Find It: E BUR**
Burton, Virginia Lee

When Mike Mulligan and his steam shovel, Mary Anne, lose their jobs to the gasoline, electric, and diesel motor shovels, they find a new opportunity in a very surprising place.

The Mitten: A Ukrainian Folktale **Find It: E BRE**
Brett, Jan

A little boy loses his mitten in the snow. Soon after, an animal finds its way into the glove to seek warmth and shelter. It doesn't take long until many more animals have the same idea.

Mother Bruce **Find It: E HIG**
Higgins, Ryan T.

Bruce is a grumpy bear who likes no one and nothing but cooked eggs, but when some eggs he was planning to boil hatch and the goslings believe he is their mother, he must try to make the best of the situation.

My Friend Rabbit **Find It: E ROH**
Rohmann, Eric

Something always seems to go wrong when Rabbit is around, but Mouse lets him play with his toy plane anyway because he is his good friend.

The Napping House **Find It: E WOO**
Wood, Audrey

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

No More Naps: A Story for When You're Wide-Awake and Definitely Not Tired

Grabenstein, Chris

Find It: E WEL

It's naptime, but Annalise Devin McFleece won't have anything to do with it. Dad tries everything to encourage sleepiness, but when Annalise is finally ready for a nap, they're all taken! Does anyone have a nap to spare?

Noisy Nora

Wells, Rosemary

Find It: E WEL

Feeling neglected, Nora makes more and more noise to attract her parents' attention.

Olivia

Falconer, Ian

Find It: E FAL

Whether getting ready for the day, enjoying the beach, or at bedtime, Olivia has too much energy for her own good.

Owl Moon

Yolen, Jane

Find It: E YOL

On a winter's night under a full moon, a father and daughter trek into the woods to see the Great Horned Owl.

Peter Rabbit Giant Treasury

Potter, Beatrix

Find It: E POT

A collection of favorite Beatrix Potter tales, including The Tale of Peter Rabbit, The Tailor of Gloucester, and more.

Rain Boy

Glynn, Dylan

Find It: E GLY

Wherever Rain Boy goes, rain follows. When he's invited to Sun Kidd's birthday party, the other children complain his presence ruins their fun. Now Sun Kidd is upset by her friends' behavior, and an endless storm has descended on the world. That is, until they all discover something wonderful happens when rain and sun finally get together.

Rosie's Walk

Hutchins, Pat

Find It: E HUT

Although unaware that a fox is after her as she takes a walk around the farmyard, Rosie the hen still manages to lead him into one accident after another.

Roy Digs Dirt

Shannon, David

Find It: E SHA

Roy is a West Highland terrier who loves to dig in the dirt and mud; sometimes he buries things, and sometimes he finds things, but mostly he just likes to dig--even though he does not like the bath that may follow the digging.

Seven Blind Mice

Young, Ed

Find It: E YOU

In this retelling of the Indian fable, seven blind mice discover different parts of an elephant and argue about its appearance.

The Snowy Day
Keats, Ezra Jack

Find It: E KEA, E CD-KIT KEA

Chronicles the adventures of a little boy in the city on a snowy day.

Sorry (Really Sorry)
Cotler, Joanna

Find It: E COT

After Cow's bad mood spreads to the whole farm, Dog starts a new chain reaction by showing kindness.

Stellaluna
Cannon, Janell

Find It: E CAN

After she falls headfirst into a bird's nest, a baby bat is raised like a bird until she is reunited with her mother.

Stone Soup
Brown, Marcia

Find It: E BRO

When three hungry soldiers come to a town where all the food has been hidden, they set out to make soup of water and stones, and all the town enjoys a feast.

The Story of Babar
Brunhoff, Jean de

Find It: E BRU

An orphaned baby elephant goes to live in the city with an old lady who gives him everything he wants, but eventually returns to the forest where he is crowned king of the elephants.

The Story of Ferdinand
Leaf, Munro

Find It: E LEA, E CD-KIT LEA

Ferdinand likes to sit quietly and smell the flowers, but one day he gets stung by a bee and his snorting and stomping convince everyone that he is the fiercest of bulls.

The Stray Dog
Simont, Marc

Find It: E SIM

A family befriends a stray dog, names him Willy, and decides to keep him.

There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly
Taback, Simms

Find It: E CD-KIT TAB

Presents the traditional version of a famous American folk poem first heard in the U.S. in the 1940's with illustrations on die-cut pages that reveal all that the old lady swallows.

This Is A Moose
Morris, Richard T.

Find It: E MOR

Director Billy Waddler is trying to film a documentary about moose, but the moose in question has no intention of spending his life in the woods and his animal friends, who have dreams of their own, help him prove his point.

The Three Pigs
Wiesner, David

Find It: E WIE

The three pigs escape the wolf by going into another world where they meet the cat and the fiddle, the cow that jumped over the moon, and a dragon.

Trashy Town
Zimmerman, Andrea

Find It: E TRA ZIM

Little by little, can by can, Mr. Gillie, the trash man, cleans up his town.

The Very Hungry Caterpillar
Carle, Eric

Find It: E CAR

Follows the progress of a hungry little caterpillar as he eats his way through a varied and very large quantity of food until, full at last, he forms a cocoon around himself and goes to sleep and wakes up a butterfly.

We're Going on a Bear Hunt
Rosen, Michael

Find It: E ROS

Brave bear hunters go through grass, a river, mud, and other obstacles before the inevitable encounter with the bear forces a headlong retreat.

When Grandpa Gives You a Toolbox
Deenihan, Jamie L. B.

Find It: E DEE

A child changes their mind about a previously unwanted gift through a humorous and unexpected course of events.

Where is the Green Sheep?
Fox, Mem

Find It: E FOX

A story about many different sheep, and one that seems to be missing.

Where the Wild Things Are
Sendak, Maurice

Find It: E SEN

Max sails to the land of the wild things, where he becomes their king.

Where's Spot
Hill, Eric

Find It: E HIL

A mother dog finds eight other animals hiding around the house before finding her lost puppy.

Widget
McFarland, Lyn

Find It: E MCF

A small stray dog is accepted into a household full of cats by learning to "fit in", but when his mistress is hurt, he demonstrates that being a dog is not all bad.