Books as Gifts

The 2008 Holiday Buying Guide from Reading Rockets

Good books last. They are truly the gift that is remembered long after the holiday or celebration is over. In fact, a book that connects with a young reader will grow with them as it is shared countless times. These books were chosen with just one criterion in mind — good literature that’s so engaging that your child, grandchild, niece, nephew, or student will gladly turn off the TV and put away the Gameboy. Give books as gifts and watch kids read.

Happy holidays from Reading Rockets!

For children 0–4 years old

- Dance with Me by Charles Smith, Jr.
- Everybody Bonjours! by Leslie Kimmelman
- Hooray for Fish by Lucy Cousins
- Five Little Firefighters by Tom Graham
- Giant John by Arnold Lobel
- Jazzmatazz! by Stephanie Calmenson
- A Kitten Tale by Eric Rohmann
- The Life of a Car by Susan Steggall Holt
- My Big Book of Spanish Words by Rebecca Emberley
- My Very First Bilingual Book: Animals/Animales by Eric Carle
- Peekaboo Bedtime by Rachel Isadora
- Princess Baby by Karen Katz
- Your Skin Holds You In by Becky Baines

For children 4–5 years old

- Alfie and the Big Boys by Shirley Hughes
- Baby Face: A Book of Love for Baby by Cynthia Rylant
- Danny Diamondback by Barry Jackson
- Dog & Bear: Two’s Company by Laura Vaccaro Seeger
- Doggone Dogs by Karen Beaumont
- How to Heal a Broken Wing by Bob Graham
- Lemon the Duck by Laura Backman
- Let’s Eat!! A Comer! by Pat Mora
- Mommy, Do You Love Me? by Jeanne Willis
- Monkey and Me by Emily Gravett
- My Father’s Dragon by Ruth Stiles Gannett
- Night’s Nice by Barbara & Ed Emberley
- The Sandman by Ralph Fletcher
- Silly Lilly and the Four Seasons by Agnes Rosenstiehl
- So Much! by Trish Cooke
- Ten Things I Can Do to Help My World by Melanie Walsh
- Walk On! A Guide to Taking the First Steps by Marla Frazee
- Who Ate all the Cookie Dough? by Karen Beaumont

See the next page for books for kids 6–7 years old and 8–9 years old.

Launching Young Readers

www.readingrockets.org
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For children 6–7 years old

All Pigs Are Beautiful with a CD by Dick King-Smith
Are You Ready to Play Outside? by Mo Willems
Art from Her Heart: Folk Artist Clementine Hunter by Kathy Whitehead & Shane Evans
Babymouse: Skater Girl by Jennifer & Matthew Holm
Curious George’s Dictionary from the Editors of American Heritage Dictionaries
Hooray for Fly Guy! by Tedd Arnold
Mercy Watson Thinks Like a Pig by Kate DiCamillo
Planting the Trees of Kenya: The Story of Wangara Maathai by Claire Nivola
Traction Man Meets Turbo Dog by Mini Grey

For sharing with children 6–7 years old

Anansi’s Party Time by Eric Kimmel
Animal Poems of the Iguazu/Animalario del Iguazy by Francisco X. Alarcon
Clever Duck by Dick King-Smith
Fanny by Holly Hobbie
Fish Who Cried Wolf by Julia Donaldson & Axel Scheffler
Frogs by Nic Bishop
Max’s Bunny Business by Rosemary Wells
Pitching in for Eubie by Jerdine Nolen
Silent Music: A Story of Baghdad by James Rumford
Small Fry by Jaime Adoff

For more book lists and video interviews with renowned children’s book authors and illustrators, visit our website: www.readingrockets.org

For children 8–9 years old

ABC3D by Marion Bataille
Cam Jansen & the Green School Mystery by David Adler
Chicken Feathers by Joy Cowley
Elephants of Africa by Gail Gibbons
Eye of the Emperor Penguin by Mary Pope Osborne
Judy Moody Goes to College by Megan McDonald
Independent Dames: What You Never Knew About the Women and Girls of the American Revolution by Laurie Halse Anderson
Sharks: Biggest! Littlest! by Sandra Markle
Silly School Riddles by Lisa Eisenburg
Stink & the Great Guinea Pig Express by Megan McDonald
Stichin’ and Pullin’: Gee’s Bend Quilt by Patricia McKissack
There’s a Wolf at the Door: Five Classic Tales by Zoe Alley

For sharing with children 8–9 years old

Donovan’s Double Trouble by Monalisa DeGross
Never Kick a Slipper at the Moon by Carl Sandburg
Our White House: Looking In, Looking Out edited by Mary Brigid Barrett
The Rabbit and the Turtle: Aesop’s Fables retold & illustrated by Eric Carle
The Runaway Dolls by Ann Martin & Laura Godwin
Sabertooth by Patrick O’Brien
Sandy’s Circus: A Story about Alexander Calder by Tanya Lee Stone
Sea Queens: Women Pirates Around the World by Jane Yolen
Snow Leopard by Jackie Morris
Wish: Wishing Traditions Around the World by Roseanne Thong

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