

# 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 Cythia Rylant  
*Danny Diamondback* by Barry Jackson  
*Dog & Bear: Two's Company* by Laura Vaccaro Seeger  
*Doggone Dogs* by Karen Beauont  
*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



# Books as Gifts

## 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](http://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