Books as Gifts
The 2009 Holiday Buying Guide from Reading Rockets
for children 8–9 years old

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!

Books to read on their own

- **Alvin Ho: Allergic to Camping, Hiking, & Other Natural Disasters** by Lenore Look
- **Bad News for Outlaws** by Vauda Micheau
- **The Daring Miss Quimby** by Susanne George Whitaker
- **Friend or Fiend? With the Pain & the Great One** by Judy Blume
- **How Oliver Olson Changed the World** by Claudia Mills
- **Moonshot** by Brian Floca
- **Nubs: The True Story of a Mutt, a Marine and a Miracle** by Major Brian Dennis
- **Rich: A Dyamonde Daniel Book** by Nikki Grimes
- **Winter’s Tail: How One Little Dolphin Learned to Swim Again** by Juliana, Isabella, and Craig Hatkoff
- **You Never Heard of Sandy Koufax?** by Jonah Winter

Books to read together

- **Crow Call** by Lois Lowry
- **Django: World’s Greatest Jazz Guitarist** by Bonnie Christensen
- **Falling Down the Page: A Book of List Poems** edited by Georgia Heard
- **Homework** by Arthur Yorinks
- **Marsupials** by Nic Bishop
- **Mission to the Moon** by Alan Dyer
- **Paulie Pastrami Achieves World Peace** by James Proimos
- **Sky Magic** selected by Lee Bennett Hopkins
- **Strawberry Hill** by Mary Ann Hoberman
- **Testing the Ice** by Sharon Robinson
- **The Wonderful O** by James Thurber

Launching Young Readers
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