

Books as Gifts

What better gift to give than one that can be shared again and again? Books are just that kind of gift. They create memories, too, when read by and with children. This year's list was carefully crafted with just one idea in mind — to find books so engaging that the TV is happily turned off and the iPod and electronic games are put away. Books open new windows to the world. *Happy holidays from Reading Rockets!*

Books for children 8-9 years old

Books to read on their own

- *Ballet for Martha: Making Appalachian Spring* by Jan Greenberg & Sandra Jordan
- *A Book About Color* by Mark Gonyea
- *Calvin Coconut: Zoo Breath* by Graham Salisbury
- *Clementine, Friend of the Week* by Sara Pennypacker
- *The Fantastic 5 & 10 Cent Store: A Rebus Adventure* by J. Patrick Lewis
- *Little House on the Prairie: 75th Anniversary Edition* by Laura Ingalls Wilder
- *Lizards* by Nic Bishop
- *100 Ways to Celebrate 100 Days* by Bruce Goldstone
- *Pop! The Invention of Bubble Gum* by Meghan McCarthy
- *Robin Hood and the Golden Arrow* retold by Robert San Souci

Books to read together

- *Arlington: The Story of Our Nation's Cemetery* by Chris Demarest
- *Clever Jack Takes the Cake* by Candace Fleming
- *The Fantastic Owen Jester* by Barbara O'Connor
- *In the Wild* by David Elliott
- *Mirror* by Jeannie Baker
- *Ole! Flamenco* by George Ancona
- *Nancy and Plum* by Betty MacDonald
- *The Secret Cave: Discovering Lascaux* by Emily Arnold McCully
- *Soar, Elinor!* by Tami Lewis Brown
- *There's a Princess in the Palace: Five Classic Tales* retold by Zoe Alley

