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. Happy holidays from Reading Rockets!

Books for children 6-7 years old

Books to read on their own

- *About Hummingbirds: A Guide for Children* by Cathryn Sill
- *Amphibians: True or False* by Melvin Berger & Gilda
- *The Astonishing Secret of Awesome Man* by Michael Carbon
- *Dodsworth in Rome* by Tim Egans
- *Fly Guy vs. the Flyswatter!* by Tedd Arnold
- *Friendship: True Stories of Extraordinary Animal Friendships* by Catherine Thimmesh
- *The Guardian Team: On the Job with Rena & Roo* by Cat Urbigkit
- *Hocus Pocus* by Sylvie Desrosiers & Remy Simard
- *Squish: Super Amoeba* by Jennifer Holm & Matthew Holm
- *Swirl by Swirl: Spirals in Nature* by Joyce Sidman

Books to read together

- *The Book with a Hole* by Hervé Tullet
- *Coral Reefs* by Jason Chin
- *Doggy Whys* by Lila Prap
- *Duke Ellington’s Nutcracker Suite* by Anna Harwell Celenza
- *First Garden and How It Grew* by Robbin Gourley
- *The Hound Dog’s Haiku & Other Poems for Dog Lovers* by Michael Rosen
- *Good-bye, Havana! Hola, New York!* by Edie Colon
- *I Am Tama, Lucky Cat: A Japanese Legend* by Wendy Henrichs
- *Mouse & Lion* retold by Rand Burkert
- *Polka Dot Penguin Pottery* by Lenore Look
- *A Zeal of Zebras: An Alphabet of Collective Nouns* by Chronicle Books

Launching Young Readers

[www.readingrockets.org](http://www.readingrockets.org)