

# 2026 Summer Reading, Entering First Grade

During early childhood, the emphasis is on reading to your child and sharing the joy of stories. These read-alouds are suggestions; feel free to pick and choose based on your child's interests. Share with your child as you make memories that will prepare them for life!

## RESOURCE LISTS AND WEBSITES

- Notable Children's Books 2026: <http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/notalists/ncb>
- Texas 2x2 Books 2026: <https://txla.org/tools-resources/reading-lists/2x2/current-list>
- Lee and Low Books: <https://www.leeandlow.com>
- Library Mom: <https://librarymom.com>
- Geisel Award: <http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/geiselaward>
- Branches Books: <http://www.scholastic.com/branches>
- Reading Beyond: <https://www.cbcbooks.org/readers/reader-resources/reading-beyond>

## FICTION

*Bear and The Three Goldilocks*, Patrick Horne  
*Zip Zap Wickety Wack: A Story About Sharing*, Matthew Diffie  
*Broken*, X. Fang  
*Earl & Worm. The Bad Idea and Other Stories*, Greg Pizzoli  
*Home in a Lunchbox*, Cherry Mo  
*It's Corn Picking Time!*, Jill Esbaum  
*Bear's Lost Glasses*, Leo Timmers  
*Evergreen*, Matthew Cordell  
*The Bakers Dozen*, Amy Moore  
*The Day the Books Disappeared*, Joanna Ho  
*Built to Last*, Minh Le  
*Thunderland*, Maggie Edkins Willis  
*Loops*, Jashar Awan  
*Lone Wolf Goes to School*, Kiah Thomas

## EARLY CHAPTER BOOKS

\**Big Words Small Stories* series, Judith Henderson  
*Everyone Gets a Turn*, Marianne Dubuc  
*Camila the Star* series, Alicia Salazar  
*Elephant and Piggie*, Mo Willems  
*Henry, Like Always*, Jenn Bailey  
\**Gigi and Ojiji*, Melissa Iwai  
\**Katie Woo/Pedro* series, Fran Manushkin  
\**Mercy Watson* series, Kate DiCamillo  
*Cornbread and Poppy* series, Matthew Cordell  
*I Like Hoops*, Juwanda G. Ford  
\**Yasmin* series, Saadia Faruqi

## NONFICTION

*Bats Beneath the Bridge*, Janet Nolan  
*Extraordinary Magic: The Storytelling Life of Virginia Hamilton*, Nina Crews  
\**Safe Crossing*, Kari Percival  
*Tiny Habitat* series, Amy Hevron  
*Ordinary People Change the World* series, Brad Meltzer  
*I Was: The Stories of Animal Skulls*, Katherine Hocker  
*Are We There Yet?: The First Road Trip Across The USA*, Stacy McAnulty  
*His Fairytale Life: A Book About Hans Christian Anderson*, Jane Yolen

## CHAPTER BOOK SERIES

\**Ninja Kid* series, Anh Do  
\**Didi Dodo, Future Spy*, Tom Angleberger  
\**Bibsy Cross* series, Liz Garton Scanlon  
\**Lucy Lancaster* series, Willow Coven  
\**The Princess in Black*, Shannon Hale  
\**Sadiq*, Siman Nurali  
\**Tales from Deckawoo Drive*, Kate DiCamillo  
*Little Rhino*, Ryan Howard  
*The Critter Club* series, Callie Barkley  
\**The Adventures of Allie & Amy* series, Stephanie Calmenson  
*A to Z Mysteries*, Ron Roy

\* Available as an ebook on [www.mackinvia.com](http://www.mackinvia.com)