

Great Books to Read Aloud

Picture Books

Allard, Harry. **Miss Nelson is Missing.** (PB ALLARD)

The kids in Room 207 take advantage of their teacher's good nature until she disappears and they are faced with a vile substitute.

Bar-el, Dan. **Such a Prince.** (PB BAREL)

Libby Gaborchik, a highly unusual fairy, helps Marvin, a poor peasant, win the hand of the beautiful but love-starved Princess Vera.

Barnett, Mac. **Count the Monkeys.** (PB BARNE)

The reader is invited to count the animals that have frightened the monkeys off the pages.

Barton, Chris. **Shark vs. Train.** (PB BARTO)

A shark and a train compete in a series of contests on a seesaw, in hot air balloons, bowling, shooting baskets, playing hide-and-seek, and more.

Cotter, Bill. **Don't Push the Button.** (PB COTTE)

The only rule in Larry's book is that the reader not push the button, but when no one is looking, it may be irresistible.

Cronin, Doreen. **Dooby Dooby Moo.** (PB CRONI)

While Farmer Brown sleeps, his animals prepare for a talent show at the county fair.

Dewdney, Anna. **Llama Llama Red Pajama.** (PB DEWDN)

At bedtime, a little llama worries after his mother puts him to bed and goes downstairs.

Emberley, Ed. **Go Away Big Green Monster.** (PB EMBER)

Die-cut pages through which bits of a monster are revealed are designed to help a child control nighttime fears of monsters.

Feiffer, Jules. **Bark, George.** (PB FEIFF)

George the puppy's mother is in for a big surprise when she takes him to the veterinarian to find out why he does not bark.

Gibbs, Edward. **I Spy in the Sky.** (PB GIBBS)

Birds' eyes appear through die-cut pages.

Larochelle, David. **It's a Tiger!** (PB LAROC)

A child imagines that he is in a story where he encounters a tiger at every turn.

Lehrhaupt, Adam. **Warning: do not open this book.** (PB LEHRH)

Monkeys, toucans, and alligators unleash mayhem.

Lum, Kate. **What! Cried Granny : an almost bedtime story.** (PB LUM)

When her grandson Patrick arrives for his first sleepover, Granny's resourceful efforts to provide him with a bed, pillow, and other necessities result in a sleepless night for both of them.

Matheson, Christie. **Tap the magic tree.** (PB MATHE)

Invites the reader to tap, rub, touch, and wiggle illustrations to make an apple tree bloom, produce fruit, and lose its leaves.

Numeroff, Laura. **If you Give a Mouse a Cookie.** (PB NUMER)

Relating the cycle of requests a mouse is likely to make after you give him a cookie takes the reader through a young child's day.

Shannon, David. **No, David!** (PB SHANN)

A young boy is depicted doing a variety of naughty things for which he is repeatedly admonished, but finally he gets a hug.

Shea, Susan. **Do You Know Which Ones Will Grow?** (PB SHEA)

Poses rhyming questions about what grows and what does not using flaps to cover parts of items.

Shertle, Alice. **Little Blue Truck.** (PB SHERT)

A small blue truck finds his way out of a jam, with a little help from his friends.

Silverstein, Shel. **The Giving Tree.** (PB SILVE)

A young boy grows to manhood and old age experiencing the love and generosity of a tree which gives to him without thought of return.

Thomas, Jan. **Can You Make a Scary Face?** (PB THOMA)

A ladybug invites the reader to play a game of "let's pretend."

Yuly, Toni. **Early Bird.** (PB YULY)

Early Bird wakes up before the sun. She is hungry. What will she have for breakfast?

Fiction Titles for Older Readers

Ain, Beth Levin. **Starring Jules (as herself).** (JUV AIN)

Jules is an ordinary seven-year-old girl, concerned with school and friends and other ordinary things--until a chance meeting with a casting director leads to an audition for a television commercial.

Applegate, Katherine. **The One and Only Ivan.** (JUV APPLE)

Ivan, a gorilla who has lived for years in a down-and-out circus-themed mall, meets Ruby, a baby elephant that has been added to the mall. When Ruby is abused, he decides that he must find her a better life.

Atwater, Richard. **Mr. Popper's Penguins.** (JUV ATWAT)

The unexpected delivery of a large crate containing an Antarctic penguin changes the life and fortunes of Mr. Popper, a house painter obsessed by dreams of the Polar regions.

Beck, W.H. **Malcolm at Midnight.** (JUV FAN BECK)

Malcolm, a smaller than average rat, loves life at McKenna School and the secret society of classroom pets that keep children out of trouble, but when Aggy the iguana disappears Malcolm must use all of his ratty persistence to prove his innocence and save her.

Bowe, Julie. **My Last Best Friend.** (JUV BOWE)

After her best friend moves away, fourth-grader Ida May is determined not to make another best friend, despite the efforts of a new girl in her class.

Clements, Andrew. **No Talking.** (JUV CLEME)

The noisy fifth grade boys of Laketon Elementary School challenge the equally loud fifth grade girls to a "no talking" contest.

Cowell, Cressida. **How to Train Your Dragon.** (JUV FAN COWEL)

Chronicles the adventures and misadventures of Hiccup Horrendous Haddock the Third as he tries to pass the important initiation test of his Viking clan, the Tribe of the Hairy Hooligans, by catching and training a dragon.

Coy, John. **Love of the Game.** (JUV COY)

Sixth-grader Jackson has a rough start in middle school, with bullies on the bus, few classes with his friends, and changes at home but some good teachers, meeting a girl, joining a club, and playing football soon turn things around.

Creech, Sharon. **Love that Dog.** (JUV CREEC)

A young student, who comes to love poetry through a personal understanding of what different famous poems mean to him, surprises himself by writing his own inspired poem.

Curtis, Christopher Paul. **Bud, Not Buddy.** (JUV CURTI)

Ten-year-old Bud, a motherless boy living in Flint, Michigan, during the Great Depression, escapes a bad foster home and sets out in search of the man he believes to be his father--the renowned bandleader, H.E. Calloway of Grand Rapids.

Dahl, Roald. **The Twits.** (JUV DAHL)

The misadventures of two terrible old people who enjoy playing nasty tricks and are finally outwitted by a family of monkeys.

DiCamillo, Kate. **Flora & Ulysses : the illuminated adventures.** (JUV DICAM)

Rescuing a squirrel after an accident involving a vacuum cleaner, comic-reading cynic Flora Belle Buckman is astonished when the squirrel, Ulysses, demonstrates astonishing powers of strength and flight after being revived.

Fitzhugh, Louise. **Harriet the Spy.** (JUV FITZH)

Eleven-year-old Harriet keeps notes on her classmates and neighbors in a secret notebook, but when some of the students read the notebook, they seek revenge.

O'Connor, Barbara. **On the Road to Mr. Mineo's.** (JUV OCONN)

Sherman, a one-legged pigeon, sets everyone aflutter in a small southern town.

Paulsen, Gary. **Hatchet.** (JUV PAULE)

After a plane crash, thirteen-year-old Brian spends fifty-four days in the wilderness, learning to survive initially with only the aid of a hatchet given him by his mother, and learning also to survive his parents' divorce.

Peck, Richard. **A Long Way From Chicago.** (JUV PECK)

A boy recounts his annual summer trips.

Scattergood, Augusta. **Glory Be.** (JUV SCATTE)

In the summer of 1964 as she is about to turn twelve, Glory's town of Hanging Moss, Mississippi, is beset by racial tension when town leaders close her beloved public pool rather than desegregating it.

Taylor, Mildred. **Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry.** (JUV TAYLO)

A black family living in Mississippi during the Depression of the 1930s is faced with prejudice and discrimination which its children do not understand.

Wilson, N.D. **Leepike Ridge.** (JUV WILSO)

While his widowed mother continues to search for him, eleven-year-old Tom, presumed dead after drifting away down a river, finds himself trapped in a series of underground caves with another survivor and a dog, and pursued by murderous treasure-hunters.