

Children's Books

Children are never too young or too old to start visiting their local public library. There they will find a wealth of learning resources including books, magazines, videos, computers, and other resources, as well as story-time and craft programs. Listed below are fun and educational picture books and teacher resources that you may want to check out from your local library. Be sure to ask the children's librarian for some help finding these and other developmentally and age appropriate book titles. To find the library nearest you, check your local telephone directory.

List compiled by Pam Chamberlain Kringel

Children's Services Coordinator, South Dakota State Library

Alphabet & Letter Fun



Kids' Books

26 Letters and 99 Cents by Tana Hoban

Letters of the alphabet are paired with color photographs of objects that begin with that letter.

A Is For--? A Photographer's Alphabet of Animals By Henry Horenstein

Can you guess which animals are pictured in the stunning black and white photographs by using the letters of the alphabet as clues?

A Is For Amos by Deborah Chandra

A young girl takes a ride around the farm on her horse and discovers lots of things starting with all the letters of the alphabet from A to Z.

A Is For Angry by Sandra Boynton

Zoo animals from an angry anteater to a playful pig to a zany zebra exhibit different emotions from A to Z.

A My Name Is Alice by Jane Bayer

Based on a playground game, this silly picture book equates each letter of the alphabet with an animal and a place.

A You're Adorable Illustrated by Martha Alexander

Illustrated by Martha Alexander, this darling version of the 1948 alphabet song by Buddy Kaye lets children know just how special and unique they are.

ABC, I Like Me! By Nancy Carlson

Three animal friends celebrate all the wonderful things they can do from A to Z.

ABC Kids by Laura Ellen Williams

Color photographs show kids demonstrating words that start with every letter of the alphabet.

ABC T-Rex by Bernard Most

A young dinosaur with a hearty appetite gobbles up the 26 letters of the alphabet.

Albert's Alphabet by Leslie Tyron

Albert, the school maintenance duck, is under orders to build an alphabet for the kids around the walking path by 3:00 p.m. Will he have enough time and materials to complete his task?

Alfie's ABC by Shirley Hughes

Alfie and his little sister, Annie Rose, joyfully work their way through the alphabet by finding everyday objects and people that start with every letter.

Alligator Arrived With Apples: A Potluck Alphabet Feast by Crescent Dragonwagon

Animals from A to Z arrive bearing appropriate food for a Thanksgiving Day feast.

Alphabet Book by Dave King & Dorling Kindersley Publishing

Bright photo collages and a simple text invite the young reader to search for objects that begin with each letter of the alphabet.

Alphabet Keeper by Mary Murphy

A grouchy old woman known as the "Alphabet Keeper" makes the mistake one day of letting the letters out of their cage. Once free, the letters have some fun with their keeper by mixing themselves up and turning old words into new ones.

Alphabet under Construction by Denise Fleming

Mouse, from *Lunch* fame, is back! This time he is busy constructing the letters of the alphabet out of any and all materials that he can find.

Black and White Rabbit's ABC by Alan Baker

Black and White Rabbit's painting of a picture is explained using words that begin with the 26 letters of the alphabet.

Chicka Chicka Boom Boom by Bill Martin, Jr.

26 lively and brightly colored letters decide to scale the nearest coconut tree, but will there be enough room for all of them?

Chuck Murphy's Alphabet Magic by Chuck Murphy

This pull-the-tab book is full of interactive alphabet fun, such as jovial jaguars and sneaky snakes. Can you guess what is hiding behind each letter tab?

Clifford's ABC by Norman Bridwell

Join Clifford, the Big Red Dog, as he discovers everyday and holiday objects that start with the different letters of the alphabet.

Curious George's ABCs by H.A. Rey

Learn the alphabet along with everyone's favorite monkey, Curious George.

Dr. Seuss's ABC by Dr. Seuss

Laughter and learning abound in this beginning alphabet book by Dr. Seuss.

Eating the Alphabet by Lois Ehlert

Did you know that it is possible to eat your way through the alphabet? This story highlights healthy fruits and vegetables that begin with the different letters of the alphabet.

Everything to Spend the Night from A to Z by Ann Whitford Paul

A young girl carefully packs her suitcase with everything she needs to spend the night at her grandfather's house.

Firefighters A to Z by Chris L. Demarest

Firefighters need everything from alarms to some restful "zzzzs" in order to carry out their jobs.

Flora McDonnell's ABC by Flora McDonnell

This book is a celebration of the animals that start with different letters of the alphabet.

From Anne to Zach by Mary Jane Martin

Twenty-six children joyfully celebrate their names which begin with different letters of the alphabet.

The Handmade Alphabet by Laura Rankin

Each letter of the alphabet is represented by its corresponding American Sign Language hand sign and everyday objects that begin with that letter.

Handsigns: A Sign Language Alphabet by Kathleen Fain

26 animals, from anteater through zebra, pose beside the American Sign Language hand signs representing the first letters of their names.

I Spy Little Letters by Jean Marzollo and Walter Wick

Can you find all the objects that start the 26 letters of the alphabet? This photographic treasure hunt is a fun feast for young eyes.

Into The A, B, Sea: An Ocean Alphabet by Deborah Lee Rose

From anemones to zooplankton, explore the alphabetical wonders of the sea.

K Is For Kiss Good Night by Jill Sardegna

From "all ready for bed" to "zzzzz," a cast of children eagerly participates in familiar bedtime rituals.

Kipper's A To Z by Mick Inkpen

Kipper and his friend Arnold have fun trying to come up with different items that start with each letter of the alphabet.

L Is For Loving: An ABC For The Way You Feel by Ken Wilson-Max

Each letter of the alphabet is gently represented by a different human emotion.

The Letters Are Lost! by Lisa Campbell Ernst

Once upon a time all 26 letter blocks were safely stored in their box until one by one they got lost. (For example, "A" took an airplane ride, and "B" tumbled into the bath). Can you find all the missing letter blocks?

Many Nations: An Alphabet Of Native America by Joseph Bruchac
From A to Z, this book takes a look at the many Native nations and cultures of America.

Miss Bindergarten Gets Ready For Kindergarten by Joseph Slate
Miss Bindergarten and her twenty-six alphabetical students prepare for their first day of Kindergarten.

Miss Spider's ABC by David Kirk
From ants to a zebra butterfly, Miss Spider's friends gather to help her celebrate her birthday.

Not Enough Beds! A Christmas Alphabet Book by Lisa Bullard
Young Zachary describes where everyone, from Aunt Allison to Dog Yancy, sleep in his very full house over the Christmas holiday.

On Market Street by Arnold & Anita Lobel
A young child discovers all the things from A to Z that can be bought on Market Street. Can you guess who will be the lucky recipient of all these newly bought alphabetic goodies?

Read Anything Good Lately? by Susan Allen & Jane Lindaman
From atlases at the airport to zodiacs at the zoo, the world is full of fun materials and places to read.

Word Wizard by Cathryn Falwell
A young girl and her brother discover all the fun they can have with words by changing letters around to make new words out of old ones.

Teacher & Parent Resources

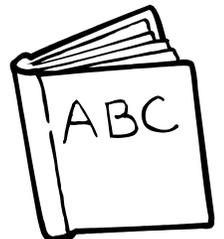
Alphabet Art by Judy Press
This nicely illustrated volume contains animal art ideas and fingerplays for every letter of the alphabet.

Alphabet Connections by Shirley Ross, Mary Ann Hawke and Cindy McCord
Turn each letter of the alphabet into a whole day's lesson with this fun teaching guide. Included for each letter, are corresponding literature, science, math, and art lessons.

Kathy Ross Crafts Letter Shapes by Kathy Ross
Craft activities which develop a child's understanding of letter *shapes* abound in this attractive activity volume.

Kathy Ross Crafts Letter Sounds by Kathy Ross
Craft activities which develop a child's understanding of letter *sounds* abound in this attractive activity volume.

Library Story Hour From A To Z by Ellen K. Hasbrouck
This book contains over 100 reproducible alphabet sound and letter games, activities, and patterns.





Rollicking Good Reads

Bark, George! By Jules Feiffer

Children will delight in the silly antics of George, the dog, who just can't seem to bark. He can meow, moo and quack though.

Book! By Kristine O'Connell George

What can you do with a book? You can wear it as a hat, and you can read it with a cat. Join this enthusiastic boy as he learns just how special a book is.

Book! Book! Book! By Deborah Bruss

Looking for a good book to read, the barnyard animals make a trip to their local library. Will the librarian be able to find them the perfect story?

Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? By Bill Martin Jr.

A lyrically rhythmic and repetitive text and bright, vivid collage pictures introduce youngsters to the concepts of animals and colors.

Bunny Cakes by Rosemary Wells

Max is sent to the store for various cake ingredients, including milk, eggs and flour, but what he really wants is Red-Hot Marshmallow Squirters! How will Max be able to let the grocer know what he wants?

Bus For Us By Suzanne Bloom

A group of school children eagerly await their school bus. Will it ever come?

Busy Toes By C. W. Bowie

This gentle story explores all the wonderful things you can do with toes, including writing in the sand and digging in the mud.

Caps For Sale: A Tale of A Peddler, Some Monkeys and Their Monkey Business

By Esphyr Slobodkina

A tired hat peddler decides to take a nap in the shade of a nearby tree. When he awakes, he finds that all of his caps are gone. Can you and your young one help find them again?

Carlo Likes Reading by Jessica Spanyol

Carlo's mom helps Carlo learn to read by labeling all of the objects in the house.

Carrot Seed By Ruth Krauss

A young boy plants a carrot seed and tenderly cares for it while eagerly awaiting the grown plant.

Cock-A-Doodle Moo! By Bernard Most

The rooster's got a sore throat. Will the cow be able to help him wake the other farm animals?

Cold Little Duck, Duck, Duck by Lisa Westberg Peters

While a little duck waits for the ice to melt in her favorite frozen pond, she dreams of a warm springtime.

Con Mi Hermano/ With My Brother By Eileen Roe

A younger brother describes why he loves his big brother and what he enjoys doing with him. (Bilingual text).

Cows In The Kitchen By June Crebbin

The cows, pigs, sheep and other barnyard animals are making a mess of the farmer's kitchen.

Dear Zoo By Rod Campbell

A young child writes to the local zoo and asks for help in finding the perfect pet. Get ready for lots of laughs and lift-the-flap surprises.

Five Little Monkeys Jumping On The Bed by Eileen Christelow

Five rambunctious monkeys would rather jump on the bed than go to sleep. This hand clapping, foot stomping rhyme is sure to be a hit with your little one.

Flower Garden By Eve Bunting

A young girl, with her father's loving help, prepares a window box surprise for her mother.

Foot Book by Dr. Seuss

This story takes a look at all the wonderful and wacky things that you can do with your feet.

Freight Train by Donald Crews

Watch a brightly colored train zip down the pages of this award-winning book. This is a perfect book for those children learning their colors.

From Head To Toe By Eric Carle

Can you raise your shoulders like a buffalo? Can you wiggle your hips like a crocodile? Your preschooler will love taking part in this book's silly animal antics.

Froggy Gets Dressed By Jonathan London

Froggy gets dressed for a chilly & snowy day. But in his excitement to go outside, he forgets some vital clothing items, including his pants and even his underwear! Be prepared for serious giggles.

Go Away Big Green Monster! By Ed Emberley

Children are invited to help get rid of the big green monster by telling it to go away and by turning the page. Each time a page is turned, the monster gets smaller until eventually it disappears completely.

Go to Sleep, Daisy! By Jane Simmons

Daisy Duck just can't seem to settle down and go to sleep. Both children and parents will respond to this charmingly familiar tale.

Good Night Gorilla by Peggy Rathman

A mischievous gorilla takes the zookeeper's keys and silently lets the other zoo animals out. They then follow the man home to a laugh-out loud ending.

Goodnight, Owl! By Pat Hutchins

It's daytime and owl is trying to sleep, without much success. (The other birds are making too much noise!) Owl gets the last word though come nightfall.

Happy Birthday, Moon By Frank Asch

A small bear searches for the perfect birthday gift to give to the moon.

Have You Seen My Duckling? By Nancy Tafuri

A mother duck has lost one of her ducklings. Can you and your young one find him?

How Are You Peeling? Food With Moods By Saxton Freymann and Joost Elffers

Can a tomato smile? Can a carrot pout? Take a look at this book and decide for yourself.

How Do Dinosaurs Say Goodnight? By Jane Yolen

Loving parents gently and carefully tuck their little dinosaurs into bed.

I Know An Old Lady Who Swallowed A Pie By Alison Jackson

This is a hilarious Thanksgiving twist of the traditional children's rhyme: "I Know An Old Lady Who Swallowed A Fly." (*An excellent version of the traditional rhyme was authored by Simms Taback*).

I Love You: A Rebus Poem by Jean Marzollo

A narrator equates her love with that shown by a farmer for a rake, a duck for a lake and a candle for a cake. This book's repetitive refrain and rhyming text will have young ones enthusiastically reading along with you!

I Read Signs by Tana Hoban

Common everyday signs are depicted in bright colorful photographs. After you are done looking at the book, take a walk around your neighborhood and see how many of the signs you and your young one can identify.

I Took My Frog To The Library by Eric Kimmel

Laughter and adventure abound when a young girl takes her frog to the library.

In The Small, Small Pond By Lois Ehlert

A young boy observes nature first-hand at a local pond. (Companion book to In The Tall, Tall Grass).

Is Your Mama A Llama? By Deborah Guarino

Curious about mothers, a young llama asks his other animal friends what makes their mamas so special to them.

The Itsy Bitsy Spider Retold and Illustrated by Iza Trapani

Think you know this rhyme? Take a look at this warmly illustrated book and learn the other five verses of the classic song.

It Looked Like Spilt Milk by Charles G. Shaw

A cloud takes on many shapes, including an ice cream cone, a bunny rabbit and a tree. Share this book with your young one, then take a walk outside and see what shapes you can see in the clouds.

Joseph Had A Little Overcoat By Simms Taback

Joseph starts out his story with a beloved overcoat. Over time, the coat wears out, so Joseph makes it into smaller and smaller clothing items. What will happen when all of the fabric is worn away?

Leo The Late Bloomer By Robert Kraus

Leo, the lion, is a late bloomer who can't seem to do anything as quickly or as well as his peers. Yet with his parents love and support, and with a little bit of growing time, Leo quickly turns into a shining star.

The Little Engine That Could by Watty Piper

A little blue engine helps to pull a train full of "dolls, toys and good food" over a steep hill. This is a wonderful story about the power of positive thinking.

Lunch by Denise Fleming

Join a mouse as he seeks out a tasty lunch meal. This book would be perfect for children working on color recognition.

Mama, Do You Love Me? By Barbara M. Joosse

A mother quietly reassures her young daughter that there is no limit to the love she feels for her.

Max's Dragon Shirt By Rosemary Wells

Ruby takes her younger bunny brother, Max, to the mall on a mission to find the perfect pair of pants. Max however wants a colorful dragon shirt. Can a compromise be reached?

More, More, More! Said the Baby: 3 Love Stories by Vera B. Williams

This book contains three sweet stories about the love felt by a mother, father and grandmother for their children and grandchildren.

Mouse Mess By Linnea Riley

When a family goes to bed, a young mouse wakes up and makes a yummy mess in their clean kitchen.

Mouse Paint By Ellen Stoll Walsh

Three inquisitive mice mix up combinations of red, yellow and blue paints and end up with some exciting new colors.

My Car By Byron Barton

In this simple story, Sam shares why his car is so special and how he cares for it.

Napping House By Audrey and Don Wood

A grandmother, her grandson and all the house pets are napping peacefully. Everyone is asleep, or are they? Watch the hilarious havoc a wakeful flea plays on the sleeping characters.

Old MacDonald by Amy Schwartz

This book is a beautifully illustrated version of the traditional children's song.

Owl Babies By Martin Waddell

Three baby owls anxiously await the return of mama owl that has been out hunting for dinner.

Pete's A Pizza By William Steig

Pete is cheered up out of his grouchy mood when his mom and dad lovingly turn him into a pizza.

Rosie's Walk by Pat Hutchins

Who is following Rosie the chicken on her walk around the farmyard? This wordless picture book is a classic favorite of children.

Seals On The Bus By Lenny Hort

This funny parody of the traditional song: "Wheels On The Bus" will have your young ones rolling in the aisles.

Sheep On A Ship by Nancy Shaw

Join a bunch of loveable sheep on a pirate ship adventure.

Snowballs By Lois Ehlert

What do you do with a bunch of snow and a paper bag overflowing with craft materials? Why, you make a snow family of course, complete with a snow dog and a snow cat.

Snowy Day By Ezra Jack Keats

Peter rushes outside to explore a familiar neighborhood that has been magically transformed by snow.

Taking A Walk: Caminando by Rebecca Emberley

A young person takes a walk through town and points out all of the buildings and objects that make the town special. (*Bilingual text*).

The Three Little Bears Retold and Illustrated By Byron Barton

This bold and brightly illustrated retelling of this classic tale is bound to be a hit with your young ones.

Very Busy Spider by Eric Carle

A very busy and determined spider quietly weaves her web while the other farm animals repeatedly question her about what she is doing.

The Wheels On The Bus (Raffi Songs to Read) By Raffi

Join Raffi for a rousing rendition of every youngster's favorite song.

Where's My Teddy? By Jez Alborough

Eddie, a bright-eyed little boy, is off to the woods to find his misplaced teddy bear. Little does Eddie know though, that a gigantic bear is also looking for *his* own lost teddy bear.

Where's Spot? By Eric Hill

Lift the flaps and search the house for a rambunctious and darling dog, named Spot.

Who Sank The Boat? By Pamela Allen

Several farm animals try to squeeze into a rowboat that is quickly sinking. Can you and your young one guess which animal will be the final straw that sinks the boat?

Teacher & Parent Resources

A To Zoo: Subject Access To Children's Picture Books by Carolyn W. Lima & John A. Lima

This index is perfect for those looking for picture books dealing with particular subjects, i.e. dinosaurs, trucks, family problems, etc...

Crafts From Your Favorite Children's Songs by Kathy Ross

This resource is full of craft activity ideas for perennial favorite children's songs, including the Itsy Bitsy Spider, Baa Baa Black Sheep and Old MacDonald Had A Farm.

Learning To Read and Write by Susan B. Neuman, Carol Copple and Sue Bredekamp

This book describes the research behind early childhood literacy and provides ideas for creating a literate rich classroom environment.

My Very First Books To Make And Read by Kathy Dunlavy

Help your preschooler to learn the value of a book by having them create their very own. This resource is rich with simple book templates and content ideas.

Storytime Crafts by Kathryn Totten

Do your storytimes lack zip? If so, then try this resource which is filled with storytime theme ideas, booklists, fingerplays and craft activities. (*For even more storytime ideas, try 52*

Programs for Preschoolers by Diane Briggs).

