CHILDREN’S LITERATURE, BRIEFLY Reading List
James Jacobs and Michael Tunnell

Traditional Fantasy Reading List
Ten of Our Favorites

Collections and Chapter Books


Harris, Joel Chandler (adapted by Van Dyke Parks and Malcolm Jones). 1986. *Jump! The Adventures of Brer Rabbit*. Illustrated by Barry Moser. Harcourt. A retelling of five folktales in which crafty Brer Rabbit tries to outsmart all the other creatures in the animal community.


Picture Books

Dillon, Leo, and Diane Dillon. 1998. *To Every Thing There Is a Season: From Ecclesiastes*. New York: Scholastic. The text is taken from the King James version of the Bible (Ecclesiastes chapter 3, verses 1-8) and each verse is illustrated in the traditional artistic style of a different ancient culture.


Mayer, Marianna. 2000(1978). *Beauty and the Beast*. Illustrated by Mercer Mayer. SeaStar. Through her great capacity to love, a kind and beautiful maid releases a handsome prince from the spell that has made him an ugly beast.


Others We Like

Chapter Books and Collections


**Picture Books**


**Notable Retellers and Illustrators of Traditional Stories**

The names in this list include influential retellers and illustrators of traditional stories other than the pioneers who first preserved these tales in print (Brothers Grimm, Joseph Jacobs, Charles Perrault, and others).

Aardema, Verna (reteller): African folktales.

Bierhorst, John (reteller): Native-American folktales.

Brown, Marcia (reteller and illustrator): Folktales from a variety of cultures.

Bruchac, Joseph (reteller): Native-American folktales.
Dillion, Leo and Diane (illustrators): African folktales.
Evslin, Bernard (reteller): Greek myths.
Fisher, Leonard Everett (reteller and illustrator): Greek myths.
Hutton, Warwick (reteller and illustrator): Bible stories.
Hyman, Trina Schart (illustrator): European fairy tales.
Kimmel, Eric (reteller): Folktales from around the world.
McDermott, Gerald (reteller and illustrator): Myths and folktales from various cultures.
Singer, Isaac Bashevis: Jewish traditional tales.
Sutcliff, Rosemary (reteller): Arthurian and Greek myths and legends.
Young, Ed (reteller and illustrator): Asian folklore.
Zelinsky, Paul O. (reteller and illustrator): European fairy tales.
Zwerger, Lisbeth (illustrator): European fairy tales.

Modern Fantasy Reading List

Ten of Our Favorites

Alexander, Lloyd. 1964. The Book of Three. Holt. In the first book of The Prydain Chronicles, Taran, Assistant Pig Keeper at Caer Dallben, searches for the oracular pig Hen Wen while the forces of evil gather. (See the other four books in The Prydain Chronicles.)

Babbitt, Natalie. 1975. Tuck Everlasting. Farrar. The Tuck family is confronted with an agonizing situation when they discover that a 10-year-old girl and a malicious stranger now share their secret about the water from a spring that prevents people from ever growing any older.

Christopher, John. 1967. The White Mountains. Macmillan. (Science fiction.) A young boy and his companions make a perilous journey toward an outpost of freedom, where they hope to escape from the ruling tripod creatures who “cap” adult human beings with implanted metal skull plates that turn them into docile, obedient servants. (See the other three books in the White Mountains series.)

Conrad, Pam. 1990. Stonewords. Harper. Zoe’s house is occupied by the ghost of an 11-year-old girl who died in 1870 and carries Zoe back to the day of her death to try to alter that tragic event.

Cooper, Susan. 1966. Over Sea, Under Stone. Harcourt. Three children on a holiday in Cornwall find an ancient manuscript that sends them on a dangerous quest for a grail that would reveal the true story of King Arthur. (See the other four books in the Dark Is Rising series.)

Hunter, Mollie. 1975. A Stranger Came Ashore. Harper. Twelve-year-old Robbie becomes convinced that the stranger befriended by his family is one of the Selkie Folk and tries to get help against his magical powers from the local wizard.

Lewis, C. S. 1950. The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe. Macmillan. Four English schoolchildren find their way through the back of a wardrobe into the magic land of Narnia and assist Aslan, the golden lion, in triumphing over the White Witch, who has cursed the land with eternal winter. (See the other six books in the Narnia series.)

McKinley, Robin. 1978. Beauty: A Retelling of the Story of Beauty and the Beast. Harper. Kind Beauty grows to love the Beast, at whose castle she is compelled to stay. Through her love, she releases him from the spell that had turned him from a handsome prince into an ugly creature.

O’Brien, Robert C. 1975. Z for Zachariah. Atheneum. (Science fiction.) Seemingly the only person left alive after a nuclear holocaust, a young girl is relieved to see a man arrive into her valley until she realizes that he is a tyrant and that she must somehow escape.
White, E. B. 1952. *Charlotte’s Web*. Harper. Wilbur, the pig, discovers that he is destined to be the farmer’s Christmas dinner and is desolate until his spider friend, Charlotte, decides to help him. A Newbery Honor Book.

**Others We Like**


Banks, Lynne Reid. 1981. *The Indian in the Cupboard*. Doubleday. (See others in the Indian in the Cupboard series.)


Bellas, John. 1973. *The House with a Clock in Its Walls*. Dial. (See others in the Lewis Barnavelt series, also written by Brad Strickland after Bellairs’s death.)


Fletcher, Susan. 1989. *Dragon’s Milk*. Atheneum. (See others in the Dragon Chronicles series.)


Le Guin, Ursula K. 1968. *A Wizard of Earthsea*. Parnassus. (See the other books in the Earthsea series.)


Norton, Mary. 1953. *The Borrowers*. Harcourt. (See others in the Borrowers series.)


Rowling, J. K. 1998. *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone*. New York: Scholastic. (See the others in the Harry Potter series.)


**Easier to Read**


Brown, Jeff. 1996. *Invisible Stanley*. Illustrated by Steve Björkman. Harper. (Also see *Flat Stanley.*)


 Howe, Deborah, and James Howe. 1983. *Bunnicles*. Atheneum. (See others in the Bunnicles series.)


Scieszka, Jon. 2002. *Hey Kid, Want to Buy a Bridge?* Illustrated by Adam McCauley. Viking. (See others in the Time Warp Trio series.)

**Picture Books**


**Notable Authors of Modern Fantasy**

Listed after each name is the type of fantasy story for which each author is best known.

Alexander, Lloyd: High fantasy.
Bellairs, John: Supernatural.
Cooper, Susan: High fantasy.
Christopher, John: Science fiction.
Dahl, Roald: Peculiar characters/preposterous situations.
Dickinson, Peter: Science fiction, high fantasy.
Duncan, Lois: Supernatural.
Engdahl, Sylvia Louise: Science fiction.
Hahn, Mary Downing: Supernatural.
Hughes, Monica: Science fiction.
Hunter, Mollie: Magical powers; supernatural.
Jacques, Brian: Animal fantasy.
King-Smith, Dick: Animal fantasy.
L’Engle, Madeleine: Science fantasy.
LeGuin, Ursula: High fantasy, science fiction.
Lewis, C. S.: High fantasy.
McKinley, Robin: High fantasy.
Pullman, Philip: High fantasy.
Rowling, J.K.: Magical powers, high fantasy.
Van Allsburg, Chris: Peculiar characters/preposterous situations, magical powers.
Wright, Betty Ren: Supernatural.
Yolen, Jane: High fantasy, literary folk and fairy tales.
Contemporary Realistic Fiction Reading List
Ten of Our Favorites

DeCamillo, Kate. 2000. *Because of Winn-Dixie*. Candlewick. Ten-year-old India Opal Buloni describes her first summer in the town of Naomi, Florida, and all the good things that happen to her because of her big ugly dog, Winn-Dixie. A Newbery Honor Book.


Konigsburg, E. L. 1967. *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*. Atheneum. Twelve-year-old Claudia is tired of her life of responsibility, so she and her little brother run away from home and hide in the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Winner of the Newbery Medal.

Lowry, Lois. 1977. *A Summer to Die*. Houghton Mifflin. Thirteen-year-old Meg envies her sister’s beauty and popularity. Her feelings don’t make it any easier for her to cope with Molly’s strange illness and eventual death.


Paulsen, Gary. 1987. *Hatchet*. Bradbury. After a plane crash, 13-year-old Brian spends 54 days in the wilderness, learning to survive with only the aid of a hatchet given him by his mother and learning also to survive his parents’ divorce. A Newbery Honor Book.

Rawls, Wilson. 1961. *Where the Red Fern Grows*. Doubleday. A young boy living in the Ozarks achieves his heart’s desire when he becomes the owner of two redbone hounds and teaches them to be hunters.

Robinson, Barbara. 1972. *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. Harper. The six mean Herdman kids lie, steal, smoke cigars (even the girls), and then become involved in the community Christmas pageant.

Sachar, Louis. 1998. *Holes*. Farrar. As further evidence of his family’s bad fortune which they attribute to a curse on a distant relative, Stanley Yelnats is sent to a hellish correctional camp in the Texas desert where he finds his first real friend, a treasure, and a new sense of himself. Winner of the Newbery Medal.

Spinelli, Jerry. 1990. *Maniac Magee*. Little, Brown. After his parents die, Jeffrey Lionel Magee’s life becomes legendary, as he accomplishes athletic and other feats that awe his contemporaries. At the same time he searches in anguish for a place to call home. Winner of the Newbery Medal.

Others We Like

Animals

Humor
See also riddle books and collections of jokes on the children’s shelves at libraries and bookstores.

**Mysteries**

**Problem Novels**

**Sports**

**Survival**

**Easier to Read**

Park, Barbara. 2001. *Junie B., First Grader (at last!)*. Illustrated by Denis Brunkus. Random. (Humor)

**Picture Books**


**Notable Authors of Contemporary Realistic Fiction**

Blume, Judy: Teen and preteen problem novels.
Byars, Betsy: Preteen problem novels.
Cleary, Beverly: Primary and middle grade humor.
George, Jean Craighead: Ecological fiction.
Giff, Patricia Reilly: Primary and middle grade humor.
Henry, Marguerite: Horse stories.
Holt, Kimberly: Preteen problem novels.
Lowry, Lois: Teen and preteen problem novels, middle grade humor.
Naylor, Phyllis R.: Mysteries, adolescent humor, animal stories.
Paterson, Katherine: Teen and preteen problem novels.
Paulsen, Gary: Survival and adventure fiction.
Sachar, Louis: Middle grade humor.
Spinelli, Jerry: Teen and preteen problem novels.
Voigt, Cynthia: Teen and preteen problem novels.
Wolff, Virginia Euwer: Teen problem novels.
Yep, Laurence: Chinese-American experience.

**Historical Fiction Reading List**

**Ten of Our Favorites**

- **Conrad, Pam. 1985. *Prairie Songs*.** Harper. Louisa’s life in a loving pioneer family on the Nebraska prairie is altered by the arrival of a new doctor and his beautiful, tragically frail wife.
- **Fleischman, Paul. 1993. *Bull Run*.** Harper. Northerners, southerners, generals, couriers, dreaming boys, and worried sisters describe the glory, the horror, the thrill, and the disillusionment of the first land battle of the Civil War.
- **Fletcher, Susan. 1998. *Shadow Spinner*.** Atheneum. When Marjan, a thirteen-year-old crippled girl, joins the Sultan’s harem in ancient Persia, she gathers for Shahrazad the stories which will save the queen’s life.
- **McCaffrey, Anne. 1996. *Black Horses for the King*.** Harcourt. Galwyn, son of a Roman Celt, escapes from his tyrannical uncle and joins Lord Artos, later known as King Arthur, using his talent with languages and way with horses to help secure and care for the Libyan horses that Artos hopes to use in battle against the Saxons.
- **Speare, Elizabeth George. 1958. *The Witch of Blackbird Pond*.** Houghton Mifflin. In 1687 in Connecticut, Kit Tyler—who feels out of place in the Puritan household of her aunt and befriends an old woman the community thinks is a witch—suddenly finds herself standing trial for witchcraft. Winner of the Newbery Medal.
- **Taylor, Mildred. 1976. *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*.** Dial. A black family living in the South during the 1930s is faced with discrimination. Because the family owns its own land and is uncharacteristically independent for the era, they have an unusually difficult time living with such prejudice. Winner of the Newbery Medal.
- **Sutcliff, Rosemary. 1995. (originally published 1955). *The Outcast*.** Farrar, Straus. Exiled from his ancient British tribe, Beric is captured by the Romans and forced into slavery but harbors the hope of escaping to return to his homeland.
- **Watkins, Yoko Kawashima. 1986. *So Far From the Bamboo Grove*.** Lothrop. A young Japanese girl, her older sister, and her mother struggle to escape the dangers of an angry Korea as World War II ends.

**Others We Like**

Lasky, Kathryn. 1996. *A Journey to the New World: The Diary of Remember Patience Whipple (Mayflower, 1620)*. Scholastic. (See other titles in the Dear America series.)

**Easier to Read**

Nixon, Joan Lowery. 2000. *Aggie’s Home*. Delacorte. (See other titles in the Orphan Train Children series.)
Osborne, Mary Pope. 2000. *My Brother’s Keeper: Virginia’s Diary (Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, 1868)*. Scholastic. (See other titles in the My America series.)

**Picture Books**

Ryan, Pam Muñoz. 1999. *Amelia and eleanor Go for a Ride.* Scholastic.

**Notable Authors of Historical Fiction**

Avi: American history.
Beatty, Patricia, and John Beatty: American Civil War and westward expansion.
Bruchac, Joseph: Native-American history.
Collier, James Lincoln, and Christopher Collier: American Revolution.
Haugaard, Erik Christian: European history.
Hunter, Mollie: British history.
Lasky, Kathryn: American history.
Meyer, Carolyn: European history.
O’Dell, Scott: Native-American history, American West.
Orlev, Uri: Holocaust.
Rinaldi, Ann: American history.
Speare, Elizabeth George: Colonial America.
Sutcliff, Rosemary: Early history of Britain.
Taylor, Mildred: African-American history.
Uchida, Yoshiko: Japanese-American history.
Yep, Laurence: Chinese-American history.
Wilder, Laura Ingalls: Westward expansion.

**Biography Reading List**

**Ten of Our Favorites**

Freedman, Russell. 1999. *Babe Didrikson Zaharias: The Making of a Champion*. Clarion. A biography of Babe Didrikson, who broke records in golf, track and field, and other sports, at a time when there were few opportunities for female athletes.


Fritz, Jean. 1995. *You Want Women to Vote, Lizzie Stanton*. Putnam. A biography of Elizabeth Cady Stanton who believed in equality for everyone. In the late nineteenth century, she spent her time and energy traveling America to promote women’s right to vote.


**Others We Like**


**Collective Biographies**

Calvert, Patricia. *Great Lives: The American Frontier*. Atheneum. (See other titles in the Great Lives series.)

**Easier to Read**

Adler, David A. 1992. *Benjamin Franklin: Printer, Inventor, Statesman*. (See the other titles in Adler’s A First Biography series.)
Fradin, Dennis Brindell. 2002. *Who Was Ben Franklin?* Grosset & Dunlap. (See other titles in the Who Was series.)
Holub, Joan. 2001. *Vincent van Gogh: Sunflowers and Swirly Stars*. Grosset & Dunlap. (See other titles in the Smart about Art series.)
Kerby, Monica. 1990. *Amelia Earhart: Courage in the Sky*. Viking. (See other books in the Women of Our Time series.)
Osborne, Mary Pope. 1987. *The Story of Christopher Columbus, Admiral of the Ocean Sea*. Dell. (See other books in the Dell Yearling Biography series.)

**Picture Books**

Adler, David A. 2000. *A Picture Book of Sacagawea*. (See the other titles in Adler’s Picture Book of ... series.)

**Notable Biographers**

Adler, David: Picture book and simplified biographies.
Freedman, Russell: Photobiographies.
Fritz, Jean: American history biographies.
Giblin, James Cross: Picture book and complete biographies; social histories.
Krull, Kathleen: Collective biographies.
Marrin, Albert: Biographies for middle school and junior high school readers.
Meltzer, Milton: Biographies and social histories.
Severance, John: Complete biographies.

**Informational Book Reading List**

**Ten of Our Favorites**

expedition when, after being trapped in a frozen sea for nine months, their ship, *Endurance*, was finally crushed, forcing Shackleton and his men to make a very long and perilous journey across ice and stormy seas to reach inhabited land.


Micklethwaite, Lucy. 1993. *A Child’s Book of Art: Great Pictures, First Words*. Famous paintings are used to introduce basic concepts (seasons, weather, opposites, colors, counting, etc.) to young children.


Schwartz, Alvin. 1974. *Cross Your Fingers, Spit in Your Hat: Superstitions and Other Beliefs*. Lippincott. Superstitions collected into 23 categories such as love and marriage, money, ailments, travel, weather, school, and death.

Simon, Seymour. 1997 (1980). *Strange Mysteries*. Morrow. Describes nine strange phenomena and possible explanations for them, including the day it rained frogs, an atomic explosion that occurred 40 years before the atom bomb, and an eerie crystal skull.

Stanley, Jerry. 1992. *Children of the Dust Bowl: The True Story of the School at Weedpatch Camp*. Crown. Describes the plight of the migrant workers who traveled from the Dust Bowl to California during the Depression and were forced to live in a federal labor camp and then focuses on the marvelous school that was built for their children.

Others We Like


Easier to Read
George, Jean Craighead. 2002. Summer Moon. Harper. (See others in the Seasons of the Moon series.)


**Picture Books**


**Publishers of Informational Books**

Three publishers of nonfiction books for young readers merit special notice. Each produces such interesting books and so many titles that consulting their catalogs is perhaps the easiest way to find books appropriate for individual libraries and classrooms.

- **Usborne Books** pioneered the now-popular format of presenting one aspect of a subject on a double-page spread, complete with many illustrations and snippets of text. Turn the page, and find another focus. Usborne now has over 100 different nonfiction series for children of different ages and interests. Catalog: EDC Publishing, P.O. Box 470663, Tulsa, OK 74147-0663. Phone: (800) 475-4522.

- **DK Publishing, Inc.** (formerly Dorling Kindersley) has more than 20 informational series for young readers plus a wealth of single titles as well as some fiction. DK is noted for fine photography, appealing layout, and information that is intriguing as well as accurate. Catalog: DK Publishing, Inc., 95 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016. Phone: (212) 213-4800 ext. 291.

- **Eyewitness Books and Eyewitness Junior Books** are series from DK Publishing but more than 100 titles of these series were published only by Knopf/Random House and not listed or sold by
DK (the contract was made before DK had a U.S. office). Catalog: Random House Publishing, 400 Hahn Road, Westminster, MD 21157. Phone: (800) 733-3000.

- **Klutz Press** specializes in the zany, clever, and innovative—in both format and subject. Many of the 71 books published for children come with some sort of manipulative, like the hair bows, ribbons, and clips that accompany *Hair: A Book of Braiding and Styles* (Johnson 1995) and the eight bricks of different-colored clay that are a part of *The Incredible Clay Book: How to Make and Bake Zillions of Permanent Clay Creations* (Sherri Haab and Laura Torres 1994). Catalog: Klutz Press, 455 Portage Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94306. Phone: (650) 857-0888.

**Informational Series**

For each series of informational books mentioned next, two sample titles are included. The number in parentheses indicates how many titles were in that series as of fall 2002. That number naturally will change with time but provides a general idea of the series size.

**Brown Paper School Books** (19 titles). Hands-on activities and compelling views of both traditional and nontraditional subjects. Examples include:
- Burns, Marilyn. 1976. *The Book of Think (or How to Solve a Problem Twice Your Size)*. Little, Brown.

**Don’t Know Much About...** (15 titles). Unusual facts and interesting perspectives about a variety of common topics. Examples include:

**Extremely Weird** (16 titles) and **Bizarre & Beautiful** (5 titles). Illustrated with lavish photographs, each title in these two similar series presents unusual animals or strange physical characteristics of animals. Examples include:

**Imponderables** (11 titles). Explanations of events, traditions, and happenings in everyday life. Written for adults; devoured by children. Examples include:

**Inside Story** (15 titles). Detailed cutaway views of the construction and function of historical structures and other engineering marvels. Examples include:

**Let’s Read-and-Find-Out Science** (77 titles—24 Stage 1 [preschool and kindergarten]; 53 Stage 2 [grades 1–3]). Science concepts for preschool through third grade. Examples include:

**Magic School Bus** (10 titles—plus 6 more based on separate episodes from the animated TV series). Ms. Frizzle takes her class on field trips in a special bus that can change size and function as it travels through various parts of the universe—the human digestive system, the earth’s crust, a hurricane, the solar system, and the generators and electric wires that bring power to a town.


*See More Readers* (10 titles). Natural and physical science in beginning chapter book format at three different levels. Examples include:


*Smart About Art* (4 titles). Written in the format of a child’s report, each title presents humanizing facts and interesting information about a well-known artist. Examples include:


*Smart About History* (2 titles). Personalized view of history from a child’s perspective. Examples include:


What Makes a ... a ... ? (10 titles). Each title focuses on the style, subject matter, and contribution of one famous artist.


**Notable Authors and Illustrators of Informational Books**

Aliki: Informational picture books for younger readers.

Ancona, George: Photographer and author of photoessays.

Arnosky, Jim: Illustrator and author of nature books.

Blumberg, Rhoda: History—transcontinental railroad, California gold rush, Louisiana Purchase, Commodore Perry in Japan.

Burns, Marilyn: Math topics, primarily hands-on math activities.

Cobb, Vicki: Hands-on science books.

Cole, Joanna: Science topics, notably the Magic School Bus series.

Fisher, Leonard Everett: Illustrator and author of books on a variety of topics—architecture, historical figures and events, social history.

Gibbons, Gail: Informational picture books for preschool and primary grades on a vast variety of topics.

Giblin, James Cross: Informational chapter books about unique subjects—scarecrows; histories of chairs, windows, and eating utensils; plagues; Rosetta Stone; chimney sweeps.

Heller, Ruth: Illustrator and author of brilliantly colored picture books about the individual parts of speech and about plants and animals.

Lasky, Kathryn, and Christopher Knight: Wife (author) and husband (photographer) team; photoessays, primarily about nature topics.

Lauber, Patricia: Physical and natural science topics.

Markle, Sandra: Natural science, math, and computer books.

McKissack, Patricia, and Fredrick McKissack: Wife and husband team; books primarily about African-American history.

Meltzer, Milton: Social histories; known particularly for presenting history using the words of those people who lived through it.

Murphy, James: U.S. social histories—immigrant train, Chicago fire, Civil War.
Pringle, Laurence: Natural and physical science books.
Schwartz, Alvin: Specialist in American folk culture; collects superstitions, legends and true stories, scary stories, tongue-twisters.
Simon, Seymour: Physical and natural science topics.
Swanson, Diane: Natural science topics, particularly animals.

**Picture Book Reading List**
**Fifteen of Our Favorites**
A carpenter goes to a fortune-teller and finds the predictions about his future come true in an unusual way.
Henkes, Kevin. 1990. *Julius, the Baby of the World*. Greenwillow. (Picture story.) Lilly is convinced that the arrival of her new baby brother is the worst thing that has happened in their house, until Cousin Garland comes to visit.
Hepworth, Cathi. 1992. *Antics! An Alphabetical Anthology*. Putnam. (ABC.) Alphabet entries from A to Z all have an “ant” somewhere in the word, such as E for Enchanter, P for Pantaloons, S for Santa Claus, and Y for Your Ant Yetta.
Mayer, Mercer. 1974. *Frog Goes to Dinner*. Dial. (Wordless.) Having stowed away in a pocket, Frog wreaks havoc and disgraces his human family at the posh restaurant where they are having dinner.
Peet, Bill. 1982. *Big Bad Bruce*. Houghton Mifflin. (Picture story.) Bruce, a bear bully, never picks on anyone his own size until he is diminished in more ways than one by a small but very independent witch.
Turkle, Brinton. 1981. *Do Not Open*. Dutton. (Picture story.) Following a storm, Miss Moody and her cat find an intriguing bottle washed up on the beach. Should they ignore its “Do not open” warning?
Waber, Bernard. 1972. *Ira Sleeps Over*. Houghton Mifflin. (Picture story.) A little boy is excited at the prospect of spending the night at his friend’s house but worries about how he’ll get along without his teddy bear.
Wells, Rosemary. 1979. *Max’s First Word*. Dial. (Baby/board.) It seems Max can say only one word, no matter how hard his older sister tries to teach him others.

Wiesner, David. 1999. *Sector 7*. Clarion. (Wordless.) While on a school trip to the Empire State Building, a boy is taken by a friendly cloud to visit Sector 7, where he discovers how clouds are shaped and channeled throughout the country.

**Others We Like**

**ABC**


**Counting**


Hoban, Tana. 1985. *1, 2, 3*. Greenwillow.


Concept

Participation

Wordless

**Predictable**

**Beginning Reader**

**Picture Story**

**Engineered**


**Baby/Board**


Dickens, Lucy. 1991. *At the Beach*. Viking.


**Notable Authors and Illustrators of Picture Books**

Anno, Mitsumasa: Wordless concept books.

Brown, Marcia: Appears on the Caldecott list nine times; illustrates in a variety of artistic styles.

Bunting, Eve: Writes picture texts about social issues.

Cooney, Barbara: Varied subject matter including picture book biographies, folktales, realistic and historical fiction.

Crews, Donald: Concept books rendered in graphic arts style.

dePaola, Tomie: Prolific illustrator of more than 200 books; trademark style using pastel colors.

Dr. Suess: One of the first author/illustrators to develop the easy-reader picture book; nonsensical style of writing.

Dillon, Leo, and Diane Dillon: Many books on African themes.

Ehlert, Lois: Engineered concept books.
Gammel, Stephen: Airy illustration style created with colored pencil and graphite.
Jeffers, Susan: Best known for illustrated folktales.
Henkes, Kevin: Family and school stories with talking animals as characters.
Hoban, Russell: Family and school stories with talking animals as characters.
Hyman, Trina Schart: Lavish illustrations accompanying classic fairy-tale retellings.
Keats, Ezra Jack: Stories of the inner city for primary grades.
Kellogg, Steven: Humorous stories often involving animals; tall-tale retellings.
Lobel, Arnold: Popularized beginning reader picture books with the Frog and Toad series.
McDermott, Gerald: Folktales and myths rendered in an abstract artistic style.
Peet, Bill: Animal fantasies written in lively prose and verse; former Disney animator.
Pinkney, Jerry: Watercolor specialist; mostly African-American themes.
Polacco, Patricia: Historical and contemporary fiction, often drawn from her own family.
Potter, Beatrix: Mother of the modern picture storybook in English, *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*.
Sendak, Maurice: Fantasy stories, most notably *Where the Wild Things Are*.
Small, David: A variety of topics, including zany stories and historical subjects.
Seuss, Dr.: Pioneered the beginning reader picture book with his zany, nonsensical stories.
Van Allsburg, Chris: Fantasy stories for older readers.
Wells, Rosemary: Family and school stories with talking animals as characters.
Wiesner, David: Wordless fantasy stories.
Wisniewski, David: Folktales illustrated with intricate paper cutouts.
Young, Ed: Mostly Chinese folktale variants.
Zelinsky, Paul O.: Traditional tales in classical artistic style.

**Poetry Reading List**

**Ten of Our Favorites**

   Designed so that the child reads the poem on one page and the adult reads the poem on the next page. A collection mostly of humorous verse.


Thayer, Ernest Lawrence. 2000. *Casey at the Bat: A Ballad of the Republic Sung in the Year 1888.* Illustrated by Christopher Bing. Handprint. This rendition of Thayer’s immortal poem about baseball hero Casey, who strikes out and loses the big game, is illustrated with reproductions of artifacts, newspaper clippings, photographs, and other late-nineteenth-century memorabilia (ticket stubs, coins, medals, baseball cards).

**Others We Like**


Picture Books

Easy to Read
Livingston, Myra Cohn. 1990. My Head Is Red and Other Riddle Rhymes. Illustrated by Tere LoPrete.

Notable Children’s Poets
Adoff, Arnold
Ciardi, John
Esbensen, Barbara Juster
Fisher, Aileen
Fleischman, Paul
Florian, Douglas
Greenfield, Eloise
Hopkins, Lee Bennett
Kennedy, X. J.
Kuskin, Karla
Livingston, Myra Cohn
McCord, David
Merriam, Eve
Moore, Lilian
Nye, Naomi Shihab
Prelutsky, Jack
Schertle, Alice
Silverstein, Shel
Worth, Valerie
Yolen, Jane

**Multicultural Books Reading List**

Many fine multicultural and international titles, indeed many of our favorites, have been included in the other reading lists in this book. For the most part, they have not been repeated here.

**African American**

Asian American


Hispanic American (Latino)


Native American


**Religious Cultures**


Osborne, Mary Pope. 1996. *One World, Many Religions: The Ways We Worship*. Knopf. (Various religions.)


**Cultures of the Physically and Mentally Challenged**


Women

(Because women historically have had minority status, we have included some of the recent titles dealing with women’s rights and accomplishments.)


International Books Reading List

**English Language Books**


Hughes, Monica. 2000. *Storm Warning*. Harper. (Canada.)


Mahy, Margaret. 2000. *24 Hours*. McElderry. (New Zealand.)


**Translated Books**


de Beers, Hans. 2001. *Alexander the Great*. North-South. (Switzerland.)


Maruki, Toshi. 1982. *Hiroshima No Pika*. Lothrop. (Japan.)


Orlev, Uri. 1995. *The Lady with the Hat*. Houghton. (Israel.)


Richter, Hans Peter. 1972. *I Was There*. Holt. (Germany.)