

Children’s Literature to Promote Intellectual Development in Preschool Aged Children



This book list is a resource for educators and families of preschool aged children to assist in choosing books to explore and read together. It is organized according to the experiences identified in *Essential Learning Experiences for Three, Four and Five Year Olds* from the Ministry of Education.

It is not intended to be an exhaustive list of the books that support intellectual development of young children but a starting point from which to begin discovering. You may observe that many of the books support other areas of development as well!

<u>Solving Problems: Demonstrating Curiosity</u>	
<i>Are You my Mother?</i> by PD Eastman	<i>Bear’s New Friend</i> by Karma Wilson
<i>Curious George</i> by H.A. Rey	<i>Is Your Mama a Llama?</i> by Deborah Guarino
<i>Once Upon a Cloud</i> by Rob Walker	<i>Questions, Questions</i> by Marcus Pfister
<i>Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star</i> by Jerry Pinkey	<i>What Do You Do With an Idea</i> by Kobi Yamada

<u>Solving Problems: Exploring</u>	
<i>Bearcub and Mama</i> by Sharon Jennings & Melanie Watt	<i>It’s Me</i> by Eric Drachman
<i>A Penguin Story</i> by Antonette Portis	<i>Quest</i> by Aaron Becker
<i>The Way Back Home</i> by Oliver Jeffers	<i>The World is Waiting for You</i> by Barbara Kerley

<u>Solving Problems: Observing</u>	
<i>A is for Artist: An Alphabet</i> by Ella Doran	<i>Can You See What I See? Once Upon a Time</i> by Walter Wick
<i>A Closer Look</i> by Mary McCarthy	<i>Hockey Patterns</i> by Mark Weakland
<i>Hot Cold Shy Bold</i> by Pamela Harris	<i>I Spy Year-Round Challenger</i> by Walter Wick
<i>Little Cloud</i> by Eric Carle	<i>Little Hide and Seek Animals</i> by Dawn Sirett
<i>Look Book</i> by Tana Hoban	<i>Looking Closely Inside The Garden</i> by Frank Serafini

Solving Problems: Understanding Cause and Effect

<i>Before After</i> by Matthias Aregui and Anne-Margot Ramstein	<i>Counta Block</i> by Christopher Francesshelli
<i>First the Egg</i> by Laura Vaccaro Seeger	<i>Little Blue and Little Yellow</i> by Leo Lionni
<i>Little Blue Truck</i> by Alice Schertle	<i>One Duck Stuck</i> by Phyllis Root
<i>The Water Hole</i> by Graeme Base	<i>White Rabbit's Color Book</i> by Alan Baker

Solving Problems: Anticipating and Predicting

<i>Brown Bear, Brown Bear</i> by Eric Carle	<i>The Carrot Seed</i> by Ruth Krauss
<i>The First Day of Winter</i> by Denise Fleming	<i>Guess How Much I Love You in the Winter</i> by Sam McBratney
<i>If You Give a Mouse a Cookie</i> by Laura Numeroff	<i>Is Your Mama a Llama?</i> by Deborah Guarino
<i>Journey</i> by Aaron Becker	<i>Journey</i> by Aaron Becker
<i>The Most Perfect Spot</i> by Diane Goode	<i>Old MacDonald had a Farm</i> by Jane Cabrera

Creating and Imagining

<i>Block City</i> by Robert Louis Stevenson	<i>Book</i> by David Miles
<i>Can You See What I See? Once Upon a Time</i> by Walter Wick	<i>Going Places</i> by Peter and Paul Reynolds
<i>Green as a Bean</i> by Karla Kuskin	<i>I Want to be an Astronaut</i> by Byron Barton
<i>Imagine a Day</i> by Sarah Thomson	<i>Journey</i> by Aaron Becker
<i>Max's Dragon</i> by Kate Banks	<i>Not a Box</i> by Antionette Portis
<i>Press Here</i> by Herve Tullet	<i>Snow</i> by Joan Clark
<i>What Do You Do with an Idea?</i> by Kobi Yamada	<i>Where the Wild Things Are</i> by Maurice Sendak

<u>Recognizing Attributes and Characteristics</u>	
<i>Big and Small. Room for All</i> by Jo Ellen Bogart	<i>Brown Bear, Brown Bear</i> by Eric Carle
<i>Canada in Colours</i> by Per Henrik Gurth	<i>Charlie and Lola's Opposites</i> by Lauren Child
<i>The Deep Blue Sea</i> by Audrey Wood	<i>Food For Thought</i> by Saxton Freymann
<i>Green</i> by Laura Vaccaro Seeger	<i>Hooray for Fish</i> by Lucy Cousins
<i>Mouse Shapes</i> by Ellen Stoll Walsh	<i>Open this Little Book</i> by Jesse Klausmeier
<i>Planting a Rainbow</i> by Lois Ehlert	<i>A Seed is Sleepy</i> by Dianna Hutts Aston
<i>Sorting</i> by Henry Pluckrose	<i>Swirl by Swirl: Spirals in Nature</i> by Joyce Sidman

<u>Exploring Numeracy</u>	
<i>123 A Child's First Counting Book</i> by Alison Jay	<i>Actual Size</i> by Steve Jenkins
<i>Anno's Counting House</i> by Mitsmasa Anno	<i>Birdsongs</i> by Betsy Franco
<i>Canada 123</i> by Kim Bellefontaine	<i>Creature Numbers</i> by Andrew Zuckerman
<i>Fish Eyes</i> by Lois Ehlert	<i>I Spy Numbers</i> by Jean Mazollo
<i>Millions of Snowflakes</i> by Mary McKenna Siddals	<i>Mother Goose Numbers on the Loose</i> by Leo & Diane Dillon
<i>Numbers</i> by Henry Pluckrose	<i>Olivia Counts</i> by Ian Falconer
<i>Over in the Meadow</i> by Ezra Jack Keats	<i>Quack and Count</i> by Keith Baker
<i>Ten Apples Up on Top</i> by Dr Seuss	<i>The Water Hole</i> by Graeme Base

<u>Exploring Time</u>	
<i>Before After</i> by Matthias Aregui and Anne-Margot Ramstein	<i>Calendar</i> by Myra Gohn Livingston
<i>A Child's Good Night Book</i> by Margaret Wise Brown	<i>The Clock Struck One</i> by Trudy Harris
<i>Cookie's Week</i> by Cindy Ward	<i>First Snow in the Woods</i> by Carl R. Sams II
<i>The Grouchy Ladybug</i> by Eric Carle	<i>How Long?</i> by Elizabeth Dale
<i>I Spy Year-Round Challenger</i> by Walter Wick	<i>January Rides the Wind</i> by Charlotte Otten
<i>Listen, Listen</i> by Phillis Gershator	<i>Picture a Tree</i> by Barbara Reid

<u>Exploring Position and Direction</u>	
<i>Inside Outside Upside Down</i> by Stan & Jan Berenstain	<i>My Up & Down & All Around Book</i> by Marjorie Pitzer
<i>Over and Under in the Snow</i> By Kate Messner	<i>Up, Down, Around</i> by Katherine Ayres
<i>Up, Up, Down</i> by Robert Musch	<i>We're Going on a Bear Hunt</i> by Michael Rosen

<u>Language and Emerging Literacy: Listening with Interest</u>	
<i>Alligator Pie</i> by Dennis Lee	<i>Baby Bear, Baby Bear, What Do You See?</i> by Bill Martin Jr.
<i>The Book with No Pictures</i> by B. J. Novak	<i>The Cat in the Hat</i> by Dr Seuss
<i>The Most Perfect Spot</i> by Diane Goode	<i>One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish</i> by Dr Seuss
<i>The Prince Won't Go to Bed</i> by Dayle Ann Dodds	<i>Read Me a Book</i> by Barbara Reid
<i>Sing a Song of Mother Goose</i> by Barbara Reid	<i>The Three Snow Bears</i> by Jan Brett

<u>Language and Emerging Literacy: Engaging in Conversation</u>	
<i>Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus</i> by Mo Willems	<i>Green as a Bean</i> by Karla Kuskin
<i>Let's Look at Nature</i> by Lorenz Books	<i>Questions, Questions</i> by Marcus Pfister
<i>Which Would You Rather Be?</i> by William Steig	<i>You Will Be My Friend!</i> by Peter Brown

Language and Emerging Literacy: Exploring Words

<i>Billy & Milly Short & Silly</i> by Eve Feldman	<i>Cookies: Bite Size Life Lessons</i> by Amy Krouse Rosenthal
<i>Farm Flu</i> (rhyming) by Teresa Bateman	<i>A Huge Hog is a Big Pig</i> by Francis McCall
<i>If Frogs Made Weather</i> by Marion Dane Bauer	<i>In the Tall Tall Grass</i> by Denise Fleming
<i>Max's Dragon</i> (rhyming) by Kate Banks	<i>The Wildlife ABC: A Nature Alphabet</i> by Jan Thornhill

Language and Emerging Literacy: Gaining Meaning from Visual Text/Materials

<i>Bugs by the Numbers</i> by Sharon Werner	<i>City Signs</i> by Zoran Milich
<i>How to Read a Story</i> by Kate Messner	<i>Go Away Big Green Monster</i> by Ed Emberley
<i>I Read Signs</i> by Tina Hoban	<i>Ocean Babies</i> by Deborah Lee Rose
<i>Opposites</i> by National Geographic	<i>Reading Makes You Feel Good</i> by Todd Parr

Language and Emerging Literacy: Representing Ideas

<i>Alphabeasties and other Amazing Types</i> by Sharon Werner	<i>Hands: Growing Up to be an Artist</i> by Lois Ehlert
<i>If Rocks Could Sing: A Discovered Alphabet</i> by Leslie McGuirk	<i>In the Small, Small Pond</i> by Denise Fleming
<i>Journey</i> by Aaron Becker	<i>Leaf Man</i> by Lois Ehlert
<i>The Most Magnificent Thing</i> by Ashley Spires	<i>Omar on Ice</i> by Maryann Kovalski
<i>Picture a Tree</i> by Barbara Reid	<i>Riley and Rose in the Picture</i> by Susanna Gretz

Language and Emerging Literacy: Exploring How Print Works

<i>ABC of Canada</i> by Kim Bellefontaine	<i>Cat Says Meow</i> by Michael Arndt
<i>The Letters are Lost!</i> by Lisa Campbell Ernst	<i>Max's Castle</i> by Kate Banks
<i>The Metis Alphabet Book</i> by Joseph Jean Fauchon	<i>What's the Magic Word</i> by Kelly DiPuccio
<i>Words</i> by Lora Rozler	