

# Books Kids Love



Reading with your child is one of the most important things you can do to help her succeed in school. This collection of books is full of laughs, information, and tender moments. Find a comfortable chair, snuggle up, and enjoy them together.

## **Tacky the Penguin** by Helen Lester

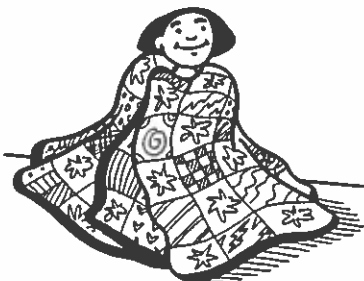
Tacky is an odd bird. He wears Hawaiian shirts, has trouble walking in a line, and sings songs like “How Many Toes Does a Fish Have?” However, as his companions Goodly, Angel, Neatly, and Perfect learn, when the penguin hunters come, Tacky’s differences make him a good bird to have around. (Available in Spanish.)

## **The Patchwork Quilt**

by Valerie Flournoy

Tanya’s grandmother starts making a quilt using old clothing, Halloween costumes, and snips of fabric from special outfits the family has outgrown.

When Grandma gets sick, Tanya asks her family to help finish the masterpiece. A touching story of family and traditions.



## **Our Earth** by Anne Rockwell

From deserts, oceans, and rain forests to volcanoes, glaciers, and caves, this simple book introduces children to geography and geology. The illustrations will prompt youngsters to ask questions about the planet Earth.

## **Love You Forever** by Robert Munsch

“I’ll love you forever/I’ll like you for always/As long as I’m living/My baby you’ll be.” A mother sings this song to her son—when he’s a baby, a toddler, and a teenager, and when he grows up and moves away from home. (Available in Spanish.)

## **Cowgirl Kate and Cocoa** by Erica Silverman

This is the first book in a series about Kate and her horse, Cocoa. As the two work on a ranch together, their friendship grows. Kate fluffs up Cocoa’s straw and gives him carrots and water at bedtime. And Cocoa helps Kate count cattle and sings her a lullaby when she can’t sleep.

## **A Very Important Day** by Maggie Rugg Herold

Families from Mexico, Russia, Vietnam, India, and other countries are busy preparing for an important day—becoming American citizens. In spite of a heavy snowfall that morning, everyone makes it to the courthouse and takes the oath of citizenship. Beautiful watercolors portray different cultures.

## **Puff, the Magic Dragon** by Peter Yarrow and Lenny Lipton

Little Jackie Paper and Puff embark on a magical trip in the land of Honalee, sailing on a boat and meeting royalty and pirates along the way. Children and parents will love this book that’s based on the popular song by Peter (the book’s author), Paul, and Mary.

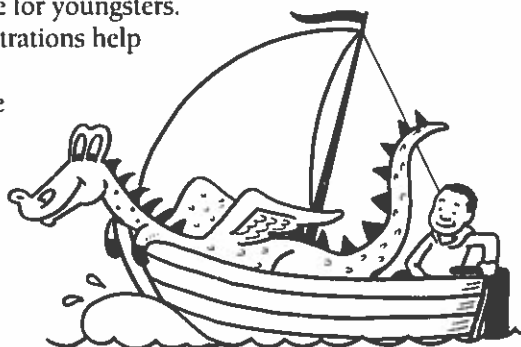
## **It’s Spring!/It’s Summer!/It’s Fall!/It’s Winter!**

by Linda Glaser

Pussywillows, rainbows, colorful leaves, snow angels ... these four books in the Celebrate the Season series make the seasons come alive for youngsters.

Cut-paper illustrations help tell the stories.

Includes nature activities such as creating a seed mosaic and looking for four-leaf clovers.



**Noisy Nora** by Rosemary Wells  
 Nora, the middle child in a family of mice, is tired of waiting for her time with Mom and Dad. No matter how much noise she makes, she can't get their attention. But when the clatter stops, the rest of the family wonders what happened to Nora. (Available in Spanish.)

**Where the Sidewalk Ends** by Shel Silverstein  
 These hilarious poems have delighted youngsters for years. Read about a little boy who uses a toilet plunger for a hat, and learn how to give an armadillo a bath. Black-and-white drawings add to the book's appeal.

**Trout Are Made of Trees** by April Pulley Sayre  
 In this introduction to the food chain, a father and his two children explore a stream together. Beginning with a leaf falling into the water, simple words and collage-like illustrations follow the life cycle of a trout.



**Johnny Appleseed** by Stephen Kellogg  
 This book tells the story of Johnny Appleseed, combining facts from his real life with legends told about him. Life on the frontier is depicted through beautiful paintings of Native Americans, pioneers, and animals. A map helps children "see" his journey scattering apple seeds throughout the land.

**Morris Goes to School** by B. Wiseman  
 This I Can Read book will have your little one rolling with laughter when Morris the Moose starts first grade. Morris has a little trouble at first, but with the help of his teacher and classmates, he learns to read and count.

**Mother Goose Numbers on the Loose** by Leo and Diane Dillon  
 The nursery rhymes in this collection all contain numbers, including the well-known "1, 2, Buckle My Shoe" and the less familiar "Gregory Griggs Has 27 Wigs." Your child can practice rhyming while he counts people, animals, wigs, and more.



**Tom** by Tomic dePaola  
 Tommy is named after his grandfather, Tom. The two read, sing, and make up stories together, and Tommy helps his granddad in his butcher shop. Your youngster will enjoy laughing at their antics.

**Monsters Don't Eat Broccoli** by Barbara Jean Hicks  
 Monsters eat trees, cars, sharks, stop signs, and even rocket ships. But "Fum, foe, fie, fee, monsters don't eat broccoli." Could the trees they love to eat really be broccoli? A fun story with a lesson in nutrition.

**Lost in the Woods** by Carl R. Sams II and Jean Stoick  
 When a baby deer roams around alone, the other animals assume he's lost and take turns watching him until his mother comes back. The book is filled with striking photographs of a tree frog, a red-winged blackbird, and other animals. Children will enjoy the animal-hunt activity at the end.

**"What should I read?"**

Children who know how to select good books are on their way to becoming lifelong readers. Help your youngster learn how with these ideas:

- When picking books, suggest that she look at the cover and read the description on the back. This will give her an idea of what the book's about. Then, she can flip through the pages and look at the illustrations. Does she think she would enjoy it?
- Tap into her interests. If she's excited about rocks or car racing, have her ask the librarian for help finding books on those subjects.
- Together, think of books your youngster has enjoyed, and make a list of the authors. Help her look for more of their stories at the library or a used bookstore.
- Encourage her to discuss books she likes with her friends—and to ask them what books they like. She'll get suggestions for new books or might even trade favorites with her friends.

