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# 100 Montessori books for children

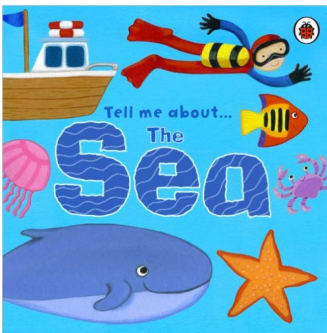
»»» up to 4 years old »»»

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by  
The Montessori  
Notebook

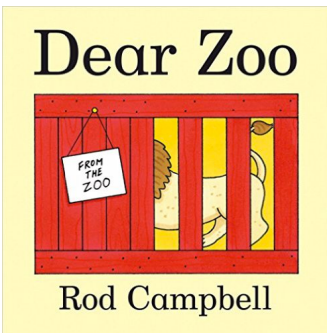
# books for Montessori children

## ANIMALS



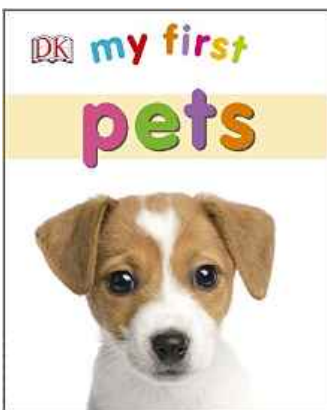
Tell me about the Sea by Justine Smith

Lots of under water creatures to meet in this more advanced word book.



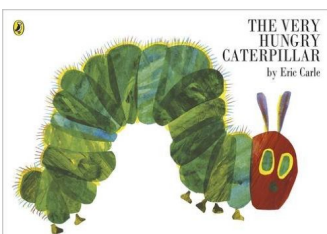
Dear Zoo by Rod Campbell

The board book version of this is the best as it needs to be strong to maintain all the lift-the-flap goodness that the kids love. "I wrote to the zoo to send me a pet. They sent me an elephant. He was too big. I sent him back." Find out if they send an animal that's just right.



My first pets by DK

These DK board books are perfect Montessori books because of the realistic pictures (photos) used and the vocabulary is nice and detailed.



The very hungry caterpillar by Eric Carle

A classic and a must have for sure.

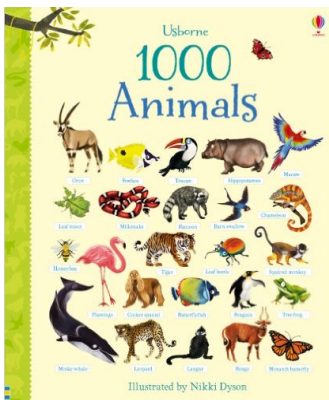
# books for Montessori children

## ANIMALS cont.



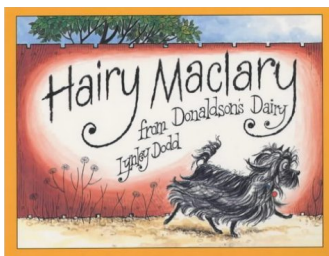
The very busy spider by Eric Carle

We all know the illustrations of Eric Carle from *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. The board book version has the spider web raised off the page to touch and tells the story of a spider's busy day.



1000 animals by Jessica Greenwell

So many animals to look at. 1000 of them including mammals, under water creatures, birds and more.



Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's Dairy by Lynley Dodd

One of those books that kids want to read again and again. This is the first of a series with realistic pictures of dogs (and some cats) on adventures. Lovely rhyming too.

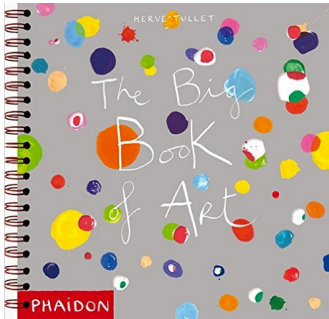


Mijn kleine dierenboek

Clear photos of lots of animals with their names in Dutch underneath. *In Dutch*

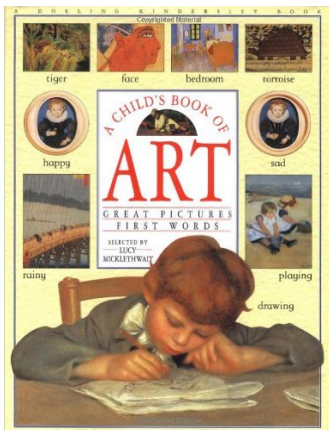
# books for Montessori children

## ART



The Big Book of Art by Hervé Tullet

Patterns galore to match and swap. A fun exploration of art for older toddlers and preschoolers.



A child's book of art: Great pictures, first words selected by Lucy Micklethwait (DK)

I love the way this book displays art: famous paintings in a way that the children love to explore. For example, a page with paintings with different weather (sunny, rainy etc).

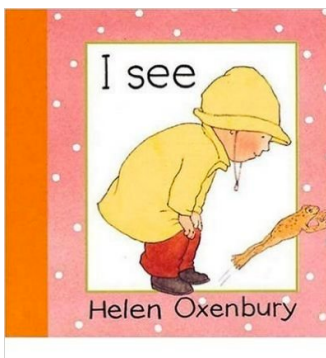


The Little Rijksmuseum

This is a gorgeous word book using objects and people from very famous paintings. *In Dutch, also available in English.*

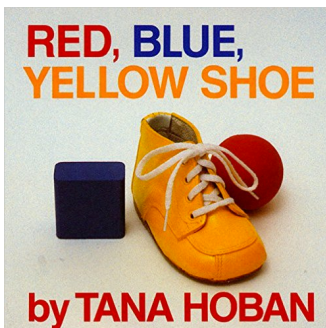
# books for Montessori children

FOR BABIES



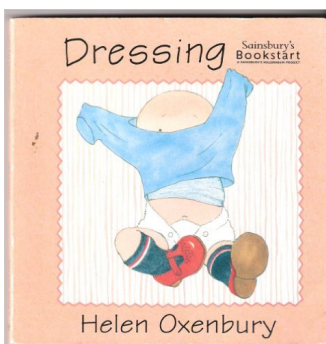
I see by Helen Oxenbury

Also "I hear", "I can"



Red, Blue, Yellow Shoe by Tana Hoban

I love the pictures in this book. So clear and attractive for children. First published in 1986 and still a favourite.

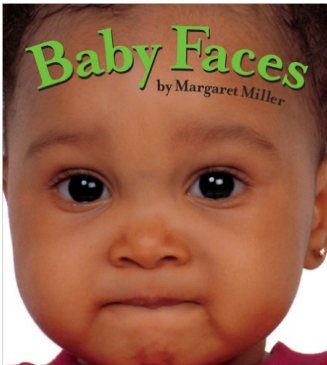


Dressing by Helen Oxenbury

Simple pictures of a baby getting dressed. A lovely early word book. Any book by Helen Oxenbury is lovely.

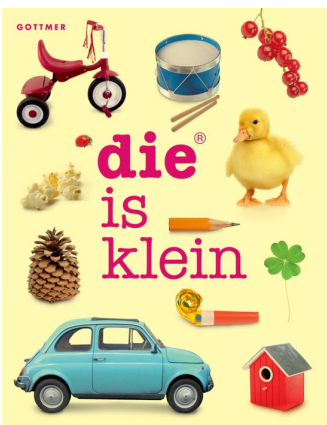
# books for Montessori children

FOR BABIES  
cont.



Baby Faces by  
Margaret Miller

Babies love to look at other babies. A lovely simple board book for babies.



Die is klein by  
Gottmer

A lovely Dutch word book. Clear pictures with a modern design.  
*In Dutch*

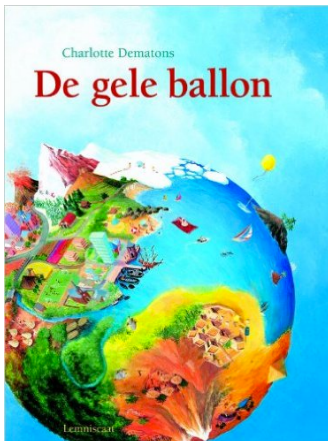


Dieren (Jip en Janneke) naar de  
verhalen van Annie M.G. Schmidt

Illustrations from the much loved Jip and Janneke books for this sweet word book. Also available "Spelen". *In Dutch*

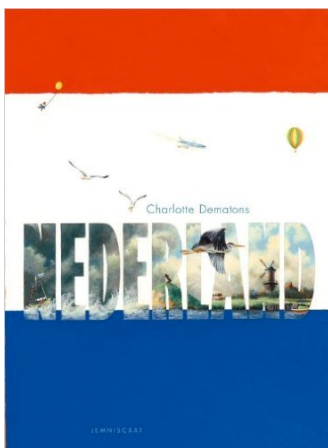
# books for Montessori children

## FIND AND SEEK



De gele ballon by  
Charlotte  
Dematons

More magic from Charlotte Dematons. Kids (and adults) love to hunt for the yellow balloon on each page. Every page is beautifully illustrated. *Dutch title but no words inside.*

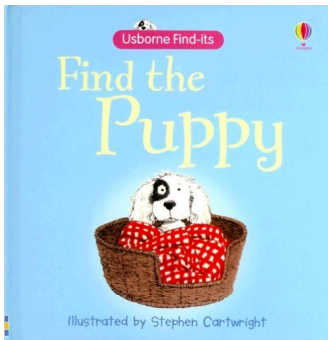


Nederland by  
Charlotte  
Dematons

Another book from Charlotte Dematons all about the Netherlands. *Dutch title but no words inside.*

# books for Montessori children

## FIND AND SEEK cont.



Find the Puppy  
(Usborne Find-its)

Which kid does not love finding and seek books? This one has a hidden puppy on every page to find around the house.



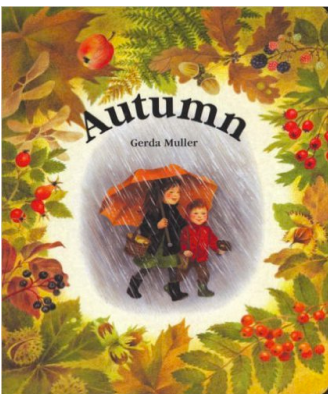
Can you find me?  
by Priddy Bicknell  
Books

This is a sweet book for finding different objects from things about the home to different things to eat.



# books for Montessori children

## TIMES OF YEAR



Autumn by Gerda Muller

Lovely artwork to depict activities for each season. No words allows lots of creativity when reading.

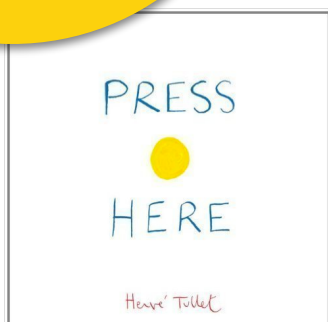


Wat een winter: Kijk- en zoekboek by Rotraut Susanne Berner

You can buy each season separately or in one book. The characters in each of the books repeat and you can follow their stories through the books. A very kind gift from a family. *In Dutch*

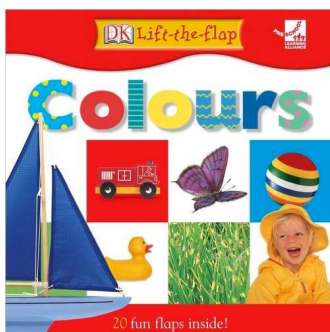
# books for Montessori children

## SHAPES AND COLOURS



Press Here by  
Herve Tullet

A book that is totally interactive and has your kid pressing the pages and turning them over to see what happens. Dots start changing colour and moving as you press the dots on each page. Love this book. I like to describe this book as “before there were iPads”.



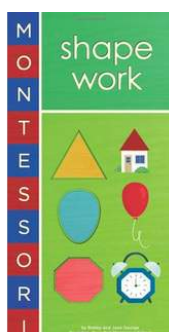
Colours (Lift-the-flap DK)

A simple introduction to colours with various items of each colour hidden under flaps.



Baby's eerste kleurtjes

I picked this up at a discount store and it is just perfect. Clear pictures focussing on a specific colour for each page. Also available “Diertjes”. *In Dutch*



Montessori shape work by Bobby and June George

This series has raised edges so the children can feel the shapes at the same time as learning their names.

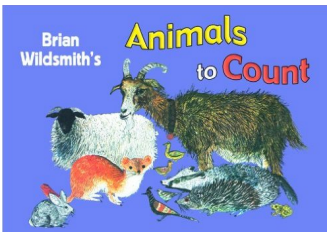
# books for Montessori children

## NUMBERS



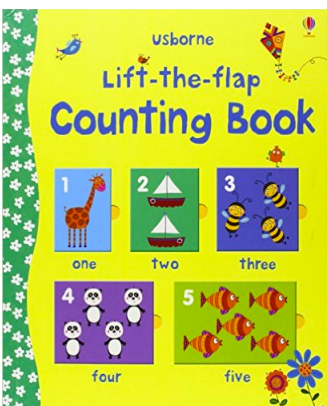
Bardi counting book by Lucy Wildagoo Dann  
(currently unavailable)

Beautiful Aboriginal drawings of animals to help learn counting.



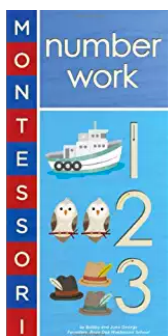
Animals to Count by Brian Wildsmith

Someone passed this book on to me and I love the illustrations and we get to count the animals. Win:win.



Lift-the-flap Counting Book  
(Usborne)

Our copy of this book is well worn and the flaps have been stuck in many times. Lovely counting book from 1 to 5.

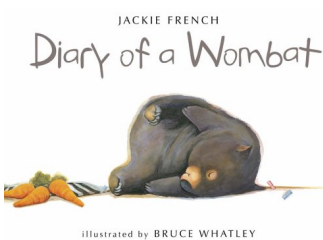


Montessori number work by Bobby and June George

The numbers are raised so children can also feel the numbers as they learn their names.

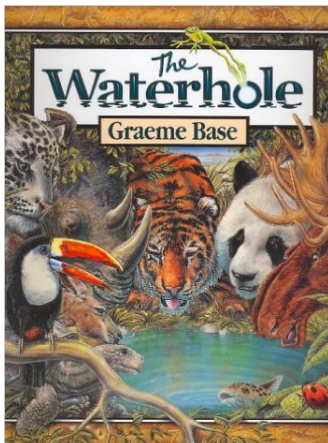
# books for Montessori children

## STORY BOOKS



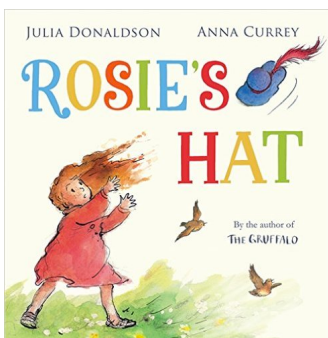
Diary of a wombat  
by Bruce Whatley

A delightful book about the day in the life of a cheeky wombat.



Waterhole by  
Graeme Base

A fun book about numbers with a social conscience and gorgeous illustrations. Watch the animals come to the waterhole starting at 10 and down to 1 as the waterhole shrinks.



Rosie's Hat by Julia Donaldson and Anna Currey

Julia Donaldson of "The Gruffalo" fame is a co-author to this book about a hat that has a great story to tell. I love all the details in this book, realistic pictures and children love it.

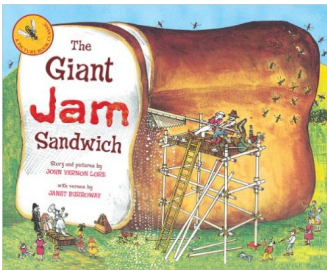


Die Koe die in het Water Viel by  
Phyllis Krasilovsky

A classic tale about Hendrika the cow who ends up going to visit the market after all. *In Dutch*

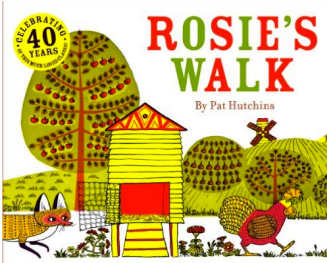
# books for Montessori children

STORY  
BOOKS  
cont.



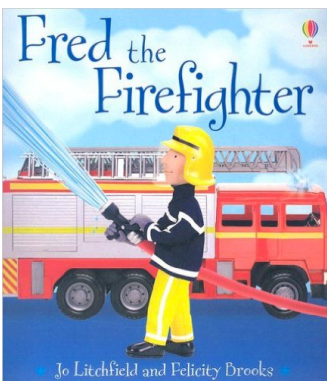
The Giant Jam Sandwich by John Vernon Lord

How do you solve a wasp problem in town? Have a town meeting and see what this town come up with. A very sweet present we received.



Rosie's Walk by Pat Hutchins

This is a book that you read over and over again. Very few words but lots to talk about. And the sweetest illustrations from the 1970s that never seem to date.

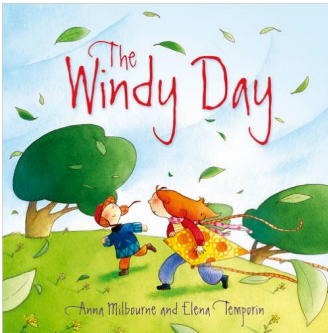


Fred the Firefighter by Jo Litchfield and Felicity Brooks

I love this jobs series by Usborne. Here we follow Fred's day. They sit down to eat lunch when the alarm is raised at the fire station. Other books in the series include Tessa the Teacher.

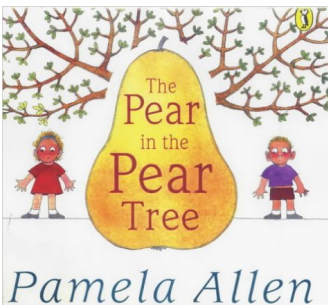
# books for Montessori children

## STORY BOOKS cont.



The Windy Day by  
Anna Milbourne  
and Elena  
Temporin (also  
available Sunny  
Day)

What happens on a windy day?  
Let's find out!



The Pear in the  
Pear Tree by  
Pamela Allen

This is a silly one but a lot of fun.  
John and Jane see a pear in a  
pear tree but can't reach it.  
Delightful.

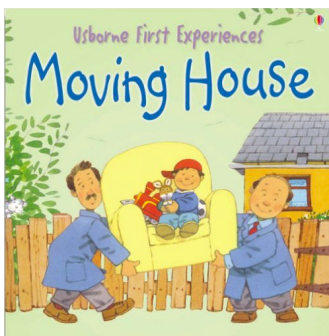


Karel krijgt een  
hondje by Liesbet  
Slegers

The story follows a family getting  
a puppy and looking after him in  
a simple story format. *In Dutch*

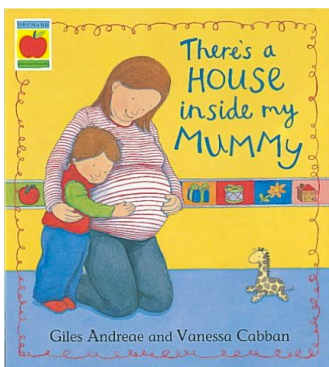
# books for Montessori children

## CHANGES AT HOME



Moving House  
(Usborne First Experiences)

Getting your child ready for a move can be difficult as it is quite an abstract concept for a young child. This book talks about a family that is moving, from packing up their boxes to meeting the neighbours in their new house.



There's a house in mummy's tummy  
by Giles Andreae

Preparing for a new baby? This book is an introduction to help your child prepare. Easy to understand.

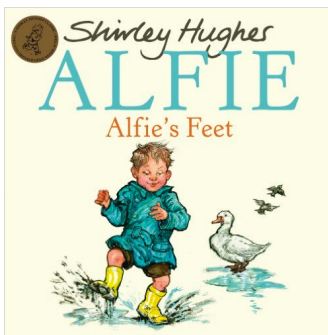


Mama, wat heb je in je buik?  
by Abby Cocovini

This book is huge and shows the baby growing inside the mum's tummy month by month pretty much to scale. This was a gift to our school and is still loved. *In Dutch*

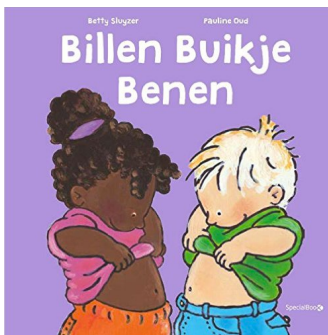
# books for Montessori children

## OUR BODIES

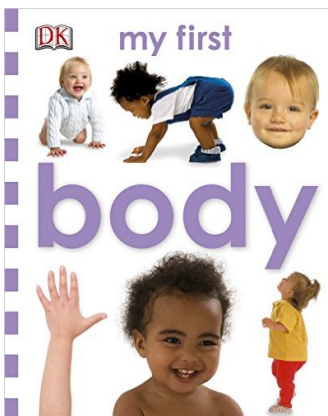


Alfie's Feet by  
Shirley Hughes

Shirley Hughes has the most beautiful illustrations of kids doing the most normal things. "Alfie's Feet" is one of these stories. Most enjoyable.



Billen Buikje Benen This book is full of body words, simple pictures and some rhyme in the mix too. *In Dutch*  
by Betty Sluyzer  
and Pauline Oud



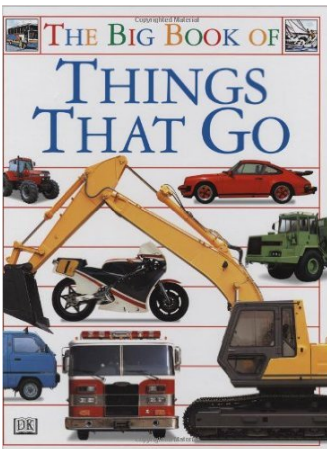
My first body  
board book (DK)

My children LOVED this book. They loved to see the other babies as we'd point and name all the body parts. A lovely DK book.



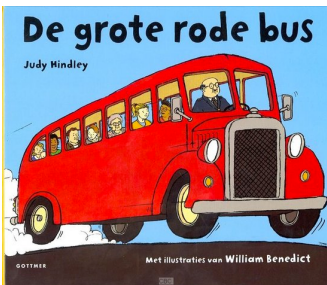
# books for Montessori children

## VEHICLES



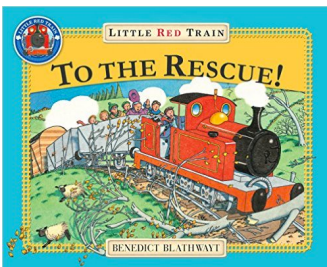
Mighty Machines  
by DK (similar Big Book of Things That Go)

I bought this when my son was 2 years old and I needed to learn all the names of the vehicles we saw around town. It's still being used in my class more than 13 years later. Like an encyclopaedia for vehicles.



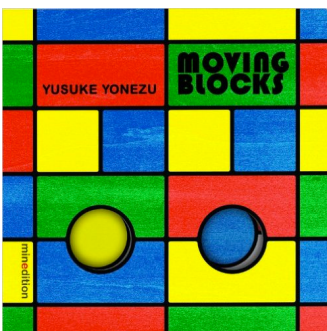
De grote rode bus  
by Judy Hindley

Oh dear. There is a hole in the road and no one can get through. This is a fantastic Dutch book for kids that love all kinds of vehicles. *In Dutch*



Little Red Train to the Rescue by Benedict Blathwayt

The little red train has a whole lot of crazy things to overcome in this sweet book suitable for an older toddler/preschooler. Perfect for train lovers.



Moving blocks by Yusuke Yonezu

Shapes, vehicles and a peek-a-boo combination to find out which vehicle is being built. If you appreciate graphic design I think you'll like this.

# books for Montessori children

## VEHICLES cont.



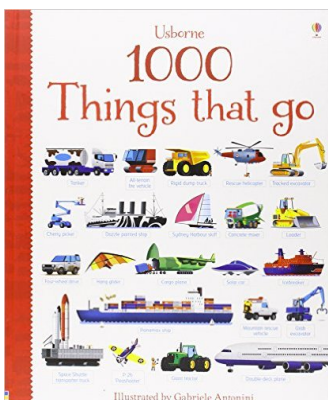
### Mijn eerste 100 voertuigen

I have the small version of this board book and it is lovely. Photos of 100 vehicles with their correct names - a great reference book when you are learning vehicle names. *In Dutch*



### Vervoersdingen

Not just vehicles, this is a witty word book to do with transportation from the makers of Amsterdamsdingen. Enjoy! *In Dutch*

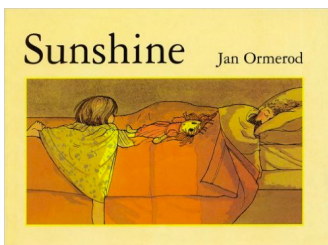


### 1000 Things that go by Sam Taplin

If you have ever wondered what different vehicles were called, then this is the book for you. The pictures in this series are beautiful.

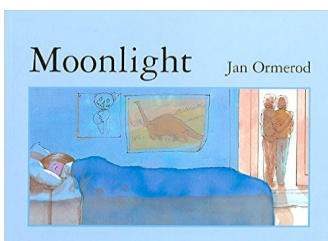
# books for Montessori children

## ABOUT DAILY LIFE



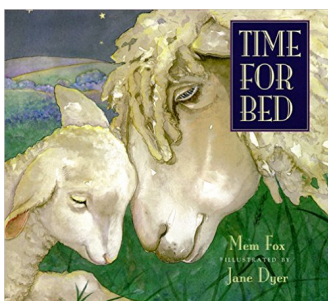
Sunshine by Jan Ormerod

I mention this book all the time as it is a perfect example of a book with realistic pictures all about daily life. The kids LOVE it. It's hard to find but worth it. There is a second in the series called Moonlight.



Moonlight by Jan Ormerod

This is the second in the series after Sunshine. This time we see the little girl getting ready for bed. The illustrations are timeless and a story all children can relate to.



Time for bed by Mem Fox

A classic rhyming book with realistic pictures as we tuck all the animals with their babies into bed. A perfect bed time storybook.

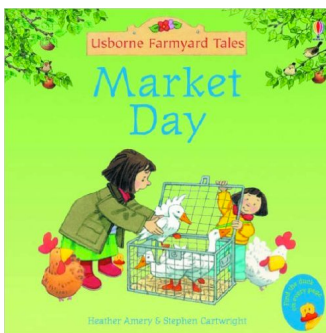
# books for Montessori children

## ABOUT DAILY LIFE cont.



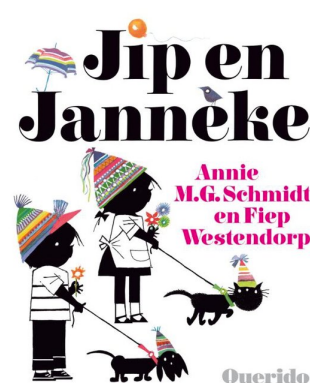
Tijn in de winkel by  
Betty Sluyzer and  
Pauline Oud

Children love to read about Tijn going to the shops as it is so recognisable from their daily life. *In Dutch*



Market Day  
(Usborne Farmyard Tales)

This series from Usborne is again about daily life. I find these books so down to earth and delightful. Also available in this series "Camping Out".

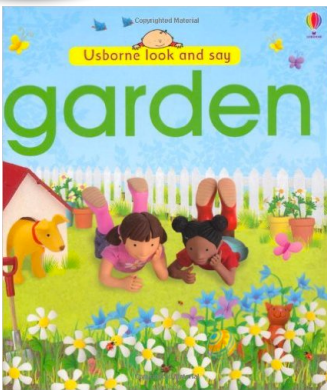


Jip en Janneke by  
Annie M.G. Schmidt en Fiep Westendorp

This 50 year anniversary edition includes many Jip and Janneke adventures. Good old fashioned fun. *In Dutch, but some stories are available in English.*

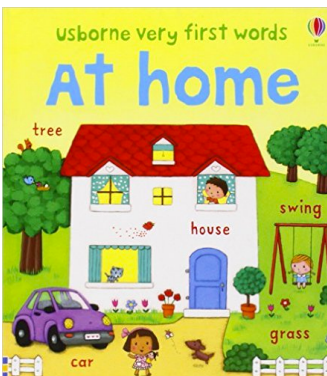
# books for Montessori children

## AROUND THE HOME



Garden (Usborne Look and Say series)

A word book set in the garden. Lovely vocabulary and attractive pictures too. Also in this series "The Farm", "Jobs".



At Home (Usborne very first words)

Usborne makes lovely word books and this one is no exception. Kids love to see things from their daily life in books.

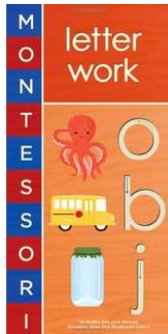


Een huis om open te vouwen by Lucie Brunellière

I love the illustrations in this book where the children can find lots of objects around the home. The book folds open to make a 3D house too. *In Dutch*

# books for Montessori children

OLDER TODDLERS  
+ PRESCHOOLERS



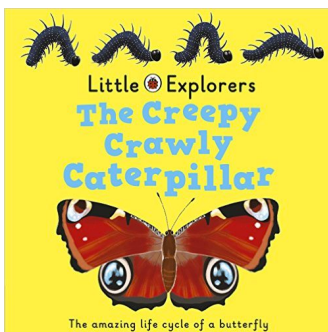
Montessori letter work by Bobby and June George

This book is a way for children to explore the tactile sense of letters as they would with Montessori sandpaper letters - not sandpaper but raised and shiny to help feel the letters as you sound them out.



The art of clean up: Life made neat and tidy by Ursus Wehrli

This book is a masterpiece. On one page you see some washing; the the opposite page, the clothes all hung up in rainbows. On another page some alphabet soup; on the following page, all the letters lined up in a row. A visual treat you are sure to enjoy too. A lovely gift we received.

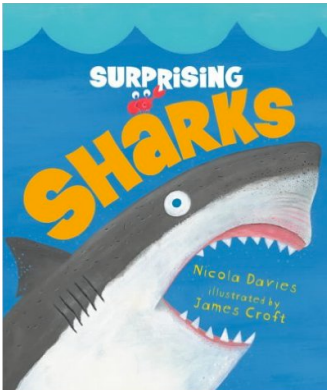


The Creepy Crawly Caterpillar: The amazing life cycle of a butterfly (Little Explorers)

A simple book for preschoolers to explain the life cycle of a butterfly. Easy to read and interesting talking points.

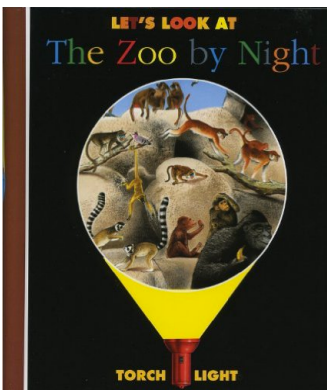
# books for Montessori children

OLDER TODDLERS  
+ PRESCHOOLERS  
cont.



Surprising Sharks  
by Nicola Davies

Do you have a shark lover in the house? Learn all about these sea creatures.

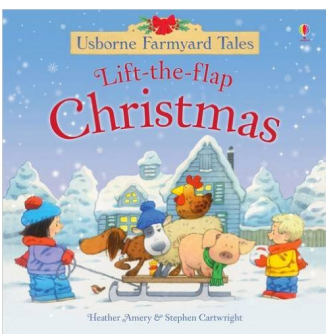


Let's Look at the Zoo by Night  
(Torchlight)

You may be lucky to find a copy of this one. The pages are darkened and you use a white torch to "visit" all the animals at night.

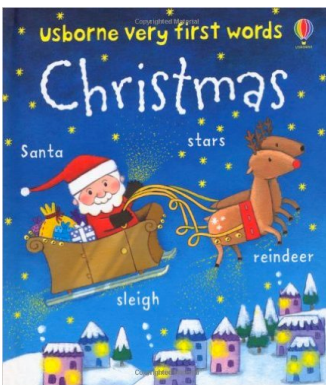
# books for Montessori children

## THE FESTIVE SEASON



Farmyard Tales  
Christmas by  
Heather Amery &  
Stephen  
Cartwright

This is a lovely lift the flap book for older toddlers all preschoolers as the flaps are more fragile. The flaps in this book are adorable - my favourite are the Christmas cards on the fireplace which you can open and read.



Christmas  
(Usborne very first  
words)

This is a sweet first Christmas book for a 1 or 2 year old. Lots of words around the theme of Christmas.



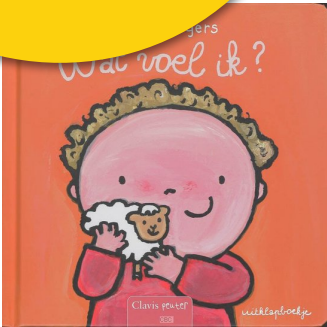
Sinterklaas by  
Charlotte  
Dematons

Charlotte Dematons captures the spirit and the traditions of Sinterklaas with many, many details to pore over.



# books for Montessori children

## SOME OF OUR OTHER DUTCH FAVOURITES



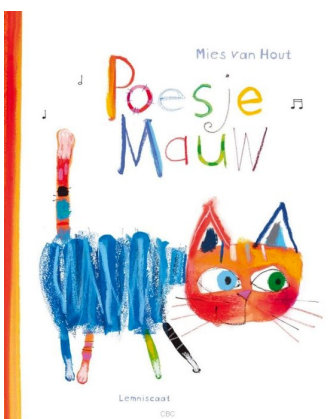
Wat voel ik? By Liesbet Slegers

A Dutch book exploring how things feel - hard, soft etc. Short easy sentences perfect for toddlers. *In Dutch*



Het Grote Billen Boek by Guido van Genechten

A book to introduce toileting to your child. It's a bit silly, but a lot of fun too. *In Dutch*



Poesje Mauw by Mies van Hout

Sweet illustrations and words to popular Dutch children's songs. *In Dutch*



Bijt-ie in je bill!

Including a CD with popular Dutch children's songs. *In Dutch*