



Open a Book- Open the World

40 Books for Beginning Readers/ Early Elementary

I Want/ Read



_____ Adler, David A; Susanna Natti (illustrator). *Cam Jansen: The Mystery of the Stolen Diamonds* 1980 64 pgs Age 7-10 Jennifer (aka "Cam") Jansen has a photographic memory. Can she use her special skill to help catch jewel thieves? This series is a wonderful way to move young readers into chapter books. (Ch; S; L590)



_____ Allard, Harry. *Miss Nelson is Missing!* 1977 32 pgs Age 5-8 Miss Nelson's class is the worst-behaved in the school. But after having a strict substitute teacher for a week, the students can't wait for Miss Nelson to come back. (ER, L340)
_____, *Miss Nelson Has a Field Day.*
_____, *Miss Nelson is Back and Miss Nelson.*



_____ Applegate, Katherine. *Roscoe Riley Rules #1: Never Glue Your Friends to Chairs* 2008 128 pgs Age 7-10 Roscoe Riley's first grade class is getting ready to perform for their parents, but they are having trouble sitting still. So Roscoe comes up with a sure-fire way to help that involves super-mega-gonzo glue. Here comes time-out! (Ch, S, L550)



_____ Barnett, Mac; Jon Klassen (illustrator). *Sam and Dave Dig a Hole* 2014 40 pgs Age 5-8 Two boys dig to find something spectacular but miss what treasure is buried nearby. (ER, CH, L450)



_____ Barrows, Annie; Sophie Blackall (illustrator). *Ivy and Bean* 2006 120 pgs Age 7-10 Two very different girls discover friendship through misadventure. Funny and charming! First in the series. (Ch; S; L600)
_____, *Stella and Marigold* 2024 112 pgs Age 6-9 Seven-year-old Stella and her four-year-old sister, Marigold, do all the regular things, like go to school, but they also share adventures (both real and imagined) and secret sister things. First book in the series (Ch, S, L580)



_____ Bove, Jennifer. *Ranger Rick: I Wish I Was a Bison* (I Can Read: Nature series) 2019 32 pgs Age 6-8 This nature book explores what life is like for a bison, with interesting facts and vivid photographs. This series is perfect for nature and animal lovers of all ages. (NF; S; L520)



_____ Capucilli, Alyssa Satin; Pat Schories(illustrator). *Biscuit* 1997 32 pgs Age 5-7 Meet Biscuit, the most adorable golden puppy ever. But it's bedtime and he doesn't want to go to sleep. Beginning readers will love the entire Biscuit series. (ER,CH, L190)



_____ Cordell, Matthew. *Cornbread and Poppy* 2022 80 pgs Age 4-8 Cornbread and Poppy are mice who couldn't be more different. Cornbread likes to plan and Poppy likes to play. As winter approaches, Cornbread volunteers to help Poppy gather food. Along the way, they make new friends. (Ch, S, L not available)



____ Cronin, Doreen Cronin; Betsy Lewin (illustrator). *Click Clack Moo: Cows that Type* (Easy Reader edition) 2000 32 pgs Age 5-8 Farmer Brown's cows have learned to type and they are giving ultimatums. A humorous tale of demands. (ER, CH, L160)



____ DiCamillo, Kate; Chris Van Dusen (illustrator). *Mercy Watson is Missing* 2023 176 pgs Age 6-9 The Watson's beloved pig, Mercy, is missing. Neighbors join the search and hire a private detective to help find the "porcine wonder". The first book in the Mercy Watson series. (Ch, L450)



____ Dyckman, Ame; Mark Teague (illustrator). *The Cozy Home: Three-and-a-half Stories (Bat, Cat, and Rat series)* 64 pgs Age 4-8 What happens when a bat, a cat, and a rat find a home to share? They have fun! Each chapter is a stand-alone story of the antics of these three friends. First book in the series. (ER, S, L not avail)



____ Eastman, P.D. *Are You My Mother?* 1960 64 pgs Age 5-7 A young bird goes looking for his mother. How will he ever find her? The repetitive nature of the text makes this a great book for new readers. (ER, L240)



____, *Go Dog, Go!* 1961 72 pgs Age 5-7 In the style of Dr. Seuss, this rhyming text with high frequency words make this a perfect beginning reader. And wait until you see where the dogs are going! (ER, L240)



____ Hoban, Russell; Lillian Hoban (illustrator). *Bread and Jam for Frances* 1964 32 pgs Age 5-8 Francis is a picky baby badger who will only eat bread and jam. When her parents don't seem to mind, Francis learns that variety can be a good thing. (ER, L490)



____ Hoff, Syd. *Danny and the Dinosaur Mind Their Manners* (I Can Read: Beg Reader Level 1) 2019 32 pgs Age 5-7 When Danny and the dinosaur think they will meet a real king at the museum, they brush up on their manners! From saying "please" to holding doors, can Danny and the dinosaur work on behavior fit for a king? (ER, L200)



____ Jarvis. *Bear and Bird: The Picnic and Other Stories* 2023 64 pgs Age 5-9 Bear and Bird are best friends and do everything together. Each short chapter is a stand-alone story filled with warmth and humor. Don't miss the other books in the Bear and Bird series. (ER, S, L490)



____ LaRochelle, David; Mike Wohnoutka (illustrator). *See the Cat: 3 Stories About a Dog* 2020 64 pgs Age 5-7 Meet Max. He is a dog- not a cat. But the narrator keeps telling the reader to see the cat. Max lets everyone know that he is not happy with the text! (Ch, ER, L240)

____, *See the Dog*

____, *See the Ghost.*



____ Lobel, Arnold. *Frog and Toad are Friends* 1970 64 pgs Age 5-8 From writing letters to going swimming, telling stories to finding lost buttons, Frog and Toad are always there for each other. Simple text and short chapters make this a great early reader. (Ch, CH, L400)



____ Manushkin, Fran; Tammie Lyon (illustrator) *Pedro's Big Break* 2019 32 pg Age 6-8 When Pedro breaks his arm, he has to miss the camping trip he has been looking forward to. Can his family and friends find a way to cheer him up? (ER; Sp; L500)

____, *Pedro's Big Goal*

____, *Pedro Goes Buggy.*



____ Marshall, James. *George and Martha (I Can Read: Beg Reader Level 2)* 2023 24 pgs Age 6-9 Originally published in 1974, this 2023 Level 2 early reader contains two short stories of how best hippo friends George and Martha handle the ins and outs of friendship. (ER; S; L540)



____ McNamara, Margaret; Mike Gordon (illustrator). *Robin Hill School Series: Class Picture Day* (Ready to Read Level 1) 2011 32 pgs Age 6-8 It's class picture day but Emma has to wear an eye patch. She doesn't want to look different from her friends, so can Dad come up with a solution? (ER, S, L430)



____ Minarik, Else; Maurice Sendak (illustrator). *Little Bear* 1957 64 pgs Age 5-7 A collection of short stories about the adventures of a lovable bear and his mother bear who is always ready to meet his needs. (Ch, ER, L370)



____ Osborne, Mary Pope; Sal Murdocca (illustrator). *The Magic Treehouse: Dinosaurs Before Dark* 1992 80 pgs Age 6-9 Where did the tree house come from? Before siblings Jack and Annie can find out, the mysterious tree house whisks them to the prehistoric past. Now they have to figure out how to get home. Can they do it before dark...or will they become a dinosaur's dinner? The first book of the Magic Treehouse series. (Ch; S; L510)



____ Parish, Peggy; Fritz Siebel (illustrator). *Amelia Bedelia* 1963 64 pgs Age 6-8 Amelia becomes the housekeeper for a new family. When she attempts the chores on her list, the results are hilarious! Check out the rest of the series. (Ch; S; Sp; L450)



____ Park, Barbara. *Junie B. Jones The Stupid Smelly School Bus* 1992 80 pgs Age 6-9 Meet feisty Junie B. Jones. She is starting kindergarten and has much to learn about school rules and riding the bus. First in the series (Ch; S; L520)



____ Quinn, Jordan; Robert McPhillips (illustrator). *The Kingdom of Wrenly: The Lost Stone* 2014 128 pgs Age 6-9 8-year-old Lucas, the prince of Wrenly, is lonely and desperately wants a friend. He is reunited with Clara, whose mother works for the queen and together, they set off on adventures. Many illustrations and short chapters make this book perfect for independent reading. Book 1 of the series. (Ch; S; L560)



____ Rylant, Cynthia; Sucie Stevenson (illustrator). *Annie and Snowball and the Cozy Nest* (Ready to Read Level 2) 40 pgs Age 5-8 Someone is building a nest on Annie's porch. When five small eggs appear in the nest, Annie and her cousin, Henry, must patiently wait for the birds to hatch. (ER, S, L510)



____, *Henry & Mudge* 1987 40 pgs Age 5-8 Henry and his dog, Mudge, are meant to be together. When Mudge wanders away, Henry must find him. First book in the series. (ER, Ch, L460)



____ Scotton, Rob. *Splat the Cat: Splat and Seymour, Best Friends Forever* (I Can Read: Beg Reader Level 1) 2014 32 pgs Age 5-8 Splat wants to give his best friend a surprise birthday party but Seymour is worried that Splat doesn't want to be his friend. (ER, L480)



____ Seuss, Dr. *Green Eggs and Ham* 1960 36 pgs Age 5-7 What will it take for Sam-I-Am to convince his friend to try green eggs and ham? Limited vocabulary and rhythmic verse make this a perfect first reader. (ER, L210)

____, *The Cat in the Hat*. 1957 61 pgs Age 5-7 A rainy day goes a little crazy when the Cat in the Hat arrives with his friends Thing 1 and Thing 2. A classic no child should miss. (ER, Sp, L430)

____, *Fox in Socks*

____, *One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish*.



____ Sharmat, Marjorie Weinman; Mike Simont (illustrator). *Nate the Great* 1977 80 pgs Age 6-9 Nate, the world's greatest detective, has a new case. His friend Annie has lost a picture and he must use logical thinking and problem-solving skills to close the case. (Ch, S, L340).



____ Tabor, Corey. *Fox the Tiger* 2015 32 pgs Age 5-7 Fox wants to be a tiger because they are big, fast, and sneaky. In his tiger disguise, he meets friends who join him in pretending. But Squirrel helps him realize that being a fox is best. (ER, L240)



____ Virgan, Emma. *What This Story Needs is a Pig in a Wig* 2015 40 pgs Age 5-7 Join Pig and her friends on an exciting boat ride, where they discover that life is more fun with more friends. Repetition of high-frequency words make this a fun beginning reader. (ER, S, L300)



____ Warner, Gertrude Chandler; L. Kate Deal (illustrator). *The Boxcar Children* 1924 176 pgs Age 7-10 Four orphaned siblings find an abandoned boxcar to call home and experience exciting adventures together. This classic series has been read for 100 years! (Ch; S; L490)



____ Weeks, Sarah; Jane Manning (illustrator). *Mac and Cheese (I Can Read Level 1)* 2010 32 pgs Age 5-8 Mac and Cheese couldn't be more different, but they share a friendship that can't be beat! (ER, S, L430)



____ Willems, Mo. *I Will Take a Nap!* 2015 64 pgs Age 5-7 Elephant is tired and cranky. He wants to sleep, but Piggie interrupts his naptime. See more *Elephant & Piggie* books in the series. (ER, S, Sp, L190)



____ Winkler, Henry and Lin Oliver; Scott Garrett (illustrator). *How to Hug an Elephant (Here's Hank series)* 2015 128 pgs Age 6-9 Hank is excited about the class field trip to the zoo- especially seeing the elephants. Unfortunately, his partner ditches him and Hank ends up with the elephants. A charming series about a boy coping with learning and attention challenges. Note- the book is written in the font Dyslexie that is specifically designed for readers with dyslexia. (Ch; S; L590)



____ Ziefert, Harriet; Travis Foster (illustrator). *Really Bird series: I Really Want a Bigger Piece* 2022 48 pgs Age 5-8 Really Bird and his friends go on a picnic. When he demands a bigger piece of pie, he discovers that sharing is about more than cutting up pieces of a pie. (ER, GN, S, no L)

****Ch- Chapter Book, CH- Caldecott Honor, ER- Early Reader,
GN- Graphic Novel, L- Lexile, NF- Nonfiction, S- Series, Sp- Spanish**