



Children's Classics

Books that have stood the test for over 60 years

Board Books

I Want/ Read



Bridwell, Norman. *Clifford, the Big Red Dog* 1963 32 pgs Age 3-6 Every child wants a pet. Meet Clifford, the biggest, reddest dog ever. The first book in a lovable series. Also on preschool list (BB, PB, Sp)



Brown, Margaret Wise/ ill by Felicia Bond. *The Big Red Barn* 1956 Age 3mo-3 A day in the life of a farm. Simple, colorful illustrations make this book a perfect introduction to farm animals. (BB, PB, Sp)



Keats, Ezra Jack, *The Snowy Day* 1962 40 pgs Age 3-5 Young Peter puts on his red snowsuit and spends a carefree day playing in the snow. A classic winter tale. Also on preschool list (BB, PB, Sp, CM)



Kunheart, Dorothy. *Pat the Bunny* 1940 24 pgs Age 3mo-2 A classic for 85 years, toddlers will love this touch-and-feel board book. (BB)



Martin Jr., Bill; Eric Carle (illustrator). *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* 1967 32 pgs Age 2-5 The vibrant animal pictures and predictable text have made this a classic with kids for generations. Also on preschool list (BB, PB, Sp)

Preschool

I Want/ Read



Bridwell, Norman. *Clifford, the Big Red Dog* 1963 32 pgs Age 3-6 Every child wants a pet. Meet Clifford, the biggest, reddest dog ever. The first book in a lovable series. Also on board book list (BB, PB, Sp)



Brown, Margaret Wise; Clement Hurd (illustrator). *Goodnight Moon* 1947 32 pgs Age 2-5 A young rabbit gets ready for bed by saying "goodnight" to everything. Perfect bedtime read! (BB, PB, Sp)



_____. *The Runaway Bunny* 1942 48 pgs Age 2-5 A small bunny wants to run away from home but his mother promises to find him, no matter where he goes. A classic that has never been out of print! (BB, PB, Sp)



Freeman, Don. *Corduroy* 1968 32 pgs Age 3-6 This is a tender story of small teddy bear waiting on a department store shelf for a child's friendship. A classic! See other books in the series. (BB, PB, S, Sp)



Keats, Ezra Jack. *Peter's Chair* 1967 40 pgs Age 3-6 Peter has a new baby sister. But when his

parents start painting his old baby furniture pink, he grabs the one thing they haven't painted yet- his little blue chair. Gentle book for young children adjusting to a new sibling. (BB, PB)



_____. *The Snowy Day* 1962 40 pgs Age 3-5 Young Peter puts on his red snowsuit and spends a carefree day playing in the snow. A classic winter tale. Also on board book list (BB, PB, Sp, CM)



Leaf, Munro; Robert Lawson (*illustrator*). *The Story of Ferdinand* 1936 72 pgs Age 2-6 Ferdinand isn't a typical bull. He would rather sit and look at flowers than run and play with the other bulls. What will he do when picked for the bullfights in Madrid? As relevant now as it was nearly 90 years ago! (BB, PB, Sp)



Lionni, Leo *Inch by Inch* 1960 32 pgs Age 3-6 A small green inchworm is proud of his skill at measuring anything—a robin's tail, a flamingo's neck, a toucan's beak. But when a nightingale threatens to eat him if he cannot measure his song, the inchworm comes up with a clever solution. Look for the tiny inchworm on every page. (BB, PB, CH)



Martin Jr., Bill; Eric Carle (*illustrator*). *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* 1967 32 pgs Age 2-5 The vibrant animal pictures and predictable text have made this a classic with kids for generations. Also on board book list (BB, PB, Sp)



Piper, Watty. *The Little Engine that Could* 1930 48 pgs Age 3-6 The classic story of the kind little engine who has inspired generations of children with the words "I think I can. I think I can." (BB, PB, Sp)



Sendak, Maurice. *Where the Wild Things Are* 1963 48 pgs Age 3-6 When young Max dresses in his wolf suit and creates chaos in the house, his mother sends him to bed. From there, Max sets sail to an island inhabited by the Wild Things until he is reminded of home. (PB, Sp, CM)



Slobodkina, Esphyr. *Caps for Sale: A Tale of a Peddler, Some Monkeys, and Their Monkey Business* 1940 48 pgs age 3-6 A hilarious story of a peddler and a band of mischievous monkeys will have your child chanting along with the monkeys, "tsz, tsz, tsz". Also fun to act out! (BB, PB, Sp)



Waber, Bernard. *Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile* 1965 22 pgs Age 2-6 Meet the loveable green crocodile, Lyle. He lives with the Primm family in New York City, but one neighbor insists that he belongs in the zoo. (BB, PB)

Elementary Picture Books

I Want/ Read



Bemelmans, Ludwig. *Madeline* 1939 52 pgs Age 4-8 "In an old house in Paris that was covered with vines lived twelve little girls in two straight lines." So begins the cheerful and rhythmic story of Madeline. Illustrations depict Paris landmarks. (BB, PB, S, CH)



Burton, Virginia Lee. *Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel* 1939 48 pgs Age 4-7 A classic- Mike Mulligan and his steam shovel, Mary Anne, set out to prove that they can still work as well as newer construction vehicles. All the townspeople come to watch and cheer! (BB, PB)



Dalgliesh, Alice; Helen Sewell (*illustrator*). *The Thanksgiving Story* 1954 32 pgs Age 5-8 This is the story of one family's journey on the Mayflower to America and how they survived with the help of the Indians. Rich with historical details. (PB, CH)



____ Flack, Marjorie and Kurt Wiese. *The Story about Ping* 1933 32 pgs Age 4-7 The charming tale of Ping, a duck who lives on the Yangtze River. When he wanders away from his family, getting back home proves to be a challenge. (PB)



____ Johnson, Crockett. *Harold and the Purple Crayon* 1955 64 pgs Age 4-7 One evening, young Harold decides to go for a walk in the moonlight. Armed only with an oversized purple crayon, Harold draws himself a landscape full of wonder and excitement. His art will stimulate other children to use their own crayons in imaginative ways. (BB, PB, Sp)



____ Lionni, Leo. *Frederick* 1967 40 pgs Age 4-7 A family of field mice are gathering supplies for the winter, but Frederick isn't helping. He is gathering warmth, colors, and words. They will be wonderful during the long winter. (PB, CH)



____ McCloskey, Robert. *Make Way for Ducklings* 1941 72 pgs age 4-7 Mrs. Mallard knows that the Boston Public Gardens would be a perfect place for her family of eight ducklings to live. Getting there proves to be quite a challenge. Captivating pictures of the entire family of ducks parading across town. (BB, PB, Sp, CM)



____ Milne, A.A.; Ernest H. Shepard (illustrator). *Winnie-the-Pooh* 1926 162 pgs Age 4-104 The timeless adventures of Pooh and Piglet, Kanga and tiny Roo, Owl, Rabbit, and Eeyore have engaged children for almost 100 years. Milne evokes the innocence and wonder of childhood. Every family should have this in their library. (PB)



____ Ness, Evaline. *Sam, Bangs, and Moonshine* 1966 48 pgs Age 6-10 Samantha (known as Sam) is a fisherman's daughter who dreams rich and lovely dreams—moonshine, her father says. But when her tall stories bring disaster to her friend Thomas and her cat Bangs, Sam learns to distinguish between moonshine and reality. (PB; CH)



____ Newberry, Clare Turlay. *Marshmallow* 1942 32 pgs Age 4-8 When their owners bring home a bunny, Oliver, the tabby cat must adjust to this new addition. A beautiful classic picture book story about an unusual friendship between a bunny and a cat. (PB, CH)



____ Politi, Leo. *Song of the Swallows* 1948 32 pages Age 6-9 Young Juan learns the history of the Mission San Juan Capistrano where he lives in California. When he learns that the swallows return yearly, he plants his own garden to attract the birds. Delightful introduction into Latino and Mission culture, including Spanish phrases and songs. (PB; CH)



____ Rey, H.A. *Curious George* 1941 64 pgs Age 4-7 George, a curious little monkey is transported from Africa to America by the man in the yellow hat. That's where the fun begins in this first book of an extremely popular series. (BB, PB, S, Sp, Eng/Sp)



____ Silverstein, Shel. *The Giving Tree* 1964 64 pgs Age 6-96 "Once there was a tree...and she loved a little boy." So begins the story of the boy and his tree across the years, sharing a poignant picture of the gift of generosity. (PB; Sp)



____ Tresselt, Alvin; Roger Duvoisin (illustrator). *White Snow, Bright Snow* 1947 Age 4-8 When the first snowflakes fall, the grown-ups do practical things while the children laugh, dance, and play in the snow. (PB, CM)



____ Williams, Margery. *The Velveteen Rabbit* Margery Williams 1922 40 pgs Age 4-7 Written in 1922, this classic tale describes how a bunny learns that "when a child loves you for a long, long time, not just to play with, but REALLY loves you, then you become Real." A story that will capture the imagination of any child who has truly loved a special toy. (BB, PB)

Beginning Readers

I Want/ Read



____, 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)



____, 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)



____, 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)



____, 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)



____, 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)

Grades 3-6

I Want/ Read



____, Atwater, Richard and Florence; Robert Lawson (illustrator). *Mr. Popper's Penguins* 1938 160 pgs Age 8-12 This is the timeless story of a poor house painter who receives two penguins (one male, the other female), resulting in a dozen penguins. After training them, the penguins become world-famous entertainers. A great read-aloud for the entire family. (Ch; NH; L910)



____, Brink, Carol Ryrie. *Caddie Woodlawn* 1935 288 pgs Age 8-12 Caddie Woodlawn is an 11-year-old, red-haired tomboy growing up on the Wisconsin frontier in the mid-nineteenth century. Wonderful depiction of life in the 1800's. (Ch; NM; L980)



____ Burnett, Frances Hodgson; Tasha Tudor (illustrator). *The Secret Garden* 1911 384 pgs Age 8-12 Born in India, Mary Lennox has lived a privileged life. But things change when her parents die and she goes to live with her uncle. Misselthwaite Manor seems full of mysteries, including a very special garden, locked tight for 10 years. With the help of Dickon, a local boy, Mary intends to uncover its secrets. A classic for almost 115 years! (Ch; L970)



____ Carroll, Lewis; Robert Ingpen (illustrator). *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* 1863 191 pgs Age 9-12 On an ordinary summer's afternoon, Alice tumbles down a hole and an extraordinary adventure begins. In a strange world, she meets a rabbit with a pocket watch, joins a Mad Hatter's Tea Party, and plays croquet with the Queen! How will she find her way home? Look for an edition that has engaging illustrations, such as the one by Robert Ingpen. (Ch; L860)



____ Dahl, Roald. *James and the Giant Peach* 1961 176 pgs Age 8-12 When young James is sent to live with his mean aunts, he discovers a giant peach growing in the backyard. Waiting inside the peach is a collection of characters and an adventure kids are sure to love. (Ch; L790)



____ Dalglish, Alice. *The Courage of Sarah Noble* 1954 64 pgs Age 8-10 In 1707, young Sarah Noble and her father traveled through the wilderness to build a new home for their family. "Keep up your courage, Sarah Noble," her mother had said, but Sarah found that it was not always easy with wild animals and Indians nearby. True story with simple text appropriate for early elementary students. A timeless classic of early American life. (Ch; NH; L610)



____ Estes, Eleanor; Louis Slobodkin (illustrator). *The Hundred Dresses* 1944 96 pgs Age 8-12. When quiet, shy Wanda Petronski tells the girls in her class that she has 100 dresses in her closet, she is mercilessly teased. However, when Wanda wins the art contest, her classmates learn what it means to be a friend. A timeless, gentle story about bullies, bystanders, and having the courage to speak up. (Ch; NH; L870)



____ Fitzhugh, Louise. *Harriet the Spy* 1964 320 pgs Age 8-12 Harriet dreams of being a spy. She keeps a journal where she writes all of her thoughts and observations. But when her journal is found by her classmates, she learns that words can affect friendships. First in the series. (Ch; S; L670)



____ Henry, Marguerite. *Misty of Chincoteague* 1947 176 pgs Age 8-12 On an island off the coasts of Virginia and Maryland, lives a centuries-old band of wild ponies. Among them is the most mysterious of all, Phantom, a rarely-seen mare that evades capture. During a round-up, Phantom and her new colt are corralled. While Phantom yearns for freedom, the colt Misty is content to remain with the children. (Ch; NH; L750)



____ Holling, Clancy. *Paddle-to-the-Sea* 1941 64 pgs Age 8-12 A young Indian boy carves a little canoe with a figure inside and names him Paddle-to-the-Sea. Paddle's journey through the Great Lakes to the Atlantic Ocean provides an excellent geographic and historical picture of the region. (Ch; CH; L840)



____ White, E.B.; Garth Williams (illustrator). *Charlotte's Web* 1952 192 pgs Age 8-12 Born the runt of the litter, Wilbur the pig is saved by Fern Zuckerman. Wilbur enjoys life on the Zuckerman's farm. His only worry is that one day he will be slaughtered as other pigs are. His friend Charlotte, the spider, promises to help him. A beautiful story of friendship and loyalty! (Ch; NH; L680)



____, *Stuart Little* 1945 144 pgs Age 8-12 Stuart is a mouse who was born into a family of humans. He enjoys his life and becomes attached to Margelo, a beautiful bird who also lives with the Little family. When Margelo disappears, Stuart sets out to find her. (Ch; L920)

Grades 5-8

I Want/ Read



Bishop, Claire Huchet; William Pene du Bois (illustrator). *Twenty and Ten* 1952 80 pgs Age 10-13 During the German occupation of France, twenty French children were brought to a refuge in the mountains. When a man comes asking them to take in and hide ten Jewish children, they agree. A poignant look at history from a child's perspective. (Ch; L630)



George, Jean Craig. *My Side of the Mountain* 1959 192 pgs Age 10-14 Young Sam Gribbley leaves home, determined to live alone in the Catskills. Along the way, he befriends a falcon and a weasel while developing courage and survival skills. For animal and nature lovers! (Ch, NH, L810)



Juster, Norton. *The Phantom Tollbooth* 1961 242 pg Age 10-13 Milo is bored with everything. When a tollbooth mysteriously appears in his room, he drives through only because he's got nothing better to do. But on the other side, he learns that life can be exciting. The word-play in this book is unique and is perfect for reading-aloud. (Ch, L1000)



L'Engle, Madeline. *A Wrinkle in Time* 1962 216 pgs Age 10-14 Late one night, three otherworldly creatures appear and sweep Meg Murry, her brother Charles Wallace, and their friend Calvin O'Keefe away on a mission to save Mr. Murry, who has gone missing while doing top-secret work for the government. The classic fantasy! (Ch, NM, L720)



Lewis, C.S. *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (Chronicles of Narnia series Bk 2)* 1950 224 pgs Age 10-14 Four siblings step through a mysterious wardrobe and into the magical Narnia, a once-peaceful land now frozen in snow and stone by the evil White Witch. Only Aslan, the Great Lion, can end the White Witch's tyranny and restore peace. (Ch, S, Sp, L940)



O'Dell, Scott. *Island of the Blue Dolphins* 1960 177 pgs Age 10-14 Off the coast of California is a harsh rock known as the Island of San Nicholas. In the 1800's, a young Indian girl, Karana, was stranded there for 18 years. This is her story of courage and survival. (Ch, NM, L1000)



Selden, George; Garth Williams (illustrator). *The Cricket in Times Square* 1960 160 pgs Age 10-12 When Chester the cricket arrives in New York's Times Square, he is adopted by Mario, whose family runs a newsstands. He makes friends with a mouse and a cat, and the three use Chester's musical skills to bring success to the newsstand. (Ch; NH; L780)



Speare, Elizabeth George. *The Witch of Blackbird Pond* 1958 249 pgs Age 10-14 Set in Puritan colonial America, 16-year-old Kit befriends a lonely woman who has been accused by the townspeople of being a witch. Will Kit be found guilty by association? Don't let the title keep you from reading this quality book. (Ch, NM, L850)



Sperry, Armstrong. *Call It Courage* 1940 138 pgs Age 10-12 Mafatu is terrified of the sea that took his mother's life when he was a baby. He is a disappointment to his father and is ridiculed by his friends. So Mafatu sets out to prove to himself and others that he can conquer his fear. This legend is still told by the people of Hikuieru. (Ch; NM; L830)