

Reading Recommendations for Primary Grades

(some for reading aloud to children and others for children to read themselves)

Ahlberg, Janet and Allan

The Jolly Postman

Aiken, Joan

The Moon's Revenge

Andersen, Hans Christian

The Emperor's New Clothes

The Little Match Girl

The Little Mermaid

The Princess and the Pea

The Red Shoes

The Snow Queen

The Steadfast Tin Soldier

The Swineherd

The Ugly Duckling

The Wicked Prince

Thumbelina

all

Ardizzone, Edward

Tim All Alone

Tim and Charlotte

Tim and Ginger

Tim and the Brave Sea Captain

Tim in Danger

Tim to the Rescue

Tim's Friend Towser

Bennett, William

Our Country's Founders

The Book of Virtues

The Children's Book of America

The Children's Book of Heroes

The Children's Book of Virtues

The Moral Compass

Beskow, Elsa

Children of the Forest

Pele's New Suit

Burgess, Gelett

Goops & How To Be Them

Burton, Virginia Lee

Katy and the Big Snow

Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel

The Little House

Carrick, Donald

Harald and the Giant Knight

Harald and the Great Stag

Carroll, Lewis
The Hunting of the Snark
The Walrus & the Carpenter

D'Aulaire, Ingri & Edgar
D'Aulaires' Book of Greek Myths
D'Aulaires' Book of Norse Myths

dePaola, Tomie
Adelita
Charlie Needs a Cloak
Fin M'Coul
Jamie O'Rourke and the Big Potato
Strega Nona
The Art Lesson
The Clown of God
The Knight and the Dragon
The Legend of Old Befana
The Legend of the Indian Paintbrush
The Legend of the Poinsettia
many

Fisher, Leonard Everett
Moses
Rip Van Winkle Returns
The Gods and Goddesses of Ancient Egypt
The Olympians
The Two Mountains: An Aztec Legend
Theseus and the Minotaur
William Tell
other retellings

Gannett, Ruth Stiles
My Father's Dragon

Gerrard, Roy
Croco'nile
Mik's Mammoth
Rosie and the Rustlers
Sir Cedric
The Roman Twins
Wagons West!
others

Grahame, Kenneth
The Reluctant Dragon

Hall, Donald
The Oxford Book of Children's Verse in America
The Oxford Illustrated Book of American Children's Poems

Harris, Joel Chandler
The Complete Tales of Uncle Remus

Harrison, Michael
 The New Oxford Treasury of Children's Poems
 The Oxford Book of Story Poems

Hawthorne, Nathaniel
 A Wonder Book for Girls and Boys

Heller, Ruth
 books about words

Herriot, James
 Blossom Comes Home
 Only One Woof
 The Market Square Dog

Hoban, Russell
 The Little Brute Family
 The Mouse and His Child

Hodges, Margaret
 Don Quixote and Sancho Panza
 Gulliver in Lilliput
 Saint George and the Dragon
 The Hero of Bremen
 The Kitchen Knight
 The True Tale of Johnny Appleseed
 The Wind in the Willows
 retellings

Hort, Lenny
 The Boy Who Held Back the Sea (retold)

Hughes, Shirley
 Dogger

Hyman, Trina Schart
 Little Red Riding Hood
 The Sleeping Beauty
 many (retellings)

Irving, Washington
 Rip Van Winkle

Jarrell, Randall
 The Animal Family
 The Fisherman and His Wife

Joyce, William
 Dinosaur Bob and his Adventures with the Family
 Santa Calls
 The Leaf Men and the Brave Good Bugs

Kimmel, Eric
 A Cloak for the Moon
 Anansi and the Magic Stick
 Anansi and the Moss-covered Rock
 Anansi and the Talking Melon

Easy Work
Gershon's Monster
Hanukkah Bear
Iron John-Adapted from Brothers Grimm
Joha Makes a Wish
Medio Pollito/Half Chick-Spanish Tale
The Flying Canoe
The Gingerbread Man
The McElderry Book of Greek Myths
The Spider's Gift
The Story of Esther
retellings

Kipling, Rudyard
Just So Stories
Rikki-Tikki-Tavi

Lang, Andrew
The Blue Fairy Book
(and all of several other colors)
(Andrew Lang's collections are considered the richest, widest in range, and best English versions of standard stories. His first-rate literary abilities make his collections unmatched in the English language.)

Lawson, Robert
They Were Strong and Good

Lester, Julius
Black Folktales
John Henry
The Knee-High Man & Other Tales
Uncle Remus: The Complete Tales
folk tale retellings

Lear, Edward
Nonsense Poems of Edward Lear

Lewis, C. S.
The Chronicles of Narnia

Longfellow, Henry Wadsworth
Paul Revere's Ride

Lurie, Alison
The Oxford Book of Modern Fairy Tales

MacDonald, George
The Christmas Stories of George MacDonald
The Golden Key
The Light Princess
The Lost Princess

Mark, Jan
The Oxford Book of Children's Stories

McCaughrean, Geraldine
1001 Arabian Nights
El Cid

God's People
Silver Myths and Legends
Stories from Shakespeare
The Bronze Cauldron
The Golden Hoard
McCloskey, Robert
Blueberries for Sal
Lentil
Make Way for Ducklings
One Morning in Maine
Time of Wonder
Burt Dow Deep-Water Man
others
Milne, A. A.
Now We Are Six
The House at Pooh Corner
When We Were Very Young
Neil, Philip
The New Oxford Book of Children's Verse
Nesbit, Edith
The Deliverers of Their Country
Potter, Beatrix
The Roly-Poly Pudding
The Tale of Benjamin Bunny
The Tale of Jemima Puddle-Duck
The Tale of Johnny Town Mouse
The Tale of Mr. Jeremy Fisher
The Tale of Peter Rabbit
The Tale of Samuel Whiskers
The Tale of Squirrel Nutkin
The Tale of the Pie and the Patty-Pan
The Tale of Timmy Tiptoes
all
Ransome, Arthur
The Fool of the World and the Flying Ship
Russell, William F.
Classic Myths to Read Aloud
San Souci, Robert D.
A Weave of Words
Fa Mulan
N.C. Wyeth's Pilgrims
Robin Hood and the Arrow
Sister Tricksters
Sukey and the Mermaid
The Legend of Sleepy Hollow
The Secret of the Stones

The Talking Eggs
Young Arthur
Young Guinevere
Young Lancelot
Young Merlin
other retellings

Seuss, Dr.
Bartholomew and the Oobleck
Green Eggs and Ham
Horton Hears a Who!
If I ran the Circus
Marvin K. Mooney Will You Please Go Now
McElligot's Pool
One Fish, Two Fish....
The 500 Hats of Bartholomew Cubbins
The Foot Book
The Sneetches
Yertle the Turtle
any

Silverstein, Shel
verse

Steig, William
Brave Irene
The Magic Pebble
Yellow and Pink

Stockton, Frank
The Griffin and the Minor Canon (Maurice Sendak illust.)

Wisniewski, David
Elfwyn's Saga
The Warrior and the Wiseman

Wilde, Oscar
The Selfish Giant

Williams, Margery
The Velveteen Rabbit

Wood, Audrey
Elbert's Bad Word
Heckedy Peg
others

Zelinsky, Paul O.
Alice's Adventures in Wonderland
Hansel and Gretel
Rapunzel
Rumpelstiltskin
retellings

Zemach, Margot
It Could Always Be Worse
The Three Wishes