

CHILDREN'S READING RESOURCES

A love of reading is one of the most important gifts parents can give to children. **A child is never too young to be introduced to books.** Babies like hearing the sounds of language. Singing songs and reading books with rhyming or repetitive texts provides a wonderful introduction to the world of language. Sharing picture books with a toddler allows the child to hear words and learn to follow a story through pictures. Learning to listen to a story builds beginning comprehension skills. The Children's Department in the Orlando Public Library offers a wide variety of books for children from infants to twelve years of age.

The following sources will help you select books for children from birth through preschool.

- JR028.162 Tho *Play, Learn, and Grow: An Annotated Guide to the Best Books and Materials for Very Young Children* by James L. Thomas, 1992.
- J028.5343 Mah *Ready, Set, Read: Best Books to Prepare Preschoolers* by Ellen Mahoney and Leah Wilcox, 1985.

Sharing of books and stories should help make learning to read a natural progression for a child. There are many **beginning reading books** available. Some of the following reference books will help with a selection. In the meantime, **keep reading to your child.**

- JR011.62 Wil *Books for Children to Read Alone: A Guide for Parents and Librarians* by George Wilson and Joyce Moss, 1988. Arranged by readability level beginning with wordless books to grade three.
- JR011.62 Bar *Beyond Picture Books: A Guide to First Readers* by Barbara Barstow and Judith Riggle, 2nd Edition, 1995. Includes a list of two hundred outstanding first readers for first through third grade readers, and indexes by subject and readability.

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As children learn to read, their tastes becomes more defined, their needs greater. The following sources list a variety of fiction and non-fiction books grouped by subject or related theme.

- JR011.62 Adv *Adventuring with Books: a Booklist for Pre-K - Grade 6*, 10th Edition, 1993.
- JR028.162 Bes *Best Books for Children: Preschool through Grade 6*, 5th Edition, 1994.
- JR011.62 Bes *Best of the Best for Children: Books, Magazines, Videos, Audio, Software, Toys, Travel*, 1992.
- JR011.62 Exc *Exciting, Funny, Scary, Short, Different, and Sad Books Kids Like About Animals, Science, Sports, Families, Songs, and Other Things*, 1984.
- JR011.62 Mor *More Exciting, Funny, Scary, Short, Different, and Sad Books Kids Like About Animals, Science, Sports, Families, Songs, and Other Things*, 1992.
- JR813.08016 Col *What Do Children Read Next?: a Reader's Guide to Fiction for Children* by Candy Colborn, 1994.

During this time as children learn to read on their own, **it is important that parents read to them.** This sharing experience builds understanding, comprehension, vocabulary, and increased awareness of peoples and ideas. Here are some helpful resources for choosing books to read aloud.

- JR011.6254 Fre *Books Kids Will Sit Still For: The Complete Read-Aloud Guide*, by Judy Freeman, 2nd Edition, 1990.
- JR028.162 Fre *More Books Kids Will Sit Still For: a Read-Aloud Guide*, by Judy Freeman, 1995.
- 028.162 Kim *For Reading Out Loud!: a Guide to Sharing Books with Children*, by Margaret Kimmel, Revised & Expanded Edition, 1988.
- JR372.6 Tre *The Read-Aloud Handbook*, by Jim Trelease, 4th edition, 1995.

The Children's Department has diverse selections of books. Picture books, easy readers, chapter books, and factual books will expand your child's reading horizons. There are also reference books and children's magazines that may be used in the library.

Adult departments have materials on parenting. The Audio Visual Department offers a wide selection of children's and family videos, audio cassettes, compact disks and read-alongs for children.

Additional information may be found using the Orange County Library System's public access computers. The address of the Library's Home Page is <http://www.ocls.info>

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