



Dear PK and TK Parents,

Welcome to St. John's Episcopal School pre-kindergarten and transitional kindergarten program. We are very excited for the upcoming year and cannot wait to meet you and your child! As summer begins and the children are out of school, it is important to remember that they are still developing. To aid in that development, the most beneficial thing you can do this summer is to read to and with your child.

Over the summer, we ask that you continue to create a reading routine that highlights the joy of sharing books together in your family. Not sure how to get started? Common Sense Media offers 8 tips on how to get your child hooked on books: [How to Raise a Reader](#).

We look forward to hearing about the many creative and different ways in which your family celebrated a particular book in the weeks of the summer.

Please don't forget that the local public library always has very popular books in their collection for you to check-out. As well as being a great resource, the public library can be a valuable routine that promotes reading for your entire family.

Have fun reading!


Sincerely,

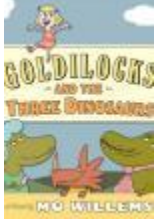






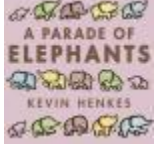

Mrs. Susan Benton, Mrs. Meghan Fallin, and Mrs. Lauren Sassenus






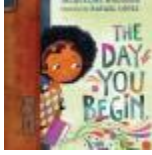



## Best Books for Preschoolers from Common Sense Media


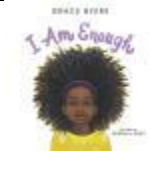






<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/lists/best-books-for-preschoolers>



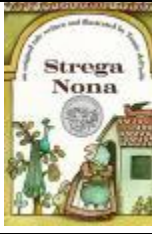
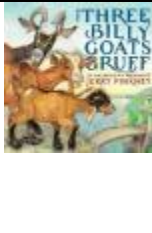



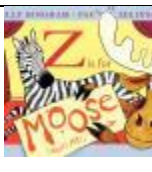
At bedtime or circle time, kids this age are looking for fun, exciting reads that keep them engaged. From alphabet books to animal tales, fractured fairy tales to classic folk tales or funny stories that give you the giggles, the picture books on this list are sure to grab preschool-age readers. And there are lots of beautiful illustrations to captivate prereaders. Find other entertaining reads on our [Picture Books](#) and [Funny Books for Kids](#) lists.

	<p><b><u>Big Bear Little Chair</u></b></p> <p>By: <a href="#">Lizi Boyd</a> (2015)</p> <p>Kids easily grasp opposites through bold, stylized art.</p>
	<p><b><u>The Book with No Pictures</u></b></p> <p>By: <a href="#">B.J. Novak</a> (2014)</p> <p>No pictures but oodles of silly words and giggles.</p>
	<p><b><u>Brown</u></b></p> <p>By: <a href="#">Nancy Johnson James</a> (2020)</p> <p>Beautiful depiction of a family's colorful shades of love.</p>
	<p><b><u>Cannonball</u></b></p> <p>By: <a href="#">Sacha Cotter</a> (2020)</p> <p>Warm story of individuality and achieving a perfect splash.</p>
	<p><b><u>The Dark</u></b></p> <p>By: <a href="#">Lemony Snicket</a> (2013)</p> <p>Clever story of a boy who conquers his fear of the dark.</p>
	<p><b><u>The Day the Crayons Quit</u></b></p> <p>By: <a href="#">Drew Daywalt</a> (2013)</p> <p>Crayons complain to their owner in funny ode to color.</p>
	<p><b><u>Drum Dream Girl: How One Girl's Courage Changed Music</u></b></p> <p>By: <a href="#">Margarita Engle</a> (2015)</p> <p>Gorgeous, magical story of a girl with music in her heart.</p>

	<p><b><u>Goldilocks and the Three Dinosaurs: As Retold by Mo Willems</u></b></p> <p>By: <u>Mo Willems</u> (2012)</p> <p>Silly dino twist on Goldilocks tale is roaring good fun.</p>
	<p><b><u>The Grasshopper and the Ants</u></b></p> <p>By: <u>Jerry Pinkney</u> (2015)</p> <p>Twist on classic fable boosts value of play as well as work.</p>
	<p><b><u>Grumpy Monkey</u></b></p> <p>By: <u>Suzanne Lang</u> (2018)</p> <p>Warm, funny lesson about a monkey's bad mood.</p>
	<p><b><u>Hello Hello</u></b></p> <p>By: <u>Brendan Wenzel</u> (2018)</p> <p>Intro to wildlife at risk celebrates animals of all stripes.</p>
	<p><b><u>The King of Kindergarten</u></b></p> <p>By: <u>Derrick Barnes</u> (2019)</p> <p>Fun tale pictures a kid's royally good first day of school.</p>
	<p><b><u>Last Stop on Market Street</u></b></p> <p>By: <u>Matt de la Peña</u> (2015)</p> <p>Tender story of Nana showing grandson city beauty via bus.</p>
	<p><b><u>Otis</u></b></p> <p>By: <u>Loren Long</u> (2009)</p> <p>Sweet, nostalgic friendship tale with a truly classic look.</p>
	<p><b><u>A Parade of Elephants</u></b></p> <p>By: <u>Kevin Henkes</u> (2018)</p> <p>Sweet, cozy counting book teaches basic preschool concepts.</p>
	<p><b><u>This Is Not My Hat</u></b></p> <p>By: <u>Jon Klassen</u> (2012)</p> <p>Little fish tries to outsmart big one in funny thief tale.</p>

	<p><b><u>Tiny T. Rex and the Impossible Hug</u></b></p> <p>By: <a href="#">Jonathan Stutzman</a> (2019)</p> <p>Sweet tale of small-armed dino striving to cheer up friend.</p>
	<p><b><u>The Airport Book</u></b></p> <p>By: <a href="#">Lisa Brown</a> (2016)</p> <p>Fun account of family's travel day tells all about airports.</p>
	<p><b><u>Black Is a Rainbow Color</u></b></p> <p>By: <a href="#">Angela Joy</a> (2020)</p> <p>Smart verse and bright art assert the sanctity of Blackness.</p>
	<p><b><u>Click, Clack, Moo: Cows That Type</u></b></p> <p>By: <a href="#">Doreen Cronin</a> (2000)</p> <p>Farm animals go on strike in funny, award-winning book.</p>
	<p><b><u>Carmela Full of Wishes</u></b></p> <p>By: <a href="#">Matt de la Peña</a> (2018)</p> <p>Sweet, poignant story of young girl from immigrant family.</p>
	<p><b><u>The Day You Begin</u></b></p> <p>By: <a href="#">Jacqueline Woodson</a> (2018)</p> <p>Encouraging advice for kids who feel excluded or less than.</p>
	<p><b><u>Dragons Love Tacos</u></b></p> <p>By: <a href="#">Adam Rubin</a> (2012)</p> <p>Taco party has fiery consequences in funny dragon tale.</p>
	<p><b><u>Dreamers</u></b></p> <p>By: <a href="#">Yuyi Morales</a> (2018)</p> <p>Gorgeous, joyous book about immigrant mom and child.</p>
	<p><b><u>Don't Touch My Hair!</u></b></p> <p>By: <a href="#">Sharee Miller</a> (2019)</p> <p>Girl speaks up, sets boundaries in funny picture book.</p>

	<p><b><u>I Am Otter</u></b></p> <p>By: <u>Sam Garton</u> (2014)</p> <p>Adorable otter makes a mess in fun friendship story.</p>
	<p><b><u>I Am Enough</u></b></p> <p>By: <u>Grace Byers</u> (2019)</p> <p>Girl celebrates herself in poetic picture book.</p>
	<p><b><u>I Promise</u></b></p> <p>By: <u>LeBron James</u> (2020)</p> <p>Inspiring pledges encourage kids to try hard, aim high.</p>
	<p><b><u>If You Give a Mouse a Cookie</u></b></p> <p>By: <u>Laura Joffe Numeroff</u> (1985)</p> <p>Mouse gets a cookie and lots of fun in sweet, silly story.</p>
	<p><b><u>Interrupting Chicken and the Elephant of Surprise: Interrupting Chicken, Book 2</u></b></p> <p>By: <u>David Ezra Stein</u> (2018)</p> <p>Playfulness makes silly sequel as hilarious as original.</p>
	<p><b><u>Little Elliot, Big City</u></b></p> <p>By: <u>Mike Curato</u> (2014)</p> <p>Isolated elephant finds pal in sweet tale with dazzling art.</p>
	<p><b><u>Llama Llama Loves to Read</u></b></p> <p>By: <u>Anna Dewdney</u>, <u>Reed Duncan</u> (2018)</p> <p>Reading looks exciting and fun in lively classroom story.</p>
	<p><b><u>Locomotive</u></b></p> <p>By: <u>Brian Floca</u> (2013)</p> <p>Gorgeous story of train journey is exciting, fact-packed.</p>

	<p><b><u>Octopus Stew</u></b></p> <p>By: <a href="#">Eric Velásquez</a> (2019)</p> <p>Octopus adventure celebrates imagination, Latino culture.</p>
	<p><b><u>Saturday</u></b></p> <p>By: <a href="#">Oge Mora</a> (2019)</p> <p>Superb art, lovely story about coping with disappointment.</p>
	<p><b><u>Strega Nona</u></b></p> <p>By: <a href="#">Tomie dePaola</a> (1979)</p> <p>Classic tale of magic pasta pot has mischief, kindness.</p>
	<p><b><u>The Three Billy Goats Gruff</u></b></p> <p>By: <a href="#">Jerry Pinkney</a> (2017)</p> <p>Classic tale given new, thoughtful ending and exquisite art.</p>
	<p><b><u>Toe Shoe Mouse</u></b></p> <p>By: <a href="#">Jan Carr</a> (2014)</p> <p>Mouse makes a ballerina his friend in charming tale.</p>
	<p><b><u>We Don't Eat Our Classmates: Penelope, Book 1</u></b></p> <p>By: <a href="#">Ryan T. Higgins</a> (2018)</p> <p>Kid T-Rex learns the rules in fresh, funny school story.</p>
	<p><b><u>You Matter</u></b></p> <p>By: <a href="#">Christian Robinson</a> (2020)</p> <p>Beautiful message of self-worth has gorgeous illustrations.</p>
	<p><b><u>Z Is for Moose</u></b></p> <p>By: <a href="#">Kelly Bingham</a> (2012)</p> <p>Crazy Moose mayhem in freshest alphabet book in years.</p>