



The transition to kindergarten can be a little scary for some children. Here are some books to help your child (and you!) get ready for the first day of school. Ideas and activities:

- Read aloud to your child every day.
- Share how you are holding the book. Where is the top of the book? Where is the back of the book? Can you show me the inside of the book? Let your child practice turning the pages.
- Talk about the book cover. Show the title of the book. Share the name of the author and illustrator.
- Read the book title aloud. Ask, what do you think this book is about? What do you think will happen in this story? After you have finished the book, compare what happened with what they predicted.
- Let your child "read" to you by taking a picture-walk through the book. Let them tell you the story of the book using the pictures for clues.
- After you finish reading the book, ask your child to draw a picture of a favorite part. Ask your child to explain their picture and write down what your child says.

Here are some books to read before the first day of school:

- [The Pigeon Has to Go to School!](#) By Mo Williams
Story Summary: Why does the Pigeon have to go to school? He already knows everything! And what if he doesn't like it? What if the teacher doesn't like him? What if he learns TOO MUCH!?!?
- [Kindergarten Is Cool](#) By Linda Elovitz Marshall
Story Summary: Celebrate all the familiar moments shared by every kid entering kindergarten in this charming story. Whether it's early-morning jitters or becoming familiar with new classroom routines, this story will have expectant kindergarteners saying, "Kindergarten is cool!"
- [The Kissing Hand](#) by Audrey Penn
Story Summary: School is starting in the forest, but Chester Raccoon does not want to go. To help ease Chester's fears, Mrs. Raccoon shares a family secret called the Kissing Hand to give him the reassurance of her love any time his world feels a little scary. It is widely used by kindergarten teachers on the first day of school.



- First Day Jitters by Julie Danneberg
Story Summary: Everyone knows that sinking feeling in the pit of the stomach just before diving into a new situation. Sarah Jane Hartwell is scared and doesn't want to start over at a new school. She doesn't know anybody, and nobody knows her. It will be awful. She just knows it. With much prodding from Mr. Hartwell, Sarah Jane reluctantly pulls herself together and goes to school. She is quickly befriended by Mrs. Burton, who helps smooth her jittery transition.

ABC Books

- ABC T-Rex by Bernard Most
- Alphabeep by Debora Pearson
- Alphabet City by Stephen T. Johnson
- AlphaOops! The Day Z Went First by Alethea Kontis
- Animalia by Graeme Base
- Chicka, Chicka Boom, Boom by Bill Martin
- Dr. Seuss' ABC by Dr. Seuss
- Eating the Alphabet by Lois Ehlert
- Into the A, B, Sea by Deborah Lee Rose
- I Spy an Alphabet in Art by Lucy Micklethwait
- I Spy Letters by Jean Morzollo
- Museum ABC by the Metropolitan Museum of Art
- The Hidden Alphabet by Laura Vaccaro Seeger
- Q is for Duck by Mary Elting & Michael Folsom
- Work: An Occupational ABC by Kellen Hatanaka

Books That Rhyme

- Brown Bear, Brown Bear by Bill Martin
- Edward the Emu by Sheena Knowles
- Goodnight Moon by Margaret Wise Brown
- Green Eggs and Ham by Dr Seuss
- How Do Dinosaurs series by Jane Yolen and Mark Teague
- Is Your Mama a Llama? by Deborah Guarino
- Llama Llama Red Pajama by Anna Dewdney
- Room on the Broom by Julia Donaldson
- Sheep in a Jeep by Nancy Shaw
- Snowmen at Night by Caralyn Buehner
- The Cat in the Hat by Dr. Seuss
- The Gruffalo by Julia Donaldson and Ariel Scheffler
- The Sneetches by Dr. Seuss
- There's a Wocket in My Pocket by Dr. Seuss
- There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly by Pam Adams

Counting Books

- Doggies by Sandra Boyton
- How Do Dinosaurs Count to Ten? by Jane Yolen & Mark Teague
- Let's Count to 100! by Masayuki Sebe
- Museum 123 by The Metropolitan Museum of Art
- Olivia Counts by Ian Falconer
- On The Launch Pad by Michael Dahl
- One by Kathryn Otoshi
- One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish by Dr. Seuss
- Ten Black Dots by Donald Crews
- Ten Little Ladybugs by Melanie Gerth
- The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle

Other Books to Read

- Alexander and The Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day by Judith Viorst
- Click, Clack, Moo Cows That Type by Doreen Cronin
- Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs by Judi Barrett
- Curious George by H.A. Rey
- Giraffes Can't Dance by Giles Andreae
- Goodnight Gorilla by Peggy Rathmann
- How Do Dinosaurs Say Goodnight? by Jane Yolen
- Stuck by Oliver Jeffers
- If You Give a Mouse a Cookie by Laura Numeroff
- The Days The Crayons Quit by Drew Daywalt and Oliver Jeffers
- The Dot by Peter H Reynolds
- The Snowy Day by Ezra Jack Keats
- The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs! by Jon Scieszka
- Wemberly Worried by Kevin Henkes
- Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak