



# Good Read Alouds For School Age Children

All books are shelved in the Children's Book Collection Easy or Fiction sections by the author's last name (unless otherwise noted). For help finding any of these books, please visit the Reference Desk on the first floor.

## Read Alouds for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

Arnold, Tedd. **Hi! Fly Guy.** (IMC CBC E Ar658h 2005)

When Buzz captures a fly to enter in The Amazing Pet Show, his parents and the judges tell him that a fly cannot be a pet, but Fly Guy proves them wrong.

Coerr, Eleanor. **The Josefina Story Quilt.** (IMC CBC E C6515j 1986)

While traveling west with her family in 1850, a young girl makes a patchwork quilt chronicling the experiences of the journey and reserves a special patch for her pet hen Josefina.

DiCamillo, Kate. **Mercy Watson to the Rescue.** (IMC CBC Fic D5473m 2005)

After Mercy the pig snuggles to sleep with the Watsons, all three awaken with the bed teetering on the edge of a big hole in the floor.

Ehlert, Lois. **Leaf Man.** (IMC CBC E Eh5671e 2005)

A man made of leaves blows away, traveling wherever the wind may take him.

Grey, Mini. **Traction Man is Here.** (IMC CBC E G8698t 2005)

Traction Man, a boy's courageous action figure, has a variety of adventures with Scrubbing Brush and other objects in the house.

Hoban, Lillian. **Arthur's Funny Money.** (IMC CBC E H6516af 1981)

When Violet has a numbers problem and Arthur is penniless, they go into business and solve both problems.

Juster, Norton. **The Hello, Goodbye Window.** (IMC CBC Fic J982h 2005)

A little girl loves going to her Nanna and Poppy's house because their kitchen window is a magical portal to a world of discovery and imagination, in a delightful story that celebrates childhood and the love of family.

Lobel, Arnold. **Frog and Toad are Friends.** (IMC CBC E L7837fa)

Five tales recounting the adventures of two best friends, Frog and Toad

Marshall, James. **Fox On Wheels.** (IMC CBC E M3558f 1983)

Fox babysits for his sister Louise, learns to climb a tree for some grapes, and wins a shopping cart race.

Mora, Pat. **Dona Flor: A Tall Tale about a Giant Woman with a Great Big Heart.** (IMC CBC E M7908d 2005)

Dona Flor, a giant lady with a big heart, sets off to protect her neighbors from what they think is a dangerous animal, but soon discovers the tiny secret behind the huge noise.



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Muth, Jon J. **Zen Shorts.** (IMC CBC E M9833z 2005)

When Stillwater the bear moves into the neighborhood, the stories he tells to three siblings teach them to look at the world in new ways.

Priceman, Marjorie. **Hot Air: The (Mostly) True Story of the First Hot-Air Balloon Ride.** (IMC CBC 629.133 P9317h 2005)

The story of the historic first hot-air balloon flight in 1783, told from the point of view of the duck, sheep, and rooster who were the first passengers.

Richardson, Justin. **And Tango Makes Three.** (IMC CBC E R3946a 2005)

At New York City's Central Park Zoo, two male penguins fall in love and start a family by taking turns sitting on an abandoned egg until it hatches.

Rylant, Cynthia. **Henry and Mudge and the Great Grandpas.**

(IMC CBC E R9832hg 2005)

When Henry and his dog Mudge go with Henry's parents to visit Great-Grandpa Bill in the home with lots of other grandpas, they lead them all on a wonderful adventure. But what starts out as a quiet afternoon on the porch turns into a fun-filled journey to a secret pond. Pretty soon all the grandpas are swimming in their Skivvies and splashing up a storm, and Henry and even Mudge are swimming too. Then when the grandpas get tired out from their long walk home, they have the perfect pillow to lean on-Mudge!

Sayre, April Pulley. **Stars Beneath Your Bed: The Surprising Story of Dust.**

(IMC CBC 551.51 Sa995s 2005)

Explains the origins of dust, what dust is, and how dust shows up in the world.

Shannon, George. **White Is for Blueberry.** (IMC CBC E Sh193wh 2005)

Encourages the reader to look at objects in nature from another perspective, observing their colors in a new way.

Silverman, Erica. **Cowgirl Kate and Cocoa.** (IMC CBC E Si397c 2005)

Cowgirl Kate and her cow horse Cocoa, who is always hungry, count cows, share a story, and help each other fall asleep.

Van Leeuwen, Jean. **Amanda Pig and the Really Hot Day.** (IMC CBC E V324a 2005)

Amanda Pig and her family and friends try to find different ways to beat the heat.

Willems, Mo. **Your Pal Mo Willems Presents Leonardo the Terrible Monster.**

(IMC CBC E W6664a)

Leonardo is a terrible monster -- he can't seem to frighten anyone. When he discovers the perfect nervous little boy, will he scare the lunch out of him? Or will he think of something better?



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## Read Alouds for 3rd and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

Anderson, M.T. **Whales on Stilts.** (IMC CBC Fic An242w 2005)

Racing against the clock, shy middle-school student Lily and her best friends, Katie and Jasper, must foil the plot of her father's conniving boss to conquer the world using an army of whales.

Banks, Kate. **Howie Bowles, Secret Agent.** (IMC CBC Fic B2263h 1999)

Third-grader Howie Bowles copes with having to change schools twice in one year by pretending to be a secret agent named Agent Bean Burger.

Barrows, Annie. **Ivy+Bean.** (IMC CBC Fic B2793i 2006)

When seven-year-old Bean plays a mean trick on her sister, she finds unexpected support for her antics from Ivy, the new neighbor, who is less boring than Bean first suspected.

Birdsall, Jeanne. **The Penderwicks: A Summer Tale of Four Sisters, Two Rabbits, and a Very Interesting Boy.** (IMC CBC Fic B5327p 2005)

While vacationing with their widowed father in the Berkshire Mountains, four lovable sisters, ages four through twelve, share adventures with a local boy, much to the dismay of his snobbish mother.

Blume, Judy. **Tales of A Fourth Grade Nothing.** (IMC CBC Fic B6258t 2002)

Peter finds his demanding two-year-old brother an ever increasing problem.

Catling, Patrick. **The Chocolate Touch.** (IMC CBC Fic C2895c 1979)

A boy acquires a magical gift that turns everything his lips touch into chocolate.

Cleary, Beverly. **Ramona the Brave.** (IMC CBC Fic C5805rb)

Six-year-old Ramona tries to cope with an unsympathetic first- grade teacher

Florian, Douglas. **Insectlopedia.** (IMC CBC 811.54 F6637i 1998)

Presents twenty-one short poems about such insects as the inchworm, termite, cricket, and ladybug.

Holm, Jennifer. **Babymouse.** (IMC CBC 741.5 H6864b 2006)

Will Babymouse go to the Valentine's Day dance? Will she find true love? Or will Valentine's day be a Valentine's dud?

Howe, James. **Bunnicula: A Rabbit-Tale of Mystery.** (IMC CBC Fic H8383b)

Though scoffed at by Harold the dog, Chester the cat tries to warn his human family that their founding baby bunny must be a vampire.



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Jenkins, Emily. **Toys go Out.** (IMC CBC Fic J4158t 2006)

Six stories relate the adventures of three best friends, who happen to be toys.

Look, Lenore. **Ruby Lu, Brave and True.** (IMC CBC Fic L8728r 2004)

"Almost-eight-year-old" Ruby Lu spends time with her baby brother, goes to Chinese school, performs magic tricks and learns to drive, and has adventures with both old and new friends.

Lowry, Lois. **Gooney Bird Greene.** (IMC CBC Fic L9557go 2002)

A most unusual new student who loves to be the center of attention entertains her teacher and fellow second graders by telling absolutely true stories about herself, including how she got her name.

Konigsburg, E.L.. **From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler.**

(IMC CBC Fic K8367f)

A girl and her younger brother run away from home and take up residence at the Metropolitan Museum where they come across a beautiful and mysterious statue. Determined to discover its maker, they first have to find the statue's former owner, the reclusive and mischievous Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler, and then sort through her incredibly mixed-up files.

McDonald, Megan. **Judy Moody.** (IMC CBC Fic M1459j 2006)

Third grader Judy Moody is in a first day of school bad mood until she gets an assignment to create a collage all about herself and begins creating her masterpiece, the Me collage.

Patron, Susan. **The Higher Power of Lucky.** (IMC CBC Fic P2764h 2006)

Fearing that her legal guardian plans to abandon her to return to France, ten-year-old aspiring scientist Lucky Trimble determines to run away while also continuing to seek the Higher Power that will bring stability to her life.

Pennypacker, Sara. **Clementine.** (IMC CBC Fic P3858c 2006)

While sorting through difficulties in her friendship with her neighbor Margaret, eight-year-old Clementine gains several unique hairstyles while also helping her father in his efforts to banish pigeons from the front of their apartment building.

Pilkey, Dav. **The Adventures of Captain Underpants.** (IMC CBC Fic P6444ac 1997)

When George and Harold hypnotize their principal into thinking that he is the superhero Captain Underpants, he leads them to the lair of the nefarious Dr. Diaper, where they must defeat his evil robot henchmen.



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Scieska, Jon. **The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales.**  
(IMC CBC E Sci276s 1992)  
Madcap revisions of familiar fairy tales.

## **Read Alouds for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Babbitt, Natalie. **Tuck Everlasting.** (IMC CBC Fic B113te 1975)

The Tuck family is confronted with an agonizing situation when they discover that a ten-year-old girl and a malicious stranger now share their secret about a spring whose water prevents one from ever growing any older.

Clements, Andrew. **Frindle.** (IMC CBC Fic C5915f 1996)

When he decides to turn his fifth grade teacher's love of the dictionary around on her, clever Nick Allen invents a new word and begins a chain of events that quickly moves beyond his control.

Creech, Sharon. **Heartbeat.** (IMC CBC Fic C8615h 2004)

Twelve-year-old Annie ponders the many rhythms of life the year that her mother becomes pregnant, her grandfather begins faltering, and her best friend (and running partner) becomes distant.

Danziger, Paula. **Snail Mail No More.** (IMC CBC Fic D2383s 2000)

Now that they live in different cities, thirteen-year-old Tara and Elizabeth use email to "talk" about everything that is occurring in their lives and to try to maintain their closeness as they face big changes.

DiCamillo, Kate. **The Tale of Despereaux: Being the Story of a Mouse, a Princess, Some Soup, and a Spool of Thread.** (IMC CBC Fic D5473t 2003)

The adventures of Desperqux Tilling, a small mouse of unusual talents, the princess that he loves, the servant girl who longs to be a princess and a devious rat determined to bring them all to ruin.

Funke, Cornelia. **Dragon Rider.** (IMC CBC Fic F9642d 2004)

After learning that humans are headed toward his hidden home, Firedrake, a silver dragon, is joined by a brownie and an orphan boy in a quest to find the legendary valley known as the Rim of Heaven, encountering friendly and unfriendly creatures along the way, and struggling to evade the relentless pursuit of an old enemy.



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Gantos, Jack. **Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key.** (IMC CBC Fic G1586j 1998)

To the constant disappointment of his mother and his teachers, Joey has trouble paying attention or controlling his mood swings when his prescription medications wear off and he starts getting worked up and acting wired.

Giff, Patrica Reilly. **Pictures of Hollis Woods.** (IMC CBC Fic G3666p 2002)

A troublesome twelve-year old orphan, staying with an elderly artist who needs her, remembers the only other time she was happy in a foster home, with a family that truly seemed to care about her.

Hannigan, Katherine. **Ida B. And Her Plans to Maximize Fun, Avoid Disaster, And (Possibly) Save the World.** (IMC CBC Fic H1964i 2004)

In Wisconsin, fourth-grader Ida B spends happy hours being home-schooled and playing in her family's apple orchard, until her mother begins treatment for breast cancer and her parents must sell part of the orchard and send her to public school.

Henkes, Kevin. **Olive's Ocean.** (IMC CBC Fic H3896o 2003)

On a summer visit to her grandmother's cottage by the ocean, twelve-year-old Martha gains perspective on the death of a classmate, on her relationship with her grandmother, on her feelings for an older boy, and on her plans to be a writer.

Hiaasen, Carl. **Hoot.** (IMC CBC Fic H5202 2002)

Roy, who is new to his small Florida community, becomes involved in another boy's attempt to save a colony of burrowing owls from a proposed construction site.

Lowry, Lois. **The Silent Boy.** (IMC CBC Fic L9557si 2003)

Katy, the precocious ten-year-old daughter of the town doctor, befriends a retarded boy.

Paterson, Katherine. **Bridge to Terabithia.** (IMC CBC Fic P2734b 1987)

The life of a ten-year-old boy in rural Virginia expands when he becomes friends with a newcomer who subsequently meets an untimely death trying to reach their hideaway, Terabithia, during a storm.

Paterson, Katherine. **The Same Stuff as Stars.** (IMC CBC Fic P2734sa 2002)

When Angel's self-absorbed mother leaves her and her younger brother with their poor great-grandmother, the eleven-year-old girl worries not only about her mother and brother, her imprisoned father, the frail old woman, but also about a mysterious man who begins sharing with her the wonder of the stars.

Paulsen, Gary. **Hatchet.** (IMC CBC Fic P2856h 1999)

After a plane crash, thirteen-year-old Brian spends fifty-four days in the Canadian wilderness, learning to survive with only the aid of a hatchet given him by his mother, and learning also to survive his parents' divorce.



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Riordan, Rick. **The Lightning Thief.** (IMC CBC Fic R47961 2005)

Twelve-year-old Percy Jackson learns he is a demigod, the son of a mortal woman and Poseidon, god of the sea. His mother sends him to a summer camp for demigods where he and his new friends set out on a quest to prevent a war between the gods.

Tolan, Stephanie S. **Surviving the Applewhites.** (IMC CBC Fic T5745s 2002)

Jake, a budding juvenile delinquent is sent from homeschooling to the arty and eccentric Applewhite family's Creative Academy, where he discovers talents and interests he never knew he had.