

Birth-3 Year Old Book List

Barnyard Banter by Denise Fleming

Main Theme: Literacy Development

Other Themes: Music/Art

Description:

Noise in the barnyard is rhyming and rhythmic, filled with onomatopoeic sounds and repetition. All the animals are noisy except Goose, who quietly chases a butterfly from book's start to satisfying end, noted only in the vivid illustrations.

Bearobics by Vic Parker

Main Theme: Health/Safety

Other Themes: Music/Art, Math/Science

Description:

Bear turns on his boom box and starts to dance with other animals in this funny, alliterative, and lively counting book that is sure to get readers up bouncing and dancing along with bear and his buddies.

Bread Bread Bread by Ann Morris

Main Theme: Math/Science

Other Themes: Diversity, Self-esteem

Description:

Crisp photographs and clear prose introduce bread and related traditions around the world. How bread is made and why it rises present an opportunity to talk about the chemistry of cooking.

Bright Eyes, Brown Skin by Cheryl Willis Hudson

Main Theme: Literacy Development

Other Themes: Diversity, Self-esteem

Description:

In this rhyming story, four children take an average day at school and celebrate to make it memorable. The predictable rhyme and confidence of the children make this ideal for early learners.

Caribbean Dream by Rachel Isadora

Main Theme: Peer Relationships

Other Theme: Diversity

Description:

Visit an island in the West Indies where the sea, sand, and culture create a unique place for children to live and play together.

Charlie Needs a Cloak by Tomie de Paolo

Main Theme: Science/Math

Other Theme: Literacy Development Through Media

Description:

Readers follow Charlie, a shepherd, as he makes a new cloak. The process begins with his sheep and culminates with Charlie's handsome new red garment.

Cherries and Cherry Pits by Vera Williams

Main Theme: Music/Art

Other Theme: Diversity

Description:

Bidemmi writes and illustrates original stories interspersed with her narration depicting her hopes for her neighborhood and her world. Fresh, child-like illustrations and writing on different paper distinguish Bidemmi's tales and suggest the transformational role of art.

Clap Your Hands by Lorinda Bryan Cauley

Main Theme: Music/Art

Other Theme: Literacy Development Through Media

Description:

Lively language encourages readers to clap, swirl, and jump through the rhyme and rhythm of this engaging book. Some may even create their own special way to sing and dance.

Click, Clack, Moo-Cows That Type by Doreen Cronin

Main Theme: Self-esteem

Description:

The cows on Farmer Brown's farm have the self-confidence to make their demands known in an appropriate-and highly unusual-way and empower the ducks to do the same.

The Cow that Went OINK by Bernard Most

Main Theme: Peer Relationships

Other Themes: Literacy Development Through Media, Diversity

Description:

Other cows tease the cow that can only say oink. Of course she ultimately learns to moo in this silly story filled with repetition and a gentle message.

Dinosaur Roar! by Paula Stickland

Main Theme: Literacy Development Through Media

Description:

Lively, bright colored dinosaurs are used to introduce opposites with animated language and sometimes surprising word pairings (e.g. fierce/meek), sure to inspire and intrigue young dinosaur aficionados.

Fiesta! by Ginger Foglesong Guy

Main Theme: Science/Math

Other Themes: Diversity, Music/Art

Description:

From "una canasta/one basket" to 10 streamers, children prepare to break open the piñata at the party. Counting in Spanish and English is put into the context of this colorful fiesta.

Good Night Gorilla by Peggy Rathman

Main Theme: Literacy Development

Other Themes: Science/Math

Description:

This predictable story, of a mischievous gorilla that lifts the zookeeper's keys and follows him home, is told with few words. The illustrations convey humor and action in the cozy story with a satisfying twist at the end.

How Kids Grow by Jean Marzollo

Main Theme: Self-esteem

Description:

Seeing photographs of other children doing different things at different ages will provide readers with a positive measuring stick to affirm their own growth.

I Love Trucks! by Philamon Sturges

Main Theme: Literacy Development Through Media

Other Themes: Science/Math

Description:

Different trucks do different things, presented here in clear, bright colored illustrations and rhyming text.

Jamaica's Find by Juanita Havill

Main Theme: Peer Relationships

Other Theme: Diversity

Description:

Jamaica is faced with a dilemma when she finds a stuffed animal at the park. The decision to keep it or return it is not easy. But when Jamaica returns the small treasure, she gains a friend.

Just Us Women by Jeanette Caines

Main Theme: Self-esteem

Other Theme: Diversity

Description:

A girl and her aunt take a joyous trip together in an open-topped car. Illustrations sweep across the pages of this long, fun-filled journey.

Mama, Do You Love Me? By Barbara Joose

Main Theme: Diversity

Description:

Cultural details emerge as an Inuit child seeks her mother's unconditional love even as she does things that are unacceptable. Stylized illustrations and a note at book's end clarify unfamiliar words (such as ptarmigan eggs and mukluks).

Max Paints the House by Ken Wilson-Max

Main Theme: Music/Art

Other Themes: Literacy Development Through Media, Diversity

Description:

Max and his friends continue to change their minds about the color they paint the house and so decide to make it all the colors of the rainbow. Max is an appealing child with colorful friends

Miss Bindergarten Gets Ready for Kindergarten

Main Theme: Literacy Development Through Media

Other Themes: Diversity, Peer Relationships, Self-esteem

Description:

Animal children from A to Z prepare for their first day of school, sometimes with trepidation. Each animal has an alliterative name (e.g. Vicki is a vole). Miss Bindergarten also prepares a warm welcome for her new students to which they all respond enthusiastically.

Mouse Count by Ellen Stoll Walsh

Main Theme: Science/Math

Other Theme: Literacy Development Through Media

Description:

A snake plans for a meal of ten mice but one by one they escape. Basic math concepts are integrated into this story illustrated with collage.

Mouse Magic by Ellen Stoll Walsh

Main Theme: Music/Art

Description:

Kit, an engaging mouse, learns about color magic through the color wheel and other optical illusions with color and art.

Mouse Mess by Linnea Riley

Main Theme: Health/Safety

Description:

Even a mouse must eat, but who would want to live with messy mice—even the charmers in this rollicking tale. Food, nutrition, and storing food away from animals can be discussed after reading this colorful book.

Of Colors and Things by Tana Hoban

Main Theme: Literacy Development Through Media

Other Themes: Science/Math

Description:

Clear colors and recognizable objects within a child's experiences are presented here in lucid photographs, ideal to build vocabulary, start

discussion about where objects are found, and help children see color around them.

A Rainbow All Around Me by Sandra Pinkney

Main Theme: Diversity

Other Theme: Self-esteem

Description:

Children from around the world are celebrated in lively language and vibrant full color photographs placed in a varied format on open pages.

The Seals on the Bus by Lenny Hort

Main Theme: Music/Art

Other Theme: Literacy Development Through Media

Description:

Animals abound on this bus ride, really a take-off on the more familiar "Wheels on the Bus." Readers are likely to sing along and even make up new verses.

Swimmy by Leo Leoni

Main Theme: Peer Relationships

Other Theme: Self-esteem

Description:

Swimmy looks different from the others in his school of fish, but saves them all when his unique color puts him in a special place to save everyone.

Ten Black Dots by Donald Crews

Main Theme: Science/Math

Other Themes: Music/Art

Description:

What can ten black dots do? They can represent basic math concepts and be used to create any number of things from a snowman's face to the eyes of a fox.

Yo! Yes? by Chris Raschka

Main Theme: Peer Relationships

Other Themes: Diversity, Self-esteem

Description:

A simple greeting begins the journey of two boys toward a friendship in this deceptively simple book in which typeface becomes part of the illustration.