



800 Middle Country Road
Middle Island, NY 11953
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Great Books for First Graders

The following is a list of suggested books for First Grade readers. Many of these authors will have additional titles appropriate for this age level.

Picture Books

Picture books can be found under the author's last name unless otherwise noted in parenthesis ().

[Miss Nelson is Missing](#) by Harry Allard

The kids in Room 207 take advantage of their teacher's good nature until she disappears and they are faced with a vile substitute.

[Giraffes Can't Dance](#) by Giles Andreae

Gerald the giraffe is too clumsy to dance with all the other animals at the Jungle Dance, until he finds the right music.

[Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs](#) by Judi Barrett

Life is delicious in the town of Chewandswallow where it rains soup and juice, snows mashed potatoes, and blows storms of hamburgers--until the weather takes a turn for the worse.

[Grace for President](#) by Kelly S. DiPucchio (*Picture Book Older DIP*)

When Grace discovers that there has never been a female U.S. president, she decides to run for school president.



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[Chrysanthemum](#) by Kevin Henkes

Chrysanthemum loves her name, until she starts going to school and the other children make fun of it.

[Pinkalicious](#) by Victoria Kann

Pinkalicious is a little girl who loves to eat pink cupcakes. One day she eats so many that she gets a severe case of "pinkitis" which turns her whole body pink!

[Swimmy](#) by Leo Lionni

Swimmy, a small orphaned fish, shows his friends how, with ingenuity and hard work, they can conquer their fears and overcome the dangers of the wet world.

[Officer Buckle and Gloria](#) by Peggy Rathmann

The children at Napville Elementary School always ignore Officer Buckle's safety tips, until a police dog named Gloria accompanies him when he gives his safety speeches.

[The Dot](#) by Peter Reynolds

Vashti believes that she cannot draw, but her art teacher's encouragement leads her to change her mind.

[Duck! Rabbit!](#) By Amy Krouse Rosenthal

Two unseen characters argue about whether the creature they are looking at is a rabbit or a duck.

[Dragons Love Tacos](#) by Adam Rubin

Explores the love dragons have for tacos, and the dangers of feeding them anything with spicy salsa.

[Battle Bunny](#) by Jon Scieszka (*Graphic BAT*)

Alex, whose birthday it is, hijacks a story about Birthday Bunny on his special day and turns it into a battle between a supervillain and his enemies in the forest--who, in the original story, are simply planning a surprise party.



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[The Giving Tree](#) by Shel Silverstein

A young boy grows to manhood and old age experiencing the love and generosity of a tree which gives to him without thought of return.

[Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!](#) By Mo Willems

When the bus driver decides to take a break from driving, a wild and wacky pigeon pleads and begs to take his place.

[Leonardo the Terrible Monster](#) by Mo Willems

Leonardo is a monster that tries very hard to be scary, but he can't seem to scare anyone - not even the most scaredy-cat little boy in the world, Sam.

[Night Before First Grade](#) by Natasha Wing

Penny's excitement over the start of first grade turns to sadness when she and her best friend are placed in different classrooms, but they make the best of it--and some new friends--in this poem based on "The Night Before Christmas."

Easy Readers

Call number is in parenthesis (). Many of these Easy Reader books are part of a series.
Be sure to look for the other titles!

[Hi! Fly Guy](#) by Tedd Arnold (ARN)

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.



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["Buzz" said the Bee](#) by Wendy Cheyette Lewison (HEL)

As one animal sits on another in an accumulating progression, the reader learns the sounds each animal makes.

[Danny the Dinosaur](#) by Syd Hoff (HOF)

A little boy is surprised and pleased when one of the dinosaurs from the museum agrees to play with him.

[Lego City: All Aboard](#) by Sonia Sander (LEG)

Have some fun riding trains in this Lego City adventure.

[Frog and Toad Together](#) by Arnold Lobel (LOB)

Frog and Toad are best friends. Read along as they share cookies, plant a garden and test their bravery.

[Fancy Nancy: Fancy Day in Room 1-A](#) by Jane O'Connor (ICA)

To cheer up her classmates after a gloomy week, Nancy thinks of a new celebration, Fancy Day, but when the day arrives, Ms. Glass shows up without her fancy dress, and the class must think of a way to make her as elegant as everyone else.

[Splat the Cat Takes the Cake](#) by Amy Hsu Lin (ICA)

Splat the Cat doesn't know what to do when his family's television breaks. He decides to try to win a new one in a cake baking contest.

[Amelia Bedelia](#) by Peggy Parish (PAR)

A literal-minded housekeeper causes a ruckus in the household when she attempts to make sense of some instructions.

[Pete the Cat: A Pet for Pete](#) by James Dean (PET)

Garnering attention after painting a picture of his new pet goldfish, Pete the cat receives so many requests to make paintings for his neighbors that he devises an uproarious solution.



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[Olivia Takes a Trip](#) by Ellie O’Ryan (REA)

Olivia keeps herself busy on a long, boring car trip by pretending to be on a jet visiting Grandma.

[There is a Bird On Your Head!](#) By Mo Willems (WIL)

Gerald the elephant has a bird on his head. He discovers the only thing worse than a bird on his head is two birds on his head! Piggie decides she must help her best friend.

For children that are beginning to read on their own, check out our collection of leveled readers. We have many books that are just right for new readers beginning at Guided Reading Level “A”.

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