

Hello Lovely Families,

Please see below a list of some classic children's books for K/1 that your child may be interested in reading this summer. I encourage your child to make time for summer reading either individually or with an adult. Whichever books your child may choose, I encourage them to make time for at least 20 minutes of daily summer reading.

San Francisco County (<https://sfpl.org/summer-stride-2025>) libraries are doing a summer reading challenge and San Mateo County (<https://smcl.org/summer-adventure/>) public libraries are also putting on free Summer Learning Challenges from June 1 to August 31. All you have to do is sign up and track your progress. You may be eligible to win some prizes. Click on the links for more information.

Please click on the links to see a list of K-2 books picked by SFPL and SFUSD librarians ([2023](#), [2024](#), & [2025](#)). You may also consider asking your librarian at your local library for book recommendations based on your child's interests.

Along with this booklist, I am also including a short list of free educational websites that your child may enjoy. These websites encourage students to practice their math and reading skills.

Best,
Ms. Grazi

1. FROG AND TOAD ARE FRIENDS

by Arnold Lobel

HarperCollins, 1970, Paperback, 1990

ISBN: 0064440206

Frog and Toad are the best of buddies. Kids love reading these simple stories of the two friends' funny adventures.

2. ARTHUR'S BACK TO SCHOOL DAY

by Lillian Hoban

HarperCollins, 1996

ISBN: 0060249552

As monkey youngsters Arthur and Violet look forward to the first day of school, they compare lunch boxes and expectations --- all in an easy "I Can Read Book" style.

3. BREAD AND JAM FOR FRANCES

by Russell Hoban

illustrated by Lillian Hoban

HarperTrophy Paperback, 1993

ISBN: 0064430960

Frances decides that she would like to have her favorite food --- bread and jam -- as her only food. Surprisingly, her parents allow her to enjoy bread and jam for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Can she ever get too much of a good thing?

4. LITTLE BEAR

by Else Holmelund Minarik
illustrated by Maurice Sendak
HarperCollins, 1957
ISBN: 0064441970

Little Bear's adventures with Hen, Duck and Cat are some of the very first early-reader stories. Bear's loving parents provide a warm family atmosphere, too.

5. AMELIA BEDELIA

by Peggy Parish
illustrated by Fritz Seibel
HarperCollins, 1963
ISBN: 0064441555

Amelia Bedelia is a zany housekeeper who takes things a bit too literally. Whether she's "dressing" a chicken or "stealing" second base in a baseball game, her understanding of things always causes a mix-up. Luckily her talent for baking delicious treats helps her keep her job.

6. A BEAR CALLED PADDINGTON

by Michael Bond
illustrated by Peggy Fortnum
Houghton Mifflin, 1960, Paperback, 1968
ISBN: 0440404835

A teddy bear found in London's Paddington Station becomes the cuddly star of this and several subsequent stories.

7. THE CAT IN THE HAT

by Dr. Seuss
Random House, 1956
ISBN: 039480001X

The Cat in the Hat turns the household upside one rainy day while Mother is out. Seuss's exuberant text is a must for beginning readers.

8. DANNY AND THE DINOSAUR

by Syd Hoff
HarperCollins, 1958
ISBN: 0064440028

Danny visits the museum where he meets a very large new friend. The boy and

his dinosaur explore the city for the afternoon, before they both have to head home.

9. GREEN EGGS AND HAM

by Dr. Seuss

Random House, 1960

ISBN: 0394800168

"Sam I am" does his darnedest to entice a picky eater with this famous colorful dish.

10. MY FATHER'S DRAGON

by Ruth Stiles Gannett

illustrated by Ruth Chrisman Gannett

Random House, 1948, Paperback, 1987

ISBN: 0394890485

A boy explains how his father, Elmer Elevator, travels to the Wild Island to save a baby dragon. This short novel is a good family read-aloud.

11. NATE THE GREAT

by Marjorie Weinman Sharmat

illustrated by Marc Simont

Bantam Doubleday Dell, 1972, Paperback, 1977

ISBN: 044046126X

Early readers love a mystery, and Nate, the neighborhood detective, delivers.

Fun to read and easy to solve.

12. MR. POPPER'S PENGUINS

by Richard and Florence Atwater

illustrated by Robert Lawson

Little, Brown, 1938, Paperback, 1992

ISBN: 0316058432

One penguin named Captain Cook plus another penguin named Greta means a whole family of penguins for the kindly Mr. Popper.

13. THE SHRINKING OF TREEHORN

by Florence Parry Heide

illustrated by Edward Gorey

Holiday House, 1971

ISBN: 0823409759

Treehorn is such a quiet kid that his parents and friends don't even notice that he's starting to shrink and disappear!

14. GEORGE AND MARTHA

by James Marshall
Houghton Mifflin, 1972
ISBN: 0395199727

The tender, sometimes prickly, and always funny friendship between hippos George and Martha makes for a great beginning reader series. Seven books about this hefty pair will keep kids giggling.

15. THE ANIMAL FAMILY

by Randall Jarrell
illustrated by Maurice Sendak
Pantheon, 1965; HarperCollins 1996
ISBN: 0062059041

In this poetic fantasy, a bear cub and a lynx live in harmony with a hunter, a mermaid and their baby boy. Kids will want to tackle this novel a bit at a time, but kids age 5 and up will find plenty to enjoy here. Sendak's illustrations lend enormous style and charm.

16. OH, THE THINGS YOU CAN THINK!

by Dr. Seuss
Random House, 1975
ISBN: 0394831292

It's remarkable to know that Theodor Geisel can not only write for very young readers, but can tickle the imaginations of older kids, as he does so well in OH THE THINGS YOU CAN THINK.

17. THE STORIES JULIAN TELLS

by Ann Cameron
illustrated by Ann Strugnell
Random House, 1981, Paperback, 1989
ISBN: 0394828925

Julian and his younger brother Huey star in these simple, enjoyable stories about the everyday life of an African-American family.

18. IN A DARK, DARK ROOM: AND OTHER SCARY STORIES

by Alvin Schwartz
illustrated by Dirk Zimmer
HarperCollins, 1984
ISBN: 0060252715

Perfect for Halloween or any time of year, these easy-to-read slightly spooky folktales are frightfully fun.

19. BILLY AND BLAZE

by C.W. Anderson
Aladdin Paperbacks, 1990

ISBN: 0689716087

Billy gets a pony for his birthday, which he names Blaze. Their simple, country adventures are the stuff of several beginning reader titles.

20. AMANDA PIG AND HER BIG BROTHER OLIVER

by Jean Van Leeuwen

illustrated by Ann Schweninger

Dial, 1982

ISBN: 0803700164

Kids can relate to Amanda's ups-and-downs in this clever series about a pig family.

21. UNCLE ELEPHANT

by Arnold Lobel

HarperCollins, 1981, Paperback, 1986

ISBN: 0064441040

When he believes his parents are lost, a young elephant is rescued and comforted by his uncle. A tender book about being separated from the ones you love.

22. NOW WE ARE SIX

by A. A. Milne

illustrated by Ernest Shepard

Dutton, 1927; Puffin Paperback, 1992

ISBN: 0140361243

Christopher Robin and his beloved friend Winnie-the-Pooh appear throughout this classic collection of verse about childhood adventures and experiences. Don't miss the equally charming companion volume WHEN WE WERE VERY YOUNG.

23. AND THEN WHAT HAPPENED, PAUL REVERE?

by Jean Fritz

illustrated by Margot Tomes

Coward McCann & Geoghegan 1973; Putnam 1996

ISBN: 0698113519

Fritz spurs readers on with direct questions ("And then what happened?") in this exuberant biography of the Boston man made famous by his ride warning of the approaching British soldiers in the Revolutionary War.

24. HENRY & MUDGE

by Cynthia Rylant

illustrated by Sucie Stevenson

Aladdin Paperback, 1996

ISBN: 0689810059

Henry, an only child who lives on a street without any children to play with, can use all the friends he can find. His parents understand, and allow him to get a dog. Soon the pooch that Henry has named Mudge becomes his best --- and biggest --- pal. It doesn't take very long for Mudge to grow from pint-sized puppy to 180 pounds! The two have plenty of adventures in these sweet, humorous stories.

25. RAMONA THE PEST

by Beverly Cleary, Tracy Dockray

192 pages

HarperTrophy

ISBN: 0380709546

The tale about Ramona starts with her first day of kindergarten, the greatest day of her life. Ramona loves her school and her teacher, Miss Binney, but somehow Ramona gets into a lot of trouble. Author Beverly Cleary is very good at seeing things through the eyes of children. She has created a very realistic and memorable character in Ramona.

26. STUART LITTLE

by E.B. White

131 pages

HarperTrophy

ISBN: 0064400565

A mouse born into a human family, Stuart Little goes through many adventures. His biggest adventures occur when he leaves home in search of a lovely bird named Margalo.

27. FRECKLE JUICE

by Judy Blume

48 pages

Yearling Books

ISBN: 0440428130

Andrew wants freckles so bad that he buys a secret recipe for freckle juice from Sharon for fifty cents, his five-week allowance. But freckle juice does not work as expected. Andrew has to draw fake freckles with a blue marker. At school, Andrew's teacher gives him a "freckle remover" to remove the blue freckles.

28. THE HUNDRED DRESSES

by Eleanor Estes, Louis Slobodkin

96 pages

Harcourt Paperbacks

ISBN: 0152052607

The story's main character Wanda Petronski, a Polish-American girl from a poor

family, is teased by classmates at school for being different and for saying she has one hundred dresses at home while she is wearing the same faded dress to school every day. Only after Wanda's absence from school do Maddie and Peggy find out the true story about the one hundred dresses and try to make amends.

29. THE MOUSE AND THE MOTORCYCLE

by Beverly Cleary and Louis Darling

158 pages

HarperTrophy

ISBN: 0380709244

"Ralph the mouse makes friends with a boy named Keith, the owner of a toy motorcycle and goes on many adventures

30. PIPPI LONGSTOCKING

by Astrid Erisson Lindgren

160 pages

Puffin Books

ISBN: 0140309578

The story's main character Pippi Longstocking, an independent and strong girl who can lift her own horse, lives alone without her parents. Pippi makes friends with two kids who live next door and they have lots of fun and adventures together. Best-known Swedish author Astrid Lindgren creates a very memorable storybook character in Pippi Longstocking, who is tough, brave, funny and free-spirited.

Websites:

<https://www.coolmath4kids.com/>

<https://www.funbrain.com/>

<https://www.abcya.com/>

<https://www.turtlediary.com/>

<https://jr.brainpop.com/>

<https://www.dogonews.com/grade-level/1>

<https://www.e-learningforkids.org/>