

Great family read-aloud BOOKS



Everybody enjoys listening to a good story. Many families have discovered the pleasure of time spent reading aloud. They enjoy being together, talking about characters and situations and experiencing the magic and power of literature.

There are many wonderful books available for families to share aloud. Here is a list of suggested books for listeners of all ages compiled by our children's librarians.

Poppy

Avi J Fiction
Poppy the deer mouse wants her family to move to a field where food is more plentiful, but a bullying owl has different ideas.

The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle

Avi J & YA Fiction
Thirteen-year-old Charlotte Doyle is the lone passenger on a voyage from England to Rhode Island in 1832. This story is a rousing adventure in which Charlotte finds herself accused of murder.

Well Wished

Billingsley, Franny J Fiction
When Nuria makes a wish to help her paralyzed friend, the magic well grants it in a way that Nuria never expected.

Nekomah Creek

Crew, Linda J Fiction
Fourth-grader Robby tries to straighten out his family before the school counselor comes to visit.

The Watsons Go to Birmingham – 1963

Curtis, Christopher Paul J Fiction
Join the Watsons as they travel from Michigan to Birmingham, Alabama during the summer of 1963.

Catherine, Called Birdy

Cushman, Karen J Fiction
This is the fictional diary of Catherine, a 13-year old girl living in England during the Middle Ages, who plots ways to avoid marriage.

Shadow Spinner

Fletcher, Susan J Fiction
Can 13-year-old Marjan save the life of Queen Shaherazade with a story? A gripping adaptation of the legendary tale from The Arabian Nights.

My Life Among the Aliens

Gauthier, Gail J Fiction
Will and his brother Robby are average kids with boring lives, until aliens start appearing.

Running Out of Time

Haddix, Margaret Peterson J M Fiction
When a diphtheria epidemic comes to her 1840's village, Jessie's mother, desperate for medicine, reveals a shocking secret: It's really 1996 and Jessie must enter the outside world to get help.

Stopping For a Spell: Three Fantasies

Jones, Diana Wynne J Fiction
How would you handle it if someone (or something) just won't leave? Three humorous fantasy stories.

Frankie

Jones, J. Sydney J Fiction
A bit of romance, a lot of intrigue and some Colorado history chronicle the events leading up to the southern Colorado coal strike of 1913 and the Ludlow massacre.

Ice Story: Shackleton's Lost Expedition

Kimmel, Elizabeth Cody J 910.91673
This is the true story of a voyage gone so horribly wrong that it may be the greatest misadventure the world has ever known.

The Stray

King-Smith, Dick J Fiction
With money in her pocket, Henny Hickathrift runs away from the old-age home. Along the way she meets another stray – then the fun begins.

Letters From Camp

Klise, Kate J M Fiction
Three brother-sister pairs are sent to a camp run by TV personalities from their parents' generation. By the end of the summer, they have survived cleaning septic lines, eating potentially poisonous food and solving a murder mystery.

The Storyteller's Beads

Kurtz, Jane J Fiction
Two girls have to resolve their cultural prejudices to survive a journey across Ethiopia in the 1980s.

Dave at Night

Levine, Gail Carson J Fiction
Newly orphaned Dave is sent to the Hebrew Home for Boys, otherwise known as the "Hell Hole for Brats." Life is tough, but Dave discovers a thrilling new world in the rich nightlife of the Harlem Renaissance.

Princess Sonora and the Long Sleep

Levine, Gail Carson J Fiction
Even after 100 years, people still remember the saying: "Princess Sonora knows, but don't ask her." Only Prince Christopher is willing to wake her and listen to her answers.

Meet the Drakes on the Kentucky Frontier

Loeper, John J. J 976.9
In 1788, the Drake family decides to leave their comfortable home in Virginia and risk the Kentucky wilderness.

Zooman Sam

Lowry, Lois J Fiction
Sam is back! This time he's collecting hats, preparing for his school's career day, and learning to read. Other books about Sam include: **All About Sam**; **Attaboy, Sam!** and **See You Around, Sam!**

Mrs. Piggle Wiggle series

MacDonald, Betty J Fiction
Mrs. Piggle Wiggle has hilarious – and effective – solutions for children's behavior problems. These books have been favorites with children and adults for more than 50 years.

Daydreamer

McEwan, Ian J Fiction
Carried by his imagination, Peter has one extraordinary adventure after another. These stories take us into Peter's funny – and sometimes bizarre – mind-wanderings.

Dog Friday

McKay, Hilary J Fiction
A stray dog and the rambunctious Robinson family turn Rob's life inside out in this story set on the Yorkshire coast.

Stranded

Mikaelsen, Ben J Fiction
Tired of being treated like a baby since her accident, Koby sails off alone and becomes stranded by a storm.

Red-dirt Jessie

Myers, Anna J Fiction
During the Oklahoma dust bowl, Jessie and her mother struggle to keep the family together with the help of a wild dog.

The Grand Escape

Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds J Fiction
Marco and Polo, formerly sheltered housecats, must succeed at three challenging and dangerous adventures in order to be accepted into the feline Club of Mysteries.

A Traitor Among the Boys

Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds J Fiction
Mrs. Hatford tries to stop the practical joke war by making her boys promise to treat the Malloy girls like sisters. But who says you have to be nice to your sisters?

Rascal

North, Sterling J 599.7632
Eleven-year-old Sterling discovers a mischievous baby raccoon in the woods. This memoir has delighted readers since it was first published in the 1960s.

Preacher's Boy

Paterson, Katherine J Fiction
A 10-year-old boy's high spirits and rebellious nature result in humor, havoc and a sobering learning experience.

Mr. Tucket

Paulsen, Gary J Fiction
Indian captive Francis Tucket is freed by a trapper who teaches him how to survive in the wilderness.

A Long Way From Chicago: a Novel in Stories

Peck, Richard J & YA Fiction
A week in the country with Grandma holds more adventure and mystery than a summer in Chicago.

Summer of the Monkeys

Rawls, Wilson J Fiction
Jay might be able to buy the pony of his dreams if he can recapture the monkeys escaped from a traveling circus.

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone

Rowling, J.K.J Fiction
When orphan Harry is summoned by a messenger owl to the Hogwart's Wizard Academy, he finds himself part of a magical new world.

The Dragon of Lonely Island

Rupp, Rebecca J Fiction
During their summer visit to Aunt Mehitabel's, Hannah, Zachary and Sarah Emily discover the secret of the mysterious tower room and meet a dragon.

A Terrifying Taste of Short & Shivery: Thirty Creepy Tales

San Souci, Robert D. J 398.25
A smorgasbord of 30 spooky tales about eating from all over the world.

The Skirt

Soto, Gary J Fiction
When Miata forgets her folklorico skirt on the schoolbus, she is desperate to retrieve it before the dance on Sunday.

Naya Nuki, Girl Who Ran

Thomasma, Kenneth J Fiction
Hopeful of being reunited with her Shoshoni tribe, Naya Nuki walks 1,000 miles across a mountain range without supplies.

Sammy Keyes and the Hotel Thief

Van Draanen, Wendelin J M Fiction
Feisty Sammy Keyes gets into trouble when the burglar she is spying on catches her watching.

Trumpet of the Swan

White, E. B. J Fiction
Louis, a voiceless trumpeter swan, learns to play the trumpet and then sets out to save the honor of his father.

Little Wolf's Book of Badness

Whybrow, Ian J Fiction
Because Little Wolf's parents think that he is too much of a "goody-four-feet", they send him to his uncle's school to earn a "Big Bad" badge.

Wizard's Hall

Yolen, Jane J Fiction
Thornmallow doesn't seem to have any talent for magic. He tries to do his best, and sometimes that's what is really important.

The Jefferson County Public Library "Classics" reading list also includes many wonderful books that make good read-alouds.

Shelf Codes

YA Young Adult
J Juvenile
JM Juvenile Mystery

