

**HAI SLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST**  
**PreSchool, PreKindergarten, Kindergarten**

*Any available unabridged edition of a title is acceptable.*

- Agee, Jon. ***Lion Lessons***. Dial Books, 2016. Learning to be a lion in seven easy steps takes some serious lessons, but luckily, this kid has a teacher who is a real pro!
- Ajmera, Maya. ***To Be a Kid***. Charlesbridge, 2000. Text and photographs from countries around the world illustrate some of the activities children everywhere have in common.
- Alexander, Kwame. ***Animal Ark: Celebrating Our Wild World in Poetry and Pictures***. National Geographic, 2017. In this lively offering, the poetry of Kwame Alexander and photography from National Geographic's Photo Ark project team up to highlight some of nature's most spectacular (and vanishing) animals.
- Ashburn, Boni. ***I Had a Favorite Hat***. Abrams Books, 2015. At the end of summer, a girl's mother wants to put away her favorite beach hat but the girl asks to keep it out, then decorates it for each holiday and season from autumn through spring.
- Bang, Molly. ***When Sophie's Feelings Are Really, Really Hurt***. Blue Sky Press, 2015. This simple story tackles the common issue of hurt feelings as it gently reminds us to be more kind.
- Barnett, Mac. ***Count the Monkeys***. Disney-Hyperion, 2013. The reader is invited to count the animals that have frightened the monkeys off the pages and almost out of the book!
- Barton, Byron. ***I Want to Be an Astronaut***. HarperCollins, 1988. A young child who wants to be an astronaut imagines all the things he would do on a mission into space.
- Barton, Chris. ***Mighty Truck***. HarperCollins, 2016. When Clarence, a muddy truck, reluctantly heads to the truck wash to clean up for work, he is suddenly transformed into Mighty Truck, a new superhero who saves the day.
- Brown, Lisa. ***The Airport Book***. Roaring Brook, 2016. A family makes its way through the complexities of a modern-day airport, from checking bags to security clearance and the wait at the gate to board.
- Brown-Wood, JaNay. ***Grandma's Tiny House***. Charlesbridge, 2017. In this rhyming counting book, when the whole family and guests show up for the big dinner at Grandma's house, it becomes clear that her home is much too small to hold them all.
- Carle, Eric. ***The Artist Who Painted a Blue Horse***. Philomel, 2011. The artist in this book imaginatively paints the world as he sees it, just like a child.
- Child, Lauren. ***The New Small Person***. Candlewick, 2015. In the familiar tale of a less-than-welcome sibling, the author gets to the heart of a child's evolving emotions about becoming a big brother or sister.
- Clements, Andrew. ***The Handiest Things in the World***. Atheneum, 2010. Combining rhyming verse with photographs of children, the author celebrates the many things our hands can do.

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- Cochrane, Victoria. ***Whose Nest?*** Simon & Schuster, 2013. This beautifully illustrated introduction to nests of all kinds provides clues for the reader to guess which inhabitant lives there, such as a tree frog, gecko, rabbit, or eagle.
- Costa, Maria S. ***How to Find a Friend.*** Clarion, 2017. A wistful blue squirrel and an athletic red rabbit are each looking for a friend and missing each other by inches, while helpful bugs are trying to steer them in the right direction.
- Cowley, Joy. ***Mrs. Wishy-Washy's Farm.*** Philomel, 2003. Tired of being washed by Mrs. Wishy-Washy, a cow, pig, and duck leave her farm and head for adventure in the city.
- Cox, Judy. ***Don't Be Silly, Mrs. Millie!*** Marshall Cavendish, 2005. A kindergarten teacher entertains her students and makes them laugh when she mixes up words by saying "penguin" instead of "pencil" and "goats" instead of "coats."
- Crimi, Carolyn. ***There Might Be Lobsters.*** Candlewick, 2017. A little dog's paralyzing fear of lobsters disappears when someone else's need to be rescued inspires newfound bravery.
- Cronin, Doreen. ***Click, Clack, Surprise!*** Atheneum, 2016. Little Duck learns how to celebrate his birthday with a little help from all the other animals on the farm.
- Dahl, Michael. ***Goodnight Football.*** Capstone, 2015. With rhyming text and vibrant illustrations, this book, told through a child's eyes, is a celebration of football, friendship, and family.
- Denos, Julia. ***Swatch: The Girl Who Loved Color.*** Balzer + Bray, 2016. Swatch, the color tamer, discovers that the bright, bold colors that she loves do not wish to be contained.
- Dewdney, Anna. ***Little Excavator.*** Viking, 2017. Little Excavator wants to help the big rigs transform a vacant lot into a neighborhood park, but he is too small to get the work done until he finds a job that is the perfect size for him.
- Dormer, Frank W. ***Firefighter Duckies!*** Atheneum, 2017. Firefighter Duckies fill a busy day rescuing animals while ultimately learning that kindness and helpfulness are most important.
- Ehlert, Lois. ***Pie in the Sky.*** Harcourt, 2004. A father and child watch the cherry tree in their backyard, waiting until there are ripe cherries to bake in a pie (recipe included).
- Falconer, Ian. ***Olivia...and the Missing Toy.*** Atheneum, 2003. When her best toy mysteriously disappears, Olivia the feisty pig is determined to find out who is responsible.
- Fleming, Denise. ***The Cow Who Clucked.*** Holt, 2006. When a cow loses her moo, she searches to see if another animal in the barn has it.
- Fliess, Sue. ***Shoes for Me!*** Two Lions, 2011. When she realizes that her feet have grown, a young hippo is allowed to choose which new shoes to buy.
- Florian, Douglas. ***Comets, Stars, the Moon, and Mars: Space Poems and Paintings.*** Harcourt, 2007. This whimsical collection of twenty poems about the galaxy provides fun facts and creative drawings that are out of this world.

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- Fogliano, Julie. ***When Green Becomes Tomatoes: Poems for All Seasons***. Roaring Brook, 2016. In this book of poetry, the author offers snapshots of beautiful scenery and the changes that take place during each season.
- Fox, Mem. ***Where Is the Green Sheep?*** Harcourt, 2004. This is a story about many different sheep, and one that seems to be missing.
- Gall, Chris. ***Dog vs. Cat***. Little, Brown, 2014. A dog and a cat, newly adopted and forced to share a room, do not get along until a howling, smelly, terrifying newcomer unites them in a common cause.
- Gehl, Laura. ***One Big Pair of Underwear***. Beach Lane Books, 2014. When progressively larger groups of animals try to share a limited number of scooters, cookbooks, nap mats, and underwear, hilarity ensues.
- Gillingham, Sara. ***How to Grow a Friend***. Random House, 2015. Making a friend takes patience, care, and room to bloom – just like growing a flower.
- Goetz, Steve. ***Old MacDonald Had a Truck***. Chronicle Books, 2016. This update of the familiar song features farm vehicles such as an excavator, a dump truck, and a bulldozer.
- Halpern, Shari. ***Dinosaur Parade***. Holt, 2014. Colorful illustrations and simple, rhyming text present a wide variety of dinosaurs for very young readers.
- Heder, Thyra. ***Fraidy Zoo***. Abrams Books, 2013. Facing one's fears has never been such fun as Little T's family helps her get ready for a trip to the zoo.
- Heling, Kathryn. ***Clothesline Clues to Jobs People Do***. Charlesbridge, 2012. Colorful illustrations help children determine job titles from the clothes the people wear.
- Henkes, Kevin. ***Kitten's First Full Moon***. Greenwillow, 2004. When Kitten mistakes the full moon for a bowl of milk, she ends up tired, wet, and hungry trying to reach it. *Caldecott Medal 2005*.
- Higgins, Melissa. ***We All Look Different***. Capstone, 2012. Simple text and full-color photos celebrate differences in appearance.
- Higgins, Ryan T. ***Be Quiet!*** Hyperion, 2017. Rupert the mouse wants to star in an artistic, wordless picture book, but his animal friends cause problems by talking too much.
- Idle, Molly. ***Flora and the Penguin***. Chronicle Books, 2014. Flora forms an unexpected friendship with a penguin, and the duo mirror each other's graceful dance above and below the ice.
- Isadora, Rachel. ***I Hear a Pickle: (and Smell, See, Touch, & Taste It Too!)***. Nancy Paulsen, 2016. Hearing, smelling, seeing, touching, tasting – our five senses allow us to experience the world in so many ways!
- Jenkins, Steve. ***Creature Features: 25 Animals Explain Why They Look the Way They Do***. Houghton Mifflin, 2014. Twenty five animals provide fun and interesting facts about their appearance in a Q & A format that is a visual delight.
- Kang, Anna. ***That's (Not) Mine***. Two Lions, 2015. Two fuzzy creatures want to sit in the same comfy chair, but neither wants to share.

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- Katz, Karen. ***Rosie Goes to Preschool***. Schwartz & Wade, 2015. Rosie, a helpful preschooler, offers advice to children facing their first day of preschool.
- Katz, Susan. ***Oh Theodore!: Guinea Pig Poems***. Clarion, 2007. This collection of poems illustrates the fun and responsibility of having a pet guinea pig.
- Keats, Ezra Jack. ***Peter's Chair***. Viking, 1998. When Peter discovers his blue furniture is being painted pink for a new baby sister, he rescues the last unpainted item, a chair, and runs away.
- Keller, Laurie. ***We Are Growing!*** Hyperion, 2016. Walt and his friends are growing fast and everyone is the something-est, except Walt, until he discovers something special of his own. *Theodore Seuss Geisel Award 2017*
- London, Jonathan. ***Otters Love to Play***. Candlewick, 2016. Follow the otters through the seasons as they chase one another, slide down a mud bank, jump in a pile of leaves, and learn to swim.
- Luciani, Brigitte. ***How Will We Get to the Beach?*** NorthSouth, 2003. The reader is asked to guess what Roxanne must leave behind (ball, umbrella, book, turtle, or baby) as she tries various means of transportation to get to the beach.
- Mack, Jeff. ***Duck in the Fridge***. Two Lions, 2014. When Dad was a boy he found a duck in the fridge, and so begins his explanation as to why he reads Mother Goose rhymes to his own son every night.
- Maloney, Peter, and Felicia Zekauskas. ***One Foot, Two Feet: An Exceptional Counting Book***. Putnam's, 2011. The die-cut windows in this counting book frame a single familiar object, and more objects are revealed as pages are turned.
- Mantchev, Lisa. ***Strictly No Elephants***. Simon & Schuster/Paula Wiseman, 2015. A boy is excluded from joining his friends' pet club because of his unusual pet.
- Manushkin, Fran. ***Happy in Our Skin***. Candlewick, 2015. Children interact on a playground and discover what makes us unique and what holds us together.
- Markes, Julie. ***Good Thing You're Not an Octopus!*** HarperCollins, 2001. A little boy finds that his life is pretty easy compared to how it might be if he were a bird, a tiger, or any number of baby animals.
- Marshall, James. ***Goldilocks and the Three Bears***. Puffin, 1988. In this unique rendering of an old tale, three bears return home from a walk to find a little girl asleep in Baby Bear's bed.
- Martin, Bill. ***Listen to Our World***. Simon & Schuster, 2016. Youngsters awaken in the morning with the belief that they are the greatest little ones in the world, whether they are children in their mothers' arms, eagles soaring above mountains or other animals in their domains.
- McDonnell, Patrick. ***Shine!*** Little, Brown, 2017. A starfish struggles to find happiness in her underwater ocean world and wishes she could be a star in the sky instead.
- Medina, Juana. ***1 Big Salad: A Delicious Counting Book***. Viking, 2016. This visual counting book delights readers with common and gourmet ingredients that come together to make one beautiful, healthy salad!

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- Meisel, Paul. ***See Me Run***. Holiday House, 2011. A day at the dog park finds canine friends running and digging up all kinds of fun.
- Messner, Kate. ***Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt***. Chronicle Books, 2015. Above ground there is a world full of green, while down in the dirt there is a busy world of earthworms digging, snakes hunting, and all the other animals that make a garden their home.
- Moore, Inga. ***A House in the Woods***. Candlewick, 2011. Two little pigs whose small homes in the woods have been accidentally destroyed by Bear and Moose decide to build a house that all four can share, and with the help of Beaver Builders they soon have a fine new home.
- Moore, Jodi. ***When a Dragon Moves In***. Flashlight Press, 2011. A boy and his imaginary dragon have a wonderful time playing on the beach, braving the waves, and roasting marshmallows, but when the boy tries to tell his friends about his dragon, no one will believe him.
- Murphy, Mary. ***Say Hello Like This!*** Candlewick, 2014. A cast of colorful animals instruct young readers on how to say hello in their special ways – dogs say “bow-wow,” cats say “meow,” and silly donkeys say “hee-haw.”
- Novak, B. J. ***The Book with No Pictures***. Dial Books, 2014. In this book with no pictures, the reader has to say every silly word, no matter how preposterous they are!
- Numeroff, Laura, and Nate Evans. ***Ponyella***. Disney-Hyperion, 2011. Ponyella’s dream of showing Princess Penelope her tricks at the pony championship comes true with the help of her fairy godmare.
- Olson, Jennifer Gray. ***Ninja Bunny***. Alfred A. Knopf, 2015. A little rabbit tries to follow the rules in order to become a “super awesome ninja,” but discovers that his book is wrong about one very important thing.
- Opie, Iona (editor). ***My Very First Mother Goose***. Candlewick, 2016. This collection of sixty Mother Goose rhymes, illustrated by Rosemary Wells, promises lots of read aloud enjoyment.
- Pak, Kenard. ***Goodbye Autumn, Hello Winter***. Holt, 2017. In simple, cheerful conversations with nature, two young children witness the seasonal changes from autumn to winter.
- Parr, Todd. ***The Family Book***. Little, Brown, 2003. A number of families are described, some big and some small, some quiet and some noisy, some with two moms or dads, but all alike in some ways, and special no matter what.
- Pett, Mark. ***Lizard from the Park***. Simon & Schuster, 2015. Leonard finds an egg in the park that soon hatches into a little green lizard, but when it keeps growing, he realizes that he must return Buster to the park and set him free.
- Pinkney, Jerry. ***The Tortoise and the Hare***. Little, Brown, 2013. Beautiful illustrations and minimal text relate the familiar fable of the race between a slow tortoise and a quick but foolish hare.

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- Rathmann, Peggy. **Officer Buckle and Gloria**. Putnam's, 1995. 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 speeches. *Caldecott Medal 2010*.
- Rosenthal, Amy Krouse. **Cookies: Bite-Size Life Lessons**. HarperCollins, 2006. Children will learn an array of life's important lessons through concept words such as cooperate, patient, respect, compassionate, and others, as they are used in sentences about cookies.
- Santat, Dan. **The Adventures of Beekle: The Unimaginary Friend**. Little, Brown, 2014. After waiting a long time to be "imagined" by a child, Beekle (an imaginary friend) finally does the unimaginable – he sets out on a quest to find his perfect match in the real world. *Caldecott Medal 2015*.
- Sauer, Tammi. **Mary Had a Little Glam**. Sterling, 2016. Mary brings her heightened sense of style to school one day, and recess is never quite the same.
- Sayre, April Pulley. **Squirrels Leap, Squirrels Sleep**. Holt, 2016. The daily antics of four different kinds of squirrels are celebrated with rhyming text and detailed paper collages by Steve Jenkins.
- Schwartz, Corey. **The Three Ninja Pigs**. Putnam's, 2012. In this twist on the classic tale, rhyming text describes how Pig One and Pig Two neglect their martial arts training and are no match for the wolf, but Pig Three's practice and dedication save the day. Includes a glossary of Japanese martial arts terms.
- Seeger, Laura Vaccaro. **Lemons Are Not Red**. Roaring Brook, 2004. Using die-cuts, this creative book compares the color of familiar objects by showing the wrong color first and then the correct color as soon as the page is turned.
- Shea, Bob. **I'm a Shark!** Balzer + Bray, 2011. A boastful shark impresses his underwater friends with his bravery until one of them asks about spiders.
- Smiley, Jane. **Twenty Yawns**. Two Lions, 2016. While reading a bedtime story, Lucy drifts off to sleep and awakens in a dark, still room filled with mystery.
- Song, Mika. **Tea with Oliver**. Harper, 2017. Oliver wishes for someone with whom to share his pot of tea and discovers that friends can come in all shapes and sizes and be found in the most unexpected places.
- Stein, David Ezra. **Leaves**. Putnam's, 2007. A bear who has never experienced autumn is puzzled by the falling leaves, unsure whether he should try to put them back or use them as a bed for a nap.
- Suen, Anastasia. **Up! Up! Up! Skyscraper**. Charlesbridge, 2017. Snappy rhymes invite young readers to watch workers dig, pour, pound, and bolt a skyscraper into existence.
- Sutton, Sally. **Demolition**. Candlewick, 2012. A demolition crew tears down an old building, sorts scraps of material, and hauls the debris off to make room for a new construction project, revealed at the end to be a playground.
- Tafari, Nancy. **The Busy Little Squirrel**. Simon & Schuster, 2007. Squirrel is too busy getting ready for winter to nibble a pumpkin with Mouse, run in the field with Dog, or otherwise play with any of the other animals.

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- Tarpley, Todd. ***Beep! Beep! Go to Sleep***. Little, Brown, 2015. Sometimes even robots have trouble powering down at bedtime.
- Thong, Roseanne. ***Round Is a Tortilla: A Book of Shapes***. Chronicle Books, 2013. In this joyful concept book featuring the Hispanic culture, children discover that everyday items are made up of shapes.
- Tullet, Hervé. ***Press Here***. Chronicle Books, 2011. Using no special effects other than the reader's imagination, a series of dots multiplies, grows, or changes color by pressing, tilting, or blowing on the previous page.
- Vamos, Samantha R. ***The Cazuela That the Farm Maiden Stirred***. Charlesbridge, 2011. This is the cumulative story of how the farm maiden and all the farm animals worked together to make the rice pudding that they serve at the fiesta. Included are the recipe and a glossary of the Spanish words that are woven throughout the text.
- Walsh, Melanie. ***My Nose, Your Nose***. Houghton Mifflin, 2002. Agnes and Kit compare various parts of their bodies with one another to see how they are both similar and different.
- Wells, Rosemary. ***Time Out for Sophie***. Viking, 2013. Although Sophie wants to be helpful and good, sometimes she ignores her mother, father, and grandmother and must have a time-out.
- Whitehead, Jenny. ***You're a Crab!: A Moody Day Book***. Holt, 2015. An underwater world of friendly creatures has changing moods that show it's okay to have days when you're feeling under the weather and crabby!
- Willems, Mo. ***Nanette's Baguette***. Hyperion, 2016. Nanette sets out on her first solo trip to the bakery to get a baguette, but there are many distractions and temptations along the way.
- Wilson, Karma. ***Bear Sees Colors***. McElderry Books, 2014. While taking a walk with Mouse, Bear meets many other friends and sees colors everywhere.
- Wolff, Kathy. ***What George Forgot***. Bloomsbury, 2017. It is morning, and although George remembers much of his daily routine, he feels like he is forgetting something – something the reader knows!
- Yaccarino, Dan. ***Morris Mole***. Harper, 2017. Food is running short so Morris's big brothers dig down deeper, but Morris tries digging up instead and discovers a beautiful new place, filled with delicious treats and new friends.
- Yolen, Jane. ***How Do Dinosaurs Stay Friends***. Blue Sky Press, 2016. A young dinosaur shows how to stay friends even after having a terrible fight with his very best friend.
- Yoon, Salina. ***Be a Friend***. Bloomsbury, 2016. Dennis has a talent as a mime which isn't always understood by his peers, but a new friend accepts and celebrates Dennis in this heartwarming tale of friendship.
- Yum, Hyewon. ***Puddle***. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2016. Although it is pouring outside, a mother and her son find fun and creative ways to spend the day.

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*All book summaries are provided by the publisher or  
written by committee members.*

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Compiled by:

Kathy Ellwood (chair), *River Oaks Baptist School*

Adonica Aston, *River Oaks Baptist School*

Jennifer Jaeger, *St. Martin's Episcopal Preschool*

Sherry Lamb, *St. John Paul II Catholic School*

Layne Mason, *The Center for Hearing and Speech*

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