

## Great Read Alouds: Picture Books

Angleberger, Tom. **Princess and the Pit Stop.** (PB ANGLE)

When a Princess learns from her Fairy Godmother that she is in last place in a car race against such fairy tale notables as Humpty Dumpty, the Three Bears, and Rumpelstiltskin, she boldly rebuffs defeat and steps on the gas.

Antrobus, Raymond. **Can Bears Ski?** (PB ANTRO)

Little Bear feels the world around him. He feels the floor shake when someone stomps to get his attention - but something is missing. Little Bear is not sure what is happening. All around him he hears the familiar refrain: "Can bears ski?" Then Dad Bear takes him to see an audiologist and they learn that Little Bear has been experiencing deafness. With new hearing aids, he discovers that "Can bears ski?" is actually "Can you hear me?" His new world is loud and will take some getting used to, but with the love and support of Dad Bear, Little Bear will find his way.

Arnold, Ted. **No Jumping on the Bed.** (PB ARNOLD)

Walter lives near the top floor of a tall apartment building, where one night his habit of jumping on his bed leads to a tumultuous fall through floor after floor, collecting occupants all the way down.

Arnold, Tedd. **Parts.** (PB ARNOL)

A five-year-old boy thinks his body is falling apart until he learns new teeth grow and hair and skin replace themselves.

Blabey, Aaron. **Pig the Pug.** (PB BLABE)

Pig is a selfish pug who does not want to share his toys with his canine housemate, Trevor--until an accident teaches him the value of friendship.

Black, Michael Ian. **Purple Kangaroo.** (PB BLACK)

After asking the reader to think of something spectacular, the narrator sets out to prove his ability to read minds by describing a preposterous situation and characters.

Brantley-Newton, Vanessa. **Grandma's Purse.** (PB BRANT)

When Grandma Mimi comes to visit, her granddaughter cannot wait to see what treasures she has hidden in her purse.

Brown, Peter. **Fred Gets Dressed.** (PB BROWN)

After having fun running around the house naked and wild, young Fred decides to get dressed--in his parents' closet--with surprising results.

Burton, Virginia Lee. **The Little House.** (PB BURTO)

A country house is unhappy when the city, with all its buildings and traffic, grows up around her.

Catchpool, James. **What Happened to you?** (PB CATCH)

Constantly seen first for his disability, Joe is fed up of only ever being asked about his leg. All he wants to do is play Pirates. But as usual, one after the other, all the children ask him the same question they always ask, What happened to you? Understandably Joe gets increasingly cross! Until finally the penny drops and the children realize that it's a question Joe just doesn't want to answer... and that Joe is playing a rather good game... one that they can join in with if they can stop fixating on his missing leg... Because children are children, after all.

Dapier, Jarrett. **Mr. Watson's Chickens.** (PB DAPIE)

Mr. Watson loves his three chickens, and every morning he and Mr. Nelson count them; but when they start to multiply, his house and tiny yard are soon overrun, and the noise and mess are driving Mr. Nelson crazy--so the couple set out to find a new home for the chickens.

Diaz, Lucky. **The Paletero Man.** (PB DIAZ)

Follow along with our narrator as he passes through his busy neighborhood in search of the Paletero Man. But when he finally catches up with him, our narrator's pockets are empty. Oh no! What happened to his dinero? It will take the help of the entire community to get the tasty treat now.

DiPucchio, Kelly. **Oona.** (PB DIPUC)

Oona and her best friend Otto love to search for treasure...and often find trouble instead. Messy trouble. Tricky trouble. Even shark-related trouble. That's never stopped them before, though! After all, no proper treasure hunt is without some adventure. But when the grandest treasure yet is stuck in a deep, dark rift, Oona's not sure if she can dive right in. What might be waiting for her in those unknown waters?

Donaldson, Julia. **Room on the Broom.** (PB DONAL)

A witch finds room on her broom for all the animals that ask for a ride, and they repay her kindness by rescuing her from a dragon.

Donnelly, Paddy. **The Vanishing Lake.** (PB DONNE)

Something mysterious is happening at Lake Loughareema. There are days the lake is beautiful, shimmering, and full. And then there are other days when it's ... empty. Meara sets out to explore the island and uncover the truth for herself.

Farrell, Darren. **Dandelion Magic.** (PB FARRE)

With the help of a magic dandelion, Jonah heads off on a grand pirate adventure, but he will need the reader's assistance to navigate choppy waters and defeat ferocious monsters.

Forsythe, Matthew. **Pokko and Drum.** (PB FORSY)

When Pokko plays her drum in the forest she suddenly finds herself surrounded by an entire band of animal musicians.

Grimes, Nikki. **Bedtime for Sweet Creatures.** (PB GRIME)

A beloved and very sleepy little boy resists his mother's efforts to put him to bed.

Higgins, Bryan. **Mother Bruce.** (PB HIGGI)

Bruce is a grumpy bear who likes no one and nothing but cooked eggs, but when some eggs he was planning to boil hatch and the goslings believe he is their mother, he must try to make the best of the situation.

Jordan-Glum, Rebecca. **Kitty.** (PB JORDA)

Granny thinks catsitting will be easy. She'll make her signature cupcakes, give the cat a good brushing, and together they'll share a sweet night's rest. But Kitty has other plans. After Granny loses her glasses and accidentally lets a raccoon inside, all bets are off--much to the cat's displeasure.

Khiani, Darshana. **How to Wear a Sari.** (PB KHIAN)

Tired of being treated like a child, a young girl sets out to prove herself capable to her multi-generational Indian-American family, but an ill-fated attempt at putting on a sari has an unexpected outcome.

Lin, Grace. **A Big Mooncake for Little Star.** (PB LIN)

Reimagines the cycles of the moon as a mother bakes a Big Moon Cookie and, despite Mama's request to wait, Little Star begins nibbling at it every night.

Litchfield, David. **The Bear and the Piano.** (PB LITCH)

A bear finds a piano in the woods, learns to play it, and travels to the big city to become rich and famous, but ultimately discovers that his old friends in the forest back home are still the best audience of all.

Love, Jessica. **Julián is a Mermaid.** (PB LOVE)

While riding the subway home from the pool with his abuela one day, Julián notices three women spectacularly dressed up. Their hair billows in brilliant hues, their dresses end in fishtails, and their joy fills the train car. When Julián gets home, daydreaming of the magic he's seen, all he can think about is dressing up just like the ladies in his own fabulous mermaid costume: a butter-yellow curtain for his tail, the fronds of a potted fern for his headdress. But what will Abuela think about the mess he makes -- and even more importantly, what will she think about how Julián sees himself?

MacDonald, Margaret Read. **The Squeaky Door.** (PB 398.209 MACDO)

When Little Boy is frightened by a squeaky bedroom door, his grandmother brings in various animals to help him feel secure enough to sleep. Includes notes on the story's origins.

Maillard, Kevin Nobel. **Fry Bread: a Native American family story.** (PB MAILL)

Using illustrations that show the diversity in Native America and spare poetic text that emphasizes fry bread in terms of provenance, this volume tells the story of a post-colonial food that is a shared tradition for Native American families all across the North American continent.

McGinty, Alice B. **Bathe the Cat.** (PB MCGIN)

Dad has posted a list of chores for the family to do before grandma comes, including bathing the cat; but the cat does not want a bath, so she mixes up the instructions, and soon the family is mowing the floor, vacuuming the lawn, mopping the baby--and the house is in chaos.

Mora, Oge. **Thank you Omu.** (PB MORA)

When the aroma of Omu's homemade stew fills the air, her neighbors arrive, one by one, for a taste until all is gone except for her generous spirit.

Petty, Dev. **Don't Eat Bees: life lessons from Chip the dog.** (PB PETTY)

Are you a dog in need of advice? Fear not: Chip the dog is ON IT in this super-silly guide to living your best canine life. Chip is seven; he knows things. Like what to eat (important papers, the fancy bird the humans cooked for the fancy dinner, Grandpa's teeth), and what not to eat (bees). He won't get those mixed up, will he?

Pizzoli, Greg. **The Watermelon Seed.** (PB PIZZO)

After swallowing a watermelon seed, a crocodile imagines a scary outcome.

Quintero, Isabel. **My Papi has a Motorcycle.** (PB QUINT)

When Daisy Ramona zooms around her neighborhood with her papi on his motorcycle, she sees the people and places she's always known. She also sees a community that is rapidly changing around her.

Redd, Nancy. **Bedtime Bonnet.** (PB REDD)

As family members braid, brush, twirl, roll, and tighten their hair before bedtime, putting on kerchiefs, wave caps, and other protective items, the little sister cannot find her bonnet.

Ringler, Matt. **Stroller Coaster.** (PB RINGL)

A quick-thinking father thwarts his daughter's impending temper tantrum when he transforms an everyday walk outside into an exciting strollercoaster ride through the neighborhood.

Rosen, Micheal. **We're going on a Bear Hunt.** (PB ROSEN)

Brave bear hunters go through grass, a river, mud, and other obstacles before the inevitable encounter with the bear forces a headlong retreat.

Saltzberg, Barney. **One of These is Not Like the Others.** (PB SALTZ)

Points out the differences between subjects and celebrates them.

Santat, Dan. **The Adventures of Beekle: the unimaginary friend.** (PB SANTA)

An imaginary friend waits a long time to be imagined by a child and given a special name, and finally does the unimaginable--he sets out on a quest to find his perfect match in the real world.

Sauer, Tammi. **Mary Had a Little Glam.** (PB SAUER)

Mary had a little glam that grew into a lot. And everywhere that Mary went, she wasn't hard to spot. But on the day she started school, she caught some by surprise. Sweet Mary shrugged and hugged her mom. "I must accessorize . . ."

Thomas, Jan. **Rhyming Dust Bunnies.** (PB THOMA)

As three dust bunnies, Ed, Ned, and Ted, are demonstrating how much they love to rhyme, a fourth, Bob, is trying to warn them of approaching danger.

Van Dusen, Chris. **If I Built a House.** (PB VANDU)

Imaginative Jack describes the kind of house he would build--one with a racetrack, a flying room, and a gigantic slide.

Yoshitake, Shinsuke. **Still Stuck.** (PB YOSHI)

At bath time, a boy who believes he is ready to dress and undress himself gets stuck in his clothes, then imagines what life will be like if he remains that way forever.