Talking to Get Every Child Ready to Read

Books That Invite Participation



Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? written by Bill Martin, Jr.; illustrated by Eric Carle. Henry Holt, 1992.

Young readers will learn about animals and color in this fun book where different animals introduce each other by using clever rhymes.

Fortunately written and illustrated by Remy Charlip. Aladdin, 1993.

Ned gets into all sorts of misadventures as his luck turns from good to bad to good again.

Good Night, Gorilla written and illustrated by Peggy Rathmann. Putnam, 1994.

A little gorilla steals the zookeeper's keys, unlocks the cages of the other animals, and the whole group follows the zookeeper to his house.

Is Your Mama a Llama? written by Deborah Guarino; illustrated by Steven Kellogg. Scholastic, 1991.

A rhyming text that follows Lloyd the young llama on his quest to find out who else might have a llama for a Mama.

Jesse Bear What Will You Wear? written by Nancy White Carlstrom; illustrated by Bruce Degen. Simon & Schuster, 1986.

This fun rhyming story about a day in the life of Jesse Bear contains bright, colorful illustrations.

Jump, Frog, Jump! written by Robert Kalan; illustrated by Byron Barton. HarperCollins, 1981.

A frog trying to capture a fly suddenly finds himself being held captive and must jump in order to escape imminent danger.

Little Red Hen written and illustrated by Paul Galdone. HMH Books, 2011.

In this rollicking rendition of the classic tale, the hardworking little red hen tries to get her friends to help with her chores.

Magic Hat written by Mem Fox; illustrated by Tricia Tusa. Harcourt, 2002.

A magical hat, leaving a trail of sparkles and glitter, turns the townspeople into fun-loving animals. Guessing which animal the next person turns into captivates and engages young readers.

Millions of Cats written and illustrated by

Wanda Gag. Putnam, 2004.

An enchanting tale of a very old man who goes off in search of the prettiest cat in the world for his wife and returns with millions of cats from which to choose.

Miss Polly Has a Dolly written by Pamela Duncan Edwards; illustrated by Elicia Castaldi. Putnam, 2003.

Children will enjoy reading along to this expanded version of the popular street rhyming chant (Miss Polly has a dolly who is sick, sick, sick).

My Little Sister Ate One Hare written by Bill Grossman; illustrated by Kevin Hawkes. Dragonfly Books, 1996.

Entertaining counting/rhyming story about a young magician who cheerfully consumes just about anything.

Napping House written by Audrey Wood; illustrated by Don Wood. Harcourt, 1984.

A grandmother, child, and various pets all share a bed and take a nap together, until they are joined by a wakeful flea that causes a huge commotion.

Rhyming Dust Bunnies written and illustrated by Jan Thomas. Beach Lane Books, 2009.

A group of rhyming dust bunnies encounter resistance from a fourth dust bunny, only to learn that he is trying to warn them of impending danger from the broom and vacuum cleaner.

The Jacket I Wear in the Snow written by Shirley Neitzel; illustrated by Nancy Winslow Parker. Greenwillow Books, 1989.

A book about the layers of clothes that we put on and take off, told in appealing rhymes.

The Very Hungry Caterpillar written and illustrated by Eric Carle. Philomel Books, 2009.

The 40th anniversary of this book is a pop-up adventure that makes the story of the caterpillar's transformation into a butterfly even more intriguing.