

Reading to Help Every Child Get Ready to Read

Books with Rich Language



***An Alphabet of Dinosaurs* written by Peter Dodson; illustrated by Wayne D. Barlowe. Scholastic, 1995.**

This beautifully illustrated book features twenty-six dinosaurs, one for every letter of the alphabet. Illustrations are accompanied by facts about these monsters of the Mesozoic.

***Big Plans* written by Bob Shea; illustrated by Lane Smith. Hyperion, 2008.**

Delightful illustrations accompany this amusing tale of a little boy and his plan for world domination, though right now he is stuck in a time-out corner.

***Bubble Trouble* written by Margaret Mahy; illustrated by Polly Dunbar. Clarion Books, 2009.**

Baby is trapped in a bubble blown by older sister Mabel and floats across the neighborhood. Everybody comes together to form a human ladder to rescue the baby.

***Buying, Training, and Caring for Your Dinosaur* written by Laura Joy Rennert; illustrated by Marc Brown. Knopf, 2009.**

Exuberant illustrations accompany this humorous guide to selecting and caring for pet dinosaurs.

***Chrysanthemum* written and illustrated by Kevin Henkes. Greenwillow Books, 1991.**

Chrysanthemum used to love her name, but became weary of it when she started school and her name became a joke amongst her classmates. With the support of her family, and a surprise from a teacher, Chrysanthemum and her classmates learn to love and accept her special name.

***First to Fly: How Wilbur and Orville Wright Invented the Airplane* written by Peter Busby; illustrated by David Craig. Crown, 2002.**

Gorgeous illustrations are paired with informative text about the work of the Wright brothers. Includes archival photographs and diagrams.

***I Stink!* written and illustrated by Jim and Kate McMullan. HarperCollins, 2002.**

A big city garbage truck stars in this engaging book about the importance of garbage collection, as he goes around the city eating everybody's garbage.

***M Is for Music* written by Kathleen Krull; illustrated by Stacy Innerst. Harcourt, 2003.**

This unique alphabet book introduces musical terms from allegro to zydeco and includes humorous collage-type illustrations.

***Make Way for Ducklings* written and illustrated by Robert McCloskey. Viking, 1941.**

In this classic and well-loved tale, Mr. and Mrs. Mallard search for a home for their duckling family. With help from a policeman named Michael, they are able to navigate the busy city streets.

***On Noah's Ark* written and illustrated by Jan Brett. Putnam, 2003.**

The familiar story of Noah's ark is told from his granddaughter's point of view, as she helps her grandfather calm the animals and keep them comfortable.

***Otis* written and illustrated by Loren Long. Philomel Books, 2009.**

Otis the tractor lives a happy life on the farm with his little calf friend, until a new yellow tractor replaces him. Surprisingly it is only Otis who can come to the rescue when the little calf gets into trouble.

***Skippyjon Jones* written and illustrated by Judy Schachner. Dutton, 2003.**

Colorful illustrations accompany this humorous and whimsical tale of a Siamese kitten who imagines he is a Chihuahua.

***Something from Nothing: Adapted from a Jewish Folktale* written and illustrated by Phoebe Gilman. Scholastic, 1993.**

This modern adaptation of a Jewish folktale describes how the blanket Grandfather made for young Joseph is transformed over the years into a jacket, a button, and, ultimately, a story.

***The Story of Ruby Bridges* written by Robert Coles; illustrated by George Ford. Scholastic, 1995.**

Powerful story of six-year-old Ruby Bridges who confronted the hostility of white parents when she became the first African American girl to attend Frantz Elementary School in New Orleans in 1960.

***The Gods and Goddesses of Olympus* written and illustrated by Aiki. Turtleback, 1997.**

An introduction to the gods and goddesses of Greek mythology brought to life by beautiful illustrations and intriguing text.