

BOOKS WE HAVE LOVED

Children's Literature Favorites of Libraries Staff



Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears, by Verna Aardema, illustrations by Leo and Diane Dillon

[PZ8.1 A213 Wh 1975 – Children's Literature](#)

Retelling of a West African tale that reveals the origin and meaning of the mosquitos' buzz. -- *Recommended by Adam Hall*

The Wolves of Willoughby Chase, by Joan Aiken

[PZ7.A2695 Wov 1963 – Children's Literature](#)

After braving a treacherous journey, Sylvia joins her cousin Bonnie at Willoughby Chase where they narrowly avoid a gory lupine death. But with Bonnie's parents overseas, and the evil governess, Miss Slighcarp, left in charge, the cousins find their human predators even more threatening. – *Recommended by Noreen Jacky & Nicolette Warisse Sosulski*

Little Women, by Louisa May Alcott

[PZ7.A335 \(Multiple editions\) - Children's Literature](#)

Chronicles the humorous and sentimental fortunes of the four March sisters as they grow into young ladies in nineteenth-century New England- --*Recommended by Karen Hedelund*

The Book of Three, by Lloyd Alexander

[PZ7.A3774 Bo 1964 - Children's Literature](#)

Taran dreams of adventure, but nothing exciting ever happens to an Assistant Pig-Keeper--until his pig runs away. A chase through the woods leads Taran far from home and into great danger, and he finds himself fighting so that good may triumph over evil. – *Recommended by Kathleen Collins*

Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs, by Judi Barrett, pictures by Ron Barrett

[PZ7.B2752 CL 1978 - Children's Literature](#)

Life is delicious in the town of Chewandswallow where it rains soup and juice, snows mashed potatoes, and blows storms of hamburgers--until the weather takes a turn for the worse. --*Recommended by Steve Dobell*

Ozma of Oz, by L. Frank Baum, illustrations by John R. Neil

[PZ7.B327 Oz 1907c - Children's Literature](#)

When a storm blows Dorothy to the land of Ev where lunches grow on trees, she meets the Scarecrow, the Tin Woodman, the Cowardly Lion, and Princess Ozma, and together they set out to free the Queen of Ev and her ten children. – *Recommended by Nancy Huling, Susan Kane & Steve Weber*

The Curse of the Blue Figurine, by John Bellairs

[PZ7.B413 Cu 1983 – Children's Literature](#)

Johnny Dixon is plunged into a terrifying mystery-adventure when he removes a blue figurine called a ushabti from church --*Recommended by John Glover*

Paddington Bear, by Michael Bond, pictures by Fred Banbery

[PZ7.B6368 Pach 1973 – Bothell Children's Literature](#)

Adopting for their own the lost bear they find in Paddington Station, the Browns have some exciting first moments with him. --*Recommended by Karen Hedelund & Kathleen Collins*

Mystery Island and ***Five Go Down to the Sea***, by Enid Blyton

[PZ7.B629 My 1945](#) and [PZ7.B629 Fgd 1961](#) – [Children's Literature](#)

Two adventures from “the most successful British children’s writer ever to have written” (*DLB*, 1996). --*Recommended by Dottie Smith*

The Freddy the Pig Books (series), by Walter R. Brooks, illustrations by Kurt Wiese

[PZ10.3.B76 F \(Multiple Books\)](#) – [Children's Literature](#)

Stories featuring Freddy the Pig and his animal friends. --*Recommended by Susan Kemp*

Goodnight Moon, by Margaret Wise Brown, pictures by Clement Hurd

[PZ7.B8163 Go 1947](#) - [Children's Literature](#)

Goodnight to each of the objects in the great green room: goodnight chairs, goodnight comb, goodnight air...--*Recommended by Steve Dobell & Susan Kane*

Babar et le Père Noël [*Babar and Father Christmas*], by Jean de Brunhoff

[PZ7.B828428 Bab 1940 \(English translation only\)](#) – [Children's Literature](#)

Babar’s children have heard of someone in Man’s country named Father Christmas who brings joy and toys to little children. Can Babar find a way to bring him to Elephants’ country? --*recommended by Marc-Albert Vandermeerssche*

Histoire de Babar, le petit éléphant [*The Story of Babar*], by Jean de Brunhoff

[PZ23.B77 Hib 1939](#) – [Children's Literature](#)

After his mother is killed by a hunter, Babar escapes to the city, where he is befriended by the kindly Old Lady. When he returns to the great forest, educated and cultured, he is crowned King of the Elephants. --*recommended by Marc-Albert Vandermeerssche*

The Secret Garden, by Frances Hodgson Burnett

[PZ7.B934 Se \(Multiple editions\)](#) - [Children's Literature](#)

Ten-year-old Mary comes to live in a lonely house on the Yorkshire moors and discovers an invalid cousin and the mysteries of a locked garden. – *Recommended by Deborah Werth-Kapstafer*

Wheedle on the Needle, by Stephen Cosgrove, illustrated by Robin James

[PZ7.C8187 Wh 1974](#) - [Children's Literature](#)

A Wheedle goes to great lengths to prevent the people of Seattle from disturbing his sleep. – *Recommended by Anne Davis*

The BFG, by Roald Dahl, illustrations by Quentin Blake

[PZ7.D1515 Bf 1982](#) – [Children's Literature](#)

Kidnatched from her orphanage by a BFG (Big Friendly Giant), who spends his life blowing happy dreams to children, Sophie concocts with him a plan to save the world from nine other man-gobbling cannybull giants --*Recommended by Anne Bingham*

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, by Roald Dahl

[PZ7.D1515 Ch 1964](#) – [Children's Literature](#)

Each of five children lucky enough to discover an entry ticket into Mr. Willy Wonka's chocolate factory takes advantage of the situation in his own way. --*Recommended by Theresa Mudrock*

The Great Brain (series), by J.D. Fitzgerald

[PZ7.F57535 \(Multiple books\)](#) - [Children's Literature](#)

The exploits of the Great Brain of Adenville, Utah are described by his younger brother, frequently the victim of the Great Brain's schemes for gaining prestige or money. – *Recommended by Steve Weber*

Harriet the Spy, (series) by Louise Fitzhugh

PZ3556.I858 H3 (Multiple books) - Children's Literature

Harriet M. Welsch is a spy. In her notebook, she writes down everything she knows about everyone, even her classmates and her best friends. Then Harriet loses track of her notebook, and it ends up in the wrong hands...

--Recommended by Steve Weber & Sarah Weeks

Johnny Tremain by Esther Forbes, illustrations by Lynd Ward

PZ7.F749 Jo 1943 - Children's Literature

After injuring his hand, a silversmith's apprentice in Boston becomes a messenger for the Sons of Liberty in the days before the American Revolution. – Recommended by Kathleen Collins

Corduroy, by Don Freeman

PZ7.F8747 Cor 1968 - Children's Literature

A toy bear in a department store wants a number of things, but when a little girl finally buys him he finds what he has always wanted most of all. – Recommended by Kathleen Collins

My Father's Dragon, by Ruth Stiles Gannett

PZ7.G15 My 1948 - Children's Literature

A young boy determines to rescue a poor baby dragon who is being used by a group of lazy wild animals to ferry them across the river on Wild Island. – Recommended by Karen Hedelund

Julie of the Wolves, by Jean Craighead George

PZ7.G2933 Ju 1972 - Children's Literature

While running away from home and an unwanted marriage, a thirteen-year-old Eskimo girl becomes lost on the North Slope of Alaska and is befriended by a wolf pack. – Recommended by Anne Davis

My Side of the Mountain, by Jean Craighead George

PZ7.G2933 My 1959 - Children's Literature

A young boy relates his adventures during the year he spends living alone in the Catskill Mountains including his struggle for survival, his dependence on nature, his animal friends, and his ultimate realization that he needs human companionship. – Recommended by Randy Hertzler

The Raggedy Ann and Andy Stories (series), by Johnny Gruelle

PZ7.G9324 Rag (Multiple Books) – Children's Literature

Two rag dolls have a series of adventures. --Recommended by Nancy Huling

King of the Wind, by Marguerite Henry

PZ10.3.H43 Ki 1948 – Children's Literature

Traces the abuses and triumphs of the Arabian stallion who became a founding sire of the Thoroughbred breed, and of the mute Arabian boy who tended him as long as he lived --Recommended by Nicolette Warisse Sosulski

Les aventures de Tintin [The Adventures of Tintin] (series), by Hergé

PZ23.R26 -- Children's Literature

Graphic novels illustrating the adventures of Tintin and his dog, Milou. --recommended by Marc-Albert Vandermeerssche

Bread and Jam for Frances, by Russell Hoban, pictures by Lillian Hoban

PZ10.3.H646 Br 1964 - Children's Literature

"Jam on toast," sings Frances about the food she likes most--until she has it for the sixth meal in two days.

– Recommended by Kathleen Collins

The Alfie Books (series), by Shirley Hughes

PZ7.H87395 A... (Multiple Books) – Children's Literature

Chronicle the misadventures of toddler Alfie, his mother, and his sister Annie Rose. --Recommended by Nancy Huling

Charmed Life, by Diana Wynne Jones

PZ7.J684 Ch 1977 - Children's Literature

Gwendolen Chant and her brother Cat find the Chrestomancie Castle family's magic powers difficult to counter with the inferior powers of the Coven Street witches. – Recommended by Kathleen Collins

Nancy Drew Mysteries (series), by Carolyn Keene

PZ7.K23 (Multiple books) - Children's Literature

Tales of the teenage detective, Nancy Drew. – Recommended by Karen Hedelund

From the Mixed-up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler, by E.L. Konigsburg

PZ7.K8352 Fr 1967b - Children's Literature

When Claudia decided to run away, she planned very carefully. She would be gone just long enough to teach her parents a lesson in Claudia appreciation. And she would live in comfort - at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. – Recommended by Anne Davis

Ben and Me, by Robert Lawson

PZ7.L4384 Be 1939 - Children's Literature

Benjamin Franklin's companion, Amos, a less-than-humble rodent, recounts how he was responsible for Franklin's inventions and discoveries. – Recommended by Karen Hedelund

The Complete Nonsense Book, by Edward Lear

PR4879.L2 N47 1943 - Children's Literature

The owls, hen, larks, and their nests in his beard, are among the fey fauna and peculiar persons inhabiting the uniquely inspired nonsense rhymes and drawings of Lear (20th child of a London stockbroker), whose Book of Nonsense, first published in 1846, stands alone as the ultimate and most loved expression in English of freewheeling, benign, and unconstricted merriment. --Recommended by Lynda Ekins

A Wizard of Earthsea, by Ursula K. Le Guin, illustrations by Ruth Robins

PZ7.L5215 Wi 1968 – Children's Literature

A boy grows to manhood while attempting to subdue the evil he unleashed on the world as an apprentice to the Master Wizard --Recommended by Adam Hall

A Wrinkle in Time, by Madeleine L'Engle

PZ7.L5385 Wr 1962 - Children's Literature

Meg Murry and her friends become involved with unearthly strangers and a search for Meg's father, who has disappeared while engaged in secret work for the government. – Recommended by Anne Davis

The Chronicles of Narnia, (series) by C.S. Lewis

PZ7 .L58474 Ch1950 (Multiple books) - Children's Literature

Journeys to the end of the world, fantastic creatures, and epic battles between good and evil -- what more could any reader ask for in one series? – Recommended by Noreen Jacky, Susan Kane, Scott Loveless, Anne Davis, & Kathleen Collins

Flicka, Ricka, Dicka (series), by Maj Lindman

Z7.L659 (Multiple books) - Children's Literature

Flicka, Ricka, and Dicka were three little girls who lived in Sweden. They had blue eyes and yellow curls, and they looked very much alike --Recommended by Noreen Jacky

Days with Frog and Toad, by Arnold Lobel

PZ7.L7795 Day 1984 - Children's Literature

Frog and Toad spend their days together, but find sometimes it's nice to be alone. – *Recommended by Steve Dobell*

Doctor Dolittle (series), by Hugh Lofting

PZ7.L827 (Multiple books) - Children's Literature

Doctor John Dolittle, the veterinarian who can actually talk to animals, sets sail on the high seas for new adventures. – *Recommended by Steve Weber*

Centerburg Tales, by Robert McCloskey

PZ7.M1336 Ce 1951 - Children's Literature

Further adventures of Homer Price, including those in which a juke box sets the whole town singing against its will and in which a mad scientist develops weeds that overrun the town. – *Recommended by Steve Weber*

Homer Price, by Robert McCloskey

PZ7.M1336 Ho 1943 - Children's Literature

Six episodes in the life of Homer Price including one in which he and his pet skunk capture four bandits and another about a donut machine on the rampage. – *Recommended by Steve Weber*

One Morning in Maine, by Robert McCloskey

PZ7.M1336 On 1952 - Children's Literature

It's a big day for a little girl when she discovers her first loose tooth and makes a trip to the mainland. – *Recommended by Kathleen Collins*

The Riddle-Master of Hed, by Patricia A. McKillip

PZ7.M19864 Ri 1976 – Children's Literature

1st volume of a trilogy. In seeking the answer to the riddle of the three stars on his forehead and the three stars on the enchanted harp and sword, Morgon, Prince of Hed, goes ultimately to the High One, himself -- *Recommended by Adam Hall*

The Blue Sword, by Robin McKinley

PZ7.M47868 BL 1982 - Children's Literature

Harry, bored with her sheltered life in the remote orange-growing colony of Daria, discovers magic in herself when she is kidnapped by a native king with mysterious powers. – *Recommended by Kathleen Collins*

Now We Are Six, by A.A. Milne, illustrations by Ernest H. Shepard

PZ8.3.M6354 No (Multiple editions) - Children's Literature

A collection of poems reflecting the experiences of Christopher Robin, a little English boy – *Recommended by Kathleen Collins*

Winnie the Pooh, by A.A. Milne, illustrations by Ernest H. Shepard

PZ7.M64 Wi (Multiple editions) - Children's Literature

The adventures of Christopher Robin and his friends in which Pooh Bear uses a balloon to get honey, Piglet meets a Heffalump, and Eeyore has a birthday. – *Recommended by Steve Dobell & Karen Hedelund*

The Dollhouse Caper, by Jean S. O'Connell

PZ8.9.O35 Do 1975 - Children's Literature

Worried that the growing Human children will soon discard them, the Dollhouse Family tries to think of a way to save themselves and their home. – *Recommended by Anne Davis*

Toby Tyler, Or, Ten Weeks with a Circus, by James Otis

[PZ7.K124 To 1938 \(Multiple Editions\) – Children’s Literature](#)

Classic story of a little orphan boy who runs away to join the circus, only to learn, unhappily, that his new employer is a cruel taskmaster. --*Recommended by Adam Hall*

Bridge to Terabithia, by Katherine Paterson

[PZ7.P273 Br 1977 - Children’s Literature](#)

The life of a ten-year-old boy in rural Virginia expands when he becomes friends with a newcomer who subsequently meets an untimely death trying to reach their hideaway, Terabithia, during a storm. – *Recommended by Anne Davis*

The Tale of Peter Rabbit, by Beatrix Potter

[PZ7.P85 Tap \(Multiple editions\) - Children’s Literature](#)

Peter disobeys his mother by going into Mr. McGregor's garden and almost gets caught. – *Recommended by Karen Hedelund*

The Golden Compass, by Phillip Pullman

[PZ7.P968 Go 1996 - Children’s Literature](#)

Accompanied by her daemon, Lyra Belacqua sets out to prevent her best friend and other kidnapped children from becoming the subject of gruesome experiments in the Far North. – *Recommended by Adam Hall & Anne Davis*

Henry Reed (series), by Keith Robertson, illustrations by Robert McCloskey

[PZ7.R547 \(Multiple books\) - Children’s Literature](#)

Henry spends his summers in Grover’s Corner, N.J., where he and Midge, his neighbor and ally, get involved in a series of entertaining projects. – *Recommended by Steve Weber*

Alistair in Outer Space, by Marilyn Sadler, pictures by Roger Bollen

[PZ7.S1239 Al 1988 - Children’s Literature](#)

When Alistair is kidnapped by a spaceship full of Goots from Gootula, his main concern is for his overdue library books. – *Recommended by Kathleen Collins*

The Little Prince, by Antoine de Saint-Exupery

[PZ8.S14 Li 1943 - Children’s Literature](#)

An aviator whose plane is forced down in the Sahara Desert encounters a little man from a small planet who describes his adventures in the universe seeking the secret of what is really important in life. – *Recommended by Karen Hedelund*

A Cricket in Times Square, by George Selden, illustrations by Garth Williams

[PZ7.T37154 Cr 1960 - Children’s Literature](#)

The adventures of a country cricket who unintentionally arrives in New York and is befriended by Tucker Mouse and Harry Cat. – *Recommended by Kathleen Collins*

Chicken Soup with Rice, A Book of Months by Maurice Sendak

[PZ8.3.S45 Ch 1971 - Children’s Literature](#)

“Each month is gay, each season nice, when eating chicken soup with rice.” . – *Recommended by Kathleen Collins*

Where the Wild Things Are, by Maurice Sendak

[PZ7.S47 Wh 1963 – Children’s Literature](#)

A naughty little boy, sent to bed without his supper, sails to the land of the wild things where he becomes their king --*Recommended by Nancy Huling*

Horton Hears a Who!, by Dr. Seuss

PZ8.3.G276 Hor 1954 - Children's Literature

A city of Whos on a speck of dust are threatened with destruction until the smallest Who of all helps convince Horton's friends that Whos really exist. – *Recommended by Adam Hall, Karen Hedelund & Kathleen Collins*

The King's Stilts, by Dr. Seuss

PZ8.G326 Ki 1939 – Children's Literature

When the King's stilts are stolen and hidden, and he can no longer enjoy his play hour, the whole kingdom is threatened with destruction until a page boy bravely saves the day --*Recommended by Adam Hall*

Miss Bianca in the Salt Mines by Margery Sharp, illustrations by Garth Williams

PZ7.S5315 Ins 1966 - Children's Literature

Miss Bianca, the Perpetual Madam President of M.P.S.A. (Mouse Prisoners' Aid Society), and her stalwart companion Bernard embark on a dangerous mission to rescue Teddy-Age-Eight from the salt mines. –*Recommended by Carmine Rau & Kathleen Collins*

The Giving Tree, by Shel Silverstein

PZ7.S588 Gi 1964 – Children's Literature

A young boy grows to manhood and old age experiencing the love and generosity of a tree which gives to him without thought of return --*Recommended by Nancy Huling*

Encyclopedia Brown (series) by Donald Sobol

PZ7.S68524 (Multiple books) - Children's Literature

"America's Sherlock Holmes in sneakers" –*Recommended by Steve Weber*

The Witch of Blackbird Pond, by Elizabeth George Speare

PZ7.S7376 Wi 1958 – Children's Literature

In 1687 in Connecticut, Kit Tyler, feeling out of place in the Puritan household of her aunt, befriends an old woman considered a witch by the community and suddenly finds herself standing trial for witchcraft. --*Recommended by Nicolette Warisse Sosulski & Kathleen Collins*

A Child's Garden of Verses, by Robert Louis Stevenson

PR5489 .C5 (Multiple editions) - Children's Literature

First published in 1885, Stevenson's verses so truly reflect the feelings of young children--about being small, the bliss of going up in a swing so high, discovering one's shadow, happiness and sorrow and dreaming--that they have never ceased to be an essential part of a child's library. – *Recommended by Karen Hedelund*

Petrouchka, a Ballet by Igor Stravinsky, by Robert Lawrence

MT100.S96 L38 1940 - Children's Literature

An illustrated retelling of the classic ballet – *Recommended by Karen Hedelund*

The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole Aged 13 ¾, by Sue Townsend

PZ7.T664 Sec 1983 - Children's Literature

The self-absorbed Adrian Mole faces the same agonies which life sets before most adolescents: troubles with girls, school, parents, and an uncaring world. The difference, though, between young Master Mole and his peers is that this British lad keeps a diary -- an earnest chronicle of longing and disaster that only gets funnier as his life becomes more desperate. – *Recommended by Anne Davis*

Vingt mille lieues sous les mers [Twenty Thousand Leagues under the Sea], by Jules Verne

PZ7.V594 Tw (various editions, English translation only) – Children's Literature

Adventures of a French professor and his two companions as they sail above and below the world's oceans as prisoners on the fabulous electric submarine of the deranged Captain Nemo. --*recommended by Marc-Albert Vandermeerssche*

The Boxcar Children (series), by Gertrude Chandler Warner

PZ7.W244 Bo 1950 - Children's Literature

The resourceful Alden children survive without adult supervision and make a home for themselves in an abandoned boxcar. – *Recommended by Stacey Walter*

Father Fox's Pennyrhymes, by Clyde Watson, pictures by Wendy Watson

PZ8.3.W28 Fat 1971 - Children's Literature

Thirty rhymes record the various activities of Father Fox, his family, and friends. – *Recommended by Kathleen Collins*

The Max Books (series), by Rosemary Wells

PZ7.W46843 Ma (Multiple Books) – Children's Literature

Ruby has her hands full watching over her little brother Max. --*Recommended by Nancy Huling*

The Once and Future King, by T.H. White

PR6045.H2 O5 – Odegaard Stacks

A magical retelling of King Arthur and Camelot, with Merlyn, Owl, Guinevere, beasts who talk and men who fly. – *Recommended by Scott Loveless*

Little House in the Big Woods, by Laura Ingalls Wilder, illustrations by Garth Williams

PZ7.W6461 Li 2001 - Children's Literature

A year in the life of two young girls growing up on the Wisconsin frontier, as they help their mother with the daily chores, enjoy their father's stories and singing, and share special occasions when they get together with relatives or neighbors. – *Recommended by Kathleen Collins*

Danny Dunn (series), by Jay Williams

PZ7.W666 (Multiple books) - Children's Literature

Danny Dunn, boy scientist, is always getting into scrapes as he explores the ocean floor, builds homework machines, sneaks along on time travel adventures. – *Recommended by Steve Weber*

The Velveteen Rabbit, by Margery Williams, pictures by William Nicholson

PZ8.9.B47 Ve - Children's Literature

By the time the Velveteen Rabbit is dirty, worn out, and about to be burned, he has almost given up hope of ever finding the magic called Real. – *Recommended by Stacey Walter & Kathleen Collins*