

"Bear-y" Good  
Books & More for  
**3-year-olds**



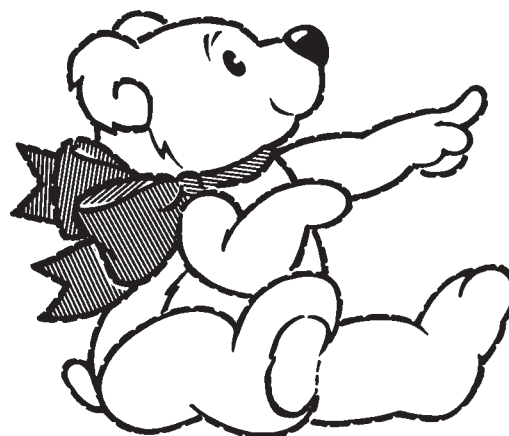
at the  
**Elmhurst Public  
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## Choosing Books for 3-year-olds

Three-year-olds are ready to hear books that have simple, straightforward plots—a problem is described and then the problem is solved. They still enjoy stories about everyday experiences such as getting dressed, going to the zoo, bedtime, etc. (You might call these “here and now” stories.) Three-year-olds also are able to appreciate silliness and humor in stories, though generally they are not able to differentiate between reality and fantasy. They may enjoy simple nonfiction books on topics of interest to them such as dinosaurs, trains or ballerinas.

## Great Books about Reading

- Hearne, Betsy ..... *Choosing Books for Children: A Commonsense Guide*  
(JP/T 011.62 Hea)
- Carlson, Ann D. .... *The Preschooler and the Library*  
(JRef 027.625 Car)
- Odean, Kathleen ..... *Great Books for Babies and Toddlers*  
(JP/T 028.162 Ode)
- Hall, Susan ..... *Straight Talk About Reading*  
(JP/T 372.41 Hal)
- Trelease, Jim ..... *The Read-Aloud Handbook*  
(JP/T 372.64 Tre)
- Fox, Mem ..... *Reading Magic: Why Reading Aloud to Our Children Will Change Their Lives Forever* (JP/T 649.58 Fox)



# Tips for Reading to 3-year-olds

## Continue to:

- Read to your child on a daily basis, using an enthusiastic and lively voice. Make it a time to snuggle and laugh together. Be sure your child sees you reading; children model adult behavior.
- Make books readily available to your child so that he or she can pick them up and browse on his or her own.
- Allow him or her to select some of the books you read and do read his or her favorites over and over and over.
- Encourage your child to talk about the pictures in the book and the story itself. Ask questions about an illustration or about the story.
- When a phrase or rhyme is repeated often in the book, have your child say the phrase or rhyme with you. This is a good pre-reading activity.

## Further increase the interactive reading experience between you and your child:

- Look at the cover of the book and asking your child what he or she thinks the story is about. (Some books also have interesting “endpapers” on the reverse of the cover. Be sure to look at those because they frequently add to the story.)
- Encourage your child to talk about the story while you are reading it by asking him or her questions: “What do you think will happen next?” “What is the dog doing?” Around the age of three begin to repeat their answer and then expand upon it. For example, your child might say, “The dog jumped in the puddle” and you would say, “Yes, the dog jumped in the puddle and he is going to be very wet.” This encourages your child to think and talk more in depth about what is happening in the story.
- If you’ve read the same book several times, have your child tell the story to you, using the book and turning the pages as he or she goes along.
- At the end of the day ask your child to tell you the “story” of his or her visit to a friend’s house or the “story” of his or her day. Children will learn they can be storytellers too.
- Have your child run his or her finger underneath the words in the repeated phrase or rhyme as you say it.

# Going to School

- Brown, Marc ..... *D.W.’s Guide to Preschool* (J E Bro)
- Dyer, Jane ..... *Little Brown Bear Won’t Go to School* (J E Dye)
- Edwards, Becky ..... *My First Day at Nursery School* (J E Edw)
- Thompson, Lauren ... *Mouse’s First Day of School* (J E Tho)



- Hest, Amy ..... *You’re the Boss, Baby Duck!* (J E Hes)
- Lewison, Wendy ..... *Our New Baby* (J E Lew)
- Markes, Julie ..... *I Can’t Talk Yet, But When I Do* (J E Mar)
- Marx, David ..... *Baby in the House* (J/B/Marx)
- Mayer, Mercer ..... *The New Baby* (J E May)
- Keats, Ezra Jack ..... *Peter’s Chair* (J E Kea)
- Ziefert, Harriet ..... *Pushkin Meets the Bundle* (J E Zie)  
[Also *Pushkin Minds the Bundle* and *Waiting for Baby*]
- Cole, Joanna ..... *The New Baby at Your House* (J 155.422 Col)
- Thomas, Shelley ..... *A Baby’s Coming to Your House* (J 305.232 Tho)

# Good Books for 3-year-olds

- Alborough, Jez ..... *Where's My Teddy?* (J E Alb)
- Baker, Alan ..... *Little Rabbit's First Farm Book*  
(J E Bak)
- Bang, Molly ..... *When Sophie Gets Angry—Really, Really Angry* (J E Ban)
- Becker, Bonny ..... *Tickly Prickly* (J E Bec)
- Bridwell, Norman ..... *Clifford, the Big Red Dog* (J E Bri)
- Blackstone, Stella ..... *Bear on a Bike* (J E Bla)
- Boynton, Sandra ..... *Birthday Monsters!* (J E Boy)
- Brown, Margaret Wise ..... *The Runaway Bunny* (J E Bro)
- Bruss, Deborah ..... *Book, Book, Book* (J E Bru)
- Buck, Nola ..... *Hey, Little Baby!* (J E Buc)
- Burningham, John ..... *Mr. Gumpy's Outing* (J E Bur)
- Collicutt, Paul ..... *This Plane* (J E Col)
- Corwin, Judith ..... *My First Riddles* (J E Cor)
- Cullen, Catherine Ann *Thirsty Baby* (J E Cul)
- Degen, Bruce ..... *Jamberry* (J E Deg)
- Desimini, Lisa ..... *Dot the Fire Dog* (J E Des)
- Ehlert, Lois ..... *Top Cat* (J E Ehl)
- Emberley, Ed ..... *Go Away Big Green Monster* (J E Emb)
- Evans, Katie ..... *Hunky Dory Ate It* (J E Eva)
- Feiffer, Jules ..... *Bark, George* (J E Fei)
- Fleming, Denise ..... *Mama Cat Has Three Kittens* (J E Fle)
- Galloway, Ruth ..... *Fidgety Fish* (J E Gal)
- Harley, Bill ..... *Sitting Down to Eat* (J E Har)
- Hayes, Sarah ..... *Eat Up, Gemma* (J E Hay)
- Hazen, Barbara Sook . *That Toad is Mine!* (J E Haz)
- Hest, Amt ..... *Baby Duck and the Bad Eyeglasses*  
(J E Hes)
- Hoberman, Mary Ann *Right Outside My Window* (J E Hob)
- Johnson, Crockett ..... *Harold and the Purple Crayon* (J E Joh)
- Kalan, Robert ..... *Blue Sea* (J E Kal)
- Keats, Ezra Jack ..... *The Snowy Day* (J E Kea)
- Martin, Bill ..... *Chicka Chicka Boom Boom* (J E Mar)
- McBratney, Sam ..... *Guess How Much I Love You* (J E McB)
- McCarty, Peter ..... *Hondo and Fabian* (J E McC)
- Merriam, Eve ..... *What in the World?* (J E Mer)
- Neitzel, Shirley ..... *The Jacket I Wear in the Snow* (J E Nei)
- O'Garden, Irene ..... *The Scrubbly-Bubbly Car Wash*  
(J E O'Ga)
- Piper, Watty ..... *The Little Engine That Could* (J E Pip)
- Riley, Linnea ..... *Mouse Mess* (J E Ril)
- Rockwell, Anne ..... *Apples and Pumpkins* (J E Roc)
- Rohmann, Eric ..... *My Friend Rabbit* (J E Roh)
- Rosen, Michael ..... *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* (J E Ros)
- Singer, Marilyn ..... *The One and Only Me* (J E Sin)
- Slobodkina, Esphry ... *Caps for Sale* (J E Slo)
- Trapani, Iza ..... *Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star* (J E Tra)
- Vrombaut, An ..... *Clarabella's Teeth* (J E Vro)
- Waddell, Martin ..... *Farmer Duck* (J E Wad)
- Waddell, Martin ..... *Snow Bears* (J E Wad)
- Weeks, Sarah ..... *Mrs. McNosh and the Great Big Squash*  
(J E Wee)
- Wood, Don ..... *The Little Mouse, the Red Ripe Strawberry, and the Big Hungry Bear*  
(J E Wood)
- Yolen, Jane ..... *How Do Dinosaurs Say Good Night?*  
(J E Yol)
- Zimmerman, Andrea .. *Trashy Town* (J E Zim)



# Bedtime Stories

Berenstain, Stan and Jan . *The Berenstain Bears Bedtime Story* (J E Ber)

Killion, Bette ..... *Just Think!* (J E Kil)

Loh, Morag ..... *Tucking Mommy In* (J E Loh)

McMullan, Kate ..... *If You Were My Bunny* (J E McM)

Morgan, Mary ..... *Sleep Tight, Little Mouse* (J E Mor)

Oram, Hiawyn ..... *Let's Do That Again* (J E Ora)

Panek, Dennis ..... *BaBa Sheep Won't Go to Sleep* (J E Pan)

Roth, Carol ..... *Ten Dirty Pigs/Ten Clean Pigs* (J E Rot)

Waddell, Martin ..... *Can't You Sleep, Little Bear?* (J E Wad)

Wood, Audrey ..... *The Napping House* (J E Woo)

Yolen, Jane ..... *How Do Dinosaurs Say Good Night?*  
(J E Yol)

# Fairy Tales and Folktales

Craig, Helen ..... *The Random House Book of Nursery Stories* (J 398.2 Cra)

Galdone, Paul ..... *The Little Red Hen* (J 398.2 Gal)

Harper, Wilhelmina .... *Gunnwolf* (J E Har)

Kimmel, Eric ..... *The Gingerbread Man* (J 398.21 Kim)

Kliros, Thea ..... *Three Little Pigs* (J E Kli) (board book)

Kliros, Thea ..... *The Three Bears* (J E Kli) (board book)

Kliros, Thea ..... *Three Billy Goats Gruff*  
(J E Kli) (board book)

P/T = Parent/Teacher Shelves



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