

Selecting books for Kindergarten through Third Grade Children

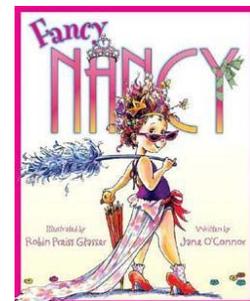
Six to nine year-olds love to solve puzzles and mysteries and enjoy stories about adventures. Children this age are curious about other people, places and what life was like a long time ago. They are beginning to recognize their own values and are interested in comparing themselves with others.

Children in early elementary school have a terrific sense of humor. They enjoy unlikely situations, stories about triumphs of others, and slapstick comedy. Often these children are sensitive to criticism and their feelings are easily hurt. Favorite topics for this age include stories about outer space, famous people, humor, family relationships, feelings, hobbies, mysteries, spooks and ghosts, sharks, and fast-moving adventures.

Although boys' and girls' interests may begin to differ at this age, it is important to provide both with a wide variety of choices and to help your child choose books that match their individual interests. Reluctant readers may be enticed with comic books, joke books, magazines, graphic novels, or hobby information.

Tips for Reading Aloud

- Do not stop reading when your child enters school. Even after children can read by themselves, they learn from hearing stories read aloud.
- Beginning readers like to hear books that are too hard for them to read alone, and they pick up new words and ideas.
- Make reading at home an enjoyable experience.
- Let children choose the books they want to read.
- Turn off the radio and TV while reading.



Ask for these and other books at your local library:

- *Amazing Grace*, by Mary Hoffman
- *Cam Jansen*, by David Adler
- *Chester*, by Melanie Watt
- *Edwina the Dinosaur Who Didn't Know She Was Extinct*, by Mo Willems
- *Fancy Nancy*, by Jane O'Connor
- *The Keeping Quilt*, by Patricia Polacco
- *Little House on the Prairie*, by Laura Ingalls Wilder
- *The Lorax*, by Dr. Seuss
- *Louise, The Adventures of a Chicken*, by Kate DiCamillo
- *Miss Rumphius*, by Barbara Cooney
- *The Napping House*, by Audrey Wood (Available in Spanish)
- *Pete's a Pizza*, by William Steig
- *Red-Eyed Tree Frog*, Joy Cowley
- *The Relatives Came*, by Cynthia Rylant
- *Robot Zot*, by Jon Scieszka and David Shannon
- *Skippyjon Jones*, by Judy Schachner
- *Too Many Tamales*, by Gary Soto (Available in Spanish)
- *Traction Man is Here!* by Mini Grey
- *Wolf's Chicken Stew*, by Keiko Kasza
- *Zen Shorts*, by Jon J. Muth

