

Read Aloud America

2025 Reading List



Read Aloud America, Inc.
www.readaloudamerica.org
1314 South King Street, Suite 1056, Honolulu, HI 96814



January 2025

Dear Parents, Grandparents, Teachers, and all who read to children:

Here is the new Read Aloud America 2025 Reading List of great read aloud books for children of all ages. You will find many new titles, a few repeat titles and a list of Graphic Novels. Be sure to look at page 11 which has a list of 25 “Good Reads for Adults” that you might enjoy. On our revitalized website you can go to this link and scroll down to view Reading Lists that we have compiled since 2010: <https://readaloudamerica.org/how-to-encourage-kids-to-read-resources/>.

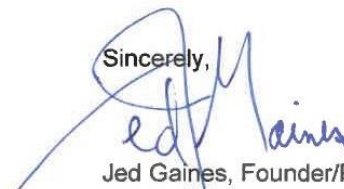
I hope that you find the list both a helpful guide of books to read aloud to the children in your lives and a resource when choosing a book to give as a gift.

To recommend a book for the 2025 reading list the following criteria was used:

- Excellent read-aloud appeal
- Variety of male/female main characters, genres, and popular authors
- Strong development of characters, plot, themes, and subtle moral (character-building) messages, and
- Age group appropriateness.

Read Aloud America is interested in your feedback. Please feel free to email me at: jedgaines@readaloudamerica.org with your comments as well as your own recommended read-aloud favorites.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jed Gaines, Founder/President
Read Aloud America

Lists compiled by:

Notable Children's Books 2024

Amazon.com Best Children's Books

Jed Gaines, Founder/President, Read Aloud America

www.whatdowedoallday.com

Barnes and Noble Best Children's Books

<https://besspress.com/>

Joanne Laird, RAA Program Director

Larry Laird, RAA Operations Director

Scholastic Books

Newbery Award Books List

The books chosen for the 2025 book list reflect subjects, interests, genres, and cultures that are as diverse as the committee members and groups who chose them. Please review the subject matter and content before reading or suggesting books from the book list to family and friends.

Read Aloud America, Inc. www.readaloudamerica.org
1314 South King St., Suite 1056 • Honolulu, HI 96814

READ-ALOUDS FOR INFANTS AND TODDLERS

Cuddly Bear	Arrhenius, Ingela
The First Lift-the-Flap Nursery Rhymes	Arrhenius, Ingela
Train	Braun, Sebastien
I Can Say Mama	Cohen, Stephanie
This Is My Home (Felt book)	Collage, Petit
Where is Little Fish?	Cousins, Lucy
Good Night, Little Fish	Cousins, Lucy
Hello, Bedtime	Duopress Labs
Crinkle, Crinkle Little Car	Fleck, Jay
Think Big, Little One	Harrison, Vashti
What's Baby Thinking	Law, Marcus
Tummy Time Farm	Lockhart, Louise
Guess How Much I Love You	McBratney, Sam
Hooray for Little Fingers!	Mory, Tristin
I Kissed the Baby!	Murphy, Mary
Look, It's Hoot Hoot Owl	Reid, Camilla
Peekaboo House	Reid, Camilla
I Love You Like No Otter	Rossner, Rose
Dragon's First Taco	Rubin, Adam
Wings	Sajnani, Surya
All the World	Scanlon, Liz Garton
Mail Duck	Sirotych, Erica
Good Night, Baby	Stilwell, Stephani
Bee, A Peek-Through Board Book	Teckentrup, Britta
That's Not My Dragon	Watt, Fiona

READ-ALOUDS FOR PRE-KINDERGARTEN – KINDERGARTEN

Brave Dave!	Andreae, Giles
The Worrysaurus	Bright, Rachel
Don't Push the Button!	Cotter, Bill
Pete the Cat: Super Pete	Dean, James
Knight Owl and Early Bird	Denise, Christopher
Don't Blow Your Top!	Dyckman, Ame
Good Night Thoughts	Greenfield, Max
The Good, Bad, and The Spooky	John, Jory
More Bears	Kesbitt, Ken
Warning! Do Not Open this Book!	Lehrhaupt, Adam
I Lived Inside a Whale	Li, Xin
Chicka Chicka 1, 2, 3	Martin, Bill
Don't Call Me Grumpycorn	McIntyre, Sarah
There are No Ants in This Book	Mosco, Rosemary
Don't Wake the Dragon!	Schulze, Bianca
There are Cats in this Book	Schwarz, Viviane
Perfectly Pegasus	Sima, Jessie
Thanks to the Animals	Sockabasin, Allen
Joseph Had a Little Overcoat	Taback, Simms
Tiny Toot Big Boom	Tomar, Pragya
Let's Play!	Tullet, Herve
Sometimes I Kaploom	Vail, Rachel
When Charley Met Emma	Webb, Amy

READ-ALOUDS FOR GRADES 1 – 2

Henry and the Something New	Bailey, Jenn
Henry, Like Always	Bailey, Jenn
Frank and the Bad Surprise	Brockenbrough, Martha
The King of the World!	Clanton, Ben
Sydney and Taylor	Davies, Jacqueline
Orris and Timble: The Beginning	DiCamillo, Kate
5 More Sleeps Till Halloween	Fallon, Jimmy
Stick and Stone on the Go	Ferry, Beth
Once Upon a Tim	Gibbs, Stuart
Miss Banks Pulls Lots of Pranks	Gutman, Dan
The Dictionary Story	Jeffers, Oliver
Buffalo Fluffalo	Kalb, Bess
The Secret Explorers and the Moon Mission	King, SJ
Puggletown Park	Kizis, Deanna
The Book of Blast Off!	Knapman, Timothy
Ronan the Librarian	Luebbe, Tara
The Kids in Mrs. Z's Class	Messner, Kate
Magnolia Wu Unfolds It All	Miller, Chanel
All the Books	Rocco, Hayler
The Most Boring Book Ever	Sanderson, Brandon
Pretty Ugly	Sedaris, Ian
David Smells	Shannon, David
The Famously Funny Parrott	Weiner, Eric
The Day the River Caught Fire	Wittenstein, Barry

GOOD READS FOR GRADES 3 - 4

Odder	Applegate, Katherine
Ava Green Sleuthing Machine	Bowling, Dusti
The Wild Robot	Brown, Peter
The Feather Chase	Brown, Shannon
Eerie Elementary (Series)	Chabert, Jack
The Secret Zoo	Chick, Bryan
Love that Dog	Creech, Sharon
The Lemonade War	Davies, Jacqueline
Wild Summer	DuBern, James
Would You Rather Book for Kids	Ellis, Stephen
Mistakes That Worked	Foltz Jones, Charlotte
The Forgotten Horse	Heney, Elaine
Max E. James (Series)	Hersey, J. Ryan
The Secret Lake	Inglis, Karen
The Math Inspectors	Kenney, Daniel
The Academy	Layton, T.Z.
Girl's Best Friend	Margolis, Leslie
Let It Glow	Meyer, Marissa
5000 Awesome Facts	National Geographic Kids
Wish	O'Connor, Barbara
Pax	Pennypacker, Sara
There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom	Sachar, Louis
Archie and the Accidental Chicken Heroes	Sachlikidis, Anita
The Goldfish Boy	Thompson, Lisa
Ways to Make Sunshine	Watson, Renee

GOOD READS FOR GRADE 5

Simon Sort of Says	Bow, Erin
Tornado	Byars, Betsy
The Fifth Grade Reader	Curious Bee
The Key House	Curtis, Mike
The Eyes of the Impossible	Eggers, Dave
Library Girl	Horvath, Polly
Fish in a Tree	Hunt, Lynda
The Secret Lake	Inglis, Karen
Hello Universe	Kelly, Erin Entrada
Song for a Whale	Kelly, Lynne
The Math Inspectors	Kenney, Daniel
The Unteachables	Korman, Gorman
Red, White and Whole	LaRocca, Rajani
The Academy (Series)	Layton, T. Z.
Too Bright to See	Lukoff, Kyle
The Crowns of Crosswald	Night, D. E.
Surviving 5th Grade	Norton, Charline
How to Steal a Dog	O'Connor, Barbara
Impossible Creatures	Rundell, Katherine
Pay It Forward	Ryan-Hyde, Catherine
Worst Team Ever	Sommer, Mateo
Wringer	Spinelli, Jerry
The Goldfish Boy	Thompson, Lisa
President of the Whole Fifth Grade	Winston, Sherri
Class Dismissed	Woodrow, Allan

GOOD READS FOR GRADES 6-7-8 (MIDDLE SCHOOL)

The Girl Who Looked Beyond the Stars	Anne, L.B.
Something Like Home	Arango, Andrea
The Eyes of the Impossible	Eggers, Dave
Alone	Freeman, Megan
Planet Middle School	Grimes, Nikki
Beyond the Secret Lake	Inglis, Karen
When Stars Are Scattered	Jamieson, Victoria
National Park Mystery Series	Johnson, Aaron
Fearless: A Middle Grade Adventure	Johnson, Kristin
The Mystery at Blackhaven School	Loughy, CJ
Everything Sad Is Untrue	Nayeri, Daniel
The World's Best Short Stories	O'Neill, Bill
Middle School Million Dollar Mess	Patterson, James
Treasure Hunters	Patterson, James
Apple in the Middle	Quigley, Dawn
As Brave as You	Reynolds, Jason
The Trials of Apollo	Riordan, Rick
Rooftoppers	Rundell, Katherine
Holes	Sachar, Louis
A First Time for Everything	Santat, Dan
The Last Mapmaker	Soontornvat, Christina
The Running Dream	Van Draanen, Wendelin
Other Words for Home	Warga, Jasmine
Weirdo	Weaver, Tony
Feathers	Woodson, Jacqueline

GRAPHIC NOVELS

Never Let a Unicorn Wear a Tutu!	Alber, Diane
This Was Our Pact	Andrews, Ryan
Duel	Bagley, Jessixa
Enola Holmes	Blasco, Serena
The Never Girls	Disney, R. H.
The Magma Cup	Gapstur, Eric
Bruce Wayne: Not Super	Gibbs, Stuart
All the Lovely Bad Ones	Hahn, Mary Downing
Things in the Basement	Hatke, Ben
The Adventures of Invisible Boy	Horner, Doggie
Redwall	Jacques, Brian
We Are Big Time	Khan, Hena
A Wrinkle in Time: Graphic Novel	L'Engle, Madeleine
Measuring Up	LaMotte, Lily
Mexikid	Martin, Pedro
Minecraft (Series)	Monster, Sfe R.
White Bird: A Wonder Story	Palacio, R. J.
The Sleepover	Regina, Michael
The Bawk-Ness Monster	Riess, Natalie
Buzzing	Sattin, Samuel
Doodleville	Sell, Chad
Scurry	Smith, Mac
Gnome and Rat	Stahler, Lauren
Mabuhay!	Sterling, Zachary
Katie the Catsitter	Venable, Colleen

GOOD READS FOR GRADES 9-12

Lightlark	Aster, Alex
Games Untold	Barnes, Jennifer
The Naturals	Barnes, Jennifer
Stolen	Christopher, Lucy
All the Light We Cannot See	Doerr, Anthony
These Things Happen	Eon, Michael
Gone	Grant, Michael
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time	Haddon, Mark
What the River Knows	Ibanez, Isabel
A Good Girl's Guide to Murder	Jackson, Holly
Change the Game	Kaepernick, Colin
When You Trap a Tiger	Keller, Tae
This Time It's Real	Liang, Ann
Life of Pi	Martel, Yann
An Elephant in the Garden	Morpurgo, Michael
Where the Crawdads Sing	Owens, Delia
Nothing Like the Movies	Painter, Lynn
A Long Walk to Water	Park, Linda
Life as We Knew It	Pfeffer, Susan
The Blessing Effect	Pozil, Robert
The Boy from Block 66	Regev, Limor
Divine Rivals	Ross, Rebecca
Divergent	Roth, Veronica
It's Kind of a Funny Story	Vizzini, Ned

GOOD READS FOR ADULTS

Three Inch Teeth	Box, C.J.
Lost Man's Lane	Carson, Scott
The Waiting	Connelly, Michael
The Eruption	Crichton, Michael
Trust	Diaz, Herman
Sharing Too Much	Evans, Richard Paul
James	Everett, Percival
Revenge of the Tipping Point	Gladwell, Malcolm
The Unfinished Love Story	Goodwin, Doris Kearns
The Anxious Generation	Haidt, Jonathan
The Women	Hannah, Kristin
Chenneville	Jiles, Paulette
The River We Remember	Krueger, William
The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store	McBride, James
Patriot	Navalny, Alexei
My Father's House	O'Connor, Joseph
Confronting the Presidents	O'Reilly, Bill
Sonny Boy	Pacino, Al
The #1 Lawyer	Patterson, James
The Secret Lives of Booksellers and Librarians	Patterson, James
Outsider	Popplewell, Brett
Counting Miracles	Sparks, Nicholas
The Situation Room	Stephanopoulos, George
Brooklyn	Toibin, Colm
War	Woodward, Bob

HAWAI`IANA FOR CHILDREN & ADULTS (BY AGE/GRADE LEVEL/LANGUAGE)

NAME OF BOOK	AUTHOR	AGE LEVEL
Maui Slows the Sun	Armitage, Kimo	2 nd -3 rd
A Coconut Named Bob	Weaver, Austin	2 nd -3 rd
The Musubi Man's New Friend	Takayama, Sandi	2 nd -3 rd
He Puke No Na Pepe Hawai'i Baby Book	Brattin, Paige	Adult
Hiaaka Battles the Wind	Ahuli`I Gabrielle	K-1 st
We Are Water Protectors	Lindstrom, Carole	K-1 st
Ordinary Ohana	Cataluna, Lee	K-1 st
Uncle's Magic Thrownet	Yamashita, Todd	K-1 st
Tutu Makes a Lei	Torres Kahele, Kuana	K-1 st
Maile the Mano	Tokuda, Courtnie	K-1 st
Noa the Puhi Learns to Let Go	Omoto, Gail	K-1 st
Holu the He'e Stands Up!	Omoto, Gail	K-1 st
The Perfect Pet in Hawai'i	Tablason, Jamie	K-1 st
No ka `Ilio Mo`o	Avelino, Kawehi	Olelo
`O Kaina Ke Kumu Koa	Kaiwai`ae`a, Kulamanu	Olelo
No Ka `Elepaio Kolohe	Kruger, Malia	Olelo
E `Ai I Kekahi, E Kapi I Kekahi	Andrews, Lilinow	Olelo
No Punia me ka Lua Ula	Wilson, William	Olelo
Aia he Kaheka/There's a Tide Pool	Bruno-Kidani, Makela	Olelo
`Ai`ai	Napoleon, Kawika	Olelo
Hina	Ahuli`i, Gabrielle	T-PK
Hush Little Keiki	Vukovich, Kim	T-PK
Keiki Shark	Meckel Tabalason, Jamie	T-PK

RESOURCES FOR PARENTS AND TEACHERS

The Anxious Generation

Haidt, Jonathan

The Read Aloud Handbook

Trelease, Jim

Best Books for Kids Who (Think They) Hate to Read

Backes, Laura

Teaching Visual Literacy: Using Comic Books, Graphic Novels to develop Comprehension and Thinking Skills

Frey, Nancy & Fisher, Douglas

The Toddler's Handbook

Martin, Dayna

Make Way for Readers

Sierra, Judy

<https://www.themeasuredmom.com>

Website

www.abcmouse.com

Website

www.kidsbookseries.com

Website

www.lindamoodbell.com

Website

www.memfox.com

Website

www.icanread.com

Website

www.pbskids.org

Website****

www.readaloudamerica.org

Website

www.rif.org

Website

www.scholastic.com

Website

www.sesamestreet.org

Website

www.the-best-childrens-books.org

Website

www.whatdowedoallday.com/books-for-kids

Website

<https://www.greatschools.org/gk/book-lists/>

Website