

"Bear-y" Good
Books & More for
4-year-olds



at the
**Elmhurst Public
Library**

Choosing Books for 4-year-olds

Four-year-olds can understand longer and more complicated picture books. They still enjoy books about familiar situations, but are also interested in reading about different kinds of families and cultures. They still love the sounds and rhythm of language. They delight in chants, nonsense words, riddles, simple tongue twisters and playing with words by whispering or shouting them. Four-year-olds are always asking "why" and will welcome informational books that help to satisfy their curiosity about certain topics.

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 4-year-olds

Continue to:

- Read to your child on a daily basis. (They don't outgrow their need for this even after they can read on their own!) Also, make sure your child sees you reading.
- Allow your child to choose some of the books to be read and have books available around the house for him to pick up at will.
- Encourage your child to talk about the illustrations and story by asking him questions.
- Do not make this a forced discussion, but interject the questions naturally. Ask opinion questions such as, "Who was your favorite character?" Encourage your child to enlarge upon what he or she says by repeating the phrase he or she made, "Ann was funny because she was trying so hard to catch the dog!" And then adding to it, "Yes, Ann was a funny character because she was trying so hard to catch the dog that she fell in the puddle and got very dirty!" This encourages your child to use his or her language skills. (You aren't correcting what he or she says, but encouraging by adding to it.)

Around the age of four:

- Choose books that will expand your child's view of communities, families and the world.
- If you are reading a rhyming story, pause and let your child fill in the missing rhyming word.
- Play rhyming games with him or her—"What other words rhyme with that word?"
- Encourage your child to create his or her own books out of cut up magazines.



Fairy Tales and Folktales

- Andersen, H.C. *The Princess and the Pea* (J 398.21 And)
- Brett, Jan *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*
(J 398.21 Bre)
- Galdone, Paul *The Teeny-Tiny Woman* (J 398.21 Gal)
- Lobel, Anita *King Rooster, Queen Hen* (J 398.2 L783)
- Marshall, James *Red Riding Hood* (J 398.21 Mar)
- Stevens, Janet *The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse* (J 398.2 Ste)

Good Books for 4-year-olds



- Allen, Jonathan *Mucky Moose* (J E All)
- Asch, Frank *Happy Birthday, Moon* (J E Asc)
- Aylesworth, Jim *Teddy Bear Tears* (J E Ayl)
- Burton, Virginia Lee .. *Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel*
(J E Bur)
- Day, Alexandra *Carl's Afternoon in the Park* (J E Day)
- De Paola, Tomie *Charlie Needs a Cloak* (J E Dep)
- Dodd, Lynley *Schnitzel von Krumm Forget-Me-Not*
(J E Dod)
- Everitt, Betsy *Mean Soup* (J E Eve)
- Fleming, Denise *Muncha! Muncha! Muncha!* (J E Fle)
- Florian, Douglas *A Pig is Big* (J E Flo)
- Fox, Mem *Tough Boris* (J E Fox)
- Frasier, Debra *On The Day You Were Born* (J E Fra)
- Gackenbach, Dick *Mighty Tree* (J E Gac)
- Gag, Wanda *Millions of Cats* (J E Gag)
- Gramatky, Hardie *Little Toot* (J E Gra)
- Grambling, Lois *Can I Have a Stegosaurus, Mom? Can I? Please!?* (J E Gra)
- Hutchins, Pat *There's Only One of Me* (J E Hut)
- Joose, Barbara *Mama, Do You Love Me?* (J E Joo)
- Kasza, Keiko *A Mother for Choco* (J E Kas)
- Leuck, Laura *My Monster Mama Loves Me So*
(J E Leu)
- Lionni, Leo *Swimmy* (J E Lio)
- McCloskey, Robert ... *Make Way for Ducklings* (J E McC)
- McGovern, Ann *Two Much Noise* (J E McG)
- Most, Bernard *Whatever Happened to the Dinosaurs?*
(J E Mos)
- Murphy, Jill *A Piece of Cake* (J E Mur)
- Numeroff, Laura *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* (J E Num)
- Rathmann, Peggy *Good Night, Gorilla* (J E Rat)
- Rey, H. A. *Curious George* (J E Rey)
- Scamell, Regnhild *Toby's Doll's House* (J E Sca)
- Sendak, Maurice *Where the Wild Things Are* (J E Sen)
- Shannon, David *Duck on a Bike* (J E Sha)
- Simont, Marc *The Stray Dog* (J E Sim)
- Steig, William *Sylvester and the Magic Pebble* (J E Ste)
- Stuve-Bodeen, Stephanie *Elizabeti's Doll* (J E Stu)
- Viorst, Judith *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day* (J E Vio)
- Wallace, Karen *Scarlette Beane* (J E Wal)
- Wells, Rosemary *McDuff Moves In* (J E Wel)
- Whybrow, Ian *Sammy and the Dinosaurs* (J E Why)
- Williams, Vera *A Chair for My Mother* (J E Wil)
- Yolen, Jane *Owl Moon* (J E Yol)
- Yolen, Jane *Harry the Dirty Dog* (J E Zio)
- Zolotow, Charlotte *Mr. Rabbit and the Lovely Present*
(J E Zol)



- Brown, Marc *Arthur's Baby* (J E Bro)
- Gutman, Anne *Lisa's Baby Sister* (J E Gut)
- Harris, Robie *Hi, New Baby!* (J E Har)
- Hoban, Russell *A Baby Sister for Frances* (J E Hob)
- Laing, Kate *Best Kind of Baby* (J E Lai)
- Thomas, Shelley *A Baby's Coming to Your House*
(J 305.232 Tho)
- Murkoff, Heidi *What to Expect When the New Baby Comes Home* (J 306.875 Mur)
- Helmer, Diana *Let's Talk About Having a New Brother or Sister* (J 306.875 Hel)
- Heiligman, Deborah .. *Babies: All You Need to Know*
(J 612.65 Hei)

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