



# Reading Choices and Children

**Sean Brotherson, Ph.D.**  
Family Science Specialist  
NDSU Extension Service

What were some of your early favorite books?

Children particularly enjoy reading when they find books that catch their interest.

Parents can be very helpful in selecting age-appropriate reading materials that will enrich the imagination and provide lasting enjoyment.

**NDSU**  
**Extension Service**

North Dakota State University  
Fargo, North Dakota 58105

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## Selecting Books to Read with Children

Choosing books that are appropriate to the age and interests of a child is important. When we read with our children, we not only share information, we share a special connection with them emotionally, as well. Some suggestions to consider in choosing books include:

- Make sure the book or story you select is appropriate to the child's age level and interests.
- Let the child assist in picking out books to read that he or she finds appealing and you approve.
- Utilize lists of highly regarded children's literature (Caldecott Awards, Newberry Medal, etc.) to select popular or classic reading materials.
- Look for stories that capture the attention of children quickly and are enjoyable.
- For very young children, select books that are visually interesting and interactive.

- Pay attention to elements of the story, such as a simple plot, the setting (interesting events), the main idea, quick action, well-defined characters, vivid word pictures and lots of the three R's – repetition, rhythm and rhyme.

So, what should you pick?

A variety of sources list quality children's literature. These include the National Education Association, American Library Association and other groups. The Caldecott Medal is given each year to the author of the most distinguished American picture book for children. The Newberry Medal is given each year for a best new story in children's literature. Your local library may be a good source of information on such books.

**The remainder of this publication provides book suggestions to help you make reading choices with your children.**

## National Education Association – Teachers’ Top 100 Books for Children

(Age Codes: BP – Baby/Preschool; 4-8 – 4 to 8 years old; 9-12 – 9 to 12 years old; YA – Young Adult)

1. *Charlotte’s Web* by E.B. White (9-12)
2. *The Polar Express* by Chris Van Allsburg (4-8)
3. *Green Eggs and Ham* by Dr. Seuss (4-8)
4. *The Cat in the Hat* by Dr. Seuss (4-8)
5. *Where the Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak (4-8)
6. *Love You Forever* by Robert N. Munsch (4-8)
7. *The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein (All)
8. *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle (BP)
9. *Where the Red Fern Grows* by Wilson Rawls (YA)
10. *The Mitten* by Jan Brett (4-8)
11. *Goodnight Moon* by Margaret Wise Brown (BP)
12. *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen (9-12)
13. *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis (9-12)
14. *Where the Sidewalk Ends: The Poems and Drawings of Shel Silverstein* by Shel Silverstein (All)
15. *Bridge to Terabithia* by Katherine Paterson (9-12)
16. *Stellaluna* by Janell Cannon (4-8)
17. *Oh, the Places You’ll Go* by Dr. Seuss (4-8)
18. *Strega Nona* by Tomie De Paola (4-8)
19. *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day* by Judith Viorst (4-8)
20. *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* By Bill Martin Jr. (BP)
21. *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* by Roald Dahl (9-12)
22. *The Velveteen Rabbit* by Margery Williams (4-8)
23. *A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L’Engle (9-12)
24. *Shiloh* by Phyllis R. Naylor (9-12)
25. *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* by Dr. Seuss (4-8)
26. *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs* by Jon Scieszka (4-8)
27. *Chicka Chicka Boom Boom* by Jon Archambault (4-8)
28. *Little House on the Prairie* by Laura Ingalls Wilder (9-12)
29. *The Secret Garden* by Frances Hodgson Burnett (9-12)
30. *The Complete Tales of Winnie the Pooh* by A.A. Milne (4-8)
31. *The Boxcar Children* by Gertrude Chandler Warner (9-12)
32. *Sarah, Plain and Tall* by Patricia MacLachlan (9-12)
33. *Indian in the Cupboard* by Lynne Reid Banks (9-12)
34. *Island of the Blue Dolphins* by Scott O’Dell (9-12)
35. *Maniac Magee* by Jerry Spinelli (9-12)
36. *The BFG* by Roald Dahl (9-12)
37. *The Giver* by Lois Lowry (9-12)
38. *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* by Lora Joffe Numeroff (4-8)
39. *James and the Giant Peach* by Roald Dahl (9-12)
40. *Little House in the Big Woods* by Laura Ingalls Wilder (9-12)
41. *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* by Mildred D. Taylor (9-12)
42. *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien (YA)
43. *The Lorax* by Dr. Seuss (4-8)
44. *Stone Fox* by John R. Gardiner (9-12)

45. *Number the Stars* by Lois Lowry (9-12)
46. *Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of Nimh*  
by Robert C. O'Brien (9-12)
47. *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott (All)
48. *The Rainbow Fish* by Marcus Pfister (BP)
49. *Amazing Grace* by Mary Hoffman (4-8)
50. *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*  
by Barbara Robinson (9-12)
51. *Corduroy* by Don Freeman (BP)
52. *Jumanji* by Chris Van Allsburg (4-8)
53. *Math Curse* by Jon Scieszka (4-8)
54. *Matilda* by Roald Dahl (9-12)
55. *Summer of the Monkeys* by Wilson Rawls (YA)
56. *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing* by Judy Blume (9-12)
57. *Ramona Quimby, Age 8* by Beverly Cleary (9-12)
58. *The Trumpet of the Swan* by E.B. White (9-12)
59. *Are You My Mother?* By Philip D. Eastman (4-8)
60. *The Chronicles of Narnia* by C.S. Lewis (9-12)
61. *Make Way for Ducklings* by Robert McCloskey (4-8)
62. *One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish*  
by Dr. Seuss (4-8)
63. *The Phantom Tollbooth* by Norton Juster (9-12)
64. *The Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats (BP)
65. *The Napping House* by Audrey Wood (4-8)
66. *Sylvester and the Magic Pebble* by William Steig (4-8)
67. *The Tale of Peter Rabbit* by Beatrix Potter (4-8).
68. *Tuck Everlasting* by Natalie Babbitt (9-12)
69. *The Wizard of Oz* by L. Frank Baum (All)
70. *Anne of Green Gables*  
by Lucy Maud Montgomery (9-12)
71. *Horton Hatches the Egg* by Dr. Seuss (4-8)
72. *Basil of Baker Street* by Eve Titus (4-8)
73. *The Little Engine That Could* by Watty Piper (4-8)
74. *The Cay* by Theodore Taylor (YA)
75. *Curious George* by Hans Augusto Rey (4-8)
76. *Wilfred Gordon McDonald Partridge* by Mem Fox (4-8)
77. *Arthur (series)* by Marc Tolon Brown (4-8)
78. *The Great Gilly Hopkins* by Katherine Paterson (9-12)
79. *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse* by Kevin Henkes (4-8)
80. *Little House books* by Laura Ingalls Wilder (9-12)
81. *The Little House* by Virginia Lee Burton (4-8)
82. *The Runaway Bunny* by Margaret Wise Brown (BP)
83. *Sideways Stories from Wayside School*  
by Louis Sachar (9-12)
84. *Amelia Bedelia* by Peggy Parish (4-8)
85. *Harriet the Spy* by Louise Fitzhugh (9-12)
86. *A Light in the Attic* by Shel Silverstein (9-12)
87. *Mr. Popper's Penguins* by Richard Atwater (9-12)
88. *My Father's Dragon* by Ruth Stiles Gannett (9-12)
89. *Stuart Little* by E.B. White (9-12)
90. *Walk Two Moons* by Sharon Creech (9-12)
91. *The Witch of Blackbird Pond*  
by Elizabeth George Speare (9-12)
92. *The Art Lesson* by Tomie De Paola (4-8)
93. *Caps for Sale* by Esphyr Slobodkina (4-8)
94. *Clifford, the Big Red Dog* by Norman Bridwell (4-8)
95. *Heidi* by Johanna Spyri (All)
96. *Horton Hears a Who* by Dr. Seuss (4-8)
97. *The Sign of the Beaver*  
by Elizabeth George Speare (YA)
98. *The Watsons Go to Birmingham - 1963*  
by Christopher Paul Curtis (9-12)
99. *Guess How Much I Love You* by Sam McBratney (BP)
100. *The Paper Bag Princess* by Robert N. Munsch (4-8)

## National Education Association – Kids’ Top 100 Books

(Based on an Internet survey from November 1999-February 2000)

1. *Harry Potter (series)* by J.K. Rowling
2. *Goosebumps (series)* by R.L. Stine
3. *Green Eggs and Ham* by Dr. Seuss
4. *The Cat in the Hat* by Dr. Seuss
5. *Arthur (series)* by Marc Brown
6. *Charlotte’s Web* by E.B. White
7. *Shiloh (trilogy)* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
8. *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen
9. *Holes* by Louis Sachar
10. *The Giver* by Lois Lowry
11. *The Chronicles of Narnia (series)* by C.S. Lewis
12. *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing (series)* by Judy Blume
13. *Sideways Stories by Wayside School (series)*  
by Louis Sachar
14. *The BFG* by Roald Dahl
15. *The Boxcar Children (series)*  
by Gertrude Chandler Warner
16. *One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish* by Dr. Seuss
17. *Ramona Quimby, Age 8 (series)* by Beverly Cleary
18. *Pokemon (series)* by Tracey West, Maria S. Barbo
19. *The Babysitters Club (series)* by Ann M. Martin
20. *Ralph S. Mouse (series)* by Beverly Cleary
21. *Little House on the Prairie (series)*  
by Laura Ingalls Wilder
22. *Where the Sidewalk Ends* by Shel Silverstein
23. *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* by Roald Dahl
24. *The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein
25. *Clifford the Big Red Dog (series)* by Norman Bridwell
26. *Stuart Little* by E.B. White
27. *Where the Red Fern Grows* by Wilson Rawls
28. *The Adventures of Captain Underpants (series)*  
by Dav Pilkey
29. *The Polar Express* by Chris Van Allsburg
30. *The Berenstain Bears (series)*  
by Jan and Stan Berenstain
31. *Animorphs (series)* by K.A. Applegate
32. *The Witches* by Roald Dahl
33. *Nancy Drew Mystery Stories* by Carolyn Keene
34. *The Hobbit & Lord of the Rings (series)* by J.R.R. Tolkien
35. *American Girls (series)* by Susan Adler, Valerie Tripp,  
Connie Porter, Janet Shaw, et al.
36. *Matilda* by Roald Dahl
37. *The Call of the Wild* by Jack London
38. *The Foot Book* by Dr. Seuss
39. *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* by Dr. Seuss
40. *James and the Giant Peach* by Roald Dahl
41. *Junie B. Jones (series)* by Barbara Park
42. *Stone Fox* by John Reynolds Gardiner
43. *Falling Up* by Shel Silverstein
44. *A Wrinkle in Time (series)* by Madeleine L’Engle
45. *Brian’s Winter* by Gary Paulsen
46. *Amber Brown (series)* by Paula Danziger

47. *The North Star* by Peter H. Reynolds
48. *Have a Nice Day: A Tale of Blood and Sweatsocks* by Mick Foley
49. *Number the Stars* by Lois Lowry
50. *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton
51. *A Light in the Attic* by Shel Silverstein
52. *Chicken Soup for the Soul (series)* by various authors
53. *Curious George (series)* by Margret and Hans Augusto Rey
54. *The Teacher from the Black Lagoon (series)* by Mike Thaler
55. *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* by Laura Joffe Numeroff
56. *The Bailey School Kids (series)* by Debbie Dadey, et al.
57. *The Hardy Boys (series)* by Franklin W. Dixon
58. *The Mitten* by Jan Brett
59. *Amelia Bedelia (series)* by Peggy Parish
60. *Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of Nimh* by Robert C. O'Brien
61. *Island of the Blue Dolphins* by Scott O'Dell
62. *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott
63. *Mr. Popper's Penguins* by Richard Atwater
64. *The River* by Gary Paulsen
65. *Magic Tree House (series)* by Mary Pope Osborne
66. *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs* by John Scieszka
67. *Bridge to Terabithia* by Katherine Paterson
68. *Hop on Pop* by Dr. Seuss
69. *The Complete Tales of Winnie the Pooh* by A.A. Milne
70. *Tuck Everlasting* by Natalie Babbitt
71. *Redwall* by Brian Jacques
72. *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* by Barbara Robinson
73. *Where the Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak
74. *Wringer* by Jerry Spinelli
75. *Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret* by Judy Blume
76. *Dear Mr. Henshaw* by Beverly Cleary
77. *Summer of the Monkeys* by Wilson Rawls
78. *Sweet Valley High (series)* by Francine Pascal
79. *The Adventures of Mary Kate and Ashley (series)* by Judy Katschke, Cathy Dobowski, Lisa Eisenberg, Nancy E. Krulik, Nina Alexander, Frances Lin Lantz, et al.
80. *Garfield (series)* by Jim Davis
81. *Magic School Bus (series)* by Joanna Cole
82. *Math Curse* by John Scieszka
83. *White Fang* by Jack London
84. *I Spy (series)* by Walter Wick, Jean Marzollo, Diana Noonan, et al.
85. *I Love You Forever* by Robert N. Munsch
86. *My Side of the Mountain* by Jean Craighead George
87. *The Trumpet of the Swan* by E.B. White
88. *Walk Two Moons* by Sharon Creech
89. *Draw 50 Airplanes, Aircraft and Spacecraft (series)* by Lee J. Ames
90. *Goodnight Moon* by Margaret Wise Brown
91. *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain
92. *The Rock Says* by Dwayne Johnson (The Rock)
93. *Tikki Tikki Tembo* by Arlene Mosel
94. *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee
95. *All About Sam* by Lois Lowry
96. *Black Beauty* by Anna Sewell
97. *Ella Enchanted* by Gail Carson Levine
98. *Hank the Cow Dog (series)* by John R. Erickson
99. *Piggie Pie* by Margie Palatini
100. *Sarah, Plain and Tall* by Patricia MacLachlan

# Newberry and Caldecott Medal Book Awards for Children’s Literature

## Newberry Medal Winners (1940-2006)

- 2006 – *Criss Cross* by Lynne Rae Perkins
- 2005 – *Kira-Kira* by Cynthia Kadohata
- 2004 – *The Tale of Despereaux: Being the Story of a Mouse, a Princess, Some Soup, and a Spool of Thread* by Kate DiCamillo
- 2003 – *Crispin: The Cross of Lead* by Avi
- 2002 – *A Single Shard* by Linda Sue Park
- 2001 – *A Year Down Yonder* by Richard Peck
- 2000 – *Bud, Not Buddy* by Christopher Paul Curtis
- 1999 – *Holes* by Louis Sachar
- 1998 – *Out of the Dust* by Karen Hesse
- 1997 – *The View from Saturday* by E.L. Konigsburg
- 1996 – *The Midwife’s Apprentice* by Karen Cushman
- 1995 – *Walk Two Moons* by Sharon Creech
- 1994 – *The Giver* by Lois Lowry
- 1993 – *Missing May* by Cynthia Rylant
- 1992 – *Shiloh* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
- 1991 – *Maniac Magee* by Jerry Spinelli
- 1990 – *Number the Stars* by Lois Lowry
- 1989 – *Joyful Noise: Poems for Two Voices* by Paul Fleischman
- 1988 – *Lincoln: A Photobiography* by Russell Freedman
- 1987 – *The Whipping Boy* by Sid Fleischman
- 1986 – *Sarah, Plain and Tall* by Patricia MacLachlan
- 1985 – *The Hero and the Crown* by Robin McKinley
- 1984 – *Dear Mr. Henshaw* by Beverly Cleary
- 1983 – *Dacey’s Song* by Cynthia Voigt
- 1982 – *A Visit to William Blake’s Inn: Poems for Innocent and Experienced Travelers* by Nancy Willard
- 1981 – *Jacob Have I Loved* by Katherine Paterson
- 1980 – *A Gathering of Days: A New England Girl’s Journal, 1830-1832* by Joan W. Blos
- 1979 – *The Westing Game* by Ellen Raskin
- 1978 – *Bridge to Terabithia* by Katherine Paterson
- 1977 – *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* by Mildred D. Taylor
- 1976 – *The Grey King* by Susan Cooper
- 1975 – *M. C. Higgins, the Great* by Virginia Hamilton
- 1974 – *The Slave Dancer* by Paula Fox
- 1973 – *Julie of the Wolves* by Jean Craighead George
- 1972 – *Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of Nimh* by Robert C. O’Brien
- 1971 – *Summer of the Swans* by Betsy Byars
- 1970 – *Souder* by William H. Armstrong
- 1969 – *The High King* by Lloyd Alexander
- 1968 – *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* by E.L. Konigsburg
- 1967 – *Up A Road Slowly* by Irene Hunt
- 1966 – *I, Juan de Pareja* by Elizabeth Borton de Trevino
- 1965 – *Shadow of a Bull* by Maia Wojciechowska
- 1964 – *It’s Like This, Cat* by Emily Neville
- 1963 – *A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L’Engle
- 1962 – *The Bronze Bow* by Elizabeth George Speare
- 1961 – *Island of the Blue Dolphins* by Scott O’Dell
- 1960 – *Onion John* by Joseph Krumboltz
- 1959 – *The Witch of Blackbird Pond* by Elizabeth George Speare
- 1958 – *Rifles for Watie* by Harold Keith
- 1957 – *Miracles on Maple Hill* by Virginia Sorenson
- 1956 – *Carry On, Mr. Bowditch* by Jean Lee Latham
- 1955 – *The Wheel on the School* by Meindert DeJong
- 1954 – *...And Now Miguel* by Joseph Krumboltz
- 1953 – *Secret of the Andes* by Ann Nolan Clark
- 1952 – *Ginger Pye* by Eleanor Estes
- 1951 – *Amos Fortune, Free Man* by Elizabeth Yates
- 1950 – *The Door in the Wall* by Marguerite de Angeli
- 1949 – *King of the Wind* by Marguerite Henry
- 1948 – *The Twenty-One Balloons* by William Pene du Bois
- 1947 – *Miss Hickory* by Carolyn Sherwin Bailey
- 1946 – *Strawberry Girl* by Lois Lenski
- 1945 – *Rabbit Hill* by Robert Lawson
- 1944 – *Johnny Tremain* by Esther Forbes
- 1943 – *Adam of the Road* by Elizabeth Janet Gray
- 1942 – *The Matchlock Gun* by Walter Edmonds
- 1941 – *Call It Courage* by Armstrong Sperry
- 1940 – *Daniel Boone* by James Daugherty

# Newberry and Caldecott Medal Book Awards for Children's Literature

## Caldecott Medal Winners (1960-2006)

- 2006 – *The Hello, Goodbye Window* by Norton Juster
- 2005 – *Kitten's First Full Moon* by Kevin Henkes
- 2004 – *The Man Who Walked Between the Towers*  
by Mordicai Gerstein
- 2003 – *My Friend Rabbit* by Eric Rohmann
- 2002 – *The Three Pigs* by David Wiesner
- 2001 – *So You Want to Be President?* by Judith St. George
- 2000 – *Joseph Had a Little Overcoat* by Simms Taback
- 1999 – *Snowflake Bentley* by Jacqueline Briggs Martin
- 1998 – *Rapunzel* by Paul O. Zelinsky
- 1997 – *Golem* by David Wisniewski
- 1996 – *Officer Buckle and Gloria* by Peggy Rathmann
- 1995 – *Smoky Night* by Eve Bunting
- 1994 – *Grandfather's Journey* by Allen Say
- 1993 – *Mirette on the High Wire* by Emily Arnold McCully
- 1992 – *Tuesday* by David Wiesner
- 1991 – *Black and White* by David Macaulay
- 1990 – *Lon Po Po: A Red-Riding Hood Story from China*  
by Ed Young
- 1989 – *Song and Dance Man* by Karen Ackerman
- 1988 – *Owl Moon* by Jane Yolen
- 1987 – *Hey, Al* by Arthur Yorinks
- 1986 – *The Polar Express* by Chris Van Allsburg
- 1985 – *Saint George and the Dragon* by Margaret Hodges
- 1984 – *The Glorious Flight: Across the Channel with  
Louis Bleriot* by Alice and Martin Provensen
- 1983 – *Shadow* by Marcia Brown
- 1982 – *Jumanji* by Chris Van Allsburg
- 1981 – *Fables* by Arnold Lobel
- 1980 – *Ox-Cart Man* by Donald Hall
- 1979 – *The Girl Who Loved Wild Horses* by Paul Goble
- 1978 – *Noah's Ark* by Peter Spier
- 1977 – *Ashanti to Zulu: African Traditions*  
by Margaret Musgrove
- 1976 – *Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears*  
by Verna Aardema
- 1975 – *Arrow to the Sun* by Gerald McDermott
- 1974 – *Duffy and the Devil* by Harve Zemach
- 1973 – *The Funny Little Woman* by Arlene Mosel
- 1972 – *One Fine Day* by Nonny Hogrogian
- 1971 – *A Story A Story* by Gail E. Haley
- 1970 – *Sylvester and the Magic Pebble* by William Steig
- 1969 – *The Fool of the World and the Flying Ship*  
by Arthur Ransome
- 1968 – *Drummer Hoff* by Barbara Emberley
- 1967 – *Sam, Bangs and Moonshine* by Evaline Ness
- 1966 – *Always Room for One More* by Leclair Alger
- 1965 – *May I Bring a Friend?*  
by Beatrice Schenk de Regniers
- 1964 – *Where the Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak
- 1963 – *The Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats
- 1962 – *Once a Mouse* by Marcia Brown
- 1961 – *Baboushka and the Three Kings* by Ruth Robbins
- 1960 – *Nine Days to Christmas*  
by Marie Hall Ets and Aurora Labastida

# Recommended Resources

## ■ Books and Pamphlets

Children's Literature Center. *Books for Children*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Library of Congress.

*Each year, the Children's Literature Center for the Library of Congress prepares a list of more than 100 of the best books recently published for preschool through junior high school age. To order "Books for Children, # (1-17)," send \$1 to: Consumer Information Center, Department 149Y, Pueblo, CO 81009.*

Cullinan, Bernice E. (2000). *Read to Me: Raising Kids Who Love to Read*. New York: Scholastic Inc.

*This book by Cullinan overviews hands-on, practical ideas for creating an environment where children learn to read and enjoy it.*

Graves, Ruth (Ed.). (1987). *The RIF Guide to Encouraging Young Readers*. New York: Doubleday and Co.

*An excellent source of activities for the whole family and a key resource for ideas to encourage and promote reading with young children. Hundreds of activities to engage children in reading, reading lists and good resource sections. To order, send \$9.95 to Reading is Fundamental Inc., Publications Department, Smithsonian Institution, 600 Maryland Ave. S.W., Suite 500, Washington, D.C. 20024.*

Hearne, Betsy. (1990). *Choosing Books for Children: A Commonsense Guide*. New York: Delacorte.

*Practical guide for selecting books that can be utilized by parents and other adults.*

The Partnership for Reading. (2005). *Put Reading First: Helping Your Child Learn to Read*. Jessup, Md.: National Institute for Literacy.

*This brochure provides a research-based set of recommendations for parents and caregivers to help children in learning to read. This brochure can be obtained by contacting the National Institute for Literacy at ED Pubs, P.O. Box 1398, Jessup, MD 20794-1398, calling (800) 228-8813 or going online at [www.nifl.gov](http://www.nifl.gov).*

Trelease, Jim. (2001). *The New Read-Aloud Handbook*. New York: Penguin.

*Highly regarded resource on reading with children from a leader in the field. Very good resource for parents, teachers and other adults.*

## ■ Web Sites and Organizations

**The American Library Association (ALA).** The American Library Association annually awards the Newberry and Caldecott Medals for excellence in children's literature and is a very good source of reading-related tips and information. Information on available materials can be obtained by visiting the Web site or writing to: American Library Association, Publications Order Department, 50 East Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611. The Web site is at [www.ala.org/parentsage](http://www.ala.org/parentsage).

**The America Reads Challenge** was a four-year grass-roots initiative designed to promote reading across the United States. Information and resources from that initiative can be accessed on the Internet. The Web site is at [www.ed.gov/inits/americareads/](http://www.ed.gov/inits/americareads/).

**The Children's Book Council** provides bimonthly updates of suggested reading titles for young children, as well as a wealth of other resources. The Web site is at [www.cbcbooks.org/html/showcase.html](http://www.cbcbooks.org/html/showcase.html).

**The International Reading Association** is an organization that promotes literacy and is a well-developed resource base for parents and professionals interested in reading. It publishes a number of brochures for parents and single copies are available free. For titles and ordering information, go to the Web site or write to: IRA, 800 Barksdale Road, P.O. Box 8139, Newark, DE 19714-8139. The Web site is at [www.reading.org/](http://www.reading.org/).

**The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).** This organization is perhaps the foremost resource for outstanding research and practical ideas on learning and education of young children. NAEYC has dozens of resources (pamphlets, books, videos, etc.) available on the topic. The Web site is at [www.naeyc.org/](http://www.naeyc.org/).

**The National Education Association** has a Reading Matters initiative and a Web site that includes a variety of valuable and interesting resources, including reading news, home and classroom activities, and reading resources. To access the Reading Matters initiative of the NEA, visit the Web site on the Internet. The Web site is at [www.nea.org/readingmatters/index.html](http://www.nea.org/readingmatters/index.html).

**Reading is Fundamental Inc.** is a national nonprofit organization associated with the Smithsonian Institution and works to stimulate reading and learning with children. For further information or to access its excellent resources, visit the Web site on the Internet. The Web site is at [www.rif.org/](http://www.rif.org/).

**Scholastic Inc.** is a leading publisher of children's literature and learning materials. For further information or to access its book offerings, visit the Web site on the Internet. The Web site is at [www.scholastic.com](http://www.scholastic.com).

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**For more information on this and other topics, see: [www.ag.ndsu.edu](http://www.ag.ndsu.edu)**

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