

# Read Aloud America



# 2012 Reading List

Read Aloud America, Inc.  
[www.readaloudamerica.org](http://www.readaloudamerica.org)  
1314 South King Street, Suite G4  
Honolulu, HI 96814  
(808) 531-1985 • Fax (808) 593-1984



# Read Aloud America®

*Building Families of Lifetime Readers*

January 2012

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

Here is the new Read Aloud America 2012 Reading List of great read-aloud books for children of all ages. You will find many new titles and some all-time favorites. 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.

My sincere thank you to the committee members who read over 100 books. To recommend a book for the 2012 reading list, the committee chose books that have:

- 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
- Age group appropriateness

The committee members and I are interested in your feedback. Please feel free to email me at [read@readaloudamerica.org](mailto:read@readaloudamerica.org) with your comments as well as your own recommended read-aloud favorites.

Sincerely,

Jed Gaines, Founder/President  
Read Aloud America

**2012 List compiled by:**

Carolina Carreira, Assistant Program Director, RAA  
Marion Coste, Children's Book Author, Education Consultant, RAA  
Israel Chavez, Program Specialist, RAA  
Jed Gaines, Founder/President, RAA  
Kat Goldberg, RAP Toddler Reader  
Marybeth Hamilton, Teacher, UH Laboratory School  
Natalie Hayek, Program Consultant, RAA  
Amber Inwood, RAP Toddler Reader  
Dori Kim, RAP Reader/Volunteer

Marivel Maruffo, Office Manager, RAA  
Marci Prins, RAP Volunteer  
Laurelle Rzeszweski, Program Director, RAA  
Nancy Shim, former Librarian, Kalakaua Middle School  
Amanda Shim, RAP Toddler Reader  
Patti Takayama, RAP Reader/Volunteer  
Sylvia Wilmeth, RAP Reader/Volunteer  
Julie Wo, RAP Reader/Volunteer

*The books chosen for the 2012 book list reflect subjects, interests, genres, and cultures that are as diverse as the committee members 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](http://www.readaloudamerica.org)

1314 South King St., Suite G4 • Honolulu, HI 96814 • (808) 531-1985 • Fax (808) 593-1984

## **READ-ALOUNDS FOR INFANTS AND TODDLERS**

<b>Treasure Hunt</b>	Ahlberg, Allan
<b>I'm Not Scared!</b>	Allen, Jonathan
<b>Muddy Paws</b>	Butterfield, Moira & Simon Mendez
<b>Dancing Feet!</b>	Craig, Lindsey & Mark Brown
<b>Gossie</b>	Dunrea, Olivier
<b>On the Day You Were Born</b>	Frasier, Debra
<b>Lilly's Chocolate Heart</b>	Henkes, Kevin
<b>Run, Mouse, Run!</b>	Horacek, Petr
<b>Hands Can</b>	Hudson, Cheryl Willis
<b>Tom's Tail</b>	Jennings, Linda
<b>Mommy Hugs</b>	Katz, Karen
<b>You Are My I Love You</b>	Love, Maryann Cusimano
<b>Chicka Chicka Boom Boom</b>	Martin, Bill Jr.
<b>How Much is That Doggie in the Window</b>	Merrill, Bob
<b>Love You Forever</b>	Munsch, Robert
<b>Peak A Boo Happy Baby</b>	Page, Claire
<b>Bears on Chairs</b>	Parenteau, Shirley
<b>Just One More Swim</b>	Pitcher, Caroline
<b>Wheels on the Bus</b>	Raffi
<b>Ollie All Over</b>	Roche, Denis
<b>Won't You Be My Hugaroo?</b>	Ryder, Joanne
<b>The Monster at the End of this Book</b>	Stone, Jon
<b>I Udderly Love You</b>	Toms, Kate

## **READ-ALOUDS FOR PRE-KINDERGARTEN - KINDERGARTEN**

<b>Emma's Rainy Day</b>	Aardema, John
<b>The Jolly Postman</b>	Ahlberg, Janet
<b>Roar of a Snore</b>	Arnold, Marsha Diane
<b>Big Words for Little People</b>	Curtis, Jamie Lee & Laura Cornell
<b>Too Many Monsters</b>	Bunting, Eve
<b>Children Make Terrible Pets</b>	Brown, Peter
<b>Click Clack 1, 2, 3</b>	Cronin, Doreen
<b>Bear in Underwear</b>	Doodler, Todd
<b>I'll Teach My Dog a Lot of Words</b>	Firth, Michael
<b>Hattie and the Fox</b>	Fox, Mem
<b>Little White Rabbit</b>	Henkes, Kevin
<b>Keoni's Special Gift</b>	Lum, Dorinda
<b>Where's My Sneaker?</b>	Mayer, Mercer
<b>If You Give a Pig a Pancake</b>	Numeroff, Laura Joffe
<b>Tom and Pippo Go for a Walk</b>	Oxenbury, Helen
<b>Good Night, Gorilla</b>	Rathmann, Peggy
<b>I Can Be Anything</b>	Spinelli, Jerry
<b>A Number of Dinosaurs</b>	Stickland, Paul & Henrietta
<b>I Love You, Little One</b>	Tafari, Nancy
<b>Knuffle Bunny Free</b>	Willems, Mo
<b>Silly Sally</b>	Wood, Audrey
<b>Dog Loves Books</b>	Yates, Louise
<b>How Do Dinosaurs Love Their Dogs?</b>	Yolen, Jane & Mark Teague

## **READ-ALOUDS FOR GRADES 1 -2**

<b>The Snowman</b>	Briggs, Raymond
<b>The Curious Garden</b>	Brown, Peter
<b>I Will Never Not Ever Eat a Tomato</b>	Child, Lauren
<b>Titanicat</b>	Crisp, Marty
<b>Pulelehua and Mamaki</b>	Crowl, Janice and Harinani Orme
<b>Olivia Goes to Venice</b>	Falconer, Ian
<b>Roger the Jolly Pirate</b>	Helquest, Brett
<b>Julius, Baby of the World</b>	Henkes, Kevin
<b>The Secret Life of Walter Kitty</b>	Hicks, Barbara Jean
<b>Horace and Morris but Mostly Dolores</b>	Howe, James
<b>A Beautiful Hawaiian Day</b>	Kapono, Henry
<b>Wonder Horse</b>	McCully, Emily Arnold
<b>Hungry Hyena</b>	Mwenye, Hadithi
<b>Mr. Miyataki's Marvelous Machine</b>	Newsome, Tandy
<b>Pili the 'Iwi Bird Flies Again</b>	Omoto, Gail, Jan & Judy Dill
<b>The Chicken Thief</b>	Rodriguez, Beatrice
<b>Calabash Cat</b>	Rumford, James
<b>Never Fear, Snake My Dear</b>	Siegenthaler, Rolf
<b>Skippyjon Jones</b>	Schachner, Judy
<b>Duck on a Bike</b>	Shannon, David
<b>A Sick Day for Amos McGee</b>	Stead, Philip C.
<b>13 Words</b>	Snicket, Lemony
<b>Kekoa and the Egg Mystery</b>	Walls, Tia

## READ-ALOUDS FOR GRADES 3-4

<b>The Penderwicks A Summer Tale of Four Sisters, Two Rabbits, and a Very Interesting Boy</b>	Birdsall, Jeanne
<b>The Popcorn Book</b>	de Paola, Tomie
<b>Medusa Jones</b>	Collins, Ross
<b>The Great Hamster Massacre</b>	Davies, Kate
<b>Dexter the Tough</b>	Haddix, Margaret Peterson
<b>Bunnicula: A Rabbit-Tale of Mystery</b>	Howe, Deborah
<b>Alvin Ho: Birthday Parties, Science Projects and Other Man-made Catastrophes</b>	Look, Lenore
<b>100 Days and 99 Nights</b>	Madison, Alan
<b>School! Adventures at the Harvey N. Trouble Elementary School</b>	McMullan, Kate
<b>The Sandman and the Turtles</b>	Morpurgo, Michael
<b>Eating Enchiladas</b>	Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds
<b>Down Girl and Sit: Smarter Than Squirrels</b>	Nolan, Lucy
<b>Junie B., First Grader: Cheater Pants</b>	Park, Barbara
<b>Big Nate – In A Class By Himself</b>	Pierce, Lincoln
<b>Silent Music</b>	Rumford, James
<b>The Trouble with Fun</b>	Sadler, Marilyn
<b>Marvin Redpost Series</b>	Sachar, Louis
<b>Calvin Coconut: The Zippy Fix</b>	Salisbury, Graham
<b>Chocolate Fever</b>	Smith, Robert Kimmel
<b>My Life as a Book</b>	Tashjian, Janet
<b>Dragonbreath</b>	Vernon, Ursula
<b>The Loathsome Dragon</b>	Wiesner, David and Kim Kahng

## READ-ALOUDS FOR GRADES 5-6

<b>The Strange Case of Origami Yoda</b>	Angleberger, Tom
<b>The Name of this Book Is Secret</b>	Bosch, Pseudonymous
<b>The Sisters Grim: The Fairy Tale Detectives</b>	Buckley, Michael
<b>Benjamin Pratt &amp; the Keepers of the School: We the Children</b>	Clements, Andrew
<b>Lunch Money</b>	Clements, Andrew
<b>The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane</b>	DiCamillo, Kate
<b>White Crane</b>	Fussell, Sandy & Rhian James
<b>Belly Up</b>	Gibbs, Stuart
<b>Among the Hidden</b>	Haddix, Margaret Peterson
<b>Scat</b>	Hiaasen, Carl
<b>A Million Shades of Gray</b>	Kadohata, Cynthia
<b>Savvy</b>	Law, Ingrid
<b>Scumble</b>	Law, Ingrid
<b>Where the Mountain Meets the Moon</b>	Lin, Grace
<b>Kensuke's Kingdom</b>	Morpurgo, Michael
<b>The Teacher's Funeral: A Comedy in Three Parts</b>	Peck, Richard
<b>Throne of Fire</b>	Riordan, Rick
<b>Elephant Run</b>	Smith, Roland B.
<b>Blue Comet</b>	Wells, Rosemary
<b>The Secret Life of Ms. Finkleman</b>	Winters, Ben H.
<b>The Incurable Children of Ashton Place</b>	Wood, Maryrose
<b>Not One Damsel in Distress: World Folktales for Strong Girls</b>	Yolen, Jane

## READ-ALOUDS FOR GRADES 7-8

<b>Go Figure! A Totally Cool Book About Numbers</b>	Ball, Johnny
<b>The Hunger Games Series</b>	Collins, Suzanne
<b>Half Magic</b>	Eager, Edward
<b>The Bread Winner</b>	Ellis, Deborah
<b>Dark Life</b>	Falls, Kat
<b>A Tale Dark and Grimm</b>	Gidwitz, Adam
<b>Theodore Boone: The Abduction</b>	Grisham, John
<b>Hoot</b>	Hiaasen, Carl
<b>The Last Best Days of Summer</b>	Hobbs, Valerie
<b>The Outcasts of 19 Schuyler Place</b>	Konigsburg, E.L.
<b>No More Dead Dogs</b>	Korman, Gordon
<b>Curse of the Blue Tattoo</b>	Meyer, L.A.
<b>Trash</b>	Mulligan, Andy
<b>Eragon Series: Brisingr</b>	Paolini, Christopher
<b>Middle School, the Worst Years of My Life</b>	Patterson, James w/ Chris Tebbetts
<b>Harris and Me</b>	Paulsen, Gary
<b>The Last Book in the Universe</b>	Philbrick, Rodman
<b>Esperanza Rising</b>	Ryan, Pam Munoz
<b>The Card Turner</b>	Sachar, Louis
<b>Storm Runners</b>	Smith, Roland
<b>Love, Stargirl</b>	Spinelli, Jerry
<b>The Mysterious Benedict Society</b>	Stewart, Trenton Lee
<b>Surviving the Applewhites</b>	Tolan, Stephanie S.



## READ-ALOUDS FOR GRADES 9-12

<b>Ship Breaker</b>	Bacigalupi, Paolo
<b>The Maze Runner</b>	Dashner, James
<b>The Elements: A Visual Exploration of Every Known Atom in the Universe</b>	Gray, Theodore
<b>Hurricane Dancers: The First Caribbean Pirate Shipwreck</b>	Engle, Margarita
<b>House of the Scorpion</b>	Farmer, Nancy
<b>The Magicians</b>	Grossman, Lev
<b>Star Island</b>	Hiaasen, Carl
<b>The Dark Game: True Spy Stories</b>	Janeczko, Paul
<b>Flappers Series: Vixen</b>	Larkin, Jillian
<b>I Am Number Four</b>	Lore, Pittacus
<b>The Unidentified</b>	Mariz, Rae
<b>Breaking Night: A Memoir of Forgiveness, Survival, and My Journey from Homeless to Harvard</b>	Murray, Liz
<b>The Boy Who Couldn't Sleep and Never Had To</b>	Pierson, D.C.
<b>True Grit</b>	Portis, Charles
<b>Small Gods</b>	Pratchett, Terry
<b>The Kid</b>	Sapphire
<b>Revolver</b>	Sedgwick, Marcus
<b>The Lucky One</b>	Sparks, Nicholas
<b>The Help</b>	Stockett, Kathryn
<b>Leviathan</b>	Westerfeld, Scott
<b>Empty</b>	Weyn, Suzanne
<b>The Curse of the Wendigo</b>	Yancey, Richard

## **READ-ALOUDS FOR ADULTS**

<b>One Summer</b>	Baldacci, David
<b>The Lace Reader</b>	Barry, Brunonia
<b>Year of Wonders</b>	Brooks, Geraldine
<b>My Losing Season</b>	Conroy, Pat
<b>The Great Santini</b>	Conroy, Pat
<b>Room</b>	Donoghue, Emma
<b>The 19<sup>th</sup> Wife</b>	Ebershoff, David
<b>Red Queen</b>	Gregory, Philippa
<b>Water For Elephants</b>	Gruen, Sara
<b>Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption</b>	Hillenbrand, Laura
<b>Not Me</b>	Lavigne, Michael
<b>Anshu: Dark Sorrow</b>	Kono, Juliet S.
<b>In the Garden of Beasts</b>	Larson, Erik
<b>The Greater Journey: Americans in Paris</b>	McCullough, David
<b>The Paris Wife</b>	McLain, Paula
<b>Across the Universe</b>	Revis, Beth
<b>The Diseasing of America's Children: Exposing the ADHD Fiasco and Empowering Parents to Take Back Control</b>	Rosemond, John
<b>London</b>	Rutherford, Edward
<b>The Happiness Project</b>	Rubin, Gretchen
<b>The Kalahari Typing School for Men</b>	Smith, Alexander McCall
<b>The Art of Racing in the Rain</b>	Stein, Garth
<b>Cutting for Stone</b>	Vergheese, Abraham

## AGELESS AND TIMELESS CLASSICS

<b>Mr. Popper's Penguins</b>	Atwater, Richard & Florence
<b>Superfudge</b>	Blume, Judy
<b>The Good Earth</b>	Buck, Pearl S.
<b>Heroes, Gods and Monsters of Greek Myths</b>	Evslin, Bernard
<b>The Princess Bride</b>	Goldman, William
<b>Read Aloud Poems for Young People</b>	Hale, Gloria
<b>The Outsiders</b>	Hinton, S.E.
<b>Whistle for Willie</b>	Keats, Ezra Jack
<b>A Separate Peace</b>	Knowles, John
<b>The Owl and the Pussycat</b>	Lear, Edward
<b>White Fang</b>	London, Jack
<b>Make Way For Ducklings</b>	McCloskey, Robert
<b>Anne of Green Gables</b>	Montgomery, L.M.
<b>The Westing Game</b>	Raskin, Ellen
<b>Curious George</b>	Rey, H.A.
<b>Catcher in the Rye</b>	Salinger, J.D.
<b>The Giving Tree</b>	Silverstein, Shel
<b>Caps for Sale: A Tale of a Peddler, Some Monkeys And Their Monkey Business</b>	Slobodkina, Esphyr
<b>Dr. De Soto</b>	Steig, William
<b>The Hobbit</b>	Tolkien, J.R.R.
<b>The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</b>	Twain, Mark
<b>Millions of Cats</b>	Gag, Wanda

## RESOURCES FOR PARENTS AND TEACHERS

**Best Books for Kids Who (Think They) Hate to Read: 125 Books That Will Turn Any Child Into a Lifelong Reader**

Backes, Laura

**This Way To Books**

Bauer, Caroline

**Babies Need Books: Sharing the Joy of Books With Children from Birth to Six**

Butler, Dorothy

**Raising Lifelong Learners: A Parent's Guide**

Calkins, Lucy McCormick

**How to Get Your Child to Love Reading**

Codell, Esmé Raji

**Read to Me: Raising Kids Who Love to Read**

Cullinan, Bernice

**Help Me, I Have a Teenager**

Drake, Annie

**Reading Magic**

Fox, Mem

**Books Kids Will Sit Still For**

Freeman, Judy

**The Roller Coaster Years**

Giannetti, Charlene

**Nurture the Nature: Understanding and Supporting Your Child's Unique Core Personality**

Gurian, Michael

**Read it Aloud! A Parent's Guide to Sharing Books**

Haas, Laurie Joy & Monty Haas

**Straight Talk About Reading: How Parents Can Make a Difference During the Early Years**

Hall, Susan & Louisa Moats

**Endangered Minds**

Healy, Jane M.

**For Reading Out Loud!: A Guide for Sharing Books With Children**

Kimmel, Margaret Mary

**Reading Rules! Motivating Teens to Read**

Knowles, Elizabeth & Martha Smith

**The Power of Reading**

Krashen, Stephen

**Raising Readers**

National Council of Teachers of English

**Great Books for Boys: More Than 600 Books for Boys 2 to 14**

Odean, Kathleen

**Great Books for Girls: More Than 600 Books for Recommended Books for Girls Ages 3-14**

Odean, Kathleen

**The Read Aloud Handbook**

Trelease, Jim

**Guys Read web site**

[www.guysread.com](http://www.guysread.com)

**Mem Fox web site**

[www.memfox.com](http://www.memfox.com)