

Read Aloud America

2021 Reading List



Read Aloud America, Inc.
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Dear Parents, Grandparents, Teachers, and all who read to children:

Here is the new Read Aloud America 2021 Reading List of great read aloud books for children of all ages. You will find many new titles, repeat titles and a new list of Graphic Novels. You also might note that some of the books on this list appeared on previous annual reading lists, which date back to 1998. Please go to this link to view Reading Lists that we have compiled since 2010: <http://www.readaloudamerica.org/booklist.htm>

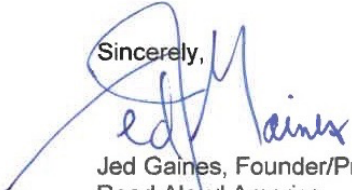
I hope that you find the list both a helpful guide of books to read aloud to the children in your lives and a resource when choosing a book to give as a gift.

To recommend a book for the 2021 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:

2020 Children's Choice Book Awards List
Amazon.com Best Children's Books
Jed Gaines, Founder/President, Read Aloud America
www.whatdowedoallday.com
Barnes and Noble Best Children's Books

Jessie O'Neill-Prest, Kihei Elementary School
Joanne Laird, RAA Program Director
Larry Laird, RAA Operations Director
Scholastic Books
Newbery Award Books List

The books chosen for the 2021 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.

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READ-ALOUDS FOR INFANTS AND TODDLERS

The Book of ZZZZZs	Alda, Arlene
Whose Toes Are Those?	Asim, Jabari
Ten, Nine, Eight	Bang, Molly
The Going to Bed Book	Boynton, Sandra
Moo Baa La La La	Boynton, Sandra
Llama, Llama Nighty-Night	Dewdney, Anna
Baby Touch and Feel Mermaid	DK
The Gruffalo	Donaldson, Julia
8 Little Planets	Ferrie, Chris
Little Boat	Gomi, Taro
Think Big, Little One	Harrison, Vashti
I Love You to the Moon and Back	Hepworth, Amelia
Go Baby! Go Dog!	Kennedy, Anne Vittur
Pat the Bunny	Kunhardt, Dorothy
Black Bird, Yellow Sun	Light, Steve
Making Faces	Magnusson, Molly
Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?	Martin, Bill & Carle, Eric
Hooray for Little Fingers!	Mory, Tristan
Stories for 2 Year Olds	Paragon Books
See, Touch, Feel: A First Sensory Book	Priddy, Roger
First 100 Animals	Priddy, Roger
First 100 Words	Priddy, Roger
Twinkle, Twinkle, Time for Bed	Scholastic
Haiku Baby	Snyder, Betsy
Little You!	VanKamp, Richard

READ-ALOUDS FOR PRE-KINDERGARTEN – KINDERGARTEN

Journey	Becker, Aaron
Quest	Becker, Aaron
The Mitten	Brett, Jan
Cozy	Brett, Jan
The Way to the Zoo	Burningham, John
A is for Awesome!	Chen, Eva
Bunheads	Copeland, Misty
My Little Golden Book About Ruth Bader Ginsburg	Corey, Shana
The Day the Crayons Quit	Daywalt, Drew
The Gruffalo	Donaldson, Julia
The Snail and the Whale	Donaldson, Julia
Brief Thief	Escoffier, Michael
Snapsy the Alligator	Falatko, Julie
Apples and Robins	Felix, Lucie
The World Needs Who You Were Made to Be	Gaines, Joanna
I Promise	James, LeBron
Mom, There's a Bear at the Door	Lipan, Sabine
Never Feed a Yeti Spaghetti	Make Believe Ideas
How to Babysit a Grandpa	Reagan, Jean
The Grinny Granny Donkey	Smith, Craig
Share Some Kindness, Bring Some Light	Stott, Apryl
Wherever You Are: My Love Will Find You	Tillman, Nancy
The Day You Begin	Woodson, Jacqueline

READ-ALOUDS FOR GRADES 1 – 2

Take Your Pet to School Day	Ashman, Linda
Sofia Valdez, Future Prez	Beaty, Andrea
The Crayon Man	Biebow, Natascha
I'm Worried	Black, Michael Ian
Snack Attack!	Border, Terry
Beneath the Bed and Other Scary Stories	Brallier, Max
My Teacher is a Robot	Brown, Jeffrey
Snowmen at Halloween	Buehner, Caralyn
Superpower Dogs	Cosmic
Dandy	Dyckman, Ame
It's Not Hansel and Gretel	Funk, John
Science You Can Eat	Gates, Stefan
No Place Like Home	Ghosh, Ronojoy
Field Trip to the Moon	Hare, John
The Good Egg	John, Jory
Bruno, the Standing Cat	Jullien, Jean
Superbuns! Kindness Is Her Superpower	Kredensor, Diane
Peanut Butter and Santa Claus	McGee, Joe
Goldilocks for Dinner	Montanari, Susan
Bear Came Along	Morris, Richard T.
I Am a Tiger	Newson, Kari
The Babysitter from Another Planet	Savage, Stephen
Little Taco Truck	Valentine, Tanya
If I Built a School	VanDusen, Chris

GOOD READS FOR GRADES 3 - 4

Animorphs Series	Applegate, K. A.
Lego Non-Fiction: Big Book of Animals	Arlon, Penelope
I Was a Third Grade Spy	Auch, Mary Jane
The Girl Who Drank the Moon	Barnhill, Kelly
The Last Kids on Earth Series	Brallier, Max
Knights of the Lunch Table	Cammuso, Frank
The Try Not to Laugh Challenge	Corey, Crazy
Notebook of Doom Series	Cummings, Troy
Amber Brown Is Not a Crayon	Danzinger, Paula
The Secret Lake	Inglis, Karen
The Wishflower Princess	Kalafatis, Kathie
Ready Freddy Series	Klein, Abby
Mortimer and Me: Moose for Hire	McMahon, Kathie
Marty McGuire	Messner, Kate
The 3 Minute Gratitude Journal for Kids	Modern Kid Press
Bet You Didn't Know: Fascinating, Far-out Fun-tastic Facts!	National Geographic Kids
My Big Fat Zombie Book Series	O'Hara, Mo
MAX: What do I do without my tablet?	Sanchez, Rita J.
Women Who Dared: 52 Stories of Fearless Adventurers	Skeers, Linda
The Stardust Mystery	Solomon, Peter
American Girl: Real Stories from My Time	Swanson, Jennifer
How to Catch a Mermaid	Wallace, Adam
Secret Coders Series	Yang, Gene Luen

GOOD READS FOR GRADE 5

The Jumbies	Baptiste, Tracey
Book Scavenger	Bertman, Jennifer Chambliss
Frindle	Clements, Andrew
No Talking	Clements, Andrew
Artemis Fowl	Colfer, Eoin
Bud, Not Buddy	Curtis, Christopher Paul
Nothing's Fair in Fifth Grade	Declements, Barthe
The Top Ten Ways to Ruin the First Day of School	Derby, Ken
I Am the Ice Worm	Easley, MaryAnn
What Would Joey Do?	Gantos, Jack
Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library	Grabenstein, Chris
The Homework Machine	Gutman, Dan
Wait `Till Helen Comes	Hahn, Mary Downing
The Canning Season	Horvath, Polly
The Phantom Tollbooth	Juster, Norton
Stand Up Yumi Chung!	Kim, Jessica
Number the Stars	Lowry, Lois
11 Birthdays: A Wish Novel	Mass, Wendy
The Light Princess	McDonald, George
The Westing Game	Raskin, Ellen
There's a Boy in the Girls Bathroom	Sachar, Louis
The Mystery of Rascal Pratt	Scott, Robbie
The List of Things that Will Not Change	Stead, Rebecca
Ways to Make Sunshine	Watson, Renee
President of the Whole Fifth Grade	Winston, Sherri

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

Rising Water-The Story of the Thai Cave Rescue	Aronson, Mark
El Deafo	Bell, Cece
The Storm Runner	Cervantes, Jennifer
The Boy Who Became a Dragon	DiBartolo, Jim
Blended	Draper, Sharon
You Don't Know Everything, Jilly P!	Gino, Alex
The Dark Lord Clementine	Horwitz, Sarah Jean
Same Sun Here	House, Silas & Vaswani, Neela
Twins	Johnson, Varian
The Boys in the Back Row	Jung, Mike
The Unteachables	Korman, Gordon
Alyssa Milano's Hope	Milano, Alyssa
Squint	Morris, Chad & Brown, Shelly
This Side of Wild	Paulsen, Gary
Lawn Boy Returns	Paulsen, Gary
Wildfire	Philbrick, Rodman
With the Might of Angels	Pinkney, Andrea Davis
Race to the Sun	Roanhorse, Rebecca
Promises to Keep	Robinson, Jackie
Can You See Me?	Scott, Libby
The Wardens Daughter	Spinelli, Jerry
Our Castle by the Sea	Strange, Lucy
Other Words for Home	Warga, Jasmine
Genesis Begins Again	Williams, Alicia D.

GOOD READS FOR GRADES 9 - 12

Internment	Ahmed, Samira
Shout	Anderson, Laurie Halse
Girls Made of Snow and Glass	Bashardoust, Melissa
XL	Brown, Scott
The Revolution of Birdie Randolph	Colbert, Brandy
You Owe Me a Murder	Cook, Eileen
Superman	Dela Pena, Matt
Stepsister	Donnelly, Jennifer
Refugee 87	Fountain, Ele
Before They Were Authors	Haidle, Elizabeth
Beast Rider	Johnstone, Tony
Loki	Lee, Mackenzie
The Stars and the Blackness Between Them	Petrus, Junauda
The Field Guide to the North American Teenager	Philippe, Ben
Five Feet Apart	Lippincott, Rachael
To Night Owl From Dogfish	Sloan, Holly Goldberg
On the Come Up	Thomas, Angie
The Water Spirit: Gamayun Tales	Utkin, Alexander
The Cold Is in Her Bones	Van Arsdale, Peternelle
Come November	Van Dam, Katrin
The Haunted	Vega, Danielle
The Bridge Home	Venkatraman, Padma
Are You Listening?	Walden, Tillie
Watch Us Rise	Watson, Renee
Pride	Zoboi, Ibi

GOOD READS FOR ADULTS

The Short, the Long, and the Tall	Archer, Jeffrey
Daylight	Baldacci, David
Dark Sky (will be published 3/21)	Box, C. J.
The Boy from the Woods	Coben, Harlan
The Deserter	DeMille, Nelson
The Guest List	Foley, Lucy
No Time Like the Future	Fox, Michael J.
A Time for Mercy	Grisham, John
The Great Alone	Hannah, Kristin
Little Audrey`s Daydream	Hepburn, Sean and Karin
The Book of Longings	Kidd, Sue Monk
The Last Castle: The Epic Story of Love, Loss, and American Royalty	Kiernan, Denise
24	Mays, Willie and Shea, John
Sea Stories	McRaven, Admiral William H.
Killing Crazy Horse	O`Reilly, Bill
A Promised Land	Obama, Barack
Art Deco Hawai`i	Papanikolas, Theresa
Deadly Cross	Patterson, James
A Velocity of Being, letters to young readers	Popova, Maria and Bedrick, Claudia
The Order	Silva, Daniel
The Untethered Soul	Singer, Michael
The Return	Sparks, Nicholas
Humans	Stanton, Brandon
Countdown 1945	Wallace, Chris

GRAPHIC NOVELS (GN) – GRADES 2-6

Crossover	Alexander, Kwame
Hicotea	Alvarez, Lorena
Noodleheads Fortress of Doom	Arnold, Tedd & Hamilton, Martha
Catwad #1	Benton, Jim
Hotel Dare	Blas, Terry
Best Babysitters Ever	Cala, Caroline
Sea Sirens	Chu, Amy
New Kid	Craft, Jerry
Stig & Tilde	deRadigues, Max
My Dog Made Me Write This Book	Fensham, Elizabeth
Glitch	Graley, Sarah
Rumple Buttercup	Gubler, Matthew Gray
Making Friends	Gudsnuik, Kristen
Apocalypse Taco	Hale, Nathan
Unplugged and Unpopular	Heagerty, Mat
Sunny Rolls the Dice	Holm, Jennifer
Diary of an Awesome Friendly Kid	Kinney, Jeff
Pandora’s Legacy	Leopard, Kara
Just Jaime	Libenson, Terri
Camp	Miller, Kayla
Max and the Midnights	Peirce, Lincoln
Dogman – For Whom the Ball Rolls	Pilkey, Dav
Hilo Book 5	Winick, Judd

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

NAME OF BOOK	AUTHOR	AGE LEVEL
Little Malia's Big Poi Idea	Calma, Joyce	1 st -2 nd
Maile and the Huli Hula Chicken	Braffet, Mary	1 st -2 nd
Cacy & Kiara and the Curse of the Ki'i	Chang, Roy	3 rd -5 th
Lord of the Deep	Salisbury, Graham	3 rd -5 th
Island Fire	Neal, Toby	7 th -8 th
Turtle in Paradise	Holm, Jennifer	7 th -8 th
A Hawai`ian Life Volume 1 & 2	Kahumoku, George Jr.	Adult
Honolulu	Brennert, Alan	Adult
Moloka`i	Brennert, Alan	Adult
Daughter of Molokai	Brennert, Alan	Adult
Freckled	Neal, Toby	Adult
Limu the Blue Turtle	Armitage, Kimo	K-1 st
Keala Up a Tree	McLean, Patricia	K-1 st
The Bravest Opia	Kona, Juliette	K-1 st
Harry Potter a me Ka`a pohaku Akeakamai	Smith, R. Keao`me	Olelo
Lauka`ie`ie	Racoma, Robin	Olelo
`O Kaina Ke Kuma Koa	Kawaiaaea, Kulamanu	Olelo
No Ke Anila	Dameg, Kaulana	Olelo
Hawaiian Ocean Lullaby	Greenway, Beth	T-PK
Hina	Ahuli`I, Gabriella	T-PK
Twinkle, Twinkle Small Hoku	Tsong, Jing	T-PK

BOOK LIST FOR MILITARY FAMILIES

NAME OF BOOK	AUTHOR	AGE LEVEL
I'll Lend You My Daddy: A Deployment Book for Kids Ages 4-8	King, Becky	1 st -2 nd
Brave for My Family	Whetstone, Davidson	1 st -2 nd
Home Again	Williams, Dorinda	1 st -2 nd
Timmy and the Storm	Yosick, Jeff	1 st -2 nd
My Daddy Sleeps Everywhere	Franklin, Jesse	2 nd -3 rd
What Should Danny Do?	Levy, Adir	2 nd -3 rd
H is for Honor: A Military Family Alphabet	Scillian, Devin	3 rd -4 th
Married to the Military	Leyva, Meredith	Adult
You Are Not Alone	McDonald, Jen	Adult
Modern Military Spouse	Tamm, Lauren	Adult
Night Catch	Ehrmantraut, Brenda	K-1 st
The Adventures of a Military Brat	Gomez, Johanna	K-1 st
Hero Mom	Hardin, Melanie	K-1 st
Hero Dad	Hardin, Melanie	K-1 st
Buddy, the Soldier Bear	Joy, Marie	K-1 st
The Invisible String	Karst, Patrice	K-1 st
Daddy's Boots	Linhart, Sandra	K-1 st
Lily Says Goodbye	Marler, Jerilyn	K-1 st
A Paper Hug	Skolmoski, Stephanie	K-1 st

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
The Second Mountain	Brooks, David
Make Way for Reading--Great books for Kindergarten-grade 8	Latimer, Karen
The Toddler's Handbook	Martin, Dayna
The Read Aloud Handbook	Trelease, Jim
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www.childrensbooksguide.com	Website
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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.supersummary.com/reading-comprehension/guide/	Website
www.the-best-childrens-books.org	Website
www.whatdowedoallday.com/books-for-kids	Website
www.zulily.com	Website
https://www.greatschools.org/gk/book-lists/	Website