

# Readers for Children in the Digital Age

如何在數碼時代  
為孩子選擇優質讀物

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曹穎寶博士

英文及比較文學副教授

香港公開大學



# Acknowledgements

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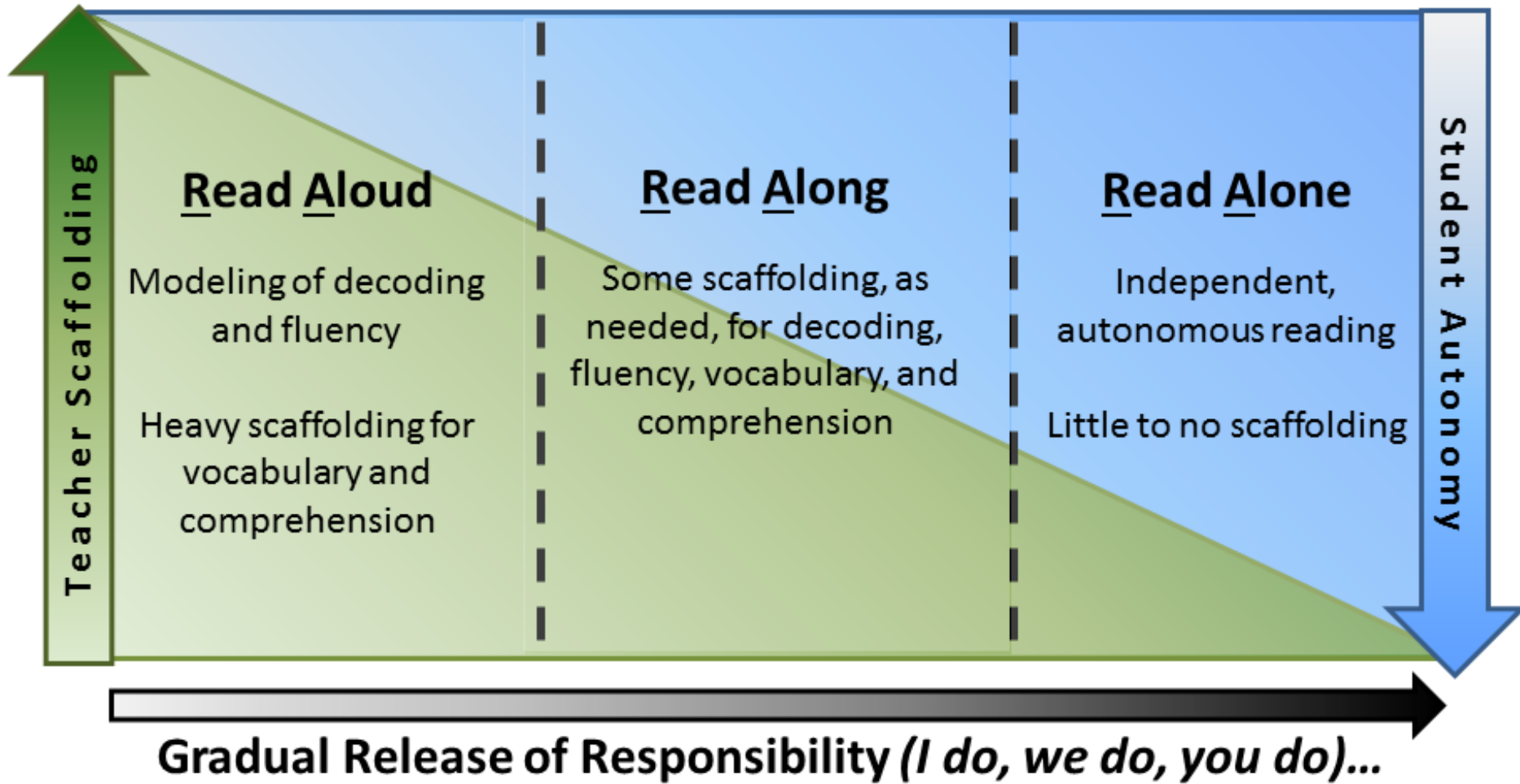
- **Institution Development Scheme (IDS)** from the Research Grants Council of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, China (UGC/IDS16/14).

# This seminar will include:

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1. Guidelines for selecting quality children's books
2. Ten unmissable classic children's books
3. Online resources
4. Q & A

# RA! RA! RA! Reading!



# Birth to about 1.5 years old

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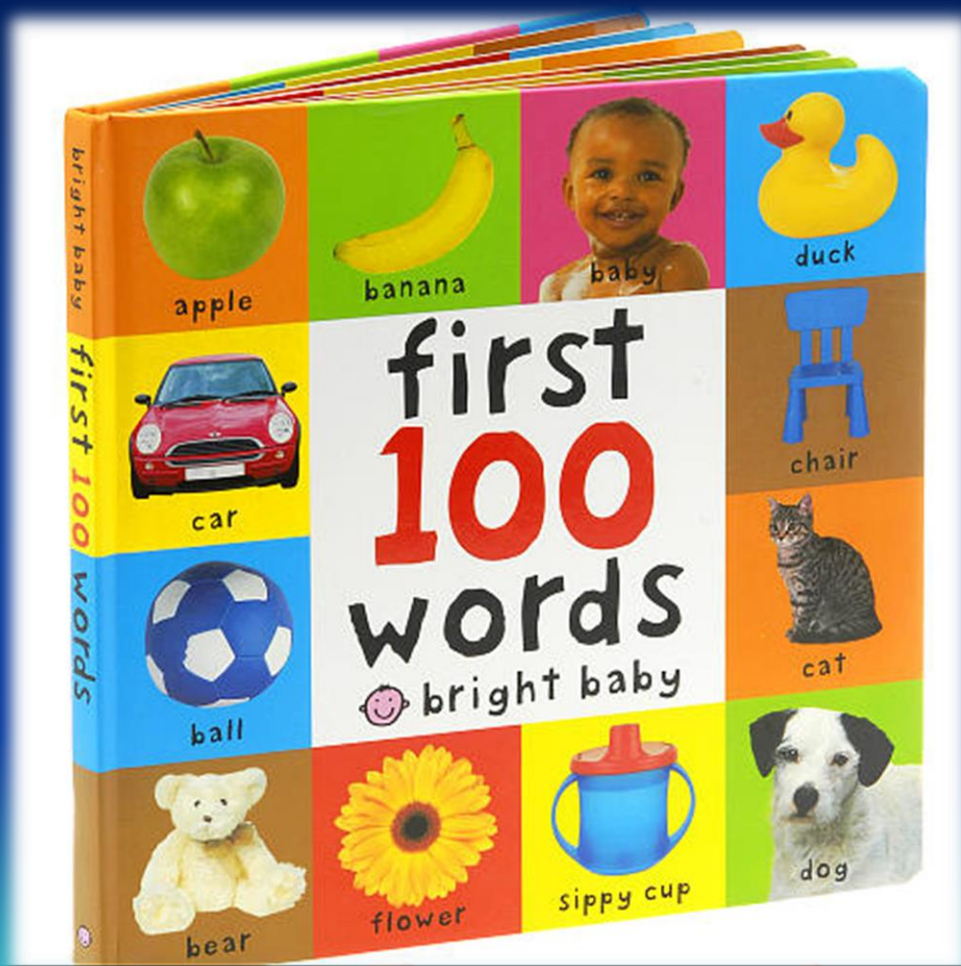
- Made from **durable** materials. Board books and books made from **fabrics** are great for this age.
- **Short, age-appropriate sentences.** Usually one sentence per page max is appropriate.
- Allow for **multi-sensory exploration.** Infants and toddlers like to use their many senses to explore their world, including books. Books that allow them to **touch, feel, and manipulate** are fantastic for this age group and allow you to expand language.
- Show children doing familiar things like sleeping, eating, playing.
- **Lift-the-flap books** are good for providing opportunities for language as they are fun, engaging, employ the milestone of object permanence, and tend to be motivating for little ones.
- Books that are about the following topics: babies/toddlers, animals, animal sounds, simple songs/nursery rhymes, going to bed/nighttime, vehicles, etc.

# A Lift-the-flap book





# A board Book



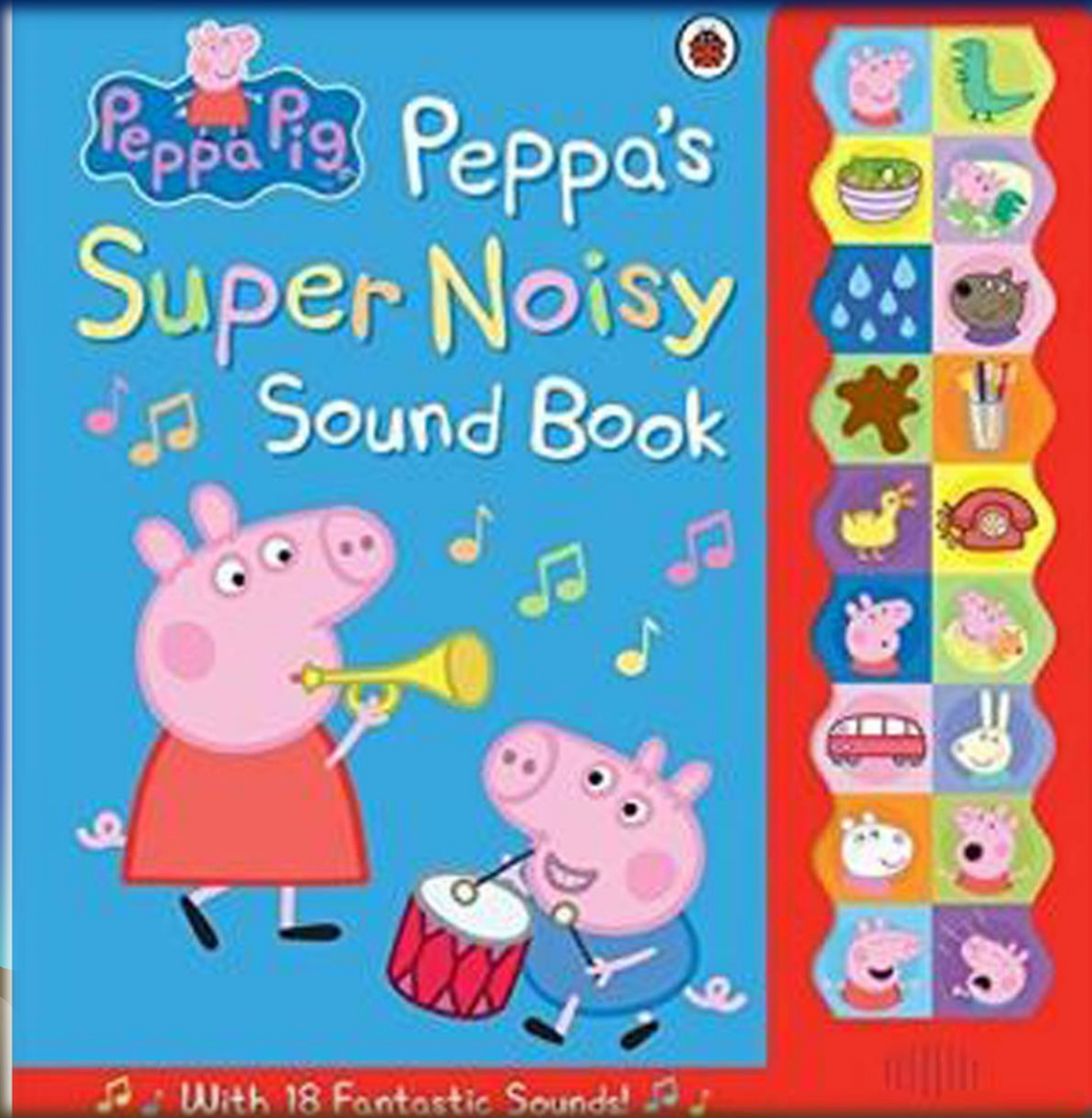
# About 1.5 – 3 years old

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- Books with 1-2 sentences per page.
- Older toddlers can understand and appreciate very simple stories and love **simple rhymes/repetition** and **predictable text** that they can memorize/predict.
- Older toddlers tend to enjoy **SILLY books**! Books that make them laugh.
- Older toddlers will also begin to enjoy stories that have a simple problem that needs to be solved.
- Books about other children, families & animal characters
- In addition to lift-the-flap books, your older toddler may be ready for other types of **interactive books** such as pull-the-flap or pop up books.
- In addition to the topics for infants and younger toddlers, you can add a few to your collection that talk about **colors and shapes and letters**...but remember don't go overboard.



# An interactive book



# New multimodal texts in children's literature

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A children's text may be defined as multimodal when it combines two or more semiotic systems. There are five semiotic systems in total:

- **Linguistic:** Comprising aspects such as vocabulary, generic structure and the grammar of oral and written language.
- **Visual:** Comprising aspects such as color, vectors, and viewpoint in still and moving images.
- **Audio:** Comprising aspects such as volume, pitch, and rhythm of music and sound effects.
- **Gestural:** Comprising aspects such as movement, speed, and stillness in facial expression and body language.
- **Spatial:** Comprising aspects such as proximity, direction, position of layout and organization of objects in space.



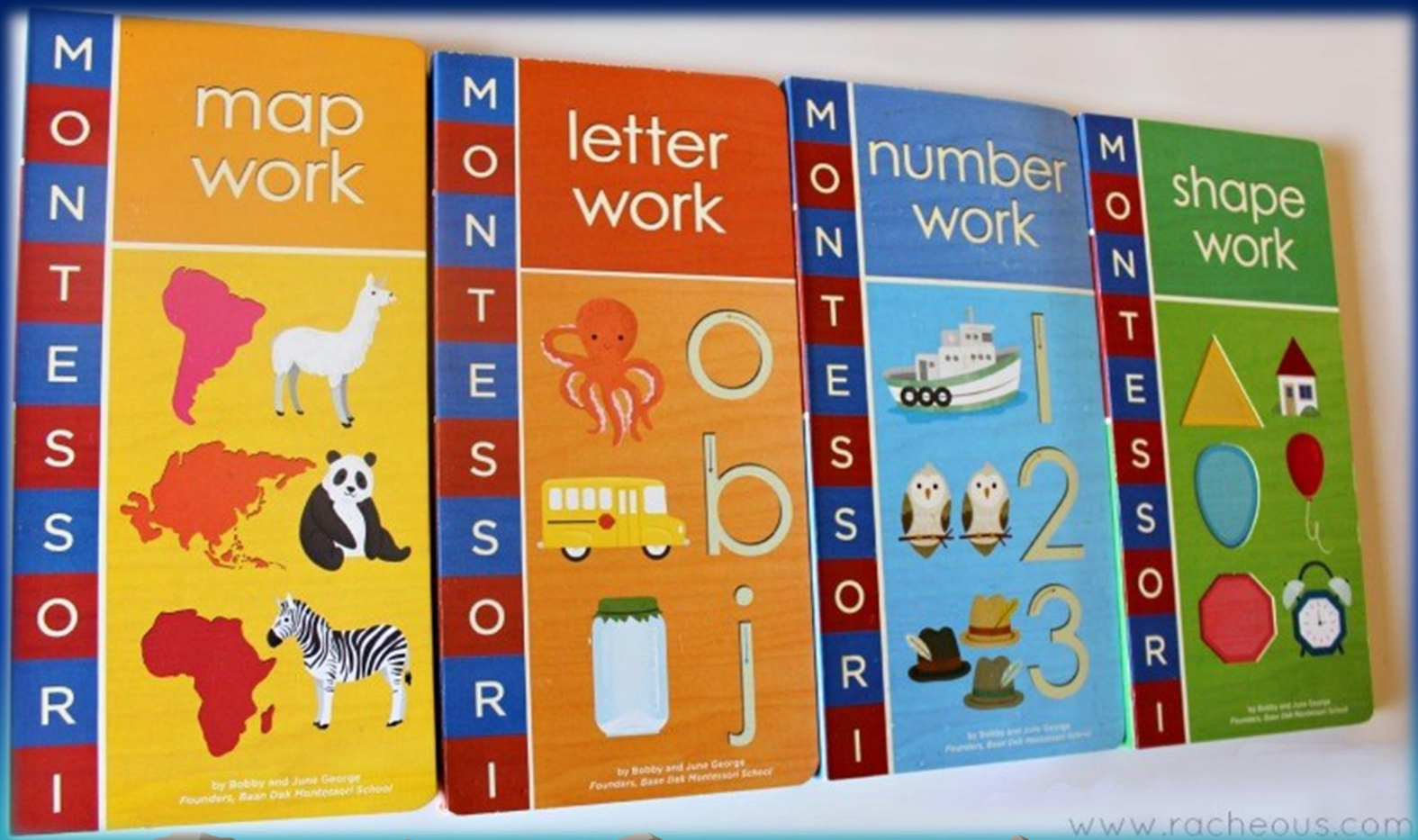
## Reading print-based texts

- **Words:** The words 'tell' including the discourse, register, vocabulary, linguistic patterns, grammar, chapters, paragraph and sentence structure.
- **Use of senses:** Visual, some tactile
- **Verbal style:** Including tone, intonation, humour, irony, sarcasm, word play, developed in the use of 'words'. Typographical arrangement, formatting, layout, font, punctuation.

## Reading new multimodal texts

- **Visual images:** The images 'show' including layout, size, shape, colour, line, angle, position, perspective, screen, frames, icons, links, hyperlinks.
- **Use of sense:** Visual, tactile, hearing, kinesthetic
- **Visual style:** Choice of medium, graphics, animation, frames, menu board, hypertext links.

# Colours, shapes and letters





# Preschoolers (3 - 5 years old)

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- 3 – 5-year-olds are ready for stories with longer sentences/more words per page.
- They are ready for books that tell a real story with characters, problems, and simple conflicts.
- Books with simple text they can memorize and/or read themselves.
- Books about other kids their age experiencing different routines and activities of life such as going to preschool, the doctor, dentist, going on trips, becoming a big brother/sister, etc.
- Books about kids in different parts of the world/different culture
- Books that explain WHY or HOW things work.
- Search and find books
- Classic books and tales
- Award-winning books

# General Advice

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- Bright colorful and engaging **pictures**
- **Song, poems, nursery rhymes** and finger plays along with rhyme/repetition are great for any age
- Books about **your child's interests**: vehicles, animals, trains, or a favorite character.
- **Seasonal and holiday books**: Fall, Winter, Spring, Summer, Thanksgiving, Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Chinese/Lunar New Year, Easter, etc.
- **Wordless picture books** are AWESOME for developing oral language skills at ALL ages so be sure to have these at each stage of development.
- Award winning books.
- **Don't fill your shelves with books about letters, numbers and colors.** Your children have PLENTY of time to learn these concepts within natural experiences, conversations, and PLAY. Feel free to have a few of these on your shelf of course but make sure that is not ALL you have.
- When selecting books, try to provide your child with **a variety of TYPES of books**. Simple picture books, board books, fabric books, touch and feel books, wordless picture books, lift-the-flap books, books based on song, rhyming books, poem books, “find and seek” books, pop up books, etc.



# Genres of Children's Literature

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- Traditional - born of oral tradition, passed orally from generation to generation
- Poetry - ranges from poetry that rhymes to free verse
- Fantasy - rooted in traditional literature, but has an identifiable author
- Science Fiction - speculates on what might happen in the future
- Contemporary Realistic Fiction – deals with living today. Includes humorous stories, detective and mystery stories, school stories, adventure stories, survival stories, sports stories, animals fiction
- Historical Fiction – realistic fiction set in the past
- Biography – focuses on individuals
- Anthology – collection of writings
- Non-Fiction, Informational – accurate, authentic, up-to-date

# Traditional fairytales

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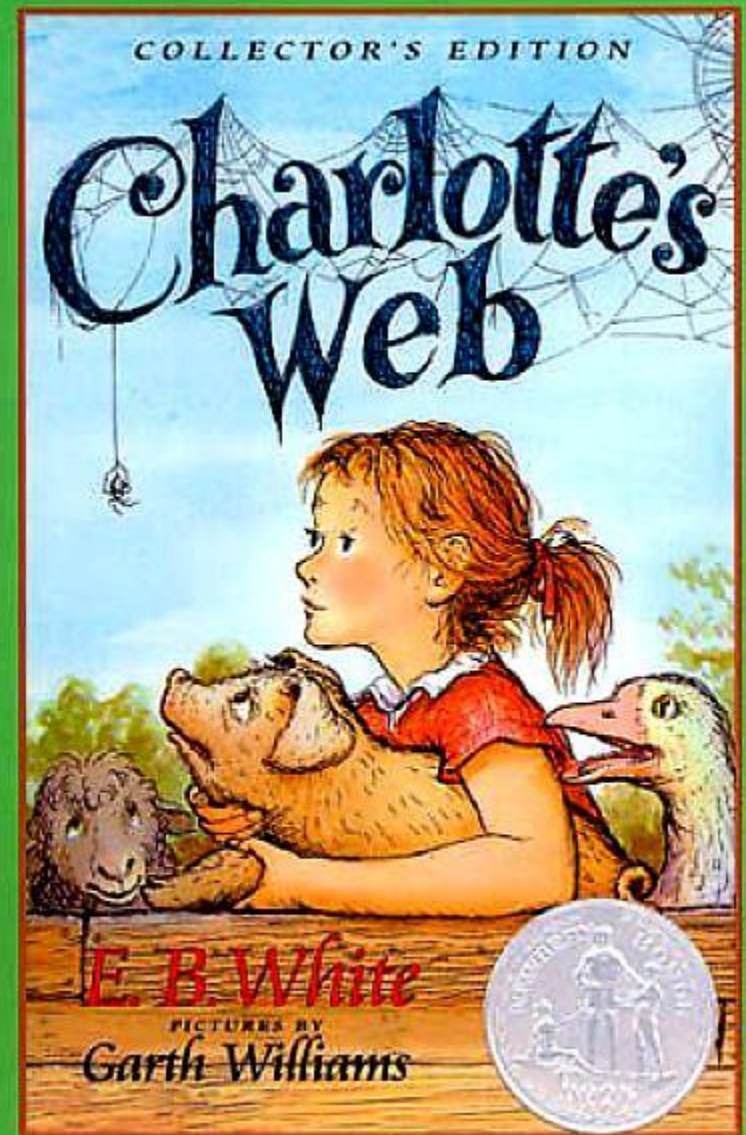


# Fantasy

## WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE

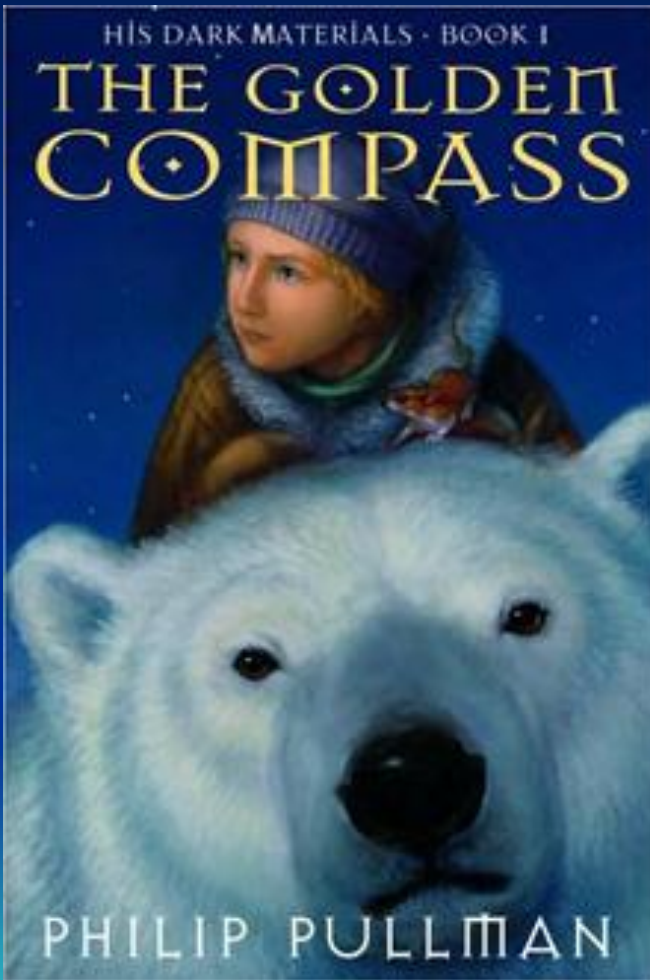


STORY AND PICTURES BY MAURICE SENDAK



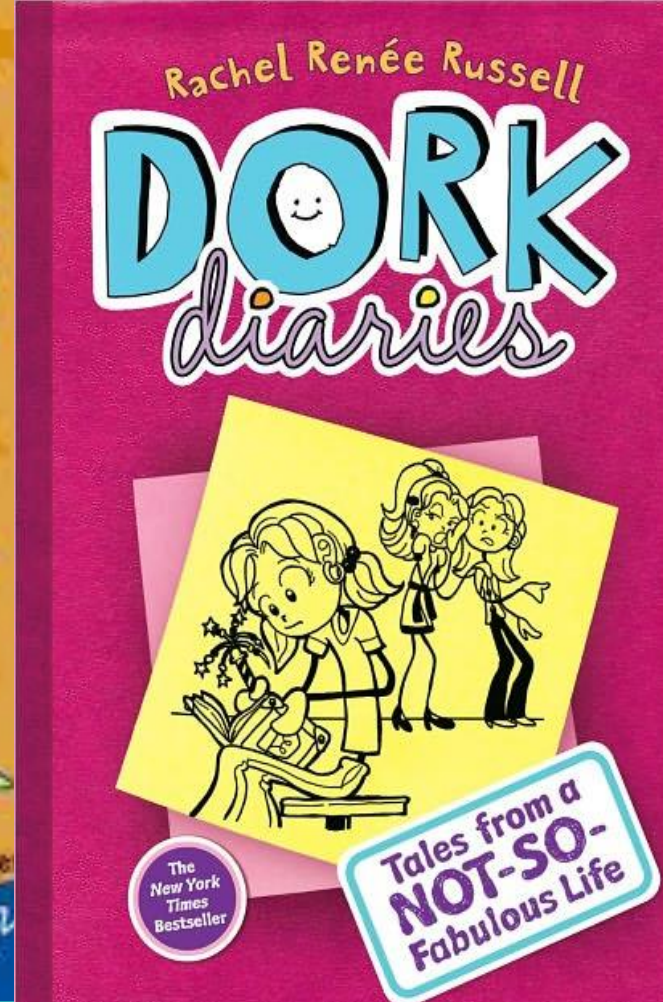
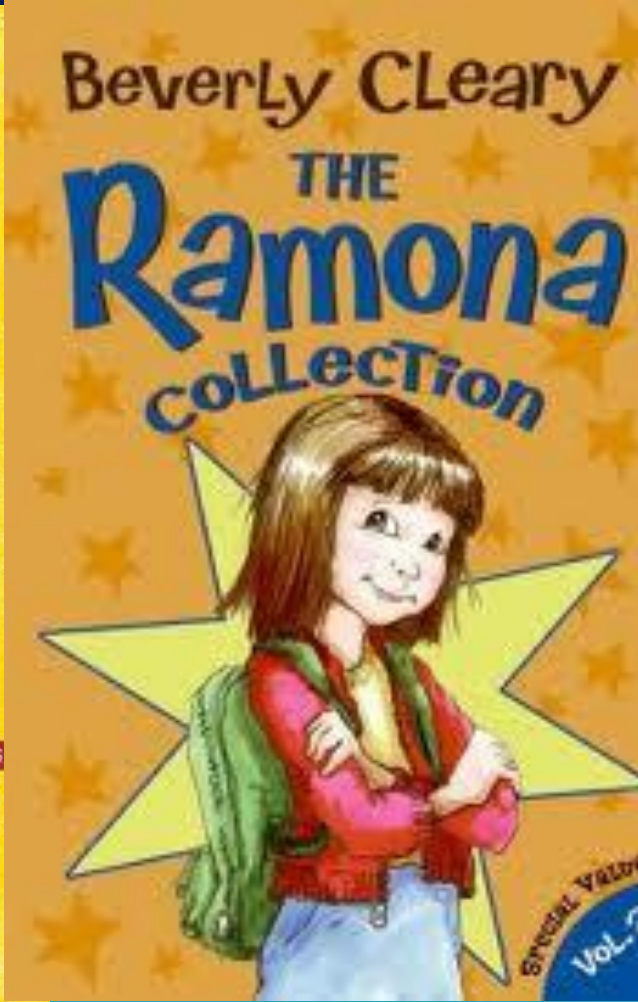
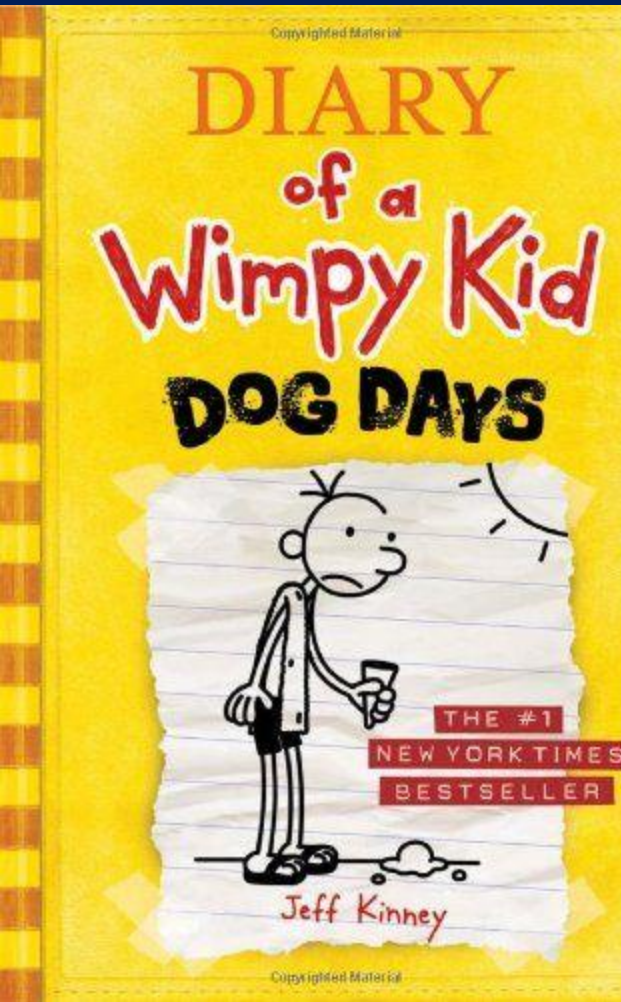


# Science fiction



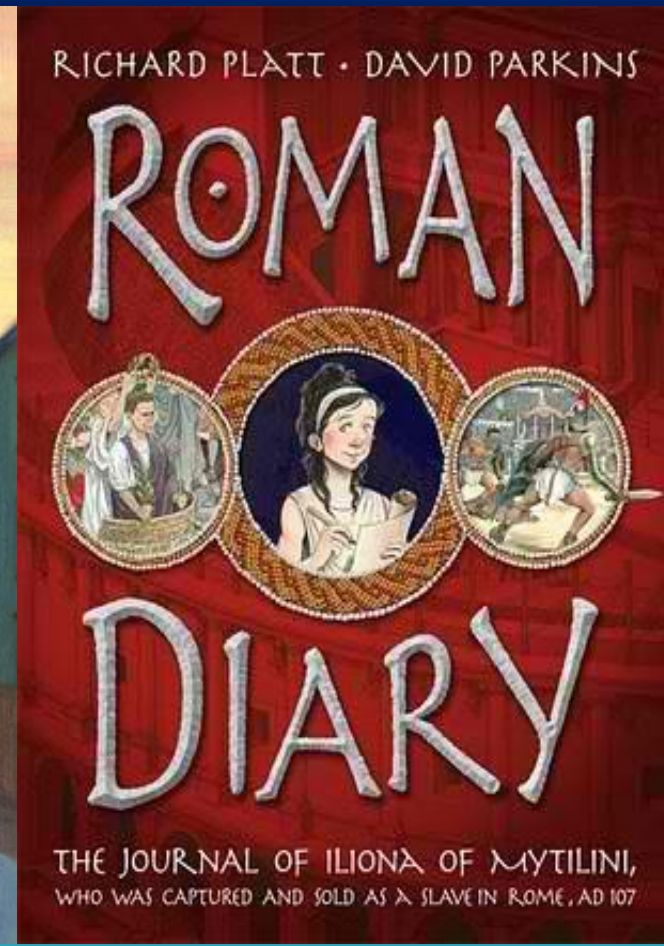
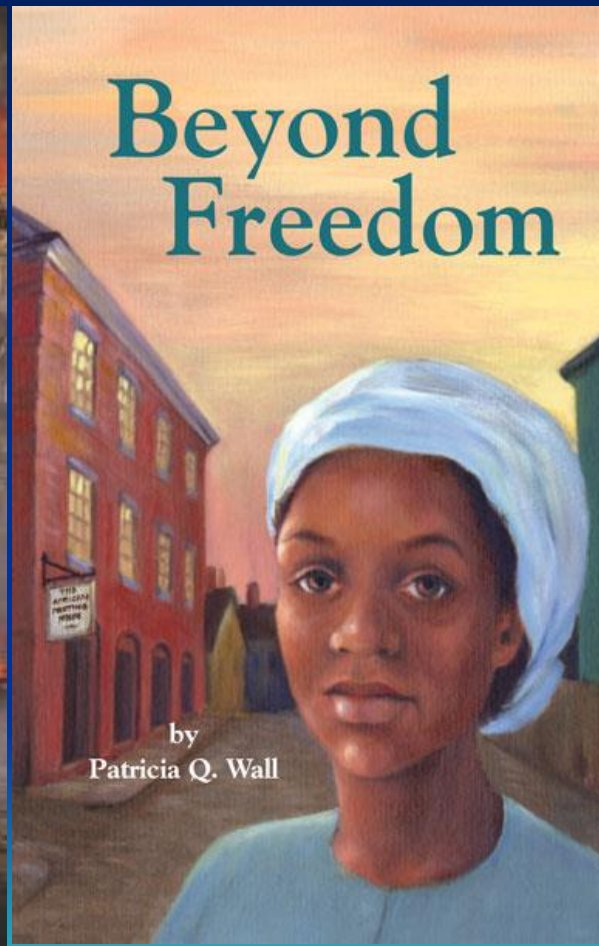


# Contemporary realistic fiction



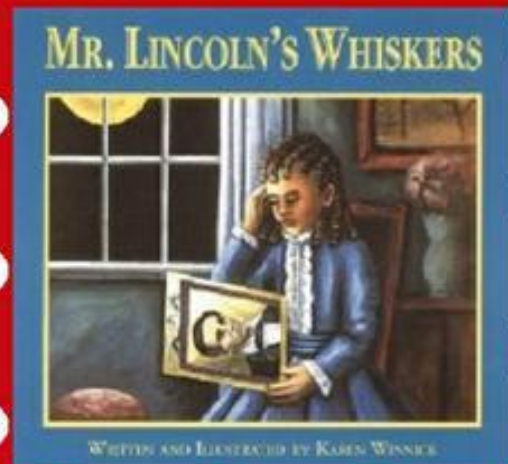
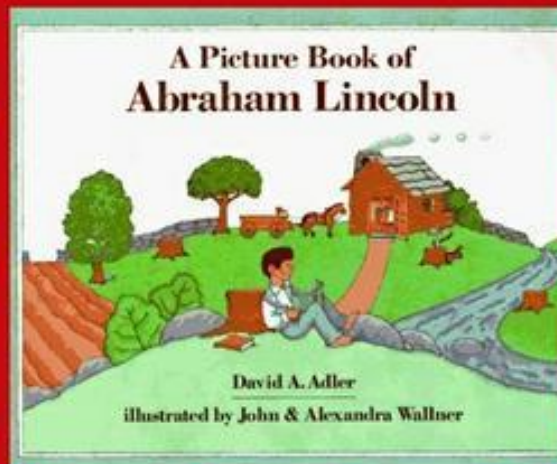
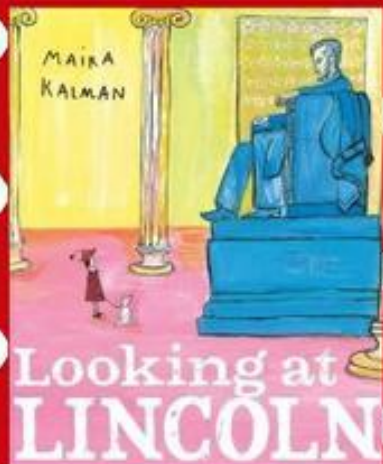
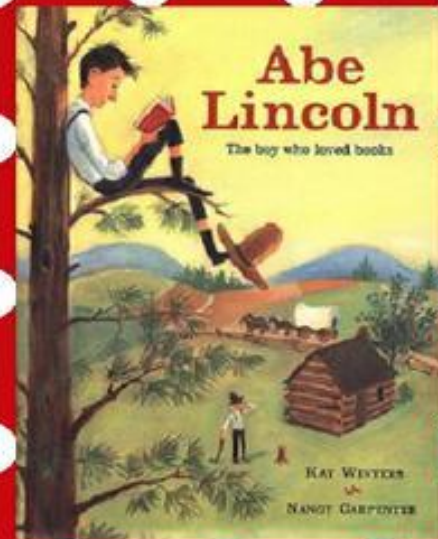
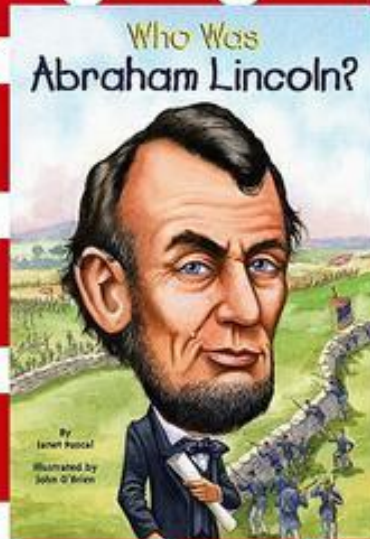
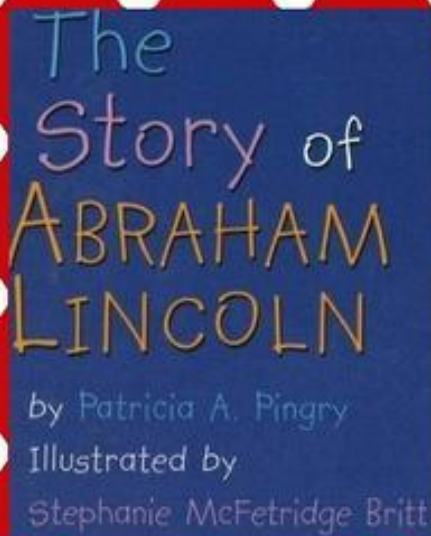


# Historical Fiction



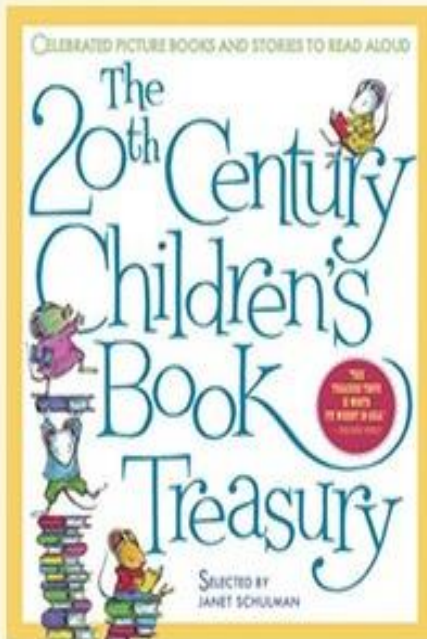


# Biography



# Anthology

SHORT STORIES FOR CHILDREN

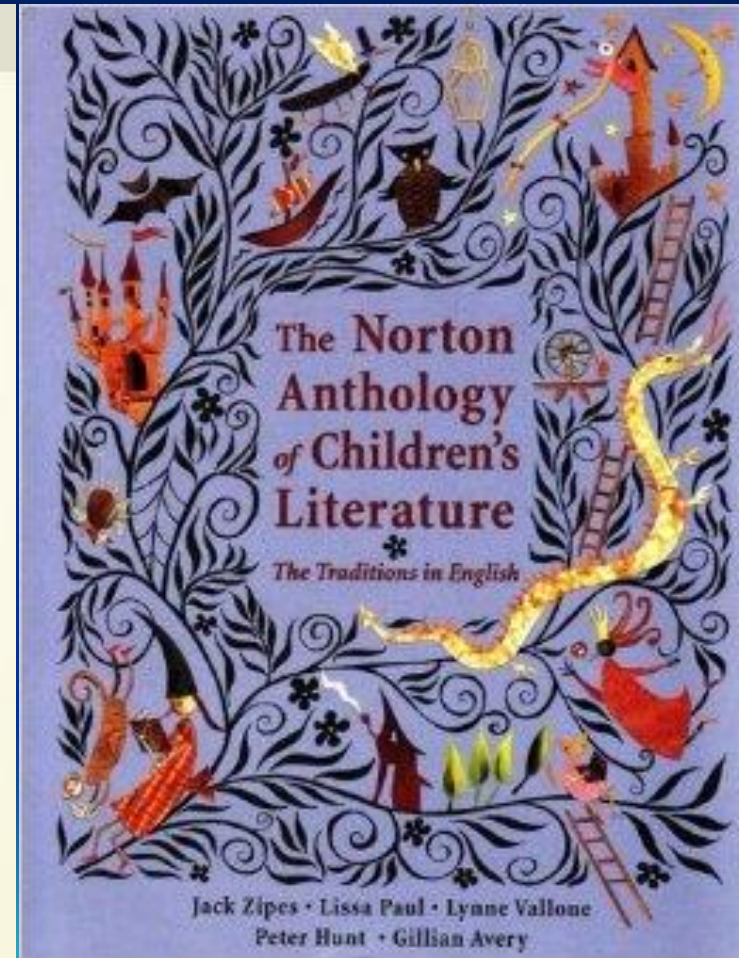


## The 20th Century Children's Book Treasury

Selected by  
Janet Schulman

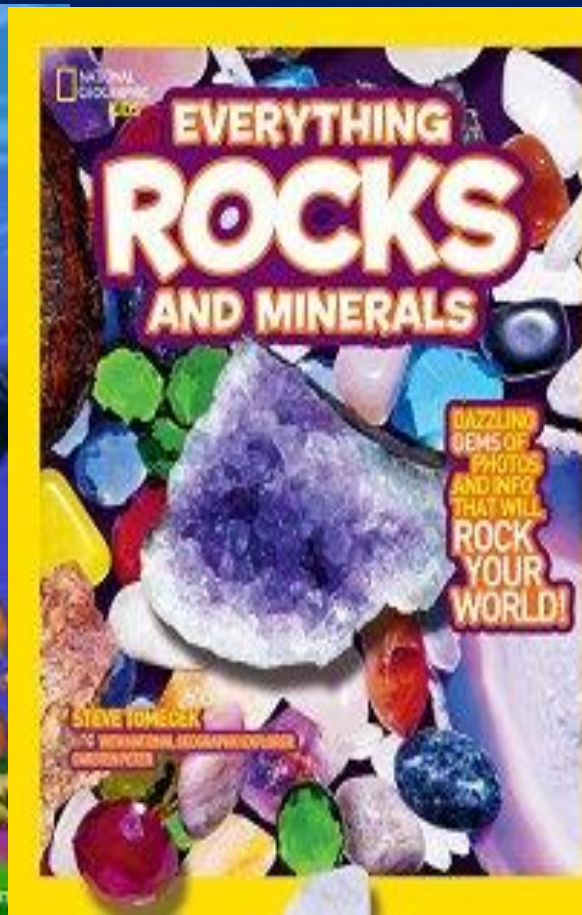
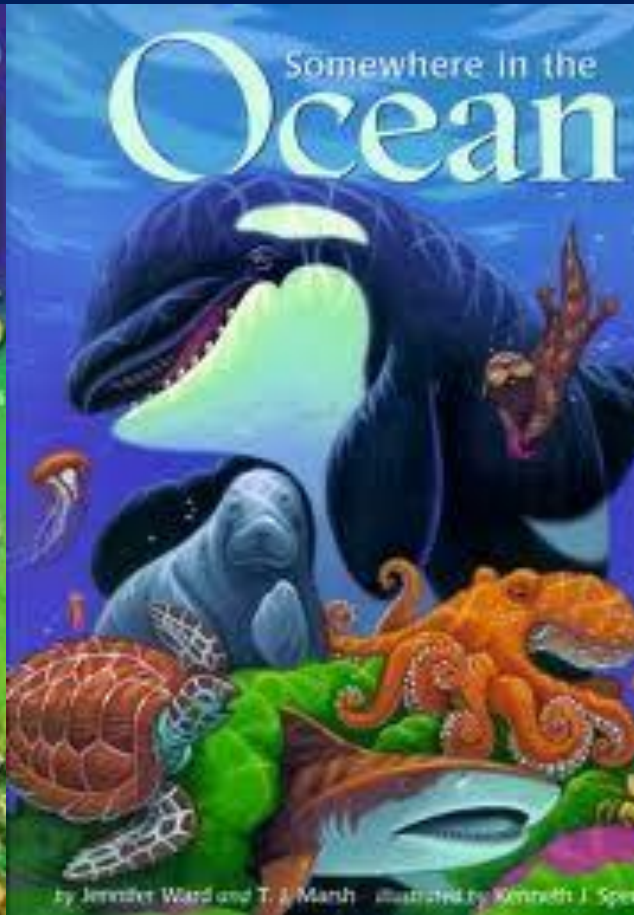
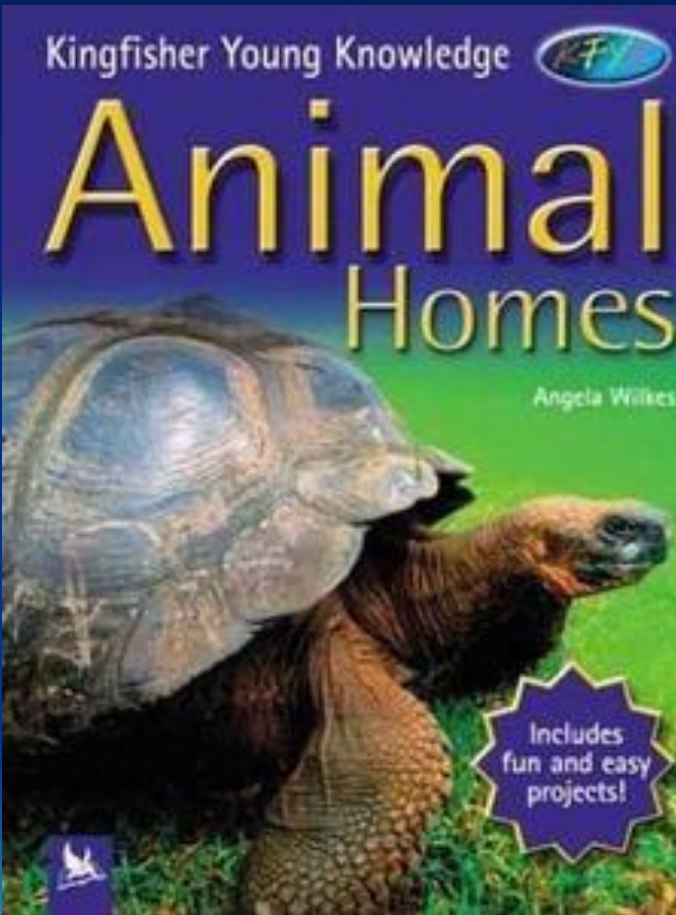
AGE  
LEVEL

5-8





# Non-fictional, informational



# Criteria of Quality Children's Books

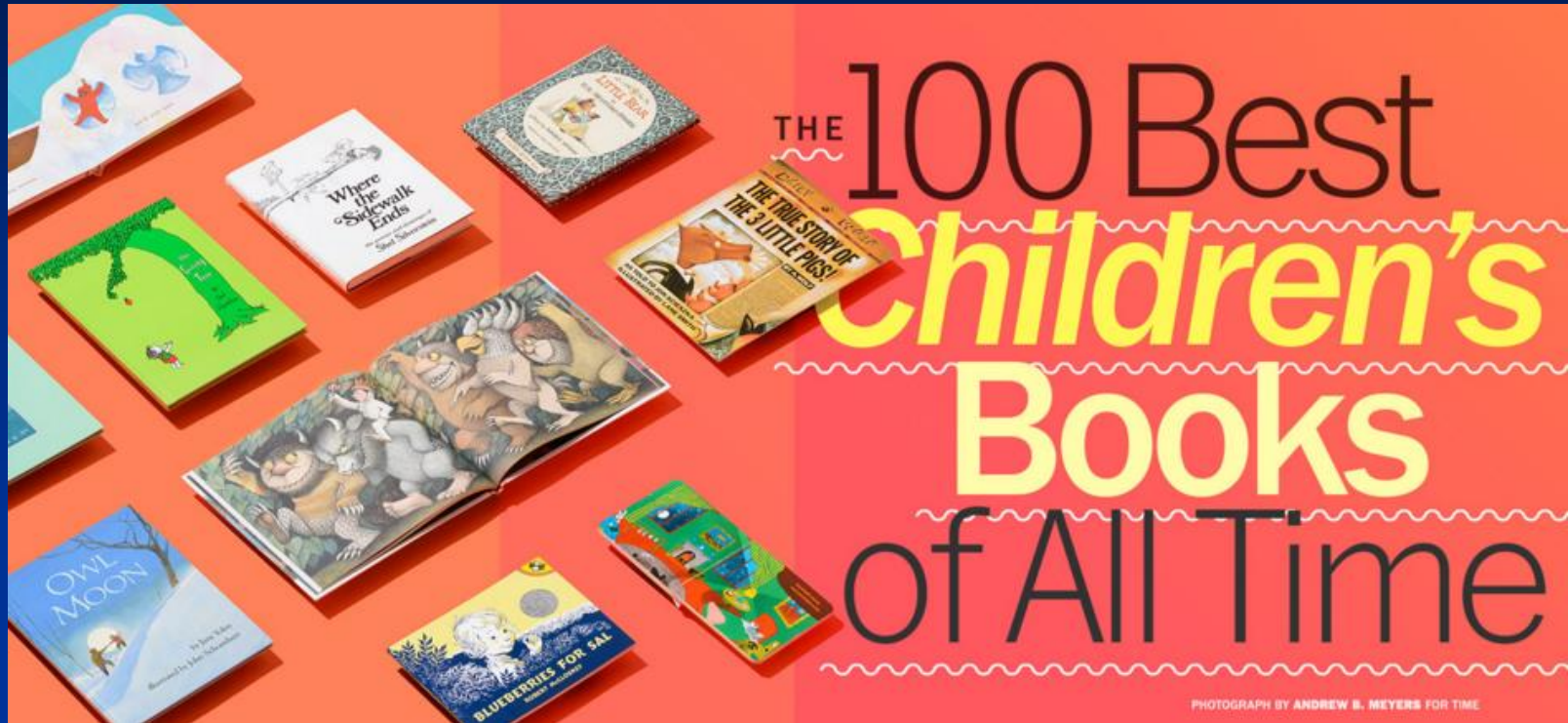
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- Renowned Children's authors
- **Classic Children's Books**
- Children's Book Prizes/Awards
- Children's Book Fair/Festivals

For more information, check:

- Publisher websites
- Other online archives/resources

# The best children's books of all time?



- <http://time.com/100-best-childrens-books/>
- <http://www.booktrust.org.uk/books/children/100-best-books/>



# Ten unmissable classic children's books

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1. *A Wrinkle in Time* (1962) by Madeleine L'Engle
2. *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (1964) by Roald Dahl
3. *Winnie-the-Pooh* (1926) by A.A. Milne
4. *The Little Prince* (1943) by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry
5. *Little Women* (1868) by Louisa May Alcott
6. *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* (1865) by Lewis Carroll
7. *Where the Wild Things Are* (1963) by Maurice Sendak
8. *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* (1950) by C.S. Lewis
9. *Charlotte's Web* (1952) by E.B. White
10. *The Hobbit* (1937) by J.R.R. Tolkien

# *A Wrinkle in Time* (1962) by Madeleine L'Engle

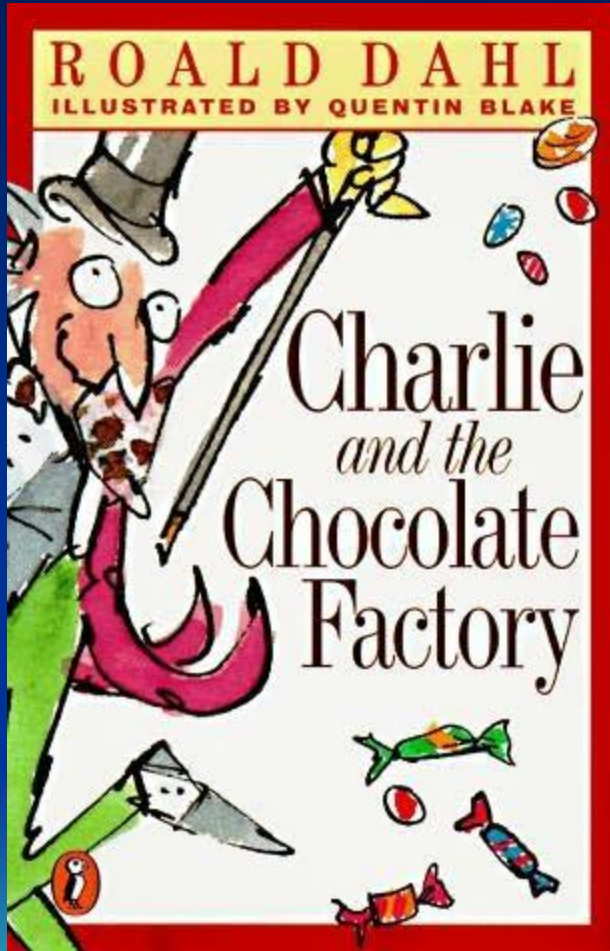
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- *A Wrinkle in Time* is a science fantasy novel by American writer Madeleine L'Engle, first published in 1963.
- The story revolves around a young girl whose father, a government scientist, has gone missing after working on a mysterious project called a tesseract.
- The book won a Newbery Medal, Sequoyah Book Award, and Lewis Carroll Shelf Award, and was runner-up for the Hans Christian Andersen Award.

# *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (1964) by Roald Dahl

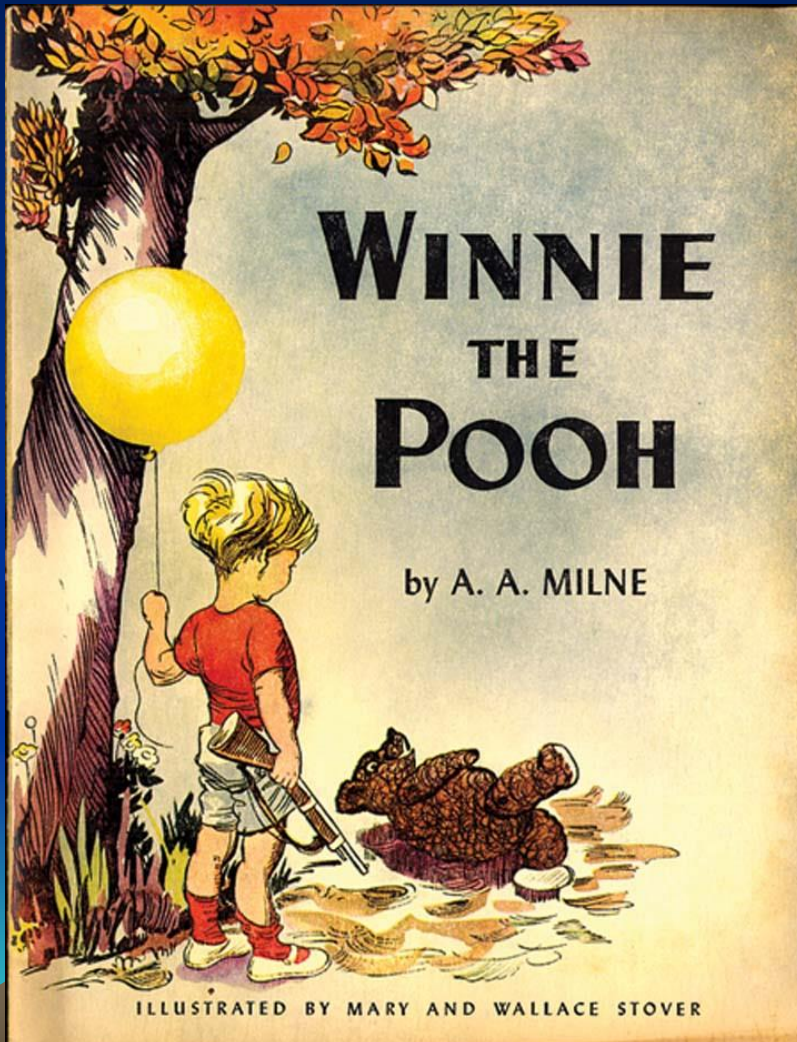
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- ***Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*** is a 1964 children's book by British author Roald Dahl. The story features the adventures of young Charlie Bucket inside the chocolate factory of eccentric chocolatier Willy Wonka.



# Winnie-the-Pooh (1926) by A.A. Milne



- **Winnie-the-Pooh**, also called **Pooh Bear**, is a fictional anthropomorphic teddy bear created by English author A. A. Milne.
- The first collection of stories about the character was the book *Winnie-the-Pooh* (1926), and this was followed by *The House at Pooh Corner* (1928).
- Milne also included a poem about the bear in the children's verse book *When We Were Very Young* (1924) and many more in *Now We Are Six* (1927). All four volumes were illustrated by E. H. Shepard.

# *The Little Prince* (1943) by Antoine de Saitn-Exupery

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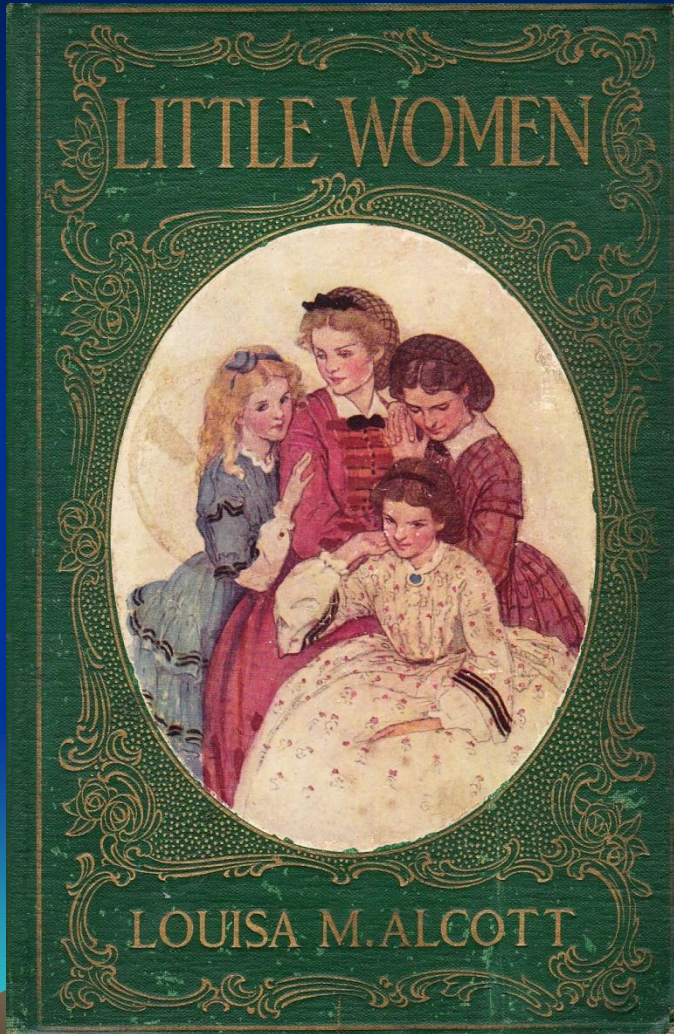


- ***The Little Prince*** first published in 1943, is a novella, the most famous work of French aristocrat, writer, poet, and pioneering aviator Antoine de Saint-Exupéry (1900–1944).
- The novella is the fourth most-translated book in the world and was voted the best book of the 20th century in France. Translated into more than 250 languages and dialects, selling nearly two million copies annually with sales totaling over 140 million copies worldwide.
- It has become one of the best-selling books ever published.



# *Little Women* (1868) by Louisa May Alcott

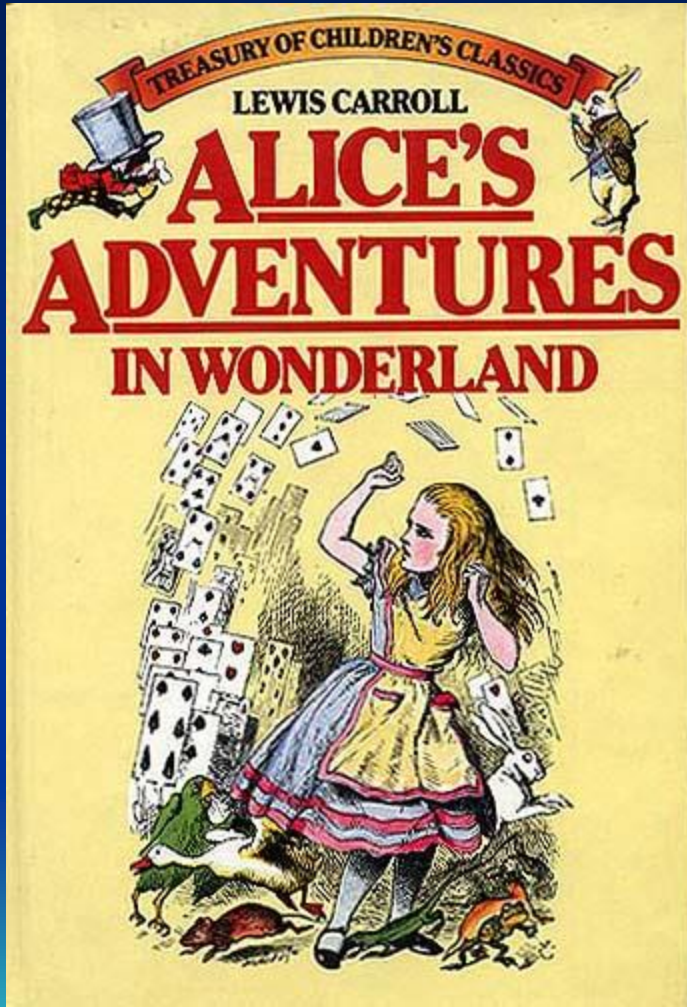
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- *Little Women* is a novel by American author Louisa May Alcott (1832–1888), which was originally published in two volumes in 1868 and 1869.
- The novel follows the lives of four sisters — Meg, Jo, Beth, and Amy March — detailing their passage from childhood to womanhood, and is loosely based on the author and her three sisters.



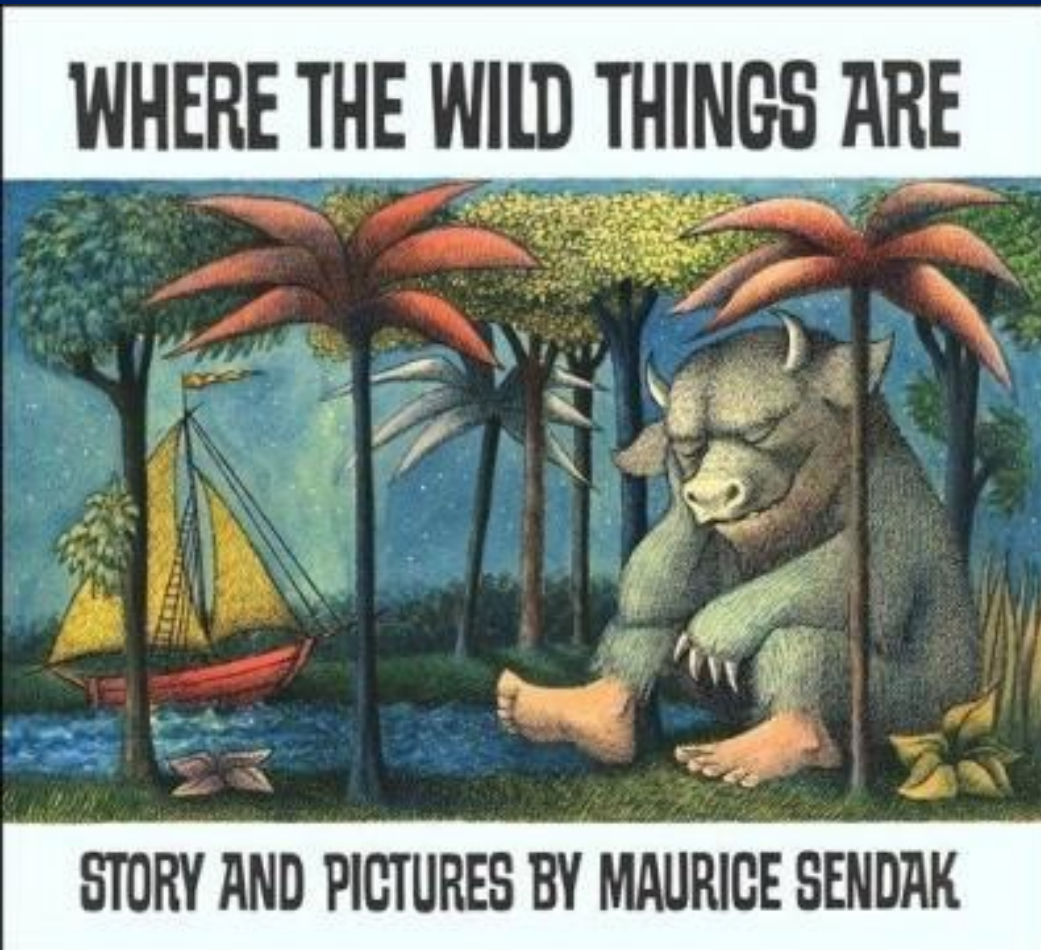
# Alice's Adventures in Wonderland (1865) by Lewis Carroll



- ***Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*** (commonly shortened to ***Alice in Wonderland***) is an 1865 novel written by English mathematician Charles Lutwidge Dodgson under the pseudonym Lewis Carroll.
- It tells of a girl named Alice falling through a rabbit hole into a fantasy world populated by peculiar creatures.
- The tale plays with logic, giving the story lasting popularity with adults as well as with children.
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# *Where the Wild Things Are* (1963) by Maurice Sendak

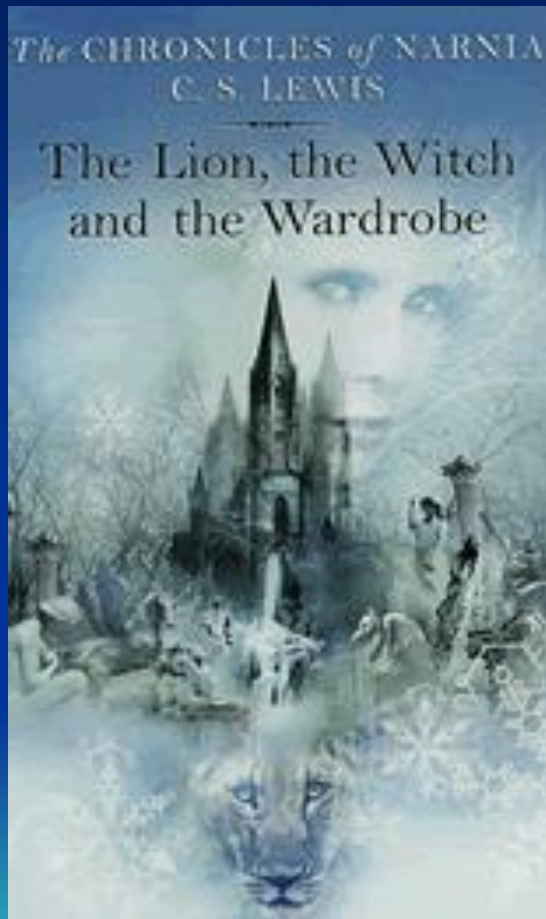
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- The book had sold over 19 million copies worldwide as of 2009, with 10 million of those being in the United States.
- Sendak won the annual Caldecott Medal from the children's librarians in 1964, recognizing *Wild Things* as the previous year's "most distinguished American picture book for children".
- It was voted the number one picture book in a 2012 survey of *School Library Journal* readers, not for the first time.

# *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* (1950) by C.S. Lewis

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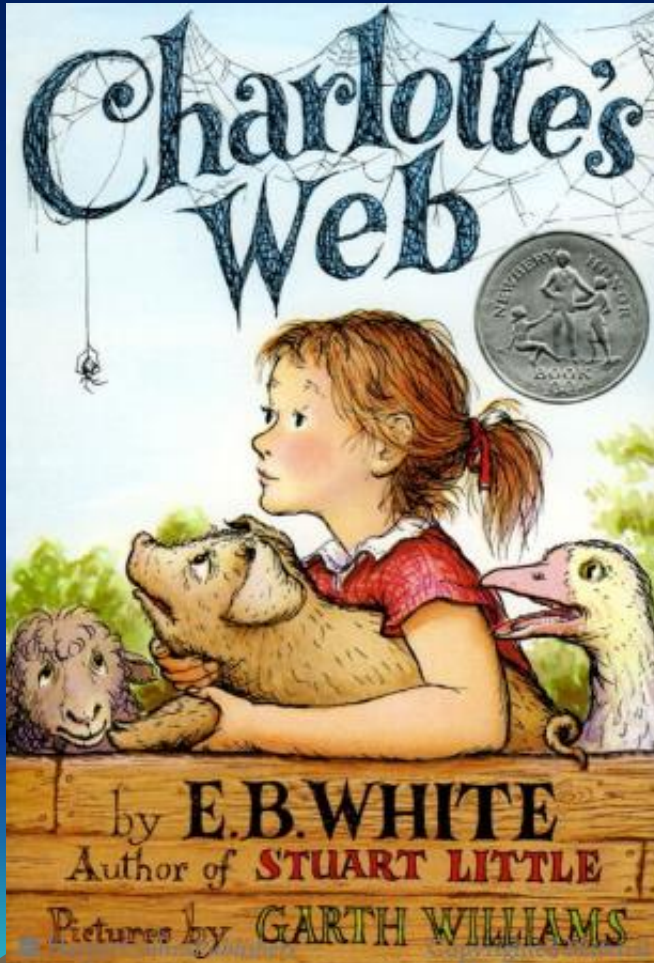
- It's the first published and best known of seven novels in *The Chronicles of Narnia* (1950–1956).
- Most of the novel is set in Narnia, a land of talking animals and mythical creatures that one White Witch has ruled for 100 years of deep winter.
- In the frame story four English children are relocated to a large, old country house following a wartime evacuation. The youngest visits Narnia three times via the magic of a wardrobe in a spare room.
- All four children are together on her third visit, which verifies her fantastic claims and comprises the subsequent 12 of 17 chapters except for a brief conclusion.



# Charlotte's Web (1952)

## by E.B. White

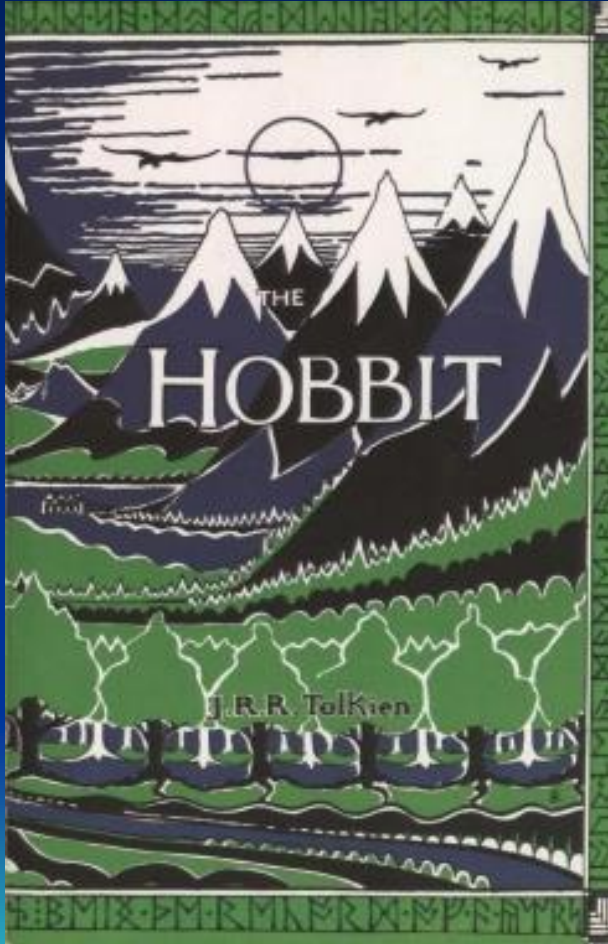
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- The novel tells the story of a pig named Wilbur and his friendship with a barn spider named Charlotte. When Wilbur is in danger of being slaughtered by the farmer, Charlotte writes messages praising Wilbur (such as "Some Pig") in her web in order to persuade the farmer to let him live.
- Written in White's dry, low-key manner, *Charlotte's Web* is considered a classic of children's literature, enjoyable to adults as well as children.

# *The Hobbit* (1937) by J.R.R. Tolkien

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- It was published on 21 September 1937 to wide critical acclaim, being nominated for the Carnegie Medal and awarded a prize from the *New York Herald Tribune* for best juvenile fiction. The book remains popular and is recognized as a classic in children's literature.
- Set in a time "Between the Dawn of Færie and the Dominion of Men", *The Hobbit* follows the quest of home-loving hobbit Bilbo Baggins to win a share of the treasure guarded by the dragon, Smaug. Bilbo's journey takes him from light-hearted, rural surroundings into more sinister territory.



# Award-winning children's books: Why awards matter

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- Awards are important in children's books. They tell publishers, writers, and illustrators what is considered to be "the best," and thus the standards they must strive to attain. Many children's book awards, though not all, are selected by librarians. Award-winners then get orders from libraries around the country.

# Online resources for Accessing Children's Literature

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**Hans Christian Andersen Awards**  
<http://www.ibby.org/254.0.html>

- The **Hans Christian Andersen Awards** are a pair of biennial literary awards by the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY), recognizing one living author and one living illustrator for their "lasting contribution[s] to children's literature". The writing award was inaugurated in 1956, the illustration award in 1966. The former is sometimes called the "**Nobel Prize for children's literature**".

# Online resources for Accessing Children's Literature

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## Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators Awards (SCBWI awards)

<http://www.scbwi.org/awards/>

- Founded in 1971 by a group of Los Angeles-based children's writers, the **Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators** is a non-profit, 501 (c)3 organization which is one of the largest existing organizations for writers and illustrators. It is the only professional organization specifically for those individuals writing and illustrating for children and young adults in the fields of children's literature, magazines, film, television, and multimedia. Several of the most prestigious children's literature professionals sit on the **SCBWI Board of Advisors**.

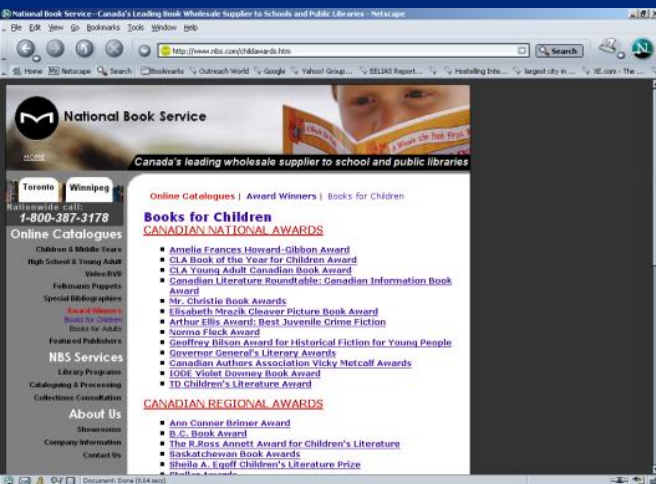


# Online Resources for Accessing Children's Literature

## Canadian Children's Book Awards

This site contains a listing of Canadian Children's Book Awards in a concise format:

<http://www.nbs.com/childawards.htm>



# Online resources for Accessing Children's Literature

Children's Literature and Culture Association of Hong Kong Awards

<http://www.clca.org.hk/awards1.html>



## 香港 圖畫書創作獎

得獎者

佳作  
(第一名)



等待  
——圖文——  
袁文、馬展輝

新成員來到原本「一家三口」的小家庭，一向備受寵愛的貓咪，因為家人忙於照顧新生嬰兒而被冷落了！然而，貓咪沒有抱怨，並努力適應新生活，尋找自己的位置。隨著新成員慢慢長大，貓咪的生活再次熱鬧起來。故事從貓咪的角度，以淡雅的筆觸，描繪出真摯的情感。

# Online Resources for

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## Accessing Children's Literature

### International Children's Digital Library

The University of Maryland, in partnership with the Internet Archive, has opened a digital library of some 10,000 international children's books from a hundred cultures, including titles written in Croatian, Finnish, Arabic, Farsi/Persian, and many other languages.

<http://en.childrenslibrary.org/>

No membership or access code is required. It can be accessed by any internet user in the world.



# Online Resources for

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## Accessing Children's Literature



## The Seven Stories Collection

Britain has a wonderful heritage of writing and illustration for children – from *The Famous Five* to *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*, British children's books are among the best known and most widely read in the world. Seven Stories works hard to preserve this heritage for this and future generations.

<http://www.sevenstories.org.uk/collection>

# Renowned children's book fairs

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- Annual Bologna Children's Book Fair  
<http://www.bookfair.bolognafiere.it/home/878.html>
- China Shanghai International Children's Book Fair  
<http://www.ccbookfair.com/en/>
- Manchester Children's Book Festival  
<http://www.mcbf.org.uk/>

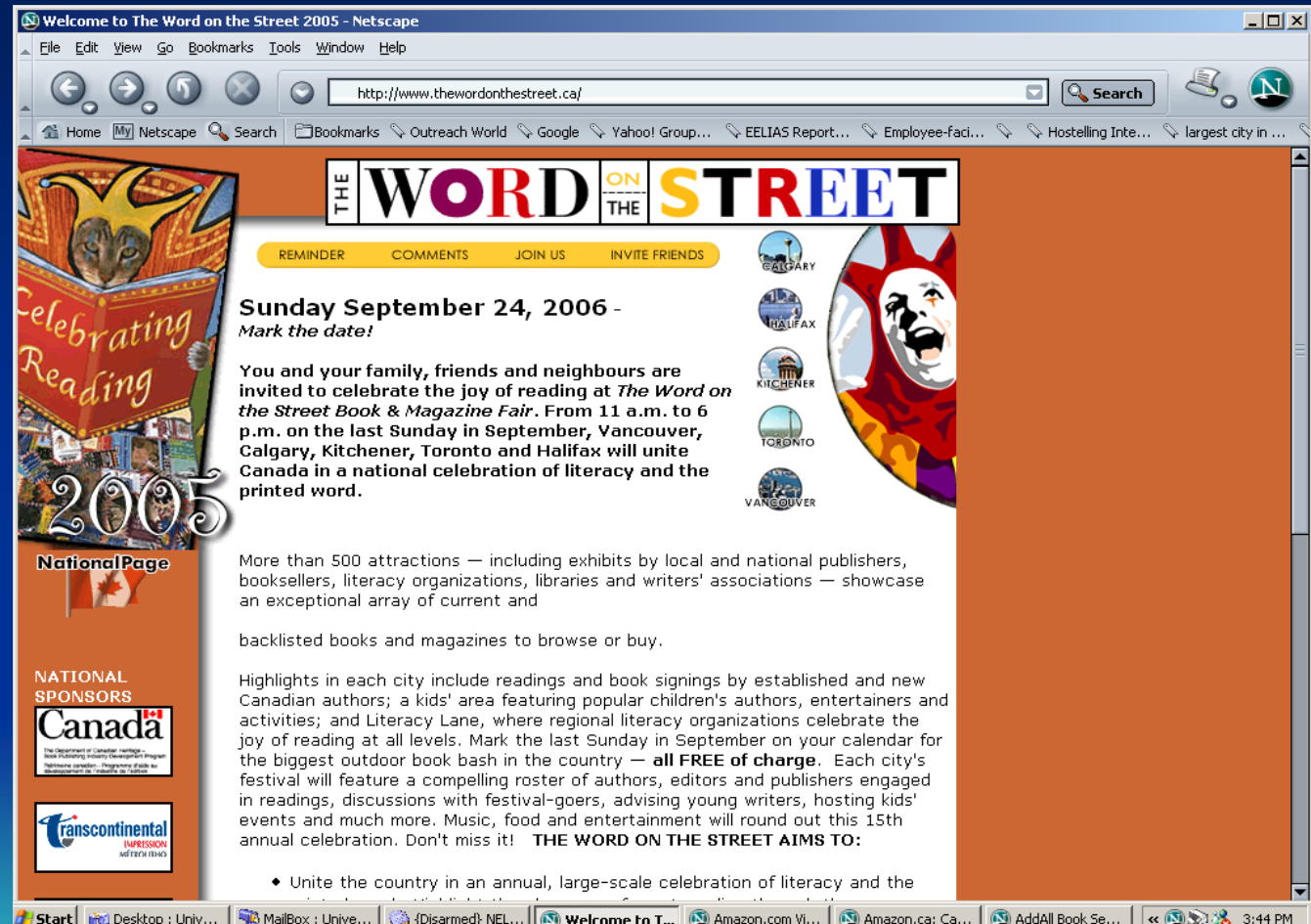
# Children's book festivals

FREE!

HALIFAX, NS  
and four other cities  
across Canada

The last Sunday in  
September

An annual, large-  
scale celebration of  
literacy and the  
printed word.





# Top children's book publishers

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- HarperCollins Publishers - <http://corporate.harpercollins.co.uk/imprints/harpercollinschildrensbooks>
- Scholastic - <https://www.scholastic.co.uk/>
- Bloomsbury - <http://www.bloomsbury.com/us/childrens>
- Penguin Putnam – <http://www.penguin.com/meet/browse/16/publishers>
- Macmillan Children's Books – <http://us.macmillan.com/mackids/>
- Houghton Mifflin Harcourt – <http://www.hmhco.com/popular-reading/>

# Bookstore Chain: www.amazon.com

Browse → Children's Books → Search in Children's Books

Amazon.ca: Books: Canadian literature, new & used textbooks, cookbooks, children's books, science fiction & more - Netscape

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- Ages 9-12
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- Arts & Music
- Books on Cassette
- Books on CD
- Authors & Illustrators, A-Z
- Computers
- Educational
- History & Historical Fiction
- Issues
- Literature
- Obsessions
- People & Places
- Popular Characters
- Reference & Nonfiction
- Religions
- Science, Nature & How It Works
- Series
- Sports & Activities





Search in Children's Books: Canadian GO!

Get Timely Buzz on Books You Love

Now Amazon.ca Delivers New & Future Releases in Books, your free monthly buzz on the books you love, complete with editors' recommendations and the scoop on our best sales and deals.

Learn more and sign up

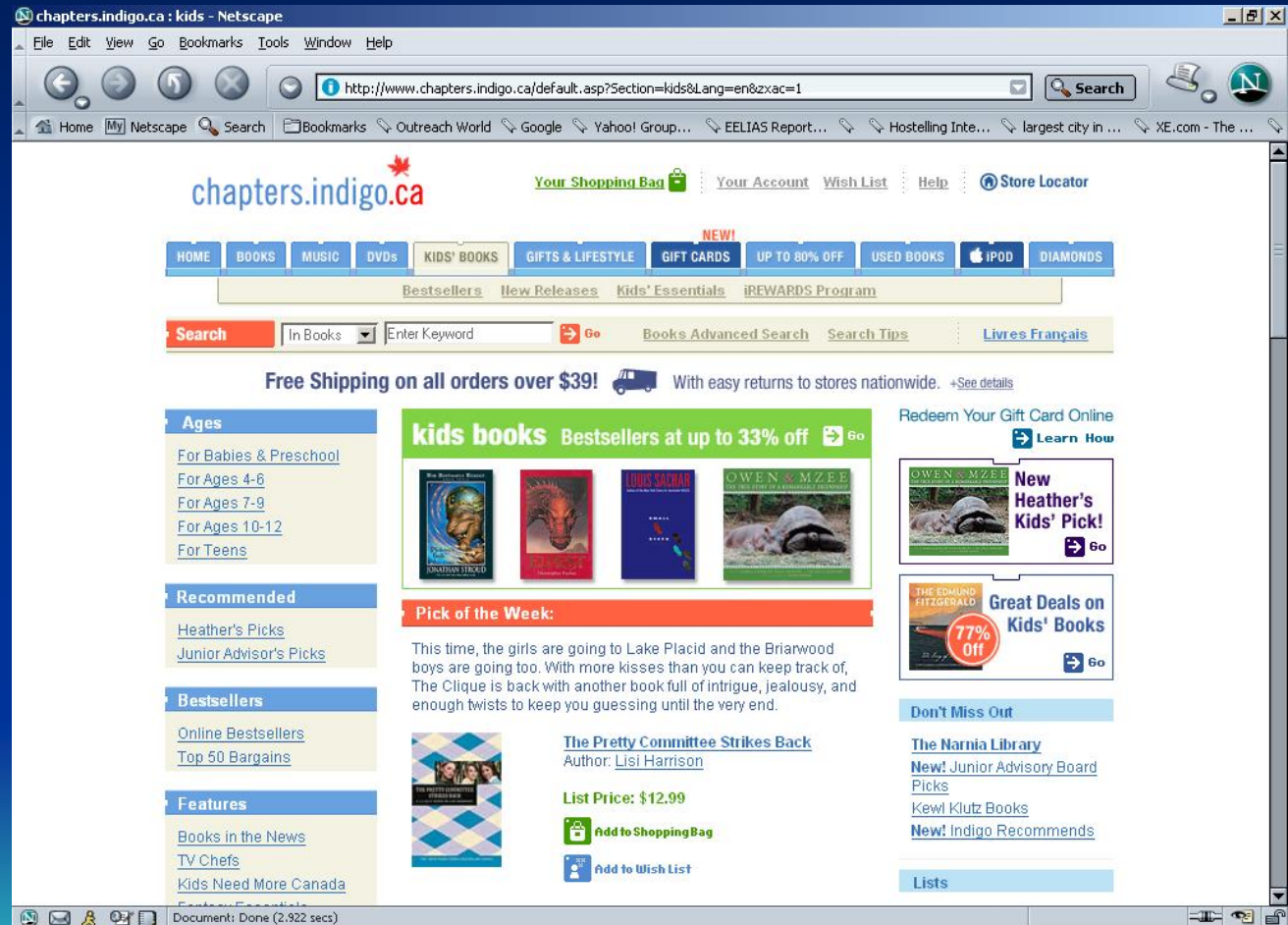
Top Sellers Updated Daily

-  **1. Love You Forever** by Robert Munsch (Author), Sheila McGraw (Author)  
Our Price: **CDN\$ 4.95** New and used from **CDN\$ 0.96**
-  **2. Open the Barn Door, Find a Cow** by Christopher Santoro (Author)  
Our Price: **CDN\$ 5.50** New from **CDN\$ 0.18**
-  **3. Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (Book 6)** by J.K. Rowling (Author)  
Our Price: **CDN\$ 25.80** New and used from **CDN\$ 25.80**
-  **4. Owen & Mzee: The True Story of a Remarkable Friendship** by Hatkoff Et Al. (Author)  
Our Price: **CDN\$ 17.47**

# Bookstore Chain: www.chapters.indigo.ca

Tab: Kid's Books

Search by Ages



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# Thank you for listening!