

Best Books for Children: 0-5



In 2015, we put together a list of the 100 best books for children from the last 100 years.

The books below are the ones suitable for children age 0-5.

Interested in seeing all 100 books across the different age groups?

See what else is in our 100 best books list

Take the quiz to see how many you've read!

See the books we love this month

➤ [See our best books for other age groups](#)



The Tiger Who Came to Tea

Author: Judith Kerr

Publisher: HarperCollins Children's Books

Sophie and her Mummy are having tea in the kitchen when in walks a hungry tiger who asks to stay to tea.



Where's Spot?

Author: Eric Hill

Publisher: Puffin

This adorable picture book about Spot the dog is the first in the Spot series



Each Peach Pear Plum

Author: Allan Ahlberg **Illustrator:** Janet Ahlberg

Publisher: Puffin

This classic book from author and illustrator team Janet and Allan Ahlberg is a real favourite with families



The Very Hungry Caterpillar

Author: Eric Carle

Publisher: Puffin

Eric Carle's *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* deserves its reputation as a much-loved classic.

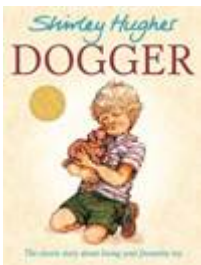


The Elephant and the Bad Baby

Author: Elfrida Vipont **Illustrator:** Raymond Briggs

Publisher: Puffin

One day, an elephant offers a baby a ride through the town, and they set off on a great adventure.



Dogger

Author: Shirley Hughes

Publisher: Random House

When Dave loses his favourite toy, Dogger, he is desolate.



Lost and Found

Author: Oliver Jeffers

Publisher: HarperCollins Children's Books

Once there was a sad, lonely penguin who appeared at the door of a young boy. The boy decided he must be lost, so he set off to find his home.



Little Mouse's Big Book of Fears

Author: Emily Gravett

Publisher: Pan Macmillan

Little Mouse is scared of most things, from creepy crawlies and loud noises, to getting lost.



I Will Not Ever Never Eat a Tomato

Author: Lauren Child

Publisher: Hachette

Charlie tricks his younger sister, Lola - an extremely fussy eater - into eating all her least favourite foods.



Room on the Broom

Author: Julia Donaldson **Illustrator:** Axel Scheffler

Publisher: Macmillan Children's Books

From former Children's Laureate Julia Donaldson and longtime collaborator Axel Scheffler comes this much-loved tale about a witch and her gang of friends.



The Snowman

Author: Raymond Briggs

Publisher: Puffin

James builds a snowman in the garden, then wakes up in the night to find that it has come to life.

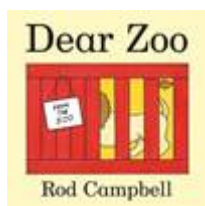


Ten Little Fingers and Ten Little Toes

Author: Mem Fox **Illustrator:** Helen Oxenbury

Publisher: Walker Books

This charming first book is perfect for new arrivals.



Dear Zoo

Author: Rod Campbell

Publisher: Campbell Books

This appealing story, in lift-the-flap, board-book format has been a favourite with toddlers ever since it was first published in 1982.



Gorilla

Author: Anthony Browne

Publisher: Walker Books

Hannah's favourite animals in the whole world are gorillas, but her dad is always too busy to take her to the zoo.



We're Going on a Bear Hunt

Author: Michael Rosen **Illustrator:** Helen Oxenbury

Publisher: Walker Books

Follow a father and his family as they go out in search of a bear.

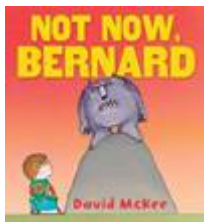


Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's Dairy

Author: Lynley Dodd

Publisher: Puffin

This hilarious rhyming story follows Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's Dairy, as he sets off for a walk in town



Not now, Bernard

Author: David McKee

Publisher: Andersen

The classic tale of Bernard, whose distracted parents fail to notice that their son has been eaten and replaced by a monster.



Where the Wild Things Are

Author: Maurice Sendak

Publisher: Red Fox

First published in 1963, this classic picture book will fascinate both children and adults, evoking the fierce intensity of childhood



The Jolly Postman or Other People's Letters

Author: Allan Ahlberg **Illustrator:** Janet Ahlberg

Publisher: Penguin

Brilliantly designed with lots of little details to spot, this old favourite will be enjoyed time and time again

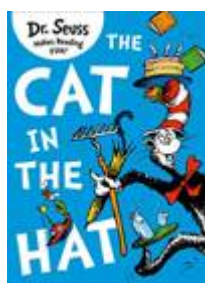


I Want My Hat Back

Author: Jon Klassen

Publisher: Walker Books

A bear sets out in search of his hat - he loves his hat and he wants it back



The Cat in the Hat

Author: Dr Seuss

Publisher: HarperCollins Children's Books

When Sally and her brother are left alone on a rainy day, they think they are in for a dull time - but then the Cat in the Hat appears.



Meg and Mog

Author: Helen Nicholl **Illustrator:** Jan Pienkowski

Publisher: Puffin

In this the first story about much-loved characters Meg the witch and Mog her cat, the pair go off to a wild Hallowe'en party with all the other witches



Would You Rather...

Author: John Burningham

Publisher: Red Fox

A classic for children, *Would You Rather...* presents an alternative to a traditional story by imagining a mixture of fantastical and real-life choices. It's great for building confidence with little ones about making their own choices for their own reasons.



Princess Smartypants

Author: Babette Cole

Publisher: Penguin

Princess Smartypants does not want to get married. She enjoys being a Ms. But being a rich and pretty princess means that all the princes want her to become their wife.



I Want My Potty!

Author: Tony Ross

Publisher: Andersen Press

The Little Princess hates nappies, and thinks there must be something better. This is classic picture book entertainment, which will be especially appreciated by any children who are learning to love their potty!