

**Early literacy** is what happens *before* your child learns to read. It is broken down into six skills:

**LOVING BOOKS (Print motivation):** being interested in and enjoying books.

**USING BOOKS (Print awareness):** understanding that print has meaning; noticing print everywhere; knowing how to handle a book.

**LEARNING WORDS (Vocabulary):** books contain a wider range of vocabulary than our spoken conversations.

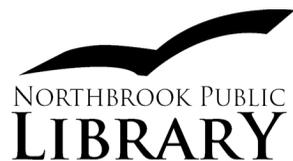
**SEEING LETTERS (Letter knowledge):** knowing that letters look different from each other; knowing letter names and sounds.

**HEARING SOUNDS (Phonological sensitivity):** being able to hear the difference between similar sounds and play with the smaller sounds that make up words.

**TELLING a STORY (Narrative skills):** being able to describe things and events, and tell stories.

#### Library Hours

Monday-Thursday 9am—9pm  
Friday 9am—6pm  
Saturday 9am—5pm  
Sunday 1pm—5pm



Youth Services Department  
1201 Cedar Lane  
Northbrook, Illinois 60062  
847-272-4300  
Website: [www.northbrook.info](http://www.northbrook.info)  
E-mail: [nbkyouth@nsls.info](mailto:nbkyouth@nsls.info)

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## NORTHBROOK PUBLIC LIBRARY YOUTH SERVICES DEPARTMENT

# Great BOOKS for FOUR-YEAR-OLDS



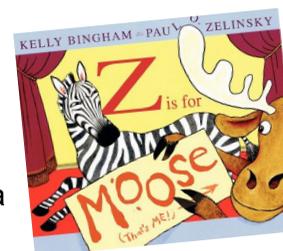
*All books are located in the Picture Book section alphabetical by author's last name, unless indicated otherwise.*

### **Bemelmans, Ludwig** **Madeline**

The combination of spirited heroine, appealing art, cheerful humor, and rhythmic text makes "Madeline" a perennial favorite with children of all ages.

### **Bingham, Kelly** **Z is for Moose**

Moose is terribly eager to play his part in the alphabet book, but when his letter passes, he behaves rather badly until Zebra finds a spot for him.



### **Bunting, Eve** **Flower Garden**

Helped by her father, a young girl prepares a flower garden as a birthday surprise for her mother.

### **Cabatingan, Erin** **Musk Ox Counts**

Poor Zebra tries his best to make a counting book, but Musk Ox creates chaos on every page.



### **Curtis, Jamie Lee** **When I Was Little: A Four-Year-Old's Memoir of her Youth**

A four-year-old girl looks back on her life when she was a "little" girl of two and a half.

### **Derick, David** **I'm the Scariest Thing in the Jungle**

A Bengal tiger cub and little crocodile vie for bragging rights about who is the scariest animal in their Indian jungle.



### **Donaldson, Julia** **The Gruffalo**

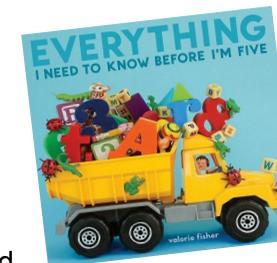
A clever mouse uses the threat of a terrifying creature to keep from being eaten by a fox, an owl, and a snake--only to have to outwit that creature as well.

### **Falconer, Ian** **Olivia and the Fairy Princesses**

There are too many ruffly, sparkly princesses around these days, and Olivia has had quite enough. She needs to stand out! What will she be?

### **Fisher, Valerie** **Everything I Need to Know Before I'm Five**

This book covers the alphabet, counting, opposites, shapes, colors, and seasons and uses bright photos of retro toys to illustrate these topics.



### **Fleming, Denise** **Alphabet Under Construction**

A mouse works his way through the alphabet as he folds the "F," measures the "M," and rolls the "R."

**Fox, Mem**  
**Hattie and the Fox**

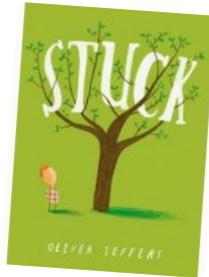
In this rollicking cumulative story, Hattie the Hen spies danger in the bushes and saves the day.

**Graham, Bob**  
**The Silver Button**

A sweet exploration of how big and multi-faceted our world is. A baby boy takes his first step while the book zooms back and shows us all the interesting things that are happening simultaneously in other places.

**Jeffers, Oliver**  
**Stuck**

When Floyd's kite gets stuck in a tree, he tries to knock it down with increasingly larger and more outrageous things.



**Leaf, Munro**  
**The Story of Ferdinand**

Ferdinand likes to sit quietly and smell the flowers, but one day he gets stung by a bee and his snorting and stomping convince everyone that he is the fiercest of bulls.

**Harrington, Janice**  
**Chicken Chasing Queen of Lamar County**

A young girl loves nothing better than to chase chickens until she makes a surprise discovery.

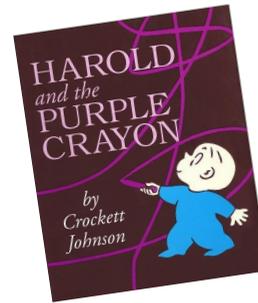
**Henkes, Kevin**  
**Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse**

Lilly loves everything about school, especially her teacher, but when he asks

her to wait a while before showing her new purse, she does something for which she is very sorry later.

**Johnson, Crockett**  
**Harold and the Purple Crayon**

A small boy uses his crayon to create his own adventures.



**Kaplan, Michael B.**  
**Betty Bunny Loves Chocolate Cake**

From her first bite, young Betty Bunny likes chocolate cake so much that she announces she wants to marry it, and has trouble learning to wait until she can have her next taste.

**Latimer, Alex**  
**Lion vs. Rabbit**

Lion is mean to everyone. When the other animals can't take his bullying anymore, they hire Rabbit to outsmart him.

**Maccarone, Grace**  
**Miss Lina's Ballerinas**

Rhymes and math form a delightful combination as Miss Lina and her students figure out how to divide up into equal groups when another girl joins the class.

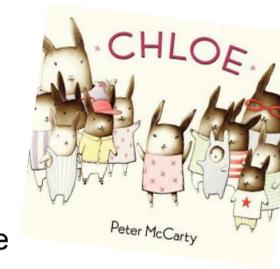


**McCloskey, Robert**  
**Make Way for Ducklings**

Mr. and Mrs. Mallard proudly return to their home in the Boston Public Garden with their eight offspring.

**McCarty, Peter**  
**Chloe**

Chloe Bunny lives with her big family of twenty brothers and sisters, but it is only Chloe who is able to be more entertaining than the new television set.



**Miller, Pat**  
**Sophie's Squash**

A sensitive and funny story about a girl who turns the squash meant for dinner into a playmate named Bernice.

**Park, Linda Sue**  
**Bee-bim Bop!**

A child, eager for a favorite meal, helps with the shopping, food preparation, and table setting.

**Pinkwater, Daniel**  
**Bear in Love**

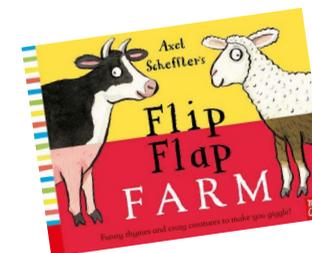
Who is bear's secret admirer who leaves sweet, crunchy treats outside his cave each night?

**Reynolds, Peter**  
**Sky Color**

Marisol loves to paint. So when her teacher asks her to help make a mural for the school library, she can't wait to begin! But how can Marisol ever make a sky without blue paint?

**Scheffler, Axel**  
**Flip Flap Farm**

Mix-and-match the top and bottom half of farm animals to make a new silly animal.

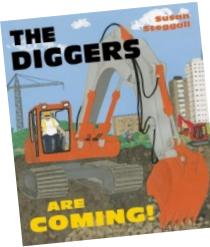


**Sharrat, Nick**  
**Shark in the Park**

Through his telescope a little boy keeps seeing what seems to be a shark in the park, but by turning the page the reader can see and identify the whole object.

**Steggall, Susan**  
**The Diggers are Coming**

The diggers are coming! Follow all the people and vehicles involved in building a house.



**Willems, Mo**  
**Knuffle Bunny**

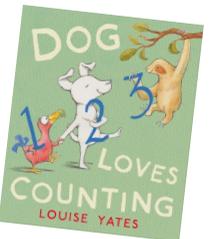
Trixie goes to the Laundromat with her father and —oh no!— leaves her toy bunny behind. This spot-on tale has become a classic.

**Wilson, Karma**  
**Bear Snores On**

On a cold winter night many animals gather to party in the cave of a sleeping bear, who then awakes and protests that he has missed the food and the fun.

**Yates, Louise**  
**Dog Loves Counting**

Dog loves his books so much that he can't put them down long enough to go to bed! His friends help him count his way to sleep.



**Yolen, Jane**  
**How Do Dinosaurs Say Goodnight?**

Few words pack a lot of punch in this delightful story about bedtime rituals.