

# 50 Favorite Picture Books *for Preschoolers*

by Whitney Newby, [brighterdaypress.com](http://brighterdaypress.com)

Over the years, our family has read and collected hundreds of picture books. The list below includes 50 of our very favorite books for children ages 2-5. These beloved, timeless books will inspire wonder, will make you laugh, and will challenge your child's growing mind—and the time you spend reading with your child will build lasting connections. I hope you savor them as much as we have!

*Amazon affiliate links are used below (just click on the book title), but please check your local library or favorite bookstore first. The books are listed in alphabetical order by author.*

*A Visitor for Bear* by Bonny Becker

*Madeline* by Ludwig Bemelmans

*The Mitten* by Jan Brett

*Stone Soup* by Marcia Brown

*The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle

*Miss Rumphius* by Barbara Cooney

*The Snail and the Whale* by Julia Donaldson

*The Happy Lion* by Louise Fatio

*The Story of Ping* by Marjorie Flack

*Hattie and the Fox* by Mem Fox

*Corduroy* by Don Freeman

*Lost in the Library* by Josh Funk

*The Little Red Hen* by Paul Galdone

*The Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats

*We All Went On Safari* by Laurie Krebs

*Ox-Cart Man* by Donald Hall

*James Herriot's Treasury for Children* by James Herriot

*The Seven Silly Eaters* by Mary Ann Hoberman

*Whose Garden Is It?* by Mary Ann Hoberman

*Harold and the Purple Crayon* by Crockett Johnson

*The Carrot Seed* by Ruth Krauss



*The Garden, the Curtain, and the Cross* by Carl Laferton  
*The Story of Ferdinand* by Munro Leaf  
*Inch by Inch* by Leo Lionni  
*Swimmy* by Leo Lionni  
*Frog and Toad Complete Collection* by Arnold Lobel  
*The Giant Jam Sandwich* by John Vernon Lord  
*Chicka Chicka Boom Boom* by Bill Martin Jr.  
*Blueberries for Sal* by Robert McCloskey  
*Make Way for Ducklings* by Robert McCloskey  
*Little Bear books* by Else Holmelund Minarik  
*The One O'Clock Miracle* by Alison Mitchell  
*The Storm that Stopped* by Alison Mitchell  
*Yaks Yak* by Linda Sue Park  
*The Bee Tree* by Patricia Polacco  
*How to Make an Apple Pie and See the World* by Marjorie Priceman  
*The Tale of Peter Rabbit* by Beatrix Potter (and other Beatrix Potter books)  
*The Complete Adventures of Curious George* by Margret and H. A. Rey  
*A Giraffe and a Half* by Shel Silverstein  
*Caps for Sale* by Esphyr Slobodkina  
*A Sick Day for Amos McGee* by Philip C. Stead  
*A Child's Garden of Verses* by Robert Louis Stevenson  
*Anatole* by Eve Titus  
*Two Bad Ants* by Chris Van Allsburg  
*The Circus Ship* by Chris Van Dusen  
*A Little House Picture Book Treasury* by Laura Ingalls Wilder  
*Bear Snores On* by Karma Wilson  
*The Little Mouse, the Red Ripe Strawberry, and the Big Hungry Bear* by Don and Audrey Wood  
*Crow Boy* by Taro Yashima  
*Owl Moon* by Jane Yolen