A Select List of Brown County Library Children’s Books
(Preschool – Early Elementary)
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**Toddler Tales**

**Leslie Patricelli’s board books**

**Chu’s Day** by Neil Gaiman

**Dinosaur vs. Bedtime/Dinosaur vs. the Potty** by Bob Shea

**Goodnight, Gorilla** by Peggy Rathmann

**Hug/Tall** By Jez Alborough

**I’m the Biggest Thing in the Ocean** by Kevin Sherry

**The Napping House** by Audrey Wood

**Oh No, George!** by Chris Haughton

**Ol’ Mama Squirrel** by David Ezra Stein

**Piggy Pie Po** by Audrey Wood

Three very short stories feature a young pig going about his day with eagerness and flair. Perfect for toddlers who will recognize the adventure in bath time, discovering new foods, and getting dressed, this cheerful set of stories ends with a surprise.

**Please, Baby, Please** by Spike Lee

An exuberant, curly haired toddler explores her world with her exhausted yet loving mother at her side. From removing her diaper to tub splashing to taste-testing sand, mischief and messes are this little girl’s middle name. The simple rhythmic text has a sing-song repetition perfectly suited to young listeners. Kadir Nelson’s realistic illustrations capture the small adventures that make up an inquisitive toddler’s busy day. A sweet finale trades the non-stop escapades for a well-earned bedtime scene.

**Red Hat/Red Sled** by Lita Judge

**Ribbit!** by Rodrigo Folguera

**Silly Sally** by Audrey Wood
**A Splendid Friend, Indeed** by Suzanne Bloom
**The Watermelon Seed** by Greg Pizzoli

**Preschool + Kindergarten**

**Bear and Bee** by Sergio Ruzzier
**Boy + Bot** by Ame Dyckman
**Buddy and the Bunnies in Don’t Play with your Food** by Bob Shea

When Buddy the Monster sees some adorable bunnies, he sees a delicious meal. Luckily for the rabbits, Buddy is easily distracted. The clever bunnies delay doomsday by offering up tasty cupcakes that leave Buddy too full for a bunny buffet. The next day, it’s a beach outing that diverts the goofy beast’s culinary quest, and after that, a dizzying day of amusement park rides. Will the bunnies be able to keep stalling Buddy, or better yet, convince the shaggy orange fellow to accept them as unlikely friends? The answer is a no-brainer! Bold, energetic illustrations in carnival bright tones invite group sharing. And of course, the moral of this story cannot be denied: Don’t eat your friends! For a trio of funny tales about surprisingly sweet and sensitive monsters add “The Monster’s Monster” and “Big Bad Bubble” (summarized below) to your reading rotation. Ages 4+

**Caps for Sale** by Esphyr Slobodkina
**Don’t Squish the Sasquatch** by Kent Redeker
**Goldilocks and the Three Bears** by James Marshall
**Here Comes the Easter Cat** by Deborah Underwood
**I Am So Handsome** by Mario Ramos

**Four on the Shore/Three by the Sea/Three Up a Tree**
(begining readers) by James Marshall

Fans of beloved author James Marshall’s droll wit will delight in this trio of summery beginning readers: Three By the Sea, Three Up a Tree, and Four on the Shore. Featuring the misadventures of friends Lolly, Spider, and Sam, these are probably the only beginning readers to feature a scheming chicken and doll duo, a witch who only eats potatoes, and a rat who buys himself an unlikely pet. These lively tales, replete with clever and expressive illustrations, subtly poke fun at the flat, generic nature of Dick and Jane-type primers. Unexpected plot twists, three dynamic and creative pals, and a bit of Twilight Zone style eeriness will draw in even reluctant readers. For ages 4+

**Go! Go! Go! Stop!** by Charice Myracle Harper
**Interrupting Chicken** by David Ezra Stein

**It’s the Bear!** by Jez Alborough
**It’s a Tiger!** by David LaRochelle
Ivan the Terrier by Peter Catalanotto
Jan Thomas’ picture books
The Monster’s Monster by Patrick McDonnell
Mo Willems’ Pigeon books
Mo Willems’ Elephant & Piggie series
Monkey Ono by J.C. Phillips
Moo! by David LaRochelle
Mustache Baby by Bridget Heos
Oh, Daddy! by Bob Shea
123 versus ABC by Mike Boldt
Tea Party Rules by Ame Dyckman
Wild Boars Cook by Meg Rosoff
You Will Be My Friend by Peter Brown
Z is for Moose by Kelly Bingham

Zebra is the director of an alphabetical production with a prop or animal carefully chosen to represent each letter. Moose is an overeager participant, who interrupts several scenes while waiting for the letter “M”. The real trouble begins when Moose finds out that a mouse has been chosen to represent “his” letter. What follows is an epically hilarious meltown that effects the rest of the alphabet, until zebra, realizing he is a friend first and a director second, comes up with a way to appease his distressed pal. Try this innovative book with pre-schoolers and kindergarteners, either one-on-one or as a riotous read-aloud.

Early Elementary

Awesome Dawson by Chris Gall
Backbeard: Pirate for Hire by Matthew McElligot
Bee-Wigged by Cece Bell
Big Bad Bubble by Adam Rubin

Did you know that when a bubble pops, it reappears in La La Land? And that the big, scary and humorously-illustrated monsters who live there are all terrified of bubbles? Besides sharing these key facts, the calm, reasonable narrator of this story explains why the monsters are so afraid: for instance, “Bubbles are sneaky. You never hear them coming.” The dialogue encourages readers and listeners to help the monsters overcome their fears. Ages 4-8.

Big Mean Mike by Michelle Knudsen
The Book that Eats People by John Perry
Adam Rex’s Pssst! captures the excitement of a brewing secret, as a grade-school girl’s zoo trip turns into a mystery mission. Upon visiting the various enclosures in an rather peculiar big-city zoo, the young visitor is beckoned to by every animal, from sloths to penguins to bats, each demanding different supplies while being evasive about why. Elementary-aged readers will appreciate the cartoon panels rife with speech bubbles, signage and eccentric details. They will also be eager to guess what the animals are going to do with the wheelbarrow full of supplies, from tires and a trash can to spray paint and flashlights purchased at the discount store by their obedient (if wary) new pal. A fantastical two-page spread shows the ambitious results of the top secret plan. This gleefully absurd tale will please fans of fantasy and adventure.

Scaredy Squirrel (series) by Melanie Watt
Secret Pizza Party by Adam Rubin
Shark vs. Train by Chris Barton
This is a Moose by Richard T. Morris
This Moose Belongs to Me by Oliver Jeffers
A serious-minded and rather pompous young boy named Wilfred claims a wild moose as a pet and names him Marcel. Wilfred tries to make his pet an obedient and faithful companion but becomes aware that one cannot possess another (especially a stubborn and unpredictable creature such as Marcel). Thankfully Wilfred is willing to compromise, while at the same time, some of Marcel’s intriguing back story is revealed. Sweeping and grandiose nature scenes done in oil create a stately backdrop while the characters are depicted in a naive cartoonish style in the foreground. Jeffers has created another sophisticated and ponderous tale, with a dry humor pervading. Best for kindergarten through early elementary.

Those Darn Squirrels (series) by Adam Rubin
Tom’s Tweet by Jill Esbaum
Substitute Creacher by Chris Gall
Unicorn Thinks He’s Pretty Great by Bob Shea

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