A Select List of Brown County Library Children’s Books
(Toddler–Grade 2) * = short and sweet toddler picks

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- **All the World** by Elizabeth Garton Scanlon
- **Alfie is not Afraid** by Patricia Carlin
- **Amy’s Light** by Robert Nutt
- **At the Boardwalk** by Kelly Fineman
- **Baby Bear Sees Blue** by Ashley Wolff*
- **Beach** by Elisha Cooper
- **Beach Feet** by Kiyomi Konagaya*
- **Bear and Bee** by Sergio Ruzzier*

*Mostly known for his exuberant slightly-surreal illustrations, Sergio Ruzzier proves he is also an enchanting storyteller with the quintessential odd couple story *Bear and Bee*. Bear, having heard terrible things about bees, is certain he will never befriend one. When Bear meets a diminutive and delightful fellow in the garden, Bear is relieved that the creature doesn’t share any of the terrible characteristics of the dreaded bee. However, after reviewing what he’s heard about bees (huge size, scariness, selfishness with honey), Bear starts to wonder …is he a Bee? When Bear discovers the follies of pre-judging, he ends up with a faithful friend of the most bee-gulling sort. This classic-in-the-making is great for toddlers through kindergarten-aged listeners.*

- **Blackout** by John Rocco
- **Blue on Blue** by Dianne White
- **Blueberries for Sal** by Robert McCloskey
- **Brownie & Pearl Take a Dip** by Cynthia Rylant*
- **Camp Rex** by Molly Idle
- **Carl’s Summer Vacation** (wordless) by Alexandra Day*
- **Catching the Sun** by Coleen Paratore
- **Cheers for a Dozen Ears: A Summer Crop of Counting** by Felicia Chernesky
- **A Closer Look** by Mary McCarthy*
- **A Couple of Boys Have the Best Week Ever** by Marla Frazee
- **Day by Day** by Susan Gal
- **Duck & Goose Go to the Beach** by Tad Hills
- **The Graves Family Goes Camping** (Gr.1-3) by Patricia Polacco
- **Flotsam** (wordless) by David Wiesner ages 6+
- **Happy Dog Sizzles** by Lisa Grubb
- **Harry by the Sea** by Gene Zion
Monkey Ono is a cheerful fellow who never gives up, so when he is left behind on a family beach trip, he views it as a temporary setback. Unfortunately for our inventive friend, his implausible transportation plans (including a giant sling-shot and riding a boy-sniffing dog) fail one by one. Fortunately for readers, Ono’s misadventures are riveting and hilarious. Peppered with catchy refrains including “ooohhh noooo!” and “Boom! Beach Day!” this brightly hued-book is a complete crowd-pleaser. Monkey Ono has the diagramming skills of Melanie Watt’s Scaredy Squirrel, the tenacity of Mo Willem’s Pigeon, and the faultless optimism of, well, himself. Ono’s one well-deserved meltdown is short-lived, coming to an abrupt end when he finds a creative and satisfying way to experience the beach in his backyard. Here’s hoping this is the first in a series of many adventures for this sprightly simian.

The Moon Jumpers by Janice Udry

Mushroom in the Rain by Maira Kalman*

My Best Friend by Mary Ann Rodman

Six-year-old Lily’s sole summertime goal is to befriend seven-year-old Tamika, whom she idolizes. Over weekly visits to the public pool, Lily tries to gain Tamika’s approval, only succeeding when Tamika’s other friends don’t show up. E.B. Lewis’ illustrations are so vividly realistic you can almost smell the chlorine and hear the din of a busy pool on a sweltering summer afternoon. The realism of the illustration is echoed in the authenticity of the text, which captures Lily’s alternating elation and disappointment at Tamika’s unpredictability. When Lily accepts a friendship with a steady and likeable girl her own age, whose gestures of friendship had gone unnoticed, everything seems right in the world. Preschool through elementary aged girls may see themselves in this insightful and ultimately resilient summer story.
Penguin on Vacation by Salina Yoon
Rainbow Stew by Cathryn Falwell
Ready for Anything by Keiko Kasza
Root Beer and Banana (K-2) by Sarah Sullivan
Rufus goes to Sea by Kim Griswell
Rules of Summer by Shaun Tan  ages 6+
Sand Cake by Frank Asch

Our nervous-natured pal is back, and this time he is over-planning a trip to the beach. Of course, Scaredy is prepared for every eventuality, and of course, the happy chaos of the beach sets all his plans adrift. Worry-prone children will laugh with Scaredy, and be encouraged by the way Scaredy always ends up having a good time in spite of himself. Carefree types will feel bemused exasperation for their melodramatic little pal. And finally, adults will find this book to be every bit as riotous as the intended preschool –early elementary audience. Also try Scaredy Squirrel Goes Camping!

Shadow Chasers by Elly MacKay
The Simples Love a Picnic by J.C. Phillips
Stanley at Sea by Linda Bailey
Summer Beat by Betsy Franco
Summer Days and Nights by Wong Herbert Lee*
Tar Beach (K-3) by Faith Ringgold
Think Cool Thoughts (K-3) by Elizabeth Perry
Thunder Boomer by Shutta Crum
Toby, Who Are You? by William Steig*
Traction Man and the Beach Odyssey by Mini Grey
Uh-Oh! By Shutta Crum*

The Watermelon Seed by Greg Pizzoli*
Weeds Find a Way by Cynthia Jensen-Elliott
Wet Dog! by Elise Broach
The Whale in my Swimming Pool by Joyce Wan
When Lightning Comes in a Jar (K-2) by Patricia Polacco
The Yellow House by Blake Morrison
Zoomer’s Summer Snowstorm by Ned Young

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