A Select List of Brown County Library Children’s Books
(Toddler – Early Elementary)  *=toddler pick
Click on each title below to see the library’s catalog record. Then click on the title in the record for details, current availability, or to place a hold. For additional books and items on this theme, ask your librarian or search the library’s online catalog.

Are You a Horse? by Andy Rash
Ask Mr. Bear by Marjorie Flack
Babar’s Birthday Surprise by Laurent de Brunhoff
The Bad Birthday Idea by Madeline Valentine
Best Best Friends by Margaret Chodos-Irvine
Big Red Lollipop by Rukhsana Khan
Billy’s Bucket by Kes Gray
Birthday at the Panda Palace by Stephanie Calmenson
The Birthday Box: Happy Birthday to Me by Leslie Patricelli
Birthday Crafts (non-fiction) by Mary Berendes
A Birthday for Bear by Bonnie Becker
A Birthday for Cow! by Jan Thomas*
Birthday Traditions Around the World (non-fiction) by Ann Ingalls
Brandon’s Birthday Surprise (non-fiction) by Lisa Bullard
Brownie & Pearl Step Out by Cynthia Rylant*
Bunny Money/Bunny Cakes by Rosemary Wells
Butterfly Birthday by Harriet Ziefert
Cake Girl by David Lucas
C is for Cake: A Birthday Alphabet by Laura Purdie Salas
Cake Soup (beginning reader) by Erica Farber

Clever Jack Takes the Cake by Candice Fleming

Poor but clever Jack bakes a birthday cake as his contribution to a princess’ 10th birthday. Unfortunately, on his perilous trek to the castle, the cake is devoured by all manner of folkloric creatures. Not one to give up, the young lad brainstorms a priceless birthday gift,
something that costs no money and delights forever. This celebration of smarts and storytelling is best shared with children ages 6+.

**Cowboy Ned & Andy** by David Ezra Stein

**Crafty Chloe** by Kelly DiPucchio

*Known as a crafty and creative kid, Chloe nonetheless plans to buy her friend a store-bought doll for her birthday. That is until London, who is also invited to the party, grabs the doll first. London makes fun of Chloe’s decision to make a handmade gift, rendering the usually confident crafter insecure. Thankfully, Chloe’s determination, and her knowledge of her friend, lead to the perfect present: a handmade doll bed and dress for the birthday girl’s favorite dolls. Parents will find the subtle anti-materialism message of this book to be refreshing, while young Fancy Nancy and Pinkalicious fans will be drawn to the artsy, candy-hued illustrations and spritely heroine Chloe.* Ages 4-8.

**Dear Tyrannosaurus Rex** by Lisa McClatchy

**Dinosaur Zoom!** by Penny Dale

**Dog and Bear: Two’s Company** by Laura Vaccaro Seeger

**Don’t Spill the Beans!** by Ian Schoenherr*

*Ian Schoenherr’s “Don’t Spill the Beans!” introduces an array of charming animals who are sharing a secret that toddlers and preschoolers will want to hear. When a little bear can no longer keep the secret, he tells all his friends, the excitement building until finally a hint: each animal has a piece of paper that together spell out a celebratory message. Preschoolers may be able to guess the message through visual clues, and this finale also provides an opportunity to work on letter recognition. Toddlers will love the brightly colored pictures and the buzzy atmosphere of jubilant suspense. With brief, alliterative text and cheery illustration against a white background, this simple story is perfect for ages 2-5.*

**Edwin Speaks Up** by April Stevens

**Everything but the Horse: A Childhood Memory** by Hollie Hobbie

**Felix and the Worrier** by Rosemary Wells

**Flappy and Scrappy** (beginning reader) by Arthur Yorinks

**Flower Garden** by Eve Bunting

**The Fuschia is Now!** by J. Otto Seibold

**The Giant Hug** by Susan Horning
This classic concept book takes readers on a scavenger hunt alongside a birthday boy as they follow directional clues. Children learn patterns, basic map reading skills, colors, and shapes through cleverly engineered die-cut pages. Carle rewards readers for their persistence by revealing a birthday surprise that would delight most any child. Pair
this story with Mary Serfozo’s slightly wordier book What’s What?: A Guessing Game which leads to the same wonderful reveal (hint: bright eyes, flappy ears, and a waggy tail).

A Song for My Sister by Lesley Simpson
Sugar would not Eat It by Emily Jenkins

Thank You, Mama by Kate Banks*

This simple story for young children is elevated by enchanting and unique illustration. Alice’s parents ask her what kind of pet she would like as a birthday gift, beginning with impractical animals like elephants and tigers but always receiving a polite reply of “no thank you.” When Alice decides on a parrot, she promptly tries to teach the parrot how to say thank you, but to her dismay the bird never gets her name right. Thankfully, a birthday kiss sets things right in this little tale that reinforces both animal identification and basic manners for toddlers and preschool-aged kids. Adult and child alike will be entranced by the Victorian-era illustration with fanciful details such as a castle sprouting from a cloud-like scoop of ice cream and a flower featuring a fish within a glass-like bubble in place of petals. Ages 2-5.

The Yellow Tutu by Kristen Bramsen
You Can Be a Friend by Tony Dungy
What’s the Big Idea, Molly? by Valerie Gorbachev
Whizz! Pop! Granny, Stop! by Tracey Corderoy
Whopper Cake by Karma Wilson

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