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

**Toddler Tales**

The Birthday Box by Leslie Patricelli
Faster! Faster!/Higher! Higher! by Leslie Patricelli
I See Kitty by Yasmine Surovec
Little White Rabbit by Kevin Henkes
Lola Loves Stories by Anna McQuinn
Monkey and Me by Emily Gravette
My Little Train by Satomi Ichikawa

A duck, bear, monkey, sheep, and kangaroo board a friendly train that greets each of his passengers. An unseen child takes the toy train on an energetic ride through a tunnel made of chairs, over a mountain of pillows, and towards a station constructed from a pile of picture books. The cheery illustrations capture the joy of imaginative play and the pride of a job well done as each animal is delivered safely home. Train and animal sounds pepper the simple yet catchy text. Ages 2-5.

Not a Box by Antoinette Portis
Red Light, Green Light by Anastasia Suen
Toby, Who Are You? by William Steig

**Preschool & Kindergarten Picks**
The Amazing Adventures of Bumblebee Boy by David Soman
Amy’s Three Best Things by Philippa Pearce
Andrew Drew and Drew by Barney Saltzberg
Arthur’s Dream Boat by Polly Dunbar
The Astonishing Secret of Awesome Man by Michael Chabon
The Best Pet of All by David LaRochelle
Billy’s Bucket by Kes Gray
The Box by Axel Janssens
Four-year-old Mitchell has found a human race car in his dad. While Mitchell steers his “car” by sitting on dad’s shoulders and tugging dad’s hair, dad gamely makes race car noises for an authentic experience. As this exuberant play session continues, Mitchell is consistently ecstatic while dad gets more and more bedraggled. When Mitchell demands a stop at the “gas station,” actually the cookie jar, his car morphs back into a bedtime enforcing dad. A great look at creative play and a must for young transportation buffs, this picture book celebrates the dedicated and spirited type of dad.

One dreary day, young Pete is in the midst of a grumpy episode. Luckily, his affectionate and clever parents have a fool-proof standby – Pete’s about to become a pizza. This process involves rolling young Pete about, placing props like checkers and baby powder on him for toppings, and playfully karate chopping him into “slices.” By the end of this lively skit, Pete’s mood pizza transforms from morose lump of dough back into a delighted kid. This silly look at a joyful and demonstrative family will have children ages 3 to 7 asking to try this routine at home.
When a new family moves next door, outgoing Zuzu hopes to befriend the little boy who is just her age. The little boy sits inside his house, staring unsmilingly out the window, but this barrier proves no match for creative Zuzu, who fashions a cardboard telescope (maybe the boy can’t see her smile), sunglasses (maybe it’s too bright outside), and finally, a wishing cake (for every day, not just birthdays). Zuzu delivers the cake, a jelly sandwich tower with a dandelion “candle” to the quiet boy. Although it turns out a language difference contributes to the boy’s shyness, the wishing cake bridges the barrier between Zuzu and her new friend Hashim. The final scene shows Hashim taking a spin in Zuzu’s cardboard box car. D.B. Johnson’s bright, air-brush style illustrations done in comic book style panels reflect the liveliness of Zuzu and her everyday adventures. For ages 4-6.

Early Elementary Selections

The Adventures of Beekle: An Unimaginary Friend by Dan Santant

The Adventures of Beekle stars a golden-crowned creature that resembles a hybrid of Caspar the Friendly Ghost and a gumdrop. Beekle lives in a surreal Candyland-toned fantasy world with other beguiling yet bizarre creatures who are waiting to be imagined by a child. One by one, Beekle’s friends leave to become “unimaginary” friends on earth. Lonely but determined Beekle decides to leave the only home he knows and travel to a big city in order to seek out the child who hasn’t yet dreamed him. The city, with its distracted pedestrians and gloomy atmosphere, proves to be a discouraging place for Beekle. He takes shelter in a tree in the park, where he is
finally discovered by “his” child, a shy, bespectacled little girl, and becomes the true friend he’s meant to be. With Beekle by her side, the once lonely girl gains confidence and soon makes friends with a little boy and his imaginary friend, a blue chameleon-esque critter. This uplifting tale, with its sophisticated yet cheery illustrations, will spark wonder in children ages 4-8.

- **Awesome Dawson** by Chris Gall
- **The Boy who Cried Ninja** by Alex Latimer
- **Chalk/Fossil** by Bill Thomson
- **Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs** by Judi Barrett
- **Creepy Carrots** by Aaron Reynolds
- **The Day the Crayons Quit** by Drew Daywalt
- **Dream Animals: A Bedtime Journey** by Emily Winfield Martin
- **The Fantastic Flying Books of Morris Lessmore** by William Joyce
- **Flotsam** (wordless) by David Wiesner
- **Grandpa Green** by Lane Smith
- **Hey, Al!** by Arthur Yorinks
- **If I Built a Car/If I Built a House** by Chris Van Dusen
- **Imagine a Day/Imagine a Night/Imagine a Place** by Sarah Thompson
- **In Front of My House** by Marianne Dubuc
- **I Need My Monster** by Amanda Noll
- **Isabella: Star of the Story** by Jennifer Fosberry
- **Journey** (wordless) by Aaron Becker
- **Magritte’s Marvelous Hat** by D.B. Johnson
- **Max’s Castle** by Kate Banks
- **Miss Smith** (series) by Michael Garland
- **The Next-Door Bear** by Mary Kuryla-Yelchin
- **Papa’s Mechanical Fish** by Candace Fleming
- **The Purple Kangaroo** by Michael Ian Black
- **Sea of Dreams** (wordless) by Dennis Nolan
- **Someday** by Eileen Spinelli
- **Superhero Joe and the Creature Next Door** by Jacqueline Weitzman
- **Weslandia** by Paul Fleischman

http://tinyurl.com/BCLreads