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

Are You My Mother? by P.D. Eastman
Bear Flies High by Michael Rosen
The Birthday Box by Leslie Patricelli
Clip-Clop by Nicola Smee
Faster! Faster! /Higher, Higher! by Leslie Patricelli
Fly, Blanky, Fly! by Anne Margaret
Go! Go! Go! Stop! by Charise Mericle Harper
Good Night, Gorilla by Peggy Rathmann
Moongame by Frank Asch
My Bus by Byron Barton
One Busy Day by Lola Schaefer
Playtime with Little Nye (series) by Lerryn Korda
Please, Puppy, Please by Spike Lee
Red Hat/Red Sled by Lita Judge
The Secret Birthday Message by Eric Carle

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).

Tumble Bumble by Felicia Bond
Two Little Monkeys by Mem Fox
Uh-Oh, Dodo by Jennifer Sattler
Where’s Walrus? by Stephen Savage
The Wheels on the Bus by Jane Cabrera
The Wheels on the Bus by Jeanne Willis

For PreK-Kindergarten

Adventure Annie Goes to Kindergarten by Toni Buzzeo
J.C. Phillip’s 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.

Moo! by David LaRochelle
Muncha! Muncha! Muncha! (book with CD) by Candace Fleming
My Truck is Stuck by Kevin Lewis
On My Way to Bed/On My Way to the Bath by Sarah Maizes
On Top of Spaghetti by Paul Brett Johnson
Open Very Carefully by Nick Bromley
Pirate Pete by Kim Kennedy
Ready for Anything! by Keiko Kasza
The Red Wagon by Renata Liwska
Rosie’s Magic Horse by Russell Hoban
Stick by Steve Breen
Stop Thief! by Adam Lane
That’s Good! That’s Bad! by Margery Cuyler
Traction Man (series) by Mini Grey

A comic-book style layout complements the ingeniously imagined adventures of toy action figure Traction Man, his faithful “canine” Scrubbing Brush, and peripheral characters including a bevy of Brenda-Dolls. A young boy narrates as Traction Man in faces-off against an evil sock, the monster-like dwellers of a trash can, and a misguided green onesie/bonnet combo hand-knit by granny. From the beach to a muddy backyard, Traction Man and friends use common household objects (a pillowcase tent, a bottle of cleaning spray) on their rescue missions. Children will appreciate the action figure antics while adults will get a kick out of the witty asides in these zippy odes to creative play where the good guys prevail. (Ages 4-8)

Wet Dog! by Elise Broach
What to do if an Elephant Stands on Your Foot by Michelle Robinson
Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak
Zephyr Takes Flight by Steve Light

Early Elementary

Awesome Dawson by Chris Gall
The Boy who Cried Ninja by Alex Latimer
Clever Jack Takes the Cake by Candace Fleming
Chalk (wordless) by Bill Thomson
Creepy Carrots by Aaron Reynolds
The Day Jimmy’s Boa Ate the Wash by Trinka Hakes Noble
Delia’s Dull Day by Andy Meyer
Dream Animals: A Bedtime Journey by Emily Winfield Martin
Eliot Jones, Midnight Superhero by Anne Cottringer
The Gingerbread Man Loose in the School by Laura Murray
Hey, Al by Arthur Yorinks
How I Spent My Summer Vacation by Mark Teague
Imagine a Day/Imagine a Night/Imagine a Place by Sarah Thomson
Journey (wordless) by Aaron Becker
Lily the Unicorn by Dallas Clayton
Louise: Adventures of a Chicken by Kate DiCamillo
Oh No (or how my science project destroyed the world) by Mac Barnett
Once Upon a Cool Motorcycle Dude/Once Upon a Royal Superhero by Kevin O’Malley
The Pet Dragon: A Story about Adventure, Friendship, and Chinese Characters by Christoph Niemann
The Pirate Princess by Sudipta Barhdan-Quallen
Pssst! by Adam Rex
The Purple Kangaroo by Michael Ian Black
Scaredy Squirrel (series) by Melanie Watt
Secret Pizza Party by Adam Rubin

The bushy tailed bandit of Adam Rubin’s Secret Pizza Party is even more determined and mischievous than the average raccoon. This slyly humorous tale is an ode to pizza and to pizza’s Number One Fan, Raccoon, who can often be found plastered against the outside of pizza shop windows with a look of longing. Unfortunately, raccoons don’t have money (through no fault of their own!), so the furry fellow resorts to pizza theft and his face is featured on wanted posters across town. The townsfolk thwart Raccoon’s “evil” plans by holding top-secret pizza parties to which Raccoon is not invited and planting broom-wielding, laser-eyed robots along his escape route. Daniel Salmieri’s quirky illustrations are priceless, such as the scene of raccoon rolling around euphorically on a buffet line of pizzas as the attendees look on in open-mouthed dismay (one father even covers his son’s eyes). By the time our crafty anti-hero hatches the perfect plot to make his pizza pie dreams come true, readers will be both sympathetic to Raccoon’s plight and thrilled by his triumph.

Stanley the Dog stories (series) by Linda Bailey
Superworm by Julia Donaldson

Worm is much too modest to refer to himself as a superhero, but to his forest friends, he is indeed a “superworm.” No job is too big or too small for Superworm’s stretchy form. He volunteers his services as a jump rope for two bored bees, makes himself into a lasso to swoop a road-crossing toad out of a bicycle’s path, and pulls a panicky beetle out of a well. Unfortunately, word of Worm’s good deeds reach the wicked Wizard Lizard, who orders his crony Crow to kidnap Superworm. Under the power of the Wizard’s mind-control flower wand, Worm is forced to tunnel underground looking for treasure. Fortunately, Superworm’s loyal garden brigade have a plot to entrap the no good Wizard with the use of a cleverly designed trap. Victory belongs to the good guys in this heroic tale embellished by Donaldson’s trademark: energetic and effortless rhyme. (Ages 5-8)

The Three Ninja Pigs by Corey Rosen Schwartz
What a Trip by Arthur Yorinks

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