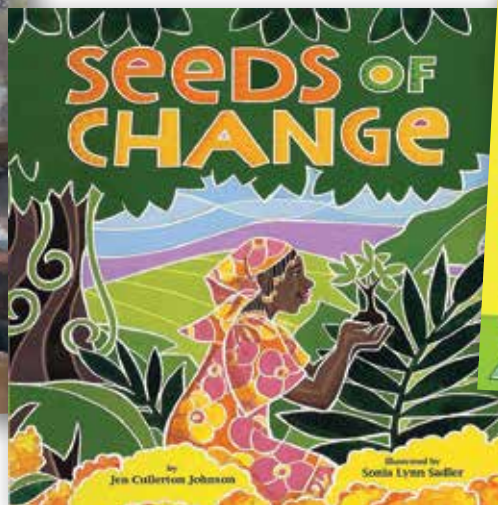
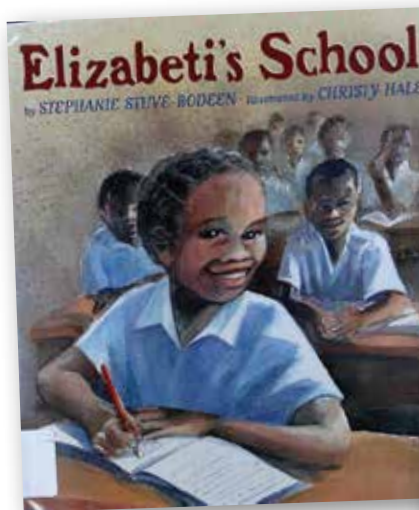




b o o k  
b l u r b s

**What is a book blurb?** It's a snapshot, a synopsis of what a book is about and how a book can be used for a lesson plan. Book blurbs can save you time and help you choose the right book for your lesson. In this section we offer a wide choice of book blurbs, suggested by grade level and aligned with the

language arts curriculum, along with suggestions for other subject areas. These recommended activities and strategies for teaching reading and other content will help your students to excel. Please go to your library and find these books. Feel free to create your own lesson plans from these suggested book blurb ideas. And you can write your own book blurbs, print them out, and add them to this guide. Have fun!



# Grade K • Book Blurbs

## Curriculum Content: Animals

**Uses:** Read Aloud, Guided Reading, Independent Reading

**Book:** *Animal Homes and Families, Second Edition*

**Publisher:** Scott Foresman ESL Little Books, Kindergarten Level

- *Animal Homes and Families* is a great book to use when teaching your students about animals. You can also use this book by checking it out of the library and having it in your classroom for students to peruse for a one- or two-week period of time.

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## Curriculum Content: Animals, Family and Home, School Life, All About Me

**Uses:** Read Alouds, Independent Reading. The *King School Series* Teachers Guide includes expanded lesson plans

**Books:** *King School Series – Kindergarten Collection* (See chart below)

**Publisher:** Townsend Press

(Note: you can use all of these books for the language arts curriculum, too. Each lesson plan in this guide gives you a list of specific reading content covered within the story.)

Book	Subjects	Content
<i>Kendra Sees</i>	Social Studies	School life
<i>Jasmin Draws</i>	Art	Colors of the rainbow
<i>We Read</i>	Language Arts	Importance of reading and where you can read
<i>Derek Plays</i>	Social Studies	About me: home routine, social education: manners
<i>Victor Packs</i>	Social Studies	All about me, healthy foods, chores, order
<i>Pets</i>	Science	Living things
<i>My Body</i>	Social Studies	All about me
<i>Merry Go Round</i>	Social Studies, Science	Social education, animals
<i>In the Tub</i>	Social Studies	All about me
<i>Hot and Cold</i>	Science	Senses

## Curriculum Content: When and Why We Celebrate, All About Me

**Uses:** Read Aloud

**Book:** *Peppa Pig: My Birthday Party*

**Publisher:** Scholastic

- You can read the story aloud to your students and discuss the dates of their birthdays and how they celebrate their birthdays at home. You can expand on this discussion and ask about what other events your students celebrate and what types of celebrations your island enjoys and why.

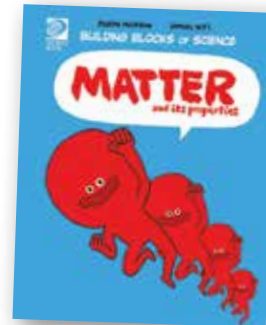
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## Curriculum Content: Science (Matter)

**Uses:** Read Aloud, Extended Lesson Plans

**Books:** *Matter (Building Blocks of Science series)*

**Publisher:** World Book



- This is a great read aloud you can use to introduce the topic of matter or that you can use to extend your own lesson plans on matter. You can also easily break this up into segmented reading times of one or two pages and make a lesson plan for each segment.

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## Curriculum Content: Celebration, Feasts

**Uses:** Read Aloud, Guided Reading, Phonics

**Book:** *Egg-Napped*

**Publisher:** Scholastic

- This is a book you can read for the purpose of entertaining students and showcasing reading for pleasure, but it also includes rhyming, vocabulary building opportunities and a chance to cover the topic of celebrations.




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## Curriculum Content: About Me, Your Bedtime Routine (Social Studies), Poetry, Animals

**Uses:** Read Aloud: comprehension, poetry reading intonation and rhythm, rhymes

**Book:** *Tomie's Little Book of Poems*

**Publisher:** Penguin Young Readers

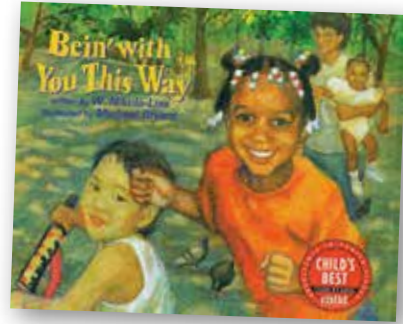
- A selection of poems to read aloud that are sure to give you coverage on many different subjects with beautiful artwork and poetic rhythm. The poems feature subjects such as nature, the seasons and family. *Tomie's Little Book of Poems* is great for lessons on curriculum topics covered in All About Me.

**Curriculum Content: Social Education, Tolerance, Differences and Similarities, The Senses, Body Parts**

**Uses:** Read Aloud

**Book:** *Bein' with You This Way*

**Publisher:** Lee & Low Books



- This book is about a little girl who visits the playground and invites her friends and others to sing along with her as she sings about and celebrates the differences of everyone’s physical features. You can use this book to introduce the social studies topic on similarities and differences.

**Curriculum Content: Time, Weather, Map Skills, Safety, Listening and Speaking, Reading, Comprehension**

**Uses:** Read Aloud, Independent Reading, place in classroom library for reference

**Book:** *Bear About Town*

**Publisher:** McGraw-Hill

- A fantastic book that can help you teach many different concepts. You could choose to cover topics in maths, science, art, social studies, and language arts, which can make this a great anchor text for your classroom. Below are some options you may decide to use.

Subject Areas	Concepts/Content
Mathematics	Time: days of the week; sequencing of days
Science	Weather: activities that can be done on various weather types
Art	Constructing a map using various materials
Social Studies	Drawing a community map Reading a map Buildings in the community (bakery, pool, cinema, gym, park) Safety
Literacy	Oral communication: name your favorite day and why Days of the week Vocabulary: <i>he, swim, walk, goes, play, visit, stroll, watch</i> Sight words: <i>to, the, for, on, a</i> Rhyme: way, day
Reading and Comprehension	Fluency Making predictions and inferences

**Before reading:** Think aloud – What is a bear? Or Picture Walk

**During reading:** What is the bear going to do next?

**After Reading:** Draw something that you would do if you were Bear

**Culminating Activity:** Field trip around the community or places of interest

**Curriculum Content: Animals, Creation, Fruits,  
Listening and Speaking, Reading, Comprehension**

**Uses:** Read Aloud, Independent Reading, Extended lesson plans

**Book Title:** *What Do You Like*

**Publisher:** McGraw-Hill

- A book that can help you teach many different concepts, and topics such as religion, science, art, language arts, and even music. Below are some options.

**Before reading:** Picture walk, sharing of experiences

**During reading:** Making predictions

**After Reading:** Show and Tell: What do you like?

Subject Areas	Concepts/Content
Religious Knowledge	Creation
Science	Rainbow Animals (domestic and wild)
Art	Drawing and colouring the rainbow Constructing a rainbow (e.g. using coloured wool, etc)
Health Science	Fruits
Literacy	Sight words: <i>to, too, do, like, play</i> Other words: <i>love</i> Sentence construction Identifying characters Language pattern: I like/love.... My favorite fruit is .... Comprehension: (pages 8-9) Making predictions and inferences; asking questions (pages 16-19)
Music (pages 20-23)	Song: "I like to eat, eat, eat ... (Jolly Phonics tune for the sound/y/)



**Curriculum Content: Listening and Speaking, Reading, Comprehension**

**Uses:** Read Aloud, Independent Reading

**Book:** *Moo, Moo, Brown Cow*

**Publisher:** McGraw-Hill

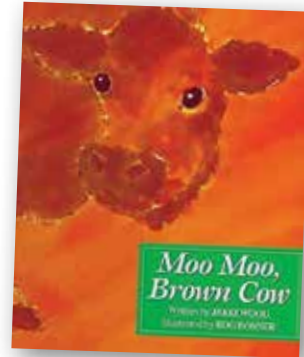
- A read aloud book that can help you teach many different concepts, along with topics in maths, science, art and language arts. Below are some options.

**Before reading:** Think aloud, picture walk

**During reading:** Making predictions

**After Reading:** Dramatization

**Culminating Activity:** Field trip to a farm



Subject Areas	Concepts/Content
Mathematics	Counting
Science	Animals and their young Sounds made by animals Pets
Art	Draw and colour a cow
Literacy	Sound words and colour words.
Reading Comprehension	Oral communication (sharing experiences) Punctuation marks Question and answer Adjectives Inferencing e.g. Who's asking the question on page 1? Why wasn't the cat with the frogs and fish? Fluency Making predictions

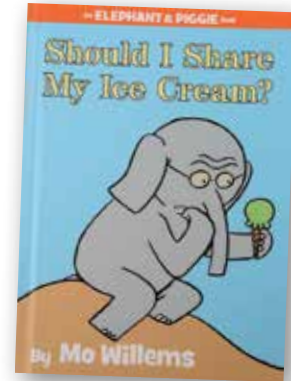
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### Curriculum Content: Social Studies, Maths

**Uses:** Read Aloud

**Book:** *Should I Share My Ice Cream?*

**Publisher:** Disney Press



- Gerald the elephant ponders sharing his ice cream with his best friend. This book connects your students with the ideas of sharing and generosity while also reinforcing listening and reading skills like predicting, retelling, and analyzing the character's problem and solution.
- You can choose to use a simple simulation with the idea of sharing before reading the book aloud. You can also engage your students in the reading and listening process by exploring the illustrations and by sharing comments and connections by responding to the question, "What would you do if you were Gerald?"
- You can have your class create a "How-to Book" to teach Gerald about generosity.

### Curriculum Content: Library Time, Language Arts, Science, Drama, Social Studies

**Uses:** Read Aloud

**Book:** *Lola* series

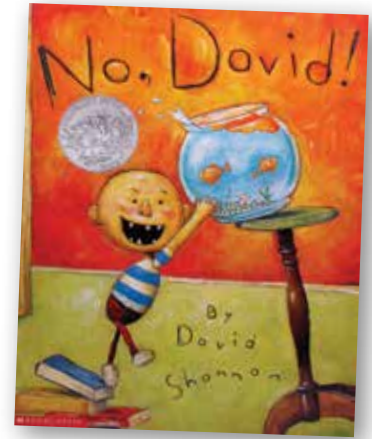
**Publisher:** Scholastic

- The *Lola* series provides great ideas for teachers and parents to teach about library time, language arts, science, social studies, art and drama.

Book	Subjects	Content/Topic
<i>Lola at the Library</i>	Library, Language Arts	Library routine, vocabulary
<i>Lola Loves Stories</i>	Library, Language Arts, Drama	Vocabulary building, days of the week, pretend to be _____.
<i>Lola Reads to Leo</i>	Social Studies, Library	Family, routine
<i>Lola Plants a Garden</i>	Library, Language Arts, Science	Poetry, using the library as a resource, living things grow
<i>Lola Gets a Cat</i>	Science, Social Studies, Language Arts	Living things (pets), caring for pets, vocabulary building

**Curriculum Content: Social Studies****Uses:** Read Aloud**Book:** *No, David!***Publisher:** Scholastic

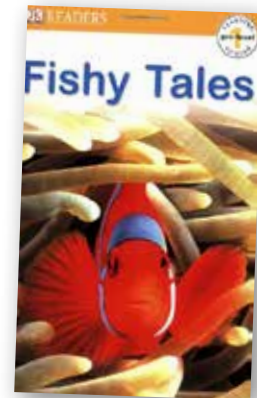
• *No, David!* is about a young child named David who misbehaves in multiple ways. He is reprimanded by his mother, and reminded at the end of the story of her unconditional love for him. Students often connect with David and may recall instances when they, too, misbehaved—and the outcomes of their actions. *No, David!* reinforces listening and reading skills, such as analyzing the character's problem, as well as cause and effect.



• You can compare and contrast this book with other books about children following the rules. Ask your students to compare David's experiences with their own, and write their own stories in a similar manner. You can also use this book to discuss family relationships and feelings from a parent's perspective, a sibling's perspective, and a young child's perspective. Finally, you can use *No, David!* to introduce classroom rules to your students.

**Curriculum Content: Science, Language Arts****Uses:** Independent Reading**Books:** The *DK Readers* series is nonfiction for beginner readers.**Publisher:** DK Publishing

• *DK Readers* are not only great for beginner readers to read independently, but they cover content specific to Grade K and Grade 1 science. These are sure to be a thrill for your students to explore and practice their emerging reading skills while building knowledge.



Book	Subject	Content
<i>Frogs and Toads</i>	Science	Living things, habitat
<i>Fishy Tales</i>	Science	Living things, habitat
<i>Monkeys</i>	Science	Living things, habitat
<i>Meet the Dinosaurs</i>	Science	Living things, habitat, fossils



# Grade 1 • Book Blurbs

## Curriculum Content: Living Things, The World

**Uses:** Read Aloud

**Books:** *EyeWonder* series

**Publisher:** DK Publishing

- You may consider doing a group lesson. Read aloud one of the *EyeWonder* books on living things and do a group-think out loud, pair and share, and then hand out other DK books on living things and group or pair students (based on the numbers in your class). If you feel your students are not ready to read these on their own in groups, you may consider doing a series of read alouds with the different books. These books are designed to work for children ages 5 to 9, so they can be used across grade levels.

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## Curriculum Content: Social Studies, Maths, Science, Language Arts

**Uses:** Read Alouds, Independent Reading. Teachers Guide Included for expanded lessons.

**Books:** *King School Series* (See chart below. Not all books in the First Grade series are listed below, but there are many that correspond to Grade 1 curriculum content.)

**Publisher:** Townsend Press

(Note: you can use all of these books for the language arts curriculum too! Each lesson plan in the Teachers Guide gives you a list of specific reading content covered within the story.)

Book	Subject	Content
<i>Nice and Polite</i>	Social Studies	Politeness and respect
<i>My Baby Brother</i>	Social Studies	My family composition
<i>Let's Look for Words</i>	Language Arts Social Studies	Games we play
<i>Too Much!</i>	Maths	Money
<i>Hide and Seek</i>	Social Studies	Games we play
<i>Oh No!</i>	Science	Senses (taste)
<i>The Birthday Party</i>	Social Studies	Times we celebrate
<i>Street Fair</i>	Social Studies	Times we celebrate
<i>Our Garden</i> <i>A Trip to the Farm</i>	Science	Plants
<i>Magic Village</i>	Science	Living things, water

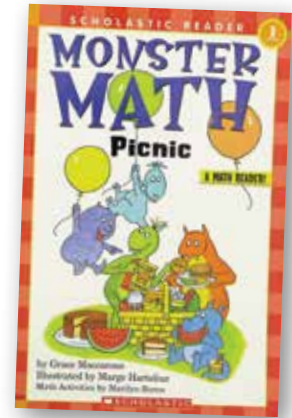
### Curriculum Content: Maths (Different numbers that can be combined to total 10)

**Uses:** Read Aloud, place in math centre

**Books:** *Monster Math Picnic*

**Publisher:** Scholastic

- You can use this read aloud prior to a maths lesson, or borrow it for your classroom library when going over numbers. There are also seven pages of great games and riddles, if you want to reinforce the maths concepts covered in the book.



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### Curriculum Content: Maths (Counting)

**Uses:** Read Aloud

**Book:** *Monster Math*

**Publisher:** Scholastic

- One little monster waits for the first birthday guest to arrive. . . there's a knock on the door, and now there are two! Now three! Now four! The guests keep arriving until 50 partying monsters wreak havoc and Monster Mom decides that enough is enough. The partygoers reluctantly depart until just that one little monster remains—after the best birthday party ever.
- Your students can learn counting and basic maths concepts while they're laughing over the rollicking rhymes and energetic illustrations. Read aloud prior to a maths lesson. You can also borrow it for your classroom library.

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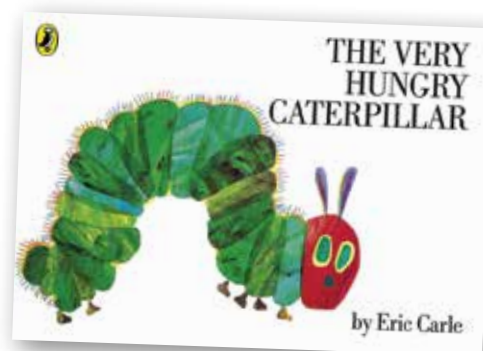
### Curriculum Content: How Animals Change

**Uses:** Read Aloud

**Books:** *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*

**Publisher:** Penguin

- A great read aloud that works as an anchor text. *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* follows the life cycle of a caterpillar as it starts by coming out of its egg, all the way to becoming a butterfly. In addition to science topics, it teaches the days of the week, counting, and types of fruits. There are ample resources available on the web to create numerous lesson plans using the content in this book.

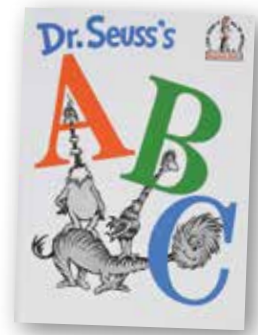


### Curriculum Content: Capital and lowercase letters, vocabulary building, alphabet review, and phonics

**Uses:** Read Aloud

**Book:** *Dr. Seuss's ABC*

**Publisher:** Random House



- This is a great read aloud for reviewing the sounds of letters, especially at the beginning of the school year. You can use it for vocabulary building, and grouping words that have the same beginning sound. Use it to begin a lesson on writing with the intent to practice when to use uppercase letters and lowercase letters. Includes silly sentences, silly stories.

### Curriculum Content: Social Studies (Respect and Empathy for Differences)

**Uses:** Read Aloud

**Book:** *Amazing Grace*

**Publisher:** Scholastic



- *Amazing Grace* is the story of an imaginative young girl and her pursuit of playing the leading role in her school's play—despite gender and racial stigmas. This book can be used to teach making text-to-self connections while reading, reading for a purpose, thinking while reading, drawing conclusions, and reacting to the text.
- You can use this read aloud to connect students with the ideas of respect, empathy, and pursuing your dreams. This book opens the door for student discussion about gender, diversity, courage, and family. It can be used to create a forum for conversation about bias and unfair remarks and give your students the ability to validate and affirm one another's views, as well as guide them to expand their thinking.

### Curriculum Content: Social Studies (My School) and Maths

**Uses:** Read Aloud

**Book:** *The 100th Day of School*

**Publisher:** Scholastic



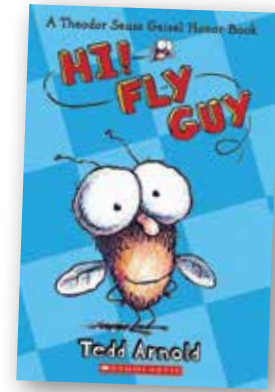
- This is a good book for you or your students to read aloud on the 100th day of school. There are many online activity ideas to make this a classroom or whole school event or to keep it in your classroom. It's a great way to reinforce the My School unit you did earlier in the year. You may even use this book to lead up to the 100th day through the My School Unit.

**Curriculum Content: Language Arts (Rhyming, Vocabulary Building, Phonics), Science (Living Things)**

**Uses:** Read Aloud (Late K-1), Independent Reading (Grades 2-3)

**Book:** *Hi! Fly Guy*

**Publisher:** Scholastic



- *Hi! Fly Guy* is the first book in an entertaining series starring a boy named Buzz and his pet fly, Fly Guy. This is a great series to read aloud to entertain students and showcase reading for pleasure. *Hi! Fly Guy* can be used to introduce your Grade 2 students to chapter books and independent reading.

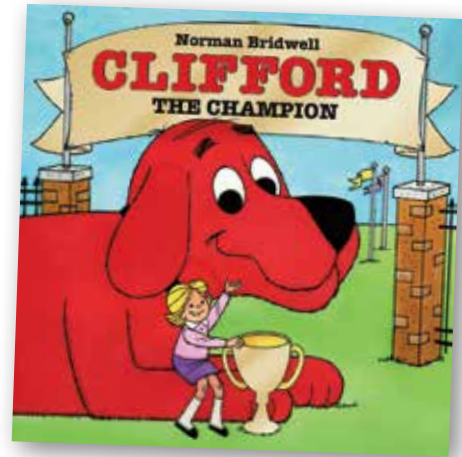
- When you read *Hi! Fly Guy* aloud to your Grade 1 class, the text can help you cover content in language arts including rhyming, vocabulary building and phonics long /i/ sound spelled with a 'y'. There are also opportunities to cover science topics on living things: insects are animals and caring for pets.

**Curriculum Content: Social Studies, Language Arts**

**Uses:** Read Aloud

**Books:** *Clifford the Big Red Dog* series

**Publisher:** Scholastic



- *Clifford* will help teach your students about the act of sharing, playing fairly, having respect, being responsible, working together, being truthful, being kind, believing in yourself, being a good friend and helping others all while entertaining them. These books help start conversations on moral character and build your students' comprehension skills. Below are some suggested titles from the large selection.

Book	Content
<i>Clifford the Big Red Dog</i>	Being a good friend
<i>Clifford and the Big Storm</i>	How to prepare and keep safe from a storm, helping
<i>Clifford's Manners</i>	Manners (please, thank you, share, follow the rules)
<i>Clifford's Good Deeds</i>	Being responsible, helping others, keep trying
<i>Clifford Goes to Dog School</i>	Learning to behave, training pets, believing in yourself

## Grade 2 • Book Blurbs

### Curriculum Content: Science (The Importance of Air to Animals)

**Uses:** Read Aloud

**Book:** *Ugly Cute Animals*

**Publisher:** Scholastic

- Though this book does not directly deal with air and animals it can be a great introductory read to a lesson on air and the importance of it to all animals by asking questions like, “Do you think any of these ugly cute animals could live without air?” Check your library for other books about animals for a fun read aloud to start a lesson on animals and air.
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### Curriculum Content: Similarities and Differences, Living Things, Safety, Feelings

**Uses:** Read Aloud

**Book:** *Lion Paw and Oliver, An Unlikely Friendship*

**Publisher:** CaribbeanReads

- Can a dog and a monkey really be friends? In this story based on real events, Lion Paw talks about how she and Oliver first met and the lessons they learned about the true nature of friendship. You can use the book to discuss similarities and differences, animals, safety with poisonous living things, and feelings, as well as build vocabulary while drawing on local background knowledge and making personal connections to the setting.
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### Curriculum Content: My School, Compound words

**Uses:** Read Aloud and Discussion. Borrow for classroom library.

**Book:** *Elizabeth's School*

**Publisher:** Lee & Low Books

- An excellent choice to share with students as they begin the new school year. Children who are starting school for the first time will find the story especially comforting. Use for language arts and vocabulary building. There is a teachers guide at: [www.leeandlow.com](http://www.leeandlow.com)

Compound Words	Words Ending in -ly	Words for Feelings
everywhere	surely	excited
newborn	finally	shy
schoolroom	lonely	missing
classmates	certainly	glad
afternoon	neatly	happy



### Curriculum Content: Life Cycle, Health, and Family Life

**Uses:** Read Aloud

**Book:** *Efa and the Mosquito*

**Publisher:** Campanita/Little Bell Caribbean

- Use this tale about a girl and a mosquito, with its blend of fiction and nonfiction, to help your students learn about mosquitos and the concept of cause and effect.
- You can use a simple KWL chart with the students to record what they already know, want to learn, and what they learned after reading the book. You can have your students review cause and effect by recognizing if a certain event in the story had not been included, then other aspects of the story would not have taken place.

### Curriculum Content: Listening and Speaking, Reading, Comprehension

**Uses:** Read Aloud, Shared Reading, Independent Reading

**Book:** *The Surprise Garden*

**Publisher:** McGraw-Hill

- This book can help you teach many different concepts. You can choose to cover topics in maths, science, health, art and language arts.

**Before reading:** Think aloud, picture walk

**During reading:** Making predictions

**After Reading:** Dramatization

**Culminating Activity:** Field trip to a vegetable garden, germinating seeds, and comparing and naming various seeds Also consider the across-the-curriculum ideas below.



Subject Areas	Concepts/Content
Mathematics	Counting, shapes, sizes, length
Science	Plants and their growth and development, seeds. Care of plants and their needs. Animals and how they assist the agricultural process. Food chain, germination
Health	Food: vegetables
Art	Make a collage using pictures or drawings of vegetables.
Literacy	Making predictions. Sequencing, punctuation, intonation singular and plural
Reading and Comprehension	Drawing conclusions. Transition words: before, long, then, soon Content words: broccoli, cauliflower, lettuce, squash, beans, peas, shoots, sprouts, bloom, surprize

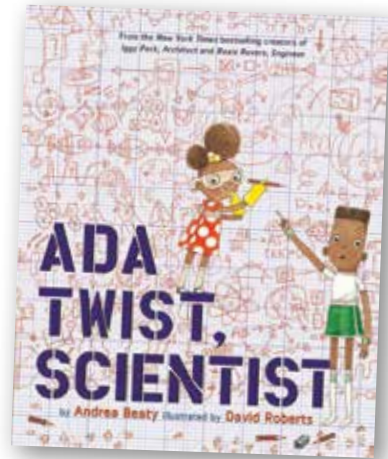
### Curriculum Content: Science, Social Studies

**Uses:** Read Aloud

**Book:** *Ada Twist, Scientist*

**Publisher:** Abrams Books for Young Readers

- A curious young girl's quest for knowledge leads her to contemplate the scientific method to answer questions about the world around her. *Ada Twist, Scientist* can be used to teach rhyming patterns, use of question words with story elements, sequencing, and vocabulary enrichment.
- You can use this read aloud to connect students with the scientific method and how asking questions leads to knowledge. You can have your students actively listen for story elements to complete a class chart that includes setting, characters, problem, and solution. In addition you can choose to have students identify new vocabulary words and use context clues within the text to determine their meaning.




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### Curriculum Content: Biographical, Social Studies, Environmental Impact

**Uses:** Read Aloud

**Book:** *Seeds of Change*

**Publisher:** Lee & Low Books

- This book could be used for many different subjects—if you need a versatile nonfiction anchor text, this is it: animals, biodiversity, plant adaptations, nature, science, sharing and giving, identity, self-esteem, confidence, responsibility, overcoming obstacles, occupations, mentors, home, history, heroism, food, farming, environment, nature, education, dreams and aspirations, biography, memoir, exploring ecosystems, human impact on the environment, environmental sustainability, informational text, integrity, honesty, leadership, optimism, enthusiasm, persistence, respect, citizenship, self control, self regulation, pride, compassion, geography, and kindness.

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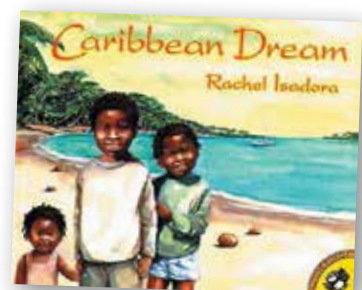
### Curriculum Content: Writing, Vocabulary Building, Our Country/Region, Pride

**Uses:** Read Aloud, Writing Centre

**Book:** *Caribbean Dream*

**Publisher:** Puffin Books

- Here is a magical place where children run, splash, and sing on an island in the West Indies. Rachel Isadora's glowing watercolors and lyrical text celebrate the things that make the Caribbean a very special home. Use for teaching descriptive writing and writing about things you feel, see, and know.



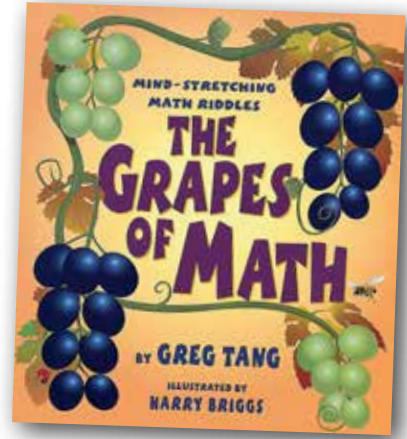
## Curriculum Content: Math, Language Arts

**Uses:** Read Aloud

**Book:** *The Grapes of Math*

**Publisher:** Scholastic

- This unique read aloud shares techniques for solving math problems in creative ways. Appealing illustrations and simple riddles that rhyme prompt students to look at visual counting from a new angle. *The Grapes of Math* brings maths into everyday real life so that your students can connect with mathematical ideas from a practical perspective. You can use this book to introduce simple math concepts or use it as a brainteaser to help your students solve problems as a whole class, in groups, pairs, or individually. *The Grapes of Math* can be utilized as an anchor text for maths and language arts.
- Four important lessons in problem solving are showcased in *The Grapes of Math*. Children will be guided to be open-minded when problem solving. They will be encouraged to think strategically and learn how to organize information by identifying patterns and symmetries.
- You can use this book to demonstrate poetic rhythms and rhyming words as well as mathematical concepts like adding, subtracting, and multiplying. You can also use *The Grapes of Math* to teach how word problems are applicable in everyday life. Since this book uses pictures to visually show the word problems, you can focus your students' attention on how to solve the problems through pictures. The problems in this book are hard enough to challenge a young student's mind but not too hard that they make them lose confidence.



# Grade 3 • Book Blurbs

## Curriculum Content: Social Studies, Maths

**Uses:** Read Aloud

**Books:** *Hop, Step, Jump* series (the books below are Step level)

**Publisher:** Macmillan Publishers

You can use this series as an intro to talk about the Caribbean and the world. Borrow titles from the *Hop, Step, Jump* series from the library and place in your classroom library, so students can read them if they finish a lesson early.

<i>Sailing Days</i>	Social Studies	The Caribbean, the world
<i>Sally's Way</i>	Maths, Social Studies	Times tables, Grade 2 feelings, anxiety

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## Curriculum Content: Social Studies, Ways of Communicating, Disabilities

**Uses:** Read Aloud, Guided Reading, Independent Reading

**Book:** *A Girl Named Helen Keller*

**Publisher:** Scholastic

- This biography of Helen Keller for young readers explores the transformation of a wild, blind, and deaf child into a world-renowned, remarkable woman. Topics to discuss include nonfiction versus fiction (biography), types of communication (sign language), reading using Braille, and overcoming obstacles and disabilities.



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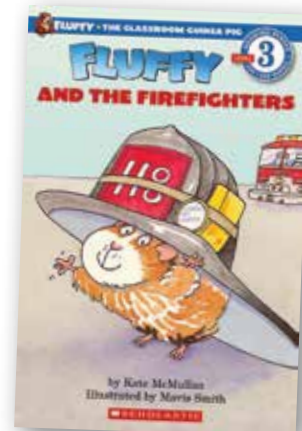
## Curriculum Content: Social Studies, (Different Kinds of Work in the Community)

**Uses:** Read Aloud, Independent Reading

**Book:** *Fluffy and the Firefighters*

**Publisher:** Scholastic

- Use for discussions or group work extensions in the unit on communities and work in the communities. Covers the use of a uniform, special tools used for work, and familiarizing yourself with different workers in the neighborhood.



**Curriculum Content: Science (Animals, Extinction, Resource Scarcity), Language Arts (Fables)**

**Uses:** Read Aloud and Discussion

**Book:** *The Shark and the Parrotfish and other Caribbean Fables*

**Publisher:** Campanita/Little Bell Caribbean

- Great book to introduce a unit on living things and habitats. Inspired by Aesop’s classic tales, and with the animals and plants of the Caribbean as its cast of characters, author Mario Picayo follows the traditional fable form while adding new and amusing twists to the moral-teaching stories.



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**Curriculum Content: Language Arts (Poetry), Science (Resources, Farming)**

**Uses:** Read Aloud and Discussion. Classroom library for independent reading

**Book:** *Rainbow Stew*

**Publisher:** Lee & Low Books

- *Rainbow Stew* covers a lot of different content: food, gardening, colors, cooking, healthy eating, physical activity, intergenerational relationships (grandparents), weather (rain), siblings, sharing and giving, being helpful, dealing with disappointment. Check out [www.rainbowstew.com](http://www.rainbowstew.com) or [www.leeandlow.com](http://www.leeandlow.com) for ideas.



## Curriculum Content: Types of Weather, Creation, Musical Instruments, Physical Education/Games, Writing, Listening and Speaking, Reading, Comprehension

**Uses:** Read Aloud, Shared and Independent Reading, Extended lesson plans

**Book:** *Friends All Around*

**Publisher:** McGraw-Hill

- Use this fantastic book to teach your students about weather, creation, and places/countries. Many of the concepts in *Friends All Around* can be taught across the curriculum, as you can see in the table below.

Subject Areas	Concepts/Content
Religious Knowledge	Creation: "I am unique"
Science	Weather types and clothing
Art	Constructing or molding something that they like
Health and Science	Fun/healthy activities, Similarities and differences, Conflict resolutions/arguments (page 23)
Literacy	Reading strategies: retelling and predicting Sight words: <i>some, friends, each other, make</i> Sentence construction Identifying characters Parts of speech: verbs Compound words: <i>snowman, sometimes, footprint</i> Comprehension: (pages 8-9) making predictions and inferences; asking questions (pages 16-19) Listening and speaking: discussing things done with friends Use of handling books Antonyms and synonyms
Social Studies	Technology and communication
Music (pages 20-23)	Instruments and types of music
Mathematics	Basic addition

### Curriculum Content: Art, Geography, Science, Social Studies

**Uses:** Read Aloud

**Book:** *The Nutmeg Princess*

**Publisher:** Annick Press

- A young boy and girl in the Caribbean believe an old woman's tale about the Nutmeg Princess who lives in a nearby lake. Since only those with a good heart can see her, this book connects your students with the ideas of bravery and honesty while also reinforcing vocabulary, retelling, and role-playing to make predictions.
- You can use *The Nutmeg Princess* to teach describing words, use of similes, elements of fiction, author's purpose, summarizing, questioning, and predicting. Ask your students to think of five questions to ask the Nutmeg Princess, create relevant lyrics for the Nutmeg Princess' song, and/or write about going up the mountain to Petite Mama's garden and describing their feelings about what they find there.

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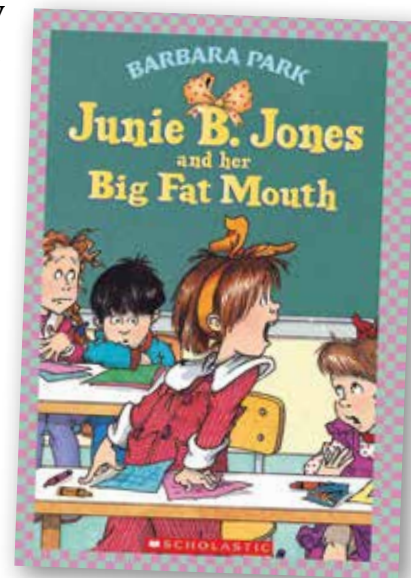
### Curriculum Content: Social Studies (My School, My Community, Manners), Language Arts (Grammar, Writing)

**Uses:** Read Aloud, Independent Reading (recommended introduction to the series)

**Book:** *Junie B. Jones* series

**Publisher:** Scholastic

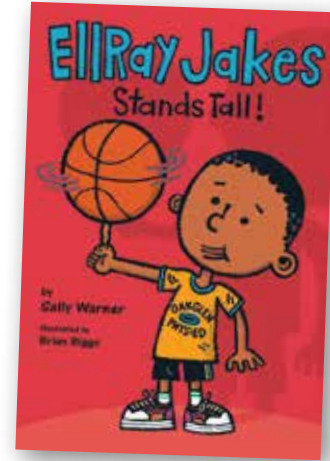
- *Junie B. Jones* is a great series to read aloud to your students in chapter segments. The main character is funny and entertaining. Each book contains 8 to 10 chapters and each chapter will take 6 to 10 minutes to read. Topics of curriculum coverage are endless, but the main ones include building personal character, and dealing with issues concerning school, family, and community. The chapter read aloud has the potential to help you scaffold your students' reading skills as they graduate from reading picture books to reading chapter books.
- Your students may also be unfamiliar with some of the content, but this will be an opportunity to build vocabulary using context clues.
- Reading aloud the first three books in the series, or the first chapters of each book at library time, can also be a great way to hook your students on this series to encourage independent reading.
- On the next page you'll find examples of curriculum content using Book 3, *Junie B. Jones and Her Big Fat Mouth*, as a two-week, chapter-a-day daily classroom read aloud.



Subject Areas	Concepts/Content
Social Studies	<p>School rules</p> <p>Building moral character with <i>Junie B. Jones</i> – There are great resources at this link: <a href="http://juniebjones.com/media/printables/teachers/BJB_Rebrand_CharPoster_Activities_WEB.pdf">http://juniebjones.com/media/printables/teachers/BJB_Rebrand_CharPoster_Activities_WEB.pdf</a></p> <p>Jobs in our community</p> <p>Self care (your teeth)</p>
Language Arts	<p><b>Building background knowledge</b> – Help your students learn how to stop and re-read something that is not making sense because of lack of background knowledge or unknown vocabulary. Some examples: janitor, jelly doughnuts, “I Pledge Allegiance to the Flag,” hallways in school.</p> <p><b>Vocabulary building using context clues</b> - There are many instances where words are defined in context. For example: <i>announcement, careers, cop</i></p> <p><b>Writing for your students</b> –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use journal writing to record your good behavior. What actions have I taken to promote respect, caring, tolerance, dignity? There are some great expansions on this at: <a href="http://www.juniebjones.com">www.juniebjones.com</a></li> <li>• The author uses intentional grammar mistakes and colloquial familiar usage of language to tell the story. Why did the author intentionally write these the wrong way in the story? Young children over-generalize grammar rules when learning to speak and write. The character Junie B. Jones is in kindergarten. The author uses typical language mistakes when Junie is speaking in order to help keep Junie in character.</li> </ul> <p><b>Grammar</b> -</p> <p>Irregular past tense verbs (<i>blew, bent, hid, cost, ran, woke</i>)</p>
Science and Technology	Tools and when they are used

**Curriculum Content: Social Studies, Language Arts****Uses:** Independent Reading, Read Aloud**Books:** *EllRay Jakes* series**Publisher:** Penguin Random House

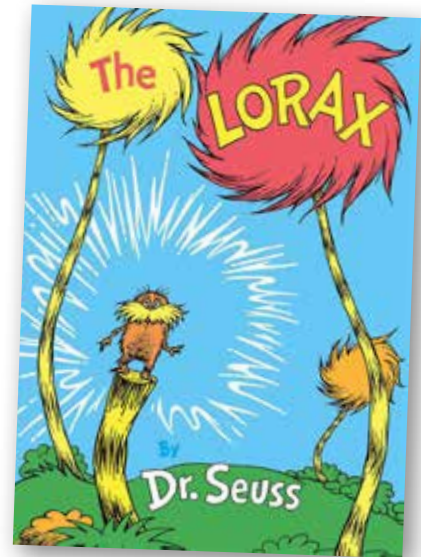
• The *EllRay Jakes* series is a great read aloud to hook your students into a series. You may consider reading aloud to your students the first in the series, *EllRay Jakes Is Not a Chicken*. It is a non-threatening way to cover topics on bullying and learning to conduct oneself in appropriate ways, but also an opportunity to scaffold students' comprehension skills as they move from picture books to chapter books. The vocabulary used within the book could make a great word wall list. Some examples for your *EllRay Jakes* Word Wall: *flinching, supreme, chunky*.



Book	Subjects	Content/Subject
<i>EllRay Jakes Is Not a Chicken</i>	Social Studies Language Arts	Bullying, doing the right thing, vocabulary building, comprehension skills
<i>EllRay Jakes Is a Rock Star</i>	Social Studies Science	Careers, geology
<i>EllRay Jakes Walks the Plank</i>	Social Studies	Moral character
<i>EllRay Jakes the Dragon Slayer</i>	Social Studies	Learning how to deal with bullies
<i>EllRay Jakes and the Beanstalk</i>	Social Studies	Being a good friend
<i>EllRay Jakes Is Magic</i>	The Arts	Performing, talents
<i>EllRay Jakes Rocks the Holidays</i>	The Arts Social Studies	Performing, celebrations

**Curriculum Content: Language Arts,  
Social Studies, Science****Uses:** Read Aloud, Anchor Text**Book:** *The Lorax***Publisher:** Random House

- *The Lorax* is such a great read aloud that you can also use it as an anchor text in your classroom. Dr. Seuss's *The Lorax* speaks for the trees and warns of the dangers of disrespecting the environment. In this rhyming tale your students learn how the harvesting of trees changed the landscape of the Lorax's community forever. Your students will not only understand the importance of seeing the beauty in the world around us, but also learn about our responsibility to protect it.



*The Lorax* is filled with opportunities to cover curriculum content in language arts. Each page gives opportunities to review phonics through rhyme, build vocabulary, and review parts of speech. The main theme throughout the story will help you cover resources in our community and conservation of those resources within the social studies curriculum. Upon completion of your resources unit you may consider showing *The Lorax* movie to your class or taking your class on a field trip to one of the protected areas on your island. If you have environmental officers you may also consider inviting them to speak to the class or give your students a tour of a protected area.

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## Curriculum Content: Science, Social Studies, Language Arts

**Uses:** A leveled reading program of nonfiction books

**Books:** *DK Readers*

**Publisher:** DK Publishing



- *DK Readers* cover curriculum content in science, maths, and social studies. They are also a great language arts resource to teach differences between fiction and nonfiction, biographies, and fact versus opinion. The books have the ability to capture your students' interests and at the same time help build their reading skills and general knowledge. These are great for independent reading practice, but they can also help with school projects and content coverage. Below are just a few of the many options you can choose to use and recommend to your students for independent reading.

Book	Subject	Content
<i>The Story of Chocolate</i>	Social Studies	Cooking, food The world around us
<i>School Days Around the World</i>	Social Studies	The world around us
<i>Rainforest Explorer</i>	Science	Habitats, resources
<i>Greek Myths</i>	Language Arts Social Studies	What is a myth? Study of the world and our experience
<i>Amelia Earhart, More than a Flier</i>	Social Studies Technology Language Arts	History, transportation, aerospace and aviation, biography
<i>Extreme Machines</i>	Technology	Transport, road and motor vehicles
<i>Soccer School</i>	Physical Education	Rules of football, sports