

Year 1 Reading List 2023

This is a recommended reading list for children in Year 1 of picture books and first chapter books which have been carefully selected by teachers and librarians.

There are over 40 high-quality picture book texts and poetry books for 5-6-year-olds, all featuring rich language and engaging illustrations. There are lots of choices to suit all abilities with a wide variety of suggested picture books, emerging reader books, and first chapter books.

These stories include texts to encourage shared reading, individual reading, reading aloud, and reading for pleasure. There are books to share, to inspire a love of independent reading, and for reading with parents at home. There are easy readers, more challenging emerging reader chapter books and high-interest books to appeal to reluctant readers.

This is a crucial time in your child's education where they will make the most significant and visible leaps in progress. Children will have developed some ability to read on their own and will have the confidence to choose books for themselves. They need access to a variety of picture books to cater for their ability and interests. We hope you find some great books which spark a love of reading and thirst for knowledge and understanding in your child.

The books on this list may be available for borrowing from your child's school library or your local library. They may also be purchased from local bookshops or online from Readings (Australia), Dymocks (Australia) or Amazon (USA).

The books are not listed in any particular order.

The Bunyip of Berkeley's Creek by Penny Wagner

The Bad-Tempered Ladybird by Eric Carle

Possum Magic by Mem Fox

Silly Billy by Anthony Browne

Who Sank the Boat by Pamela Allen

Guess How Much I Love You by Sam McBratney

I Want My Hat Back by Jon Klassen

Wombat Stew by Marcia K Vaughan

The Magic Beach by Alison Lester

Grug books by Ted Prior

That Rabbit Belongs to Emily Brown by Cressida Cowell and Neal Layton

Numenia and the Hurricane by Fiona Halliday

Cinnamon by Neil Gaiman

I Can Only Draw Worms by Will Mabbit

King of the Classroom by Derrick Barnes and Vanessa Brantley Newton

Yokki and the Parno Gry by Richard O'Neill

Goodnight Everyone by Chris Haughton

Oof Makes and Ouch by Duncan Beedle

We're Going on a Bear Hunt by Michael Rosen

The Pocket Chaotic by Ziggy Hanaor and Daniel Gray-Barnett

The Gruffalo by Julia Donaldson

A Bear Called Paddington by Michael Bond

Cops ad Robbers by Allan Ahlberg

Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's Dairy by Lynley Dodd

Owl Babies by Martin Waddell

The Smile Shop by Satoshi Kitamura

The Emperor of Absurdia by Chris Riddell

There are Cats In This Book by Viviane Schwarz

Captain Toby by Satoshi Kitamura

Mister Magnolia by Quentin Blake

Katie Morag's Island Stories by Mairi Hedderwick

My Friend Bear by Jez Alborough

Avocado Baby by John Birmingham

Meg and Mog by Helen Nichol

Not Now, Bernard by David McKee

A Dark, Dark Tale by Ruth Brown

Dogger by Shirley Hughes

I Want My Hat Back by Jon Klassen

The Dark by Lemony Snicket

You Can't Take an Elephant on the Bus by Patricia Cleveland-Peck

Penguin by Polly Dunbar

A Royal Lullabyhullabaloo by Mick Inkpen

You Choose! by Pippa Goodhart

Stanley's Stick by Neale Layton and John Hegley

What to do If an Elephant Stands on Your Foot by Michelle Robinson

How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth by Michelle Robinson

Dinosaurs In the Supermarket by Timothy Knapman

The Adventures of the Dish and Spoon by Mini Grey