

# Great Reads for 1st Graders



*Selected by librarians from Milwaukee Public Library*

**Rhyming Dust Bunnies** by Jan Thomas. PIC THOMAS.  
“We rhyme all the time!” declare googly-eyed dust bunnies Ed, Ned, and Ted. All except Bob, who they should really listen to.

**Luke on the Loose** by Harry Bliss. EASY LEVEL 2 BLISS.  
Luke races through park, sidewalk, street, and straight up to the roofs, much to the consternation of his poor parents, wise-cracking animals, and an array of city-dwellers.

**Metal Man** by Aaron Reynolds. PIC REYNOLD.  
Devon loves to watch “Metal Man” create art out of junk in his city workshop. When he envisions a house in a shining star, the sculptor helps him turn his idea into reality.

**El Barrio** by Debbi Chocolate. PIC CHOCOLA.  
This celebration of Latino culture and life in the city includes street scenes, cultural celebrations, and people enjoying themselves on Cinco de Mayo, the Day of the Dead.

**The Big No-No!** by Geoffery Hayes. EASY LEVEL 1 HAYES.  
The mouse siblings have a new neighbor whom they suspect might be a thief, because Benny’s pail is missing.

**Let’s Do Nothing** by Tony Fucile. PIC FUCILE.  
Sal and Frankie discover that doing nothing is a lot harder than it looks.

**Have I Got a Book For You!** by Melanie Watts. PIC WATT.  
“Say GOOD-BYE to boring books. You know the ones I’m talking about...” Al Foxword delivers a high-pressured sales pitch for this very title — his #1 BESTSELLER! Kids won’t be able to resist reading this one.

**Watch Me Throw the Ball!** by Mo Willems. EASY LEVEL 1 WILLEMS.

Gerald gets serious about teaching Piggie to throw a ball, but Piggie, as usual, just wants to have fun.

**Dog and Bear: Three to Get Ready** by Laura Vaccaro Seeger. PIC SEEGER.

Three short, dynamic stories feature high-energy Dog and multicolored Bear getting in, and out of, all kinds of trouble.

**Lousy Rotten Stinkin’ Grapes** by Marge Palatini. PIC PALATIN.

“I am the fox,” proclaims Fox repeatedly. “Sly. Clever. Smart.” Well, not so smart—as he demonstrates in this silly retelling of Aesop’s “Fox and the Grapes.”

**This is My Town** by Mercer Mayer. EASY LEVEL K MAYER.

Little Critter takes the reader on a tour of his hometown, which includes the post office, the library, the fire station and even a parade.

**Biscuit and the Little Pup** by Alyssa Capucilli. EASY LEVEL K CAPUCIL.

Biscuit was chasing a ball and something caught his eye. There was a little puppy inside a play house; will he come out and play?

**About Penguins** by Cathryn Sill. 598.47 S584.  
Simple text and lovely watercolors introduce 17 species of penguins that inhabit the Southern Hemisphere.

**Wet Pet** by Yukiko Kido. EASY LEVEL K KIDO.  
Learning to read is fun when you flip a page and presto-change-o a new word appears.

**Life-Size Zoo** by Teruyuki. 591 L722.  
A zoo tour between covers, this oversized volume brings viewers face-to-face with a menagerie of creatures from anteaters to zebras.

**TIPS** for helping your child become a Super Reader:

*Have your child tell you the story by “reading the pictures.” Then read the text together.*

*Learning to read is a process, not a test. So read the book to your child first, then have them read it to you.*