



# Picture Books~ Comprehension

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*King George County Schools*

This list of picture books focuses on key reading comprehension skills. It was compiled by staff from a variety of sources and is intended to be a resource for teaching reading comprehension in the K-6th grade classroom.

*2011*

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# Picture Books for Teaching Comprehension

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## Adjectives

*Hairy, Scary, Ordinary: What is an Adjective?*, Brian Cleary

*Old Black Fly*, Jim Aylesworth

*Many Luscious Lollipops*, Ruth Heller

*That's Good! That's Bad!*, Margery Cuyler

*Things That are Most in the World*, Judi Barrett

## Adverbs

*Dearly, Nearly, Insincerely: What is an Adverb?*, Brian Cleary

*Faint Frogs Feeling Feverish*, Lilian Obligato

*Z Was Zapped*, Chris Van Allsburg

## Alliteration

*Some Smug Slug*, Pamela Edwards

*My Mama Had a Dancing Heart*, Libba Moore Gray

*How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, Dr. Seuss

*Prince Cinders*, Babette Cole

*Walter Was Worried*, Laura Seeger

*A My Name is Alice*, Jan Bayer

*The Worrywarts*, Pamela Duncan Edwards

## Author's Purpose

*Boys of Steel*, Marc Tyler Nobleman (show how childhood experiences can lead to adult endeavors)

*Mr. Peabody's Apples*, Madonna (teach a lesson)

*The Secret Knowledge of Grownups*, David Wisniewski (entertain)

*The Mary Celeste; A Mystery from History*, Jane Yolen (inform, encourage inquiry)

*I Wanna Iguana*, Karen Kaufman Orloff (persuade)

*Earrings*, Judith Viorst (persuade)

*Hey, Little Ant*, Phillip Hoose (seeing both sides of an argument)

*True Story of the Three Pigs by A. Wolf*, Jon Scieszca (one side of a story)

*Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus*, Mo Willems (persuade)

## Cause/Effect

*If You Give a Moose a Muffin*, Laura Numeroff

*If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*, Laura Numeroff

*If you Give a Pig a Pancake*, Laura Numeroff

*Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*, Judith Viorst

*Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs*, Judi Barrett

*The Giving Tree*, Shel Silverstein

*Jimmy's Boa and the Big Birthday Bash*, Trinka Hakes Noble

*Runaway Bunny*, Margaret Wise Brown

*A Bad Case of Stripes*, David Shannon

*Across the Stream*, Mirra Ginsburg

## Character/Character Traits

*Strega Nona*, Tomie dePaola

*Sheep in a Jeep*, Nancy Shaw

*Clifford books*, Norman Bridwell

*Amelia Bedelia books*, Peggy Parish

*Sarah Plain and Tall*, Patricia MacLachlan

*The Pain and the Great One*, Judy Blume

*Bubba and Beau*, Kathi Appelt

*Amazing Grace*, Mary Hoffman

*Chrysanthemum*, Kevin Henkes

*Crow Boy*, Taro Yashima

*My Great Aunt Arizona*, Gloria Houston

## Compare and Contrast

*Lon Po Po*, Ed Young / *Little Red Riding Hood*

*The True Story of the Three Little Pigs*, Jon Scieszka / *The Three Little Pigs*

*Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters*, John Steptoe / *Cinderella*

*Yeh-Shen* (a Chinese Cinderella Story), Ai-Ling Douie/ *Cinderella*

*Stellaluna*, Janeel Cannon / *Bats: Night Fliers*, Betsy Maestro

*Alexander and the Terrible No Good Very Bad Day*, Viorst /

*Today Was a Terrible Day*, Patricia Reilly Giff

*The Emperor's New Clothes*, Hans Christian Anderson /

*The Principal's New Clothes*, Stephanie Calmenson

## Compound Words

*Once There Was a Bull (frog)*, Rick Walton

*How Much Wood Could a Woodchuck Chuck*, Danny Adlerman

## Dialogue

*Let's Get a Pup!* Said Kate, Bob Graham

*Yo! Yes?*, Chris Raschka

*Pink and Say*, Patricia Polacco

*Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus*, Mo Willems

*The Prince of the Butterflies*, Bruce Coville

*The Very Busy Spider*, Eric Carle

## Drawing Conclusions/Making Inferences

*Duck & Goose*, Tad Hills

*My Lucky Day*, Keiko Kasza

*In the Snow: Who's Been Here?*, Lindsey Barrett George

*Smokey Night*, Eve Bunting

*The Stranger*, Chris Van Allsburg

*The Art Lesson*, Tomie de Paola

*The Story of Ruby Bridges*, Robert Coles

*Tough Boris*, Mem Fox

*Stellaluna*, Jannell Cannon

*The Paper Bag Princess*, Robert Munsch

*Is Your Mama a Llama?*, Deborah Guarino

*Catwings*, Ursula LeGuin

*Wreck of the Zephyr*, Chris Van Allsburg

*Sunshine Home*, Eve Bunting

*Dandelions*, Eve Bunting

*Teammates*, Peter Golenbock

*Pink and Say*, Patricia Polacco



## **Expressive Narratives**

*Jumanji*, Chris Van Allsburg

*Charlotte's Web*, E.B. White

*The Day Jimmy's Boa Ate the Wash*, Trinka Hakes Noble

*The Little Red Hen*, Byron Barton

*Frog and Toad books*, Arnold Loebel

*Where the Wild Things Are*, Maurice Sendak

*Imogene's Antlers*, David Small

*The Mitten*, Jan Brett

*Chrysanthemum*, Kevin Henkes

*Borreguita and the Coyote*, Verna Aardema

*Mirette on the High Wire*, Emily McCully

*Susannah of the Alamo*, John Jakes

*King Bidgood's in the Bathtub*, Don and Audrey Wood

## **Fact and Opinion**

*I Will Never Not Ever Eat a Tomato*, Lauren Child

*Brave Irene*, William Steig

*Alexander, Who Used to Be Rich Last Sunday*, Judith Viorst

*Somebody and the Three Blairs*, Marilyn Tolhurst

*Shrek!*, William Steig

*The Stinky Cheeseman*, Jon Sceiska

## **Informational Text/How To**

*If You Were a Writer*, Joan Nixon

*How a Book is Made*, Alike (in Chinese)

*Peanut Butter and Jelly*, Nadine Westcott

*Growing Vegetable Soup*, Lois Ehlert

*The Popcorn Book*, Tomie dePaola  
*Cranberry Thanksgiving*, Wende Devlin  
*Pancakes, Pancakes*, Eric Carle  
*Messages in the Mailbox: How to Write a Letter*, Loreen Leedy  
*From Seed to Plant*, Gail Gibbons  
*How a House is Built*, Gail Gibbons  
*How to Paint the Portrait of a Bird*, Mordica Gerstein

### **Main Idea – Fiction**

*Ira Sleeps Over*, Bernard Waber  
*Tacky the Penguin*, Helen Lester  
*The Little Engine That Could*, Watty Piper  
*Blackberries in the Dark*, Mavis Jukes  
*A Chair for My Mother*, Vera Williams  
*Frog Prince Continued*, Jon Scieszka  
*Keeping Quilt*, Patricia Polacco  
*Now One Foot, Now the Other*, Tomie DePaola  
*Pain and the Great One*, Judy Blume

### **Main Idea – Non Fiction**

*How Ben Franklin Stole the Lightning*, Rosalyn Schanzer  
*When Marion Sang*, Pam Munoz Ryan  
*Arctic Lights, Arctic Nights*, Debbie S. Miller  
*The Boy on Fairfield Street*, Kathleen Krull

## Metaphor

*The Girl Who Loved Horses*, Paul Goble

*Chanticleer and the Fox*, Geoffrey Chaucer and Barbara Perry

*Fearless Fernie: Hanging Out With Fernie and Me*, Gary Soto

*The Rough-Faced Girl*, Rafe Martin

*Come On, Rain*, Karen Hesse

*Knots on a Counting Rope*, Bill Martin

*Listen to the Rain*, Bill Martin, Jr. and John Archumbault

*Summer Is...*, Charlotte Zolotow

## Nouns

*A Cache of Jewels*, Ruth Heller

*A Mink, a Fink, a Skating Rink: What is a Noun?*, Brian Cleary

## Personal Connections

*Chrysanthemum*, Kevin Henkes

*The Relatives Came*, Cynthia Rylant

*Koala Lou*, Mem Fox

## Persuasion (Author's Purpose continued)

*Mortimer*, Robert Munsch

*A Wrinkle in Time*, Madeline L'Engle

*Charlotte's Web*, E.B. White

*The Lorax*, Dr. Seuss

*Three Billy Goats Gruff*, Paul Galdone

*A Wish for Wings That Work*, Berkeley Breathed

*Purple, Green, and Yellow*, Robert Munsch



*Save My Rainforest*, Monica Zak

*Julius, The Baby of the World*, Kevin Henkes

## Point of View

*Two Bad Ants*, Chris Van Allsburg

*Ira Sleeps Over*, Bernard Waber

*The Three Little Pigs*, James Marshall

*The True Story of the Three Little Pigs*, Jon Scieszka

*The Three Bears*, Paul Galdone

*Voices from the Field: Children of Migrant Farmworkers Tell Their Stories*, S. Beth Atkin

*Voices of the American Civil War: Stories of Men, Women, and Children Who Lived*

*Through the War Between the States*, Kendall Haven

*Voices from the American Revolution: Stories of Men, Women and Children Who Forged a*

*Nation*, Kendall Haven

*Voices from the Trail of Tears*, Vicki Rozema

*If the Shoe Fits: Voices From Cinderella*, Laura Whipple (poetry)

*Black and White*, David Macaulay

*The Great Shaking*, Jo Carson

*When I Was Young in the Mountains*, Cynthia Rylant

## Predicting

*Bark*, George, Jules Feiffer

*Just a Dream*, Chris Van Allsburg

*Ben's Dream*, Chris Van Allsburg

*Mysteries of Harris Burdick*, Chris Van Allsburg

*Koala Lou*, Mem Fox

*Click, Clack, Moo*, Doreen Cronin

*Is Your Mama a Llama?*, Deborah Guarino

*Gingerbread Baby*, Jan Brett

*Dear Mrs. Larue: Letters from Obedience School*, Mark Teague

## Prepositions

*Behind the Mask*, Ruth Heller

*Under, Over, by the Clover: What is a Preposition?*, Brian Cleary

## Pronouns

*I and You and Don't Forget Who*, Brian Cleary

*Mine, All Mine*, Ruth Heller

## Puns

*It Looks a Lot Like Reindeer*, Brian Cleary

*You Never Sausage Love*, Brian Cleary

## Sequencing/Summarizing

*The Tiny Seed*, Eric Carle

*The Paper Bag Princess*, Robert Munsch

*Sylvester and the Magic Pebble*, William Steig

*The Snowy Day*, Ezra Jack Keats

*The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, Eric Carle

*Cookie's Week*, Cindy Ward

*The Napping House*, Audrey and Don Wood

*Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*, Judith Viorst

*The Three Little Pigs*, Paul Galdone

*The Gingerbread Man*

*Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain*, Verna Aardema

*Jumanji*, Chris Van Allsburg

*Where the Wild Things Are*, Maurice Sendak

*Watch a Frog Grow*, Pugliano-Martin

*Chocolate Fever*, Robert Kimmel Smith

## Setting

*Night Tree*, Eve Bunting

*Koala Lou*, Mem Fox

*When I Was Young in the Mountains*, Cynthia Rylant

*The Pumpkin Blanket*, Turney Zagwyn

*Thunder Cake*, Patricia Polacco

*The Web Files*, Margie Palatini

## Simile

*Quick as a Cricket*, Audrey Wood

*Color Me a Rhyme*, Jane Yolen

*Swing Around the Sun*, Barbara Juster Esbensen

*The Girl Who Loved Horses*, Paul Goble

*The Eyes of the Gray Wolf*, Jonathon London

*Dimity Dumpty*, Bob Graham

*It Looked Like Spilt Milk*, Charles Shaw

*Mad as a Wet Hen*, Marvin Terban

*Quick as a Cricket*, Audrey Wood

## Story Beginnings

*A Dog Like Jack*, Anne Disalvo-Ryan

*Amazing Grace*, Mary Hoffman

*The Day Jimmy's Boa Ate the Wash*, Trinka Noble

*My Great Aunt Arizona*, Gloria Houston

*The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig*, Eugene Trivazas

*The Tenth Good Thing About Barney*, Judith Viorst

*There's a Nightmare in My Closet*, Mercer Mayer

## Story Endings (Circular)

*Handful of Seeds*, Monica Hughes

*Henry's Baby*, Mary Hoffman

*The Relatives Came*, Cynthia Rylant

*How to Make an Apple Pie and See the World*, Marjorie Priceman

*If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*, Laura Numeroff

## Story Endings (Surprise)

*Arthur's Computer Disaster*, Marc Brown

*Chocolatina*, Erik Kraft

*Grandpa's Teeth*, Rob Clement

*The Paper Bag Princess*, Robert Munsch

*Too Many Tamales*, Gary Soto

## Story Endings (Poignant)

*Chicken Sunday*, Patricia Polacco

*Fly Away Home*, Eve Bunting

*My Great Aunt Arizona*, Gloria Houston

*Letting Swift River Go*, Jane Yolen

*William's Doll*, Charlotte Zolotow

## Verbs

*Kites Sail High*, Ruth Heller

*Old Black Fly*, Jim Aylesworth

*How Do Dinosaurs..? books*, Jane Yolen and Mark Teague

*Prairie Dogs Kiss and Lobsters Wave: How Animals Say Hello*, Marilyn Singer

*Pumpkin Soup*, Helen Cooper

*To Root, To Toot, To Parachute: What is a Verb?*, Brian Cleary

*Zzzng! Zzzng! A Yoruba Tale*, Phillis Gershator

## Visualizing

*Miss Rumphius*, Barbara Cooney

*Stopping by Woods on Snowy Evening*, Robert Frost

*Abuela*, Arthur Dorros

*Fireflies*, Julie Brinkloe

*Akimbo and the Elephants*, Alexander McCall Smith

*Big Blue Whale*, Nicola Davies