

end, however, she solves the problem by making all the items into a scarecrow.

### REGARDS TO THE MAN IN THE MOON

BY EZRA JACK KEATS

*PreS.-5 32 pages Four Winds, 1981*

When the neighborhood children tease Louie about the junk in his backyard, his father shows him how imagination can convert rubbish into a spaceship that will take him to the farthest galaxies. The next day, Louie and his friend Susie hurtle through space in their glorified washtub and discover that not even gravity can hold back a child's imagination.

**SNIP SNAP! WHAT'S THAT?** BY MARA BERGMAN; NICK MALAND, ILLUSTRATOR

*PreS-K 30 pages Greenwillow, 2005*

This is a happy mix of *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* by Michael Rosen, *The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything* by ? Williams, and *There's Nightmare in My Closet* by Mercer Mayer. An alligator comes calling at the children's door. As it and they move from room to room, the question is asked, "Were they afraid?" eliciting the response (louder and louder each time) "You bet they were!" Until they gather their courage and turn on the creature, driving him out. Was he scared?

**THE STORY OF LITTLE BABAJI** BY HELEN BANNERMAN; FRED MARCELLINO, ILLUS.

*PreS-K 68 pages Harper, 1996*

Reset in India (where it originally was written in 1899), redrawn with Indian characters (instead of the African grotesques it degenerated into), and with the offending terms removed, this once was *Little Black Sambo*. The original version rightly fell from favor in the 1950s, but this retelling corrects the earlier offenses and allows children to enjoy the battle of wits between the child and the boy-eating tigers.

**THOMAS' SNOWSUIT** BY ROBERT MUNSCHE;  
MICHAEL MARTCHENKO, ILLUSTRATOR

*PreS.-4<sup>th</sup> 24pages Annick, 1985*

Thomas hates his new snowsuit, much to the dismay of his mother, teacher, and principal—all of whom find him a most determined fellow. But children will find the situation just plain out-out-loud funny!

**WHERE'S MY TEDDY?** (series)

BY JEZ ALBOROUGH

*PreS.-K 24pages Candlewick, 1997*

Alborough has created three popular books in this series about little Eddie and the giant bear that lives in the park. In their first encounter (*Where's My Teddy?*), Eddie mistakenly ends up with the bear's teddy and the bear has his. Though each is equally afraid of the other, they both finally end up with the right teddy. In the second book (*It's the Bear!*), Eddie's mother is a non-believer until she and the bear come face-to-face (reminiscent of Robert McCloskey's *Blueberries for Sal*). In the third book (*My Friend Bear*), their fear of each other is happily resolved when each realizes how much they have in common—including a needless fear of each other and a love of their teddies.

A list of several hundred other titles can be found in the Treasury of Read-Alouds in *The Read-Aloud Handbook* by Jim Trelease (Penguin)



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For more details on the material contained here, see Jim Trelease's Web site: [www.trelease-on-reading.com](http://www.trelease-on-reading.com). All brochure material is based on his books, films, and lectures.

# READ-ALoud PICTURE BOOKS: FOR PRESCHOOLERS

BY JIM TRELEASE

Author of the New York Times Bestseller  
*The Read-Aloud Handbook*



## A NOTE ON THE AVAILABILITY OF THESE TITLES

Usually books stay in print only a few years, especially for children. But even an out-of-print (OP) title can be easily and freely borrowed from your local library (or, upon request, your library can borrow it from other libraries). If you wish to own the book, inexpensive used-copies (including OP) can be found at Web sites like bookfinder.com or Amazon.com. New copies (but not out OP) can be purchased at your local bookstore.

### CHEWY LOUIE BY HOWIE SCHNEIDER

*PreS.-K 32 pages Rising Moon, 2000*

My three-year-old grandson never laughed so hard at a book as he did with this one, the tale of a new puppy with a gigantic need to chew. Louie devours everything in sight, from food bowls, tables, chairs, toys, the vet's pants, to the family car. Will they have to give Louie up to save their home? Related book: *The Best Pet of All* by David LaRochelle; and *Martha* by Gennady Spirin

### CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS

BY JUDI BARRETT; RON BARRETT, ILLUS.

*PreS.-5 28 pages Atheneum, 1978*

In the fantasy land of Chewandswallow, the weather changes three times a day, supplying all the residents with food out of the sky. But suddenly the weather takes a turn for the worse; instead of normal-size meatballs, it rains meatballs the size of basketballs, and pancakes and syrup smother the streets. Something must be done!

### THE COMPLETE ADVENTURES OF PETER RABBIT BY BEATRIX POTTER

*PreS.-1 96 pages Warner, 1982*

Here are the four original tales involving one of the most famous animals in children's literature—Peter Rabbit. In a vicarious way children identify with his naughty sense of adventure, and then thrill at his narrow escape from the clutches of Mr. MacGregor.

### GRANDMA'S BEARS

BY GINA WILSON; PAUL HOWARD, ILLUS.

*PreS.-1 34 pages Candlewick, 2004*

Imagine a sleep-over at Grandma's in which she has five bears living with her, bears that are warm and cuddly, bears that play hopscotch on the kitchen floor, eat too many donuts, get soap in their eyes, and hug you like a warm towel when you get out of the tub. And — they're real!

### THE GREAT FUZZ FRENZY BY JANET STEVENS AND SUSAN STEVENS CRUMMEL

*PreS.-1 56 pages Harcourt, 2005*

This whimsical tale was born the day the authors' watched a tennis ball roll into prairie-dog town. What would the dogs think it was? So they put themselves into the mind of those underground dogs confronted by a round lump of fuzz and just imagined. The result is a delightful romp that has many applications to human behavior—copycatting, greed, even early-warning signals. Have a tennis ball nearby when reading this book.

### THE GUNNIWOLF BY WILHELMINA HARPER; BARBARA UPTON, ILLUSTRATOR

*PreS.-K 50 pages Dial, 2005*

For many years, this was a read-aloud standard at library story hours. It is now back with glorious illustrations that breath new life into the tale of a well-intentioned little girl who ignores her mother's cautions about a wolf in the woods, a gentler first-cousin to "Little Red Riding Hood" but without grandma. After tense moments (and lots of

word-play between wolf and child), she escapes, never to disobey her mother again.

### IF YOU GIVE A MOUSE A COOKIE

BY LAURA NUMEROFF; FELICIA BOND, ILLUS.

*PreS.-K 30 pages Harper, 1985*

In a humorous cumulative tale that comes full circle, a little boy offers a mouse a cookie and ends up working his head off for the demanding little creature. Sequels: *If You Give a Moose a Muffin*; *If You Give a Pig a Pancake*; and *If You Take a Mouse to the Movies*.

### LILLY'S PURPLE PLASTIC PURSE (SERIES)

BY KEVIN HENKES

*PreS.-1 30 pages Greenwillow, 1996*

Few writers for children have as firm a grip on the pulse of childhood as does Kevin Henkes. His mice-children experience all the joys and insecurities of being a kid, but he manages to maintain a light touch throughout his stories. In this case, Lilly loves school and her teacher—until the day her antics distract the class and the teacher must temporarily confiscate her precious new plastic purse. Shattered, she's uncertain how to handle this small rebuke and seeks ways to show her hurt. With the help of her family, Lilly overcomes her embarrassment. Lilly also stars in: *Lilly's Big Day*; *Chester's Way*, and *Julius, the Baby of the World*.

### THE LITTLE OLD LADY WHO WAS NOT AFRAID OF ANYTHING

BY LINDA WILLIAMS

*PreS.-1 28 pages Harper, 1988*

Walking through the dark woods toward home, the little old lady is approached by a succession of scary articles of empty clothing—gloves, hat, shoes, trousers, etc. She refuses to allow them to frighten her, until the last one—which sets her running. In the