

Katy Magazine's Guide for the Best Kids' Books

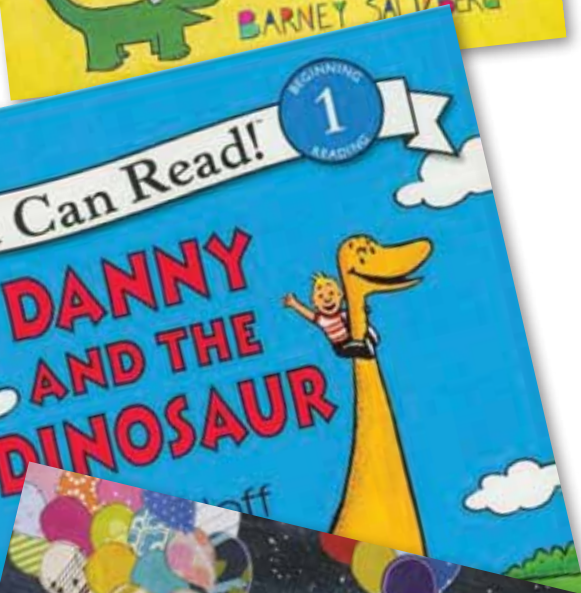
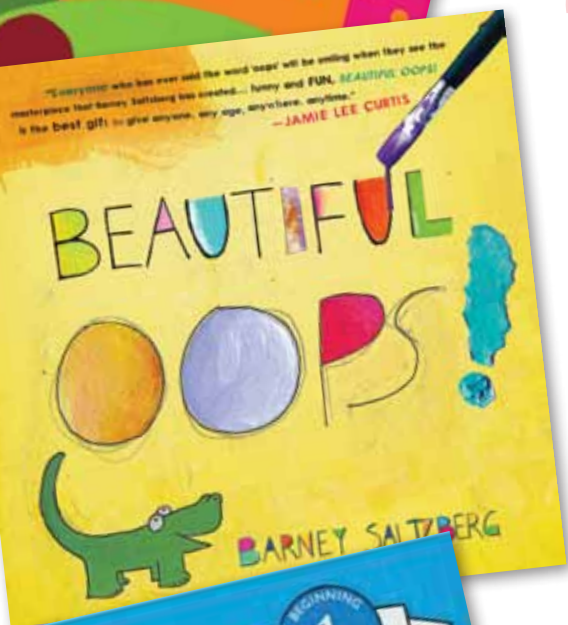
Written by Cherri Northcutt

The benefits of reading to your children from an early age are immeasurable. Research shows that children who are avid readers have improved concentration, make better grades, and have an easier time adjusting to new situations. Apart from that, families who read together have a bonding experience like no other. "Developing a love for literature and reading is the thread that binds one generation to the next," says Richard Deupree, manager of Katy Budget Books. Deupree is passionate about reading. "Reading forces kids to slow down and crawl inside another world and live there for a while," he shares.

With all the distractions and pressures facing children today, it's important for families to make reading a priority. For reluctant readers, Deupree says, "The best thing you can do is introduce them to a book that they will love." With that in mind, *Katy Magazine* has put together a list of the top books for children in every age range, from babies through teenagers. Here you will find a variety of good reads from old favorites to highly acclaimed new selections. So, pick out a good book and get ready for an adventure.

Babies

1. *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* by Bill Martin Jr. and Eric Carle
2. *Chicka Chicka Boom Boom* by Bill Martin Jr. and John Archambault
3. *Goodnight Moon* by Margaret Wise Brown
4. *Guess How Much I Love You* by Sam McBratney
5. *On the Night You Were Born* by Nancy Tillman
6. *Pat the Bunny* by Dorothy Kunhardt
7. *Press Here* by Herve Tullet
8. *The Jesus Storybook Bible* by Sally Lloyd-Jones
9. *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle
10. *Wild Animals (Touch and Feel)* by DK Publishing



Toddlers

1. *If you Give a Mouse a Cookie* by Laura Numeroff
2. *Grandfather Twilight* by Barbara Berger
3. *Harold and the Purple Crayon* by Crockett Johnson
4. *One Naked Baby* by Maggie Smith
5. *Please Bring Balloons* by Lindsay Ward
6. *Beautiful Oops* by Barney Saltzberg
7. *The Book With No Pictures* by B.J. Novak
8. *The Foot Book* by Dr. Seuss
9. *The Day the Crayons Quit* by Drew Daywalt
10. *The Pigeon Needs a Bath* by Mo Willems

Preschoolers

1. *Corduroy* by Don Freeman
2. *Detective LaRue: Letters from the Investigation* by Mark Teague
3. *Dragons Love Tacos* by Adam Rubin
4. *Eloise* by Kay Thompson
5. *Olivia* by Ian Falconer
6. *Snowmen at Night* by Caralyn Buehner
7. *Sleep Book* by Dr. Seuss
8. *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs* by Jon Scieszka
9. *The Velveteen Rabbit* by Margery Williams
10. *Where the Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak

Elementary School Age

1. *Beezus and Ramona* by Beverly Cleary
2. *Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White
3. *Curious George* by Margaret and H.A. Rey
4. *Danny and the Dinosaur* by Syd Hoff
5. *Go, Dog. Go!* by PD Eastman
6. *Ivy and Bean* by Annie Barrows
7. *Nate the Great* by Marjorie Weinman Sharmat
8. *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing* by Judy Blume
9. *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis
10. *The Phantom Tollbooth* by Norton Juster





Junior High Age

1. *The Apothecary* by Maile Meloy
2. *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* by Jeff Kinney
3. *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library* by Chris Grabenstein
4. *Michael Vey: The Prisoner of Cell 25* by Richard Paul Evans
5. *Middle School: The Worst Years of My Life* by James Patterson
6. *Pennyroyal Academy* by M.A. Larson
7. *The One and Only Ivan* by Katherine Applegate
8. *The Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan
9. *The Maze Runner* by James Dashner
10. *The Spiderwick Chronicles* by Holly Black

High School Age

1. *A Little Something Different* by Sandy Hall
2. *All the Truth That's In Me* by Julie Berry
3. *Falling Kingdoms* by Morgan Rhodes
4. *Speak* by Laurie Halse Anderson
5. *The Fault in Our Stars* by John Green
6. *The Lord of the Rings* by J.R.R. Tolkien
7. *The Truth About Forever* by Sarah Dessen
8. *The Wee Free Men* by Terry Pratchett
9. *Unwind* by Neal Shusterman
10. *We Were Liars* by E. Lockhart

Special thanks to Katy Budget Books for participating in this story.

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