

OFF TO SCHOOL

Books to read with young children getting ready to start school



Parish, Herman. [Amelia Bedelia's First Day of School](#)

A literal-minded first grader's first day of school is filled with confusing adventures, but she is still excited to go back to school again tomorrow.

NON-FICTION

J305.23 Lamothe [This Is How We Do It](#)

Follows the daily lives of seven children from around the world, discussing how schools, meals, and play can be different or similar in different places.

J 372 J133i [It's Back to School We Go! First Day Stories From Around the World.](#)

Fictional children from countries such as Kenya, Japan, Kazakhstan, and India talk about what it's like to go to school in their country.

J 372.91 McCarney [The Way to School](#)

Children in some places travel to school by crossing rivers, mountains, and fields of ice but being able to learn, makes it worth it.

J 599.789 R975p [Panda Kindergarten](#)

This is no ordinary kindergarten class! Meet sixteen young giant panda cubs learning skills that will help prepare them to be released into the wild.

J 811 C136k [Kindergarten Kids: Riddles, Rebuses, Wiggles, Giggles and More!](#)

Illustrated poems about a wide variety of activities characteristic of kindergarten.

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Looking for more books? [Search the library catalog for "first day of school"](#)

PICTURE BOOKS

Bean, Jonathan [This is My Home, This is My School](#)

A boy goes through the special rhythms and routines of a homeschooling day.

Berube, Kate. [Mae's First Day of School](#)

Mae feels nervous walking to school until she meets some new friends who show her that they can conquer their fears together.

Biggs, Brian. [Time for School!](#)

Everyone at her new school in Tinyville Town is kind and helping Ellie Emberley on her first day.

Burris, Priscilla. [Hello School!](#)

Children have fun at school experiencing familiar classroom activities for the first time.

Child, Lauren. [I Am Too Absolutely Small for School](#)

Lola is worried about going to school, but her imaginary friend, Loren Sorensen, convinces her that all will be well. *(Also in Spanish)*

Dewdney, Anna. [Llama Llama Misses Mama](#)

Will Llama Llama's mother come back to preschool to pick him up? Yes, after a fun day she does, of course.

Gaiman, Neil. [Chu's First Day of School](#)

On the first day of school, a young panda learns about the special things his animal classmates can do.

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Henkes, Kevin. [Wemberly Worried](#)

A young mouse who worries about everything faces a whole new set of worries when she starts school.

Heos, Bridget. [Fairies First Day of School](#)

A tiny fairy has all the usual experiences on the first day of school with an unusual fairy twist.



Higgins, Ryan T. [We Don't Eat Our Classmates](#)

Penelope, a Tyrannosaurus rex, needs to learn why she should not eat her classmates, no matter how tasty they are.

Kim, Anna. [Danbi Leads the School Parade](#)

Danbi is thrilled to start her new school in America but a bit nervous too. But with a bit of imagination and a new game, she finds a way to make friends.

Kleven, Elisa. [The Apple Doll](#)

Lizzy makes a doll out of an apple to keep her company on the first day of school.

Millman, Isaac. [Moses Goes to School](#)

Moses and his friends enjoy the first day at their school for the deaf and hard-of-hearing.

Rex, Adam. [School's First Day of School](#)

The school building itself shares jitters with the students on the first day of school.

Rose, N. [The Secret Life of Squirrels: Back to School!](#)

As summer comes to an end, Mr. Peanuts helps his friend, Rosie, prepare her classroom and the school for the students' return.

Schofield-Morrison, Connie [I Got the School Spirit](#)

Summer is over and kids are ready to strive and grow in this exuberant celebration of the first day of school.

Silvestro, Annie. [Butterflies on the First Day of School](#)

Rosie has butterflies in her belly the night before the first day of Kindergarten but with each new friend something amazing happens.

Slate, Joseph. [Miss Bindergarten Gets Ready for Kindergarten](#)

Miss Bindergarten and her students get ready for the first day of school in this humorous alphabet book.

Sparrow, Leilani. [My First Day](#)

A little bear experiences all the "firsts," from his first story to his first friend, and when it's time to leave, he can't wait for another day at school!

Yum, Hyewon. [Mom, It's My First Day of Kindergarten](#)

A boy, ready and eager on his first day at "the big kids' school," must calm his very worried mother.

Willems, Mo. [The Pigeon Has to Go to School!](#)

Why does the Pigeon have to go to school? He already knows everything!

Zollars, Jaime. [The Truth about Dragons](#)

Dragons are scary, right? But what happens when you get to know them a little better?



READERS

Kenah, Katharine. [The Best Seat in Kindergarten](#)

On Sam's first day of kindergarten, Ms. Tate, the teacher, takes the class on a nature walk, and everyone shows off what they have found.

Klein, Adria F. [Max Goes on the Bus](#)

Max likes to ride the bus to and from school.
(Also in Spanish)

Membrino, Anna. [Big Shark, Little Shark: Go to School](#)

Best friends Big Shark and Little Shark are opposites. Will they be late on the first day of school?