

Recommended Picture Books and Easy Readers for Third Graders

Picture Books

A Taste of Colored Water by Matt Faulkner

E FAU

LuLu and Jelly are very excited to see the “colored” water they heard about in the city’s water fountain, but are very surprised to learn what “colored” water actually means.

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

E VIO

Alexander knew it was going to be a terrible, horrible, no good, very bad day as soon as he woke up with gum in his hair. This classic book recounts the events of a day where everything goes wrong for Alexander.

Chester’s Way by Kevin Henkes

E HEN

The mouse Lilly is one of the bravest, most flamboyant young females around. She rescues her friends from bullies, teaches them how to do wheelies, and always carries a loaded squirt gun. Everyone should meet her!

George and Martha by James Marshall

E MAR

George and Martha are two hilarious hippo friends who regularly get themselves into sticky situations.

Here Comes the Garbage Barge! By Jonah Winter

E WIN

In the spring of 1987, the town of Islip, New York, with no place for its 3,168 tons of garbage, loads it on a barge that sets out on a 162-day journey along the East Coast, around the Gulf of Mexico, down to Belize, and back again, in search of a place willing to accept and dispose of its very smelly cargo.

Jumanji by Chris Van Allsburg

E VAN

Left on their own for an afternoon, two bored and restless children find more excitement than they bargained for in a mysterious jungle adventure board game.

Mama Provi and the Pot of Rice by Sylvia Rosa-Cassanova

E ROS

Mama Provi and her granddaughter Lucy live in the same tall apartment building -- Mama Provi on the first floor, Lucy on the eighth. When Lucy has the chicken pox and can't come down to visit, Mama Provi decides to make a trip upstairs with a big pot of her tasty *arroz con pollo*. But on her way up the seven flights of stairs, she meets a neighbor on every floor.

Punctuation Takes a Vacation by Robin Pulver

E PUL

When all the punctuation marks in Mr. Wright's class decide to take a vacation, the students discover just how difficult life can be without them.

The Village that Vanished by Ann Grifalconi

E GRI

In southeastern Africa, a young Yao girl and her mother find a way for their fellow villagers to escape approaching slave traders.

Zathura by Chris Van Allsburg

E VAN

Left on their own for an evening, two boisterous brothers find more excitement than they bargained for in a mysterious and mystical space adventure board game.

Easy Readers

Baseball Ballerina by Kathryn Cristaldi

EASY READER CRI

A baseball-loving girl worries that the ballet class her mother forces her to take will ruin her reputation with the other members of her baseball team.

Henry and Mudge by Cynthia Rylant

EASY READER RYL

When Henry's parents agree to let him get a dog, the irresistible puppy Mudge enters their lives. Henry and the increasingly he Mudge have small adventures and come to be best friends. The first in a long, wonderful series.

Iris and Walter by Elissa Haden Guest

EASY READER GUE

In this series, Iris and Walter discover that anything—from adjusting to a new home to facing the first day of school—is easier when you have a best friend to help you.

Minnie and Moo by Denys Caznet

EASY READER CAZ

Minnie and Moo is a series about two cows that go on adventures. They are best friends and they live on a farm together.

Nate the Great by Marjorie Weinman Sharmat

EASY READER SHA

With help from his friends, his trusty dog Sludge and a few pancake pick-me-ups along the way, Nate the Great uses smarts and smiles to solve the most baffling mysteries that could ever befall a kid in elementary school.

The Outside Dog by Charlotte Pomerantz

EASY READER POM

A charming beginning reader about a Puerto Rican girl who is determined to have a dog, despite her grandfather's objections.