

**H AISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2017**  
**PreSchool, PreKindergarten, Kindergarten**

*Any available unabridged edition of a title is acceptable.*

- Allen, Kathryn Madeline. ***A Kiss Means I Love You***. Whitman, 2012. The meanings of different actions, expressions, words, and sounds are explored through rhyming text and engaging photographs of real children.
- Antony, Steve. ***Please, Mr. Panda***. Scholastic, 2014. Mr. Panda wants to share his doughnuts with the other animals, but only if they remember to say “please” and “thank you.”
- Arnold, Marsha Diane. ***Lost. Found***. Roaring Brook, 2015. When all the animals lay claim to a lost scarf at once, calamity ensues that can only be fixed by a bear, a little patience, and friendship, in this nearly wordless book.
- Arnosky, Jim. ***Babies in the Bayou***. Puffin, 2007. Baby animals that live in the bayou are described and information about how their mothers take care of them is given.
- Barnett, Mac. ***Sam & Dave Dig a Hole***. Candlewick, 2014. Perseverance prevails as Sam and Dave dig a hole in search of something spectacular.
- Barrow, David. ***Have You Seen Elephant?*** Gecko, 2016. Subtle humor and irresistible artwork make this game of hide-and-seek with an elephant big fun.
- Bass, Jennifer Vogel. ***Edible Colors***. Roaring Brook, 2014. The many colors found in different fruits and vegetables are explored through simple text and photographs.
- Beaumont, Karen. ***I Like Myself!*** Harcourt, 2004. In rhyming text, a little girl expresses confidence and joy in her uniqueness, no matter her outward appearance.
- Blatt, Jane. ***Books Always Everywhere***. Random House, 2013. This book celebrates the many ways children interact with books.
- Boldt, Mike. ***A Tiger Tale: (or what happened to Anya on her first day of school)***. Simon & Schuster, 2016. Anya wakes up ready to prepare for the first day of school only to discover she has grown a tiger tail overnight!
- Brown, Lisa. ***The Airport Book***. Roaring Brook, 2016. A family makes its way through the complexities of a modern-day airport, from checking bags to security clearance and the wait at the gate to board.
- Butterworth, Chris. ***How Did That Get in My Lunchbox?: The Story of Food***. Candlewick, 2011. Some of the steps involved in producing common foods are described, along with health tips and a peek at basic food groups.
- Child, Lauren. ***The New Small Person***. Candlewick, 2015. In the familiar tale of a less-than-welcome sibling, the author gets to the heart of a child’s evolving emotions about becoming a big brother or sister.
- Cousins, Lucy. ***Maisy Plays Soccer***. Candlewick, 2014. Maisy and her friends are excited to be playing soccer, but whatever the score, everyone is still the best of friends in the end.
- Cox, Judy. ***Don’t Be Silly, Mrs. Millie!*** Marshall Cavendish, 2005. A kindergarten teacher entertains her students and makes them laugh when she mixes up words by saying “penguin” instead of “pencil” and “goats” instead of “coats.”

**H AISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2017**  
**PreSchool, PreKindergarten, Kindergarten**

- Curato, Mike. ***Little Elliot, Big City***. Holt, 2014. Elliot the little elephant has a hard time with a lot of things in the city he loves until he meets Mouse, who is even smaller – and hungrier.
- Curtis, Jamie Lee. ***Today I Feel Silly & Other Moods That Make My Day***. Joanna Cotler, 1998. A child’s ever-changing emotions range from silliness to anger to excitement, coloring and changing each day.
- Dahl, Michael. ***Goodnight Football***. Capstone, 2015. With rhyming text and vibrant illustrations, this book, told through a child’s eyes, is a celebration of football, friendship, and family.
- Davis, Aubrey. ***The Enormous Potato***. Kids Can Press, 1997. A farmer grows an enormous potato, and it’s enough to feed the whole town!
- Denos, Julia. ***Swatch: The Girl Who Loved Color***. Balzer + Bray, 2016. Swatch, the color tamer, discovers that the bright, bold colors that she loves do not wish to be contained.
- Dewdney, Anna. ***Llama Llama Home with Mama***. Viking, 2011. Llama Llama’s mother takes good care of him when he has to stay home from school because he is sick, so when Mama Llama begins to feel sick, too, Llama Llama knows how to take care of her.
- Dyckman, Ame. ***Wolfie the Bunny***. Little, Brown, 2015. The Bunny family has adopted a wolf son, and daughter Dot is the only one who realizes Wolfie can — and might — eat them all up!
- Fischer, Scott M. ***Jump!*** Simon & Schuster, 2010. From bugs and frogs to alligators and whales, frightened animals always move out of the way of a larger opponent.
- Fleming, Denise. ***In the Tall, Tall Grass***. Holt, 1991. Rhymed text presents a toddler’s view of creatures found in the grass, such as bees, ants, and moles.
- Fox, Mem. ***Where Is the Green Sheep?*** Harcourt, 2004. This is a story about many different sheep, and one that seems to be missing.
- Frazee, Marla. ***The Farmer and the Clown***. Beach Lane Books, 2014. In this wordless picture book, a farmer rescues a baby clown who has bounced off the circus train and soon reunites him with his clown family.
- French, Vivian. ***Growing Frogs***. Candlewick, 2000. A mother and child watch the fascinating development of tadpoles as they grow into frogs.
- Freymann, Saxton. ***How Are You Peeling? Foods with Moods***. Scholastic, 2004. Fruits and vegetables of every shape are used to portray different emotions.
- Frost, Helen. ***Step Gently Out***. Candlewick, 2012. The many wonders of nature are examined through close-up photography and lyrical text.
- Gall, Chris. ***Dog vs. Cat***. Little, Brown, 2014. A dog and a cat, newly adopted and forced to share a room, do not get along until a howling, smelly, terrifying newcomer unites them in a common cause.
- Gillingham, Sara. ***How to Grow a Friend***. Random House, 2015. Making a friend takes patience, care, and room to bloom – just like growing a flower.
- Gleeson, Libby. ***Clancy & Millie and the Very Fine House***. Little Hare, 2009. Clancy moved and was not happy in his new home until he met Millie, and together they used their imagination and the empty moving boxes to build a special dwelling.

**HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2017**  
**PreSchool, PreKindergarten, Kindergarten**

- Gliori, Debi. ***Dragon's Extraordinary Egg***. Bloomsbury, 2014. A dragon finds an abandoned egg and lovingly raises the hatchling as her own. Although Little One is very different from the other baby dragons, when disaster strikes, it is the small, feathered hatchling that saves the day.
- Goetz, Steve. ***Old MacDonald Had a Truck***. Chronicle Books, 2016. This update of the familiar song features farm vehicles such as an excavator, a dump truck, and a bulldozer.
- Gravett, Emily. ***Bear & Hare, Where's Bear?*** Simon & Schuster, 2016. Friends Bear and Hare play a game of hide and seek, counting from one to ten in each round.
- Hacohen, Dean. ***Tuck Me In!*** Candlewick, 2010. The reader helps tuck in baby animals at bedtime using pages with flaps to serve as blankets.
- Hall, Zoe. ***The Apple Pie Tree***. Blue Sky Press, 1996. An apple tree grows leaves and flowers, then produces fruit while robins make nests in its branches, lay eggs, and raise a family. Included is a recipe for apple pie.
- Halpern, Shari. ***Dinosaur Parade***. Holt, 2014. Colorful illustrations and simple, rhyming text present a wide variety of dinosaurs for very young readers.
- Harper, Charise Mericle. ***Go! Go! Go! Stop!*** Alfred A. Knopf, 2014. Little Green only knows one word, "Go!," which is the perfect thing to get the construction site moving, but how will they stop?
- Heder, Thyra. ***Fraidyzoos***. Abrams Books, 2013. Facing one's fears has never been such fun as Little T's family helps her get ready for a trip to the zoo.
- Henkes, Kevin. ***Waiting***. Greenwillow, 2015. This beautifully illustrated picture book finds the reader happily waiting with owl, puppy, bear, bunny and pig for marvelous things to happen.
- Higgins, Melissa. ***We All Look Different***. Capstone, 2012. Simple text and full-color photos celebrate differences in appearance.
- Higgins, Ryan T. ***Hotel Bruce***. Disney-Hyperion, 2016. Grumpy Bruce the bear loses his temper when he migrates home in the spring only to discover that mice have converted his den into a hotel.
- Idle, Molly. ***Flora and the Flamingo***. Chronicle Books, 2013. In this wordless book with interactive flaps, a friendship develops between a girl named Flora and a graceful flamingo as they learn to dance together.
- Isadora, Rachel. ***I Hear a Pickle: (and Smell, See, Touch, and Taste It Too!)***. Nancy Paulsen, 2016. Hearing, smelling, seeing, touching, tasting – our five senses allow us to experience the world in so many ways!
- Jackson, Richard. ***In Plain Sight***. Roaring Brook, 2016. A grandfather asks his helpful granddaughter to find items he has "lost" throughout the day in this unique game of seek and find.
- Jenkins, Emily. ***Toys Meet Snow: Being the Wintertime Adventures of a Curious Stuffed Buffalo, a Sensitive Plush Stingray, and a Book-Loving Rubber Ball*** Schwartz & Wade, 2015. Together Lumphy, StingRay, and Plastic build a snowman, make snow angels, and then head back inside their cozy house to wait for the return of the Little Girl.

**H AISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2017**  
**PreSchool, PreKindergarten, Kindergarten**

- Karas, G. Brian. ***On Earth***. Putnam's, 2005. Poetic text and gorgeous illustrations illuminate our earth and its cycles, helping to make the concepts of rotation and revolution understandable to the youngest readers.
- Katz, Susan. ***Oh Theodore!: Guinea Pig Poems***. Clarion, 2007. This collection of poems illustrates the fun and responsibility of having a pet guinea pig.
- Keane, Claire. ***Little Big Girl***. Dial Books, 2016. Matisse is a little girl in a big world until her baby brother is born and she discovers she is not so little, after all.
- Keller, Laurie. ***We Are Growing!*** Hyperion, 2016. Walt and his friends are growing fast and everyone is the something-est, except Walt, until he discovers something special of his own. *Theodor Seuss Geisel Award 2017*.
- Klostermann, Penny Parker. ***There Was an Old Dragon Who Swallowed a Knight***. Random House, 2015. Based on the folk song "There was an old lady who swallowed a fly," this variation finds a greedy, hungry dragon learning the lesson of moderation.
- Lombardi, Kristine A. ***The Grumpy Pets***. Abrams Books, 2016. When grumpy Billy's mother takes him to the animal shelter to cheer him up, he doesn't like the happy pets, but then he finds the grumpy pets...
- Long, Loren. ***Little Tree***. Philomel, 2015. Little Tree doesn't understand the wisdom of letting go of her autumn leaves until she sees the other trees thrive because of this seasonal experience.
- Manley, Curtis. ***The Summer Nick Taught His Cats to Read***. Simon & Schuster, 2016. The sweet story of a boy who wants to teach his cats to read, but in the process he teaches himself to read.
- Mantchev, Lisa. ***Strictly No Elephants***. Simon & Schuster/Paula Wiseman, 2015. A boy is excluded from joining his friends' pet club because of his unusual pet.
- Marley, Cedella. ***One Love***. Chronicle Books, 2011. Adapted from a Bob Marley song this beautifully illustrated book offers a heartwarming testament to what can be achieved if we all have love in our hearts.
- Martin, Bill. ***Listen to Our World***. Simon & Schuster, 2016. Youngsters awaken in the morning with the belief that they are the greatest little ones in the world, whether they are children in their mothers' arms, eagles soaring above mountains or other animals in their domains.
- Matheson, Christie. ***Tap the Magic Tree***. Greenwillow, 2013. A lonely apple tree needs help to change with the seasons and the reader is interactively invited to participate.
- Matthews, Tina. ***Out of the Egg***. Houghton Mifflin, 2007. In this new version of the familiar story of the Little Red Hen, the daughter of the Little Red Hen has her own ideas about how to get along.
- McPhail, David. ***The Teddy Bear***. Holt, 2002. A teddy bear, lost by the little boy who loves him, still feels loved after he is rescued by a homeless man.
- Meisel, Paul. ***See Me Run***. Holiday House, 2011. A day at the dog park finds canine friends running and digging up all kinds of fun.

**HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2017**  
**PreSchool, PreKindergarten, Kindergarten**

- Messner, Kate. ***Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt***. Chronicle Books, 2015. Above ground there is a world full of green, while down in the dirt there is a busy world of earthworms digging, snakes hunting, and all the other animals that make a garden their home.
- Miller, Pat Zietlow. ***Sophie's Squash***. Schwartz & Wade, 2013. Although Sophie's mother had always hoped Sophie would like vegetables, Sophie's new friend Bernice is not exactly what her mother had in mind.
- Moser, Lisa. ***Stories from Bug Garden***. Candlewick, 2016. What appears to be an abandoned garden is actually home to a variety of insects who have dreams of their own.
- Murguia, Bethanie Deeney. ***Snippet the Early Riser***. Alfred A. Knopf, 2013. A little snail who likes to get up early in the morning has trouble waking up his sleepy family.
- Murphy, Mary. ***Say Hello Like This!*** Candlewick, 2014. A cast of colorful animals instruct young readers on how to say hello in their special ways – dogs say “bow-wow,” cats say “meow,” and silly donkeys say “hee-haw.”
- Nakagawa, Chihiro. ***Who Made This Cake?*** Front Street, 2008. What happens if the people who prepare your next birthday cake are tiny and they build cakes the way we construct buildings?
- Nelson, Kadir. ***If You Plant a Seed***. Balzer + Bray, 2015. While planting seeds in their garden, two animals learn the value of kindness.
- Novak, B. J. ***The Book with No Pictures***. Dial Books, 2014. In this book with no pictures, the reader has to say every silly word, no matter how preposterous they are!
- O'Brien, Anne Sibley. ***I'm New Here***. Charlesbridge, 2015. Three children from other countries struggle to adjust to their new home and school in the United States.
- Offill, Jenny. ***Sparky!*** Schwartz & Wade, 2014. When our narrator orders a sloth through the mail, the creature that arrives isn't good at tricks...or much of anything, but there is something about Sparky that is irresistible. *Charlotte Zolotow Award*.
- Parr, Todd. ***The I'm Not Scared Book***. Little, Brown, 2011. This story relates some of the things that can frighten children and shows how these fears may be overcome.
- Payne, Lauren Murphy. ***We Can Get Along: A Child's Book of Choices***. Free Spirit, 2015. Using affirming language and full-color illustrations, this book teaches tolerance, kindness, and conflict resolution to young children.
- Pinkney, Jerry. ***The Lion and the Mouse***. Little, Brown, 2009. In this wordless retelling of an Aesop fable, an adventuresome mouse proves that even small creatures are capable of great deeds when he rescues the King of the Jungle. *Caldecott Medal 2010*.
- Rathmann, Peggy. ***Officer Buckle and Gloria***. Putnam's, 1995. The children at Napville Elementary School always ignore Officer Buckle's safety tips, until a police dog named Gloria accompanies him when he gives his speeches. *Caldecott Medal 1996*.

**H AISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2017**  
**PreSchool, PreKindergarten, Kindergarten**

- Rosenthal, Amy Krouse. ***Duck! Rabbit!*** Chronicle Books, 2009. Two unseen characters argue about whether the creature they are looking at is a rabbit or a duck.
- Saltzberg, Barney. ***Beautiful Oops!*** Workman, 2010. Using lift-the-flap pages, torn, crinkled, and smudged bits of paper are transformed into creative artwork of various shapes and images.
- Sauer, Tammi. ***Mary Had a Little Glam.*** Sterling, 2016. Mary brings her heightened sense of style to school one day, and recess is never quite the same.
- Savage, Stephen. ***Supertruck.*** Roaring Brook, 2015. When the city is hit by a colossal snowstorm, a mysterious superhero saves the day and then disappears once his job is done.
- Schwartz, Amy. ***100 Things That Make Me Happy.*** Abrams Books, 2014. Listing a wide variety of items, from red socks to peekaboo, this celebration of everyday things can make anyone happy!
- Seeger, Laura Vaccaro. ***First the Egg.*** Roaring Brook, 2007. Familiar transformations in nature are explored.
- Shannon, George. ***One Family.*** Frances Foster, 2015. A family can be many things in this story that introduces numbered groups from one to ten.
- Shea, Susan. ***Do You Know Which Ones Will Grow?*** Blue Apple Books, 2011. Exploring the simple notion of living versus non-living, the author presents a rhyming inquiry into which objects grow and which do not.
- Shingu, Susumu. ***Traveling Butterflies.*** Owlkids Books, 2015. This poetic look at a monarch butterfly's life cycle shows its progression from a tiny egg through growth, metamorphosis, and preparation for its journey south.
- Stead, Phillip. ***Bear Has a Story to Tell.*** Roaring Brook, 2012. Bear wants to tell his animal friends a story before they begin their long winter nap, but the story has to wait until spring when everyone will share in the process.
- Tafari, Nancy. ***What the Sun Sees ; What the Moon Sees.*** Greenwillow, 1997. Employing a "flip-book" technique, the author uses pastel artwork to show the same scenes from the perspective of day and night.
- Tardif, Benoit. ***Sport-O-Rama.*** Kids Can Press, 2015. This informational picture book provides an introduction to 23 sports using simple illustrations and humorous touches. (translated from the French original)
- Teague, Mark. ***The Sky Is Falling!*** Orchard Books, 2015. In this humorous version of the traditional tale, Chicken Little panics when an acorn falls on her head and sets off a dance frenzy among the other chickens.
- Tupera, Tupera. ***Polar Bear's Underwear.*** Chronicle Books, 2015. Polar Bear has lost his underwear and his friend, Mouse, offers to help him find it.
- Van Patter, Bruce. ***Farley Found It!*** Boyds Mills, 2006. When Farley the sheep decides that a cozy doghouse is a better place to sleep than a scary meadow at night, Edna the dog must move her house day after day, hoping that Farley will not find it again.

**H AISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2017**  
**PreSchool, PreKindergarten, Kindergarten**

- Vere, Ed. **Max the Brave**. Sourcebooks Jabberwocky, 2015. Max the brave kitten knows brave kittens are supposed to chase mice, but he has never seen a mouse so he doesn't know what he is supposed to chase.
- Walsh, Melanie. **My Nose, Your Nose**. Houghton Mifflin, 2002. Agnes and Kit compare various parts of their bodies with one another to see how they are both similar and different.
- Ward, Jennifer. **The Busy Tree**. Marshall Cavendish, 2009. Many different types of wild animals live in and around a tree that is their home, from chipmunks and woodpeckers to ants and spiders.
- Wheeler, Lisa. **Mammoths on the Move**. Harcourt, 2006. Join a pack of woolly mammoths as they trekked south for the winter, covering what they ate, how they coped with the cold along the way, and how they protected their young from predators.
- Whitehead, Jenny. **You're a Crab!: A Moody Day Book**. Holt, 2015. An underwater world of friendly creatures who have changing moods show that it's okay to have days when you're feeling under the weather and crabby!
- Willems, Mo. **That Is Not a Good Idea**. Balzer + Bray, 2013. When a plump mama goose is invited to dinner by a hungry fox, her babies try to warn her that this is a very bad idea!
- Wood, Audrey. **The Full Moon at the Napping House**. Houghton Mifflin, 2015. In this cumulative tale, a chirping cricket calms a worried mouse, a prowling cat, and other restless creatures, helping them to finally fall asleep.
- Yaccarino, Dan. **I Am a Story**. Harper, 2016. Using simple text and delightful illustrations, this powerful picture book celebrates the art of storytelling from the oral tradition of the past to the present.
- Yoon, Salina. **Be a Friend**. Bloomsbury, 2016. Dennis has a talent as a mime which isn't always understood by his peers, but a new friend accepts and celebrates Dennis in this heartwarming tale of friendship.

---

Compiled by:

Kathy Ellwood (chair), *River Oaks Baptist School*  
Adonica Aston, *River Oaks Baptist School*  
Jennifer Jaeger, *St. Martin's Episcopal Preschool*  
Diane King, *Westbury Christian School*  
Layne Mason, *The Center for Hearing and Speech*  
Kristin Uptmor, *St. Mark's Episcopal School*  
Christelle Zaharatos, *The Awty School*

Copyright © 2017 Houston Area Independent Schools Library Network