4 TO 5 YEAR OLDS

Just a little longer until school will be starting! Here are some ideas for what these kiddos really seem to enjoy in books:

**ALPHABET**
Not only will the child learn their ABC's, but these books help her to identify objects and specifically objects that start with that letter.

**HUMOR**
These books have great illustrations of wacky situations. A child can easily look through these books and pick out the things "wrong" and tell you why, "Socks go on feet- not hands!" With these books whether they are looked at just for the pictures or read aloud-conversations are encouraged... "Do you think dinosaurs could really wear underwear?"

**ANIMALS**
A combination of fiction and non-fiction is best. Children love animals and like seeing them in both settings. By having both available a child can compare how the "real" monkey lives to Curious George.

**RECURRING CHARACTERS**
The familiarity of these characters is comforting to a child. He knows Max and Ruby. He may not know the story, but he knows who they are and wants to know what will happen this time. "Max is going to make a mess!"

**CONCEPTS**
Shapes, Colors, Counting: These concepts are becoming familiar and the child is becoming confident with them. If she wants she can "read" these independently, which empowers her. Also, the practice gained from these books will carry over to other books (I see three ducks- one is hiding in the grass!) and activities (sorting).

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**AUTHORS TO TRY**

David Adler
Mac Barnett
Cece Bell
Jan Brett
Margie Palatini
Antoinette Portis
Stephen Savage
Corey Rosen Schwartz
Bob Shea
Lane Smith
Jan Thomas
Mo Willems

**Adler, David**
Get a Hit, Mo!
When the bases are loaded, perhaps Mo will finally hit a home run.

**Alexander, Kwame**
Surf’s Up
Frog friends Bro and Dude discuss the best way to spend the day at the beach.

**Beaton, Kate**
The Princess and the Pony
Princess Pinecone learns to love the pony she receives for her birthday.

**Fan, Terry & Eric**
Night Gardner
A town is transformed when an elderly gardener creates various topiary artwork.

**Gerstein, Mordicai**
The Night World
Sylvie the cat and her boy go out at night and explore.

**Isadora, Rachel**
I Hear a Pickle (and Smell, See, Touch, and Taste It, Too!)
A group of children describe many things in their world using their senses in this early nonfiction title.

**Mantchev, Lisa**
Strictly No Elephants
Due to his unusual pet, a boy is not permitted to join a club.

**Palatini, Margie**
Under a Pig Tree
The author has written a concise, practical history of figs. Due to a typo the publisher thinks the book is about pigs.

**Portis, Antoinette**
Wait
A boy and his mother walk through the city. The mother is in a hurry, while the child is drawn to all the things he sees along the way. In the end, they both find something to stop for.

**Stead, Philip C.**
Lenny & Lucy
Peter realizes his imaginary friend Lenny, could also use a friend.

**Sullivan, Mary**
Treat
A humorous tale, about a treat-obsessed dog.

**Schwartz, Corey Rosen**
Hensel & Gretel Ninja Chicks
Sisters must rescue their parents from a crafty fox in a cornbread cottage.
Tarpley, Todd
*Beep! Beep! Go to Sleep!*
A young boy tries to put three robots to bed.

Willems, Mo
*The Thank You Book*
The final book in the Piggie and Elephant series.

*Don’t forget to come to our story times for preschoolers!*