

# Singing to Get Every Child Ready to Read

Books with Rhyme and Poetry



***Animal Trunk: Silly Poems to Read Aloud* written by Charles Ghigna; illustrated by Gabriel. H. N. Abrams, 1999.**  
Simple poems about the animal kingdom are enhanced by beautiful illustrations by Belgian artist Gabriel.

***Be Glad Your Nose Is on Your Face and Other Poems* written by Jack Prelutsky; illustrated by Brandon Dorman. Greenwillow Books, 2008.**  
This analogy of U.S. Children's Poet Laureate Jack Prelutsky's poems includes fifteen new poems paired with beautiful illustrations that add an additional layer to the other crafty, witty poems.

***Chicken Soup with Rice* written and illustrated by Maurice Sendak. HarperCollins, 1991.**  
A boy expresses his love for eating chicken soup with rice throughout the year with a poem for each month.

***Down by the Station* written and illustrated by Will Hillenbrand. Harcourt, 1999.**  
Beautiful illustrations accompany this familiar song about a group of baby animals on their way to the zoo. Music on the last page encourages children to sing-along and participate.

***Green Eggs and Ham* written and illustrated by Dr. Seuss. Random House, 1988.**  
The classic story follows Sam I Am as he tries to convince a young friend that green eggs and ham are great and should be eaten everywhere.

***How Do You Wokka-Wokka?* written by Elizabeth Bluemle. Candlewick Press, 2009.**  
Jazzy rhythms, silly rhymes, and bright illustrations accompany this zany tale of a group of multiethnic children who "wokka-wokka, shimmy-shake, and shocka-shocka" ending in a fun celebration with their neighbors.

***Magic Hat* written by Mem Fox; illustrated by Tricia Tusa. Harcourt, 2002.**  
A magical hat, leaving a trail of sparkles and glitter, turns the townspeople into fun-loving animals, and readers are drawn into the mystery of what animal the next person will turn into.

***Miss Polly Has a Dolly* written by Pamela Duncan Edwards; illustrated by Elicia Castaldi. Putnam, 2003.**  
Children will enjoy reading along to this expanded version of the popular street rhyming chant (Miss Polly has a dolly who is sick, sick, sick).

***Rhyming Dust Bunnies* written and illustrated by Jan Thomas. Beach Lane Books, 2009.**  
A group of rhyming dust bunnies encounter resistance from a fourth dust bunny, only to learn that he is trying to warn them of impending danger from the broom and vacuum cleaner.

***Sheep in a Jeep* written by Nancy E. Shaw; illustrated by Margot Apple. Houghton Mifflin, 1986.**  
A group of five sheep get into all sorts of shenanigans in this fun rhyming misadventure.

***Such a Silly Baby!* written by Richard and Steffanie Lorig; illustrated by Amanda Shepherd. Chronicle Books, 2007.**  
Fun rhyming book about a mother who can't keep up with her bustling baby. The baby gets switched with a chimpanzee but ends up having a great time at the zoo.

***Sylvia Long's Mother Goose* written and illustrated by Sylvia Long. Chronicle Books, 1999.**  
A beautifully illustrated, unique, and imaginative take on the familiar Mother Goose nursery rhymes.

***Toes Have Wiggles, Kids Have Giggles* written by Harriet Ziefert; illustrated by Rebecca Doughty. Putnam, 2002.**  
Whimsical and fun book that uses great illustrations to provide a different look at everyday objects and experiences.

***Where the Sidewalk Ends* written and illustrated by Shel Silverstein. HarperCollins, 1974.**  
Classic collection of the author/illustrator's light verse accompanied by humorous drawings.

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