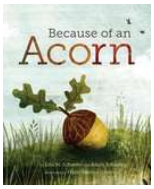
READ strong ALL YEAR LONG

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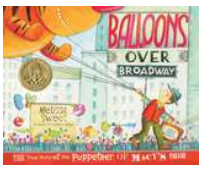
November 2026 Children's Museum Houston Reading List



Because of an Acorn by Lola M. Schaefer & Adam Schaefer (2016) **Ages: 2-4 years old**
Because of an acorn, a tree grows, a bird nests, a seed becomes a flower. Enchanting die cuts illustrate the vital connections between the layers of an ecosystem in this magical book. Wander down the forest path to learn how every tree, flower, plant, and animal connect to one another in spiraling circles of life. An acorn is just the beginning.

The Humble Pie by Jory John (2025) **Ages: 5-8 years old**
The Humble Pie likes to give others the spotlight. *Aw, shucks!* - they deserve it! But when he's paired with his best friend, Jake the Cake, for a school project, he soon realizes that staying in the shadows isn't always as sweet as pie. Readers of all ages will laugh along as their new pie pal discovers that letting your voice be heard always takes the cake!

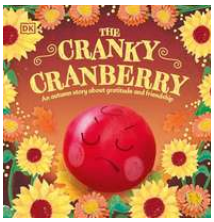




Balloons Over Broadway by Melissa Sweet (2011) **Ages: 5-8 years old**
Meet the master puppeteer who invented the first balloons for the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. Melissa Sweet brings to life the inspirational story of the puppeteer who invented the giant balloons floating in the sky during the annual parade celebrating Thanksgiving.

The Crayons Give Thanks by Drew Daywalt (2024) **Ages: 3-7 years old**
Blue is thankful for blueberries. Peach is thankful for bath time. The Crayons are thankful for so many things—from blueberries to night skies to life jackets to their parents and the luck that brought them all together. This humorous celebration shows that there are so many things to be thankful for, everywhere we look!





The Cranky Cranberry by Clare Wilson (2015) **Ages: 0-3 years old**
Fed up with the same old games and traditions, Christy decides to ditch the festivities and embark on a round-the-farm adventure. From a bumpy tractor ride to a cozy rabbit burrow, nothing seems to make her happy. Along the way, she discovers that new experiences are not always what they seem and that learning to be thankful for what we already have leads to the best fun of all!

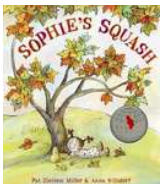
Sweep by Louise Greig (2018) **Ages: 4-8 years old**
Ed's bad mood begins as something really small, hardly a thing at all. But before long it grows, gathers pace, and spreads through the whole town. Can Ed sweep his troubles away?





A Pinecone! by Helen Yoon (2024) **Ages: 3-7 years old**
Daddy is a bit distracted on their autumn walk, while his curious child only has eyes for one of nature's small wonders: a pinecone! And look, another pinecone! And another! In fact, she could gather an entire collection—an entire extended family—of pinecones if she wanted to (and she wants to!). But what then?

Sophie's Squash by Pat Zietlow Miller (2013) **Ages: 3-6 years old**
On a trip to the farmers' market with her parents, Sophie chooses a squash, but instead of letting her mom cook it, she names it Bernice. From then on, Sophie brings Bernice everywhere, despite her parents' gentle warnings that Bernice will begin to rot. As winter nears, Sophie does start to notice changes.... What's a girl to do when the squash she loves is in trouble?





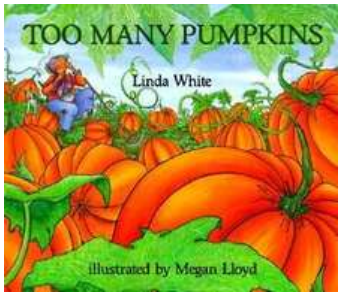
Two-List Thanksgiving by Christine Whan (2025) **Ages: 4-8 years old**
What does Thanksgiving dinner look like when both sides of the family come together? When it's time to shop for ingredients, a girl makes two lists–one for the local market and one for the Korean market! Carrots for japchae and turkey stuffing. Whipped cream for the pumpkin pie. Shrimp for pajeon, short ribs for galbi, and cinnamon for the yams. And don't forget the kimchi! Thanksgiving is going to be delicious! Thanksgiving Day is full of food and family, football and conversation, and of course, giving thanks. By the end of the meal, she has a newfound love for her family's two distinct cultures.

Sources: www.gooodreads.com and www.amazon.com for pictures and book synopsis.



I Am Stuck by Julia Mills (2023) **Ages: 3-8 years old**
"Stuck?" asks Duck. Yep, Turtle is flipped over on his shell and can't seem to get un-stuck. Duck suggests wiggling his feet, Kangaroo wants him to wag his tail, and Armadillo says rolling into a ball always does the trick. But Turtle is STILL. STUCK. Is there anyone who can help?

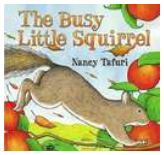
Too Many Pumpkins by Linda White (1993) **Ages: 4-7 years old**
Rebecca Estelle has hated pumpkins ever since she was a girl when pumpkins were often the only food her family had. When an enormous pumpkin falls off a truck and smashes in her yard, she shovels dirt over the pieces and forgets about them. But those slimy pumpkin smithereens sprout up in autumn, and Rebecca Estelle finds a sea of pumpkins in her garden. A heartwarming classic for more than twenty years, this story shows what happens when one thrifty gardener figures out how to make other people happy with the squash she can't stomach.





Who Goes There? by Karma Wilson (2013) **Ages: 3-6 years old**
Lewis Mouse is preparing his nest for winter. It is cozy and it is warm, and yet something is missing. All of a sudden - SCRITCH, SCRATCH, TAP, TAP, TAP! Lewis hears the scariest noises! Who can be making those sounds? He uses his bravest voice to shout, "WHO GOES THERE?" and scare off whoever it is. But could it be that he has nothing to be afraid of? Perhaps whoever is making the noise might make Lewis's home even cozier!

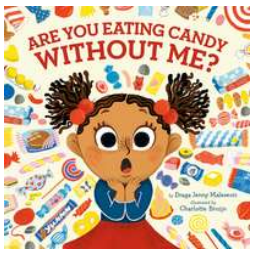
The Busy Little Squirrel by Nancy Tafuri (2007) **Ages: 1-3 years old**
EThe leaves have started to fall. The air is cold. Squirrel needs to get ready for winter. He cannot nibble with the mice. He does not have time to hop with the frogs or run with the dogs. But there is one thing he can do!





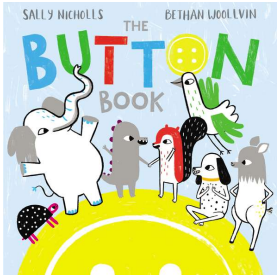
Circle by Mac Burnett (2019) **Ages: 2-6 years old**
This book is about Circle. This book is also about Circle's friends, Triangle and Square. Also it is about a rule that Circle makes, and how she has to rescue Triangle when he breaks that rule.

Are You Eating Candy Without Me? by Draga Jenny Malesevic (2020) **Ages: 3-6 years old**
Four different children from three different families ponder what the adults in their lives do during the day. Are they jumping on trampolines? Are they eating cake and ice cream while riding birthday ponies? Are they eating candy with other adults? After a series of hilariously illustrated and wildly imaginative scenarios, readers learn an important lesson: The adults who love them think about them constantly and are most definitely, certainly, ABSOLUTELY... not eating candy without them. Or are they?



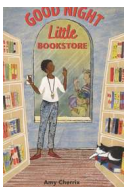


Where's My Teddy? by Peter H. Reyolds (2017) **Ages: 2-4 years old**
Eddy's lost his teddy, Freddy, so he goes off into the woods in search of the missing bear. The dark, horrible woods hold a gigantic surprise for Eddy, who discovers his teddy bear has grown much too big to cuddle. Could it be a case of mistaken identity?



The Button Book by Sally Nicholls (2019) **Ages: 4-7 years old**
Here's a button. I wonder what happens when you press it? From a singing button to a tickle button, from a rude sound button to a mysterious white button, there's only one way to find out what they do... A remarkable adventure powered purely by imagination, where the sounds, songs and play are completely up to you and whoever you're sharing this wonderful book with. This picture book will take you on a magical journey of colour, imagination, and play with a wind-down bedtime ending (unless you're asked to read it again).

Good Night, Little Bookstore by Amy Cherrix (2022) **Ages: 2-5 years old**
Join the Little Bookstore's friendly staff as they draw the curtain on another busy day of browsing and matchmaking. Choose a bedtime story, say your good nights, and pet the shop's feline mascot on your way out. Snuggle up to a loved one for a read-aloud, then drift off to sweet dreams of adventure and enchantment to come.





Swirl by Swirl by Joyce Sidman (2011) **Ages: 2-4 years old**
What makes the tiny snail shell so beautiful? Why does that shape occur in nature over and over again—in rushing rivers, in a flower bud, even inside your ear?

Sources: www.gooodreads.com and www.amazon.com for pictures and book synopsis.