Book Recommendations

If you know a kid who loves trains, this is the book for them! Allenby includes photographs of a variety of trains. The rhyming prose also highlights the onomatopoeia of trains and related noise-making features such as brakes, engines, and crossing signals. Hop on board and sing along.

While it may be a board book, this title is perfect as a guessing game for preschool aged kids! Crow showcases amazing close-ups of different animals’ eyes. Kids can then guess which animal it is and discover the answer on the next page. This series also includes Feet, Wings, Scales, Beaks, Fangs, and Tracks.

If your little one loves flowers, this is the book for you! Simple rhymes convey a surprising amount of scientific information about springtime blooms, as well as fantastic vocabulary words. The back matter (additional information at the end) adds to the reading experience for children and adults alike.

Tarpley’s poetic text is matched by incredible costumes photographed by the Bethencourts, resulting in a tribute to self-love and confidence. Celebrate the limitless characteristics and wide ranging emotions of your child through this unique and beautiful book.

Hands can do many things! Say hello, clap, mix, stir, tie, and even wave goodbye. This is a great read-aloud to a group of kids to get everyone moving, whatever their ability level is.

This non-fiction picture book features stunning photographs. Younger preschoolers will enjoy the short, simple text in large font, but you can also read the additional informational text for more curious or patient readers! Either way, this book gets across a lot of interesting content, including fox habitats and characteristics.
Author/Illustrator Spotlight

SHELLEY ROTNER

Sometimes an author or illustrator has so many great titles, we wish we could name them all! This month, we want to highlight the work of Shelley Rotner. She calls herself a photo-illustrator and for good reason! Her children’s books feature photographs of diverse children and explore a variety of topics, from the seasons to shapes to food!

One of my favorite things to do with books is to use them as a springboard for activities. After reading Shelley Rotner’s Colors, go for a color hunt in your house or your neighborhood. Once you’ve finished How to Find a Fox, write a shared “how to” book. Maybe you and your child can write How to Build with Blocks or How to Find Your Missing Sock! Most books lend themselves to many creative endeavors, even if it’s simply drawing a picture of your favorite part.

Early Literacy Tips

While reading typically brings to mind sitting still and relaxing, some books can actually help kids get their wiggles out! It’s a trick we often use during storytimes - some books show people or animals doing motions, and we can encourage kids to mimic what we see on the page and move along. This is a great way to encourage early literacy while acknowledging that sometimes kids need to move physically to concentrate and to be engaged in the story.