

2020 Premier's reading challenge



Early Childhood Book List

This book list is a guide only to help students, parents, guardians and teachers select age appropriate reading material. Students may select any suitable books and may also wish to consider books from previous years' book lists.

*QDoE – Queensland Department of Education

Author	Title and book summary	JF/F/NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
Allen, Pamela	Fat Ferdie (2016) Fat Ferdie is scary but fun. He likes to eat all sorts of things. (QDoE)	JF	32	Rhyming story Food Habits	9780143505686
Anastasiou, Mary; Tortop, Anil (illus.)	I Want to Be a Rock Star (2019) So you want to be a Rock Star? From country, rap and punk to disco, jazz and rock, all Rock Stars' dreams begin with just a little imagination. (Adapted from publisher)	JF	32	Music Imagination	9780987635419
Baker, Thea	How to Be a Giraffe (2020) Joffrey's stripy fur is causing quite the stir. Everyone knows that giraffes have spots! But if Joffrey isn't a giraffe, what could he be? A book that celebrates the joy of embracing who we are. (Adapted from publisher)	JF	32	Giraffes Individuality	9781925972542
Bancroft, Bronwyn	Coming Home to Country (2020) Run to the creek, perch on a rock, slip into clear crystal water. A visual and lyrical depiction of coming home to country from acclaimed author and illustrator Bronwyn Bancroft. (Publisher)	JF	24	Indigenous picture book Art	9781760501921
Barber, Celeste; Cosgrove, Matt (illus.)	Celeste the Giraffe Loves to Laugh (2019) Celeste loves to have fun but she worries that she's not as cool as other animals. Then she discovers what it is that makes her unique. (QDoE)	JF	24	Self esteem Animals	9781760669171



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Base, Graeme	<p>The Pond (2018) [Bumblebunnies series]</p> <p>Wuffle the puppy, Lou the kitten and Billington the duck are playing with a ball when it goes in the pond. The bumblebunnies save the day and rescue Wuffle as well.</p> <p>(QDoE)</p>	JF	24	Heroes	9781460753941
Blabey, Aaron	<p>The Return of Thelma the Unicorn (2019)</p> <p>Thelma the Unicorn didn't like being famous, so she fled the spotlight and disappeared but the world was heartbroken! We miss our UNICORN! Thelma, it's time to get your sparkle back on.</p> <p>(Publisher)</p>	JF	28	Unicorns Self-confidence	9781742999890
Bland, Nick	<p>The Very Super Bear (2019)</p> <p>There's a monster in the jungle and its gobbling up the trees! It sounds like a job for <i>THE VERY SUPER BEAR!</i> With his sidekick, Bruce the Goose, can they save the jungle from the cranky, yellow monster?</p> <p>(Adapted from Publisher)</p>	JF	24	Bears Rhyming story	9781743831267
Buchanan, Colin; Williams, Simon (illus.)	<p>Aussie Easter Hat Parade (2017)</p> <p>The Aussie animals find all sorts of colourful things to make their Easter hats to wear in the parade, starting with Billy Bullant who found a bright red desert pea!</p> <p>(QDoE)</p>	JF	24	Celebrations Costumes	9781760157227
Buchanan, Colin; Harvey, Roland (illus.)	<p>Little Barry Bilby's Big Bush Band (2018)</p> <p>Barry Bilby decides to enter the Tanga Langa Talent Quest and use the prize money to save the school. First he needs to find some other musicians to join his band. Will they win?</p> <p>(QDoE)</p>	JF	24	Australian animals	9781743816486
Bunting, Laura; Bunting, Philip (Illus.)	<p>Another book about bears (2018)</p> <p>This is a story about the popularity of bears in children's books and how sometimes even bears just need a break! But what sort of animal could be... just right?</p> <p>(Adapted from publisher)</p>	JF	32	Bears Animals	9781742991931



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Bunting, Laura; Bunting, Philip (illus.)	Liarbird (2019) Liarbird loves to tell lies. He has done it all his life. But then something happens that makes him realise that it's not such a good idea. (QDoE)	JF	32	Values Animals	9781743831571
Bunting, Philip	Sandcastle (2018) Rae loves the beach and loves to build sandcastles. When his sandcastle is taken by the tide, Grandad explains that the sandcastle is not really gone; the pieces of sand are still there. (QDoE)	JF	32	Grandparents Beach	9781760295387
The children from Rawa (Pilbara WA); Godwin, Jane; Lester, Alison	Monster Party (2018) Hilarious, naughty monsters take over the Rawa Community School. They eat chips and cake and dance and galumph all over the place! Described in catchy rhymes and colourful illustrations, the monsters create havoc but bring lots of joy. (QDoE)	JF	26	Monsters Humour Imagination	9781925360554
Cosgrove, Matt	Alpacas with Maraccas (2018) Macca and pal Al are the best of friends and LOVE spending time together. When there is an opportunity to enter a talent contest, they just can't resist. (Publisher)	JF	24	Friendship Rhyming story	9781743816349
Cossins, Jennifer	The Mummy Animal Book (2020) A picture book about mummy animals and their babies. It shows many animals and their babies and gives the correct names, for example, a mother peacock is called a peahen and a baby peacock is called a peachick. (QDoE)	NF	32	Animals Mothers	9780734419897
Daddo, Andrew; King, Stephen Michael (illus.)	Watcha Building? (2018) The old milk bar on the corner is coming down. Little Davey is gathering some bits - a short piece of wood here, a long piece there. But what's Davey building? Bruce the builder wants to know, but Davey won't tell ... (Adapted from publisher)	JF	32	Environment Recycling	9780733334160



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Dodd, Lynley	Scarface Claw, Hold Tight! (2019) Scarface Claw is sleeping on the roof of a truck, when it takes off! What a ride for poor Scarface, while Tom the driver is oblivious to the cat clinging to the roof. (QDoE)	JF	30	Cats Rhyming story	9780143773948
French, Jackie; Whatley, Bruce (illus.)	Dippy's Big Day Out (2020) [Dippy the Diprotodon series] An 'Ice Age' meets <i>Diary of a Wombat</i> story. Dippy is a diprotodon, the biggest, friendliest wombat who lived 100,000 years ago. All Dippy wants is happy friends, a place to sleep and lots to eat. (Publisher)	JF	32	Prehistoric animals	9781460754078
Fussell, Shelly; Metcalf, Samantha (illus.)	Carmichael's Journey (2018) Carmichael the Black Cockatoo has made his first flight and joined his parents on the journey to their feeding grounds. When they return, they find out their home has been destroyed. What will they do? And what can we do? (Adapted from publisher)	JF/ NF	32	Conservation Birds	9781925545692
Garland, Sally Anne	Bear Was There (2020) Mouse is happy and loved at home with his mother. He ventures out and finds himself lost then comes across Bear. At first he's scared but learns that Bear is not so scary after all. A book that explores feelings. (QDoE)	JF	32	Love Emotions	9781925594935
Gibbes, Lesley; Acton, Sara (illus.)	Quick as a Wink, Fairy Pink (2018) There are fairies of all colours: blue, green, gold, red. But where is the pink fairy? A delightful bedtime story. (QDoE)	JF	32	Fairies Colours	9781921504877
Gray, Kes; Field, Jim (illus.)	Oi Puppies! (2019) [Oi Frog and Friends series] The frog and friends are back trying to find rhyming words. Will the puppies ever sit still? (QDoE)	JF	32	Rhyming story Humour	9781444937350



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Hume, Clair; Jellet, Tom (illus.)	The Bad Bassinis (2020) The Bassinis were BIG. The Bassinis were BURLY. And those BIG, BURLY Bassinis . . . were BAD. The Bassinis are the baddest dogs in town, that is, until they come across Pipsqueak! (Publisher)	JF	24	Family Courage	9781760663377
Kerr, Lisa	Big Hug, Little Mouse (2020) Millie knows all the different types of hugs, so what happens when she loses her hug? Will her friends be able to help her find it? A story about making sure we all have a hug when we need it most. (QDoE)	JF	32	Love Friendship	9781760651107
Lester, Alison	Noni the Pony Rescues a Joey (2018) [Noni the Pony series] Noni is back with her friends Coco and Dave. One day the friends find a lost baby wallaby and help him find his way home. (QDoE)	JF	24	Friendship Rhyming story	9781760293123
Manbulloo, Karen	Moli det bigibigi (Molly the pig) (2018) This is the delightfully true story of Moli the Weet Bix loving piglet who grew into a very big dog-chasing pig! The story is written in Kriol, the language spoken in the Binjari community (near Katherine, NT) with English translation. (QDoE)	JF	23	Pigs Indigenous community Indigenous Language	9780648260424
Meatheringham, Catherine; Hamilton, Max (illus.)	My Possum Plays the Drums (2020) Night-time falls and the possum orchestra begins. Drums bang, violins scratch and I can't sleep! Children will love to join this noisy celebration of possums and their night-time antics. (Adapted from publisher)	JF	32	Nocturnal animals	9781922081841
Middleton, Emma; Stewart, Briony (illus.)	The Bear in our Backyard (2018) Shall we sneak outside and see if Bear is really there? Tom and Tilly search for the bear who lives in their backyard. A rare tribute to the small and magical moments that mums create every day. (Adapted from publisher)	JF	32	Mothers Imagination	9781925584806



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Millward, Shae; Goodman, Jenni (illus.)	A Boy and a Dog (2019) A story about the true friendship between a boy and a dog and how they found each other. (QDoE)	JF	32	Dogs Friendship Love	9781921024948
Mitchell, Laine; Shea, Louis (illus.)	We're Going on a Croc Hunt (2015) Aussie version of the popular song 'We're going on a bear hunt'. What will happen when they really do find a crocodile? (QDoE)	JF	24	Animals Adventure	9781760152062
Mordey, Tori-Jay	In the City I See (2018) Perfect for very young readers, this delightfully illustrated board book is a celebration of the wonderful sights that can be seen in our cities, from tall buildings with bright advertising signs to the didgeridoo busker and dog walker. (Adapted from publisher)	JF	12	Cities Board book	9781925360790
Mulvey, Ella; Briggs, Karen (illus)	Rabbit-Hole Golf Course (2017) A little girl dreams of catching a pet rabbit on the 'rabbit-holed golf course'. She heads out to the desert with her sister, some friends and a couple of Aunties. They find bush tucker and fun but no rabbits. Or do they? (QDoE)	JF	32	Pets Friendship Bush tucker Camping Rabbits	9781925266290
Shanks, Matt (illus)	Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star (2017) Based on the classic song and including all of the verses, children will sing along and do the actions as they read the book. (QDoE)	JF	14	Songs Nocturnal animals	9781760279097
Smith, Emily S; Cooper, Heidi (illus.)	Garbage Guts (2020) In the North Pacific Ocean lives a monster made of trash - a hungry, greedy meanie with a handlebar moustache. This story explores the impact of our waste on the environment, and ways we can help save our planet. (Publisher)	JF/ NF	32	Conservation Ocean	9780987635426



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Stanton, Beck; Stanton, Matt (illus.)	The Book That Never Ends (2019) [Books That Drive Kids Crazy series] This interactive book is from the same series as <i>This is a ball</i> . Will it ever end? The only way to find out is to read it. (QDoE)	JF	32	Imagination Humour	9780733337994
Stitzel, Laura	Mr Mo Starts to Grow (2018) Jane loves her little squishy monster Mo. They have such fun together. But when Mr Mo starts to grow, he hides himself away making Jane lonely. Will she ever find him again? (QDoE)	JF	32	Friendship Loneliness	9780734417725
Toft, Kim Michelle	Coral Sea Dreaming (2017) Under the light of the silvery moon, swaying left, swaying right, a salty salsa throughout the night. An underwater fantasy filled with many colourful creatures and a conservation message. (QDoE)	NF	30	Conservation Ocean	9780994238849
Torres, Michael; Martins, Fern (illus)	The Butterfly Garden (2019) The life cycle of a butterfly is explained in simple terms in this humorous story of a hungry kookaburra. A beautifully illustrated board book, it is suitable for very young readers. (QDoE)	JF	20	Butterflies Life cycles Board book	9781925936995
Treml, Renee	Once I Heard a Little Wombat (2019) Written in the form of a nursery rhyme, the story uses repetition as it follows Australian animals as they eat, play and settle down for sleep. (QDoE)	JF	24	Animals Repetition	9781760890544
Wagner, Michael; Carruthers, Adam (illus.)	Little Ned (2020) Little Ned puts on his pants, his shirt, his shoes and... his heavy-duty chest armour, his spikey metal gauntlets, his razor-sharp sword and his iron helmet. What could possibly go wrong? A story about the pitfalls of being <i>too</i> careful. (Adapted from publisher)	JF	24	Resilience Children	9781760129279



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Walker, Anna	<p>I Love My Grandma (2019)</p> <p>Meet Ollie, a gorgeous, lively zebra! Ollie spends the day with Grandma, having a picnic, painting, playing and singing.</p> <p>(Publisher)</p>	JF	24	Grandparents Family	9781760667184
Whatley, Bruce	<p>The Tortoise and the Hare (2020)</p> <p>The classic tale of the tortoise and hare retold by well-known book creator Bruce Whatley.</p> <p>(QDoE)</p>	JF	24	Classic Animals Competition	9781760663360
Young, Damon; Carnavas, Peter (illus.)	<p>My Dad is a Dragon (2019)</p> <p>Some dads pull billy carts, painted blue and black. But my dad is a dragon . . . I sit upon his scaly back! All dads are different. But what if your dad was <i>really</i> different? What if your dad was a dragon?</p> <p>(Publisher)</p>	JF	32	Dragons Fathers	9780702260490

