

**Tom Goes to Kindergarten** / Margaret Wild

When Tom, a young panda, goes to his very first day of kindergarten, his whole family stays and plays and wishes they could be in kindergarten too.

**Tucker's Four-Carrot School Day** / Susan Winget

The start of Tucker the rabbit's first day of kindergarten is rocky, but making new friends helps change his attitude toward school.

**Jake Starts School** / Michael Wright

No one can pry a frightened Jake away from his parents on the first day of school, and so the three must watch as his classmates have fun until, at the end of the day, his teacher finally gets him to let go.

**Seven Little Mice Go to School** / Haruo Yamashita

This is the story of seven little mice and how their mother manages to get her children to the first day of school.

**Don't Go!** / Jane Breskin Zalben

On the first day of preschool, Daniel gradually overcomes his nervousness as he plays in the sandbox, collects leaves, and bakes cookies.

**Movies:**

Noisy Nora—and More Stories by Rosemary Wells / *j DVD NORA*

Curious George: Back to School / *j DVD CURIOUS GEORGE*

Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood: Going to School / *j DVD ROGERS*

Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood: Life's Little Lessons / *j DVD DANIEL TIGER*

The Best of Caillou: Caillou Goes Back to School / *j DVD CAILLOU*

Spot Goes to School / *j DVD SPOT*

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# starting school

*Suggestions from the Mt. Lebanon Public Library  
for children in preschool through second grade*

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*Unless otherwise noted, all books may be found in  
the picture book section under the author's last name.*

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**Starting School** / Janet and Allan Ahlberg

**Billy and the Big New School** / Laurence Anholt

Billy is nervous about starting school, but as he cares for a sparrow that eventually learns to fly on its own, he realizes that he too can look after himself.

**Edda: A Little Valyrie's First Day of School** / Adam Auerbach

Edda, the littlest Valkyrie, leaves the magical land of Asgard to attend school in hopes of making a friend her own age, but feels like an outcast until she finds her courage and learns that being different makes her special.

**Monsters Love School** / Mike Austin

Nervous monsters attending school for the first time learn new things, make friends, and sample Chef Octi's special School Gruel.

**I Don't Want to Go to School** / Stephanie Blake

Simon the rabbit does not want to go to his first day of school, but by the time his mother comes to take him home, he is having such a good time that he does not want to leave.

**Off to First Grade** / Louise Borden

Each member of a first grade class, as well as their teacher, principal, and a bus driver, expresses excitement, worry, or hope as the first day of school begins.

**Franklin Goes to School** / Paulette Bourgeois

Franklin is very nervous about his first day of school, but his teacher, Mr. Owl, helps him feel comfortable.

**D.W.'s Guide to Preschool** / Marc Brown

D.W., Arthur's little sister, tells all about what it is like to be in preschool, including essential information about such topics as bathroom breaks, storing things in a cubbie, and sharing at play time.

**Adventure Annie Goes to Kindergarten** / Toni Buzzeo

Even though there are rules to follow, a little girl who loves adventure has an exciting first day of kindergarten.

**First Grade, Here I Come!** / Nancy Carlson

Henry tells his mother that he did not like his first day of first grade, but as he describes what he did and learned, he begins to realize that he might enjoy it after all.

**Look Out Kindergarten, Here I Come!** / Nancy Carlson

Even though Henry is looking forward to going to kindergarten, he is not sure about staying once he first gets there.

**It's Your First Day of School, Annie Claire** / Nancy White Carstrom

Annie Claire, excited but nervous about her first day of school, is reassured by her mother, whose love always goes with her.

**I Am Too Absolutely Small for School** / Lauren Child

When Lola is worried about starting school, her older brother Charlie reassures her.

**Jack's Talent** / Maryann Cocca-Leffler

On the first day of school, as the children in Miss Lucinda's class introduce themselves and name their special talent, Jack wonders if he is good at anything.

**Will I Have a Friend?** / Miriam Cohen

Jim's anxieties on his first day of school are happily forgotten when he makes a new friend.

**Mildred and Sam and Their Babies** / Sharleen Collicott

*jEr COLLICOTT (easy reader)*

Mildred and Sam's eight baby mice prepare for their first day of school.

**First Graders from Mars Episode I: Horus' Horrible Day** / Shana Corey

*jEr COREY (easy reader)*

As the school year begins on Mars, Horus the Martian gets off to a rocky start, but soon discovers that first grade is not really as bad as he thought.

**Little Lizard's First Day** / Melinda Crow

*jEr Primer CROW (easy reader primers)*

**First Day Jitters** / Julie Danneberg

Sarah is afraid to start at a new school, but both she and the reader are in for a surprise when she gets to her class.

**First Grade Stinks** / Mary Ann Rodman

First-grader Haley wishes she were back having fun in kindergarten with her old teacher, until she finds out that first-grade is special, too.

**Vera's First Day of School** / Vera Rosenberry

Vera cannot wait for the day when she starts school, but the first day does not go exactly as she has anticipated.

**I Love You All Day Long** / Francesca Rusackas

When a little pig worries about being apart from his mother when he goes off to school, she reassures him.

**I Don't Want to Go Back to School** / Marisabina Russo

Despite his older sister's dire warnings of all the terrible things that could go wrong on his first day in the second grade, Ben has a wonderful time.

**Oliver and His Alligator** / Paul Schmid

Nervous about the first day of school, Oliver brings an alligator to school for protection.

**Annabelle Swift, Kindergartner** / Amy Schwartz

Although some of the things her older sister taught her at home seem a little unusual at school, other lessons help make Annabelle's first day in kindergarten a success.

**Splat the Cat** / Rob Scotton

A nervous Splat finds his first day at Cat School much better than he expected.

**We Love Our School** / Judy Sierra

Rhyming text with rebuses follows a group of animals through their first day of school.

**Cowgirl Kate and Cocoa: School Days** / Erica Silverman

*jEr SILVERMAN (beginning reader)*

Cocoa the horse does not want Cowgirl Kate to go to school without him.

**Miss Bindergarten Gets Ready for Kindergarten** / Joseph Slate

Introduces the letters of the alphabet as Miss Bindergarten and her students get ready for kindergarten.

**Go Home, Mrs. Beekman!** / Ann Stampler

Emily Beekman is so nervous about starting school that she makes her mother promise to stay with her forever, but after Emily makes friends and settles in, she and her teacher must convince Mrs. Beekman to break her promise and stay home.

**Little Cliff's First Day of School** / Clifton Taulbert

Little Cliff is terrified of starting school, but with Mama Pearl's encouragement, he is able to overcome his fears.

**Mouse's First Day of School** / Lauren Thompson

When he goes to school, Mouse finds a world of new objects and new friends.

**Amanda Pig, Schoolgirl** / Jean Van Leeuwen

*jEr VAN LEEUWEN (easy reader)*

Amanda Pig's first day of school is every bit as wonderful as she hoped it would be.

**Happy School Year!** / Susan Milord

Children gather for a first day of school celebration that calms their worries about the day.

**Ready, Set, School!** / Jacquelyn Mitchard

After Rory the raccoon conquers his fear of spending an entire night away from home, he is prepared to tackle the challenge of starting school just one week later, whether his parents are ready or not.

**Ready and Waiting for You** / Judi Moreillon

Warm and friendly characters welcome a new student to the first day of school.

**Wow! School!** / Robert Neubecker

Izzy finds many things to be excited about on the first day of school.

**See You Later, Mom!** / Jennifer Northway

On his first day of preschool, William's mother stays with him.

**Mr. Monkey's Classroom** / Jiwon Oh

On the first day of school, Mouse is upset when Cat spends time with her old friends.

**When an Elephant Comes to School** / Jan Ormerod

With the help of his classmates, an elephant has a good first day of school.

**Amelia Bedelia's First Day of School** / Herman Parish

A literal-minded first-grader's first day of school is filled with confusing adventures, much to her delight.

**Otto Goes to School** / Todd Parr

Otto goes to school for the first time, where he makes new friends and learns how to wag his tail without knocking things over.

**The Kissing Hand** / Audrey Penn

When Chester the raccoon is reluctant to go to kindergarten for the first time, his mother teaches him a secret way to carry her love with him.

**You're Wearing That to School?!** / Lynn Plourde

A cautious mouse named Tiny gives advice to his best friend, an exuberant hippopotamus named Penelope, on such things as what to wear and what to take for show-and-tell on the first day of school.

**A Pirate's Guide to First Grade** / James Preller

A young pirate and his crew embark on a grand adventure when they board the bus for the first day of first grade.

**First Grade Jitters** / Robert M. Quackenbush

A small boy wonders what first grade will be like, but is not sure that he wants to find out.

**First Day** / Joan Rankin

Little Haybillybun is not the only one who is worried about the first day of preschool.

**Get Ready for Second Grade, Amber Brown** / Paula Danziger

*Er DANZIGER (easy reader)*

Amber is nervous about starting second grade with a new teacher, but despite being in the same class as mean Hannah Burton, things turn out just fine.

**Kindergarten Rocks!** / Katie Davis

Dexter knows everything there is to know about kindergarten and is not at all scared about his first day there, but his stuffed dog, Buster, is very nervous.

**Brand-New Pencils, Brand-New Books** / Diane De Groat

Gilbert's excitement over starting first grade turns to worry that the teacher will be mean, the work too hard, and his classmates too unfriendly, but throughout the day there are pleasant surprises.

**Meet the Barkers: Morgan and Moffat Go to School** / Tomie dePaola

Bossy Moffie and her quiet twin brother Morgie both enjoy starting school, especially getting gold stars and making new friends.

**Llama Llama Misses Mama** / Anna Dewdney

Llama Llama experiences separation anxiety on his first day of nursery school.

**The Pout-Pout Fish Goes to School** / Deborah Diesen

Mr. Fish recalls how, on his very first day of school, he anxiously went to one classroom after another watching students do things he could not, until Miss Hewitt showed him to the room that was right for beginners.

**Starting School** / Franzesda Ewart

This is the first week of school for Sadie and Sam. They make lots of new friends, meet their teacher, write, paint, get stickers and meet a new classroom friend-- all the things that children do when they start school.

**Silly School** / Marie-Louise Fitzpatrick

**Beth doesn't want to go to school until she finds out that her friends will be there.**

**What Did You Do Today?: The First Day of School** / Toby Forward

A child describes the events of the first day of school, from making sandwiches for lunch to holding a parent's hand on the walk home.

**Chu's First Day of School** / Neil Gaiman

On the first day of school, a young panda learns about the special things his animal classmates can do.

**Planet Kindergarten** / Sue Ganz-Schmitt

A young child imagines going off to Kindergarten as a journey to another planet.

**Back to School Tortoise** / Lucy M. George

Summer is over and Tortoise must summon the courage to go back to school.

**It's My School** / Sally Grindley

Tom is not happy that his younger sister, Alice, is starting kindergarten at his school.

**Yellowbelly and Plum Go to School / Nathan Hale**

On his first day of school, Yellowbelly brings along his best friend Plum, a stuffed bear, but when Plum goes missing, Yellowbelly discovers that they both have made a lot of new friends.

**Miss Mingo and the First Day of School / Jamie Harper**

Miss Mingo helps all of the animal students in her class overcome their shyness on the first day of school by encouraging them to share something special about themselves.

**I Am Not Going to School Today / Robie Harris**

A little boy decides to skip his very first day of school, because on the first day one doesn't know anything, but on the second, one knows everything.

**Noni is Nervous / Heather Hartt-Sussman**

Noni is nervous about playdates, and global warming, and most of all, about the first day of school. But Noni finds a friend, someone a little more outgoing than herself, and discovers that through friendship, she can belong and succeed in a world that once filled her with dread.

**Wemberly Worried / Kevin Henkes**

A mouse named Wemberly, who worries about everything, finds that she has a whole list of things to worry about when she faces the first day of nursery school.

**Mr. Ouchy's First Day / B.G. Hennessy**

Mr. Ouchy, a new teacher, is nervous about his first day of school, but when he teaches the class about time and counting, they all enjoy the experience.

**Off to School, Baby Duck / Amy Hest**

Baby Duck experiences the fear of the first day of school, but with a little help from Grampa, everything turns out okay in the end.

**A Big Day for Migs / Jo Hodgkinson**

Migs' first day of school gets off to a rough start, but he overcomes his shyness to ask for help from his new classmates and makes the day special for everyone.

**Little Rabbit Goes to School / Harry Horse**

Little Rabbit takes his favorite toy, Charlie Horse, along for his first day of school and when there is trouble, he blames it all on Charlie.

**Every Cowgirl Goes to School / Rebecca Jani**

From having to leave her cowgirl hat at home to being seated between the rambunctious "J-twins," a brand new day in a brand new class is not going Nellie Sue's way, especially with her best friend, Anna, being nice to new girl Maya.

**Pinky Dinky Doo: Back to School is Cool! / Jim Jinkins**

*jEr JINKINS (easy reader)*

When her little brother Tyler is nervous about his first day of school, Pinky Dinky Doo tells him a story about the time she and her friends had really bad hair days when school pictures were scheduled.

**Sparky and Eddie: The First Day of School / Tony Johnston**

*jEr JOHNSTON (easy reader)*

Even though they are not in the same class, two young friends are glad that they decided to give school a try.

**The Apple Doll / Elisa Kleven**

Lizzy is scared to start school, so she makes a doll out of an apple from her favorite tree to take with her on the first day and keep her company.

**Katharine Goes to Nursery School / Jill Krementz**

*jT KREMENTZ (toddler books)*

Text and photographs detail a child's day at nursery school, playing, painting, and hearing a story.

**Going to My Nursery School / Susan Kuklin**

A little boy describes, in text and photographs, what he does in his nursery school class.

**Froggy Goes to School / Jonathan London**

Froggy is nervous about his first day of school, but, even though it's hard to sit still, he has a wonderful time.

**First Day / Dandi Daley Mackall**

The first day of school starts out filled with doubt, but after facing fear of the big kids, reciting the alphabet with ease, and learning about recess, a child can't help but look forward to day two.

**Kitty Cat, Kitty Cat, Are You Going to School? / Bill Martin**

On the first day of school, Kitty Cat discovers that there are lots of things to enjoy. He plays, he enjoys a snack, he paints, he sings, he listens to a story, and he shares something special during show-and-tell. No wonder he likes school so much.

**School / Emily Arnold McCully**

A curious little mouse decides to find out what school is all about.

**Mrs. Watson Wants Your Teeth / Alison McGhee**

A first grader is frightened on her first day of school after hearing a rumor that her teacher is a 300-year-old alien with a purple tongue who steals baby teeth from her students.

**The First Day of School / Margaret McNamara**

*jEr PRIMER MCNAMARA (easy reader primers)*

After a summer of playing with his puppy, Michael is sad to learn that she cannot stay with him on the first day of school.

**Enrico Starts School / Charlotte Middleton**

Enrico the cat starts school, but at first he doesn't know how to make friends.

**Moses Goes to School / Isaac Millman**

Moses and his friends enjoy the first day of school at their special school for the deaf and hard of hearing, where they use sign language to talk to each other.