

NONFICTION

FitzSimmons, David. *Curious Critters: Marine* (591.77 FIT). A variety of marine animals, including birds, fish, and invertebrates, pose for portraits against a white background while narrating distinctive aspects of their natural histories.

Held, George. *Neighbors: The Yard Critters Too* (series, 811 HEL). Poetry exploring some creatures that can be found in an urban environment, including ladybugs, coyotes, ticks, field mice, skunks, and chipmunks.

Kerley, Barbara. *The World Is Waiting for You* (910 KER). Beyond just asking "What do you want to be when you grow up?" this book encourages kids to find a pathway from their current interests and talents to a future career or pastime.

Paul, Miranda. *Water Is Water* (551.48 PAU). A spare, poetic picture book exploring the different phases of the water cycle in surprising and engaging ways.

Percy, J.P. *Can You Guess What I Am?* (508 PER). Close-up photographs reveal the beauty of nature and everyday items.

Sayre, April Pulley. *Eat Like a Bear* (599.78 SAY). Follow a bear from the time she emerges from her den in April, through summer's foraging, to the arrival of two cubs who interrupt her long winter's rest.

Ward, Jennifer. *Mama Built a Little Nest* (598.156 WAR). Learn about all different kinds of nests, from the scrapes falcons build on high ledges to the underground nests burrowing owls dig.

OAK PARK PUBLIC LIBRARY



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Main Library

834 Lake St.

708.383.8200

Mon-Thurs: 9 am to 9 pm

Friday: 9 am to 6 pm

Saturday: 9 am to 5 pm

Sunday: 1 pm to 6 pm

Dole Branch Library

255 Augusta St.

708.386.9032

Monday: Closed

Tues-Thurs: 10 am to 9 pm

Friday: 10 am to 6 pm

Saturday: 10 am to 5 pm

Sunday: 1 pm to 6 pm

Maze Branch Library

845 Gunderson Ave.

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Mon-Thurs: 10 am to 9 pm

Friday: Closed

Saturday: 10 am to 5 pm

Sunday: 1 pm to 6 pm



KINDERGARTEN RECOMMENDED READING LIST

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PICTURE BOOKS

Beck, Robert. *A Bunny in the Ballet*. Desiree dreams of being a famous ballet dancer in Paris, but is told there are no bunnies in the ballet.

Berger, Samantha. *Crankenstein*. An ordinary-looking boy transforms into a grumbling Crankenstein when faced with frustrations.

Boyd, Lizi. *Flashlight*. In this wordless story, a child explores the woods after dark with a flashlight.

Bright, Rachel. *Love Monster*. Googly-eyed Monster looks high and low (and middle-ish) for someone to love him.

Brown, Peter. *Mr. Tiger Goes Wild*. Bored with city life and proper behavior, Mr. Tiger has a wild idea that leads him to discover his true nature and inspire his friends.

De La Peña, Matt. *Last Stop on Market Street*. A young boy rides the bus across town with his grandmother and learns to appreciate the beauty in everyday things.

DiPucchio, Kelly. *Gaston*. A very proper bulldog raised in a poodle family and a tough poodle raised in a bulldog family meet one day in the park.

Fogliano, Julie. *If You Want to See a Whale*. Learn what to do, and not to do, to successfully spot a whale, such as wrapping up in a not-too-cozy blanket, ignoring the roses, and always being patient.

Freedman, Deborah. *By Mouse and Frog*. Mouse has one idea about what a book should be and how to tell a story. Frog has another. What happens when they try to create a book together?

Gerstein, Mordecai. *Night World*. Sylvie the cat persuades her boy to go into the darkness very late at night, where they are greeted by

shadows and nocturnal animals who whisper, "It's almost here."

Hatke, Ben. *Julia's House for Lost Creatures*. Julia welcomes all homeless creatures into her home, whether they be cats, ghosts, or dragons—but soon realizes that each must have a chore for the arrangement to work.

Henkes, Kevin. *Waiting*. Five friends sit happily on a windowsill, waiting for something amazing to happen.

Heos, Bridget. *Mustache Baby* (series). When baby Billy is born with a mustache, his parents must figure out if it's a Good-Guy mustache, or a Bad-Guy mustache.

Keane, Claire. *Once Upon a Cloud*. Celeste wants to give her mother something special, but what? Her search takes her up to the sky, moon, and stars until she finds the perfect gift.

Lazar, Tara. *Little Red Gliding Hood*. Little Red is an excellent ice skater, but she will need a good partner for the skating pairs competition, and the only one available is a certain Wolf, who needs new skates as badly as Little Red does.

Medina, Meg. *Mango, Abuela, and Me*. Mia's abuela has left her sunny house to live with Mia and her parents in the city. Mia helps Abuela learn English and learns some Spanish too, but it's still hard for Abuela to tell all her stories until Mia has the perfecto idea.

Menchin, Scott. *Grandma in Blue With Red Hat*. After his teacher explains why something might belong in a museum and says that anything can be in an art exhibition, a child offers his special grandmother as an exhibit—until he has a better idea.

Meshon, Aaron. *Take Me Out to the Yakyu*. A little boy's grandfathers, one in America and one in Japan, teach him about baseball and its rich, varying cultural traditions.

Miyares, Daniel. *Float*. Wordless adventure about a boy's paper boat in the rain.

Morales, Yuyi. *Viva Frida*. The artist's creative process is examined with poetic, bilingual text and colorful photography.

Nelson, Kadir. *If You Plant a Seed*. While planting seeds in their garden, two animals learn the value of kindness.

O'Leary, Sara. *This Is Sadie*. Sadie is a small girl with a big imagination. She likes to make and do and be lots of different things. Maybe you're a bit like her?

Park, Linda Sue. *Xander's Panda Party*. When Xander the Panda extends a party invitation to all of the bears at the zoo, complications ensue.

Paschkis, Julie. *P. Zonka Lays an Egg*. All of the chickens in the farmyard lay eggs regularly—except for P. Zonka. The other chickens think P. Zonka's just lazy...until she lays the most beautiful egg they've ever seen.

Pett, Mark. *Lizard From the Park*. When a lizard hatches from the egg Leonard finds in the park, he names it Buster and takes it all around the city, until he realizes he must devise a way to return his pet to the deepest, darkest part of the park.

Underwood, Deborah. *Interstellar Cinderella*. In this outer space adaptation, Cinderella dreams of becoming a spaceship mechanic.

VanDusen, Chris. *If I Built a House*. Imaginative Jack describes his dream house—one with a racetrack, flying room, and gigantic slide.

Wells, Rosemary. *Stella's Starliner*. Stella's family is always on the move. She makes great new friends, but sometimes kids are unkind about her unique home.