

Top 20 Great Elementary Level Books chosen by Michigan Teachers

*All ages, grade and reading levels are approximate.

Book Title	Author	Age Range (if available)	Recommended by...
1. Charlotte's Web	E.B White	9-12	Michigan Teachers
2. The Polar Express	Chris Van Allsburg	4-8	Michigan Teachers
3. Green Eggs and Ham	Dr. Seuss	4-8	Michigan Teachers
4. The Cat in the Hat	Dr. Seuss	4-8	Michigan Teachers
5. Where the Wild Things Are	Maurice Sendak	4-8	Michigan Teachers
6. Love You Forever	Robert N. Munsch	4-8	Michigan Teachers
7. The Giving Tree	Shel Silverstein	All ages	Michigan Teachers
8. The Very Hungry Caterpillar	Eric Carle	0-6	Michigan Teachers
9. Where the Red Fern Grows	Wilson Rawls	Young Adult	Michigan Teachers
10. The Mitten	Jan Brett	4-8	Michigan Teachers
11. Goodnight Moon	Margaret Wise Brown	0-6	Michigan Teachers
12. Hatchet	Gary Paulsen	9-12	Michigan Teachers
13. The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe	C.S. Lewis	9-12	Michigan Teachers

14. Where the Sidewalk Ends	Shel Silverstein	All ages	Michigan Teachers
15. Bridge to Terabithia	Katherine Paterson	9-12	Michigan Teachers
16. Stellaluna	Janell Cannon	4-8	Michigan Teachers
17. Oh, The Places You'll Go	Dr. Seuss	4-8	Michigan Teachers
18. Strega Nona	Tomie De Paola	4-8	Michigan Teachers
19. Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day	Judith Viorst	4-8	Michigan Teachers
20. Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What do you see?	Bill Martin, Jr.	0-6	Michigan Teachers

Great Elementary Level Books Chosen by Carman-Ainsworth Teachers

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Book Title	Author	Age/Grade Range (if available)	Recommended by...
The Watsons Go to Birmingham 1963	Christopher Paul Curtis	3 rd GR + read-aloud/RL 5.5	Ron Thomas 3 rd Grade Teacher-Dye AND Amy Johnson 5 th Grade Teacher-Rankin AND Megan Vicari 4 th Grade Teacher-Rankin
Where the Wild Things Are	Maurice Sendak	Ages 4-8/RL 3.4	Ron Thomas 3 rd Grade Teacher-Dye

When Will it Snow?	Lisa Broadie Cook	Kindergarten-Fifth GR read aloud/RL 2.7	Lisa Charmoli K-5 Literacy Coach/ Academic Interventionist- Dillon
The One and Only Ivan	Katherine Applegate - 2013 Newbery	Fourth-Fifth GR/ ages 8-12/RL 3.3	Krista Ketterer 2 nd Grade Teacher-Dye AND Sara Anderson K-5 th Media Specialist AND Megan Vicari 4 th Grade Teacher-Rankin
The Tale of Despereaux	Kate DiCamillo - 2003 Newbery	Ages 9-12/RL 4.7	Krista Ketterer 2 nd Grade Teacher-Dye
Pete the Cat (any)	Eric Litwin	Kindergarten-Second GR/Picture Book/RL varies	Sara Anderson K-5 th Media Specialist AND the DK-K team -Dye AND Jill Welch 2 nd Grade Teacher-Dillon
You are Special	Max Lucado	Second-Fourth GR/ RL 4.1	Sara Anderson K-5 th Media Specialist
Stand Tall Molly Lou Melon	Patty Lovell	Second-Third GR/RL 3.1	Sara Anderson K-5 th Media Specialist
One	Katherine Otoshi	Second-Third GR	Sara Anderson K-5 th Media Specialist
The Madman of Piney Woods	Christopher Paul Curtis	Third-Fifth GR/RL 5.6	Sara Anderson K-5 th Media Specialist
The Mighty Miss Malone	Christopher Paul Curtis	Third-Fifth GR/RL 4.6	Sara Anderson K-5 th Media Specialist
Rules	Cynthia Lord	Third-Fifth GR/Ages 8-12/RL 3.9	Sara Anderson K-5 th Media Specialist
Moon Over Manifest	Clare Vanderpool- Newbery	Fourth-Fifth GR/RL 5.3	Sara Anderson K-5 th Media Specialist
Invisible Inkling	Emily Jenkins	Read Aloud- Primary/RL 3.3	Deb Martin 1 st Grade Teacher-Dye

The Chocolate Touch	Patrick Catling	Read Aloud/Second-Fifth GR/RL 4.5	Deb Martin 1 st Grade Teacher-Dye
Gooseberry Park	Cynthia Rylant	Read Aloud/Second-Fifth GR/RL 5.3	Deb Martin 1 st Grade Teacher-Dye
Lost in the Snow	Holly Web	Read Aloud/third-Fifth GR/4.6	Deb Martin 1 st Grade Teacher-Dye
Ida B.		Read Aloud -2 nd GR +	Deb Martin 1 st Grade Teacher-Dye
Brown Bear, Brown Bear	Bill Martin, Jr.	Picture Book/Pre K-First GR/RL 1.5	DK and Kindergarten teams-Dye
Chicka Chicka Boom Boom	John Archambault	Picture Book/Pre K-First GR/RL 1.9	DK and Kindergarten teams-Dye
Five Little Monkeys	Eileen Christelow	Picture Book/Pre K-First GR/RL 1.6	DK and Kindergarten teams-Dye
Cats Colors	Jane Cabrera	Picture Book/Pre K-First GR/RL 1.5	DK and Kindergarten teams-Dye
When Sophie Gets Angry	Molly Bang	Picture Book/Pre K-First GR/RL 1.9	DK and Kindergarten teams-Dye
Noisy Nora	Rosemary Wells	Picture Book/Pre K-First GR/RL 2.8	DK and Kindergarten teams-Dye
I Was So Mad	Mercer Mayer	Picture Book/Pre K-First GR	DK and Kindergarten teams-Dye
Curious George	H.A. Rey	Picture Book/Pre K-First GR/RL 2.4	DK and Kindergarten teams-Dye
The Kissing Hand	Audrey Penn	Picture Book/Pre K-First GR/RL 2.7	DK and Kindergarten teams-Dye

No, David	David Shannon	Picture Book/Pre K-First GR/RL 1.1	DK and Kindergarten teams-Dye
Rainbow Fish	Marcus Pfister	Picture Book/Pre K-Second GR/RL 3.3	DK and Kindergarten teams-Dye
Wonder	R.J Palacio	Ages 8-12/RL 5.0	Amy Johnson 5 th Grade Teacher-Rankin
There's A Boy in the Girl's Bathroom	Louis Sachar	3 rd -6 th GR/RL 5.5	Amy Johnson 5 th Grade Teacher-Rankin
Mick Harte was Here	Barbara Park	3 rd -6 th GR/RL 4.8	Amy Johnson 5 th Grade Teacher-Rankin
Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret.	Judy Blume	3 rd -6 th GR/RL 4.7	Tracy McLean 5 th Grade Teacher-Rankin
Maniac Magee	Jerry Spinelli	4 th -6 th GR/RL 5.4	Tracy McLean 5 th Grade Teacher-Rankin
The Girl Who Owned a City	B.T. Nelson	4 th -6 th GR/RL 5.1	Tracy McLean 5 th Grade Teacher-Rankin
Belly Up	Stuart Gibbs	3 rd -6 th GR/RL 5.4	Ben Anderson 4 th Grade Teacher-Randels
The Giggler Treatment	Roddy Doyle	3 rd -6 th GR/RL 3.5	Ben Anderson 4 th Grade Teacher-Randels
There's and Owl in the Shower	Jean Craighead George	3 rd -6 th GR/RL 5.5	Ben Anderson 4 th Grade Teacher-Randels
Ish	Peter H. Reynolds	Picture Book-all levels	Megan Vicari 4 th Grade Teacher-Rankin

Pink and Say	Patricia Polacco	Picture Book-all levels/RL 4.9	Megan Vicari 4 th Grade Teacher-Rankin
Two Bad Ants	Chris Van Allsburg	Picture Book/RL 3.9	Megan Vicari 4 th Grade Teacher-Rankin
Voices in the Park	Anthony Browne	Picture Book/RL 2.9	Megan Vicari 4 th Grade Teacher-Rankin
Chrysanthemum	Kevin Henkes	Picture Book-Ages 4-8/RL 2.0	Megan Vicari 4 th Grade Teacher-Rankin
Holes	Louis Sachar	Ages 10+/RL 4.6	Megan Vicari 4 th Grade Teacher-Rankin
Hatchet	Gary Paulsen	Upper elementary or Read aloud/Ages 9-12	Megan Vicari 4 th Grade Teacher-Rankin
“Fly Guy” books	Tedd Arnold	1 st -3 rd Grades/RL 1.5-2.5	Jill Welch 2 nd Grade Teacher-Dillon
Diary of a Wimpy Kid -series	Jeff Kinney	Upper elementary or Read aloud	Jill Welch 2 nd Grade Teacher-Dillon
Smelly Socks	Robert Munsch	2 nd -4 th GR/RL 3.6	Rachel Dempsey 3 rd Grade Teacher-Dillon
Class Clown	Johanna Huritz	2 nd GR +/RL 4.6	Rachel Dempsey 3 rd Grade Teacher-Dillon
The Paper Bag Princess	Robert Munsch	Picture Book- read aloud/RL 3.5	Rachel Dempsey 3 rd Grade Teacher-Dillon
Kiss Me I’m Perfect	Robert Munsch	RL 3.8	Rachel Dempsey 3 rd Grade Teacher-Dillon

Authors of Interest

The picks of Carman-Ainsworth K-5 Media Specialist Sara Anderson:
For Kindergarten and First Grade: Moe Willems, Jeff Klassen, Norman Bridwell, Laura Joffe Numeroff

The picks of the Developmental Kindergarten and Kindergarten teams at Dye: Mo Willems, Eric Carle, Leo Leoni, Dr. Seuss

The picks of Deb Martin First Grade Teacher at Dye:
Any of the Stinky Face books by Lisa McCourt, any Piggie and Elephant books by Mo Willens

The picks of Megan Vicari Fourth Grade Teacher at Rankin:
All Peter Reynolds picture books, all Van Allsburg picture books, all Kevin Henkes picture books, all Patricia Polacco picture books

The pick of Jill Welch Second Grade Teacher at Dillon:
All Kevin Henkes books