



# Recommended Books, Stories, and Poems

The Wonder Years (ages 5-8)

## Stories

*Consider learning some of these stories well enough to share from memory*

- Imaginative Stories from Restoring the Art of Storytelling in the Home by Marlene Peterson. Marlene provides the stories in her book. See the section on Imaginative Stories. These stories include:
  - Cinderella at Home
  - Gideon and His Valiant Three Hundred
  - Greece and the Greeks
  - How Jupiter Granted a Wish
  - How Vulcan Made the Best of Things
  - Jupiter and His Mighty Company
  - Orpheus and Eurydice
  - Pandora
  - Pygmalion and Galatea
  - The Cap That Mother Made
  - The Emperor's New Clothes
  - The Golden Age
  - The Golden Pears
  - The Golden Touch
  - The Honest Woodman
  - The Horn of Plenty
  - The Legend of the Dipper
  - The Little Match Girl
  - The Magic Mask
  - The Nightingale
  - The Princess and the Pea
  - The Squirrel's Devotion
  - The Star-Child
  - The Stone-Cutter
  - The Story of Merry Mind
  - Wax Wings
  - When Phaeton's Chariot Ran Away
  - Why the Evergreen Trees Keep Their Leaves in Winter

- Stories from The Children’s Book of Home and Family, edited by William J. Bennett. These stories include:

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| • A Father’s Return           | • The Golden Windows                    |
| • Cornelia’s Jewels           | • The Hill, Richards                    |
| • Elizabeth’s Roses           | • The Husband Who Was to Mind the House |
| • Grandmother’s Table, Grimm  | • The Legend of the Hummingbird         |
| • Jane Addams and Hull House  | • The Line of Golden Light, Harrison    |
| • Louisa May Alcott’s Dream   | • The Place of Brotherhood              |
| • Monica and Augustine        | • The Water of Youth, Baumbach          |
| • Penelope’s Web, Baldwin     | • The Wright Brothers                   |
| • Ruth and Naomi              | • What Bradley Owed, Kerr               |
| • Teddy Roosevelt: Family Man |   |
| • The Bundle of Sticks, Aesop |   |
| • The Golden Touch, Hawthorne |   |

- If you enjoyed the stories above, you may also enjoy The Children’s Book of Virtues by William J. Bennett for more stories and poetry about the virtues of courage, perseverance, responsibility, work, self-discipline, compassion, faith, honesty, loyalty, and friendship.
- Stories from James Herriot’s Treasury for Children. Warm and joyful tales by the author of *All Creatures Great and Small*. “Herriot’s well-loved tales of his life as a rural British veterinarian hold the timeless qualities of family affection, humor, loyalty, appreciation for nature, and love of animals.” -*Booklist*

## Poetry

- A Child’s Garden of Verses by Robert Louis Stevenson
- Casey at Bat
- Dr. Seuss series
- Mother Goose’s Nursery Rhymes
- Poems in The Children’s Book of Home and Family, Bennett
- T’was the Night Before Christmas
- The Song of Hiawatha

## Read-a-loud Books

- Aesop's Fables
- Among the People series by Clara Dillingham Pierson
- Andersen's Fairy Tales
- Beauty and the Beast
- Charlotte's Web
- Dinotopia series
- Dooryard Series by Clara Dillingham Pierson
- Grimm's Fairy Tales
- Peter Pan
- Pollyanna
- Puss-in-Boots
- Riki Tiki Tavi
- Robin Hood
- Rudyard Kipling "Just So" Stories
- Sleeping Beauty
- Tales of the Arabian Nights
- The Fourth Wise Man
- The Gift of the Magi
- The Giving Tree
- The Legend of Sleepy Hollow
- The Pied Piper of Hamelin
- The Wind in the Willows
- The Wonderful Wizard of Oz
- Thornton Burgess Animal Stories Series
- See [Patriot's Reading List](#) on the *HomeMakers for America* website for age-specific books about America

## For Beginning Readers

- Black Beauty, Sewell
- Boxcar Children series, Warner
- Frog and Toad, Lobel
- Hardy Boys Series, Dixon
- Little House series, Wilder
- McGuffey Readers
- Nancy Drew Series, Keene
- Pollyanna Grows Up, Porter
- Pollyanna, Porter
- Sarah, Plain and Tall Series, MacLachlan
- The Door in the Wall, Angeli

This is just a sampling of some great stories, poems, read-a-louds, and beginning readers for children. We encourage families to visit the library often and seek out the best books for the education of their children.