

# WHAT TO READ ALOUD WITH YOUR KIDS THIS SUMMER

## Ages 0-3

### The Giant Jumparee by Julia Donaldson, illustrated by Helen Oxenbury

Poor rabbit! There's a frightening creature hiding inside his burrow! Rabbit's friends come to his aid, but they, too, are terrified by the booming, mysterious voice. The rhyming text and heartwarming illustrations in this book will make it an instant favorite.





Ages 4-7

#### The Circus Ship by Chris Van Dusen

If you read this book to your child, I can just about guarantee you'll spend a good deal of time admiring the menagerie page— it's just sort of magical like that. What happens when a group of circus animals find themselves in an unsuspecting village is where the fun begins!

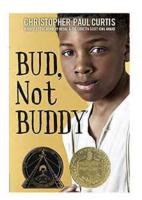
# Ages 8-12

### The Trumpet of the Swan by E.B. White

This book is one of my all-time favorite read-alouds. E.B. White is most well known from his book *Charlotte's Web*. Families will enjoy this hilarious and lighthearted tale of the lovable swan Louis, his hilarious and talkative father, and a host of characters who face obstacles with pluck and determination.







Teens

## Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis

Ten-year old Bud has run away in search of his father and a better future. But times are hard in Flint, Michigan in 1936, and Bud (not Buddy) has it tough trying to make his way. You could read this book with slightly younger kids, but my teens absolutely loved it as a read-aloud.



## TIPS FOR ENJOYING YOUR READ-ALOUD

## Ages 0-3

Don't worry if your child turns the pages too quickly for your liking. With very young children, the goal is to help them associate books with warmth— to associate books with happiness. That happens even when we simply point out a thing or two in the pictures, even if we don't read aloud all the words.

## Ages 4-7

Too often, we prioritize teaching children to read for themselves, rather than enjoying stories *with* them. Continue to read picture books to your child as often as possible, and keep in mind that the first and foremost priority is to nurture a love of books.

## Ages 8-12

This is the age when most parents often stop reading aloud to their children, but we actually want to *increase* our read-aloud time, if possible. Let your kids do something with their hands (sketch, use modeling clay, color, play with lego, etc.) while you read to them.

#### Teens

If you haven't read aloud to your teen lately (or ever), the best way to begin is with an audio book in the car. Focus less on reading the "right" books and more on enjoying a story together. Getting an audio book from the library and turning it on when you're in the car is a great way to begin.

