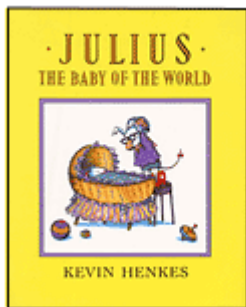


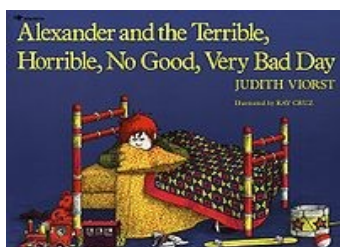
# Recommended Reading Series for Grades K-3 ESL

Prepared for Mrs. Sermersheim  
Huntingburg Elementary



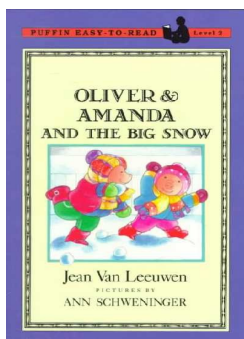
## ***Julius Baby of the World* by Kevin Henkes**

**Ages 3 & Up** - For children who are facing the arrival of a new sibling, *Julius, the Baby of the World* makes for great biblio-therapy. At first, big sister Lilly thought it might be fun to have a new baby in the family. But when her parents repeatedly coo, "Julius is the baby of world," Lilly's mouse hackles begin to rise. Soon the jealousy is too much for her, and she embarks on a rejection campaign that is hysterically funny, but also comforting for siblings who probably feel just as much resentment but would never go to Lilly's extremes. Author Kevin Henkes refuses to shy away from the truly powerful and sometimes dark feelings of children. **The other two books with this character are *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse* and *Lilly's Big Day*.**



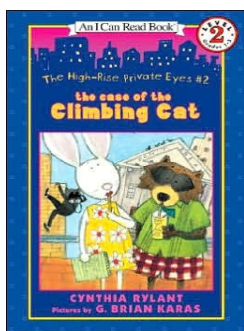
## ***Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day* by Judith Viorst**

**Ages 5-8** - People of all ages have terrible, horrible days, and Alexander offers us the cranky commiseration we crave as well as a reminder that things may not be all that bad. As Alexander's day progresses, he faces a barrage of bummers worthy of a country-western song: getting smushed in the middle seat of the car, a cavity at the dentist's office, and being forced to sleep in railroad-train pajamas. **Two additional titles with this character: *Alexander, Who Used to Be Rich Last Sunday* and *Alexander, Who's Not (Do You Hear Me? I Mean It!) Going To Move***



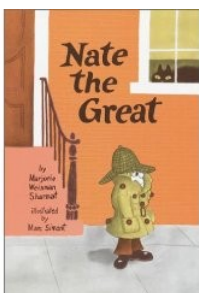
## ***Oliver and Amanda and the Big Snow* by Jean Van Leeuwen**

**Ages 4-8** - After a big snowfall, Oliver Pig and his little sister, Amanda, build a snow fort, go sledding, and make a snow creature. Beginning readers will enjoy the gentle humor, and preschoolers will appreciate Amanda's challenges as she deals with her brother's obstinacy and her fear of sledding down the big hill. Rounded line drawings with watercolor washes brighten every page. Offering simple winter tales for reading aloud, these stories capture the pleasure children take in cold, snowy weather and a warm, loving family. **This series includes 19 additional books.**



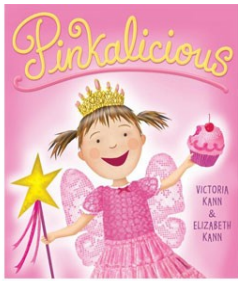
## ***The High-Rise Detectives: The Case of the Climbing Cat* by Cynthia Rylant**

**Ages 6-8** - This easy-reader series features detectives and best friends Bunny Brown and raccoon Jack Jones. In *Cat*, Bunny is trying to get an acrophobic Jack up to her 21st-floor balcony when they are interrupted by Miss Nancy's scream of "Thief!" Again readers witness the sleuth's deductive reasoning as she quickly comes to the appropriate conclusion. Each case is presented in four chapters that set the scene, describe the circumstances, and offer suspects or clues and a solution. Children will enjoy searching the pages for the reported clues and will surely look forward to future installments. **There are 6 other books in this series.**



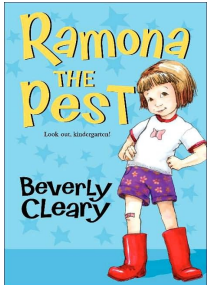
## ***Nate the Great* by Marjorie Weinman Sharmat**

**Ages 5-8** - Everyone's favorite detective--Nate the Great--has been delighting readers for over 30 years! The quirky characters and fun storylines are a big hit with kids--all of whom love to solve each mystery alongside the most popular sleuth in the business. **This series includes an additional 25 titles.**



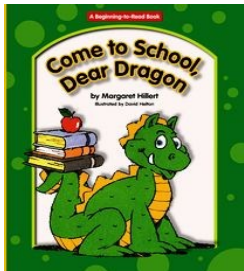
### **Pinkalicious by Jane O'Connor**

**Ages 4-8** - Pinkalicious eats so many pink cupcakes that she wakes up the next morning with pink skin and hair. The color just won't wash off, and the doctor diagnoses her with Pinkitis and tells her to eat green food to get better. Still, when her parents aren't looking, she sneaks just one more treat—and turns red. Startled, she starts to choke down her veggies and finally returns to normal. When everything seems okay, Daddy asks what happened to the other cupcakes, and Pinkalicious's little brother bounds into the room with one in hand, happily showing off his new pink skin. The final Pink-a-boo! is sure to garner smiles. **Other titles with this character include *Goldilicious* and *Purplicious*.**



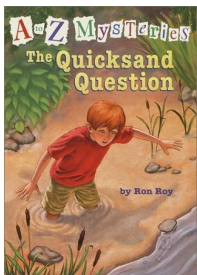
### **Ramona the Pest by Beverly Cleary**

**Ages 7-12** - The engaging tale of young Ramona Quimby's first days in kindergarten, *Ramona the Pest* takes a pint-sized perspective on the trials and delights of beginning school. Ramona can't wait to learn all the important things. She loves her teacher, and loves going to school in spite of the torments—having to wear hand-me-down boots, for example, or having to (sometimes) suppress the urge to pull on another girl's "boing-boing" curls. Ramona's energetic take on life appeals to children who have passed through this stage, or who are dealing with a kindergarten-age sibling who is exhibiting Ramona-ish tendencies. **There are 8 additional books with this character.**



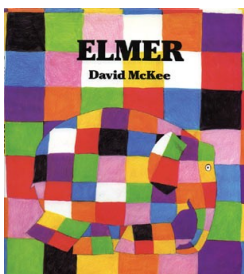
### **Come to School, Dear Dragon by Margaret Hillert**

**Ages 4-8** - This lively whimsical story is about a boy and his pet dragon. The adorable green pet dragon follows the boy to school where they participate in classroom and playground activities together. This "Beginning To Read" book contains many high frequency words, repetitive text, and basic phonetic patterns, supporting fluency and comprehension. Young readers will enjoy this title because it will capture the imagination and appeal to children who are learning to read simple text while enjoying imaginative stories. **There are 96 additional titles in this collection.**



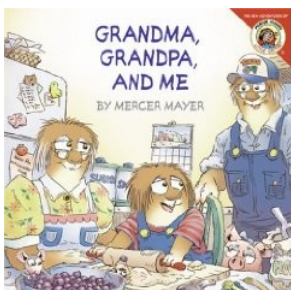
### **A to Z Mysteries: The Quicksand Question by Ron Roy**

**Ages 4-8** - This series features three smart kids who solve crimes and mysteries. They live in a small town in Connecticut, called Green Lawn. The kids are Dink Duncan, Josh Pinto, and Ruth Rose Hathaway. They are third graders and live near each other. They have hobbies and pets and parents, but what they love most is a good mystery. Most kids enjoy reading the books in alphabetical order. But you can skip around without missing anything. Have fun getting to know these three sly sleuths! **There are 25 other titles in this series.**



### **Elmer by David McKee**

**Ages 4-7** - Elmer the elephant is a colorful character, and his unusual multicolored checkerboard hide is the wonder of all the other elephants, who are characteristically gray. In spite of his sunny disposition, Elmer begins to feel conspicuous. He starts to believe the others are laughing at him because of his crazy patchwork coat. When Elmer discovers a bush in the jungle with elephant-colored berries, he shakes the bush and rolls in a berry mash until he is as gray as the others. Now no one seems to notice him; for a time he enjoys his anonymity, but after a while he begins to realize just how quiet and dull things are when he's not around. McKee's gentle humor and love of irony are in full force in this celebration of individuality and laughter. **There are 7 additional books with this character.**



### **Little Critter: Grandma, Grandpa, and Me by Mercer Mayer**

**Ages 4-7** - Little Critter is having a sleepover at Grandma and Grandpa's farm! He's excited—there is so much to see and do. Join Little Critter as he helps his grandparents milk the cows, pick blueberries, and bake a pie for the contest at the Country Fair. There are many delicious pies in the contest, but Little Critter's pie has a secret ingredient that is sure to make it a favorite! Mercer Mayer has been writing and illustrating books for children for more than forty years. His most recognized character, the lovable and charismatic Little Critter, was born in 1975 in the book *Just for You*. **There are over 200 additional titles with this character.**