**Suggested authors for Prep/1** (adapted from Di Snowball’s recommendations)

**Eric Carle:**
The Very Busy Spider  
The Very Quiet Cricket  
The Very Hungry Caterpillar  
Rooster’s off to See the World  
Do You Want to be my Friend?  
The Tiny Seed

**Mem Fox:**
Hello Baby!  
*Ten Little Fingers and Ten Little Toes*  
*Where Is The Green Sheep?*  
Sleepy Bears  
Boo to a Goose  
*Time for Bed*  
Night Noises  
Goodnight Sleep Tight  
Hattie and the Fox

**Pamela Allen:**
(Children will love the rhythm of the language in Pamela Allen’s books)  
Mr McGee  series is very popular  
Mr Archimedes’ Bath (this one is really suitable for older children)  
There are many other titles and they are all excellent so when children start school they will love all of them.

**Eric Hill:**
*Where’s Spot?*  (There are many other titles about Spot the Dog)

**Alison Lester:**
(There are many other great titles suitable for 4-8 year-olds so it important to introduce children to this prolific and popular Australian author/illustrator and Australian Children’s Laureate.)

Kissed by the Moon  
Roar  
Noni the Pony  
There are also four other board books for babies - Crashing and Splashing, Happy and Sad, Bumping and Bouncing, Bibs and Boots.

**Janet and Allan Ahlberg:**
*Each Peach Pear Plum
Peepo!
Peek-a-Boo!
(When children start school they will also love other titles such as The Jolly Postman, Burglar Bill, Funnybones)

**John Burningham:**

(John Burningham’s books have a ‘softer’ feel about them, particularly because of the style of his illustrations. After meeting these three titles pre-school they will love reading many of his other titles later. The Shopping basket is a great title for the first year at school.)

Mt. Gumpy’s series

**Lynley Dodd:**

*Hairy Maclary from Donaldson’s Dairy  (The repetitive and rhyming language in this title makes it a very popular book with very young children. There are many other great titles about the dog Hairy Maclary and his animal friends which children can then enjoy when they are ready for longer stories.

This story is also available as an interactive Q book from the App Store.

**Bill Martin Jnr :**

Chicka Chicka Boom Boom
Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What do you See? (with Eric Carle)
Polar Bear, Polar Bear, What do you See? (with Eric Carle)

**Michael Rosen:**

We’re Going on Bear Hunt
(This is a fabulous story to act out and will introduce children to an author whose other stories and poetry they will love when they are older.)

**Dr. Seuss:**

The Cat in the Hat
Green Eggs and Ham
One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish
Hop on Pop
Fox in Sox
The fun with sounds of language makes these titles popular with young children, but they are longer stories than most other picture books for this age group. So
introduce them when children are used to being read to for longer periods of time. Then are many other titles suitable for years 4-8 approx.
Note: All of the Dr. Seuss books are available as animated movies on Youtube, with the words from the books being read with great expression.

Pat Hutchins:

Rosie’s Walk
Good-night Owl!
(Other great titles by this author for 4 - 8 year-olds are Don’t Forget the Bacon!, The Doorbell Rang, Titch, Ten Red Apples, The Surprise Party, The Wind Blew, Ten Red Apples, The Very Worst Monster, You’ll Soon Grow into them Titch, Tidy Titch, Happy Birthday Sam. The Doorbell Rang is available on YouTube.)

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Other books and authors:

*Goodnight Moon - Margaret Wise Brown
Runaway Bunny - Margaret Wise Brown
Five little monkeys jumping on the bed - Eileen Christelow
Dear Zoo - Rod Campbell
*I Went Walking - Sue Machin
Guess How Much I Love You - Sam McBratney
Sheep in a Jeep - Nancy Shaw
Are You my Mother? - P.D. Eastman
The Gruffalo - Julia Donaldson. (There are other titles about Gruffalo and it is a satisfying book experience to find a known character in a new book.)
Harry the Dirty Dog – Gene Zion (There are many other titles about Harry, another opportunity to meet a character in many books.)
Ten Little Pirates – Mike Brownlow
My Cat Likes to Hide in Boxes - Eve Sutton
The Wrong Book – Nick Bland
Room on the Broom – Julia Donaldson
Piggy And Elephant Books -Mo Willems
**Books available on a computer or iPad**

There are many stories available on the computer or iPad, as Apps or on Youtube. This experience with books is not as valuable as the experience of a person reading to and interacting with children who can see and touch the book, request favourites to be read over and over, join in as they remember parts of the story and then also enjoy the book many times by themselves. However, when books are not available the digital versions are a great substitute. At least children hear the language of books and become familiar with a range of great titles and authors. Digital version can also help parents to find out about children’s favourites that may lead to the purchase of the printed book. Some of the stories on Youtube, such as The Cat in the Hat titles are also available as a lengthy movie that has more than the story from the book.

Some books are available online on various sites, such as the following:

*Storytimeanytime* is available on Youtube. In this series the librarian from the Wodonga Library (VIC) reads a picture book. The titles include *Hairy Maclary* and books by Pamela Allen.

*www.StorylineOnline.net*  On this website actors read popular children’s books, suitable for a variety of age groups.

**Nursery Rhymes and Songs**

It is also essential that children hear many nursery rhymes and songs that they will eventually join in with after hearing them several times. There are many **free** websites where you can find these:

*www.kidspot.com.au*  This site has the words for the most popular nursery rhymes. Go to kidspot >activity corner>nursery rhymes

*bussongs.com/*  This site has the words and the music for over 2000 children’s songs and nursery rhymes and you can download both and print the words.

*www.mothergooseclub.com*  This site has nursery rhymes (the rhymes being shown on the screen and a voiceover reading them), video clips of nursery rhymes being sung and acted out and children’s songs being sung. Adobe Flash is required so you cannot view this on an iPad.

*www.songsforteaching.com*  This site has the lyrics plus someone singing the rhymes.

On Youtube there are several suitable sites for nursery rhymes, finger plays and songs. These include:

Muffin Songs  
Super Simple Songs
CVS 3D Rhymes
MagicboxEngRhy
Childrenrhymes.

Also go to the website of Trevor Cairney www.Trevorcairney.com which will keep you up-to-date with books as well as articles about reading, writing, literacy etc. Trevor’s blog is one of the best for parents and he is Australian!