

# The Missouri Building Block Picture Book Award

The Missouri Building Block Picture Book Award is sponsored by the Youth Services Community of Interest of the Missouri Library Association. It is presented annually to the author and illustrator of the picture book voted most popular by children kindergarten age and younger in Missouri. Designed to encourage reading aloud to children, the award was first given in 1996. By reading aloud to children we are engaging them in vocabulary building, narrative skills, phonological awareness, print awareness and encouraging a love of books and reading.

The Missouri Building Block Committee encourages teachers, librarians, parents, and caregivers to read these stories and ask children for their votes. Please spread the word and participate every year! Over 20,000 children voted last year. With your help we hope to increase this number each year.

Information on the Missouri Building Block Award, along with related books and activity ideas for each nominee, are available at <http://www.molib.org/awards/buildingblock/index.html>. More ideas are available on Pinterest at <http://www.pinterest.com/mobuildingblock/>.

The Missouri Library Association has created a listserv dedicated to the award to which we invite you to subscribe. Find more info at <http://molib.org/membership/index.html#email>

If you are interested in participating in the Building Block committee, as a member or listener, please contact Jerilyn Hahn, [jhahn@dbri.org](mailto:jhahn@dbri.org), 2014 Chair or Deb Barry, [deborah.d.barry@gmail.com](mailto:deborah.d.barry@gmail.com), 2015 Chair.

## **How to Vote:**

The voting period runs from September 1 until December 31. The books are generally for kindergarteners and younger, but any child who benefits from the books may vote on their favorite title from the list. Children must listen to at least 5 of the 10 nominees before voting. For small numbers of children the easiest way to vote is to submit each vote electronically on our website. For large numbers of children send the total number of votes for each title by email, mail or fax to the Awards Chair. The 2014 Awards Chair is Deb Barry, [deborah.d.barry@gmail.com](mailto:deborah.d.barry@gmail.com).

## Missouri Building block Picture Book Award 2014 Nominees

Go to <http://molib.org/awards/buildingblock/index.html> for more ideas!

### Count the Monkeys

Written by Mac Barnett, illustrated by Kevin Cornell

- Act out “Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed” or “Five Little Monkeys Teasing Mr. Alligator.” On each verse a child sits out as an injured (or eaten) monkey.
- Magnetic Number Fishing: Place several sets of number magnets into a large bowl or bucket. Have kids “fish” for a number with a homemade fishing pole with magnet attached to the end of the string. Each child should identify the number “caught.”
- Sticker Number Card: [www.notimeforflashcards.com/2009/01/fast-Friday-fun.html](http://www.notimeforflashcards.com/2009/01/fast-Friday-fun.html)  
Accordion fold a piece of paper. Number each area. Have the child add the correct number of stickers to each area.
- Monkey Craft Stick Puzzle: Tape ten craft sticks together. On one side number the sticks 0-9. On the other side trace a monkey template. Children can color the monkeys before taking off the tape. The puzzles can then be put together either by number or monkey image.

### I Dare You Not to Yawn

Written by Helene Boudreau, illustrated by Serge Bloch

- Play a version of Simon Says. Instead of saying “Simon says,” say “I dare you to...” or “I dare you NOT to...”
- Make a “Ten in a Bed” craft with cardstock and craft sticks. [Kathy Ross Crafts: Numbers!](#) uses an envelope. For a fancier version see:  
[http://ellieandabbie.typepad.com/bright\\_eyes\\_blue\\_eyes/2009/10/color.html](http://ellieandabbie.typepad.com/bright_eyes_blue_eyes/2009/10/color.html)
- Share the website <http://www.looneypalace.com/i-dare-you-not-to-yawn/>
- Make a felt board story using the poem “Joshua’s Jammies” from [Button Up! Wrinkled Rhymes](#) by Alice Schertle.
- Sing “Sleeping Bunnies” from “Zoom Zoom Cuddle and Croon” by Kathy Reid-Naiman.

### Open Very Carefully: A Book with Bite

Written by Nick Bromley, illustrated by Nicole O’Byrne

- Sing a revised version of “Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed” featuring crocodiles instead of monkeys. For lyrics and templates for crocodile finger puppets see <http://www.first-school.ws/t/music/3crocosong.htm>

- Make a crocodile puppet. Directions can be found at <http://www.brighthubeducation.com/toddler-activities-learning/66585-two-crocodile-craft-ideas/> Modify by using green paper 8 ½" x 11". Add eyes that stick up.
- Make a flannel board for the rhyme "Five Hungry Crocodiles." You'll need 5 green crocodiles and 5 different colored fish. Have the children identify the colors of each fish as you use it.

Five hungry crocodiles each made a wish. Five hungry crocodiles wished for a fish. Along came a blue fish. Snap! went the crocodile. Mmm-mmm! That left...

Four hungry crocodiles each made a wish. Four hungry crocodiles wished for a fish. Along came a \_\_\_\_ fish. Snap! went the crocodile. Mmm-mmm! That left...

Three hungry crocodiles each made a wish. Three hungry crocodiles wished for a fish. Along came a \_\_\_\_ fish. Snap! went the crocodile. Mmm-mmm! That left...

Two hungry crocodiles each made a wish. Two hungry crocodiles wished for a fish. Along came a \_\_\_\_ fish. Snap! went the crocodile. Mmm-mmm! That left...

One hungry crocodile made a wish. One hungry crocodile wished for a fish. Along came a \_\_\_\_ fish. Snap! went the crocodile. Mmm-mmm! That left... None.

### Ribbit!

Written by Rodrigo Folgueira, illustrated by Poly Bernatene

- Song to the tune of the "Farmer in the Dell" (First verse from <http://www.1plus1plus1equals1.com/Songs.html>)

The frog lives in the pond,  
Her tongue is oh so long.  
It reaches high to catch a fly.  
The frog lives in the pond.

The pig rolls in the mud.  
It keeps him feeling cool.  
He rolls around till he's nice and brown.  
The pig rolls in the mud.

The birds live in the trees.  
They nest among the leaves.  
They swoop down low then away they go.  
The birds live in the trees.

- Play “Animal Sounds Bingo.” Printable Bingo cards at <http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/PrintableAnimalSoundsBingo.html>
- Make a pig out of simple shapes. See example at <http://nikarella.wordpress.com/2012/03/21/pig-storytime/>

### Little Nelly’s Big Book

Written by Pippa Goodhart, illustrated by Andy Rowland

- Song: “The Elephants are Here” (tune: “The Farmer in the Dell.”) Have children suggest actions for the elephants until tired when you sing the final verse.

The elephants are here! The elephants are here!  
Look at the elephants! The elephants are here!

They’re swinging their trunks! They’re swinging their trunks!  
Look at the elephants! They’re swinging their trunks!

They’re stomping here and there! They’re stomping here and there!  
Look at the elephants! They’re stomping here and there!

They’re all exhausted now. They’re all exhausted now.  
Look at the elephants. They’re all exhausted now. Zzzzzzzzzzz

- Make a picture with handprint elephants and fingerprint mice. Directions for the elephants can be found at <http://www.clickacraft.com/handprint/animals/handprint-elephant>. Directions for making fingerprint mice can be found at <http://www.birthdayinabox.com/activity-guides/mickey-mouse-craft-thumbprint-mice.html#>. For a simpler elephant you could trace around a child’s hand on gray paper. Add features and cut out.
- Have an elephant parade with the children walking in a line each holding his hands in front of him to make a trunk. Each child could have a ribbon for a tail that the child behind could hold on to. As they walk recite this rhyme using the appropriate numbers:

Five big elephants—Oh what a sight!  
Swinging their trunks from left to right.  
Four are followers and one is the king.  
They all walk around in the circus ring.

## This Little Piggy

Written and illustrated by Tim Harrington

- Make a foil and cardboard tube rocket ship for the astronaut piggy. For instructions see <http://www.naturallyeducational.com/2010/09/space-rocket-ship-craft-astronaut-books/>.
- Make pig finger puppets: <http://www.busybeekidscrafts.com/Pig-Finger-Puppet.html>
- Super Hero (or Super Toe) Rhyme from [https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=NrpTfDUSmz8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=NrpTfDUSmz8)
- Give each child a cutout foot with toes. Decorate the toes as different people. A foot template may be found at <http://rubberstamping.about.com/od/digitalstamps/ss/Baby-Feet-Free-Digital-Stamp.htm> or <http://familycrafts.about.com/cs/footprintcrafts/l/blcolorfootpr.htm>

## Mustache Baby

Written by Bridget Heos, illustrated by Joy Ang

- Mustache Match Magnetic Board: Make a page of mustaches of different styles and colors. Copy it on cardstock. Cut out the cardstock mustaches and attach magnets to the back. Tape the paper original on an aluminum baking sheet. Children play by matching the mustaches.
- Play "Pin the Mustache on the Face." Use a simple smiley face and give each child a different style or color mustache. Use a bandana or felt triangle with yarn ties for a blindfold.
- Make a mustache straw for snacktime. Cut mustaches out of cardstock. Cut two small slits in the center or use a hole punch to make a hole for the straw to fit through. See <http://innerchildfun.com/2012/05/silly-moustache-straws.html>
- Activity ideas from Bridget Heos: <http://www.authorbridgetheos.com/mustache-baby.php>
- Make a flannelboard man with a beard and recite the Edward Lear rhyme. <http://www.dltk-kids.com/crafts/miscellaneous/mlear-limerick-beard.htm> OR <http://storytimesecrets.blogspot.com/2014/02/flannel-friday-there-was-old-man-with.html> OR <http://libraryvillage.blogspot.com/2014/03/preschool-story-time-letter-of-month-is.html>

## Moo

Written by David LaRochelle, illustrated by Mike Wohnoutka

- Pair with Mitchell's License by Hallie Durant or In the Driver's Seat by Max Haynes.
- Give the children paper plate steering wheels so they can drive along as you read.

- Teaching Guide from David LaRochelle with lots of fun activities:  
<http://www.davidlarochelle.com/pdf/MooTeachingGuide.pdf#zoom=70>

- Transportation rhyme:

Take a bus or take a train.  
Take a boat or take a plane.  
Take a rocket to the moon,  
But be sure to come back soon!

- Song: "Going for a Ride" (Tune: If You're Happy and You Know It")

Oh, I'm going for a ride in a car. (Pretend to steer a car.)

Oh, I'm going for a ride in a car.

Oh, I'm going for a ride,

And I want you by my side.

Oh, I'm going for a ride in a car. Vroom, vroom. (or Honk, honk)

Oh, I'm going for a ride on a ship. (Make waves with your hands.)

Oh, I'm going for a ride on a ship.

Oh, I'm going for a ride,

And I want you by my side.

Oh, I'm going for a ride on a ship.

Oh, I'm going for a ride on a train. (Move arms like a train.)

Oh, I'm going for a ride on a train.

Oh, I'm going for a ride,

And I want you by my side.

Oh, I'm going for a ride on a train. Choo-choo!

Oh, I'm going for a ride on a plane. (Extend arms like airplane wings.)

Oh, I'm going for a ride on a plane.

Oh, I'm going for a ride,

And I want you by my side.

Oh, I'm going for a ride on a plane. Zoom!

Additional verses: ride on a bike, ride in a bus

- Make flannel board story of "Crazy Traffic Light" from Family Storytime: Twenty-four Creative Programs for All Ages by Rob Reid.
- Create paintings by driving small cars through paint.

## The Watermelon Seed

Written and illustrated by Greg Pizzoli

- Song: “Watermelon Echo Song” (Tune: “Frere Jacques”)  
I just swallowed, (I just swallowed)  
A watermelon seed (A watermelon seed)  
Will I grow a watermelon? (Will I grow a watermelon?)  
Deep in me? (Deep in me?)  
  
That seed won’t grow (That seed won’t grow)  
In my tummy (In my tummy)  
There’s no rain or sunshine (There’s no rain or sunshine)  
Deep in me? (Deep in me?)
- Watermelon People Crafts: <http://kolcraft.com/blog/wonderbug-watermelon-craft-for-kids/>
- Feed the Alligator/Crocodile Toss: Print out an alligator or crocodile face and glue to a box. Cut out the mouth. Have children feed the animal by tossing beanbags into the mouth.

## That is NOT a Good Idea!

Written and illustrated by Mo Willems

- Make a fox face out of a maple leaf: <http://stranamasterov.ru/node/24137?c=favorite>
- Song: “The Fox is in the Box” (tune: “The Farmer in the Dell”)  
  
The fox is in the box,  
The fox is in the box,  
The fox is in the \_\_\_\_\_ (color) box.  
The fox is in the box.
- Pair with a flannel board version of Rosie’s Walk by Pat Hutchins. A printable version may be found at [http://www.kizclub.com/storypatterns/rosie\(C\).pdf](http://www.kizclub.com/storypatterns/rosie(C).pdf)
- Make a clucking chick the children can use to make noise whenever the goose is in trouble. <http://froggooseandbear.blogspot.com/2011/06/kids-craft-clucking-chicken.html>
- Goose Craft: <http://tippytoecrafts.blogspot.com/2012/01/mother-geese.html>
- Ideas from HarperCollins: <http://www.harpercollins.com/books/9780062203090>

## Story Time Ideas for Missouri Building Block Award Nominees 2014

A child needs to hear at least 5 titles before voting.

Here are a few ways to combine 5 titles in a story time.

### Crocodiles, Monkeys, and Bedtime

Book: The Watermelon Seed by Greg Pizzoli

Book: Open Very Carefully by Nick Bromley

Rhyme: "Five Little Monkeys Teasing Mr. Crocodile"

Book: Count the Monkeys by Kevin Cornell

Rhyme: "Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed"

Book: I Dare You Not to Yawn by Helene Boudreau

Song: "Ten in the Bed"

Book: This Little Piggy by Tim Harrington

Choose one activity:

Sticker Number Card (counting activity)

Ten in the Bed Envelope craft (Five in the Bed)

Crocodile puppet

### Animals:

Rabbit by Rodrigo Folgueira

Little Nelly by Pippa Goodhart

Moo by David LaRochelle

Count the Monkeys by Cornell

Open Very Carefully by Bromley

### Nonsense:

Book: Mustache Baby by Bridget Heos

Flannelboard: Edward Lear rhyme

Song: "Frog Lives in the Pond" (start with bird verse)

Book: Rabbit by Rodrigo Folgueira

Book: Little Nelly by Pippa Goodhart

Song: "The Elephants are Here"

Book: Moo by David LaRochelle

Song: "Going for a ride"

Book: That is Not a Good Idea by Mo Willems

Song: "I know an old lady who swallowed a fly"

Activities:

Mustache straw

Paper plate steering wheel

Paper plate elephant

### Warnings:

That is Not a Good Idea by Mo Willems

Open Very Carefully by Nick Bromle

I Dare You Not to Yawn by Helene Boudreau

The Watermelon Seed by Greg Pizzoli

Little Nelly by Pippa Goodhart (Books should have pictures)