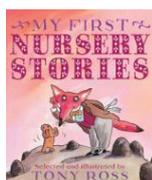




I can listen to long stories:

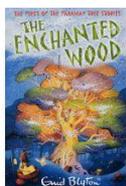
Short Stories and Chapter Books for 3-6 year olds.

Once children are three or four years old and have longer attention spans it is important to begin to read them longer stories with more words and fewer pictures to help develop their listening skills, in preparation for school and to cultivate their imagination. Keep reading and discussing quality picture books, of course, but also allow children to conjure up their own mental pictures as you introduce them to traditional tales such as *The Three Billy Goats Gruff* or modern stories such as Libby Gleeson's books about Hannah and her family. Remember to read with enthusiasm to engage young listeners and to make reading fun. Note that many of these books are also ideal for early independent readers to read alone.



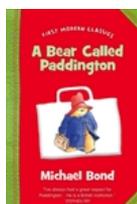
My First Nursery Stories. Selected and Illustrated by Tony Ross.

Classic folk and fairytales. Humorously illustrated, this collection contains a good selection of well-known tales that should be part of every child's literary experiences. It includes *The Three Little Pigs*, *The Billy Goats Gruff*, *Little Red Riding Hood*, *Goldilocks*, *Henny Penny*, *The Gingerbread Man* and *The Giant Turnip*; all wonderful stories to captivate young listeners. (Many other collections are available in your library.)



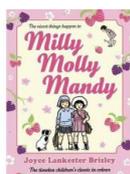
The Enchanted Wood by Enid Blyton.

While Enid Blyton's writing has been much criticised for mediocre prose stereotyped characters and racist undertones, few children from 4 to about 8 tire of her *Magic Faraway Tree* stories about the funny characters that inhabit the tree and the different lands above it but continue to read aloud from a variety of authors and genres to expose children to the diversity of literature. Blyton's easy-to-read books are often the first novels youngsters tackle alone. Titles in the series: **The Magic Faraway Tree**, **The Folk of the Faraway Tree**.



A Bear called Paddington by Michael Bond. (3-10)

English Classic. Paddington Bear, from darkest Peru is adopted by Mr and Mrs Brown after they find him alone on Paddington railway station. They soon discover that he is a very unusual bear who often finds himself in humorous situations.



Milly Molly Mandy by Joyce Lankester Brisley.

English Classic. Milly Molly Mandy lives in 'the nice white cottage with the thatched roof' in a small village with her parents, grandparents, aunt and uncle. The simple stories focusing on everyday activities such as going to parties, picnicking, going to school, helping and playing, remain popular with many young girls and some boys.

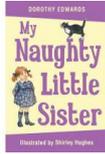


The Honey and Bear Stories by Ursula Dubosarsky and Ron Brooks

These ten short stories about the friendship between Honey, (a bird) and Bear are beautifully written and charmingly illustrated. They depict domestic activities and universal themes including responsibility, friendship, love and fear. It is also a perfect chapter book for beginning readers.

CBCA Notable Book 2003

✓ **Australian Author and Illustrator**



My Naughty Little Sister by Dorothy Edwards (series)

First published in the 1950s these English stories about the antics of a stubborn and mischievous child continue to make children laugh. Other titles in the series include **When My Naughty Little Sister was Good, My Naughty Little Sister and Bad Harry, More Naughty Little Sister Stories, My Naughty Little Sister's Friends.**

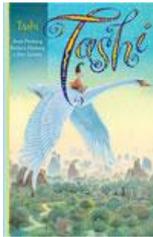


Minton Goes! Sailing and Flying by Anna Fienberg and Kim Gamble

Minton, the salamander is always looking for adventure and enjoys building boats and vehicles. His more cautious friend Turtle, however, worries that something will go wrong. Each story is accompanied by easy-to-follow instructions for making Minton's creations from items found around the house. Also suitable for young, independent readers.

Other titles include **Minton goes! Driving and Trucking; Minton goes! Underwater: & home at last.** Also **The hottest boy who ever lived.**

✓ **Australian Author and Illustrator**



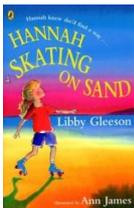
Tashi by Anna and Barbara Fienberg. Illustrated by Kim Gamble.

Children from 4 up to 10 love these imaginative adventures that are inspired by traditional tales. The stories are exciting, amusing and sometimes a little scary. As it progresses the series becomes more complex so with the youngest listeners and readers begin with the first two titles and the picture book, **Once There was a Boy called Tashi.** Titles in series include **Tashi and the Giants, Tashi and the Ghosts, Tashi and the Genie.** Suitable for confident early readers to read alone.

CBCA Book of the Year, Younger Readers, Shortlist 1996

Website: <http://www.tashibooks.com/home.html>

✓ **Australian Author and Illustrator**



Skating on Sand by Libby Gleeson. Illustrator Ann James.

This is the first captivating story in the series about Hannah and her family in which Libby Gleeson captures perfectly family dynamics and children's emotions. In this story, Hannah is determined to learn to skate, even though the family are camping on rocky ground near the beach.

Other titles include **Hannah Plus One (CBCA Book of the Year 1997); Hannah and the Tomorrow Room (CBCA Honour Book 2000)**

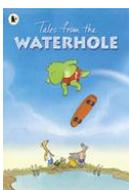
✓ **Australian author and Illustrator**



Millie Starts School by Jane Godwin. Illustrator David Cox

Common childhood experiences in the first year of school are amusingly portrayed in four linked stories as Millie makes a friend, loses a tooth, participates in a play and gives her teacher a gift.

✓ **Australian Author and Illustrator**



Tales from the Waterhole by Bob Graham.

These five quirky family stories about African animals with human characteristics will delight young listeners and beginning readers, who will enjoy the gentle humour in both the words and pictures; and will relate to the family interactions.

CBCA Book of the Year Early Childhood, Shortlist 2005

✓ **Australian Author/Illustrator**

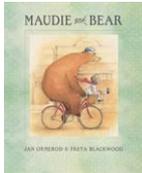


Emily's Rapunzel Hair by Cecily Matthews. Illustrator Freya Blackwood.

Seven linked stories engagingly describe four-year-old Emily's everyday adventures and thoughts as she impatiently waits for her hair to grow into flowing Rapunzel locks.

CBCA Book of the Year Early Childhood, Shortlist 2006

✓ **Australian Author and Illustrator**

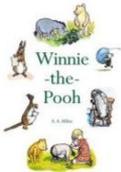


Maudie and Bear by Jan Ormerod. Illustrator Freya Blackwood.

Five short stories about a self-centred pre-schooler, Maudie and her patient and loving companion, Bear, astutely depict the relationship between child and parent.

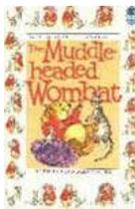
CBCA Book of the Year Early Childhood 2011.

✓ **Australian Author and Illustrator**



Winnie-the-Pooh by A.A. Milne. Illustrator E.H. Shepard. (3-adult)

English Classic. These gentle and witty stories about Christopher Robin's lovable bear, Winnie-the-Pooh and his friends Piglet, Eeyore, Rabbit, Owl, Tigger and Kanga are among the most well-known tales for children in the English language. The stories continue to enchant children but introduce them to the original text and illustrations in preference to the Disney versions.



The Adventures of the Muddle Headed Wombat by Ruth Park. (3-10)

Australian Classic. The entertaining stories about Wombat and his friends Mouse and Tabby began as a radio serial in the 1960s. Children love Wombat, who, while well-meaning is always in trouble. His speech characterised by malapropisms and spoonerisms adds to the humour and provides opportunities for discussion.

✓ **Australian Author**



Mrs Pepperpot Stories by Alf Proysens.

Norwegian Classic. When old Mrs Pepperpot shrinks in size she has all sorts of exciting adventures and unusual experiences. These imaginative stories continue enthral children.



Dear Teddy Robinson by Joan Robinson.

Deborah loves her endearing bear, Teddy Robinson and together they have fun and little adventures around the house and with friends.

Also **Teddy Robinson Stories**



The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark by Jill Tomlinson.

Plop the baby barn owl is afraid of the dark and will not join his parents on their hunting expeditions. His wise mother sends him out of the nest to meet a boy, an old lady, a young girl, a cat and others and through these encounters he discovers that dark is not frightening after all. The repetition and gentle humour make this story about overcoming fears wonderful to read aloud.



Adventures of The Little Wooden Horse by Ursula Moray Williams.

The Little Wooden Horse is forced to make his own way in the world when his beloved master, the toymaker falls on hard times. He faces many challenges and his one wish throughout is to return home. This old-fashioned tale with a happy ending may be too sad for younger listeners but will engage most 5-6 year olds.

Also **Gobbolino the Witch's Cat**