

Predictable Books in the EMC

“Predictable books make use of rhyme, repetition of words, phrases, sentences and refrains, and such patterns as cumulative structure, repeated scenes, familiar cultural sequences, interlocking structure and turn-around plots. These stories invite children to make predictions or guesses about words, phrases, sentences, events and characters that could come next in the story.” (from Reading Resource Book by Mary Jett Simpson)

Lists are arranged by author.

Chain or Circular Story

Plot is interlinked so that the ending leads back to the beginning.

Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People’s Ears, by Verna Aardema

EMC: Non-fiction 398.2 A113wh

Who is the Beast, by Keith Baker

EMC: Picture Books Ba

If You Give a Mouse a Cookie, by Laura Numeroff

EMC: Picture Books Nu

If You Give a Moose a Muffin, by Laura Numeroff

EMC: Picture Books Nu

Cumulative Stories

Each time a new event occurs, all previous events in the story are repeated.

Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain: a Nandi Tale, by Berna Aardema

EMC: Picture Books Aa

The Christmas Tree/ El Arbol de Navidad, by Alma Flora Ada

EMC: Picture Books Ad

The Pot that Juan Built, by Nancy Andrews-Goebel

EMC: Non-fiction 921 Q5a

Chicken Licken, by Gavin Bishop

EMC: Picture Books Ch

Mr. Gumpy’s Outing, by John Burningham

EMC: Picture Books Bu

Jack's Garden, by Henry Cole
EMC: Picture Books Co

The Heart of the Wood, by Marguerite W. Davol
EMC: Picture Books Da

If All the Seas Were One Sea, by Janina Domanska
EMC: Picture Books Do

This is the Bread I Baked for Ned, by Crescent Dragonwagon
EMC: Picture Books Dr

Rum Pum Pum, by Maggie Duff
EMC: Non-fiction 398.2 D855r

This Is the Star, by Joyce Dunbar
EMC: Non-fiction 232.92 D898t

Here is the African Savanna, by Madeleine Dunphy
EMC: Non-fiction 577.48 D925h

Drummer Hoff, by Barbara Emberley
EMC: Picture Books Em

Shoes from Grandpa, by Mem Fox
EMC: Picture Books Fo

Snow and the Sun/ la Nieve y el Sol, by Antonio Frasconi
EMC: Non-fiction 468.2 F841s

The Old Woman and Her Pig, by Paul Galdone
EMC: Picture Books Ol

La Vieille Femme et Son Cochon (The Old Woman and Her Pig [French])
EMC: Non-fiction 448.6 O44v

The Bossy Gallito/ El Gallo de Bodas: a Traditional Cuban Folktale, by Lucia Gonzalez
EMC: Non-fiction 398.2 G643b

Sitting Down to Eat, by Bill Harley
EMC: Non-fiction 808.1 H285s

This the Bear, by Sarah Hayes
EMC: Picture Books Ha

Fiddle-I-Fee, by Will Hillenbrand
EMC: Non-fiction 398.8 F449

One Fine Day, by Nonny Hogrogian
EMC: Picture Books Ho

Jump, Frog, Jump!, by Robert Kalan
EMC: Picture Books Ka

There Was an Old Woman, by Steven Kellogg
EMC: Picture Books Ke

Matzah That Papa Brought Home, by Fran Manushkin
EMC: Picture Books Ma

The Marvelous Market on Mermaid, by Laura Krauss Melmed
EMC: Picture Books Me

The Great Big Enormous Turnip, by Helen Oxenbury
EMC: Picture Books Ox

It's My Birthday, by Helen Oxenbury
EMC: Picture Books Ox

Who, Said Sue, Said Whoo?!, by Ellen Raskin
EMC: Picture Books Ra

I Had a Rooster: A Traditional Folk Song, by Pete Seeger
EMC: Non-fiction 782.42 S551i

This Is the Bird, by George Shannon
EMC: Picture Books Sh

The House That Drac Built, by Judy Sierra
EMC: Picture Books Si

The House That Jack Built, by Jenny Stow
EMC: Picture Books Ho

By the Light of the Halloween Moon, by Caroline Stutson
EMC: Picture Books St

The Great Big Enormous Turnip, by Alexei Tolstoy
EMC: Picture Books To

Possum Come A-Knockin', by Nancy Van Laan
EMC: Picture Books Va

Bearsie Bear and the Surprise Sleepover Party, by Bernard Waber
EMC: Picture Books Wa

The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything, by Linda Williams
EMC: Picture Books Wi

The Napping House, by Audrey Wood
EMC: Picture Books Wo

The Judge, an Untrue Tale, by Harve Zemach
EMC: Picture Books Ze

Familiar Sequence

Organized by recognizable them, such as: days of week, numbers, etc.

Chicken Soup With Rice, by Maurice Sendak
EMC: Picture Books Se

Dinnertime!, by Sue Williams
EMC: Picture Books Wi

Pattern Story

Scenes are repeated with some variation.

The Runaway Bunny, by Margaret Wise Brown
EMC: Picture Books Br

Millions of Cats, by Wanda Gag
EMC: Picture Books Ga

The Little Red Hen, by Paul Galdone
EMC: Picture Books Li

The Three Bears, by Paul Galdone
EMC: Picture Books Th

The Three Billy Goats Gruff, by Paul Galdone
EMC: Non-fiction 398.2 A799th 1973

The Carrot Seed, by Ruth Krauss
EMC: Picture Books Kr

Are You There Bear?, by Ron Maris
EMC: Picture Books Ma

Who Took the Farmer's Hat?, by Joan Nodset
EMC: Picture Books No

Question and Answer

The same or similar questions are repeated throughout the story.

Where Have You Been?, by Margaret Wise Brown
EMC: Picture Books Br

What Do You Do With a Tail Like This?, by Steve Jenkins & Robin Page
EMC: Non-fiction 573.8 J52w

Whose Mouse Are You?, by Robert Kraus
EMC: Picture Books Kr

Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?, by Bill Martin, Jr.
EMC: Picture Books Ma

Repetition of Words, Phrases, Questions & Sequences

Word order in a phrase, sentence, etc. is repeated.

Each Peach Pear Plum, by Janet and Allen Ahlberg
EMC: Picture Books Ah

Who Sank the Boat?, by Pamela Allen
EMC: Picture Books Al

Who is the Beast?, by Keith Baker
EMC: Picture Books Ba

Goodnight Moon, by Margaret Wise Brown
EMC: Picture Books Br

Two Little Trains, by Margaret Wise Brown
EMC: Picture Books Br

Do You Want To Be My Friend?, by Eric Carle
EMC: Picture Books Ca

The Very Busy Spider, by Eric Carle
EMC: Picture Books Ca

The Very Hungry Caterpillar, by Eric Carle
EMC: Picture Books Ca

The Very Quiet Cricket, by Eric Carle
EMC: Picture Books Ca

What Shall We Do With the Boo-Hoo Baby?, by Cressida Cowell
EMC: Picture Books Co

How Joe the Bear and Sam the Mouse Got Together, by Beatrice Schenk De Regniers
EMC: Picture Books De

Mama Cat Has Three Kittens, by Denise Fleming
EMC: Picture Books Fl

Boo to a Goose, by Mem Fox
EMC: Picture Books Fo

Zoo Looking, by Mem Fox
EMC: Picture Books Fo

Is Your Mama a Llama?, by Deborah Guarino
EMC: Picture Books Gu

A House is a House For Me, by Mary Ann Hoberman
EMC: Picture Books Ho

Mama, Do You Love Me?, by Barbara Joose
EMC: Picture Books Jo

Jump, Frog, Jump!, by Robert Kalan
EMC: Picture Books Ka

Where Are You Going Little Mouse?, by Robert Krause
EMC: Picture Books Kr

Whose Mouse Are You?, by Robert Krause
EMC: Picture Books Kr

The Day the Goose Got Loose, by Reeve Lindbergh
EMC: Picture Books Li

A Summery Saturday Morning, by Margaret Mahy
EMC: Picture Books Ma

Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?, by Bill Martin, Jr.
EMC: Picture Books Ma

Here Are My Hands, by Bill Martin, Jr.
EMC: Picture Books Ma

Polar Bear, Polar Bear, What Do You Hear?, by Bill Martin, Jr.
EMC: Picture Books Ma

Who Took the Farmer's Hat?, by Joan Nodset
EMC: Picture Books No

If You Give a Moose a Muffin, by Laura Numeroff
EMC: Picture Books Nu

If You Give Mouse a Cookie, by Laura Numeroff
EMC: Picture Books Nu

If You Give a Pig a Pancake, by Laura Numeroff
EMC: Picture Books Nu

I Can't Get My Turtle to Move, by Elizabeth Lee O'Donnell
EMC: Picture Books Od

Good night, Gorilla, by Peggy Rathmann
EMC: Picture Books Ra

What Baby Wants, by Phyllis Root
EMC: Picture Books Ro

We're Going on a Bear Hunt, by Michael Rosen
EMC: Picture Books Ro

The Little Red House, by Norma Jean Sawicki
EMC: Picture Books Sa

Who Said Red?, by Mary Serfozo
EMC: Picture Books Se

Who Wants One?, by Mary Serfozo
EMC: Non-fiction 513.2 S483w

Dance Away, by George Shannon
EMC: Picture Books Sh

The Piney Woods Peddler, by George Shannon
EMC: Picture Books Sh

Have You Seen My Duckling?, by Nancy Tafuri
EMC: Picture Books Ta

Possum Come A-Knockin', by Nancy Van Laan
EMC: Picture Books Va

How Do I Put It On?, by Shigeo Watanbe
EMC: Picture Books Wa

I Went Walking, by Sue Williams
EMC: Picture Books Wi

Bear Snores On, by Karma Wilson
EMC: Picture Books Wi

King Bidgood's In the Bathtub, by Audrey Wood
EMC: Picture Books Wo

A Big Fish Story/ Un Cuento de un Pez Grande, by Joanna and David Wylie
EMC: Picture Books Wy

A More or Less Fish Story/ Un Cuento de Peces Mas O Menos, by Joanna and David Wylie
EMC: Picture Books Wy

Let's Eat, by Ana Zamorano
EMC: Picture Books Za

Rhyme

Rhyming words, refrains, or patterns are used throughout the story.

Johnny Crow's Garden, by Leslie Brooke
EMC: Picture Books Br

Barnyard Banter, by Denise Fleming
EMC: Picture Books Fl

A Beach Day, by Douglas Florian
EMC: Picture Books Fl

The ABC Bunny, by Wanda Gag
EMC: Picture Books Ga

Is Your Mama a Llama?, by Deborah Guarino
EMC: Picture Books Gu

A House Is a House For Me, by Mary Ann Hoberman
EMC: Picture Books Ho

Sheep in a Shop, by Nancy Shaw
EMC: Picture Books Sh

Dinnertime!, by Sue Williams
EMC: Picture Books Wi

Shoes, by Elizabeth Winthrop
EMC: Picture Books Wi

*Many more stories in rhyme found in the Polk Library Online Catalog,
under the subject heading “Stories in Rhyme”.

References

Monroe Public Library- “Predictable Books”
www.monroe.lib.in.us/childrens/booklists/predictbib.html

University of Iowa Curriculum Laboratory- “Patterned/Predictable Books”
www.uiowa.edu/~crl

Database of Award-winning Children’s Literature
www.dawcl.com

Allen County Public Library- “Cumulative Tales”
www.acpl.lib.in.us/children/cumulative.html

