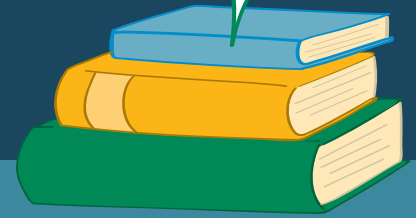


BRIGHT HORIZONS Growing Readers Review

SEPTEMBER
2020



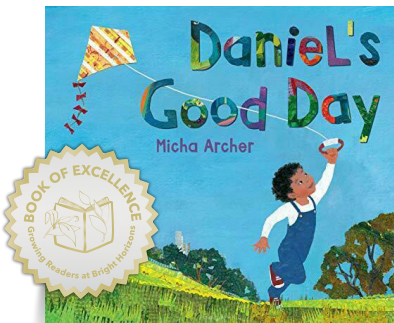
Books of Excellence and Notable books are selected annually by a panel of Bright Horizons early childhood experts and represent some of the best new writing in children's literature.

Book of Excellence

PRESCHOOL

Daniel's Good Day

Written and Illustrated by Micha Archer



As Daniel walks through the neighborhood with his grandmother, he asks everyone he meets, “What makes your day good?” The answers are lovely and varied— clear skies, a steady wind, birthdays, wagging tails, please and thank you, and much more. Charming illustrations add to the message of warmth, community, and gratitude.

Storytelling Tips

Read the story slowly to your child, savoring the bright illustrations. Talk about your own neighborhood. Who are the people who live there? What do they do to have a good day?

Extend the Learning

- ▶ Make a list as a family of all the things that make your days good. Post the list in a prominent place.
- ▶ Offer your child a bucket of water and a paintbrush to “paint” a fence, sidewalk, or wall.
- ▶ Learn about different types of clouds.
- ▶ Read books outside under a tree or on a bench.
- ▶ Bake some cupcakes to deliver to a friend.
- ▶ Show your child a newspaper. Many children are unfamiliar with print papers anymore, but it’s fun to look at one. Perhaps your child would like to make a newspaper about family or neighborhood events, or draw a comic strip.
- ▶ Say thank you to crossing guards, mail carriers, bus drivers, and others who help in your neighborhood every day.

We are proud to partner with The Book Vine for Children on our Growing Readers book selections. [Click here](#) to order these books and more.

Notable Books

Other great books we recommend.

Snap a photo to link to the *Growing Readers* website for more book recommendations.



INFANT & TODDLER

This is the Construction Worker

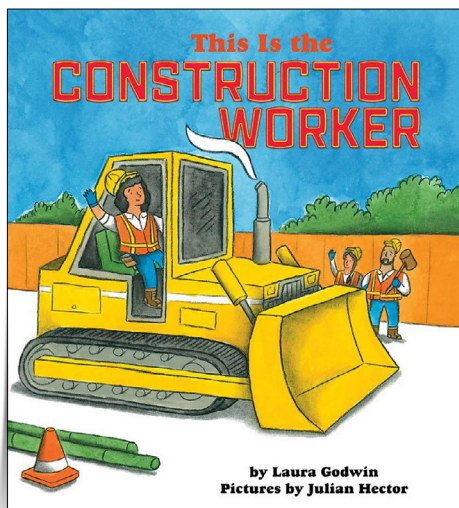
Written by Laura Goodwin; Illustrated by Julian Hector

As the sun comes up, we meet a female construction worker and follow her throughout her day. Lilted rhyme, rich vocabulary, and detailed illustrations make this book a hit with any child interested in construction.

Storytelling Tips

Casually point out some of the action phrases that rhyme, e.g., “walking and riding, pushing and sliding.” Encourage your child to act out some of the words.

Be ready to read this book more than once since it’s the kind of story children beg to hear again and again.



Extend the Learning

- ▶ Visit a construction site with your child. Point out vocabulary and elements from the story, such as *hoist*, *beam*, *crane*, or *scaffold*.
- ▶ Use blocks, cardboard boxes, etc. to make a construction site at home.
- ▶ Encourage your child to pretend to be a construction worker. Find a hat, boots, and a vest, pack a simple lunch, or offer a few child-safe tools.

PRESCHOOL

When Pencil Met Eraser

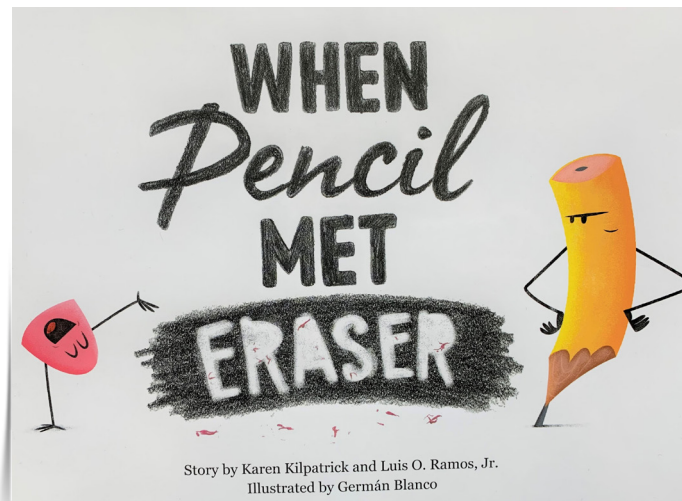
Written by Karen Kilpatrick and Luis O. Ramos, Jr.; Illustrated by Germán Blanco

Pencil loves to draw—by himself. But when he meets Eraser, he slowly changes his mind. Eraser can add (or subtract) things to his drawings that he'd never considered. Fun illustrations and snappy text deliver the gentle message of friendship and collaboration.

Storytelling Tips

Point out the two characters' facial expressions and body language. Ask your child what they might be feeling. What are their personalities like?

Ask your child, "Have you ever wanted to do something by yourself and found it was easier to have help?"



Extend the Learning

- ▶ Fold a piece of paper in half. Begin a drawing on one side of the paper without your child seeing it. Turn the paper over and ask your child to draw something on the other side. Open the paper to see the drawing you created together.
- ▶ Create a maze together or download mazes from the internet.

SCHOOL-AGE (K-2)

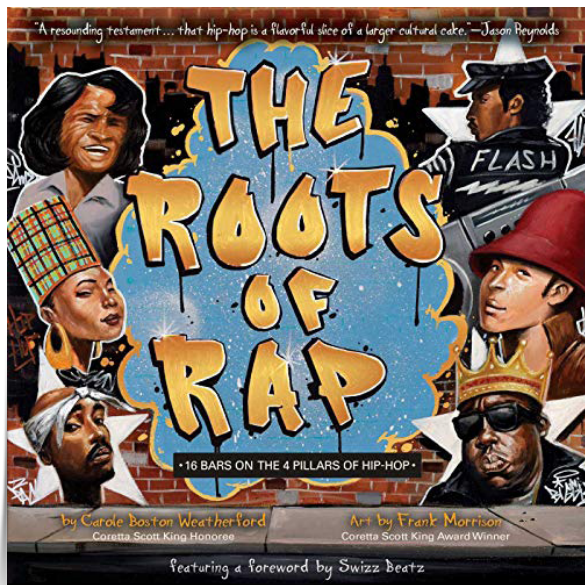
The Roots of Rap

Written by Carole Boston Weatherford; Illustrated by Frank Morrison

“From Atlanta to Zanzibar, youth spit freestyle freedom sounds. Hip-hop is a language that’s spoken the whole world ‘round.” Author and English professor Carole Boston Weatherford writes that rap and hip-hop are rooted in folktales, jump rope and hand-clap rhymes, and even the poetry of Langston Hughes.

Storytelling Tips

Read the book in chunks, taking time to look at the brilliant illustrations on each spread. Talk with your child about the music. What are the musicians trying to convey? How does their music make you feel?



Extend the Learning

- ▶ Listen to music from some of the musicians described in the book, including Ella Fitzgerald and James Brown. How have the sounds changed over time?
- ▶ Read the poetry of Langston Hughes together.

SCHOOL-AGE (GR. 4-6)

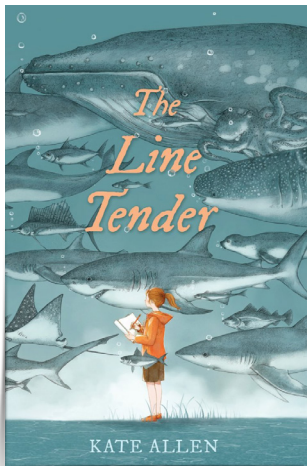
The Line Tender

Written by Kate Allen

Lucy Everhart has inherited her late marine biologist mother's fascination for sharks and insists on completing her mother's research, with the help of her father, a fisherman, and an elderly neighbor. Poignant, funny, and filled with hope.

Storytelling Tips

Consider reading the story together, a chapter or two at a time over a meal or at bedtime. Talk about some of the complex topics in the book, such as friendship, community, grief, or resilience. Ask thought provoking questions, such as, "Who was your favorite character? Which character reminded you most of yourself? What would you have done in Lucy's place?"



Extend the Learning

- ▶ Learn more about how sharks live and adapt.
- ▶ Choose a favorite animal or plant and create your own field guide about it.