Diverse Books for Use in Speech/Language Therapy

	Story Grammar/Narrative Skills			
Interest Level	Book Title, Author & Publisher	Overview	Possible Target(s)	
1 - 5	A Bad Case of Stripes by David Shannon Publisher: Scholastic	Camilla Cream loves lima beans, but she never eats them. Why? Because the other kids in her school don't like them. Camilla Cream is very worried about what other people think about her, but at the very moment she most wants to fit in, she becomes completely covered in colorful stripes! Worse yet, she seems to change colors to match whatever is happening around her. When the class says the Pledge of Allegiance, she turns red, white, and blue! Instead of blending in, she's standing out. Specialists are called but the situation goes from bad to worse. Isn't there anyone who can help Camilla remember what it means to be herself?	 Sequence of events Characters Conflict/ Resolution Prediction Multi-step problem solving 	
Pre K - 2	A Letter to Amy by Ezra Jack Keats Publisher: Viking Books for Young Readers	Peter is inviting only one girl to his birthday party: his friend Amy. Rather than asking her in person, he decides to send her a special invitation, but a thunderstorm on the way to the mailbox sends Peter's plans into a tailspin.	 Sequence events Descriptive language Compare / contrast Making connections 	

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Pre K - 3	Babushka's Doll by Patricia Polacco Publisher: Simon & Schuster/Paula Wiseman Books	Natasha isn't really a bad girl. It's just that she wants to play on the swing <i>now</i> , not after the wash has been hung up to dry. And she wants her soup <i>now</i> , not after the goats have been fed. Looking after Natasha keeps Babushka, Natasha's grandmother, very busy. Then, after lunch, Natasha notices a doll sitting on Babushka's shelfa doll Babushka tells Natasha she played with just once when she was a little girl. When Natasha plays with the doll while Babushka goes to the store for groceries, she discovers why once is enough with Babushka's dolland finds out just how tiring it can be to take care of a child who wants everything <i>now</i> .	 Sequencing events Cause and effect Character traits Making connections Text evidence
Pre K - 2	Corduroy by Don Freeman Publisher: Viking Press	This story of a small teddy bear waiting on a department store shelf for a child's friendship has appealed to young readers generation after generation.	Character traitsSequencing eventsParts of speech
Pre K - 3	Dancing in the Wings by Debbie Allen Publisher: Puffin Books	Sassy is a long-legged girl who always has something to say. She wants to be a ballerina more than anything, but she worries that her too-large feet, too-long legs, and even her big mouth will keep her from her dream. When a famous director comes to visit her class, Sassy does her best to get his attention with her high jumps and bright leotard. Her first attempts are definitely not appreciated, but with Sassy's persistence, she just might be able to win him over.	 Figurative language Conflict/Resolution Comparison

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Pre K - 2	*Elizabeti's School by Stephanie Stuve-Bodeen Publisher: Lee & Low Books Inc.	It's the first day of school and Elizabeti can hardly wait. She puts on her new uniform and feels her shiny shoes. School must surely be a very special place! Shortly after arriving at school, however, Elizabeti begins to miss her family. What if Mama needs help cleaning the rice? What if her baby sister wants to play? What if her little brother wants to go for a walk? But soon Elizabeti is making friends and learning her lessons. Best of all, she shares her experiences with her family that evening — and can apply what she has learned right away.	Sequencing eventsCharacterSettingPlot
1 - 5	Henry's Freedom Box: A True Story from the Underground Railroad by Ellen Ievine ¹ Publisher: Scholastic Press	Henry Brown doesn't know how old he is. Nobody keeps records of slaves' birthdays. All the time he dreams about freedom, but that dream seems farther away than ever when he is torn from his family and put to work in a warehouse. Henry grows up and marries, but he is again devastated when his family is sold at the slave market. Then one day, as he lifts a crate at the warehouse, he knows exactly what he must do: He will mail himself to the North. After an arduous journey in the crate, Henry finally has a birthday his first day of freedom.	 Cause/effect relationships Sequencing of events Figurative Language Summarizing
K - 2	I Love My Hair by Natasha Anastasia Tarpley Publisher: Little, Brown Books for Young Readers	In this imaginative, evocative story, a girl named Keyana discovers the beauty and magic of her special hair, encouraging black children to be proud of their heritage and enhancing self-confidence.	 Sequencing events Descriptive language Figurative language

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Pre K - 3	Jabari Jumps by Gaia Cornwall Publisher: Candlewick	Jabari is definitely ready to jump off the diving board. He's finished his swimming lessons and passed his swim test, and he's a great jumper, so he's not scared at all. "Looks easy," says Jabari, watching the other kids take their turns. But when his dad squeezes his hand, Jabari squeezes back. He needs to figure out what kind of special jump to do anyway, and he should probably do some stretches before climbing up onto the diving board. In a sweetly appealing tale of overcoming your fears, newcomer Gaia Cornwall captures a moment between a patient and encouraging father and a determined little boy you can't help but root for.	 Sequencing events Conflict/resolution Setting Two Characters Figurative language
K - 3	Last Stop on Market Street by Matt de la Peña ^{2,3,4} Publisher: G.P. Putnam's Sons Books for Young Readers	Every Sunday after church, CJ and his grandma ride the bus across town. But today, CJ wonders why they don't own a car like his friend Colby. Why doesn't he have an iPod like the boys on the bus? How come they always have to get off in the dirty part of town? Each question is met with an encouraging answer from grandma, who helps him see the beauty—and fun—in their routine and the world around them.	 Sequencing events Cause and effect Figurative language Character traits Making connections
1 - 5	More Than Anything Else by Marie Bradby Publisher: Orchard Books	Nine-year-old Booker works with his father and brother at the saltworks but dreams of the day when he'll be able to read.	Descriptive languageFigurative languagePlot

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K - 3	Sam and the Lucky Money by Karen Chinn Publisher: Lee & Low Books Inc.	Sam must decide how to spend the lucky money he's received for Chinese New Year.	 Character traits Making connections Sequencing events Compare/contrast Literal comprehension
K - 3	Thank You Mr. Falker by Patricia Polacco Publisher: Philomel Books	Patricia Polacco is now one of America's most loved children's book creators, but once upon a time, she was a little girl named Trisha starting school. Trisha could paint and draw beautifully, but when she looked at words on a page, all she could see was jumble. It took a very special teacher to recognize little Trisha's dyslexia: Mr. Falker, who encouraged her to overcome her reading disability. Patricia Polacco will never forget him, and neither will we.	 Problem/ solution Character traits Figurative language Complex sentences
1- 5	The Story of Ruby Bridges by Robert Coles Publisher: Scholastic Paperbacks	The year is 1960, and six-year-old Ruby Bridges and her family have recently moved from Mississippi to New Orleans in search of a better life. When a judge orders Ruby to attend first grade at William Frantz Elementary, an all-white school, Ruby must face angry mobs of parents who refuse to send their children to school with her.	 Sequence of events Characters Conflict/Resolution Prediction
Pre K - 5	Thunder Rose by Jerdine Nolen ³ Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers	Thunder Rose vows to grow up to be <i>more</i> than just big and strong, thank you very kindlyand boy, does she ever! But when a whirling storm on a riotous rampage threatens, has Rose finally met her match?	 Character traits and actions Cause and effect Figurative language

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Pre K - 3	Tia Isa Wants a Car by Meg Medina Publisher: Candlewick	While Tía Isa wants to save money for a car that will take the whole family to the beach, her niece does odd jobs for neighbors. But it's hard to save enough when half the money is set aside to someday bring family members who live far away to join them.	 Figurative language Making connections Main idea Problem solving Multiple character traits
2 -5	Woosh: Lonnie Johnson's Super-Soaking Stream of Inventions by Chris Barton Publisher: Charlesbridge	A love for rockets, robots, inventions, and a mind for creativity began early in Lonnie Johnson's life. Growing up in a house full of brothers and sisters, persistence and a passion for problem solving became the cornerstone for a career as an engineer and his work with NASA. But it is his invention of the Super Soaker water gun that has made his most memorable splash with kids and adults.	 Compare and contrast Making connections Conflict / resolution Cause/effect Sequence of events

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	Vocabulary				
Interest Level	Book Title, Author & Publisher	Overview	Possible Target(s)		
Pre K - 1	*Big or Little by Fonda Bell Miller Publisher: Lee & Low Books Inc.	On her way to the park, an African American girl sizes up herself and the world around her.	Basic size concepts (big & little) Familiar vocabulary- house, bus, truck, tree, and bug.		
K	*Can I have a Pet? by Gwendolyn Hudson Hooks Publisher: Lee & Low Books Inc.	During a trip to the zoo, an African American girl tries to convince her mother to get her an exotic pet.	High-frequency Words: can, I, have, a Familiar vocabulary: pet, monkey, tiger, zebra, bear, lion, fish. There is a patterned sentence: "Can I have a pet?"		
Pre K - 2	Chalk by Bill Thompson Publisher: Two Lions	Three children discover a magical bag of chalk on a rainy day in this wordless picture book.	dinosaur, umbrella, raincoat, weather, vivid, hat, intertwined, reflection, blinding, fluffy, gloomy, nature, creative, butterfly, joyful, realistic, afraid, fiction, terrified, gigantic, imagination, magical, dissipate, (spatial concepts)		

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Pre K - K	*Cold and Hot by Jacqueline Sweeny Publisher: Lee & Low Books Inc.	An African American boy's family lovingly piles so much clothing on him that he quickly goes from feeling cold to feeling hot.	Comparing, categorizing Familiar words: coat, hat, scarf, mittens, boots Patterned sentence: "Put on your boots"
K - 5	Drummer Boy of John John by Mark Greenwood Publisher: Lee & Low Books Inc.	Carnival is coming, and the villagers of John John, Trinidad, are getting ready to jump up and celebrate with music, dancing, and a parade. Best of all, the Roti King has promised free rotis—tasty fried pancakes filled with chicken, herbs, and spices—for the best band in the parade. Young Winston dreams of feasting on those delicious rotis. But there's a problem: he's not in a band! Pondering his predicament as he wanders through the village junkyard, Winston makes a curious musical discovery that may be just the ticket to realizing his dream. With ingenuity and the help of his friends, Winston takes on the Carnival bands, drumming his way to victory—and to the Roti King's prized treat. Musical text and sun-drenched paintings joyously transport readers to the Caribbean, and to this exuberant story inspired by the early life of Winston "Spree" Simon, a pioneer in the development of the steel drum.	Content Vocabulary: Calypso music, Carnival, roti, herbs and spices, chac-chac players, gourds, tamboo bamboo, bottle-and-spoon, orchestra, shango drummers, bass, high notes, low notes, pitch, "simple tune," mango, "merry melody," rubber, metal, limbo pole Academic Vocabulary: tropical, village, toil, celebrate, pound, tones, struck, beat, flesh, hurl, ricochet, produce, hammer, various, chiming, clanging, drew out, curious, parade, mellow, assemble, chant, thunderous, rhythm, rattle, rustle, irresistible, crowned, feast, delicious

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1 y.o Pre K	From Head to Toe by Eric Carle Publisher: Harper Festival	Giraffes can bend their necks, monkeys can wave their hands, and donkeys can kick their legs. And so can you! Throughout this interactive board book, the animals invite young readers to copy their antics as they play.	Animal vocabulary: penguin, giraffe, buffalo, monkey, seal, gorilla, cat, crocodile, camel, donkey, elephant, Patterned Sentences: "Can you do it?" "I can do it."
1 - 5	George Crum and the Saratoga Chip by Gaylia Taylor Publisher: Lee & Low Books Inc.	Growing up in the 1830s in Saratoga Springs, New York, isn't easy for George Crum. Picked on at school because of the color of his skin, George escapes into his favorite pastimes — hunting and fishing. Soon George learns to cook too, and as a young man he lands a job as chef at the fancy Moon's Lake House. George loves his work, except for the fussy customers, who are always complaining! One hot day George's patience boils over, and he cooks up a potato dish so unique it changes his life forever.	encourage, iridescent, fashionable, graciously, strut, amuse, feistiness, fascinate, technique, mischievous, imitate, prominent, inferior
Pre K - 3	Georgia's Terrific, Colorific, Experiment by Zoe Persico Publisher: Running Press Kids	Science and art come together in this colorful and empowering picture book about a strong-minded girl scientist and her artist family.	vastness, cosmos, cell structure, fascinated, captivated, radioactivity, gravity, conclusion, hypothesis, experiment, enhance, visual, sculpt, calculation, imaginative, beakers, hut, scientist, extraordinary, color spectrum, motivation, inspiration, creative, awe, harmony, inspiration

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1 - 3	Grace for President by Kelly DiPucchio Publisher: Little, Brown Books for Young Readers	When Grace's teacher reveals that the United States has never had a female president, Grace decides she wants to be the nation's first and immediately jumpstarts her political career by running in her school's mock election! The race is tougher than she expected: her popular opponent declares that he's the "best man for the job" and seems to have captured the votes of all of the class's boys. But Grace is more determined than ever. Even if she can't be the best man for the job, she can certainly try to be the best person!	president, stewed, star-spangled, election, snickering, democracy, champion, candidate, captain, votes, determined, electoral, representative, campaign, slogan, issues, promises, constituent, demonstration, equality, erupted, stunned
1 - 5	Lend a Hand by John Frank Publisher: Lee & Low Books Inc.	Making a difference in the world can be as simple as planting a tree, giving up your seat on a bus to a disabled person, or training a puppy to become a guide dog. These are just a few of the simple acts of kindness featured in this collection of fourteen original poems. Each poem emphasizes the compassion and the joy of giving. Representing diverse voices—different ages and backgrounds—the collection shows the bridging of boundaries between people who are often perceived as being different from one another. The first step in bridging those boundaries is to extend a hand.	cafeteria, ukulele, electric guitar, jammed, traded riffs, klutziest, sickness, square his stance, World Series, bunt, scrawny, playful, shrink back, PE, hack at the air, chucked, game seven, mothballs, inspected, jam-packed, motioned, scout troop, fish out, bank (river), beat (music), saplings, marvel, molting, pulled him aside, fall over with laughter, stare into space, belt one out of the park Academic eighty, uncovered, treasure, noticed, suppose, medicine, practiced, harsh, explore(r), rhythm, thousands, multiplication, maximum, stream/creek, brave, shivering, trembling, doubt,

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			perform, attention, struggling, lonely, wonder, travel, limit
Pre K - 5	Mufaro's Beautiful Daughter: An African Tale by John Steptoe ¹ Publisher: Picture Puffin	Mufaro's two daughters react in different ways to the King's search for a wife - one is aggressive and selfish, the other kind and dignified. The king disguises himself to learn the true nature of both the girls and chooses Nyasha, the kind and generous daughter, to be the queen.	ignore, anxious, acknowledge, transfixed, proclaim, bountiful, stole, garments, enclosure, grieve, silhouette, commotion, hysterical, millet, bustled, grove, plumed, chamber, clever, journey, foretold, destination, preparation, beamed, considerate, descended, worthy, parted, scold
K - 1	My Magic Bottle of Emotions: Pop! by Katherine Bauch and Bethany Ramos Publisher: Storybook Genius, LLC	This story explores twelve everyday emotions in a way that's meaningful for young children, using colorful language and illustrations.	vibrant, mellow, merry, bashful, invisible, prickle, indigo, tux, glare, demanding, anxious, emerald, content, fuchsia

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3 - 5	Pink and Say by Patricia Polacco Publisher: Philomel Books	Sheldon was wounded in a fierce battle and left for dead in a pasture somewhere in Georgia when Pinkus found him. Pinkus' skin was the color of polished mahogany, and he was flying Union colors like the wounded boy, and he picked him up out of the field and brought him to where the black soldier's mother, Moe Moe Bay, lived. She had soft, gentle hands and cared for him and her Pink. But the two boys were putting her in danger, two Union soldiers in Confederate territory! They had to get back to their outfits. Scared and uncertain, the boys were faced with a hard decision, and then marauding Confederate troops rode in. In this Civil War story passed from great-grandfather to grandmother, to son, and finally to the author-artist herself, Patricia Polacco once again celebrates the shared humanity of the peoples of this world.	accent, muster, quartered, marauders, ransack, lad, stockade, hemp, misfire, smote, dysentery, jeer, cleave, starvation, wrenched, commotion, mahogany, slaughter, inconsolable, reckoning, spectacles, unit, deserter, brow, buckboard, cripple
Pre K - 3	Please, Baby, Please by Spike Lee, Tanya Lewis Lee Publisher: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers	From moments fussy to fond, the authors present a behind-the-scenes look at the chills, spills, and unequivocal thrills of bringing up baby!	head, ball, wall, bird, bowl, sand, shovel, kite, hand, eat, tease, splash, trash, sleep, kiss

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K - 3	Sunday Shopping by Sally Derby Publisher: Lee & Low Books Inc.	Sunday nights are special for Evie and Grandma. That's when they go on their weekly shopping spree. Grandma flips open the newspaper to see what's advertised, and the imaginary tour of neighborhood stores begins. Toting a purse filled with colorful pretend bills, Evie and Grandma take turns "buying" whatever catches their fancy. A big chunk of ham, a "Sofa with a Secret," and a dress with spangles are just a few of the items they "purchase." Most special of all are the jewelry box Evie chooses for the gold heart necklace Mama gave her before leaving to serve in the army and the bouquet of flowers Evie leaves as a surprise for Grandma.	Content Specific: "shopping spree," nightgown, timer, purse, "tummy rumble," yellow mustard, rye bread, "two for a dollar forty-nine," cashier, "keep the change," salesman, jewelry box, "just so," tights, barrettes, trophy, shiny spangles, super-improved, microwave oven, coffeemaker, tulips, tiptoe Academic: roomful, grumbling, outgrow, chuckle, scramble, promise
Pre K - 2	Ten, Nine, Eight by Molly Bang ¹ Publisher: Greenwillow Books	A young girl and her father make a game out of getting ready for bed.	Windowpane, snow, shoes, pale, gown, toes, eyes, cheeks, noes, arms, fuzzy

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Articulation/Phonological Disorders			
Interest Level	Book Title, Author & Publisher	Overview	Possible Target(s)
Pre K - 2	Bee-Bim-Bop by Linda Sue Park Publisher: Clarion Books	In bouncy rhyming text, a hungry child tells about helping her mother make bee-bim bop: shopping, preparing ingredients, setting the table, and finally sitting down with her family to enjoy a favorite meal.	- /h/ - bilabials /b/ /m/ /p/
Pre K - 1	*Big Snowball Fight by D.H. Figueredo Publisher: Lee & Low Books Inc.	A group of Cuban American children gather one-by-one on a snowy day, adding up to a great big snowball fight.	- S-blends - individual letter sounds /o/ - /n/ - /e/ - (Quantities)
Pre K - 2	Bob, Not Bob! by Audrey Vernick, Liz Garton Scanlon Publisher: Little, Brown Books for Young Readers	Little Louie is stuck in bed with a bad cold. His nose is clogged, his ears are crackling, and his brain feels full. All he wants is his mom to take care of him, but whenever he calls out for her, his stuffed-up nose summons slobbery dog Bob instead!	- Phonemic awareness - Initial, final /b/, initial /l/

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Pre K - K	*Can You Eat a Rainbow? By Anastasia Suen Publisher: Lee & Low Books Inc.	Look inside this book to find out if you <i>really</i> can eat a rainbow.	 Initial /r/, /y/, /p/ Initial consonant blends and digraphs /gr/, /wh/ Long /i/ vowel sound; long /e/ vowel sound spelled "ee"; long /a/ vowel sound spelled "ai"; long /o/ vowel sound spelled "ow"
Pre K - 2	Don't be Silly Mrs. Millie by Judy Cox Published by: Two Lions	Mrs. Millie has lots of fun teasing her kindergartners. She tells them to hang up their goats, eat gorilla cheese sandwiches, and to remember to wear their bats and kittens when they go outside for recess. This lighthearted read-aloud sets a typical school day on its ear, even as it teaches a subtle lesson on wordplay.	- Phonemic awareness
Pre K - K	*First Day of School by Gaylia Taylor Publisher: Lee & Low Books Inc.	From saying goodbye to Mom to finding a new friend, a young Latino boy experiences a range of emotions on his very first day of school.	- Initial /f/, /sh/ - long /e/

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Pre K - 2	I Like Myself! by Karen Beaumont Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers	High on energy and imagination, this ode to self-esteem encourages kids to appreciate everything about themselvesinside and out. Messy hair? Beaver breath? So what! Here's a little girl who knows what really matters.	- Rhyming phrases - Repetition
Pre K - 2	In the Small, Small Pond by Denise Fleming ¹ Publisher: Henry Holt and Co.	A child explores the wonders of the natural world in this rhyming, beautiful bright colored picture storybook about the lives of small animals and insects living around a freshwater pond.	 S-blends Initial, medial, final /d/ Medial /g/ initial, medial, final /p/
Pre K - 2	Lola at the Library by Anna McQuinn Publisher: Charlesbridge	Every Tuesday Lola and her mommy go to the library. Lola meets her friends there. They share books and don't have to be quiet all the time. The nice librarian tells stories. There is a big machine that buzzes Lola's books in and out, and she can take any books she wants home with her. Lola and her mommy always stop for a treat on the way home. No wonder Lola loves the library.	- Initial /l/

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Pre K - 3	Not Norman: A Goldfish Story by Kelly Bennett Publisher: Candlewick	Norman the goldfish isn't what this little boy had in mind. He wanted a different kind of pet — one that could run and catch, or chase string and climb trees, a soft furry pet to sleep on his bed at night. Definitely not Norman. But when he tries to trade Norman for a "good pet," things don't go as he planned.	- Initial /n/ - Initial, final /p/
Pre K – 3	Same Difference by Calida Garcia Rawles Publisher: Artist Calida	Lida and Lisa, two first cousins who find themselves at odds with each other over their physical differences. With the help of their wise grandmother, the girls soon realize that their bond is deeper than what they see and our differences are what make us beautiful.	- Rhyming phrases
K - 3	Thank you for Thanksgiving by Julie Markes Publisher: HarperCollins	Everyone knows that Thanksgiving is a time to give thanks—the question is, where to begin? From the turkey on the table to warm, cozy cuddles, life is full of small things and bigger pleasures. But what's most important is being able to share them with family!	- Initial /th/

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Pre K - 2	The Doorbell Rang by Pat Hutchins Publisher: Greenwillow Books	Each ring of the doorbell brings more friends to share the delicious cookies Ma has made in this beloved classic.	 Initial /g/ Initial /k/ Initial, medial, final /m/ Prevocalic /r/
Pre K - K	The Night Before Preschool by Natasha Wing Publisher: Grosset & Dunlap	It's the night before preschool, and a little boy named Billy is so nervous he can't fall asleep. The friends he makes the next day at school give him a reason not to sleep the next night, either: he's too excited about going back!	- Rhyming - Repetition
Pre K - 2	The Snowy Day by Ezra Jack Keats Publisher: Viking Books for Young Readers	When Peter wakes up, he looks out his window to discover that it has snowed. Snow covers everything as far as he can see, so after breakfast he puts on his snowsuit and heads out to explore. Peter spends time crunching through the snow, making tracks, watching a snowball fight, exploring his neighborhood, and playing in the snow. At the end of the day, he tells his mother about his adventures. Then he has a hot bath, goes to sleep, and wakes up the next day ready to have more fun in the snow—this time with a friend.	- s-blends

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Pre K - 2	What I Like About Me! by Allia Zobel Nolan Publisher: SFI Readerlink Dist	This fun-loving book proves to kids that, in a world where fitting in is the norm, being different is what makes us special.	- Rhyming phrases - Repetition
Pre K - K	*What Time Is It? by Christine Taylor-Butler Publisher: Lee & Low Books Inc.	See how a young boy goes through his busy day, hour by hour.	 Phonemic awareness initial consonant blends and digraphs /wh/, /br/, /sc/, /pl/, /sl/ long /a/vowel sound spelled "a-consonant-e" and "ay"; long /e/ vowel sound spelled "ea" and "ee"

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