

BOOKS ABOUT BOOKS

A range of books is now available to guide the selection of suitable reading material for different reading levels and interests. Once a child is reading fluently, these guides are extremely valuable to home-schooling parents looking for new books to read aloud or in selecting books for a child to read independently. I have found them particularly useful at the library to 'preview' worthwhile reading material.

Some such 'books about books' are detailed below. Most of them can be found at second-hand bookshops, or ordered from home education suppliers.

Honey for a Child's Heart by Gladys Hunt (ISBN 0-310-26381-6)

This is one of the best guides to children's books, including an 85-page indexed list of classics ordered by reading age. The Christian author deeply believes that a good book is "a gateway to a wider world of wonder, beauty, delight and adventure". She discusses many topics relevant to choosing good books and encouraging children to be avid, discerning readers.

Honey for a Woman's Heart by Gladys Hunt (ISBN 0-310-23846-3)

Gladys gives *you* reasons to read, tells you what makes a good book, and opens your eyes to what good books do for you, including a special section on the Bible.

Babies Need Books by Dorothy Butler (ISBN 0-14-010094-6)

The author believes that books should play a crucial role in children's lives right from the very first months. The book includes more than 200 titles, chaptered by age from birth to six years.

The Read-Aloud Handbook by Jim Trelease (ISBN 0-14-009362-1)

Reading aloud awakens children's imaginations, improves their language skills, and opens new worlds of enjoyment and independence. This book annotates over 300 picture books, stories, novels, poems and anthologies that are especially suitable for reading aloud to children.

Books Children Love by Elizabeth Wilson (ISBN 0-89107-441-4)

A comprehensive guide to the very best children's books on a wide range of topics, including animals, art, Bible, Biography, craft, dance, drama, geography, history, handicaps, horticulture, humour, language, literature, mathematics, music, games, science and more! All annotated listings have age recommendations and embody the ideals of traditional values and a Christian worldview.

Let the Authors Speak by Carolyn Hatcher

This guide to about 1300 books is sorted by setting, that is the century and location of the story. There are reading and interest levels for children and adults for a range of literature covering ancient to modern times with cross-referencing by author and title.

Of making many books there is no end,
and much study is a weariness to the flesh.

Ecclesiastes 12:12