Free books for 4 year olds and preschoolers to read online

Peabody · checked 2026-11-10

Peabody has 86 free books for 4 year olds to read online. 20 are first books with a few sound-it-out words on a page, and 66 are short picture stories to read aloud together. They are Peabody's own stories, not books from other publishers. Each opens at once with no sign-up. Free through the end of 2026.

What a 4 year old does with a book

Most 4 year olds are not reading yet, and that is fine. At this age a book is something to hear, look at and talk about. So this page has two kinds: very first books for a child who knows a few letter sounds and wants to try, and short stories for you to read aloud.

First books to try reading

Eight letters and a few words on a page. Read a page, then let your child read it back.

- Tim Taps: Level 0 · 31 words · 10 pages
- Tim in a Tin: Level 0 · 40 words · 11 pages
- Pat, Pat, Pat: Level 0 · 31 words · 12 pages
- Sit, Tap, Nap: Level 0 · 19 words · 8 pages
- Dad Naps: Level 0 · 22 words · 9 pages

To read aloud to a 4 year old

Short stories with a picture on every page.

- Jake and the Snake: Level 3 · 52 words · 11 pages
- Moss and the Box: Level 3 · 65 words · 16 pages
- Not Yet, Ted: Level 3 · 59 words · 15 pages
- The Hat Cat: Level 3 · 70 words · 14 pages
- Mop Can Hop: Level 3 · 46 words · 13 pages
- Where Is the Cat?: Level 3 · 63 words · 12 pages

- Book: Pit, Pat · Level: Level 0 · Words: 18 · Good for: A first try at reading · Print: Print
- Book: Sit, Tap, Nap · Level: Level 0 · Words: 19 · Good for: A first try at reading · Print: Print
- Book: Dad Naps · Level: Level 0 · Words: 22 · Good for: A first try at reading · Print: Print
- Book: Sip, Sip, Sip · Level: Level 0 · Words: 20 · Good for: A first try at reading · Print: Print

• Book: Pat, Pat, Pat · Level: Level 0 · Words: 31 · Good for: A first try at reading · Print: Print
• Book: A Dim Man · Level: Level 0 · Words: 30 · Good for: A first try at reading · Print: Print
• Book: A Tan Map · Level: Level 0 · Words: 30 · Good for: A first try at reading · Print: Print
• Book: Pip Dips · Level: Level 0 · Words: 33 · Good for: A first try at reading · Print: Print
• Book: Tap in the Dim · Level: Level 0 · Words: 33 · Good for: A first try at reading · Print: Print
• Book: Mad Dad · Level: Level 0 · Words: 36 · Good for: A first try at reading · Print: Print
• Book: Sid Sat · Level: Level 0 · Words: 24 · Good for: A first try at reading · Print: Print
• Book: Tim Taps · Level: Level 0 · Words: 31 · Good for: A first try at reading · Print: Print
• Book: Did It · Level: Level 0 · Words: 25 · Good for: A first try at reading · Print: Print
• Book: Man, Pan, Map · Level: Level 0 · Words: 25 · Good for: A first try at reading · Print: Print
• Book: A Pin in a Tin · Level: Level 0 · Words: 32 · Good for: A first try at reading · Print: Print
• Book: Nat Naps · Level: Level 0 · Words: 29 · Good for: A first try at reading · Print: Print
• Book: Sam Taps a Pan · Level: Level 0 · Words: 29 · Good for: A first try at reading · Print: Print
• Book: Sit, Pip, Sit! · Level: Level 0 · Words: 29 · Good for: A first try at reading · Print: Print
• Book: Pam Pins a Map · Level: Level 0 · Words: 31 · Good for: A first try at reading · Print: Print
• Book: Tim in a Tin · Level: Level 0 · Words: 40 · Good for: A first try at reading · Print: Print
• Book: Go, Snail, Go! · Level: Level 3 · Words: 35 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: In My Bag · Level: Level 3 · Words: 36 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Ride the Wave · Level: Level 3 · Words: 52 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: The Hat Cat · Level: Level 3 · Words: 70 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: At the Farm · Level: Level 3 · Words: 37 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print

• Book: Mop Can Hop · Level: Level 3 · Words: 46 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Where Is the Cat? · Level: Level 3 · Words: 63 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Moss and the Box · Level: Level 3 · Words: 65 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Not Yet, Ted · Level: Level 3 · Words: 59 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Dex on the Bus · Level: Level 3 · Words: 64 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: The Hat That Slid · Level: Level 3 · Words: 44 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Ben and the Blocks · Level: Level 3 · Words: 72 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: I See a Boy · Level: Level 3 · Words: 56 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Kip and the Crab · Level: Level 3 · Words: 57 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Meg and the Seed · Level: Level 3 · Words: 58 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Duke Hides a Bone · Level: Level 3 · Words: 74 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: A Kite for Kate · Level: Level 3 · Words: 59 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Bump, Bump, Bump · Level: Level 3 · Words: 56 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: A Cat and a Dog · Level: Level 3 · Words: 61 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Rose Makes a Home · Level: Level 3 · Words: 65 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Pete Rides · Level: Level 3 · Words: 56 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Rain on the Hat · Level: Level 3 · Words: 54 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Big Prints in the Hall · Level: Level 3 · Words: 56 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: June and the Mule · Level: Level 3 · Words: 62 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print

• Book: Jake and the Snake · Level: Level 3 · Words: 52 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Mop Is Sad · Level: Level 3 · Words: 73 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: The Red Hat · Level: Level 3 · Words: 55 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Hide, Mole! · Level: Level 3 · Words: 62 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Jem and Pug Sit · Level: Level 4 · Words: 67 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Jem Is Mad · Level: Level 4 · Words: 71 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Two Mice · Level: Level 4 · Words: 55 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Lou and the Snow Dad · Level: Level 4 · Words: 81 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Boy Yells Wolf · Level: Level 4 · Words: 61 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Ant and Dove · Level: Level 4 · Words: 55 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Can I Pet It? · Level: Level 4 · Words: 64 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Goat and Goat · Level: Level 4 · Words: 57 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: The Little Red Hen · Level: Level 4 · Words: 96 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Mort and the Storm · Level: Level 4 · Words: 78 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Kate and the Puddle · Level: Level 4 · Words: 56 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Liv and the Ants · Level: Level 4 · Words: 87 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Mice and a Bell · Level: Level 4 · Words: 53 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Fay and the Kite · Level: Level 4 · Words: 93 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Big Egg · Level: Level 4 · Words: 96 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print

• Book: Go, Go, Go · Level: Level 4 · Words: 68 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Fox Wants Grapes · Level: Level 4 · Words: 61 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Snail Wins the Race · Level: Level 4 · Words: 69 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Yum! · Level: Level 4 · Words: 39 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Glow, Pumpkin, Glow · Level: Level 4 · Words: 76 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Bo and the Bath Duck · Level: Level 4 · Words: 60 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Goat and the Boat · Level: Level 4 · Words: 75 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: The Dog and the Bone · Level: Level 4 · Words: 63 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Under the Sea · Level: Level 4 · Words: 68 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: A Boo for Bea · Level: Level 4 · Words: 83 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: A Seed for Lee · Level: Level 4 · Words: 80 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Red, Red, Red · Level: Level 4 · Words: 50 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Look at the Big Pig · Level: Level 4 · Words: 53 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Gus and the Big Rock · Level: Level 4 · Words: 90 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Lion and Mouse · Level: Level 4 · Words: 56 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: The Ghost in the Yard · Level: Level 4 · Words: 69 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Nell's Loose Tooth · Level: Level 4 · Words: 54 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: The Penguin Who Wanted to Fly · Level: Level 4 · Words: 88 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Ant and Hopper · Level: Level 4 · Words: 70 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print

• Book: The Tall Thin Man · Level: Level 4 · Words: 68 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Donkey Plays Lion · Level: Level 4 · Words: 49 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: At the Zoo · Level: Level 4 · Words: 46 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print
• Book: Who Eats the Lettuce? · Level: Level 4 · Words: 62 · Good for: Reading aloud together · Print: Print

First books to try

The level 0 books use only eight letters and the little words a and I, with a few words on a page and a picture on every page. Read a page aloud, point under each word, then let your child read it back. See level 0 for all of them, and decodable readers for the books sorted by sound.

Stories to read aloud

The level 3 and 4 books are pattern books and little stories of 35 to 96 words. A line comes back again and again, so by the third page many children join in. Where a device can speak, the story page has a Read to me button that reads each page aloud in the device's own voice.

Printing

Every book in the table has a Print link. It prints as a small book to cut and staple, and your child can color the pictures.

More free stories

- The whole library: free stories by reading level, no account needed.
- Classic stories retold short: fables, fairy tales, myths and legends.
- Free books for 3 year olds to read aloud
- Free books for 5 year olds to read online
- Free kindergarten books to read online or print
- Free decodable readers, sorted by phonics pattern
- Free beginning reader books for kids just learning to read
- Free short bedtime stories for kids
- Free animal stories for kids
- By level: Level 0 · Level 3 · Level 4

Questions parents ask

Can a 4 year old read these?

Some can read the level 0 books with help, and many cannot yet. Both are normal. Read aloud first, and let your child try a page when they ask to.

How long should we read for?

A few minutes is enough. One short book, read twice, is a good sitting for a 4 year old.

Are these books from other publishers?

No. Every book on this page is a Peabody story, written for this site and free to read here through the end of 2026. For picture books to borrow, ask at your public library.

Do the books cost anything?

No. Every story on this page is free to read through the end of 2026, with no account and no card.

Free at peabody.kids/books-for-4-year-olds