Free first grade books to read online

Peabody · checked 2026-11-10

Peabody has 148 free first grade books to read online, at reading levels 3 to 6, from 35 to 243 words each. They are Peabody's own short stories and pattern books, not books from other publishers. Each opens at once with no sign-up, and the easiest print as little books. Free through the end of 2026.

Where a first grader starts

Peabody starts a first grader at level 3, so the first book feels easy. Level 3 is pattern books, where a line comes back on every page with one small change. Levels 4 to 6 are little stories that get a bit longer each level. If a book is too hard, go down a level. If they race through it, go up.

Start here: three favourites from each level

Not sure where to begin? Pick a level, then one of these.

- 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
- Nell's Loose Tooth: Level 4 · 54 words · 12 pages
- Jem Is Mad: Level 4 · 71 words · 17 pages
- Kate and the Puddle: Level 4 · 56 words · 15 pages
- Dot and the Log: Level 5 · 82 words · 16 pages
- Pim and the Mitten: Level 5 · 208 words · 22 pages
- The Stuck Kite: Level 5 · 203 words · 21 pages

- Book: Go, Snail, Go! · Level: Level 3 · Words: 35 · Kind: Pattern book · Print: Print
- Book: In My Bag · Level: Level 3 · Words: 36 · Kind: Pattern book · Print: Print
- Book: Ride the Wave · Level: Level 3 · Words: 52 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
- Book: The Hat Cat · Level: Level 3 · Words: 70 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
- Book: At the Farm · Level: Level 3 · Words: 37 · Kind: Pattern book · Print: Print
- Book: Ants Are Strong · Level: Level 3 · Words: 52 · Kind: True facts · Print: Print
- Book: Mop Can Hop · Level: Level 3 · Words: 46 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
- Book: Where Is the Cat? · Level: Level 3 · Words: 63 · Kind: Pattern book · Print: Print
- Book: Moss and the Box · Level: Level 3 · Words: 65 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
- Book: Not Yet, Ted · Level: Level 3 · Words: 59 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
- Book: Dex on the Bus · Level: Level 3 · Words: 64 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
- Book: The Hat That Slid · Level: Level 3 · Words: 44 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
- Book: Ben and the Blocks · Level: Level 3 · Words: 72 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print

• Book: I See a Boy · Level: Level 3 · Words: 56 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Kip and the Crab · Level: Level 3 · Words: 57 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Meg and the Seed · Level: Level 3 · Words: 58 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Duke Hides a Bone · Level: Level 3 · Words: 74 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: A Kite for Kate · Level: Level 3 · Words: 59 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Bump, Bump, Bump · Level: Level 3 · Words: 56 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: A Cat and a Dog · Level: Level 3 · Words: 61 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Rose Makes a Home · Level: Level 3 · Words: 65 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Pete Rides · Level: Level 3 · Words: 56 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Rain on the Hat · Level: Level 3 · Words: 54 · Kind: Pattern book · Print: Print
• Book: Big Prints in the Hall · Level: Level 3 · Words: 56 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: June and the Mule · Level: Level 3 · Words: 62 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Jake and the Snake · Level: Level 3 · Words: 52 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Mop Is Sad · Level: Level 3 · Words: 73 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: The Red Hat · Level: Level 3 · Words: 55 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Hide, Mole! · Level: Level 3 · Words: 62 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Jem and Pug Sit · Level: Level 4 · Words: 67 · Kind: Pattern book · Print: Print
• Book: Jem Is Mad · Level: Level 4 · Words: 71 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Two Mice · Level: Level 4 · Words: 55 · Kind: Classic · Print: Print
• Book: Lou and the Snow Dad · Level: Level 4 · Words: 81 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Boy Yells Wolf · Level: Level 4 · Words: 61 · Kind: Classic · Print: Print
• Book: Ant and Dove · Level: Level 4 · Words: 55 · Kind: Classic · Print: Print
• Book: Can I Pet It? · Level: Level 4 · Words: 64 · Kind: Pattern book · Print: Print
• Book: Goat and Goat · Level: Level 4 · Words: 57 · Kind: Classic · Print: Print
• Book: The Little Red Hen · Level: Level 4 · Words: 96 · Kind: Pattern book · Print: Print
• Book: Mort and the Storm · Level: Level 4 · Words: 78 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Kate and the Puddle · Level: Level 4 · Words: 56 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Liv and the Ants · Level: Level 4 · Words: 87 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Mice and a Bell · Level: Level 4 · Words: 53 · Kind: Classic · Print: Print
• Book: Fay and the Kite · Level: Level 4 · Words: 93 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Big Egg · Level: Level 4 · Words: 96 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Go, Go, Go · Level: Level 4 · Words: 68 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Fox Wants Grapes · Level: Level 4 · Words: 61 · Kind: Classic · Print: Print
• Book: Snail Wins the Race · Level: Level 4 · Words: 69 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Yum! · Level: Level 4 · Words: 39 · Kind: Pattern book · Print: Print
• Book: Glow, Pumpkin, Glow · Level: Level 4 · Words: 76 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Bo and the Bath Duck · Level: Level 4 · Words: 60 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print

• Book: Goat and the Boat · Level: Level 4 · Words: 75 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: The Dog and the Bone · Level: Level 4 · Words: 63 · Kind: Classic · Print: Print
• Book: Under the Sea · Level: Level 4 · Words: 68 · Kind: Pattern book · Print: Print
• Book: A Boo for Bea · Level: Level 4 · Words: 83 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: A Seed for Lee · Level: Level 4 · Words: 80 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Red, Red, Red · Level: Level 4 · Words: 50 · Kind: Pattern book · Print: Print
• Book: Look at the Big Pig · Level: Level 4 · Words: 53 · Kind: Pattern book · Print: Print
• Book: Gus and the Big Rock · Level: Level 4 · Words: 90 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Lion and Mouse · Level: Level 4 · Words: 56 · Kind: Classic · Print: Print
• Book: The Ghost in the Yard · Level: Level 4 · Words: 69 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Nell's Loose Tooth · Level: Level 4 · Words: 54 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: The Penguin Who Wanted to Fly · Level: Level 4 · Words: 88 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Ant and Hopper · Level: Level 4 · Words: 70 · Kind: Classic · Print: Print
• Book: The Tall Thin Man · Level: Level 4 · Words: 68 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Donkey Plays Lion · Level: Level 4 · Words: 49 · Kind: Classic · Print: Print
• Book: At the Zoo · Level: Level 4 · Words: 46 · Kind: Pattern book · Print: Print
• Book: Who Eats the Lettuce? · Level: Level 4 · Words: 62 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Where Is Ned's Hat? · Level: Level 5 · Words: 63 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: The Enormous Turnip · Level: Level 5 · Words: 93 · Kind: Pattern book · Print: Print
• Book: Dot and the Log · Level: Level 5 · Words: 82 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: A Bath for the Birds · Level: Level 5 · Words: 95 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: The Leaf for Ant · Level: Level 5 · Words: 129 · Kind: Classic · Print: Print
• Book: Who Lives Under the Log? · Level: Level 5 · Words: 94 · Kind: True facts · Print: Print
• Book: The Crow and the Pitcher · Level: Level 5 · Words: 128 · Kind: Pattern book · Print: Print
• Book: A Bell for the Cat · Level: Level 5 · Words: 107 · Kind: Classic · Print: Print
• Book: The Stuck Kite · Level: Level 5 · Words: 203 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Goats on a Plank · Level: Level 5 · Words: 122 · Kind: Classic · Print: Print
• Book: Pim and the Mitten · Level: Level 5 · Words: 208 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: The Boy Who Fibbed · Level: Level 5 · Words: 156 · Kind: Classic · Print: Print
• Book: The Grapes Up High · Level: Level 5 · Words: 147 · Kind: Classic · Print: Print
• Book: Frogs Are Amazing · Level: Level 5 · Words: 100 · Kind: True facts · Print: Print

• Book: The Sun Is a Star · Level: Level 5 · Words: 151 · Kind: True facts · Print: Print
• Book: Just Bamboo · Level: Level 5 · Words: 95 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: The Three Little Pigs · Level: Level 5 · Words: 200 · Kind: Pattern book · Print: Print
• Book: Johnny Appleseed · Level: Level 5 · Words: 80 · Kind: Classic · Print: Print
• Book: Mouse Goes to Town · Level: Level 5 · Words: 165 · Kind: Classic · Print: Print
• Book: The Lion Skin · Level: Level 5 · Words: 129 · Kind: Classic · Print: Print
• Book: The Rainbow Race · Level: Level 5 · Words: 116 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Butterfly Summer · Level: Level 5 · Words: 96 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: The Tortoise and the Hare · Level: Level 5 · Words: 132 · Kind: Classic · Print: Print
• Book: The Gingerbread Man · Level: Level 5 · Words: 179 · Kind: Pattern book · Print: Print
• Book: Ruby Goes to School · Level: Level 5 · Words: 131 · Kind: True facts · Print: Print
• Book: The Bean in the Cup · Level: Level 5 · Words: 128 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: The Fiddle and the Corn · Level: Level 5 · Words: 158 · Kind: Classic · Print: Print
• Book: The Wiggly Tooth · Level: Level 5 · Words: 91 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Buster and the Pail · Level: Level 5 · Words: 117 · Kind: Classic · Print: Print
• Book: My Teeth · Level: Level 5 · Words: 78 · Kind: True facts · Print: Print
• Book: A Rail Full of Corn · Level: Level 5 · Words: 111 · Kind: Classic · Print: Print
• Book: Danny Digs Doors · Level: Level 5 · Words: 125 · Kind: Classic · Print: Print
• Book: Henny Penny · Level: Level 5 · Words: 180 · Kind: Pattern book · Print: Print
• Book: The Roar in the Cupboard · Level: Level 5 · Words: 110 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Goldilocks and the Three Bears · Level: Level 5 · Words: 175 · Kind: Pattern book · Print: Print
• Book: The Monster Who Could Not Sleep · Level: Level 5 · Words: 98 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Scratch at the Tent · Level: Level 5 · Words: 95 · Kind: Short story · Print: Print
• Book: Piccola · Level: Level 5 · Words: 170 · Kind: Classic · Print: Print
• Book: The Blinking Lamp · Level: Level 6 · Words: 218 · Kind: Short story · Print: Read online
• Book: Midas and the Gold · Level: Level 6 · Words: 170 · Kind: Classic · Print: Read online
• Book: Thor and the Giants · Level: Level 6 · Words: 208 · Kind: Classic · Print: Read online

• Book: Mia and the Kite · Level: Level 6 · Words: 236 · Kind: Short story · Print: Read online
• Book: The Moon Follows Me · Level: Level 6 · Words: 171 · Kind: Short story · Print: Read online
• Book: Tom and the Big Fish · Level: Level 6 · Words: 220 · Kind: Short story · Print: Read online
• Book: The Mice Hold a Meeting · Level: Level 6 · Words: 172 · Kind: Classic · Print: Read online
• Book: The Bear Who Could Not Sleep · Level: Level 6 · Words: 242 · Kind: Short story · Print: Read online
• Book: The Snail Race · Level: Level 6 · Words: 242 · Kind: Short story · Print: Read online
• Book: Pandora Opens the Jar · Level: Level 6 · Words: 155 · Kind: Classic · Print: Read online
• Book: Thor and the Big Fish · Level: Level 6 · Words: 209 · Kind: Classic · Print: Read online
• Book: The Sailor and the Snake · Level: Level 6 · Words: 167 · Kind: Classic · Print: Read online
• Book: Ruby and the Rainy Picnic · Level: Level 6 · Words: 153 · Kind: Short story · Print: Read online
• Book: Sour Grapes, Says Fox · Level: Level 6 · Words: 188 · Kind: Classic · Print: Read online
• Book: Nobody Gives Way · Level: Level 6 · Words: 182 · Kind: Classic · Print: Read online
• Book: The Girl at the Shore · Level: Level 6 · Words: 206 · Kind: Classic · Print: Read online
• Book: Thor's New Hammer · Level: Level 6 · Words: 190 · Kind: Classic · Print: Read online
• Book: Ben and the Puddle Boat · Level: Level 6 · Words: 162 · Kind: Short story · Print: Read online
• Book: The Hamster Who Went Out · Level: Level 6 · Words: 212 · Kind: Short story · Print: Read online
• Book: Ant Saves Dove · Level: Level 6 · Words: 181 · Kind: Classic · Print: Read online
• Book: The Shark Who Smiled · Level: Level 6 · Words: 168 · Kind: Short story · Print: Read online
• Book: Bolt the Helper Robot · Level: Level 6 · Words: 166 · Kind: Short story · Print: Read online
• Book: Danny's Short Tail · Level: Level 6 · Words: 189 · Kind: Classic · Print: Read online

• Book: Atalanta Runs · Level: Level 6 · Words: 164 · Kind: Classic · Print: Read online
• Book: Hercules and His Jobs · Level: Level 6 · Words: 243 · Kind: Classic · Print: Read online
• Book: The Jug That Filled · Level: Level 6 · Words: 197 · Kind: Classic · Print: Read online
• Book: The Mouse Who Went Home · Level: Level 6 · Words: 205 · Kind: Classic · Print: Read online
• Book: A Wolf at Last · Level: Level 6 · Words: 206 · Kind: Classic · Print: Read online
• Book: The Little Lantern · Level: Level 6 · Words: 167 · Kind: Short story · Print: Read online
• Book: The Scarecrow Moves · Level: Level 6 · Words: 187 · Kind: Short story · Print: Read online
• Book: The Big Wooden Horse · Level: Level 6 · Words: 218 · Kind: Classic · Print: Read online
• Book: Arachne Weaves · Level: Level 6 · Words: 168 · Kind: Classic · Print: Read online
• Book: Ra Sails the Sky · Level: Level 6 · Words: 192 · Kind: Classic · Print: Read online
• Book: Paddy's Strange House · Level: Level 6 · Words: 185 · Kind: Classic · Print: Read online
• Book: Arion Sings · Level: Level 6 · Words: 199 · Kind: Classic · Print: Read online
• Book: Baby Hermes · Level: Level 6 · Words: 195 · Kind: Classic · Print: Read online
• Book: Wings of Wax · Level: Level 6 · Words: 172 · Kind: Classic · Print: Read online
• Book: Max and the Magnet · Level: Level 6 · Words: 151 · Kind: Short story · Print: Read online
• Book: Grasshopper Plays All Summer · Level: Level 6 · Words: 207 · Kind: Classic · Print: Read online
• Book: Paddy Builds a Dam · Level: Level 6 · Words: 184 · Kind: Classic · Print: Read online
• Book: Donkey Is Found Out · Level: Level 6 · Words: 166 · Kind: Classic · Print: Read online
• Book: Persephone and the Seeds · Level: Level 6 · Words: 156 · Kind: Classic · Print: Read online
• Book: Idun's Golden Apples · Level: Level 6 · Words: 213 · Kind: Classic · Print: Read online

What first grade books are like here

A level 3 book has one short line on a page and a picture for the word that changes. By level 6 a page has two or three sentences and a book runs a few hundred words. 19 of the 148 are pattern books and 60 are old stories retold very short.

Reading one together

Read the title and the first page aloud, then let your child read the next page back to you. Take turns by page if they tire. Read the same book again on another day. 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 at levels 3 to 5 has a Print link in the table. It opens a page where the book prints as a small cut-and-staple book. See printable books for kids for how.

After these

A child who reads the level 6 books easily is ready for short stories for 2nd graders. The short stories for 1st graders page has the level 4 to 6 stories with what happens in each.

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 short stories for 1st graders
- Free beginning reader books for kids just learning to read
- Free kindergarten books to read online or print
- Free 2nd grade reading books to read online
- Free decodable readers, sorted by phonics pattern
- Free sight word stories for kids, to read and print
- By level: Level 3 · Level 4 · Level 5 · Level 6

Questions parents ask

What level are first grade books?

Peabody starts 1st grade at level 3 and calls levels 4 to 6 first grade. Each level is worked out from the book's text: how long the sentences are, how many words fit on a screen and how common the words are.

Can my first grader read these alone?

Many can. The sentences are short, the words come back often and the early levels have a picture on every page. Start with a level 3 book and sit beside them for the first one.

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/first-grade-books