Free sports books for kids

Peabody · checked 2026-10-19

Peabody has 70 free sports books for kids, about athletes and how basketball, soccer, tennis, gymnastics, baseball and Formula 1 work. They run from levels 4 to 14 and each opens at once with no sign-up. The table shows every book's level and length, so a grown-up can pick one that fits the reader. Free through the end of 2026.

- Book: Snail Wins the Race · Level: Level 4 · Kind: Peabody story · Words: 69
- Book: The Tortoise and the Hare · Level: Level 5 · Kind: Classic · Words: 132
- Book: How Soccer and the World Cup Work · Level: Level 8 · Kind: True story · Words: 949
- Book: Fifteen on Court One · Level: Level 8 · Kind: True story · Words: 763
- Book: Kobe Bryant's Two Numbers · Level: Level 8 · Kind: True story · Words: 777
- Book: The Shot That Bent in Munich · Level: Level 8 · Kind: True story · Words: 785
- Book: Worth Three Points · Level: Level 8 · Kind: True story · Words: 843
- Book: Forty-Five Seconds in the Bowl · Level: Level 8 · Kind: True story · Words: 866
- Book: The Ball That Fell 856 Feet · Level: Level 8 · Kind: True story · Words: 662
- Book: Caitlin Clark's Road to the Pros · Level: Level 8 · Kind: True story · Words: 715
- Book: How Baseball Works, Told Through Shohei Ohtani · Level: Level 8 · Kind: True story · Words: 980
- Book: How Tennis Scoring Works · Level: Level 8 · Kind: True story · Words: 795
- Book: Michael Jordan's Six Titles · Level: Level 8 · Kind: True story · Words: 931
- Book: Ronaldo's Road from Madeira · Level: Level 8 · Kind: True story · Words: 918
- Book: The Player in the Middle · Level: Level 8 · Kind: True story · Words: 895
- Book: The Race Too Close to Call · Level: Level 8 · Kind: True story · Words: 706
- Book: Under Two Seconds · Level: Level 8 · Kind: True story · Words: 720
- Book: Mbappé on the Run · Level: Level 8 · Kind: True story · Words: 935
- Book: Five Goals in One Night · Level: Level 8 · Kind: True story · Words: 815
- Book: Twelve Blocks in One Night · Level: Level 8 · Kind: True story · Words: 595
- Book: A Hundred Meters in 9.58 Seconds · Level: Level 8 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,051
- Book: How Gymnastics Is Scored · Level: Level 8 · Kind: True story · Words: 908
- Book: Ten Feet High · Level: Level 8 · Kind: True story · Words: 823
- Book: The Dish Called Venus · Level: Level 8 · Kind: True story · Words: 742
- Book: Anchor Leg · Level: Level 10 · Kind: Peabody story · Words: 1,796
- Book: Serena Williams and the Serve · Level: Level 10 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,175
- Book: How Did Erling Haaland Score 36 Goals? · Level: Level 10 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,217

• Book: How Has Ronaldo Lasted So Long? · Level: Level 10 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,165
• Book: Simone Biles and the Vault · Level: Level 10 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,165
• Book: How Caitlin Clark's Records Were Counted · Level: Level 10 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,207
• Book: Shohei Ohtani and the Two-Way Player · Level: Level 10 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,330
• Book: What Does a Midfielder Like Jude Bellingham Do? · Level: Level 10 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,244
• Book: How Did Usain Bolt Run So Fast? · Level: Level 10 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,385
• Book: How Does Formula 1 Work? · Level: Level 10 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,321
• Book: LeBron James and the Long Game · Level: Level 10 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,264
• Book: Side Out · Level: Level 10 · Kind: Peabody story · Words: 1,573
• Book: How Did Venus Williams Become a Champion? · Level: Level 10 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,250
• Book: How the Bulls Won with Michael Jordan · Level: Level 10 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,091
• Book: Stephen Curry and the Three-Point Shot · Level: Level 10 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,364
• Book: How Does Dude Perfect Plan a Trick Shot? · Level: Level 10 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,178
• Book: Noah Lyles: Races and the Rules Behind Them · Level: Level 10 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,076
• Book: Victor Wembanyama and the Unanimous Vote · Level: Level 10 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,199
• Book: How Coco Gauff Became a Grand Slam Champion · Level: Level 10 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,196
• Book: How Did Lamine Yamal Set So Many Youngest Records? · Level: Level 10 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,050
• Book: How Is Park Skateboarding Judged? · Level: Level 11 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,383
• Book: How Fast Is Kylian Mbappé? · Level: Level 11 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,343
• Book: Kobe Bryant and Every Detail · Level: Level 11 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,218
• Book: Lionel Messi's Long Road · Level: Level 11 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,339
• Book: Counted in Days: Jude Bellingham's Records · Level: Level 13 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,442

• Book: Serena Williams, Measured · Level: Level 13 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,720
• Book: Goals, Minutes and xG: Reading a Striker · Level: Level 13 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,616
• Book: Counting Caitlin Clark · Level: Level 13 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,711
• Book: Downforce, Drag and the Rulebook · Level: Level 13 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,879
• Book: Lamine Yamal and the Arithmetic of Youngest · Level: Level 13 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,513
• Book: Counting What Never Gets Shot · Level: Level 13 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,497
• Book: Ranking a Run: How Park Judging Works · Level: Level 13 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,541
• Book: Coco Gauff and the Arithmetic of a Match · Level: Level 13 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,846
• Book: Counting a Career · Level: Level 13 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,371
• Book: How Baseball Counts a Two-Way Player · Level: Level 13 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,754
• Book: Reading Kobe Bryant's Numbers · Level: Level 13 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,588
• Book: The Physics Inside 9.58 Seconds · Level: Level 13 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,855
• Book: Venus Williams and the Math of a Tour Career · Level: Level 13 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,523
• Book: Who Counts Ronaldo's Goals? · Level: Level 13 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,656
• Book: Beyond the Perfect Ten · Level: Level 13 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,600
• Book: How Soccer Is Measured · Level: Level 13 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,554
• Book: The Michael Jordan Argument · Level: Level 13 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,641
• Book: Reaction Time and the 0.005-Second Margin · Level: Level 13 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,560
• Book: Falling Hoops: The Physics of Dude Perfect · Level: Level 13 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,401
• Book: The Arithmetic of the Arc · Level: Level 13 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,646
• Book: Measuring a Soccer Sprint · Level: Level 14 · Kind: True story · Words: 1,967

Picking one for your child

Every book here is sorted by Peabody's reading level, which is worked out from the text and never from the child. A lower level means shorter sentences and easier words, so start where your child can read about half of a book alone and read the rest together. If it is too hard, go down a level. If they race through it, go up.

A reading level is not an age

A ten-year-old who loves basketball and reads at a third-grade level should not be handed a baby book, and a strong young reader should not be handed a teenager's. So each athlete here is written three times: a plain, easy version a child of about 7 to 11 can read alone, a fuller one for about 10 to 13, and a detailed one for about 13 to 16. The level in the table is how hard the words are. The ages above are who the book is for.

Where the facts come from

These books are not official biographies and no player or team has approved them. Every fact comes from a page a person opened and checked, such as a league, a tennis or soccer federation, a news report or a museum, and every number carries the date it was true.

For the youngest readers

1 are at level 4: Snail Wins the Race. These suit a child just learning to read, or a grown-up reading aloud.

For growing readers

23 are at levels 5 to 8: The Tortoise and the Hare, How Soccer and the World Cup Work, Fifteen on Court One, Kobe Bryant's Two Numbers, The Shot That Bent in Munich, Worth Three Points and more. Longer books, with more going on in each one.

For confident readers

46 are at levels 10 to 14: Anchor Leg, Serena Williams and the Serve, How Did Erling Haaland Score 36 Goals?, How Has Ronaldo Lasted So Long?, Simone Biles and the Vault, How Caitlin Clark's Records Were Counted and more. These are for children who read chapters and longer passages on their own.

Reading them together

A grown-up can read any of these aloud from a phone or tablet, one page at a time, and a child who reads can take over. Where a device can speak, the book page has a Read to me button that reads each page aloud in the device's own voice. Every book page has a Print link too, if you would rather read on paper.

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 nonfiction books for kids, one topic at three levels
- Free technology books for kids

- Free funny stories for kids
- Free beginning reader books for kids just learning to read
- By level: Level 4 · Level 5 · Level 8 · Level 10 · Level 11 · Level 13 · Level 14

Questions parents ask

What reading level are these sports books?

They run across levels 4 to 14. Peabody works each level out from the book's text: how long the sentences are, how many words fit on a screen and how common the words are. The table shows the level of every book, so you can pick a lower or a higher one.

Are any of these books scary?

None carries a mark above gentle, and none is on the scary stories shelf. The short description on each book's page says what it covers, so read it first if your child is sensitive.

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/sports-books-for-kids