



# Reading Profiles: Solutions and Strategies for the Young Male Reader



SOME KEY QUESTIONS FOR LIBRARIANS, PARENTS, AND TEACHERS TO CONSIDER

**What are young children reading?**

**What are their reading habits?**

**What is the difference between  
boys' and girls' reading profiles?**

**How can parents encourage their  
daughters and sons to read?**

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## Strategies for Encouraging Your Son to Read

- Model reading in the home by reading newspapers, magazines, catalogues and books.
- Leave books around the house. Buy some books that you think would be of interest. Take out books from your local or school library.
- For those boys who want to retain their individual images, reading may be seen as a private experience. Respect that he may not want to share his thoughts about his selected books or be praised for reading.
- Subscribe to a magazine that reflects his interests.
- Encourage him to share the musical lyrics of a song he likes. Music is an entry point into literacy.
- Recognize that reading for information is as legitimate as reading literature. Acknowledge this factor to your son when he follows written instructions for putting together a skateboard or reads the sports section of a newspaper.
- Some children love acquiring factual knowledge, especially trivia and facts. Websites provide a knowledge base for their development in this area.
- Encourage family members and friends, who are role models, to give him a book along with other presents. A book about Anthony Calvillo or Wayne Gretzky, along with a football or hockey helmet, would be a start in the right direction.
- Let your youngster make his choices at the bookstore or library. Never re-direct him to another book or be critical about his tastes. Let him choose books that may be comforting or those with attractive photos or pictures. It is also important to allow him to explore various topics even if they are not considered to be boy-friendly.
- If your son shows an interest in a car, musical group or instrument, seek out books on that subject.
- Try reading aloud from a book in which your son has expressed interest but finds difficult to read.
- Choose a book together that you may wish to donate to a library in your names. This will enlist a sense of community with other readers.



### ***Enthusiastic: Reads Everything Quickly***

- ***My Name is Yoon by Helen Recorvits***
- ***Squirrel and John Muir by Emily Arnold McCully***
- ***When I Heard the Learn'd Astronomer by Walt Whitman, illustrated by Loren Long***
- ***Freedom Beyond The Sea by Waldraut Lewin***
- ***Tiger Woods: Drive to Greatness by Mark Stewart***
- ***Football Stadiums by Thomas S. Owens***
- ***The Hard-Times Jar by Ethel Footman Smothers***
- ***The Mysterious Collection of Dr. David Harleyson by Jean Casseks***

### ***Humanist: Interested in Human and Social Issues***

- ***Jim Thorpe's Bright Path by Joseph Bruchac, illustrated by S.D. Nelson***
- ***Good Brother, Bad Brother: The Story of Edwin Booth and John Wilkes Booth by James Cross Giblin***
- ***Selavi, That Is Life: A Haitian Story of Hope by Youme Landowne***
- ***Whose Garden Is It? by Mary Ann Hoberma, illustrated by Jane Dyer***
- ***The Schwa Was Here by Neal Shusterman***
- ***You Can't Judge A Book by Its Cover: Cool Rules for School by Judge Judy Sheindlin, illustrated by Bob Tore***

### ***Divergent Thinker; Likes discussion and discovery, especially in History and Science***

- ***Anybody's Hero: The Battle of Old Men and Young Boys by Phyllis Hall Haislip***
- ***Pocket Pets by Alvin Silverstein and Laura Silverstein***

- *Q Is For Quark by David M. Schwartz*
- *A Wreath for Emmet Til by Marilyn Nelson*
- *The California Condor by Alvin Silverstein*
- *Sequoyah: The Cherokee Man Who Gave His People Writing by James Rumford*
- *Freedom Summer by Deborah Wiles, illustrated by James Lagarrigue*
- *Wall Street Wizard: Sound Ideas from a Savy Teen Investor by Jay Liebowitz*
- *Finn by Matthew Olshan*
- *Toothworms & Spider Juice: An Illustrated History of Dentistry by Loretta Frances Ichord*
- *Earth's Wild Winds by Sandra Friend*
- *Ice Age Cave Bear: The Giant Beast That Terrified Ancient Humans by Barbara Hehner, illustrated by Mark Hallett*
- *Nibbling on Einstein's Brain by Diane Swanson*
- *Techno-Matter: The Materials Behind The Marvels by Fred Bortz*
- *The Brooklyn Bridge by Lynn Curlee*
- *Turtle Splash by Catheryn Falwell*
- *The Code Book by Simon Singh*
- *Safari Journal by Hudson Talbott*

***Athlete: Reads When He Has To***

- *The Million Dollar Kick by Dan Gutman*
- *Jackie's Nine: Jackie Robinson's Values to Live By by Sharon Robinson*
- *A Student's Guide to The Internet by Elizabeth L Marshall*
- *Cool Sites: Homework Hints For Kids on The Net by Lisa Trumbauer*

- *Any Number Can Play: The Numbers Athletes Wear* by George Sullivan
- *Henry and The Kite Dragon* by Bruce Edward Hall, illustrated by William Low
- *Ballpark: The Story of America's Baseball Fields* by Lynn Curlee
- *Hot Day on Abbott Avenue* by Karen English, illustrated by Javaka Steptoe
- *The New Animal* by Emily Jenkins, illustrated by Peter Pratt
- *The Hello Goodbye Window* by Norman Juster, illustrated by Phillippe Lardy
- *Castles, Caves and Honeycombs* by Linda Ashman, illustrated by Lauren Stringer
- *They Came From The Bronx: How The Buffalo Were Saved from Extinction* by Neil Waldman
- *Alex's Primer* by Mildred Pitts Walter, illustrated by Larry Johnson

*Solitary: Likes beautiful books and re-reading his favourite authors*

- *The Secret World of Og* by Pierre Berton, illustrated by Patsy Berton
- *The Wee Free Men* by Terry Pratchett
- *The Horse and The Iron Ball: A Journey Through Time, Space and Technology* by Jerry Allan and Georgina Allan, illustrated by Jerry Allan
- *The Chronicles of Narnia* by C.S. Lewis
- *The Power of UN* by Nancy Etchemendy
- *Georges's Marvellous Medicine* by Roald Dahl
- *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* by J.K. Rowling
- *Quidditch Through The Ages* by J.k. Rowling
- *Bilbo's Last Song* by J.R.R. Tolkein
- *Salting The Ocean: 100 Poems by Young Poets* by Ashley Bryan

## *Reluctant Reader*

- *Math Man by Teri Daniels*
- *Hazel Nutt: Mad Scientist by David Elliot*
- *Love That Dog by Sharon Creech*
- *Dogs 24/7: Extraordinary Photographs of Wonderful Dogs by Rick Smolan, Photographs by David Elliot Cohen*
- *Here in Harlem by Walter Dean Myers*
- *Never Shout in a Zoo by Karma Wilson, illustrated by Doug Cushma*
- *Walking The Choctaw Road by Choctaw Storyteller Tim Tingle*
- *The Waterhole by Graeme Base*
- *The Tin Forest by Helen Ward*
- *Stray Dog written and illustrated by Marc Simont*
- *Kevin Garnett: Shake up The Game by Mark Stewart*
- *One Wild Ride: The Life of Skateboarding Superstar Tony Hawke by Mark Stewart*

## *Emergent Reader: Beginning to Enter the World of Books*

- *Ten Mice for Tet by Pegi Deitz Shea and Cynthia Weill, illustrated by Ngoc Trang*
- *Down on The Farm by Merrily Kutner*
- *Coming on Home Soon by Jacqueline Woodson, illustrated by E.B. Lewis and Earl Lewis*
- *Traction Man Is Here! by Mini Grey*
- *Michael Rosen's Sad Book by Michael Rosen*
- *Yesterday I Had The Blues by Jerod Ashford Frame*

- *It's Okay to Be Different by Todd Parr*
- *The Heart of Cool by James McEwan, illustrated by Sandra Boynton*
- *Fold Me A Poem by Kristine O'Connell, illustrated by Lauren Stringer*
- *Andy Russel Not Wanted by The Police by David Adler, illustrated by Leanne Franson*







The aforementioned lists of books are based upon reviews by teams of librarians, educators, and young readers. They do not reflect the viewpoints of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board. Thus, we do not assume any responsibility for their content.

