

Here are our top children's book picks for April 2026!

**0 – 5 YEARS      GRADE 0 – R**

**Little Cottage Frog: Finger Puppet** by Yu-Hsuan Huang  
 9781797237374 | Chronicle Books | BB | R210

**Baby Panda: Finger Puppet** by Yu-Hsuan Huang  
 9781797237381 | Chronicle Books | BB | R210

**Little Cottage frog** Bursling with color, this adorable frog finger puppet book lets babies and inquisitive toddlers touch, feel, and explore!

**Baby Panda** Bursling with color, this adorable frog finger puppet book lets babies and inquisitive toddlers touch, feel, and explore!

**Lullaby Legends: ABC of Cristiano Ronaldo** by Amber Lily  
 9781926181721 | Gemini Books | BB | R220

**Lullaby Legends: ABC of Lionel Messi** by Amber Lily  
 9781926181479 | Gemini Books | BB | R220

**ABC with Cristiano Ronaldo** Kick off with Ronaldo, the international sports star! Introduces preschoolers to Ronaldo through gentle ABC rhymes.

**ABC with Lionel Messi** Kick off with Messi, the international sports star! Introduces preschoolers to Messi through gentle ABC rhymes.

**Follow That Train** by Georgie Taylor  
 9781836161028 | Simon & Schuster | BB | R195

**I Can Spy a Dinosaur** by Kathryn Selbert  
 9781837251001 | Buster Books | BB | R240

**Follow That Train!** Discover search-and-find finger-tracing fun as you trace the trails and follow the train through the busy London pictures! Each scene is full of lots of funny characters.

**I Can Spy a Dinosaur** From swooping Pterodactyls to baby Triceratops... this is a delightful book that blends education, imagination and irresistible charm...

**I Can Spy a Unicorn** by Kathryn Selbert  
 9781837251018 | Buster Books | BB | R240

**Thoughts from a Quiet Bench** by Kes Gray  
 9781444927030 | Hodder | PB | R220

**I Can Spy a Unicorn** Explore lush meadows and sunny beaches in this delightful book that blends education and imagination!

**Thoughts from a Quiet Bench** Find joy in the everyday with this glorious and light-hearted picture book which asks even more questions than children do!

**Libo and the Leopard** by Emily Child  
 9781037088247 | Imaginary House | PB | R225

**The Sheep That Stole the Farmers Hat** by Tim Saunders  
 9781991142337 | Allen & Unwin | PB | R245

**Libo and the Leopard** Libo dreams of being a royal Paddler on the king's barge, but that means he needs a Leopard fur of his own to wear around his waist...

**The Sheep That Stole the Farmers Hat** The farm animals are having a field day with all the farmer's clothes, using them in inventive ways. With perfect bouncy rhyme, this is a silly delight.

**Unicorn Academy: Isabel's Fairy Island Rescue** by Susannah Shane  
 9781805136071 | Nosy Crow | PB | R245

**When I Became Your Auntie** by Susannah Shane  
 978183947698 | Nosy Crow | PB | R240

**Unicorn Academy: Isabel's Fairy Island Rescue** Relive the enchanting story of Isabel and River's magical moon adventure at Unicorn Academy in this brand-new storybook.

**When I Became Your Auntie** A heart-warming book celebrating the special bond between an aunt and child, featuring flurries of gold foil on every page!

**A Better Best Friend** by Oliver Tallac  
 9781776575749 | Gecko Press | PB | R265

**A Better Best Friend** A feel-good picture book about best friendship told with dry comedy and an open ending—Squirrel and mushroom are best friends until another best friend comes to play.

**6 – 9 YEARS      GRADE 1 – 3**

**Henry's Picture Perfect Day** by Jenn Balley  
 9781797236131 | Chronicle Books | PB | R165

**Megalomaniacs: The Invasion Begins!** by Jamie Smart  
 9781836433944 | Simon & Schuster | PB | R300

**Henry's Picture Perfect Day** With short chapters and simple text, this book is perfect for newly independent readers who are just moving into longer books. This book is a mirror for kids on the autism spectrum.

**Megalomaniacs: The Invasion Begins!** Bobbletown is under attack from the cutest and silliest alien invasion EVER! The super-powered Megalomaniacs have crash-landed, and they're going to do their best to take over planet Earth!

**Princess Minna 08: The Dragon Egg Hunt** by Kirsty Applebaum  
 9781805138075 | Nosy Crow | PB | R240

**Magic Faraway Tree: Film novelisation** by Enid Blyton  
 9781444952247 | Hachette | PB | R220

**Princess Minna 08: The Dragon Egg Hunt** Lorenzo the dragon has set up a brilliant egg hunt for the townspeople, with eggs of all shapes and sizes. But he's accidentally hidden his mum's special dragon egg too and he's going to be in big trouble!

**Magic Faraway Tree: Film novelisation** When Fran's mum loses her job, her family has to move to a ramshackle barn on the edge of a wood. But then they stumble across the Faraway Tree and discover magical worlds.

**Tiny Pony Friends 03: Flower Power** by Lina Chapman  
 9781408312322 | Orchard Books | PB | R195

**Puzzle in Pompeii** by Tim Collins  
 9781837251018 | Buster Books | PB | R240

**Tiny Pony Friends 03: Flower Power** Count Drefan will stop at nothing to ruin Pogy and Harper's day. Can the girls help save Pony Land's beautiful blooms so the festival can go ahead? Suitable for young readers aged 5 and up.

**Puzzle in Pompeii** Romy (a wolf) and Remus (an owl) are an inventive, time-travelling duo who use special watches to visit different eras in history. They travel back to the ancient Roman city of Pompeii. But there's a problem...

**Dave Pigeon: Dave vs Dave** by Swapsa Haddow  
 9780571379316 | Faber & Faber | PB | R230

**A Chick Called Charm** by Helen Peters  
 978183948763 | Nosy Crow | PB | R240

**Dave Pigeon** The Human Lady has brought home another injured pigeon, and the impostor looks a little bit like Dave! When fierce competition erupts between the two birds, Skipper steps in.

**A Chick Called Charm** The perfect Easter book for animal lovers! gorgeously illustrated, this is a heartwarming tale of an abandoned chick who finds friendship in an unlikely place...

**Ghoulla 02: Ghoulla and the Mysterious Visitor** by Barbara Cantini  
 9781419785047 | Harry N. Abrams | PB | R205

**The Secret Garden** by Geraldine McLaughran  
 9781805135418 | Nosy Crow | PB | R300

**Ghoulla 02: Ghoulla and the Mysterious Visitor** Ghoulla is a typical little girl, who happens to be a zombie. One after another, Ghoulla's friends arrive—all with a same mysterious invitation in hand. Then one of their own goes missing...

**The Secret Garden** When Mary Lennox is sent from India to live with her uncle at gloomy Misselthwaite Manor, she is the most spoiled and contrary child you could ever meet.

**United Chronicles** 9781805168150 | Reach Sport | PB | R315

**Football Superstars: Heroes of the World Cup** by Simon Mugford  
 9781804339927 | Webbox | PB | R195

**United Chronicles** From the club's humble beginnings as a railway workers' team to becoming one of the biggest clubs in world football: United Chronicles takes young readers on a thrilling journey.

**Football Superstars: Heroes of the World Cup** This globe-trotting guide celebrates the greatest players ever to shine on football's biggest stage. From legends like Pelé and Diego Maradona to modern icons such as Marta and Alex Morgan.

**10 – 12 YEARS      GRADE 4 – 6**

**K-Pop Academy 01: The Stage of Shadows** by Mina Finch  
 9781398561144 | Simon & Schuster | PB | R240

**K-Pop Academy 02: Cursed Spotlight** by Mina Finch  
 9781398561403 | Simon & Schuster | PB | R240

**K-Pop Academy 01: The Stage of Shadows** Hana Kim has always dreamed of becoming a Kpop idol. But when she earns a scholarship to K-Pop Academy she's not expecting the shadows – dark, whispering demons that sink into rehearsal rooms.

**K-Pop Academy 02: Cursed Spotlight** Hana and her K-pop Crew are back! Each year, one trainee at K-pop Academy is chosen for the coveted Spotlight Solo, but legends say every winner is cursed. When Nari is selected, her anxieties spiral.

**Minecraft: One Last Quest** by Brandon Hoang  
 9780008779394 | HarperCollins | PB | R265

**Amari 04: Amari and The Metalwork Menace** by BB Akoto  
 9780008647711 | Storyline | TPB | R315

**Minecraft: One Last Quest** The kingdom has been breached. Beware The Greifer! Four friends must defend their shared world in this official Minecraft novel.

**Amari 04: Amari and The Metalwork Menace** This series finds the Clans navigating an ominous prophecy that foretold the destruction of the Moonpool, and the end of the 'Cats' connection to StarCan!

**Roswell Johnson Saves the Galaxy** by Chris Colfer  
 9781510202899 | Little, Brown | PB | R250

**Roswell Johnson Saves the Galaxy** Roswell Johnson is bored, but while he's grounded on Earth, spaceships are being attacked without a reason, people disappearing without a trace, stars are dying without a cause.

**13 – 16 YEARS      GRADE 7 – 10**  
(TEEN)

**Songs for Ghosts** by Clara Kumagai  
 9781803288093 | Bloomsbury | PB | R270

**The Otherwhere Post** by Emily J. Taylor  
 9781782694441 | Pushkin Press | PB | R295

**Songs for Ghosts** When Japanese-American teenager, Adam, discovers a diary in his attic, he is enthralled by its account of a young Japanese woman's life. A hundred years separate them yet they share experiences.

**The Otherwhere Post** Maeve lost all when her father unleashed a world-destroying magic. She lives under a fake name, until she receives a mysterious letter, with impossible words: 'Your father was innocent.'

**All the Fighting Parts** by Hannah V. Sawyerr  
 9781419762628 | Harry N. Abrams | PB | R375

**To the Death** by Melissa Wallner  
 978144480769 | Hodder | PB | R275

**All the Fighting Parts** This is a defiant young adult novel, written in verse, about reclaiming agency after a sexual assault within the church community.

**To the Death** When Bloodwatch, the shadowy organisation behind the ever-watchful cameras, descends upon the island to shoot a new high-stakes reality show, Astrid finds herself thrust into the spotlight.

**17+ YEARS      GRADE 11+**  
(YOUNG ADULT)

**The New Republic 02: Release Me** by Tahereh Mafi  
 9780008722739 | Storyline | TPB | R315

**Were a Bad Idea, Right?** by KL Walther  
 9780008684486 | HarperCollins | PB | R295

**The New Republic 02: Release Me** The sparring second volume in a new series set in the number 1 global bestselling Shatter Me universe. To save her sister, Rosabelle needs to get back home and destroy the system that created her.

**Were a Bad Idea, Right?** Audrey Barbour has had enough of following the rules. When her mother's history proposes an outrageous fake-dating scheme to win back his ex-girlfriend, it feels like the first step to shaking up her perfect life...

**Rose Bargain 02: Thorn Queen** by Sasha Peyton Smith  
 9780008742843 | Eloquent Monkey | TPB | R315

**Darling Devils 03: Wild Darling** by Alexandra Moody  
 9780008794149 | Eloquent Monkey | PB | R295

**Rose Bargain 02: Thorn Queen** Forbidden romance, deceptive bargains, and lethal court intrigue intertwine in this mesmerizing fae romantasy sequel that will captivate fans of Once Upon a Broken Heart and Belladonna.

**Darling Devils 03: Wild Darling** Alexandra Moody's BookTok sensation Darling Devils series is back with the most devilish Darling brother of all. In a wholesome, banter-filled job-hockey romance.

**PUZZLES & ACTIVITIES**

**Minecraft Survival Challenges Heroic Edition** by Mojang AB  
 9780008733209 | HarperCollins | HB | R295

**Anti Boredom Travel Colouring Book** by Chris Dickson  
 9781837251414 | Buster Books | PB | R210

**Minecraft Survival Challenges Heroic Edition** The Overworld can be a dangerous place for players, mobs and villagers out there. Looks like this place is in need of a hero. Luckily, you're here! Step up and tackle these challenges.

**Anti Boredom Travel Colouring Book** Whether travelling by a car, train, boat or plane, long journeys will pass by in a flash with this fun-packed colouring book.

**Thando and the Magic Window** by Thandi Kabo  
 9781781854420 | Human & Rousseau | PB | R135 | 0 - 5 years

**Thando Goes to the Sea** by Thandi Kabo  
 9781781854420 | Human & Rousseau | PB | R135 | 0 - 5 years

**Thando and the Magic Window** Thando has big eyes and a curious mind. Through his magic window, ordinary scenes become magical adventures!

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**Isikhathe Sesiso Ezasendle** by Louise Lockhart  
 9781781854420 | Bounce Back | BB | R240 | 0 - 5 years

**Magjetye Safari** by Louise Lockhart  
 9781781854420 | Bounce Back | BB | R240 | 0 - 5 years

**Isikhathe Sesiso Ezasendle** extra fun with this fold-out board book that includes a mirror! Translated into isiZulu for first time readers.

**Magjetye Safari** Maak magjetye ekstra lekker met hierdie flappie-kartonboek met 'n spieël! Vertaal in Afrikaans vir beginnendeleesers.

**Magjetye Plass deur Louise Lockhart** 9781781854420 | Bounce Back | BB | R240 | 0 - 5 years

**Ons maak die perfekte drukkie** 9780798185929 | Human & Rousseau | PB | R215 | 0 - 4 years

**Maak magjetye ekstra lekker met hierdie flappie-kartonboek met 'n spieël!** Vertaal in Afrikaans vir beginnendeleesers.

**Vier hoesies soek na die perfekte drukkie in hierdie flappie-avontuur.** Daar is steeds baie verrassings om te ontdek!

**The World of Soccer** by Moon S.Z.I.  
 9780798185745 | Human & Rousseau | PB | R235 | 8 - 12 years

**Rillers: Omnibus 1** deur François Bloemhof  
 9780798185888 | Human & Rousseau | PB | R220 | 8 - 12 years

**The World of Soccer** Get ready for the 2026 FIFA World Cup with the ultimate local soccer guide every young fan needs!

**Rillers: Omnibus 1** Ontleek waarom François Bloemhof een van die mees geliefde spanningskrywers is met hierdie lekker omnibus wat twee van sy gewildste verhale bevat: 'Die speler!' en 'Die vrou met die pers oog!'

For more information, and for a review copy, please contact: [cduplessis@jhp.co.za](mailto:cduplessis@jhp.co.za)  
 Please include your full name, address, and phone number in the email

DEADLINE: 7 April 2026  
 [Please note that prices are subject to change.]

HAPPY READING  
 Chanté du Plessis

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