Jonathan Ball Publishers

CHILDREN'S HIGHLIGHTS

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2026

Here are our top children's book picks for **November and December** 2026!

0 – 5 YEARS | GRADE 0 – R

Let's Make Gingerbread by Jamie Oliver
9781917766344 | Magic Cat | BB | R280

Every page of this sturdy board book features a new read-aloud word to see and say. Then, lift the flap to follow the action.

Stick Man's Christmas - Slide and Spin by Julia Donaldson
9780702348761 | Alison Green Books | BB | R295

Stick Man is going on a Christmas adventure! Push, pull and spin sliders help Santa deliver presents for Christmas.

Merry Grinchmas to You! by Dr. Seuss
9780008806187 | HarperCollins | BB | R250

Baby Grinch learns the meaning of Christmas in this lift-the-flap board book with surprise ending, perfect for babies!

Fold-Out + Play Farm by Ingela P Arrhenius
9781805139041 | Nosy Crow | BB | R625

This fantastic fold-out book effortlessly transforms into a fantastic 3D farm that children can explore and play with!

Sleepy Savanna by Stephen R. Swinburne
9781647108548 | Familius | BB | R245

A sweet, lyrical bedtime story about baby animals falling asleep on the African savanna, perfect for lulling kids to sleep.

Winter Pops Up! by Aurore Petit
9781837292103 | Phaidon Press | BB | R270

From bundling up for the first snow to sipping warm hot chocolate, this bold, shiny pop-up book brings winter's magic to life for little hands!

Like the Moon Loves the Sky by Hena Khan
9781797219117 | Chronicle Books | BB | R180

Now available in a sturdy board book edition, this lyrical and reassuring bedtime story is a tender celebration of love, faith and the hopes parents hold.

Oh, the Places You'll Go!: The Essential Keepsake by Dr. Seuss
9780008823337 | HarperCollins | PB | R345

Capture the magic of life's milestones with this special keepsake edition of classic! Perfect for graduations, baby showers, first birthdays, and more.

Stick Man Christmas Special Edition by Julia Donaldson
9780702348716 | Alison Green Books | PB | R295

The heartwarming modern classic - now with a shiny foiled cover and Christmas crafts for little ones to make and do! The super shiny cover makes this a special gift for toddlers.

The Baddies Foiled Edition by Julia Donaldson
9780702349324 | Alison Green Books | PB | R295

The Baddies are the meanest, nastiest ghost, witch and troll in the land. They just adore being bad, and fight over who is the worst.

The Christmas Pine 5th Anniversary Edition by Julia Donaldson
9780702349898 | Alison Green Books | PB | R295

A magical picture book for Christmas, written in perfect, heartfelt rhyme now with a super shiny cover! Deep in a snowy wood stands a little pine tree with a special destiny...

One Night Before Christmas by Kes Gray
9781444971989 | Orchard Books | PB | R235

High up in the night sky, Santa is trying desperately to fix his broken-down sleigh. And when he finally manages, he only has three hours left to fly around the whole world!

6 – 9 YEARS | GRADE 1 – 3

The Cat in the Hat: The Story of the Movie by Dr. Seuss
9780008806187 | HarperCollins | PB | R250

Marya Khan and the Disastrous Class Project by Saadia Faruqi
9781417749660 | Annuler Books | PB | R175

It's time for her class's country project, and Marya is super excited. She loves public speaking, and she's assigned Pakistan, where her family is from. But Marya has two problems...

Marya Khan 06: Marya Khan and the Abominable Ski Trip by Saadia Faruqi
9781417749660 | Annuler Books | PB | R175

A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens
9781782695998 | Pushkin | PB | R240

Marley is dead - there is no doubt about that. But on Christmas Eve night, his ghost appears in front of his miserly business partner, Ebenezer Scrooge. His purpose: to show Scrooge the error of his ways before it is too late.

Marya Khan 05: Marya Khan and the Disastrous Class Project by Saadia Faruqi
9781417749660 | Annuler Books | PB | R175

Bunny vs Monkey: Day of the Heroes! by Jamie Smart
9781788453912 | DFB Phoenix | PB | R405

Not all heroes wear capes - some have fur, some have sticky fingers, and some even have . . . EXPLODING UNDERPANTS! What could possibly go wrong?

Super Diaper Baby: The Invasion of the Potty Snatchers by Dav Pilkey
9781338687866 | Scholastic | PB | R350

Just like the bestselling The Adventures of Super Diaper Baby, this all-new colour version features new How 2 Draws, fun facts, and more. Dav Pilkey weaves a hilarious, action-packed sequel!

Over and Under the Waves by Kate Messner
9781797245614 | Chronicle Books | PB | R195

Discover the magical depths of the kelp forest, and all the fascinating creatures living just a paddle's length away—over and under the waves.

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10 – 12 YEARS | GRADE 4 – 6

The Ramber's Curse by Mikey Please
9780008830205 | HarperCollins | PB | R310

The Wild Ones by Steve Cole
9780702349157 | Scholastic | PB | R295

Everything is going wonderfully for Rene and Glumfoot at the Café at the Edge of the Woods until one day disaster strikes – a creature most foul and dangerous stumbles across the café during a storm: a human!

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The Lone Husky by Hannah Gold
9780008582128 | HarperCollins | PB | R280

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The Way We Become by Amber Smith
9781836432050 | Rock the Boat | PB | R305

I Hope This Doesn't Find You by Ann Liang
9780702350269 | Scholastic | PB | R365

Sadie Wen is perfect. The trick to keeping her model-student-smile plastered on her face at all times? She channels all her pesky frustrations into her email drafts. Then the emails get out.

17+ YEARS | GRADE 11+
(YOUNG ADULT)

The New Republic 03: Escape Me by Tahereh Mafi
9780008823320 | Electric Monkey | TPB | R320

When the eyes of the world are upon you, who do you hope is watching? Gut-wrenching romance, explosive action, and a world determined to control their thoughts and actions. . .

The Hunger Games: Sunrise on the Reaping by Suzanne Collins
9780702349065 | Scholastic | PB | R365

When you've been set up to lose everything you love, what is there left to fight for? On the fiftieth annual Hunger Games, Haymitch is shoved on a shuttled to the Capitol with the three other District 12 tributes.

Wintervell by Ava Reid
9780008827977 | Electric Monkey | TPB | R320

With eerie war simulations, cutthroat competitions and foreboding new technology, Valeran trains its students to be elite assets in a Cold War that has dragged on for nearly a century.

Beastsoven by A.B. Hamilton
9781844935615 | Tempest | PB | R290

Two girls forced to share a body as they hunt and destroy beasts. The irony? They're the very beast they must destroy. The first in an incredibly written and dazzlingly original YA fantasy duology.

Darling Devils 04: Rebel Darling by Alexandra Moody
9780008824983 | Electric Monkey | PB | R315

Cammie Darling is a phenomenal figure skater with a reputation for being impossible to work with. Seth Walker, has just been kicked off the hockey team and is desperate to get back on the ice.

Thorn Season 02: Sharpest Court by Kiera Azar
9780008721886 | Harper Fire | TPB | R320

Unputtowmable plot, incredible twists, and an extraordinary high fantasy world filled with court intrigue, a unique magic system, Sharpest Court is the thrilling sequel to Thorn Season.

PUZZLES & ACTIVITIES

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For more information, and for a review copy, please contact:
cdupleessis@jbp.co.za
Please inlude your **full name**, **address**, and **phone number** in the email!

DEADLINE: 26 October 2026

[Please note that prices are subject to change.]

HAPPY READING
Chanté du Plessis