

Picture Books Around the World - EUROPE

Austria

[A child is a child](#)

by Weninger, Brigitte

JEASY

When two frogs are left orphaned, Mama Mouse mobilizes the community to use their skills to help her raise them.

[Stay in bed, Davy](#)

by Weninger, Brigitte

JEASY

When Davy the Rabbit is sick, his mother insists that he stay in bed, but his friends have plans for him to have fun anyway.

Belgium

[The cuddle book](#)

by Genechten, Guido van

JEASY

Describes a variety of animal cuddles, from bear hugs to porcupine hugs, but the best is Mommy's cuddle.

[What's inside](#)

by Ashbe, Jeanne

JEASY

A young boy wonders what is inside of things, including his pregnant mother. <div class="clear"></div>

[Who is driving?](#)

by Timmers, Leo

JEASY TIM

Easy-to-read text invites the reader to guess which animal is driving each of seven vehicles based on how they are dressed, then reveals their destinations and the vehicles' sounds.

Bosnia and Herzegovina

[Gleam and Glow](#)

by Bunting, Eve

JEASY

After his home is destroyed by war, eight-year-old Viktor finds hope in the survival of two very special fish.

Bulgaria

[My name was Hussein](#)

by Kyuchukov, Hristo

J PIC+

Although they have kept their Islamic traditions living in their Bulgarian village for many generations, when an army takes over their village, a Muslim boy and his family are forced to take Christian names.

Czech Republic

[A new house for Mouse](#)

by Horacek, Petr

JEASY

Mouse finds a nice juicy apple--but it's too big to fit inside her tiny home. What can she do? Find a new house, of course! Peep through the die-cut holes and join Mouse on her search

Denmark

[Olie's bedtime walk](#)

by Hertz, Grete Janus.

JEASY

When Olie can't sleep, he goes for a nighttime walk and meets several night workers who all wish they were home in bed.

[The ladder](#)

by Rasmussen, Halfdan Wedel.

JEASY

A ladder, long forgotten on a lonely lane, sets out to see the world, but finds that people and animals keep using it to climb into the sky and disappear.

Finland

[The best of friends](#)

by Vainio, Pirkko

JEASY

Despite their physical differences, best friends Hare and Bear laugh together, play together, and share special moments.

France

[365 penguins](#)

by Fromental, Jean-Luc

JEASY

When a box containing a penguin arrives anonymously on New Year's Day, a family of four is puzzled, but as they continue to receive one penguin each day their problems--and food budget, and storage issues--are multiplied

[A Penguin story](#)

by Portis, Antoinette

JEASY POR

Edna the penguin tries to find something in her surroundings that is not black, white, or blue.

[A spree in Paree](#)

by Stock, Catherine

JEASY

Monsieur Monmouton takes his farm animals to Paris, France, for a holiday. <div class="clear"></div>

[Big Wolf & Little Wolf](#)

by Brun-Cosme, Nadine

JEASY BRU

Big Wolf has always lived alone at the top of a hill under a tree, so when a little wolf suddenly arrives one day, he does not know what to think.

[Cherry and Olive](#)

by Lacombe, Benjamin

JEASY

A very shy girl who longs for a friend falls in love with a lost puppy at the shelter where her father works.

[Crepes by Suzette](#)

by Wellington, Monica

JEASY

Suzette sells a variety of her crepes, or French pancakes, from the street cart she takes all over Paris.

[Everybody bonjours!](#)

by Kimmelman, Leslie

JEASY KIM

Describes in rhymed text the many ways to use the greeting "Bonjour" when visiting Paris. Includes brief descriptions of Parisian landmarks at the end of the story.

[La La Rose](#)

by Ichikawa, Satomi

JEASY

La La Rose, a young girl's stuffed rabbit, gets lost in Luxembourg Gardens. <div class="clear"></div>

[My cat, the silliest cat in the world](#)

by Bachelet, Gilles

JEASY

An artist describes the activities of his cat, not seeming to notice that his pet strongly resembles an elephant.

[My daddy is a giant](#)

by Norac, Carl

JEASY

A little boy's father seems so large to him that he needs a ladder to cuddle him and birds nest in his father's hair.

[Polo and Lily](#)

by Faller, Régis

JEASY FAL

In this wordless picture book, Polo the dog meets a rabbit named Lily and the two become friends.

[Polo and the magic flute](#)

by Faller, Régis

JEASY FAL

In this story told through wordless illustrations, a simple boat ride turns into a magical adventure for Polo the dog.

[The adventures of Polo](#)

by Faller, Régis

JEASY

Polo the dog sets out from his home and enjoys many adventures, including sailing his boat on top of a whale, roasting hot dogs over a volcano, and taking a ride in a spaceship built from a mushroom.

[The cat who walked across France](#)

by Banks, Kate

JEASY

After his owner dies, a cat wanders across the countryside of France, unable to forget the home he had in the stone house by the edge of the sea.

[The cat's vacation](#)

by Schoch, Irene

JEASY

At your cat's invitation, Mr. and Mrs. Crocodile, the Penguin family, some Bengal tigers, and Mr. Moose sleep late, swim, and do all of the usual vacation things at your house while you are away.

[The chicken thief](#)

by Rodriguez, Beatrice

JEASY ROD

A fox steals a chicken. Why would the fox do this and not eat the bird?

Germany

[Brave Charlotte and the wolves](#)

by Stohner, Anu

JEASY STO

Charlotte the sheep proves her courage once again when the rest of her flock, including Wolfi and his gang of pretend wolves, trembles in fear at the sound of howling in the forest.

[Emile](#)

by Futterer, Kurt

JEASY

A white cat named Emile leaves home in search of beautiful colors.

[Henrietta and the golden eggs](#)

by Johansen, Hanna

JEASY

The persistence of Henrietta, one of 3,333 chickens on a chicken farm, leads to a better life for them all.

[In the Town All Year 'Round](#)

by Berner, Rotraut Susanne

JEASY

Pictures depict busy people in a town throughout the year.

[Millie waits for the mail](#)

by Steffensmeier, Alexander

JEASY

Millie the cow loves to scare the mailman and chase him off the farm, until the mailman comes up with a plan that ends up pleasing everyone.

[Next please](#)

by Jandl, Ernst

JEASY

One by one, injured toys are called from the waiting room and sent out as good as new, until only the fifth one is left.

[When I grow up, I will win the Nobel Peace Prize](#)

by Pin, Isabel

J FICTION

A young boy thinks of what he can do to fight injustice in the world.

Greece

[I have an olive tree](#)

by Bunting, Eve

JEASY

After her grandfather's death, eight-year-old Sophia fulfills his last request and journeys to Greece with her mother to see the land where her roots are.

[Yanni rubbish](#)

by Oppenheim, Shulamith Levey.

JEASY

Before his father left to find work in Germany, he told Yanni to keep the family business going but collecting trash is hard work and the other boys in the Greek village tease him.

Hungary

[Hanna's cold winter](#)

by Marx, Trish

JEASY

A child tells how her family and other people in Budapest help save the famous hippopotamuses in their city's zoo from starving one difficult winter during World War II. Based on a true story.

Iceland

[How the ladies stopped the wind](#)

by McMillan, Bruce

JEASY

The women of one village in Iceland decide to plant trees to stop the powerful winds that make it difficult even to go for a walk, but first they must find a way to prevent sheep from eating all of their saplings, while encouraging chickens to fertilize them.

[The problem with chickens](#)

by McMillan, Bruce

JEASY

When women in an Icelandic village buy chickens to lay eggs for them to use, the chickens follow them, adopting human ways and forgetting their barnyard roots, until the ladies hatch a clever plan.

Republic of Ireland

[Cow](#)

by Doyle, Malachy

JEASY

Illustrations and simple text describe the full day of a dairy cow.

[Katie's wish](#)

by Hazen, Barbara Shook.

JEASY

Soon after Katie wishes for her potatoes to disappear during dinner, a potato famine ravages her native Ireland, forcing her to leave for America.

[The incredible book eating boy](#)

by Jeffers, Oliver

JEASY

Henry loves to eat books, until he begins to feel quite ill and decides that maybe he could do something else with the books he has been devouring.

[Tiny's big adventure](#)

by Waddell, Martin

JEASY

Katy Mouse teaches her younger brother, Tiny, the names of some of the things they see, including a boot, a snail, and a pheasant, when they go to the cornfield to play games.

[Walking to school](#)

by Bunting, Eve

J PIC+

When the path to eight-year-old Allison's Catholic school goes through hostile Protestant territory in Belfast, Northern Ireland, Allison finds she is not alone in her loathing of the situation.

Italy

[ORPHAN SINGER](#)

by McCully, Emily Arnold

J PIC+ MCC

In the 1700's, determined that their daughter realize her musical destiny, her poor but devoted parents send her away as a baby to the Venetian "ospedale," knowing she will be raised as an orphan and will never again be allowed to return home.

[The last resort](#)

by Lewis, J. Patrick.

J PIC+

Ideal for both adults and children, this unusual tale introduces Innocenti the painter, the story's creator, who one day finds himself on a journey to the seaside spot The Last Resort. There, he meets a cast of unique characters who, like him, are all on the road to self-discovery.

[There's a dolphin in the Grand Canal!](#)

by Marciano, John Bemelmans

JEASY

Luca, a young Italian boy, is bored until he meets a playful dolphin who takes him on a ride through the Venice waterways.

[Too much garbage](#)

by Testa, Fulvio

JEASY

Two boys, sent to take out the garbage, explore the city and find trash everywhere.

The Netherlands

[A strange day](#)

by Heide, Iris van der.

JEASY

Upset when an important letter does not arrive in the mail as expected, Jack wanders through the park not even noticing what he is doing and becomes an unwitting hero.

[Frog is frightened](#)

by Velthuijs, Max

JEASY

Strange noises in the night frighten Frog and his animal friends.

[Greatest skating race : a World War II story from the Netherlands](#)

by Borden, Louise

J PIC+

During World War II in the Netherlands, a 10-year-old boy's dream of skating in a famous race allows him to help two children escape to Belgium by ice skating past German soldiers and other enemies.

[I feel a foot](#)

by Rinck, Maranke

JEASY

Five animal friends, awakened by a strange noise, discover a creature in the dark that seems to be a giant-sized version of each of them.

[King & King](#)

by Haan, Linda de.

JEASY

When the queen insists that the prince get married and take over as king, the search for a suitable mate does not turn out as expected.

[On your potty, Little Rabbit](#)

by Amant, Kathleen

JEASY AMA

On Your Potty, Little Rabbit is a children's picture book about potty training. Anna asks her little toy rabbit if he needs to use the potty - but he doesn't seem to know what to do. Anna tells him all about it and goes through each step involved in using the potty. This book is designed to introduce children to potty training and is told with simple text and bright, colourful illustrations.

[The yellow balloon](#)

by Dematons, Charlotte

JEASY

A yellow balloon sails around the world.

Norway

[Garmann's street](#)

by Hole, Stian

J PIC+ HOL

After succumbing to peer pressure from a bully, an unusual friendship between Garmann and the Stamp Man arises out of a near-disaster.

[Garmann's summer](#)

by Hole, Stian

As the summer ends, six-year-old Garmann's three ancient aunts visit and they all talk about the things that scare them.

[John Jensen Feels Different](#)

by Hovland, Henrik

JEASY HOV

John Jensen, a crocodile, cannot quite understand why he feels so different from everyone else, but a kindly doctor reassures him that no one is exactly the same as anyone else.

[Welcome back, Sun](#)

by Emberley, Michael

JEASY

During "murketiden," the dark months between September and March, a Norwegian girl and her family try to hasten the arrival of spring.

[Who's that knocking on Christmas Eve](#)

by Brett, Jan

A boy from Finnmark and his ice bear help scare away some hungry trolls so that Kyri and her father can enjoy their Christmas Eve meal.

Poland

[The cats in Krasinski Square](#)

by Hesse, Karen

J PIC+

Two Jewish sisters, escapees of the infamous Warsaw ghetto, devise a plan to thwart an attempt by the Gestapo to intercept food bound for starving people behind the dark Wall.

Russia

[A symphony of whales](#)

by Schuch, Steve

JEASY

Young Glashka's dream of the singing of whales, accompanied by a special kind of music, leads to the rescue of thousands of whales stranded in a freezing Siberian bay.

[Martha](#)

by Spirin, Genadii

JEASY

The author relates how he and his Moscow family rescued Martha, a crow with a broken wing, and how she joined their household.

Spain

[El regalo](#)

by Keselman, Gabriela

JEASY SP

Miguelito's birthday is coming and his parents cannot figure out what to do when he tells them that he wants something big, strong, smooth, sweet, warm, funny, and long-lasting.

[La familia, del pequeño al mayor](#)

by Roca, Núria

At school, a group of young children and their teacher tell about the many different kinds of families in which they live.

[The gift](#)

by Keselman, Gabriela

JEASY

Mickey's birthday is coming and his parents cannot figure out what to do when he tells them that he wants something big, strong, smooth, sweet, warm, funny, and long-lasting.

[The Night Eater](#)

by Juan, Ana

JEASY

The Night Eater, who brings each new day by gobbling up the darkness, decides he is too fat and stops eating, with dire consequences.

Sweden

[A crash course for Molly](#)

by Eriksson, Eva

JEASY

Molly is big enough and smart enough to ride a bike now - and she loves it! Trouble is, Molly can't seem to stop running into things. Happily, she bumps into a driving instructor one day, and he gives Molly useful advice.

[Bertil and the bathroom elephants](#)

by Lindahl, Inger

JEASY

Bertil tells his family that a rowdy pair of elephants is responsible for all the bathroom messes, but his delight in the creatures turns to fear when the elephants refuse to allow him any peace and privacy.

[Boo and Baa have company](#)

by Landström, Lena

Boo and Baa do everything they can to get a cat out of a tree.

[Franny's friends](#)

by Kruusval, Catarina

JEASY

Franny takes her seven friends on an outing, but when two of them disappear, Franny realizes there are too many friends to keep track of.

[Mini Mia and her darling uncle](#)

by Lindenbaum, Pija

JEASY SP

Ella, whose nickname is "Mini Mia" because her favorite soccer player is Mia Hamm, loves spending time with her eccentric uncle Tommy, but finds herself a bit put out when she has to share him with his new boyfriend Fergus.

[Oink, oink, Benny](#)

by Lindgren, Barbro

Tired of hanging around inside, Benny and his little brother decide to venture outside where they, despite the order of their mother, head straight for the mudhole.

[Pancake dreams](#)

by Ahvander, Ingmarie

JEASY

Stefan loves his grandma's delicious Swedish pancakes, but since it takes many hours to fly to Sweden from Jordan, he must find another way to have his favorite breakfast.

[Pancakes for Findus](#)

by Nordkvist, Sven

JEASY

It's the cat Findus' birthday, and Farmer Pettson wants to make pancakes for him. But first he must get his bike fixed so he can go into town to buy flour.

[The rabbit who didn't want to go to sleep](#)

by Edvall, Lilian

JEASY

Although Little Rabbit is tired, he isn't quite ready for bed. Instead, he wants to play with his cars just a tiny bit longer

[The red bird](#)

by Lindgren, Astrid

JEASY

Anna and Matthew, two poor siblings who have known only hunger, cold, and hard labor since their mother died, follow a bright red bird to a land of happiness.

Switzerland

[Anna's wish](#)

by Hächler, Bruno

JEASY HAC

Anna has never seen snow; it stopped snowing before she was born. But through the power of her wishes and her faith, Anne brings snow to the village again.

[How will we get to the beach?](#)

by Luciani, Brigitte

JEASY

The reader is asked to guess what Roxanne must leave behind (ball, umbrella, book, turtle, or baby) as she tries various means of transportation to get to the beach.

[Just the way you are](#)

by Pfister, Marcus

JEASY

Tired of their normal appearances, the animals want to look special for the big party but come to realize that they are special just the way they are. Die-cut pages offer glimpses of each animal's dream transformation.

[Marta y la bicicleta](#)

by Zullo, Germano

JEASY SP

After Marta the cow watches the annual bicycle race go through her town, she decides to build her own bicycle and teach herself to ride.

Ukraine

[Nicky and the big, bad wolves](#)

by Gorbachev, Valeri

JEASY

Nicky the rabbit has a bad dream about being chased by lots of hungry wolves, but his mother has a solution to his distress.

United Kingdom

[Alfie and the big boys](#)

by Hughes, Shirley

JEASY

Alfie and his friend Bernard, who are in nursery school, sometimes wish they were big enough to play with the older kids at the school next door, but the big kids don't take any notice of the little ones.

[Beware of the Frog](#)

by Bee, William

JEASY

Sweet old Mrs. Collywobbles lives on the edge of a big, dark, scary wood, but has a pet frog to protect her from greedy goblins, smelly trolls, and hungry ogres.

[But I am an alligator](#)

by Child, Lauren

JEASY

Lola decides that her alligator costume is her favorite and that she is never taking it off. <div class="clear"></div>

[Coconut comes to school](#)

by Doherty, Berlie

JEASY

A donkey named Coconut makes daily trips to a school, much to the children's delight, but the teacher tries to make the donkey go away.

[Harry and the dinosaurs go to school](#)

by Whybrow, Ian

JEASY

On Harry's first day at his new school he is not sure whether or not to bring his bucket of dinosaurs, but in the end the dinosaurs help him make a friend.

[It's a secret!](#)

by Burningham, John

JEASY BUR

sleeps. "Where do cats go at night?" the girl wonders. So when she sees him at his cat door dressed to the nines, she begs to come along. And amazingly, Malcolm agrees, as long as she puts on her fancy clothes, gets small, and keeps it all a secret. With a whimsical story and breathtaking artwork, the acclaimed John Burningham takes us on an exciting night's journey, braving hoodlum dogs and precarious climbs for a rooftop party that is cause for celebration indeed.

[Just Ducks!](#)

by Davies, Nicola

JEASY DAV

On her way to school, a young girl spots mallard ducks in the river and enthusiastically describes their appearance, habits, and behavior. Interspersed throughout the pages are facts about ducks.

[Little Beauty](#)

by Browne, Anthony

JEASY

When a gorilla who knows sign language tells his keepers that he is lonely, they bring him a very special friend.

[Little boat](#)

by Docherty, Thomas

JEASY DOC

Despite all the lurking dangers, Little Boat has come to feel at home in the ocean, happy to sail alone or with such friends as penguins or dolphins.

[Me and You](#)

by Browne, Anthony

JEASY BRO

An urban retelling of the classic Goldilocks and the Three Bears story, told from the baby bear's perspective.

[Mrs. Armitage queen of the road](#)

by Blake, Quentin

JEASY

When the car her uncle gave her loses parts all over the road, Mrs. Armitage takes it in stride, but a gang of friendly motorcyclists is impressed with the results.

[My two grannies](#)

by Benjamin, Floella

JEASY BEN

While her parents are away, Alvina's two grandmothers come to take care of her, but when her English grandmother's views begin to clash with those of Granny Vero--who is from Trinidad--Alvina must find a way to help them get along with one another.

[Pizza kittens](#)

by Voake, Charlotte

JEASY

Kittens Lucy, Joe, and Bert prefer pizza to peas.

[The Baby in the hat](#)

by Ahlberg, Allan

JEASY AHL

Catching a baby in his hat sets off a series of adventures for a young nineteenth-century English boy as he becomes a sea captain and finds a surprising mate.

[The train to Glasgow](#)

by Horsbrugh, Wilma

JEASY

A rhyme in the style of "The House That Jack Built", describing the antics that occur when some chickens get loose on a train bound for Glasgow.

[Traction Man meets Turbodog](#)

by Grey, Mini

JEASY

Traction Man, an action figure, teams up with the high-tech but not-so-bright Turbodog to rescue Scrubbing Brush, his missing sidekick, from the terrible underworld of the bin.

[Wolves](#)

by Gravett, Emily

JEASY

When a young rabbit checks out a library book about wolves, he learns much more about their behavior than he wanted to know.