

Book Summaries 2016-2017

Book List - PRE-KINDERGARTEN (ages 3-4 years)

- 1 Mole and The Baby Bird/ written by Marjorie Newman, illustrated by Patrick Benson**
Publisher: Dar al-Huda
When Mole finds a baby bird injured and alone he takes it home to look after it very carefully. But soon Mole has a dilemma - is the baby bird going to be a pet or is it going to be free? Guided by observant parents and a thoughtful grandfather, he makes his final decision. A story about love, importance of freedom and the necessity to, sometimes, let go.
- 2 Mummy and Me/ Written and illustrated by Emma Chichester Clark**
Publisher: Qadita Books
Hum's (*Ambr's* in the Arabic version) mom is the center of his world and he loves doing so many different things with her. But one day she is busy and doesn't have time for him, so he decides he can be busy, too. A story that encourages creative shared play between children and parents.
- 3 Three Butterflies/ Written by Levin Kipnis, illustrated by Orit Bergman**
Publisher: Sefer Lakol
Three butterflies get caught in a storm far from home. As they seek refuge from the rain they learn an important lesson in true friendship, unity and loyalty.
- 4 Good Night Little Ones/ Written by Janet Bingham, illustrated by Sebastien Braun**
Publisher: Qadita Books
A bed-time story to say goodnight to all the baby animals as they snuggle up, close their eyes and peacefully drift off to sleep.
- 5 Little Gorilla/ Written and illustrated by Ruth Bornstein**
Publisher: al-Hakeem
Everybody loved little Gorilla, even when he misbehaved. One day, something strange happened: little Gorilla started to grow...and grow! How would others treat him now? A story about unconditional love that children need.
- 6 Where Is My Shadow? Written by Muhammad Kathem Jawad, illustrated by Gulnar Hajo**
Publisher: Wael Wakeem
Why does my shadow always follow me? And why is it sometimes short and other times long? A journey that a little girl takes with her shadow that help children explore this natural phenomenon.
- 7 I Want to Dance/ Written by Safa Ameer, illustrated by Ensaf Haj Yaseen**
Publisher: by Jbeineh
"I want to dance/ I want to fly/ to spread my wings like a bird..." a rhymed text that celebrates dance as an innate and humanistic expression of child's joy.

8 Will Gets a Haircut / Written and illustrated by Olof & Leena Landstrom

Publisher: Dar al-Muna

While his mother goes shopping, Will ("Sa'ad" in the Arabic version) chooses a very unusual hairstyle for his school party, but soon everybody wants one! A story about respecting and accepting children's choices.

Book List – kindergarten (ages 5-6 years)

1 I Forgot My Wings at Home/Written by Rania Daher, illustrated by Sasha Haddad

Publisher: Qadita Books

The little girl tries to fly, but discovers that she left her "wings" at home, so she goes out to look for new ones with the help of her father. A story that encourages children to look inside themselves to help them adjust in new settings.

2 Where Do I Go When I'm Angry? Written by Malak Farouja Abu Rayya, illustrated by Charlotte Shama

Publisher: Israel Center for Libraries

What does a young jellyfish do when she becomes angry? And what do other members of her family do? A book that tells us it's okay to be angry sometimes and to express anger and control it in different ways.

3 If I Were a Cloud/ Written by Alia Abu Shmeis, illustrated by Sawsan al-Majidi

Publisher: by Kul Shay'a

If I were a cloud, I would change my appearance as I wish..." tells us the cloud/child and reveals to us her wishes, her likes and dislikes and what makes her happy and sad.

4 The Mouse and the Apple/ Written and illustrated by Stephen Butler

Publisher: Keter

Mouse is sitting expectantly under a tree where a fine, ripe apple hangs. One by one hen, goose, goat and cow come up to look at the apple, and each tries to make it fall. Their efforts fail and so they all go home, but mouse's patience is rewarded.

5 On the Tip of My Tongue/ Written by Muhammad al-Thaher, illustrated by Hiba Farran

Publisher: Dar al-Aswar

"I'm always there, decorating the wall/ but I can see you whenever you come to look at me/ who am I?" a collection of rhymed riddles that encourages children to think and to imagine.

6 Tales of Jouha/ written by Hanna Shammas, illustrated by Dima Abi l'haj

Publisher: Jbeineh

Who doesn't know Jouha, the famous character whose stories have entertained children and adults for centuries? The book has three humorous traditional stories.

7 Hector and the Hummingbird/ Written and illustrated by Nicholas John Frith

Publisher: Dar al-Huda

Hector the Bear ("Dahdah" in the Arabic version) has a big problem: His friend Hummingbird just won't be quiet! Whether Hector's trying to enjoy a snack, get a good scratch against a tree, or take a nap, Hummingbird's always buzzing around, asking too many questions. The pair have always been best friends, but will Hector ever find peace and quiet with Hummingbird around? A story about acceptance and love of friends.

8 Good Night, Alfie Atkins/ Written and illustrated by Gunilla Bergström, translated by Mona Henning

Published by Dar al-Muna

Alfie ("Burhan" in the Arabic version) is acting strange; he is quiet and dutiful, which worries his father. Could it be because he is starting school soon? A story that supports the child in his new journey to school.