

Beginner Chapter Books (Series)

These titles are all chapter books that would work as a good transition between easy readers and full chapter books. The titles in this list are all part of a series, which means there are a number of titles associated with each series. You can find them by typing the series title into the search bar on the MORE website. The following titles are shelved in the Juvenile Fiction section by the first three letters of the author's last name unless otherwise noted. Need help? Ask a librarian!

The Secrets of Droon series by Tony Abbott (J ABB)

Eric, Neal, and Julie are three friends who accidentally discover a rainbow staircase that appears when Eric's basement closet is dark. It is a portal to the magical and troubled world of Droon. It's a wondrous place where adventure is always close at hand. Many books in this series.

Cam Jansen series by David A. Adler (J ADL)

Cam Jansen is a crack detective with a photographic memory. Together with her friend Eric, she solves every mystery that comes her way. Many books in this series.

Danny's Doodles by David A. Adler (J ADL)

Danny is an eccentric 4th grader who follows the rules at school. Calvin likes to break the rules and see if he can get away with it. Danny likes baseball and Calvin likes doing strange experiments like the big jelly bean experiment. Danny thinks Calvin is weird, but as their friendship grows, Danny gets to appreciate that Calvin is odd and different and that's okay. This book is great for children who think they may be a little different because it shows that friends accept you just the way you are.

Origami Yoda Series by Tom Angleberger (J ANG)

One day, Dwight folds an origami finger puppet of Yoda. Through an imitation voice, Dwight offers advice to his classmates through Yoda. Some students soon become convinced that Origami Yoda has a special connection to the Force, while others remain skeptical. A fellow sixth-grader named Tommy decides to write a case file to prove if Origami Yoda is real. This series includes a number of titles that touch on multiple Star Wars characters.

Jane and the Dragon Series by Martin Baynton (J BAY)

The first book features Jane, a young girl whose mother is a lady-in-waiting to the queen. Jane is expected to grow up in her mother's footsteps but wishes to become a knight. When the royal prince is kidnapped by a dragon, Jane sets out to rescue the boy. She does and becomes a squire in the process. She does not slay the dragon but instead befriends him, and they soon become best friends.

Flat Stanley series by Jeff Brown (J BRO)

Stanley Lambchop is an ordinary boy. At least he was, until the night his bulletin board fell off the wall and flattened him. At only half an inch thick, Stanley can slide under doors, mail himself across the country in an envelope, and fly like a kite!

Arthur series by Marc Brown (J BRO)

Arthur the aardvark is a friendly face to many children who grew up watching his PBS television show. These chapter books are a great transition for those who are just starting to read because they're already familiar with the characters, making context easier to figure out. There are a number of titles in this series.

The Buddy Files by Dori Hillestad Butler (J BUT)

King is surrendered to the pound and believes his family has gone missing. He waits for his human, Kayla, to get him, but instead he is adopted by Connor and renamed Buddy. Buddy becomes a school therapy dog and starts solving mysteries. All stories are told from the dog's point of view.

Bink and Gollie series by Kate DiCamillo (J DIC)

Meet Bink and Gollie, two precocious little girls—one tiny, one tall, and both utterly irrepressible. Setting out from their super-deluxe tree house and powered by plenty of peanut butter (for Bink) and pancakes (for Gollie), they share many adventures together. No matter where their roller skates take them, at the end of the day they will always be the very best of friends. This series is especially good for those just starting to branch out of easy readers because it also contains a number of great illustrations.

Mercy Watson series by Kate DiCamillo (J DIC)

Mr. and Mrs. Watson have no children. So one day, while on a drive through the country, they come to a farm that has a sign advertising, "Pig for Sale-Cheap." Beside the sign stands an unusual pig. The farmer tells Mr. and Mrs. Watson that the pig is named Mercy and she is no ordinary pig. Instead of eating slop like other pigs, Mercy likes to eat toast with lots of butter on top, and she sleeps in a bed like a human, and she also likes to dress up and do things that other pigs cannot do. Many books in this series.

The Princess in Black series by Shannon Hale (J HAL)

This series begins with Princess Magnolia having hot chocolate and scones with Duchess Wigtower when the monster alarm sounds! Stopping monsters is no job for dainty Princess Magnolia, but luckily Princess Magnolia has a secret —she's also the Princess in Black! Can the princess sneak away, transform into her alter ego, and defeat the monster before the nosy duchess discovers her secret?

Secret Agent Jack Stalwart series by Elizabeth Singer Hunt (J HUN)

Nine-year-old Jack Stalwart works for the Global Protection Force (GPF) battling evil villains and protecting the world's most precious treasures. In every book, Jack travels to a new foreign land, and tries to collect clues that will help him find his missing brother, Max. Many books in this series.

Judy Moody series by Megan McDonald (J MCD)

Judy Moody is a mover and a shaker, with a wicked troll-eyes stare and a pesky little brother, Stink. Each of the books in this series contains witty stories that offer a heap of new adventures, larger-than-life characters, and crazy lingo. With the majority of the tales set at Judy's home and school and dealing with realistic moments in a child's life, they are relatable and provide a number of positive messages in a humorous way. Quite a few books in this series.

Stay Alive series by Joseph Monninger (J MON)

Stay Alive is a series that imagines a group of kids in different disastrous dilemmas, and what they would have to do to survive. Where do you find food and clean water? How do you find help? What if someone gets hurt? Thinking strategically is a must, but which character is actually prepared to make the hard decisions? One of the coolest parts of the series is when the author includes real-life survival tips that become important to the plot of the story. That way, you can picture yourself trekking through a jungle somewhere, braving the elements to survive with only your smarts!

Ricky Ricotta series by Dave Pilkey (J PIL)

Ricky Ricotta is a lonely mouse who lives in Squeakyville. He always wished he had a close friend to keep him company. One day, Ricky happens to see a crazed doctor mistreating a robot he just created. Ricky saves the robot, and they become best friends. This series documents all of their fun adventures. This series has a lot of humor, but basic vocabulary, making it a fun and exciting read for those just starting to read on their own.

Time Warp Trio series by Jon Scieszka. (J SCI and JGN 741.5 SCI)

For his tenth birthday, Joe receives a mysterious blue book from his magician uncle and namesake, "Joe the Magnificent," known only as The Book. Using an often unpredictable number of voice and print clues, The Book transports Joe and his friends Fred and Sam to a variety of places in history, like Ancient Egypt, the Old West & to the year 2105, where they meet their own great-granddaughters, Jodie, Samantha & Freddi. The only way they are able to return to present-day Brooklyn, New York is to find The Book again within whatever time period they are in.

Frankie Pickle Series by Eric Wight (J WIG)

Franklin Lorenzo Piccolini is a fourth grader with a big imagination and an alter ego named Frankie Pickle, a mixture of adventure icons from Indiana Jones to Batman. This is a silly story with an adventure undertone. It has black-and-white cartoon graphics in a chapter-book format. We only have one of these, but there are others in the system.