

# Your **LUCKY** Reader Now

Grades 2-3

October 2006

Get  
**Your Lucky Reader Now**  
Every Month  
at [www.scholastic.com/read](http://www.scholastic.com/read).

## Editors' Pick of the Month

Available in your Lucky October Book Club flyer.

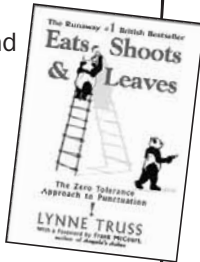
### The Magic School Bus and the Science Fair Expedition by Joanna Cole

**Who it's for:** Science buffs who love adventure  
**Why we chose it:** It's the 20th anniversary of the Magic School Bus!  
**Kids weigh in:** "The best Ms. Frizzle story so far!"



### Eats, Shoots and Leaves by Lynne Truss

**Who it's for:** Future writers and editors  
**Why we chose it:** Adult best-seller about punctuation edited for kids  
**Kids weigh in:** "I never thought a book about commas could be so funny."



### Ghost Cat and Other Spooky Tales by James Preller

**Who it's for:** Readers who like a spine-chilling tale!  
**Why we chose it:** 10 perfectly creepy stories in time for Halloween  
**Kids weigh in:** "Fun for scaring friends!"

## Daily Reading Fun

October is Children's Magazine Month! Motivate your reader by subscribing to a periodical related to her favorite hobbies and interests.



## Getting to the Root of Reading

On average, your child learns 5,000 words per year! By learning the meanings for common root words, prefixes, and suffixes, he'll be better prepared to remember new words and steadily improve his vocabulary. Here's why:

• Knowing word roots will help him decode similar words and their definitions. For instance, if your child knows the root spect means "to look," he'll more easily grasp the definitions of inspector, spectacle, and spectator.

• Your child probably knows that the word "unfair" means "not fair." Once he recognizes the prefix un means "not," he can apply it to a wide array of words like unlucky, untidy, or unhappy.

• Similarly, if he understands the suffix ful means "full of" and less means "without," he'll be able to reason that "thankful" means "full of thanks" and "meaningless" means "without meaning."

Of course, there are exceptions to the rules, but starting with these building blocks will help your child feel comfortable tackling longer words that might otherwise be intimidating.



## Parent to Parent

Yard sales are a great way to build a child's library. We usually leave with a whole stack of wonderful books -- all for just a few bucks!  
- Kay R., Florida

## Ask an Expert

### What reading roadblocks might my child face?

Some kids have trouble because of decoding difficulties. Determine if your child is over-relying on reading words by sight rather than sounding them out with The Nonsense Word Test. If he can sound the words out, then decoding isn't the issue. If he uses one or two letters of the word to guess another, decoding issues exist. Ask your child to read these made-up words to you:

lat (rhymes with "cat")  
rud (rhymes with "mud")  
chab (rhymes with "grab")  
flay (rhymes with "play")

weam (rhymes with "team")  
froom (rhymes with "broom")  
prouch (rhymes with "couch")

**Meet Our Expert:** Wiley Blevins, a former teacher, is the Director of Primary Programs at Scholastic. He has written several books for teachers and over 30 children's books.

Find more expert advice for your reader at [www.scholastic.com/read](http://www.scholastic.com/read).



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## Vocabulary Building

One of the marks of a good reader is a strong vocabulary. Memorization and exposure to new words (through books, newspapers, and conversation) are great ways to build vocabulary. Look for these learning milestones as your child increases his store of words:

- Figures out word meanings from clues in text
- Uses synonyms and antonyms correctly
- Uses new words appropriately in his writing
- Uses knowledge of prefixes, suffixes, and root words to expand vocabulary
- Understands the vocabulary of different content areas such as science materials

## Play Bingo

Write a magical, suspenseful, or spooky tale that uses as many of the words below as possible. Use the writing prompts provided to get started... or create your own story idea.

<b>B</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>O</b>
are	a	go	what	they
can	up	you	on	did
look	in	FREE SPACE	two	down
to	with	said	pretty	is
big	ride	want	one	we

<b>B</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>O</b>
see	for	at	one	in
get	what	have	are	you
here	go	FREE SPACE	me	three
a	is	with	too	we
down	funny	can	fly	little

## Beyond Books

Host a Halloween-themed scavenger hunt. Make a list of "spooky" items (like a jack-o-lantern or a magic potion) that your child and his friends need to find in your house or around the neighborhood. Provide written clues that lead to the treasures.



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## Find the Perfect Book for Your Child!

If your child's school uses Guided Reading Levels (GRL) or a Grade Level Equivalency (RL), use this chart to find perfect on-level books from your Lucky October Book Club flyer.

Title	RL	GRL
Andy Shane and the Very Bossy Delores Starbuckle	3.3	L
Captain Underpants and the Preposterous Plight of the Purple Potty People	3.5	P
Don't Know Much About the 50 States	4.9	R
Eats, Shoots and Leaves	2.7	D
Funny Detective Pack	3.8-6.3	N-R
Ghost Cat and Other Spooky Tales	3.0	N
How to Eat Fried Worms	3.5	R
Kat Kong	4.5	L
The Magic School Bus and the Science Fair Expedition	3.5	P
Ready, Freddy! Halloween Fraidy-Cat	2.6	M
Runny Babbit	3.5	P
Two Times the Fun	2.2	L



## ClassroomsCare

ClassroomsCare helps children learn the joys of giving...and reading!

Your child's class can help donate 1 million books to kids in need.

To learn more, visit [scholastic.com/classroomscare](http://scholastic.com/classroomscare)

Find out more about leveled reading at [www.scholastic.com/yourreader](http://www.scholastic.com/yourreader).

## About Your Lucky Reader Now

Your Lucky Reader Now is produced by the editors of Scholastic.com to provide age-appropriate booklists and information that can help you foster reading at home. For more advice, visit All About Reading at [www.scholastic.com/read](http://www.scholastic.com/read).