



STORYworks[®] 1

2025-2026

[Click here to view our
current year's topics.](#)

2026-2027

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next school year's topics.](#)

September
2025

Amazing Animal Tales



Stories About Amazing Animals

Picture This!

Squirrel in the Sky

Take a close look at a flying squirrel.

Science Focus

Animal adaptations

ELA Focus

Photos and labels

Big Read-Aloud

A Dog's Amazing Journey

Could a lost dog find his way home?

Science Focus

Animal senses

ELA Focus

Ask and answer questions

Short Nonfiction

Lemurs in the Library

How two escaped lemurs ended up at a school.

Science Focus

People helping animals

ELA Focus

Key details

Early Reader Fiction

No Lemurs in School

Pair this funny story with the short nonfiction.

ELA Focus

Fiction and nonfiction

Other Stories

Silly Story: Fun Phonics

I Am Zog

Meet a silly monster family, and decode cvc words.

Foundational Skills

Phonics: cvc words with short o

Alike and Different

Pizza Party or Taco Time?

Pick your favorite.

Social Studies Focus

Culture

ELA Focus

Comparing, opinions

Past to Present

The True Story of Crocs

Find out how this weird shoe took over the world.

Social Studies Focus

Changes over time

ELA Focus

Sequencing

Mini Graphic: Sticky Situation

I Really Have to Go!

What should Sam do?

Life and Social Skills

Asking for help

ELA Focus

Text-to-self connections

Poetry Kit

Emoji Man

Listen to the poem, and finish each rhyme.

Foundational Skills

Phonological awareness

October/
November 2025

Let's Read Mysteries



Mystery Stories

Background Builder
**The Legend of
Champ the Lake
Monster**

ELA Focus
Build background
knowledge

Big Read-Aloud
Lake Monster Mystery
Could there really be a giant
creature in Lake Champlain?

Social Studies Focus
Culture

ELA Focus
Key Details

Early Reader Fiction
**The Missing
Pumpkin Pie**
An mystery story by
Doug Cushman

ELA Focus
Mystery genre

How-to Text
**The Mystery of the
Floating Pencil**
Try a simple magic
trick!

ELA Focus
Following directions

Other Stories

Picture This!
Grow a Jack O'Lantern
Pumpkins that grow in the
shape of a head!

Science Focus
How plants grow

ELA Focus
Photos and labels

Alike and Different
Slime or Squish Toys?
Which do you want to
play with?

ELA Focus
Comparing, opinion writing

Short Nonfiction
Pop Goes Bluey
When a Thanksgiving
parade balloon popped.

Social Studies Focus
Thanksgiving

ELA Focus
Nonfiction features

Poetry Kit
**Halloween Pet
Parade**
Listen to the poem and
finish each rhyme.

Foundational Skills
Phonological awareness

PLUS
• A Silly Story
featuring mixed
short vowels

December
2025/
January 2026

Brr! Snowy Stories



Snowy Stories

Picture This!

Baby on Board

A polar-bear cub gets a ride on mom.

ELA Focus

Information from pictures and words

Science Focus

Polar habitat

Background Builder

One-Room Schoolhouse

Prepare children for the Big Read-Aloud.

ELA Focus

Background knowledge and vocabulary

Big Read Aloud

Schoolhouse Blizzard

A brave teacher rescues her students in a blizzard.

ELA Focus

Visualizing

Science Focus

Weather

Fiction

Disaster Squad: Blizzard Rescue

From the best-selling Disaster Squad series!

ELA Focus

Key events

Science Focus

Weather

Other Stories

Silly Story:

Fun Phonics

A Thing for a King

What thing does the king want before bed?

Foundational Skills

Phonics: final digraph -ng

Alike and Different

Minecraft Gems and Real Gems

Do you dig them?

ELA Focus

Comparing

Science Focus

Earth science

Past to Present

The True Story of Gingerbread

Learn the history of this tasty treat.

ELA Focus

Sequencing

Social Studies Focus

Changes over time

Mini Graphic: Sticky Situation

The Bean Bag Is Mine!

Ike always gets the bean bag chair.

Life and Social Skills

Conflict resolution

ELA Focus

Text-to-self connections

Poetry Kit

How to Drink a Slushy

Listen for words with the sl blend.

Foundational Skills

Phonological awareness

February
2026

Dragon Adventures



Dragon Stories

Fiction

Dragon Hill: The Missing Jewel

From the best-selling author Tracey West!

ELA Focus

Retelling, characters

Nonfiction Connection

Real Dragons

Pair this article with the fiction story.

ELA Focus

Compare fiction and nonfiction

Science Focus

Animal adaptations

Read and Do

Draw a Dragon

Follow the steps in this how-to text.

ELA Focus

How-to writing

Other Stories

Picture This!

LEGO Race Cars

Get the facts about these life-size LEGO cars.

ELA Focus

Information from words and pictures

Science Focus

Engineering

Silly Story: Fun Phonics

Fish Sticks for Lunch

Will the sloth ever finish fish sticks?

Foundational Skills

Phonics: consonant digraphs ch, ck, and sh

Background Builder

Don't Wake the Bears!

Prepare children for the Big Read-Aloud.

ELA Focus

Background knowledge and vocabulary

Science Focus

Hibernation

Big Read-Aloud

In to the Bear Den

Follow a bear scientist as she gets close to bears.

ELA Focus

Listening for key details

Science Focus

People helping animals

Alike and Different

The Hottest Place or the Coldest Place

Where would you want to visit?

ELA Focus

Comparing, opinion

Science Focus

Environments

March/
April 2026

Dig Into a Dino Story



Stories About Fossils and Dinosaurs

Background Builder

Dig Into Fossils!

Prepare children for the Big Read-Aloud.

ELA Focus

Background knowledge and vocabulary

Science Focus

Animal and earth science

Big Read-Aloud

The Boy Who Found a Dinosaur

The true story of a kid who discovered an amazing fossil

ELA Focus

Vocabulary, listening for key details

Science Focus

Animal and earth science

Poetry

Do a Dino Dance!

Have fun with this action rhyme!

ELA Focus

Phonological awareness, fluency

Other Stories

Picture This!

These Skunks Do Handstands!

Find out why spotted skunks do these surprising moves.

ELA Focus

Information from words and pictures

Science Focus

Animal defenses

Silly Story:

Fun Phonics

Dude! Ride the Wave!

Will Slade be brave and ride the huge wave?

Foundational Skills

Phonics: long vowels, silent-e

Alike and Different

The Biggest and Smallest Birds

Compare ostriches to bee hummingbirds.

ELA Focus

Comparing

Science Focus

Animal adaptations

Earth Day Special

Fly Guy Presents: Trash

Based on the best-selling series. Learn where trash goes with Fly Guy and Buzz.

ELA Focus

Key details

Social Studies Focus

Earth Day

Meet the Author

Tedd Arnold

An interview with the author of the Fly Guy books.

ELA Focus

Author's craft

**May 2026/
June 2026**

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Into the Ocean



Ocean Stories

Big Read-Aloud

Chasing the Giant Squid

For years, people searched for the giant squid.

ELA Focus

Vocabulary, listening for key details

Science Focus

Technology, ocean animals

Short Nonfiction

Into the Deep

Meet strange animals of the deep, dark sea.

ELA Focus

Build knowledge and vocabulary

Science Focus

Habitat, ocean animals

Alike and Different

Which Is the Robot Dolphin?

Does the robot look like a real dolphin. But how are they different?

ELA Focus

Comparing

Science Focus

Technology, animal needs

Other Stories

Picture This!

Smiling Sun

Find out why the sun looks like it is smiling in a close-up picture.

ELA Focus

Information from words and pictures

Science Focus

Space

Silly Story:

Fun Phonics

A Toy for Troy

The puppy has a toy, but it makes too much noise!

Foundational Skills

Phonics: diphthongs, oy and oi

Background Builder

Paul Bunyan's America

Prepare children for a tall tale about the giant lumberjack.

ELA Focus

Background knowledge and vocabulary

Social Studies Focus

Changes over time

Early Reader Fiction

Paul Bunyan and the Giant Pancakes

An American tall tale

ELA Focus

Tall tales

Past to Present

The True Story of the Telephone

Learn the history of phones.

ELA Focus

Sequencing

Social Studies Focus

Changes over time

Poetry Kit

Happy Birthday, U.S.A.

A rhyming poem for America's 250th birthday

ELA Focus

Phonemic awareness

Social Studies Focus

American holidays