Chapter Books for Family Sharing Available in Electronic Formats

Looking for a chapter book to listen to or read aloud with the family? Check out this selection of engaging chapter books in a variety of genres all available in electronic formats. Need help accessing these materials? Go to PPLD’s Cybershelf to get started (ppld.org/cybershelf#overdrive).

Avi. The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle.
In this high-seas tale set in 1832, 13-year-old Charlotte, traveling from England to rejoin her family in America, finds herself the lone passenger on sinister ship with a murderous captain and mutinous crew. As she wrestles with moral questions, Charlotte’s swashbuckling adventures transform her from prim and proper young lady to independent-thinking, take-action heroine.

Blume, Judy. Freckle Juice.  
Andrew wants freckles more than anything else and uses a “freckle juice” recipe with hilarious results.

Bradley, Kimberly Brubaker. The War that Saved My Life.  
Imprisoned in her London flat by her abusive mother because of her deformed foot, Ada has never seen trees or grass. After being evacuated to the countryside during World War II with her little brother, she discovers an amazing new world and finally finds a home. Starring a courageous heroine, this gut-wrenching and ultimately heart-soaring novel is absolutely unforgettable. See what happens next in the War I Finally Won.

Brown, Peter. The Wild Robot.  
Shipwrecked on an island, a robot learns how to survive in the harsh and unfamiliar environment and becomes an adopted mother to a gosling. Starring a high-tech but surprisingly human protagonist, this book is though-provoking, heartwarming, and utterly absorbing. Check out the sequel, The Wild Robot Escapes.

Cartaya, Pablo. The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora.  
When his family’s restaurant in a Cuban American Miami neighborhood is threatened by a greedy land developer, 13-year-old Arturo is determined to fight back. Packed with memorable characters and set in a vibrantly depicted community, this is an enchanting tale of family, friendship, food, first love, and the power of poetry and protest.
Clearly, Beverly. **Beezus and Ramona.**

Little sisters are as frustrating today as they were 50 years ago! In this timeless tale of sibling relations, Beezus must learn how to deal with the very imaginative, always-rambunctious, trouble-loving four-year-old Ramona. Dive into the beloved series of books that follow the adventures of these two sisters, as they grow and change through the years. Check out Sara Pennypacker’s **Clementine** series to meet another endearing character whose uproarious antics just might equal Ramona’s.

Davies, Jacqueline. **The Lemonade War.**

When Evan and his grade-skipping younger sister, Jessie, discover that they will be in the same fourth-grade classroom in the fall, they suddenly find themselves at odds, and both are determined to earn more money before school starts. Entrepreneurial schemes, real-life math problems, and an honest, often funny treatment of sibling relations make for a great start to this fast-reading series.

Day, Christine. **I Can Make this Promise.**

Edie’s mom is Native American and has never even talked about what tribe she is from. When Edie and her friends discover a box of memorabilia in the attic and find photos of someone who looks just like Edie, even with the same name, the discovery sets off a number of events that turn her world upside down. This is a compelling story about finding yourself, finding family, and the difficult issue of forced Native American adoption in the 1960s and 70s.

DiCamillo, Kate. **The Tale of Despereaux.**

Told with the dramatic flair, twist-turning plot lines, and emotional highs and lows of a classic fairy tale, this irresistible adventure stars a tiny though courageous mouse who falls in love with a human princess, a vengeful rat who dwells in the dark but longs for the light, and a simple serving girl who has big dreams. Also consider sharing the author’s equally compelling **The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane** and **Flora and Ulysses**.

Elliott, Zetta. **Dragons in a Bag.**

In Brooklyn, nine-year-old Jaxon is sent to spend the day with the grouchy elderly lady his mother calls Ma, and neither of them is happy about it. Things change when a mysterious package arrives—containing three baby dragons—and Jax discovers that Ma is actually a witch who just might need an apprentice. With a lovable protagonist, well-imagined magical adventures, and a multicultural cast, this series starter is a winner.
Epstein, Adam Jay. **The Familiars.**

Mistaken for a magical animal by a young wizard in training, a streetwise alley cat named Aldwyn and his fellow familiars—Skylar the blue jay and Gilbert the frog—must embark on a danger-filled rescue mission when an evil queen captures their humans. First in a series, this grand adventure sparkles with humor, suspense, and derring-do.

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Grabenstein, Chris. **Escape from Mr. Lemoncello’s Library.**

Twelve kids win an essay contest to spend the night in a library designed by a famous game guru, but the truly hard part will be solving the secret puzzles needed to find the hidden way out. This series starter is jampacked with humor, well-plotted adventure, and puzzles to solve.

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Gutman, Dan. **The Lincoln Project.**

Hand-picked for a special project by a billionaire genius, four very different modern-day kids are tasked with a special mission: time travel back to 1863 to photograph President Lincoln delivering the Gettysburg Address. When things go awry, the kids must rely on their own smarts—and one another—to pull off the plan and return safely home. The first in the “Flashback Four” series, this hilarious and fast-paced adventure is perfect for fans of time-travel fiction and readers who like to explore history in imaginative ways.

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Jenkins, Emily. **Toys Go Out.**

Six delightfully illustrated chapters relate the quirky, smile-making adventures of a trio of toys—Stingray (a know-it-all stuffed animal), Lumphy (a daring plushie buffalo), and Plastic (she will discover her true identity in one of the tales)—who are also best friends. Endearing characters, gentle humor, and themes of friendship and self-discovery make this book a charmer. The fun continues in *Toy Dance Party* and *Toys Come Home."

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Look, Lenore. **Alvin Ho: Allergic to Girls, School, and Other Scary Things.**

In this first installment of a humorous series starring an Asian-American second-grader, Alvin, who is very shy and afraid of almost everything, hardly ever says a word at
school—surprising, since at home, he’s the super-loud superhero Firecracker Man. A laugh-out-loud funny and emotionally honest look at one boy’s world.


It’s summertime in small-town Indiana, and two African American brothers dream of big adventures. They seem to get their wish when Styx Malone, a charismatic teenager, takes them under his wing and helps them launch a crazy trade-up scheme—exchanging one small item for something bigger—in order to purchase a moped. When things start to go wrong, they begin to realize that they have bitten off more than they can chew. Integrating themes of peer pressure, integrity, and forgiveness with mad-cap happenings and humor, this book is a great choice for family enjoyment and discussion.

Morris, Gerald. *The Knights’ Tales Collection*.

Funny, entertaining, and action-packed, these retellings make the King Arthur legends accessible to younger readers. This audio book compiles *Sir Lancelot the Great*, *Sir Givret the Short*, *Sir Gawain the True*, and *Sir Balin the Ill-Fated*, but some of the individual tales are available for check out in other formats.

Yang, Kelly. *Front Desk*.

In this novel set in the 1990s, Mia Tang and her parents have just immigrated from China to California and are finding it difficult to build a life. The family hopes things will improve when they take jobs as caretakers of a run-down motel but their problems—including racism, poverty, and xenorion—only grow. Never fear, Mia’s courage, kindness, hard work, and hope-filled heart will win the day.