

Reading List for Architecture, Construction and Transportation Grades K-5

Title/Author	Description
<i>House and Homes</i> by Ann Morris	Here's a book for browsing and learning for children of many ages. Limited text and exquisite and informative photographs show buildings from Buckingham Palace to a simple house of straw in various places around the world. A map and afterword add to the information
<i>The Busy Building Book</i> by Sue Tarsky	The various steps involved in constructing a building are clearly laid out here for the youngest reader. The explanations are simple and the various workers and tools are identified.
<i>The Hidden House</i> by Martin Waddell	This gentle book with its intricate illustrations has just the right amount of whimsy. An old man lives in a tiny house in the woods and, for company, makes three wooden dolls, which he places in the front window so that they can watch him work. Then the old man leaves never to return and vines and other plants grow up and around the house until they conceal it. Insects and other tiny creatures take it over and years go by. Then a man, his wife and child find the hidden house, clean it up, repair the damage of years of neglect and do the same for the dolls.
<i>The House on Maple Street</i> By Bonnie Pryor	We view the passage of time throughout the existence of a house. Two girls find an arrowhead. They go back in their imaginations to a time when there was no house in this spot and then travel forward through time as the house develops and changes.
<i>My House Has Stars</i> By Megan McDonald	Here's a book that surveys the homes in eight different cultures as the children in them get ready for bed.
<i>Sod Houses on the Great Plains</i> By Glen Rounds	This simple picture book gives a surprising amount of information about the reasons why sod houses were used, the way in which they were constructed and the advantages and disadvantages of these unique buildings.
<i>Island Boy</i> By Barbara Cooney	There are many buildings on this tiny island but not at first. A young man settles on the island off the coast of Maine and we watch the buildings there change as the generations build.
<i>Two Bad Ants</i> By Chris Van Allsburg	Here we get an ant's eye view of the interior of a house. The perspectives are mind boggling.
<i>Rome Antics</i> By David Macaulay	The scene is modern Rome and we follow a pigeon's flight throughout the city, getting a pigeon's eye view of many types of buildings
<i>Building Big</i> By David Macaulay	The companion book to the successful PBS series, explores the engineering feats behind bridges, tunnels, dams, domes, and skyscrapers.

<i>Castle</i> By David Macaulay	With typical zest and wry sense of humor punctuating his drawings, David Macaulay traces the step-by-step planning and construction of both castle and town.
<i>Cathedral</i> By David Macaulay	This richly illustrated book shows the intricate step-by-step process of a cathedral's growth.
<i>Pyramid</i> By David Macaulay	Through concise text and richly detailed black and white illustrations we come to know the philosophy of life and death in ancient Egypt.
<i>Frontier Home</i> By Raymond Bial	A poetic text and interesting color photographs combine to recreate the experience of a covered wagon trip and the establishment of a prairie home.
<i>Dakota Dugout</i> By Ann Turner	In this picture book a stylishly dressed woman tells a child of her early life in a sod house on the prairie. This is a good look at the harsh life there.
<i>Round Buildings, Square Buildings, and Buildings That Wiggle Like a Fish</i> By Philip Isaacson	Actually, even the youngest browser might enjoy this book of photographs on buildings. The text, however, is poetic and mind-expanding as the author takes a look at the various buildings humans have devised. He takes us from famous structures like the Taj Mahal to echoes of their motifs and structures throughout the world.
<i>Finding Walter</i> by Ann Turner	This time it's a dollhouse as the building in question. Rose and Emily find an old dollhouse in their grandmother's attic and it becomes the focus of their rivalry and concern as they restore it to its former glory. As they do so, they begin to hear the residents of the dollhouse talk.
<i>The Barn</i> By Avi	In this brief but challenging novel, Ben, the youngest boy in a motherless family, has been called home, together with his siblings to deal with their father's recent stroke. Ben becomes convinced that their building of a barn will help to heal his father.
<i>The Borning Room</i> By Paul Fleischman	This short novel focuses on one room in a house built in Ohio in 1820. Our narrator is Georgina whose grandfather built the house. The sense of life and death permeates this beautiful book.
<i>Angelo</i> , by David Macaulay	While restoring the front of a church, an old master plasterer rescues and injured pigeon and nurses her back to health
<i>Henry David's House</i> by Henry David Thoreau	In 1845, Henry David Thoreau began to build a small house on the shores of Walden Pond in Concord, Massachusetts. During this time he kept a journal that would become his literary and philosophical masterpiece.
<i>Building</i> by Philip Wilkinson	Different historical periods and places are depicted in this survey of buildings and construction materials
<i>Carpentry for Children</i> , by Lester Walker	Provides directions for the selection and use of tools for building a workshop and a number of building projects varying in difficulty.
<i>Robert A. M. Stern</i> , by David Anger	This biography explores the life and work of a great American architect.

<p><i>Brave Harriet: the First Woman to Fly the English Channel</i> Marissa Moss Also a lesson in nontraditional occupations for women</p>	<p>This biography is told from the point of view of Harriet Quimby. She talks about how she came to love flying and continues with her solo journey across the sky above the English Channel. In doing this successfully, she became the first woman to do so. In the story, you will also discover how she became the first woman to receive her pilot license in the U.S. Payne's illustrations are brilliantly rich, and the overhead images of green grass and the blue sea are beautiful and make you feel as if you are flying with Quimby. A great read for adventurers at heart.</p>
<p><i>Storm Warriors</i>, by Elisa Carbone</p>	<p>Nathan moves to a cabin near the Pea Island Life-Saving Station off the coast of North Carolina with his father and grandfather, who are fishermen. It is 1895 and Nathan has a dream. He wants to be a surfman, one of the men called "storm warriors," who fight the sea and storms to rescue the crews of shipwrecked ships. Helping the Pea Island station men, he has to face the facts: there is only one African-American station and only relatives of the station men get jobs as surfmen. Will Nathan achieve his dream? Discover the suspense and danger of a "northeaster" and feel the excitement of an ocean rescue!</p>
<p><i>Plane Song</i>, by Diane Siebert</p>	<p>An excellent descriptive poem about a mode of transportation about "birds that human hands have built." Using words that rise and fall in the rhythm of flight, the poet conjures up images of different aircraft. Nasta's stunning illustrations realize these images beautifully in oil paintings of planes soaring through the clouds, highlighted against the changing colors of the sky.</p>
<p><i>Flight: The Journey of Charles Lindbergh</i> by Robert Burleigh</p>	<p>Describes how Charles Lindbergh achieved the remarkable feat of flying nonstop and solo from New York to Paris in 1927</p>
<p><i>The Wright Brothers: How They Invented the Airplane</i> by Russell Freedman</p>	<p>Follows the lives of the Wright brothers and describes how they developed the first airplane</p>
<p><i>The Blue Between the Clouds</i> by Stephen Wunderli</p>	<p>Two Moons, an eleven-year-old Navajo boy living in Utah in 1939 in the home of his schoolmate Matt, becomes best friends with Matt and helps him pursue his dream of flying</p>
<p><i>African-American Aviators</i>, by Stanley P. Jones</p>	<p>This book describes the lives and accomplishments of five African-American pilots.</p>
<p><i>African-American Astronauts</i>, by Stanley P. Jones</p>	<p>This book describes the lives and accomplishments of five African-American astronauts.</p>
<p><i>Tractor Trailer Truck Driver</i>, by Susan Clinton</p>	<p>This book explores job responsibilities, required education and career development opportunities for people wanting to become a tractor trailer truck driver</p>

<i>Construction</i> , by Claude Delafosse	This book introduces readers to many types of construction, including buildings, subways, bridges, and ships.
<i>Cabinetmakers</i> , by Leonard Everett Fisher	This book discusses the work of cabinetmakers in Colonial America: Their tools, methods and the types of woods they used.
<i>To Space and Back</i> , by Sally Ride with Susan Okie	This first-person narrative tells what life is like on the space shuttle, describing weightlessness, sleeping, dressing, meal preparation and the work performed by the crew.
<i>How an Airport Really Works</i> , by George Sullivan	This book gives readers a behind the scenes look at all the jobs that make an airport run, including air traffic control, baggage handling, weather and safety.
<i>Carpentry for Children</i> , by Lester Walker	This book provides directions for the selection and use of tools, for building a workshop and for a number of building projects that vary in difficulty.
<i>Building</i> , by Philip Wilkinson	Many historical periods and places are shown in this survey of buildings and construction materials.
<i>Construction Trucks</i> , by Jennifer Dussling	Describes the jobs which various kinds of trucks and other construction equipment do on a work site.
<i>Building Machines and What They Do</i> , by Derek Radford	Dereck Radford has assembled an impressive variety of facts about building machines. The brief text and realistically rendered machines—operated by bustling animal characters—are sure to capture the attention of truck fans everywhere.
<i>C is for Construction: Big Trucks and Diggers from A to Z</i> , by Caterpillar	Exciting photographs are paired with cool facts and simple explanations in this earthmoving ABC.
<i>B Is for Bulldozer: A Construction ABC</i> , by June Sobel	Get ready for a ride through the alphabet at a busy construction site. There's a big yellow Bulldozer, a tall shiny Crane, and a rusty red Dump truck--and the construction crew is hard at work. But <i>what</i> are they building?
<i>Construction Zone</i> , by Tana Hoban	Each of the 13 machines presented is given a two-page spread, one picture taken at middle distance, the other close up. The final two pages match thumbnail photos with explanatory text, allowing parents or teachers to describe what each machine is doing.