

Great Resources for Kindergarten / Primary Students

Require Board Passwords

BookFLIX – watch and listen to animated picture books

(From the home page: choose eBooks, choose BookFLIX, enter password: see report card insert)

Storyvalues – explore recorded and written multicultural folktales from around the world

(From the home page: choose Images & Media, choose Storyvalues, enter password: see report card insert)

Novelist K-8 – find recommended reading lists for every reading interest and level

(From the home page: choose Online Databases, choose Novelist K-8, enter password: see report card insert)

Pebble GO – explore science topics with leveled texts, includes full narration and videos

(From the home page: choose Online Databases, choose Pebble GO, enter password: see report card insert)

Do Not Require Board Passwords:

Storybird – create beautiful stories using art libraries, may be played online or published

(From the home page: choose Web 2.0 Tools, choose Storybird, students may create their own account with parent help)

Bitstrips – create hilarious comic strips using simple, intuitive tools

(From the home page: choose Web 2.0 Tools, choose Bitstrips, students may create their own account with parent help)

National Geographic Kids – play games, learn, see amazing photographs, check the news

(From the home page: choose Elementary Subjects, choose Social Studies, National Geographic Kids)

TVO Kids Math Games – play educational games that support math skills

(From the home page: choose Elementary Subjects, choose Mathematics, TVO Kids Math Games)

Wordle – create beautiful “word clouds” using your own words, or text from a favourite book

(From the home page: choose Web 2.0 Tools, choose Wordle)

Online Resources for Book Recommendations:

I recommend the following blogs for parents to find excellent reviews of the latest books published for children from Kindergarten to Grade 3 (and beyond):

- Seven Impossible Things Before Breakfast: <http://blaine.org/sevenimpossiblethings/>
Specializes in picture books.
- A Fuse #8 Production: <http://blog.schoollibraryjournal.com/afuse8production>
Written by a NYC librarian who reviews everything, but offers many picture book reviews, including a list of reviews of the “Top 100 Picture Books.”
- 100 Scope Notes: <http://100scopenotes.com/>
Written by an elementary school librarian who reviews everything, including many picture book reviews, both fiction and non-fiction.

Indiebound (<http://www.indiebound.org/>) is a fantastic website that highlights and supports independent booksellers. Each season they put together a Kids’ Next List (<http://www.indiebound.org/kids-indie-next-list>) featuring exceptional new titles recommended by independent booksellers for children age 4 through to teenagers.