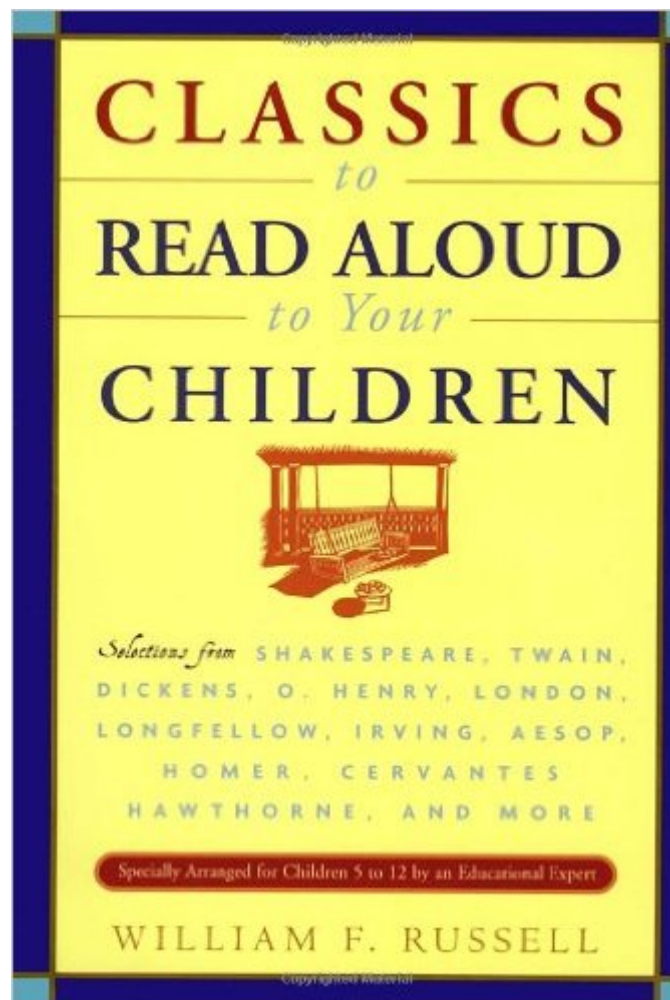


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# Classics To Read Aloud To Your Children: Selections From Shakespeare, Twain, Dickens, O. Henry, London, Longfellow, Irving Aesop, Homer, Cervantes, Hawthorne, And More





## Synopsis

A perennially popular collection of short stories, poems, legends, and myths from great works of literature that are especially appropriate for parents to read aloud to their children aged five to twelve. Line drawings.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (27 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #111,020 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #31 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Genres & Styles > Children's Literature](#) #223 in [Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Classics](#) #528 in [Books > Education & Teaching > Schools & Teaching > Instruction Methods > Reading & Phonics](#)

## Customer Reviews

My father gave this book to me to read aloud while we traveled in the car. I have 4 children -with different attention spans -from teenagers to a Kindergartener- they all listened!! I loved that at the beginning of the books it would give us words they might not understand and definitions. I loved the idea of knowing how long it would take to read a particular story. Classics that I have not read in years and classics that I have never read were included. If you are going on a car trip this book is a must! Great idea for grandparents to give or have around to read when grandchildren come to visit.

It's been years since I've read aloud from this wonderful anthology to my twin sons who are now 16. But they still remember vibrant, lively selections like "Half a league, half a league, half a league onward ..." (The Charge of the Light Brigade) and "The Ransom of Red Chief" (which they loved but didn't really "get" until they were about 13). I credit this wonderful book with providing truly excellent literature to feed their hungry young brains. This book is part of their current success in school and life! BUY IT for your child or grandchild - or donate it to your local school library!

This is a keeper! Your kids will love to have you read aloud from this book. It is a compilation of stories arranged according to age-appropriate listening levels. All are well-known stories from well-known authors. Many stories, particularly the longer ones, are only excerpts; the editor has deliberately done this to whet the listeners' appetite. If you like this book, you will like its companions: *More Classics to Read Aloud to Your Children*, and *Classic Myths to Read Aloud*.

I purchased this book for an ESL student that has some trouble with pronunciation and word flow. I believe that reading stories aloud helps develop a native, natural feel for the English language. I cannot say enough that is good about this particular volume. The language in these stories is beautiful. The vocabulary is rich. The stories are legacies of our culture that ought not to be missed. As I listened to my ESL student struggle to read a story aloud from this book, my heart ached for our children and our culture. The love that I feel for these stories and this literature is deep and I know that I did not instill that love in my own children nearly enough. As the years passed by, we were so very busy. We had lessons, we had AP tests, we had service projects, and even though our home did NOT have a television, we were still running on empty on that hamster wheel of life. Please fill your children's tank with stories that should by all rights be a part of who they are. Take the time to read these more complex stories to your older children. Don't stop reading when they tire of *Goodnight Moon* and start reading on their own. Yes, they have to read "*Heart of Darkness*" and "*Slaughterhouse Five*" but realistically, these classroom tomes are boring for them, and although they might spark their intellect, they do little to spark the imagination. I am 100% sure that the "Common Core" will only make this worse, as kids will increasingly be told to read Microsoft instruction manuals for credit so that they can become little heartless proles for big business. But I DIGRESS! Sorry about the political rant. Anyway, as you may know from my other reviews, I homeschool. Next year, my high school senior (finished with all available AP English related classes) will do nothing but joyful, imaginative reading for credit. We will also work on writing stories together. I plan to have her read this aloud to me. I deserve a story.

My sons 8 and 10 really enjoyed the bedtime reading of Greek myths from a collection by this same author - so we decided to try this "Classics" collection. They have really enjoyed most of the stories - and I enjoy exposing them to classics like *Don Quixote*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *Tom Sawyer*. The stories are excerpted/simplified while maintaining key aspects of the language and key phrases "...would not a rose by any other name..." The book is broken into different age-related sections -which appear to be pretty accurate. My ten year old really enjoyed the reading of "*Call of the Wild*"

(Level III for 11 yr old and above), while the 8 year old struggled with the language and lost interest. The story lengths vary from 15 minutes to nearly an hour - the latter being a little too long for bedtime reading. Still, I recommend this book for introducing your children to some classic stories that "every kid should know".

I found this book when searching for classics for my children. I grew weary from reading really awful chapter books with my eight-year-old twins, and I longed for examples of great writing that could get them excited about literature! Publishing companies have filled the children's section of bookstores with junk... title after title from the same dim authors, mass-produced drivel with no substance. I wanted my children to be exposed to better writing - to the masters, for goodness sake. This book certainly filled the bill. It provides great samples of literature from a broad spectrum of writers and whets the appetite for more. Definitely a recommend!

I am a read aloud volunteer for a local middle school. I selected the poems to read, and the children really enjoyed them. I find that poetry is better heard than read, and hoped to pass along the love of poetry to those who would most likely not read it themselves. Would highly recommend this book to any educator, parent, or anyone wishing to share the love of reading to a child.

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