

Books to Support Starting School

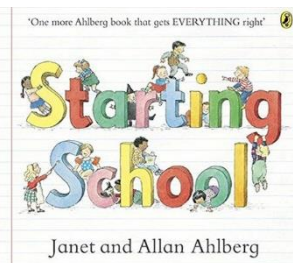
As the first day at school gets closer, children may feel a little worried about leaving you and going to an unfamiliar environment.

A great way to get your child ready for the big first day, and help them deal with the new routine once they're there, is to find a tried-and-tested book or two that walks them through the patterns of the school day – and even gets them excited for the friends they'll make and the fun things they'll learn and do.

Book title: Starting School

Author: Janet and Allan Ahlberg

Online story: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=En_R0vTmO00

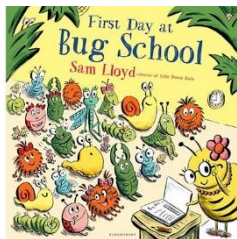


Why we love it: This is *the* classic starting-school that walks your child gently through the first term of school. It's teeming with reassurance – from the sweet, funny details about what the children do to the lovely rhymes and charmingly old-fashioned pictures. And it's unusual in focusing on the first term (right up to the Christmas play), rather than just the first day or week.

Book title: First Day at Bug School

Author: Sam Lloyd

Online story: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JQHnN7E98OM>

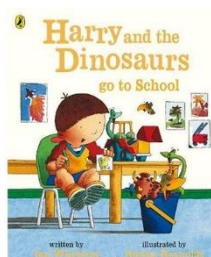


Why we love it: This one has lovely bright pictures and fun rhyming text, and goes into super-helpful detail about the routine of the school day, from saying goodbye to parents and taking the register to playtime and lunch – and even going to the toilets.

Book title: Harry and the Dinosaurs go to School

Author: Ian Whybrow

Online story: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ZhVS23TBS8>

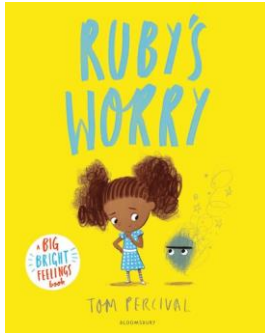


Why we love it: A beautifully pitched book about Harry's first day at school: Harry's excited but a little nervous because he doesn't know any of the other children. But, of course, his love of dinosaurs saves the day...

Book title: I'm Starting Nursery

Author: Tom Percival

Online story: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VCyiiHI2SJU>

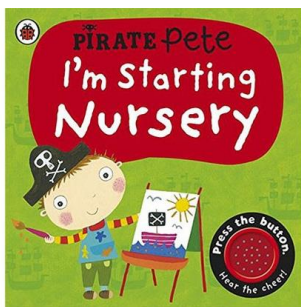


Why we love it: A reassuring and sensitive book – the perfect springboard for talking to children about sharing their hidden worries.

Book title: I'm Starting Nursery

Author: Amanda Li

Online story: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0ObLMmyxhuk>

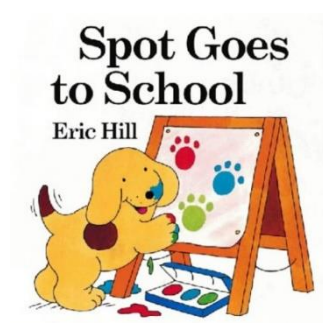


Why we love it: Pitched just right for about-to-be pre-schoolers, this is an interactive story with colourful illustrations and calming text that covers all aspects of starting nursery, including the visit to look round, and a 'cheer' button to press on every page.

Book title: Spot goes to School

Author: Eric Hill

Online story: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XKn4FSp6Q-Y>



Why we love it: Pitched just right for about-to-be pre-schoolers, this is an story with colourful illustrations and calming text that covers all aspects of starting school including making new friends.