

Barstow, Barbara , Judith Riggle, and Leslie Molnar. *Beyond Picture Books: Subject Access to Best Books for Beginning Readers*. Third Edition. Westport, Conn.: Libraries Unlimited, 2008. 645 p. (ISBN: 1591585457)

This clear reference book is designed to be helpful to librarians, teachers, and parents as they provide reader's guidance to children from kindergarten to third grade. The bulk of the book is an annotated bibliography of 3762 recommended titles. Authors level the books generally, A, B, and C. These general levels may not be specific enough to aid teachers in selecting books for guided reading, but they have added lexiles at the publisher's request and that might be helpful for some teachers and school libraries.

The subject index is easy to use and a combination of Sears, Library of Congress and topics the authors found useful. The selected list of 200 outstanding first readers may be helpful to teachers building classroom libraries. For librarians this would be a great addition to [A to Zoo: Subject access to children's picture books](#). I can envision using the index to gather readers for genre studies, classroom units, and to aide selection of accessible materials for struggling readers. The book can provide that multiple access that could greatly increase of use of a libraries beginning reader books.

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