

## Cooking And Food Reading List



### ANANSI AND THE POT OF BEANS

AUTHOR &  
ILLUSTRATOR

**AUTHOR:** Bobby Norfolk  
**ILLUSTRATOR:** Baird Hoffmire

DESCRIPTION

Did you ever wonder why spiders have no hair? After reading this African trickster tale, you will know. When Anansi goes to help his grandmother, he can't resist her steaming, hot pot of beans. Co-authors Bobby and Sherry Norfolk take a wonderful new look at a classic African story.

READING LEVEL

**INTEREST:** Pre-K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** K / **LEXILE:** 540L

ISBNs

**PAPERBACK:** 978-0-874838-11-4 / **HARDCOVER:**

### ANANSI AND TURTLE GO TO DINNER

AUTHOR &  
ILLUSTRATOR

**AUTHOR:** Bobby Norfolk Sherry Norfolk  
**ILLUSTRATOR:** Baird Hoffmire

DESCRIPTION

In this trickster tale from Africa, Anansi learns the value of being a good host. He also learns the truth of the old saying, "what goes around, comes around."

READING LEVEL

**INTEREST:** Pre-K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** J / **LEXILE:** 520L

ISBNs

**PAPERBACK:** 978-0-874838-56-5 / **HARDCOVER:**

### ANANSI GOES TO LUNCH

AUTHOR &  
ILLUSTRATOR

**AUTHOR:** Bobby Norfolk Sherry Norfolk  
**ILLUSTRATOR:** Baird Hoffmire

**DESCRIPTION** Anansi is invited to three parties and wants to attend them all. He gives each of his hosts a rope to tug, ties the other end around his own waist, and waits to be summoned when the food is served -- but when all of the food is ready at the same time, Anansi is caught in the middle!

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**READING LEVEL** **INTEREST:** Pre-K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** K / **LEXILE:** 630L

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**ISBNs** **PAPERBACK:** 978-0-874838-52-7 / **HARDCOVER:**

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## BAKER'S DOZEN

**AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR** **AUTHOR:** Heather Forest  
**ILLUSTRATOR:** Susan Gaber

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**DESCRIPTION** The baker, Van Amsterdam, becomes known in Colonial America for baking his St. Nicholas cookies but his greed drives him to become stingy in his business. When an old woman buys a dozen cookies from him and expects to receive 13, he withholds the last one. Unfortunately, his business goes downhill until the day she returns for 12 more cookies. But this time, he gives her an extra measure, and the custom of offering a "baker's dozen" or 13 items spreads throughout the colonies.

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**READING LEVEL** **INTEREST:** K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** P / **LEXILE:** 850L

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**ISBNs** **PAPERBACK:** 978-1-939160-70-6 / **HARDCOVER:**

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## CLEVER MONKEY: A FOLKTALE FROM WEST AFRICA

**AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR** **AUTHOR:** Rob Cleveland  
**ILLUSTRATOR:** Baird Hoffmire

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**DESCRIPTION** When two greedy jungle cats discover a large piece of cheese, they can't decide how to divide it fairly. The clever monkey comes to their rescue. Or so they think. After reading this trickster tale from West Africa, you will think twice before asking a monkey for help.

READING LEVEL      **INTEREST:** K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** G / **LEXILE:** 540L

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ISBNs      **PAPERBACK:** 978-0-874838-01-5 / **HARDCOVER:**

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## CONEJITO: A FOLKTALE FROM PANAMA

**AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR**      **AUTHOR:** Margaret Read MacDonald  
**ILLUSTRATOR:** Geraldo Valerio

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**DESCRIPTION**      In this action packed folktale from Panama, a clever little rabbit and his Tía Mónica find ways to outwit a fox, a tiger, and a lion, all of whom want to eat him for lunch.

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READING LEVEL      **INTEREST:** K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** M / **LEXILE:** 460L

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ISBNs      **PAPERBACK:** 978-1-939160-96-6 / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874837-79-7

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## FAT CAT: A DANISH FOLKTALE

**AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR**      **AUTHOR:** Margaret Read MacDonald  
**ILLUSTRATOR:** Julie Paschkis

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**DESCRIPTION**      Have you ever heard the saying, “Your eyes are bigger than your stomach?” Well, Cat’s stomach is bigger than a lot of things. He is always hungry, and living with culinary-inclined Mouse, who makes thirty-five pies in one day, just makes it worse. Fat Cat swallows everything in sight, including the wash lady and her washtub, a troop of soldiers and their swords, even a king and his elephant! But when Cat swallows Mouse and her sewing basket, that’s the last straw. Tiny Mouse cuts to the heart of the situation, taking an upside-down world and turning it right-side-up again. Greedy Cat learns his lesson and turns “fat” into “fancy,” “fabulous,” and “fantastic.” Margaret Read MacDonald’s infectious energy combines with Julie Paschkis’s folk-inspired gouache paintings to create a new retelling of a favorite comic cumulative tale.

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READING LEVEL      **INTEREST:** Pre-K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** I / **LEXILE:** 330L

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ISBNS

**PAPERBACK:** 978-0-874837-65-0 / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874836-16-5

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## GROWING GOLD

AUTHOR &  
ILLUSTRATOR

**AUTHOR:** Padma Venkatraman

**ILLUSTRATOR:** Tom Wrenn

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DESCRIPTION

In this story from India, a farmer's three lazy sons don't want to work, they just want to make a lot of gold. When their mother tells them about gold buried in the field, they discover the value of a good day's work.

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READING LEVEL

**INTEREST:** K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** K / **LEXILE:** 690L

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ISBNS

**PAPERBACK:** 978-0-874838-60-2 / **HARDCOVER:**

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## HIDDEN FEAST: A FOLKTALE FROM THE AMERICAN SOUTH

AUTHOR &  
ILLUSTRATOR

**AUTHOR:** Martha Hamilton Mitch Weiss

**ILLUSTRATOR:** Don Tate

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DESCRIPTION

When the barnyard animals are invited to a party by their neighbors, they dress in their Sunday best and set off for a day of merriment. But when dinnertime arrives, the famished animals are perplexed to find a simple meal of cornbread. Most of them are polite, but Rooster turns his beak up in disgust and rudely leaves the party, missing the treasures hidden for the guests. The surprising twist at the end of the story explains why, ever since, Rooster scratches in the dirt. Martha Hamilton and Mitch Weiss capture the rhythms and idioms of this rural Southern tale, and Don Tate's whimsical acrylics serve up a regular hoedown of fun.

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READING LEVEL

**INTEREST:** K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** L / **LEXILE:** 620L

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ISBNS

**PAPERBACK:** / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874837-58-2

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## HOLY MOLÉ! A FOLKTALE FROM MEXICO

AUTHOR &  
ILLUSTRATOR

**AUTHOR:** Caroline McAlister  
**ILLUSTRATOR:** Stefan Czernecki

DESCRIPTION

Carlos is working in the kitchen of the Mexican monastery when the cook enters the room in a panic. The Spanish Viceroy is on his way for a surprise visit and will arrive by noon, expecting dinner. What will the brothers feed this important ambassador to the king? Carlos tries to stay out of the way as lunch is hastily prepared, but his curiosity gets the best of him. His eagerness results in a moment of crisis, followed by what the brothers can only assume is a miracle. This story, inspired by the Mexican folk tradition, explains the origins of molé, the popular national dish that combines chocolate with turkey, spices, and nuts. Stefan Czernecki's amusing, angular illustrations capture the chaos in the kitchen as well as the folk tradition behind the tale.

READING LEVEL

**INTEREST:** K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** L / **LEXILE:** 540L

ISBNs

**PAPERBACK:** / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874837-75-9

## LITTLE JOHNNY BUTTERMILK

AUTHOR &  
ILLUSTRATOR

**AUTHOR:** Jan Wahl  
**ILLUSTRATOR:** Jennifer Mazzucco

DESCRIPTION

Johnny Buttermilk's work is never done. Every day he carries pails of milk to market for his mother. Every day he is set upon by the witch who wants to steal the milk, and every day he must think of some fresh plan to outwit her. Enough is enough. How can he be done with her once and for all? Johnny devises a plan to turn the witch's mischief back on herself. Jennifer Mazzucco's vibrant acrylic illustrations capture the cat-and-mouse contest contained in this traditional folktale from the British Isles.

READING LEVEL

**INTEREST:** K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** I / **LEXILE:**

ISBNs

**PAPERBACK:** / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0874835-59-5

## LITTLE MOOSE WHO COULDN'T GO TO SLEEP (MAYNARD MOOSE TALE)

AUTHOR &  
ILLUSTRATOR

**AUTHOR:** Willy Clafin  
**ILLUSTRATOR:** James Stimson

DESCRIPTION

If you love Maynard Moose tales from the Northern Piney Woods, then be forewarned, this book might just be the funniest yet. The fourth installment in the Maynard Moose series provides the back story for the Maynard Moose tales. In this whimsical telling of how Little Moose struggles with going to sleep each night, you'll meet Little Moose, Maynard's youngest cousin and his favorite kin, her parents Mr. and Mrs. Moose, the sheep, and most, importantly, you'll learn the legend of Mother Moose and her kitchen. You'll also visit Moose Academy where young moose go to learn proper posture, woodland skills and counting to three over and over again. This whimsically illustrated story also includes a CD and a Moose to English dictionary.

READING LEVEL

**INTEREST:** 3rd-5th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** 0 / **LEXILE:** 720L

ISBNS

**PAPERBACK:** / **HARDCOVER:** 978-1-939160-67-6

## LITTLE RED HEN: AN OLD FABLE

AUTHOR &  
ILLUSTRATOR

**AUTHOR:** Heather Forest  
**ILLUSTRATOR:** Susan Gaber

DESCRIPTION

A little red hen lived in a house with a frisky dog, a cat, and a mouse. So begins this fresh look at a beloved old fable. The Little Red Hen's frisky housemates—Dog, Cat, and Mouse—would rather play than settle down to daily chores such as planting, cutting, and grinding wheat. But when the wheat is used to make a delicious cake, the little creatures are more than happy to help eat it! Heather Forest's rhythmic retelling captures the chaos of daily living and celebrates the spirit of teamwork inherent in the tale. Susan Gaber's whimsical illustrations transport the reader to a cozy cottage where the little Red Hen helps others learn how to help her even if it is more effort than doing the work herself.

READING LEVEL

**INTEREST:** Pre-K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** I / **LEXILE:** 510L

ISBNS

**PAPERBACK:** 978-1-939160-97-3 / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874837-95-7

## MAGIC APPLE: A FOLKTALE FROM THE MIDDLE EAST

AUTHOR &  
ILLUSTRATOR

**AUTHOR:** Rob Cleveland  
**ILLUSTRATOR:** Baird Hoffmire

DESCRIPTION

Three brothers embark on separate journeys to different parts of the world to fulfill their father's dying wish. In their journeys, they visit distant lands, find curious treasures, and learn the true meaning of unselfish giving when they need to work together to save a life.

READING LEVEL

**INTEREST:** Pre-K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** I / **LEXILE:** 720L

ISBNs

**PAPERBACK:** 978-0-874838-00-8 / **HARDCOVER:**

## MAGIC POT

AUTHOR &  
ILLUSTRATOR

**AUTHOR:** Pleasant DeSpain  
**ILLUSTRATOR:** Tom Wrenn

DESCRIPTION

In this story from China, when a woodcutter finds a magic pot that makes two of everything that he puts inside of it, he thinks all of his troubles have disappeared! Or have his troubles merely doubled?

READING LEVEL

**INTEREST:** K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** J / **LEXILE:** 640L

ISBNs

**PAPERBACK:** 978-0-874838-27-5 / **HARDCOVER:**

## PICKIN' PEAS

AUTHOR &  
ILLUSTRATOR

**AUTHOR:** Margaret Read MacDonald  
**ILLUSTRATOR:** Pat Cummings

**DESCRIPTION**

A clever, singing rabbit eats his way through the pea patch until Little Girl snatches him up and he is soon singing a new tune as he plans his escape. With a nod to Brer Rabbit, Pickin Peas is adapted from two folktales collected in Alabama and Virginia. The lively storytelling voice of award-winning author Margaret Read MacDonald, combined with Pat Cummings' bright, bold contemporary illustrations, makes this timeless battle-of-wits an instant classic.

**READING LEVEL**

**INTEREST:** K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** L / **LEXILE:** 150L

**ISBNs**

**PAPERBACK:** 978-1-939160-83-6 / **HARDCOVER:**

## SITTING DOWN TO EAT

**AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR**

**AUTHOR:** Bill Harley

**ILLUSTRATOR:** Kitty Harvill

**DESCRIPTION**

A young boy's snack time is interrupted by a visit from an elephant. As soon as he moves over to make room, they are joined by a tiger ... and a hippo ... and a big blue whale ... and soon a full menagerie, each insisting there's room for one more.

**READING LEVEL**

**INTEREST:** Pre-K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** H / **LEXILE:**

**ISBNs**

**PAPERBACK:** 978-0-874836-03-5 / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874834-60-4

## SPICY HOT COLORS: COLORES PICANTES

**AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR**

**AUTHOR:** Sherry Shahan

**ILLUSTRATOR:** Paula Barragan

**DESCRIPTION**

Colors explode off the page in this energetic, jazzy picture book introducing readers to colors in both English and Spanish. In a style brimming with rhythm and syncopation, author Sherry Shahan introduces nine colors by interweaving images and dance steps. Ecuadoran artist Paula Barragán's illustrations capture the rhythm and vivacity of the text. This book, which Publishers Weekly called "a feast for the eyes and ears," received a NAPPA Gold Award and was featured on the PBS Kids



program "Between the Lions".

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READING LEVEL      **INTEREST:** Pre-K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** E / **LEXILE:**

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ISBNs      **PAPERBACK:** 978-0-874838-15-2 / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874837-41-4

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## STOLEN SMELL

**AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR**      **AUTHOR:** Martha Hamilton Mitch Weiss  
**ILLUSTRATOR:** Tom Wrenn

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**DESCRIPTION**      In this story from Peru, we meet a baker who is so stingy that he wants to charge people just for smelling his baked goods. When the baker takes his case to court, the wise judge decides to teach the greedy man a well-deserved lesson.

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READING LEVEL      **INTEREST:** Pre-K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** K / **LEXILE:** 720L

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ISBNs      **PAPERBACK:** 978-0-874838-38-1 / **HARDCOVER:**

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## STONE SOUP

**AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR**      **AUTHOR:** Heather Forest  
**ILLUSTRATOR:** Susan Gaber

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**DESCRIPTION**      Two hungry travelers arrive at a village expecting to find a household that will share a bit of food, as has been the custom along their journey. To their surprise, villager after villager refuses to share, each one closing the door with a bang. As they sit to rest beside a well, one of the travelers observes that if the townspeople have no food to share, they must be "in greater need than we are." With that, the travelers demonstrate their special recipe for a magical soup, using a stone as a starter. All they need is a carrot, which a young girl volunteers. Not to be outdone, another villager contributes a potato, and the soup grows as others bring corn, celery, and other vegetables and seasonings. In this cumulative retelling of an ancient and widely circulated legend, author Heather Forest shows us that when each person makes a small contribution, "the collective impact can be huge." Susan Gaber's

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paintings portray the optimism and timelessness of a story that celebrates teamwork and generosity

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READING LEVEL      **INTEREST:** Pre-K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** K / **LEXILE:** 310L

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ISBNs      **PAPERBACK:** 978-0-874836-02-8 / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874834-98-7

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## WELL OF TRUTH: A FOLKTALE FROM EGYPT

AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR      **AUTHOR:** Martha Hamilton Mitch Weiss  
**ILLUSTRATOR:** Tom Wrenn

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DESCRIPTION      When Goat, Rooster, and Donkey decide to try their hand at farming, Donkey learns the price of being greedy and discovers that the truth will always come out in the end.

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READING LEVEL      **INTEREST:** Pre-K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** I / **LEXILE:** 520L

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ISBNs      **PAPERBACK:** 978-0-874838-80-0 / **HARDCOVER:**

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## WHY KOALA HAS A STUMPY TAIL

AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR      **AUTHOR:** Martha Hamilton Mitch Weiss  
**ILLUSTRATOR:** Tom Wrenn

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DESCRIPTION      When Tree Kangaroo and Koala dig a well to get some water, Tree Kangaroo ends up doing all of the work and Koala ends up with a stumpy tail in this origin story from Australia.

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READING LEVEL      **INTEREST:** Pre-K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** I / **LEXILE:** 530L

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ISBNs      **PAPERBACK:** 978-0-874838-79-4 / **HARDCOVER:**

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## WOMAN WHO FLUMMOXED THE FAIRIES

AUTHOR &  
ILLUSTRATOR

**AUTHOR:** Heather Forest  
**ILLUSTRATOR:** Susan Gaber

DESCRIPTION

According to this Scottish folktale, long ago, sweet-toothed fairies flew into people's homes and feasted on leftover cake crumbs. But the King of the Fairies was annoyed that crumbs never remained from the very best cakes baked by the talented baker woman, so he orders the fairies to capture her and bring her down to the Fairy Kingdom. The resourceful woman requests items from her kitchen at home, where her bewildered husband looks on as utensils and ingredients float out of the window, borne by invisible fairies. Eventually she strikes a clever bargain with the impatient Fairy King to win her freedom and return home in return for sharing her tasty cakes.

READING LEVEL

**INTEREST:** K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** 0 / **LEXILE:** 850L

ISBNs

**PAPERBACK:** 978-1-939160-71-3 / **HARDCOVER:**