

## Let's Play Parks Challenge

## Curated Books List

We hope you will enjoy many of these and similar books that encourage children's outdoor play.

- Jaden's Impossible Garden by Mélina Mangal
- If My Bike Could Swim by Cindy M Maybon
- Bing Bang Pling by Deb Adamson
- The Snowy Day by Ezra Jack Keats
- Over and Under the Pond by Kate Messner
- The Hike by Alison Farrell
- Worm Weather by Jean Taft
- Windy Days by Deborah Kerbel
- Arrr, Mustache Baby by Bridget Heos
- The Fort by Laura Perdew
- Boxitects by Kim Smith
- Angellina Ballerina by Katharine Holabird
- The Swiggle by Carole Lexa Schaefer
- Jabari Jumps by Gaia Cornwall
- The Wonky Donkey by Craig Smith
- I'll Love You Till the Cows Come Home by Kathryn Cristaldi
- Harold and the Purple Crayon by Crockett Johnson

## Why these books?

The books included on this list have been picked to encourage the goals of the Let's Play Preschool Parks Challenge. These books showcase many healthy and developmentally important forms of play. The play described within these books is explorative, imaginative, and child-led (rather than structured by adults). The book characters are pictured and described in solo and social play which are both critical to children's development. Many of the books include physical outdoor play or play with natural elements which is designed to pair with the children's experiences completing the LP Preschool Parks Challenge. Additionally, these books are selected to be inclusive and feature a range of races, ethnicities, genders, and abilities. The books are specifically not centered on matters of diversity or difference but tell stories that represent a diverse group of children and their experiences. These books, or similar ones, can be used as prizes, or in story time to encourage physical and outdoor play. These books show examples of what healthy, natural play looks like and provide another opportunity for parents and children to spend quality time reading together. If you bring the Let's Play Parks Challenge to your community, choose a few of these books or use these characteristics as guidelines for which books would make a great choice for prizes.



