The PJ Library Book Selection Committee asks a lot of questions. Each month, the committee gathers to review a collection of books – both published and forthcoming – that will arrive in mailboxes a year after they’re chosen. Books must meet multiple quality and content benchmarks (Are we offering enough content on Jewish holidays? Values? History? Are we providing titles that show not just geographic and ethnic diversity, but also a diversity of Jewish practice?), but they also have to fit with the other books families receive (Too many folk tales? Not enough contemporary stories? Has this age received any Sephardi tales, or has it been mostly Ashkenazi?).

And then, of course, there’s the overriding question: Is this book good? Will it sit on a bookshelf gathering dust, or will a family read it again and again (and again)? It’s a tricky balance to strike, but we love the challenge. Here’s a look at how the Book Selection Committee made PJ Library an exciting experience for 3-year-olds and their families from August 2018 through August 2019.

OCT 2018

- **Something from Nothing**
  Written and Illustrated by Phoebe Gilman
  
  This title was one of the very first books PJ Library sent out. We still love this sweet interpretation of a classic Jewish tale, and we’re excited to send it again to a new generation of PJ Library families.

NOV 2018

- **Hanukkah!**
  Written by Roni Schotter
  Illustrated by Marylin Hafner
  
  Roni Schotter, author of this lovely portrayal of a classic Hanukkah, also wrote the PJ Library books *Passover Magic* and *Purim Play*.

AUG 2018

- **All the World**
  Written by Liz Garton Scanlon
  Illustrated by Marla Frazee
  
  This sweet title is illustrated by Marla Frazee, who not only won the Caldecott Award but also created the Boss Baby series that inspired the 2017 animated movie!

SEP 2018

- **Engineer Ari and the Sukkah Express**
  Written by Deborah Bodin Cohen
  Illustrated by Shahar Kober
  
  There aren’t that many books about the holiday of Sukkot – and even fewer that combine that holiday with the perennial toddler favorite: trains!

DEC 2018

- **Families received CDs for the last time this December. For Jewish kids’ music visit pjlibraryradio.com or download the PJ Library Radio Radio app!**

Being 3 years old with PJ Library

**ON THE SHELF**

This sweet title is illustrated by Marla Frazee, who not only won the Caldecott Award but also created the Boss Baby series that inspired the 2017 animated movie!
Fast Asleep in a Little Village in Israel
Written by Jennifer Tzivia MacLeod
Illustrated by Tiphanie Beeke

Kids will love seeing one of their favorite Sesame Street characters in a Jewish context...and parents will love introducing their children to the concept of mitzvot.

Certain folktales are so good, they appear in our lineup again and again. Readers might also recognize this story in A Big Quiet House, Terrible, Terrible! and It Could Always Be Worse.

PJ Library has many, many books on Shabbat (and we can always use more!), but relatively few about Havdalah. This sweet story illustrates why the end of Shabbat is just as meaningful as the start.

Happy Birthday, Tree!
Written by Madelyn Rosenberg
Illustrated by Jana Christy

From board books all the way up to middle-grade books, Sydney Taylor Award-winner Madelyn Rosenberg crosses all ages of PJ Library kids.

It’s a Mitzvah, Grover
Written by Tilda Balsley and Ellen Fischer
Illustrated by Tom Leigh

Kids will love introducing their children to the concept of mitzvot.

It’s a Mitzvah, Grover was also translated into Hebrew for PJ Library’s sister program in Israel, Sifriyat Pijama, which means Jewish kids around the globe will be delighting in George’s antics.

The Little, Little House
Written and illustrated by Jessica Souhami

Certain folktales are so good, they appear in our lineup again and again. Readers might also recognize this story in A Big Quiet House, Terrible, Terrible! and It Could Always Be Worse.

Pippa’s Passover Plate
Written by Vivian Kirkfield
Illustrated by Jill Weber

Every March, we try to send Passover books to each age group. This new title is not only a Passover book, but also a values book, highlighting the importance of ometz lev: courage.

DID YOU KNOW? The PJ Library website has a comprehensive database of every PJ Library book sent to families. Looking for a Rosh Hashanah book for 5-year-olds that teaches them to care for the environment? You can search for that! Visit pjlibrary.org/books and find just the book you’re looking for.

Oh No, George!
Written and illustrated by Chris Haughton

This sweet tale about a dog who gets in trouble was also translated into Hebrew for PJ Library’s sister program in Israel, Sifriyat Pijama, which means Jewish kids around the globe will be delighting in George’s antics.