

Book List from www.PanBeh.com

Important note: This list is not in order of recommendation but rather in the order that appears when you click on the "Children" tab on the left side of the homepage, then click on "Show All" in the middle of the screen. It takes a bit of time for all 746 children's books to load but it's worth it (clicking on all 63 pages is just too tedious)! I have not had any luck with the "Search" feature but it is worth a try. There may be other good books on the site that are not on this list but I picked my 20 favorite books/book series.



1. Recommend/Beginner/Very little text per page: Fun paperback books in which you or your kids can put your face inside. There are 7 books in this series. We read "Too Beeshe", pictured left, in class during the Wild Animals unit.



2. **Highly Recommend**/Advanced/Lots of text per page: This series, "Magic School Bus", is very popular in the US. It's about fictional science field trips that students go on with their teacher. They are very educational and a fun way to teach science concepts to Elementary age kids. There are 12 paperback books in the series or you can buy all 12 in one hardcover.



3. **Highly Recommend**/Intermediate/Moderate amount of text per page: Entertaining series that teaches about careers with simple stories and plots. My boys LOVE these. There are 11 paperback books in this series or you can buy all in one hardcover.



4. **Highly Recommend**/Intermediate/Moderate amount of text per page: Sweet series about a parent bear (not specified if it's a Mama or a Papa) and child bear. There are 5 paperback books in this series or you can buy all in one hardcover.



5. Recommend/Intermediate/Lots of text per page: Jungle characters face obstacles, (such as a gorilla who is afraid to swing from the trees but then learns). Not much depth but pretty entertaining and good exposure to new vocabulary. There are 6 paperback books in this series or you can buy all in one hardcover.

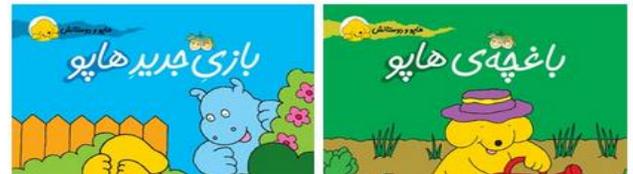


6. Recommend/Advanced/Lots of text per page: Great Dr. Seuss book about the environment and was also a movie. There are quite a few other Dr. Seuss books but I only have read this one. Not sure about the CDs that are sold with the other Dr. Seuss books.



7. **Highly Recommend**/Beginner/Moderate amount of text per page: These Mimini books are the series I used myself to learn to read Persian! The nice thing about any books written by Nasser Keshavarz is that they are written "aameeyane" (slang/spoken Persian) and excellent for beginning readers. Each one teaches a lesson. For example, don't play with matches or don't write on the wall. It's geared towards ages 5 and under but older kids may enjoy the simplicity. An added plus is the books rhyme so when your child (or you) gets stuck on a word, you can more easily figure it out. They are sold individually.

8. **Highly Recommend**/Intermediate/Moderate amount of text per page: These books are translation of popular "Spot" series in English. There are 6 books in this series or you can buy all in one hardcover. There are also 2 sticker books that I actually would not recommend because the stickers are not reusable and those books are quite a bit more expensive than the regular paperback.



9. Recommend/Intermediate/Moderate amount of text per page: This series does a pretty good job teaching about emotions. I have some of them and may order more because Pdraig seems to like them and thinks they are funny.



10. Recommend/Intermediate/Moderate amount of text: I appreciate books like this that teach kids empathy, the importance of following directions, etc. so I have them all. 10 paperback books in the series are sold separately.

11. **Highly recommend**/Beginner/Very little text per page: This book was a favorite for both my kids. It's a good way to teach the seasons and weather. It has fun stories about going to the beach as a family and playing in the snow. I have the hardcover but they sell 4 individually as well.



12. **Highly recommend**/Beginner/Moderate text per page: There are 6 paperbacks in the Hello Kitty series each teaching a basic skill (brushing teeth, cleaning up toys, eating healthy, etc.). You don't have to be a girl to enjoy these; both my boys enjoy the stories (especially the part where the vegetables and toys talk to Kitty)!

13. **Highly recommend**/Advanced/Lots of text per page: This is a series I'm saving for when the kids are older Elementary but I bought them now since I didn't want to let the opportunity of these great books pass by. These non-fiction books answer lots of scientific questions and are written like a children's encyclopedia. There are 12 paperback books in this series.



14. **Highly recommend**/Intermediate/Moderate text per page: This entertaining series is about all the crazy things that can happen in a farm. There are 12 paperback books in the series or you can buy this hardcover.

15. **Recommend**/Intermediate/Lots of text per page: This series is about zoo animals who are classmates and each one tackles an issue such as bullying or conquering fears. There are 8 paperback books in this series or you can buy this hardcover.



16. **Recommend**/Beginner /Very little text per page: These are mini paper books (same size as the Mimini books) although unlike the Mimini books these are not written "aameeane" and they don't rhyme. There is not much plot but they are good to read to young preschoolers and easy reading for beginning readers. The main character, a "khargoosh", explores an emotion in each book and figures out how to deal with it. There are 8 books sold individually in this series.

17. **Highly recommend**/Beginner /Very little text per page: It is so rare to find board books in Persian but these very simple stories are short and an easy read for young preschoolers. Just note, they are not the most durable board books and are even smaller than the Mimini books.



18. **Highly recommend**/Intermediate/Very little text per page: I was so glad to find this series (8 paperbacks sold separately) because they are perfect for Elementary kids who are just learning to read. The stories are interesting and the books are just the right amount of pages. There are CDs but I wasn't able to play them on my DVD or CD player. Maybe you'll have better luck!

19. **Highly Recommend**/Beginner /Very little text per page: These mini paperback books are perfect for any preschooler who has a short attention span and likes cars! There are 4 books in this series sold separately.



20. **Highly Recommend**/Beginner/Very little text per page: I really love this book for many reasons. It's great for preschoolers of all ages because they all experience fear at some level. It's great for beginning readers because of the limited amount of text. It's one of the few books about being scared that accurately explains that there actually are times where being scared keeps you safe! This is part of a series but on this site unfortunately, besides this book they only sell "moosh va dardesar" haash" on the site. However in Iran they sell more books in this series.

What can I do with my child during the 2 month break to keep up with his/her Persian?

I've had several families ask about what they can do with their kids while school is out for December and January. I firmly believe that outside of a school environment, besides of course talking to your kids in Persian, **reading to your children in Persian** is the best way to keep using their language skills.

Why is reading in Persian important?

Reading is not only excellent for children's vocabulary building but it's a critical component to language mastery. You've probably noticed your kids repeating the songs they hear at school when they sing at home. Just the same way, they are more likely to use phrases that they heard in books in when they speak. So definitely re-read the same books! (Luckily kids this age love to read the same books over and over again).

However, at the same time, it's important to have a good selection of books. Simply put, the more books, the more exposure to vocabulary, hence the better vocabulary your child will have.

Where can we get books?

Accessing quality Persian books outside of Iran is not easy! I was absolutely thrilled last year when I discovered www.Panbeh.com, an online bookstore from Vancouver, Canada. Their selection was the best I'd come across! **The money you save from not having tuition those 2 months could be put towards the books.** ☺

There are some other sites I recommend such as www.ketab.com (a bookstore in LA), www.iranibooks.com (an online bookstore that ships from Iran to the US), www.oznoz.com, and www.baharbooks.com. If my time wasn't limited, I'd make recommendation lists from their sites too.

Why order as soon as possible?

Many families will all be trying to buy the same books. I want to give preference to families at our school so I will wait until December 10th to post the recommendation list on the Persian Preschool Facebook page. Of course, ordering after that date won't mean the books will be sold out but you'll have the best selection if order soon.

Some important notes:

*Don't be scared away by the high shipping amount! I know many several people who saw the high shipping rate and stopped their order. That original quote is only an estimate! Plus **prices are in Canadian** currency so right off the bat, you can roughly take about 10% off.

*Once you put the books you want in your cart, I highly recommend **copying and pasting the list into an email** and emailing to: info@panbeh.com. I've done that each time I've ordered and it's saved me the hassle of losing items in my cart while I wait for the actual shipping price.

*Books are rated either "recommended" or "highly recommended". But this is only my own personal opinion. Every child/parent has their own taste so take with a grain of salt.

*To make it easier, I've rated the level of books and described how much text is per page. I know beginning readers see a lot of text on a page and get easily deterred. So for those readers look for "very little text per page".

*You can avoid shipping cost completely if you pick up the books in Vancouver. If any of the families from our school are **planning a trip to Canada please let me know** because perhaps they can pick up the orders for other families.