Dr Mary Roche (St. Patrick’s College, Thurles) compiled this book list based on her work with children over the past 20 years. The list includes suggestions; hopefully some of these will interest the children you work with and provoke deep discussions.

The age groupings are a guide. The same book can be used to explore different concepts with younger and older children. For example, a discussion on why the Little Red Hen’s friends did not help her might take place at age 3, with the concept of friendship as depicted in the story being explored with children aged 4, 5 and 6.

Have a look at the podcasts on Critical Thinking and Book Talk in the Supporting interactions section of the Aistear Toolkit (www.ncca.ie/aisteartoolkit) to find out how you can use picture books to support children’s thinking and discussion.
## Toddlers

**2-3 years**

1. *A Little Bit Lost* (2011, Walker), Chris Houghton
2. *Are you my Mother?* (1960, Random House Books), P.D. Eastman
4. *Elmer* (1990, Red Fox), David McKee
5. *First the Egg* (2009, Frances Lincoln Children's Books), Laura V Seeger
9. *I Want my Hat Back* (2011, Candlewick), Jon Klessen
22. *This is not my Hat* (2012, Candlewick), Jon Klessen

## Young children

**3-4 years**

3. *Fish is Fish* (1987, Demco Media), Leo Leoni
5. *Give a Dog a Name* (1995, Scholastic Hippo), Barrie Wade
6. *I Want my Hat Back* (2011, Candlewick), Jon Klessen
21. *This is not my Hat* (2012, Candlewick), Jon Klessen
23. *Where the Wild Things are* (2000, Red Fox), Maurice Sendak

**4+ years**

1. *Crusher is Coming* (1999, Picture Lions), Bob Graham
3. *Feathers and Fools* (2000, First Voyager Books), Mem Fox
4. *Frog and Toad are Friends* (1971, Harper Collins), Arnold Lobel
5. *It's a Book* (2010, Roaring Book Press), Lane Smith
17. *The Three Robbers* (1987, Atheneum), Tomi Ungerer
18. *The Tootch* (2009, Kane Miller), Avi Slodovnik & Manon Gauthier
20. *Tusks Tusks* (1990, Red Fox), David McKee
22. *Voices in the Park* (1999, Corgi Children's), Anthony Browne
23. *Wilfred Gordon McDonald Partridge* (1992, Picture Puffins), Mem Fox
26. *Yellow Bird, Black Spider* (2004, Bloomsbury), Dosh and Mike Archer

---

www.ncca.ie/aisteartoolkit

NCCA, 24 Merrion Square, Dublin 2, Telephone: +353 1 661 7177 - Fax: +353 1 661 7180 Email: info@ncca.ie