Illustrations


J. M. Barrie’s stories of Peter Pan are widely known, but this version is notable for Arthur Rackham’s beautiful watercolor and ink illustrations. Here Peter Pan is an infant who believes he is part bird until the wise crow tells him otherwise. Rackham’s illustrations are widely sought after as works of art.


The beloved Babar series describes the adventures of a little elephant and his family. The large watercolor illustrations and handwritten texts are reproduced by color lithography; the books’ decorated endpapers features a chain of elephants.


Children’s books published by the McLoughlin Brothers were notable for their high quality illustrations and the use of new color print technologies, from hand stenciled works to rich color lithography.


This newly discovered tale by the brothers Grimm tells of a little girl sent away by her mother to save her from an impending war. Sendak’s illustrations add layers of meaning to the story including visual allusions to historical images from Auschwitz.

• [6] Carroll, Lewis [pseud.]. *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland*. Lee and Shepard, Boston, 1869

Charles Dodgson, a mathematician with a penchant for story telling, first published *Alice’s Adventures* in 1865 under the pseudonym of Lewis Carroll. Here, John Tenniel’s illustration depicts Alice’s meeting with the irritable Queen of Hearts, who promptly commands “Off with her head!”

Text


McGuffey’s graded primers, first published in 1836 in response to the growing need for schoolbooks, quickly became an American best seller. In this First Reader, children
encounter an eclectic variety of materials including vocabulary words and pronunciations, stories, poetry, illustrations and an alphabet song. Note the use of formal print fonts suggesting the didactic function of the book.

This early edition of Milne’s beloved stories shows a close harmony between E. H. Shepherd’s iconic images and Milne’s stories of the adventures of Winnie-The-Pooh and Christopher Robin. Here, Pooh and Piglet find the tracks of a Woozle.

*Le Petit Prince* is a novella written and illustrated by aviator, writer and poet De Saint-Exupéry. The story is both a children’s tale about a prince fallen from an asteroid and a philosophical reflection on human relationships. The layout preserves a delicate balance between illustrations and text.

*St. Nicholas* magazine was known for its high quality printing and illustrations as well as for serialized versions of children’s stories from Louisa May Alcott, Rudyard Kipling and others. Here, engraved handwriting shares the page with illustrations and text published in columns typical of newspapers and magazines.

**Interactivity**

Dean’s Rag Book Company was founded in 1903 as a maker of lithographed cloth, toys and dolls, creating a commercial market for items once made in the home.

- [12] *Chicken Licken*. [ca. 1940s]


Tiny “toy” books and miniature libraries have fascinated children and adults alike since publishers such as McLoughlin Brothers first made use of special formats appealing to children.
These mass-produced block books featuring pages alternating text with black and white illustrations were sold for 10 cents at stores such as Woolworth’s. The series featured characters from movies, comics, cartoons, and radio.

Publishers such as Dean and Son first popularized moveable books, including dissolving picture and pop-up books, in the mid-nineteenth century. In a dissolving picture each picture is made up of a series of slats, a second series being operated by a tab to slide over the first and thus creating a contrasting picture.

A hornbook consists of a sheet of printed material affixed to a hard surface such as wood or horn. Hornbooks date back centuries, beginning in sixteenth century England, and their use continued through the nineteenth century in England and the United States to teach rudimentary grammar, the Lord’s Prayer, and other basic lessons.

This modern pop-up book shows how authors continue to revisit and explore format and interactivity, as the pop-up format encourages the reader to physically engage with the book. *Mommy?* was Sendak’s only pop-up book.

Originally published in 1889, Lothar Meggendorfer’s *Das Puppenhaus* is an example of intricate paper engineering. In *Das Puppenhaus* each set of pages unfolds into a separate room complete with housewares, people, and pets.