

Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools Book Path

Books about active and shared transportation

What is it like to bike in India? Do you ever wonder how to connect with nature, even when you live in the city? What did the public bus system look like in San Francisco 50 years ago?

Below, you'll find a list of books we've put together to help kids think about these questions and more. Every two weeks, we'll provide a new list of books, arranged around a fun theme and sorted by suggested grade level.

There are a number of ways to access the books in the list. The following symbols, listed next to the book's title, explain how:

* means an e-book version is available through the Alameda County Public Library website

^ means an e-book version is on Hoopla, a digital library that many can access with a current library card

(es) means a book is available in Spanish

Some books may not have a symbol listed above. For those books, feel free to check out the websites of other public libraries around your community to view other online resources available to members.

***RECENTLY ADDED* Change Makers**

Pre-Kinder- 1

- Grandma Gatewood Hikes the Appalachian Trail ^
By: Jennifer Thermes
One day, at age 67, Emma Gatewood decides to go for a nice long walk. She ends up completing the Appalachian Trail.
- What's Your Story, Harriet Tubman? ^
By: Jen Barton
Learn how Harriet Tubman risked her life to help runaway slaves as a conductor on the Underground Railroad.
- Dreamers ^*
By: Yuyi Morales
This lovingly illustrated picture book memoir looks at the myriad gifts immigrants bring with them when they leave their homes.

Grade 2-3

- Cesar Chavez ^**(es)**
Por: Ginger Wadsworth
Este libro muestra cómo Chávez inspiró a otros, formó una unión, dirigió huelgas y marchas que obligaron a los propietarios a aumentar los salarios y mejorar las condiciones de trabajo.
This book shows how Chávez inspired others, formed a union, and led strikes and marches that forced farm owners to raise wages and improve working conditions.



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- Rosa Parks [^](es)
By: Joan Stoltman
Rosa Parks no nomas es la señora que se quedó sentada en el autobús. En este libro aprendemos más sobre su vida increíble.
Rosa Parks is not just a lady who stayed seated on a bus. Learn more about her amazing life in this book.
- Bold & Brave: Ten Heroes Who Won Women the Right to Vote *
By: Kristen Gillibrand
Read the stories of ten leaders who strove to win the right to vote for American women—a journey that took more than 70 years of passionate commitment.
- Let the Children March [^]*
By: Monica Clark-Robinson
In Birmingham, Alabama in 1963, thousands of African American children volunteered to march for their civil rights after hearing Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. speak. Facing fear, hate, and danger, these children used their voices to change the world.

Grade 4-5

- Martin Luther King Jr. and the March on Washington [^]
By: Stephanie Watson
In this book, you will learn about Martin Luther King, Jr. and the March on Washington—its organizers, its purpose, and King's famous speech, "I Have a Dream."
- Walking with Henry: Based on the Life and Works of Henry David Thoreau
By: Thomas Locker
Come take a hike off into the wilderness with poet and writer Henry David Thoreau, and let him explain his philosophy of living in harmony with nature.
- Mohandas Gandhi [^](es)
Por/By: Dona and William Rice
Mohandas Gandhi es uno de los gran líderes del mundo. Utilizó la resistencia no violenta para protestar contra numerosos problemas, como la Marcha de la Sal.
Mohandas Gandhi is one of the greatest leaders the world has seen. Learn how he used nonviolent resistance such as the Salt March to protest against injustices.
- The Freedom Riders [^]
By: Rachel Tisdale
In 1961, a group known as the Freedom Riders organized a bus trip aimed at desegregating the American south.

***RECENTLY ADDED* Getting Around Safely**

Pre-Kinder- 1

- Luz Roja Luz Verde [^] (es)
Por: Michael Taylor and Srimalie Bassani
¿Qué debes hacer cuando la luz es roja? ¿Y cuando es verde? Una niña en el auto y un niño en la calle están a punto de enterarse.



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- Safety on Wheels ^
By: Susan Kesselring
Did you know that a helmet can save your life if you fall hard? Find out more about how to be safe when riding on your bike, skateboard, or rollerblades.
- I Can Be Safe ^
By: Pat Thomas
This friendly little book acknowledges kids' fears and makes them aware of things they need in order to feel safe in different situations.
- What Does it Mean to be Safe? ^
By: Rana DiOrio
You can be safe in so many simple ways: from being aware of your limits to creating healthy boundaries, from not giving in to peer pressure to standing up to bullies, and and by being safe on the Internet, or knowing the right time to get a caring adult's help.

Grade 2-3

- We Learn About Road Safety
By: Constance Omawumi Kola-Lawal
Join friends Nana, Toby, Grace, and Hakeem as they learn from the wise Uncle Omoh about keeping safe on the roads.
- Look Out! ^
By: Cindy Leaney
When Emily, Makayla, Jose, and Matt go bicycling, they witness how helpful a helmet can be.
- What Does it Mean to be Safe? ^
By: Rana DiOrio
You can be safe in so many simple ways: from being aware of your limits to creating healthy boundaries, from not giving in to peer pressure to standing up to bullies, and and by being safe on the Internet, or knowing the right time to get a caring adult's help.
- Safety Around Strangers ^
By: Lucia Tarbox Raatma
This book explains what a stranger is and teaches ways to remain safe around strangers, as well as suggestions on where to go for help if you need it.

Grade 4-5

- Go Fly a Bike: The Ultimate Book of Bicycle Fun, Freedom, and Science
By: Bill Haduch
A funny and comprehensive guide, Go fly a Bike! is crammed with everything a rider wants to know about his or her favorite sport.
- Road Safety *
By: Christie Marlowe
Driving is a huge part of life for millions of people. With so many drivers on the road, staying safe while traveling in the car is an important part of any trip



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Bike Month (added 5/13)

Pre-Kinder- 1

- Cycle City ^
By: Alison Farrell
Take a journey through Cycle City, a town filled with bikes of all kinds!
- Franklin Rides a Bike *^
By: Paulette Bourgeois, Brenda Clark
Franklin is determined to ride his bike without training wheels, and he can't understand why it seems so easy for his friends-or why it's so hard for him.
- The Bike Lesson *
By: Stan and Jan Berenstain
Small Bear has a new bike, but before he can ride it, his dad insists on teaching him about bike safety.
- My Bike ^
By: Byron Barton
Ride past trucks, buses, and cars. Pedal past monkeys, tigers, and lions. A bike can take you everywhere.

Grade 2-3

- Franklin Rides a Bike *^
By: Paulette Bourgeois, Brenda Clark
Franklin is determined to ride his bike without training wheels, and he can't understand why it seems so easy for his friends-or why it's so hard for him.
- The Bicycle Man *^
By: Allen Say
The amazing tricks two American soldiers perform on a borrowed bicycle are a fitting finale for the school sports day festivities in a small village in occupied Japan.
- Seguridad y las Biciletas (es)
By: Sue Barraclough
En este libro, niños aprenden usar sus bicicletas de manera segura en varios ambientes.
In this book, children view various situations that show key safety rules for biking.
- Mi Bicicleta/My Bike ^ (es)
By: Victor Blaine
Aprende todo lo que necesitas de la bicicleta en este libro divertido con fotos atractivas y coloridas.
Learn all you need to know about bikes in this fun book with colorful and engaging photos.

Grade 4-5

- Crunch *
By: Leslie Connor



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In this mystery novel, Dewey never guessed that the gas pumps would run dry the same week he promised to manage the family's bicycle-repair business.

- Biking for a Cause ^
By: Rosa Nam
Jae is about to embark on the greatest challenge of his life biking 150 miles in two days to raise money for the National MS Society.
- Pedal It! ^
By: Michelle Mulder
Pedal It! celebrates the humble bicycle-from the very first boneshakers to the sleek racing bikes of today, from handlebars to spokes to gear sprockets-and shows you why and how bikes can make the world a better place.
- Bicicletas y Tablas ^ (es)
By: Lisa Greathouse
Sabías que cuando handas a tu bici desafías gravedad? Aprende todo la ciencia en esta libro.
- Ghosts Don't Ride Bikes, Do They? *
By: Andres Miedoso
Asked to help track down a ghost that allegedly rides a bicycle, sidekick Andres Miedoso accompanies a skeptical Desmond on a Ghost Patrol assignment that may or may not be related to mortal activities.

Building Relationships (added 5/13)

Pre-Kinder- 1

- A Good Night Walk
By: Elisha Cooper
Paints the quiet magic of a good-night walk as the neighborhood settles into itself at the end of the day.
- Last Stop on Market Street ^*
By: Matt de la Peña
Every Sunday after church, CJ and his grandma ride the bus across town, but today, CJ wonders why they don't own a car.
- Mike and his Bike Meet Lucille the Wheel
By: Michael Ward
This is the world of Mike and the Bike, where tires, pedals, and an open road are all Mike needs for adventure-this time with a friend, Lucille.
- My Friends ^
By: Taro Gomi
A little girl recounts all the things she has learned from an enchanting menagerie of animal friends.
- Mis Amigos^ (es)



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By: Taro Gomi

Una niña relata todas las cosas que ella ha aprendido de un encantador grupo de animales amigos

Grade 2-3

- **When We Go Walking**
By: Cari Best
Wendy and her exuberant family of walkers discover new things on Rambling Road every day in all kinds of weather. But what will she do with all this stuff?
- **We Learn about Road Safety**
By: Constance Omawumi Kola-Lawal
Join the friends - Nana, Toby, Grace and Hakeem as they learn about keeping safe on the roads from the wise Uncle Omoh.
- **The Hike ^**
By: Alison Farrell
The story of three girls' friendship and their tribulations and triumphs in the great outdoors.
- **Me and My Bike**
By: Ande Ye
Follow this tale of a young boy who dreams of owning a new bicycle. As he interacts with his grandfather, friends, and mother, the boy slowly discovers that reaching a dream can be a difficult task, especially when money is tight. Eventually the boy learns to make do in times of both hope and despair, and, despite struggles, he develops personal strength and compassion for others.
- **Newton y Yo ^ (es)**
By: Lynne Mayer
Mientras estaba jugando con Newton, su perro, un joven descubre en sus actividades diarias las leyes de la fuerza y el movimiento.

Grade 4-5

- **Joseph's Big Ride *A**
By: Terry Farrish
A refugee boy's determination to ride a bicycle leads to an unexpected friendship.
- **The Big Bike Race**
By: Lucy Jane Bledsoe
On his tenth birthday Ernie is disappointed when he gets a second-hand, clunky bike. Even though he is teased about his bike, Ernie decides to enter into a big bike race.

Mindful Walkers (added 4/29)

Pre-Kinder- 1

- **Walk Rabbit Walk**



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By: Colin McNaughton

Of all the animal friends that Eagle invites to his house for tea, only Rabbit decides to walk--with surprising results

- Sidewalk Flowers *^
By: JonArno Lawson
During a walk, a little girl collects wildflowers while her distracted father pays her little attention.
- The Good Night Walk
By: Elisha Cooper
As a child and parent walk down the block to the bay and turn to walk back home, evening falls upon the neighborhood.
- Spring in the Woods ^
By: Sue Tarsky
Join the fun of finding and counting all the animals, flowers, and insects, as more and more appear on a lively walk through the woods during the springtime.

Grade 2-3

- The Listening Walk
By: Paul Showers
A wonderful world can emerge from a walk with your father down the street and through the park, or even if you quietly listen in your backyard.
- When We Go Walking
By: Cari Best
Wendy and her exuberant family of walkers discover new things on Rambling Road every day in all kinds of weather.
- My Mindful Walk with Grandma ^
By: Sheri Mabry
When a girl walks through the woods she's so excited about reaching their destination that she misses out on what's around her. But with Grandma's help her notice the little surprises along the way
- The Busiest Street in Town
By: Mara Rockliff
Rushmore Boulevard is the busiest street in town—until Agatha May Walker decides to do something about it.

Grade 4-5

- Walking In the City with Jane ^
By: Susan Hughes
In this lively and engaging informational picture book, award-winning author Susan Hughes provides a fictionalized story of the life of Jane Jacobs, one of the world's greatest urban thinkers and activists.
- I Took a Walk
By: Henry Cole



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Have you ever sat quietly near a stream, or in a meadow or a wood, and just looked and listened? Well, now is your chance-come walk with Henry Cole

Girls on the GO! (added 4/29)

Pre Kinder - 1

- *The Berenstain Bears: Safe and Sound!*
By: Stan and Jan Berenstain
When Brother and Sister's usual skating park closes, the only place left to ride is a neighborhood spot where helmets are not the fashion! Will Brother and Sister forget Mama's advice about putting safety first?
- *Sidewalk Flowers* *^
By: JonArno Lawson
During a walk, a little girl collects wildflowers while her distracted father pays her little attention.
- *The Most Magnificent Thing* ^
By: Ashley Spires
A girl comes up with an idea to create a magnificent thing. When things don't work out as planned she becomes frustrated, but a little walk helps bring clarity to her plan.

Grade 2-3

- *Skate Girls* ^
By: Patty Segovia
From lingo and board facts to fashion advice and flatout, including "The Top 10 Reasons Why Skateboarding Rocks," this book gives girls the lowdown on all the need-to-know stuff.
- *When We Go Walking*
By: Cari Best
Wendy and her exuberant family of walkers discover new things on Rambling Road every day in all kinds of weather.
- *Sally Jean, the Bicycle Queen*
By: Cari Best
Sally Jean was born to ride and her bicycle, Flash, is just about her best friend. But one day something terrible - and wonderful - happens.

Grade 4-5

- *The Red Bicycle: The Extraordinary Story of an Ordinary Bicycle* ^
By: Jude Isabella
Leo outgrows his bicycle, Big Red, and decides to donate it to an organization that ships bicycles to Africa. Big Red is sent to Burkina Faso where it finds a home with Alisetta, who uses it to gain quicker access to her family's sorghum field and to the market.
- *Walking In the City with Jane*^



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By: Susan Hughes

In this lively and engaging informational picture book, award-winning author Susan Hughes provides a fictionalized story of the life of Jane Jacobs, one of the world's greatest urban thinkers and activists.

Books about transportation and the environment (added 4/15)

Pre Kinder - Grade 1

- *Last Stop on Market Street* ^{Λ*}
By: Matt de la Peña
Every Sunday after church, CJ and his grandma ride the bus across town. But today, CJ wonders why they don't own a car.
- *Cycle City* ^Λ
By: Alison Farrell
Take a journey through Cycle City, a town filled with bikes of all kinds!
- *Outside In*
By: Deborah Underwood
This thought-provoking picture book poetically underscores our powerful and enduring connection with nature, even as we spend more time indoors.

Grade 2 - Grade 3

- *Florette*
By: Anna Walker
There's no room for a garden in the city... or is there?
- *The Magic School Bus and the Climate Challenge* ^Λ
By: Joanna Cole
The best-selling science series of all time gets down to the facts on global warming, so kids can understand the crisis and help solve it.
- *The Hike* ^Λ
By: Alison Farrell
The story of three girls' friendship and their tribulations and triumphs in the great outdoors.

Grade 4 - Grade 5

- *Crunch* ^{*Λ}
By: Leslie Connor
In this mystery novel, Dewey never guessed that the gas pumps would run dry the same week he promised to manage the family's bicycle-repair business.



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Books about transportation around the world (added 4/15)

Pre Kinder - Grade 1

- *This is the Way We Go to School* ([click link to access](#))
By: Laine Falk
Learn about the various forms of transportation that children around the world use.
- *Yuki's Ride Home*
By: Manya Tessler
After a perfect day together with Grandma, Yuki realizes too late that it's night time.

Grade 2 - Grade 3

- *This is the Way We Go to School* ([click link to access](#))
By: Laine Falk
Learn about the various forms of transportation that children around the world use.
- *Super Grandpa!*
By: David M. Schwartz
Gustaf Håkansson is a 66-year-old man barred from joining the Tour of Sweden due to his age. But he won't let that stop him.
- *The Bicycle Man* *Λ
By: Allen Say
In a small village in occupied Japan, the amazing tricks two American soldiers perform on a borrowed bicycle are a fitting finale for the school's sports day festivities.

Grade 4 - Grade 5

- *Joseph's Big Ride* *Λ
By: Terry Farrish
A refugee boy's determination to ride a bicycle leads to an unexpected friendship.
- *Going to School in India*
By: Lisa Heydlauff
Go along with Indian students as they attend many different types of schools—in city classrooms, on mountaintops, and in buses, tents, and other unusual locations!



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