

# LIFE SKILLS FOR LITTLE ONES – STARTING SCHOOL OR NURSERY.



Is your child starting school or nursery this September?

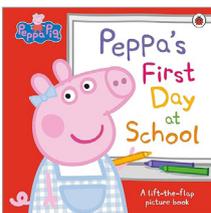
In Hertfordshire libraries you can find lots of picture books that can prepare your little ones for this big change and will help dispel any worries or fears they may have. Here is a selection of some of our favourites.

You can request books free of charge with a child's library membership card. Click on the book cover pictures to link to the Hertfordshire library catalogue or visit [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/libraries)

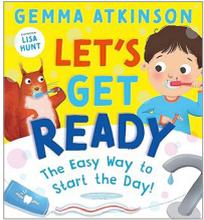
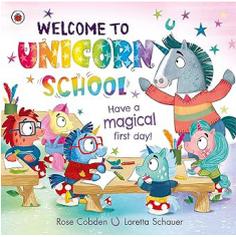
To celebrate this special milestone, library staff are looking forward to presenting children with a 'My First Day at School' certificate. If your child is starting nursery or reception class then do visit any Hertfordshire Library so they can receive one.

If your child is not already a library member, then now is the perfect time for them to join. With their 'My First' library card, children can choose from thousands of picture books to share with you. They can also discover our 'Beginning to read' books – perfect for building confidence and helping to make learning to read a fun adventure.



Title	Author		Brief Annotation
Let's get ready for school	Jane Porter		Starting school can be a great adventure, but it can make you feel a bit nervous too. This reassuring book for young children that explores everything they'll need to know before starting school.
George's First Day at Playgroup  eBook also available	Neville Astley and Mark Baker		It is George's first day at playgroup, and Peppa doesn't really want him there. But when all of her friends want a little brother too, will Peppa change her mind?
Peppa's first day at school	Lauren Holowaty		Peppa and her friends want to know what starting school will be like, so Madame Gazelle suggests they pretend to have a first day at big school together. What will Peppa think of big school and how different will it be to playgroup? Find out by lifting the flaps in this picture book.
First Day at Squirrel Club  eBook also available	Rebecca Gerlings		Duggee is telling the Squirrels all about their first days at the Squirrel Club. Roly was very quiet, Happy was scared of water and Tag wasn't good at listening. But Duggee had an idea!

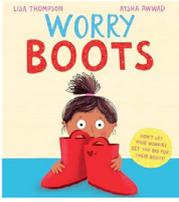
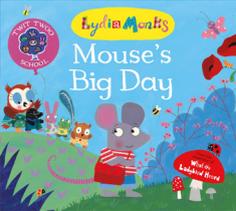
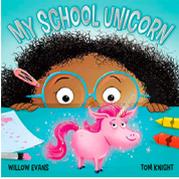
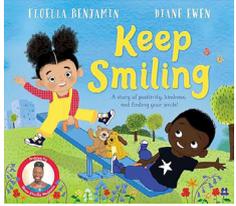


Title	Author		Brief Annotation
<p>Let's get ready</p> <p>eBook also available</p>	<p>Gemma Atkinson &amp; Lisa Hunt</p>		<p>Wakey, wakey! It's time to get up and go to school, but where to begin? Even Freddie the Squirrel is in a muddle. But, with the magical coat trick, the toothbrushing song, shoe stickers and the get-dressed-jiggle, children will never be late for school again - and neither will Freddie! This book contains lots of tips from CBeebies Baby and Toddler Club presenter Gemma Atkinson.</p>
<p>Come to School Too, Blue Kangaroo</p>	<p>Emma Chichester Clark</p>		<p>Lily thinks Blue Kangaroo might be nervous about starting school – but in fact he can't wait to have fun and make some new friends.</p>
<p>Welcome to Unicorn School</p> <p>eBook also available</p>	<p>Rose Cobden &amp; Lorretta Schauer</p>		<p>Prepare your little unicorns for their first day at school with this magical tale! Rocky is VERY excited. It's his first day of school and he just can't wait. Racing to the school gates with all the other little unicorns, Rocky walks proudly through the corridors to his new classroom. But when something goes wrong, he starts to WORRY. Join Rocky as he discovers the magic of friendship and teamwork.</p>
<p>Little Owl's First Day</p> <p>eBook also available</p>	<p>Debi Gliori and Alison Brown</p>		<p>It's a big day for little Owl, his first day at school. He would rather stay at home, however at school he gets to build a rocket learn to fly and even make a new friend.</p>
<p>Paw Patrol – first day at School</p>	<p>Matt Huntley &amp; Jason Fruchter</p>		<p>Alex can't wait for his first day of school. He's ready on time, he's said goodbye to his grandpa. But where is his new backpack?! It's up to the PAW Patrol to search high and low round Adventure Bay for the red backpack. Could it be at the playground? Or has Alex left it at the farm? Follow along as the pups race to find the backpack before the school bus arrives to pick up Alex.</p>

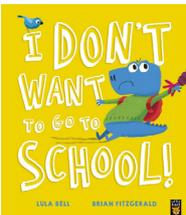
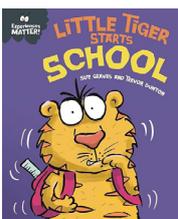
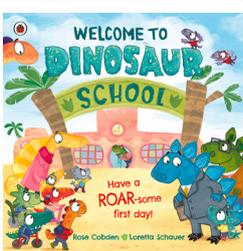
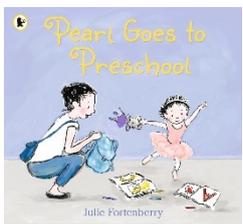


Title	Author		Brief Annotation
Thunder boots	Naomi Jones and Rebecca Ashdown		When it's time for Trixie to start school, she is very excited. Sometimes it's hard to concentrate in class, though. And it's really hard to read letters. Maybe what Trixie needs is a superpowered plan. An empowering story about starting school with dyslexia that celebrates everyone's differences.
The unicorn who came to school	Lucy Rowland & Mike Byrne		The first day of school can be worrying. But it's hard to feel scared when a unicorn is your new classmate! And what do unicorns do for fun? Start a conga dance through school? Yes! Chomp up everyone's food at lunchtime? Oops, yes! Make everyone have the best first day ever? Obviously! A fun story which addresses fears and anxiety over starting school.
The pigeon HAS to go to school	Mo Willems		Why does the Pigeon have to go to school? He already knows everything! Well, almost everything. And what if he doesn't like it? What if the teacher doesn't like him? I mean, what if he learns too much!?! A funny story to share with children and to help start those conversations about starting school.
First Day at Bug School  eBook also available	Sam Lloyd		At the bottom of the garden where no one really sees, a secret school is hidden amongst the grass and weeds. Welcome to the bug school. A bright and rhythmic picture book sure to allay first-day-at-school fears.
Starting school	Janet and Allan Ahlberg		From first day nerves to finding your peg, this reassuring read is full of humour and fun for children and parents alike. A classic picture book which offers advice and enjoyment for the whole family before school starts.
Lulu's first day	Anna McQuinn		Lulu is excited to start Pre-School. It will be like storytime at the library, but she will stay by herself. There's so much to do at Pre-School and in no time at all, Mummy is back to collect her.



Title	Author		Brief Annotation
<b>Worry Boots</b> eBook also available	Lisa Thompson and Aysha Awwad		As Connie and Mum make their way to the bus stop, they realise that their journey to school is going to be very unusual. Why? Because there is something surprising in Connie's shoe! And that means she can't possibly go to school until she's sorted it out.
<b>Mouse's big day</b>	Lynda Monks		Welcome to Twit Twoo School! Meet Mouse, Mole, Owl, Frog, Rabbit and their teacher Miss Hoot at their fun-filled treetop school. It's Mouse's first day, and she's feeling a little nervous - in fact, she doesn't want to go to school at all! But with help from her new friends, she finds that perhaps school isn't so bad after all.
<b>My School Unicorn</b>	Willow Evans and Tom Knight		Starting school is an adventure - especially when you have a magical unicorn friend by your side! Evie soon learns that starting school is LOTS of fun!
<b>Keep Smiling</b>	Floella Benjamin		Vina's Mum has always told her that a smile is the best gift you can give someone. And as Vina loves smiling more than anything else, she gives the gift of her smile to anyone who needs it. But on her first visit to her new school, Vina's own smile gets a bit lost. She can't find it under the slide, or on the climbing frame. Then, a smile appears, in the most unexpected place! - A story of kindness and friendship.
<b>All the Words you Need to Know Before you Start School</b>	Felicity Brooks		Help pre-schoolers build the vocabulary they will need to communicate effectively, make friends, and learn to read and write when they start school.
<b>Starting School</b> eBook also available	Eleanor Taylor		Peter Rabbit has a new bag, new pencil and is ready for his first lesson! In this perfect book for little ones starting at school or nursery, Peter is excited to start forest school with Benjamin Bunny.



Title	Author		Brief Annotation
I don't want to go to school	Lula Bell & Brian Fitzgerald		It's Mouse's first day of school and it's Dinosaur's first day of school. They don't want to go! But when lessons start, there's a very big surprise!
Little Tiger starts school	Sue Grey & Trevor Dunton		Little Tiger was getting excited about starting school, but then he began to worry. What if he didn't know what to do? What if he didn't make any friends? Luckily, his brother is on hand to help reassure him.
Welcome to Dinosaur School  eBook also available	Rose Cobden		Jewel the dinosaur is very nervous about her first day of school. The dining hall is very noisy and her new classroom is so big! But as the day goes on, and Jewel settles into her new class and makes new friends, she realises that school isn't that scary after all.
Pearl goes to Pre-School	Julie Fortenberry		Pearl loves attending dance classes at her mother's ballet school. When her mum suggests preschool, Pearl has a lot of questions: what will she learn? Will there be dancing? This sweet and reassuring story is perfect for young children with separation anxiety.
When a dragon goes to school	Carol Hart		When a dragon goes to school, will she enjoy a book in the reading den and save her lunchtime treats for a friend? Or will she throw the crayons and refuse to share? She's going to need her friends to help her behave herself - she is DRAGON after all.
Time for school	Daisy Upton		As any parent and carer knows, it's a scary thing to send your little one off to school for the first time. Now, with the help of Daisy Upton, aka Five Minute Mum and a former teaching assistant, you can prepare your kids with the things they need to know before they start.



Title	Author		Brief Annotation
<b>The Starting School Book</b>	Sarah Ockwell-Smith		This book gives guidance to parents on a range of topics including what to consider when selecting a school for your child and how to prepare your child emotionally and practically for starting school.

For further information and to join the library visit [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/libraries)