

How can you keep current with Children's Literature?

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How can you possibly keep up on all the great literature published for children and young adults? It's impossible, but it's sure fun to try! Here are a few ideas that have helped me.

- Buy books about children's literature.
 - The Read-Aloud Handbook, by Jim Trelease
 - How to Get Your Child to Love Reading, by Esme Codell
- Subscribe to literacy magazines and newsletters.
 - "Book Links" – connecting books, libraries, and classrooms.
 - This is an EXCELLENT monthly magazine from ALA, usually focusing on a theme such as multicultural literacy, history, poetry.
 - "The Reading Teacher" – a journal of the International Reading Association.
- Sign up for emails.
 - "Shelf-Awareness" – informing librarians and book retailers about the latest in the publishing world.
 - "Book Blast" – children's literature from Harper Collins.
 - Local library emails
 - I receive weekly emails about children's picture books, chapter books, and recorded books.
- Search for websites related to children's literature.
 - Many sites have lists of the most popular books.
 - Ask your librarian to help set up an account for you with companies such as Ingram or Follett.
- Attend conferences/workshops on children's literature.
- Hang out in the children's department of bookstores.
- Talk to kids about books.
- Talk to librarians and teachers about books.
- Listen to recorded books. This has been the biggest help to me.
- Read what you enjoy, but be willing to try something new.