VEGETARIAN-FRIENDLY BOOKS FOR CHILDREN AND PARENTS

The following list of veggie-friendly books was compiled by Dasha Bushmakin, Debra Wasserman, and Reed Mangels, PhD, RD with assistance from parents on The Vegetarian Resource Group’s Parents and Kids Facebook Group
www.facebook.com/groups/VRGparentsandkids

STORY BOOKS

Teens


Freeman, Suzanne. Omnibo. Texas Review Press, 2007. A creative novella that creates a fictional world where vegan values and animal rights themes prove to be the ethical decision. Teens.

Pandian, Gigi. The Accidental Alchemist. Midnight Ink. 2015. This mystery continuously refers to vegan cuisine. Teens.


Zephaniah, Benjamin. The Little Book of Vegan Poems. AK Press, 2002. 22 poems to “the caring dedicated young vegans of the world...who will not stand for any exploitation whatever the species.”

8-12

Bass, Jules. Debbie Harter (Illustrator). Peace, Love And Vegetables (Herb the Vegetarian Dragon). Barefoot Books; Book & Toy edition, 2005. In a faraway forest in a faraway land live Meathook and his band of carnivorous dragons who love feasting on tasty knights and princesses. There is one dragon who is different... Herb is a peace-loving vegetarian who is prepared to stand up for what he believes in. Ages 8-10.


Klem, Ellen. Saving Emily. Prometheus Books, 2001. A 12-year-old moves from the city to the country and meets a neighbor who buys ranch animals and brings them to his Rescue Ranch to live out their lives in peace. Ages 9-12.

Ortega, Rey and Lauren Farnsworth. Benny Brontosaurus Goes to a Party! SK Publishing and Graphics, 2005. An herbivorous dinosaur who is worried he won’t fit in with the other dinosaurs due to his vegan lifestyle. Ages 8-12.


4-8

Arnold, Beth. Always Be Kind. Happy and Kind, 2016. Teaches children to be compassionate to all animals. Ages 4-8.


Bodenstein, Dan. Steven the Vegan. Totem Tales Publishing, 2012. Steven goes on a class trip to a local farm sanctuary and while there explains to his classmates why he is vegan. Ages 4-8.


Hall-Gerson, Bonnie Jane and Raymond Gerson. *Cow in a Bun*. Xlibris, 2016. A talking cow teaches two young children about what happens to farm animals after they are taken away to a slaughterhouse. Ages 4-7.


Leeuwen, Jean. *Chicken Soup*. Abrams Books for Young Readers, 2009. What will happen to a sick chicken who is running away from what is presumed to be a pot of chicken soup? Ages 4-8.


Ortega, Rey. *Benny Brontosaurus Goes to a Party*. Sun King Publishing and Graphics, 2005. An herbivorous dinosaur who is new to the neighborhood is invited to a birthday celebration, where he turns down a slice of cake because it is made with pterosaur milk and velociraptor eggs (non-vegan). Ages 4-6.


Vignola, Radha and Michelle N. Ary (Illustrator). *Victor’s Picnic with the Vegetarian Animals*. Aviva!, 1996. When Victor attends a picnic where vegetarian animals share their food with him, he enjoys a variety of snacks and learns what to eat to stay healthy. Ages 6-8.


**Under 4**


**NONFICTION**

**Teens**


Dinshah, Anne. *Dating Vegans*. American Vegan Society, 2012. This book helps vegans decide which values are important when considering whether or not to date another person, vegan or not. Teens and up.

Fraser, Gary. *Diet, Life Expectancy, and Chronic Disease: Studies of Seventh-Day Adventists and Other Vegetarians*. Oxford University Press, 2003. Summarizes the results of studies on Seventh-day Adventists, as well as studies of other vegetarians. Teens and up.


Serafin, Kim. Everything You Need to Know about Being a Vegetarian. Rosen Publishing Group, 1999. Examines the reasons for becoming vegetarian/vegan, including health concerns and ethical/religious positions, and also myths about these lifestyles. Young teens.

Singer, Peter and Jim Mason. The Way We Eat: Why Our Food Choices Matter. Rodale, 2006. The authors of this book step-by-step analyze the environmental, moral, and health implications of various foods that three very different American families purchase. Teens and up.


Weiss, Stefanie Iris. Everything You Need to Know About Being a Vegan (Need to Know Library). Rosen Publishing Group, 1999. Different motivations and special nutritional needs of vegetarians, the different kinds of vegetarianism, and ways to change to a vegan diet. Young teens.


8-12


Orr, Katherine and Antonia Demas, PhD. Surprises in Mili’s Suitcase. 2016. How diet can help people with Type-2 Diabetes. Ages 8-12.

Cooking

Teens


Cormier, Nicole. *The $5 a Meal College Vegetarian Cookbook*. Adam’s Media, 2013. Inexpensive recipes for college-age vegetarians. The author is a registered dietitian. Teens and up.


DiJulio, Betsy. *The Blooming Platter Cookbook*. Vegan Heritage Press, 2011. From appetizers to desserts, this book includes all recipes needed to cook the perfect vegan dinner, time and time again. Teens and up.


McCann, Jennifer. **Vegan Lunch Box.** Little “s” Press, 2006. Lots of fun and healthy lunches for kids and adults alike. Teens and up.

McCann, Jennifer. **Vegan Lunch Box Around the World.** Da Capo Press Lifelong Books, 2009. A compilation of international menus featuring vegan dishes that can be packed into a lunch box.

McCarthy, Brian. **The Vegan Family Cookbook.** Lantern Books, 2005. A collection of more than 400 unique, but family friendly, recipes. Teens and up.


Mingkwan, Chat. **Buddha’s Table.** Book Publishing Company, 2005. This book includes a wide variety of vegan Thai dishes. Teens and up.


Moffat, Siue. **Lickin’ the Beaters 2.** PM Press, 2010. Although this book’s recipes are not low-fat or sugar-free, these vegan candy recipes are great for special occasions. Teens and up.


Newkirk, Ingrid. **Compassionate Cook: Please Don’t Eat the Animals.** Warner Books, 1993. It is a Vegan cookbook and also describes why we shouldn’t eat animals. Teens and up.


Nussinow, Jill. **The New Fastfood.** Vegetarian Connection Press, 2011. Discover new vegan recipes that can be prepared in less than 30 minutes and made with a pressure cooker. Teens and up.


Robertson, Jon. *Vegan Uplugged*. Vegan Heritage Press, 2010. Flip through this survival guide to learn about vegetarian foods that can prove helpful in preparing your pantry for an emergency. Includes a chapter on preparing an emergency plan for pets. Teens and up.


Wasserman, Debra, and Reed Mangels, PhD, RD. *Simply Vegan: Quick Vegetarian Meals*. Vegetarian Resource Group, 2006. Quick and easy vegan recipes, great nutrition section, and information on where to find vegan food and much more. Teens and up.

8-12


4-8


ANIMAL RIGHTS

Teens


Dudley, William, ed. Introducing Issues with Opposing Viewpoints - Animal Rights. Greenhaven Press, 2006. Both sides of topics such as animal research, pet ownership, vegetarianism, zoos, and cloning are presented. Teens and up.


James, Barbara. Animal Rights (Talking Points S.) Hodder Wayland, 2002. This book discusses topics such as the difference between animal rights and animal welfare, using animals for experiments, animals as entertainment, keeping pets, and hunting. Teens and up.

Kistler, John M. Animals are the Issue: Library Resources on Animal Issues. Haworth Information Press, 2004. This book discusses how animals are seen, viewed, and used by humans. Teens and up.


Thumann-Calderaro. *Innocent Beings*. BookBaby, 2014. A young adult fantasy book that explores the issue of the inhumane treatment of slaughterhouse animals as well as the health benefits of vegetarian lifestyle from a different point of view—the animals! Teens and up.


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**8-12**


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**4-8**


Drescher, Henrik. *Hubert the Pudge: A Vegetarian Tale*. Candlewick, 2006. Hubert looks like the cross of an elephant, a pig, and a goat. He lives on Farmer Jake’s processing farm with other pudges. They’re all waiting to be sent to the meat factory; however, Hubert manages to escape. Hubert along with other jungle animals go back to the farm to rescue the other pudges. Ages 4-8.


### Under 4


### GARDENING / NATURE

#### Teens


#### 8-12


4-8


FROM PREGNANCY TO PARENTING

Pregnancy


Olson, Cathe. The Vegetarian Mother’s Cookbook: Whole Foods To Nourish Pregnant And Breastfeeding Women - And Their Families. Goco Pub., 2005. Finally, a vegetarian cookbook for pregnant women that takes into account not only good nutrition but also ease of use.


Babies and Toddlers

Elliot, Rose. Rose Elliot’s Mother, Baby and Toddler Book: A Unique Guide to Raising a Baby on a Healthy Vegetarian Diet. Hochland Communications Ltd., 2003. This is a useful guide.

Lambert, Daphne, Tanyia Maxted-Frost. The Organic Baby and Toddler Cookbook. Green Books, 2000. Great easy to do recipes almost all of which are vegan; the couple that aren’t have a vegan option.


**General Parenting**


Burton, Dreena. *Vive le Vegan!: Simple, Delectable Recipes for the Everyday Vegan Family*. Arsenal Pulp Press, 2004. All dishes are animal-free, and many are wheat-free, as well.

Fuhrman, Joel. *Disease-Proof Your Child: Feeding Kids Right*. St. Martin’s Griffin, 2006. Dr. Fuhrman is vegetarian and has raised his children as vegetarians.


McCann, Jennifer (Author), Greg McCann (Photographer), and Erik Marcus (Foreword). *Vegan Lunch Box*. Little "s" Press, 2006. Amazing vegan lunches both kids and adults will enjoy!


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For most healthy children, a vegetarian diet can provide a nutritious alternative to a diet that includes meat. However, special care needs to be taken with children on all vegetarian diets, especially vegan diets. Strict vegan diets are generally not recommended for very young children. Talk to your doctor or dietitian. Children need good nutrition. To make sure your child gets enough of all the nutrients needed for a growing child, their vegetarian diet must include: Protein alternatives such as nuts, eggs, legumes and tofu. Energy for growth and development.