

INTERNATIONAL
LITERACY
ASSOCIATION

CHILDREN'S CHOICES

2016 Reading List

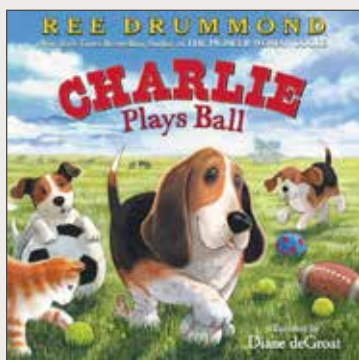


What Is the Children's Choices List?

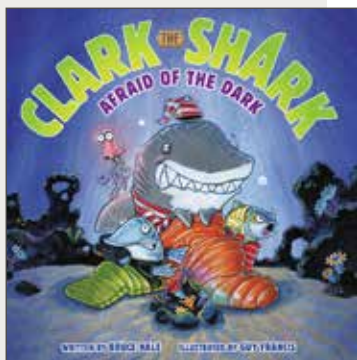
Each year 12,500 school children ages 5–12 from different regions of the United States read newly published children's and young adults' trade books and vote for the ones they like best. These Children's Choices, selected from more than 900 titles, can be counted on as books children really enjoy reading. This list, a project of a joint committee supported by ILA and The Children's Book Council (CBC), is designed for use not only by teachers, librarians, administrators, and booksellers but also by parents, grandparents, caregivers, and everyone who wishes to encourage young people to read for pleasure.



Bubble Trouble. Tom Percival. Bloomsbury USA Childrens.



Charlie Plays Ball. Ree Drummond. Ill. Diane deGroat. HarperCollins.



Clark the Shark: Afraid of the Dark. Bruce Hale. Ill. Guy Francis. HarperCollins.

Beginning Readers (Grades K–2, Ages 5–8)

Bubble Trouble

Tom Percival. Bloomsbury USA Childrens.

Bubble Trouble is the tale of two friends who make their bubble-blowing fun a competition. Their competition and friendship goes bad, but after they both lose, they work together to create the “world’s largest bubble.”

Charlie Plays Ball

Ree Drummond. Ill. Diane deGroat. HarperCollins.

Charlie the ranch dog plays ball with the farm animals. He gets his big chance to score in a game. The book includes a simple recipe that can be shared with readers and their families.

**Clark the Shark: Afraid of the Dark*

Bruce Hale. Ill. Guy Francis. HarperCollins.

This is Clark the Shark’s first sleepover. When his friends begin telling scary stories, Clark makes up a jingle to help him stay cool. The story ends with how friendships can conquer fears.

Fright Club

Ethan Long. Bloomsbury USA Childrens.

Who said only monsters can be scary? The fright club learns that even the cutest of creatures can be scary, especially on Halloween.

Get Out of My Bath!

Nosy Crow. Ill. Britta Teckentrup. Candlewick.

Ellie is an elephant that loves to take a good bath, but so do all the other animals! Ellie finally finds a way to get the bath all to herself. Early elementary readers will enjoy this interactive story.

How Do Dinosaurs Stay Safe?

Jane Yolen. Ill. Mark Teague. Blue Sky/Scholastic.

This is a funny book about how parents keep their little dinosaurs safe when crossing the street, swimming with friends, riding their bikes, and many other times. Good advice on how to stay safe.

I Am Henry Finch

Alexis Deacon. Ill. Viviane Schwarz. Candlewick.

The illustrations and unique use of text features make the story fun to read. The story has different twists and turns that take readers into a new direction. Children will learn how great it can be to stand up for themselves.

If You Ever Want to Bring an Alligator to School, Don't!

Elise Parsley. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers.

This is the story of Magnolia, who brought her alligator for show and tell. But the alligator gets her into major trouble, and now she wants to send her alligator away before any more trouble starts.

I Really Like Slop!

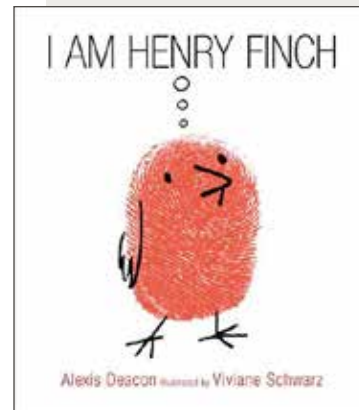
Mo Willems. Disney-Hyperion.

Piggie invites her friend Gerald to try her favorite food—slop! Although Gerald is unsure about trying the slop, he does anyway because Piggie is his best friend. Gerald doesn't like the slop, but he's glad he tried it for his best friend.

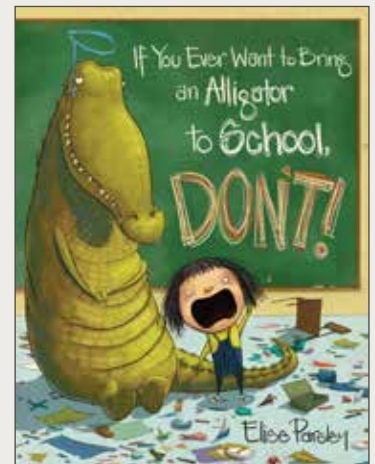
I Will Take a Nap!

Mo Willems. Disney-Hyperion.

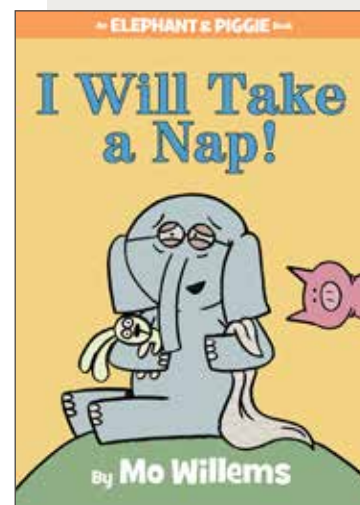
Mo Willems once again touches on a familiar theme: naptime. When Gerald wants to take a nap, his friend Piggie joins him. Children will enjoy this story because it is something to which they can relate. And they'll love the humorous illustrations.



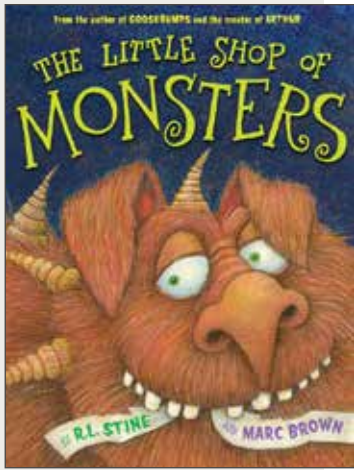
I Am Henry Finch. Alexis Deacon. Ill. Viviane Schwarz. Candlewick.



If You Ever Want to Bring an Alligator to School, Don't! Elise Parsley. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers.



I Will Take a Nap! Mo Willems. Disney-Hyperion.



The Little Shop of Monsters. R.L. Stine. Ill. Marc Brown. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers.

***The Little Shop of Monsters**

R.L. Stine. Ill. Marc Brown. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers.

The Little Shop of Monsters is a charming story about all different kinds of monsters. You are asked to be ready to pick out one to take home. Wait, you don't pick one, it picks you. The illustrations are lovable. No one will walk away being scared of monsters.

Max the Brave

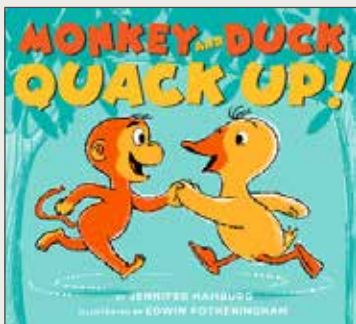
Ed Vere. Sourcebooks Jabberwocky.

Max is a brave cat that knows he is supposed to protect the home from Mouse...but what is Mouse? This fun story will keep kindergarten through second-grade readers engaged from start to finish!

Monkey and Duck Quack Up!

Jennifer Hamburg. Ill. Edwin Fotheringham. Scholastic.

Monkey and Duck are trying to win a rhyming contest in which the prize is a cruise. Monkey comes up with a plan to win the cruise and they set off for sea.

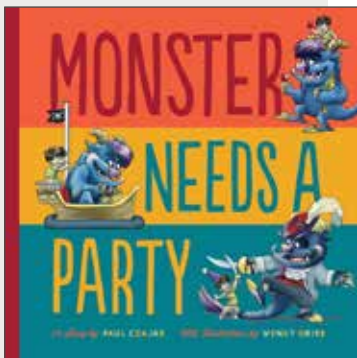


Monkey and Duck Quack Up! Jennifer Hamburg. Ill. Edwin Fotheringham. Scholastic.

Monster Needs a Party

Paul Czajak. Ill. Wendy Grieb. Mighty Media Kids.

Paul Czajak's Monster series has a new adventure. He wants to have a pirate birthday party, but his friends cannot come. So his boy takes him to "Pirateland" for some pirate fun, but after his fun-filled day he has a surprise for Monster.

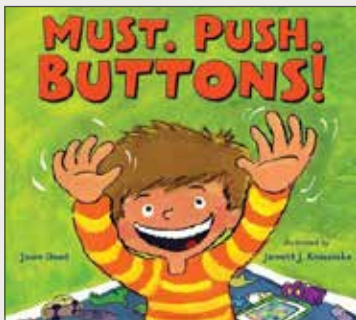


Monster Needs a Party. Paul Czajak. Ill. Wendy Grieb. Mighty Media Kids.

Must. Push. Buttons!

Jason Good. Ill. Jarrett Krosoczka. Bloomsbury USA Childrens.

This story is about a boy who is very busy wanting to push buttons. He also tries to do lots of different things. Kids will find it funny because he is so incredibly busy. Many of them can relate to all of the things he wants to do.



Must. Push. Buttons! Jason Good. Ill. Jarrett Krosoczka. Bloomsbury USA Childrens.

The Nuts: Sing and Dance in Your Polka-Dot Pants

Eric Litwin. Ill. Scott Magoon. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers.

Hazel loves her polka-dot pants so much she makes up a song about them. After Hazel's father, mother, and brother ignore her and her song, Hazel calls her grandmother to rock out with her. When the rest of Hazel's family hears grandmother and Hazel rocking out, they decide to join in.

Pete the Cat and the Bedtime Blues

James Dean and Kimberly Dean. Ill. James Dean. HarperCollins.

Pete the Cat is back again in a bedtime adventure sure to resonate with primary-level students. Pete has a sleepover, but his friends aren't ready to settle down. Pete saves the day and gets everyone to settle down. Children will love the next installment of Pete's adventures.

Please, Mr. Panda

Steve Antony. Scholastic.

Simple text is sure to delight even the youngest readers. The patterned text makes this an emergent storybook perfect for kindergartners and first graders. A message about the benefits of being polite will resonate with all.

Ragweed's Farm Dog Handbook

Anne Vittur Kennedy. Candlewick.

A very funny handbook for any farm dog or young child curious about farm dogs! A book of the dos and don'ts such as don't wake the farmer (that's the rooster's job) will keep kids laughing as Ragweed collects biscuits while breaking his own rules.

Rappy the Raptor

Dan Gutman. Ill. Tim Bowers. HarperCollins.

An adorable story about Rappy starting to rap after a fall. Rappy ends up going to the doctor because he's rapping all the time. The doctors discover "Rappy's perfectly normal."

The Runaway Tortilla

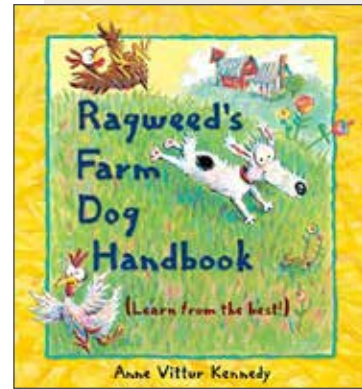
Eric A. Kimmel. Ill. Erik Brooks. Graphic Arts.

This Spanish version of The Gingerbread Man is a twist on an old classic fairy tale. The use of Spanish words, embedded throughout the engaging tale, makes the story more authentic. Children will enjoy the Spanish influence of this book.

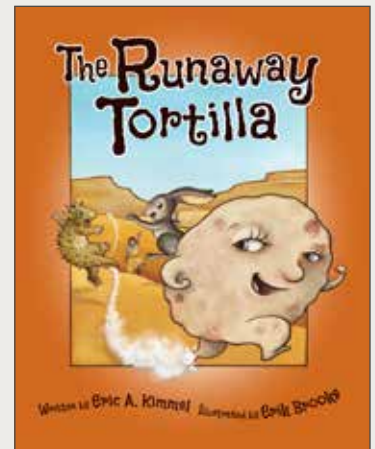
***Sick Simon**

Dan Krall. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers.

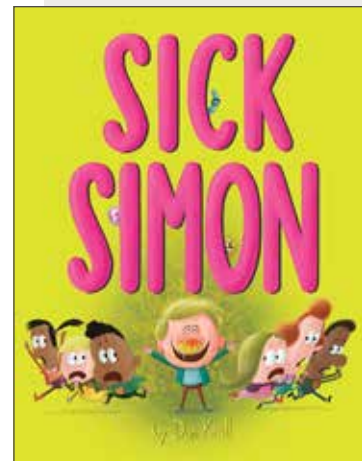
Simon is ready for the best week ever. There is just one little problem: He has a cold. Simon doesn't care, he still goes to school. After several days of spreading germs, the germs thank Simon for spreading them everywhere. Once Simon learns how germs are spread, he immediately changes his hygiene routines. He starts washing his hands, blowing his nose, and covering his mouth when he coughs. When Simon returns to school, his classmates are excited to learn that he is no longer sick.



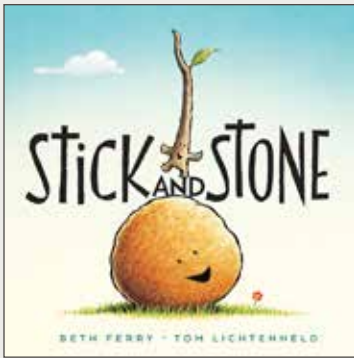
Ragweed's Farm Dog Handbook. Anne Vittur Kennedy. Candlewick.



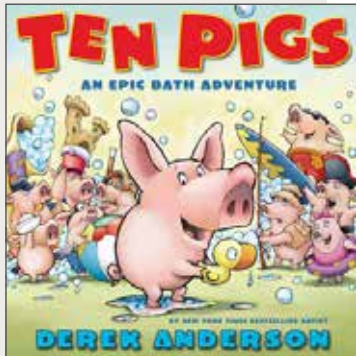
The Runaway Tortilla. Eric A. Kimmel. Ill. Erik Brooks. Graphic Arts.



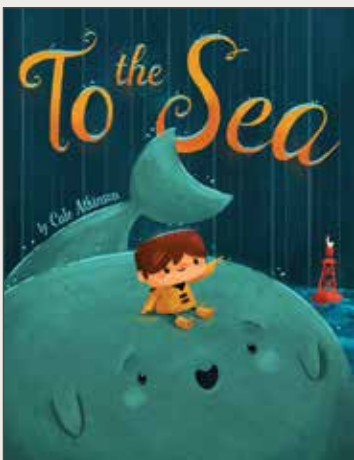
Sick Simon. Dan Krall. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers.



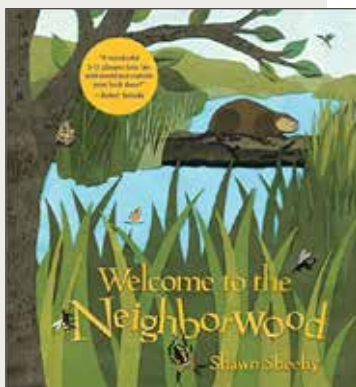
Stick and Stone. Beth Ferry. Ill. Tom Lichtenheld. HMH Books for Young Readers.



Ten Pigs: An Epic Bath Adventure. Derek Anderson. Orchard/Scholastic.



To the Sea. Cale Atkinson. Disney-Hyperion.



Welcome to the Neighborhood. Shawn Sheehy. Candlewick.

The Sky Is Falling!

Mark Teague. Orchard/Scholastic.

This is a fun twist on the Chicken Little story. This tale mingles many different styles of dance and a twist for the fox in the end.

****Stick and Stone***

Beth Ferry. Ill. Tom Lichtenheld. HMH Books for Young Readers.

Stick and Stone are lonely, but then they become the best of friends. They help each other out of different troubles.

Ten Pigs: An Epic Bath Adventure

Derek Anderson. Orchard/Scholastic.

One happy pig is enjoying his bath with his rubber duck, until nine other pigs crowd his tub! Pig one disguises himself as a wolf to scare all of the other pigs out of the tub. His plan works, and he's left with his tub and rubber duck.

There's a Lion in My Cornflakes

Michelle Robinson. Ill. Jim Field. Bloomsbury USA Childrens.

What happens when everyone is saving their cereal boxes to win a lion? The cereal company has to send replacement animals such as a bear, a crocodile, and even a gorilla. Great ending with a new cereal animal.

****To the Sea***

Cale Atkinson. Disney-Hyperion.

Tim feels invisible at school, but when he becomes friends with Sam the whale, his life changes. Children will love the charming illustrations as well as the two characters, Tim and Sam, who work together to get Sam back to the ocean.

Welcome to the Neighborhood

Shawn Sheehy. Candlewick.

This unique pop-up book tells the story of seven animal builders and how their skills help them survive. Children will enjoy the moveable parts and the interesting facts.

Young Readers (Grades 3–4, Ages 8–10)

Ancient Earth Journal: The Early Cretaceous: Notes, Drawings, and Observations From Prehistory

Juan Carlos Alonso and Gregory S. Paul. Quarto/Walter Foster Jr.

This book tells about the different dinosaurs of different eras: Theropods, Sauropods, Ornithischians, Pterosaurs, and birds. Because this book is very visual, it will help the learners to compare and contrast among the dinosaurs and will give them a clear understanding about the different species of dinosaurs.

Animal Beauty

Kristin Roskifte. Eerdmans Books for Young Readers.

The elephant picks up a beauty magazine and learns how to get rid of her wrinkles. The other animals also try to improve their looks. The book reminds readers to appreciate who they are.

Animal Mouths

Mary Holland. Arbordale.

The larger-than-life, full-spread pictures engage readers and encourage them to study the fine details. The facts describe the animal and its unique facial features, including mouth, teeth, and bills.

The Baby-Sitters Club: Kristy's Great Idea

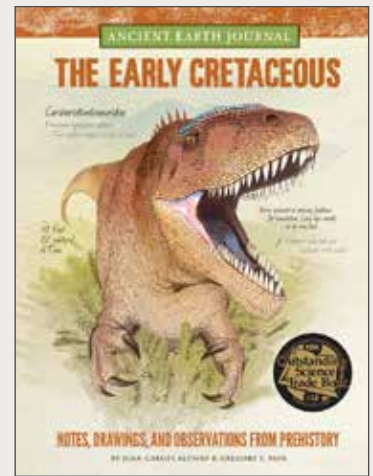
Ann M. Martin. Ill. Raina Telgemeier. GRAPHIX/Scholastic.

The Baby-Sitters Club gets a graphic novel makeover in this new edition geared toward intermediate students. Popular book in a popular style is sure to please any young reader who is interested in babysitting!

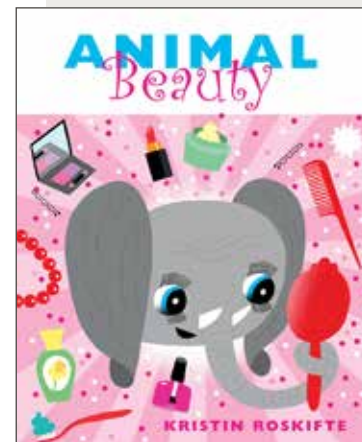
The Case for Loving

Selina Alko. Ill. Sean Qualls. Arthur A. Levine/Scholastic.

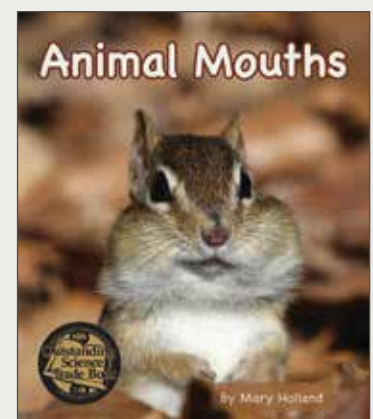
The story of an interracial marriage and family set in the early 60s brings to life the harsh reality of segregation in the United States at that time. The family doesn't want their children growing up thinking their parents' love is a crime, so they fight to end marriage segregation at the Supreme Court level. A beautiful story that makes a very hard part of U.S. history come alive for today's readers.



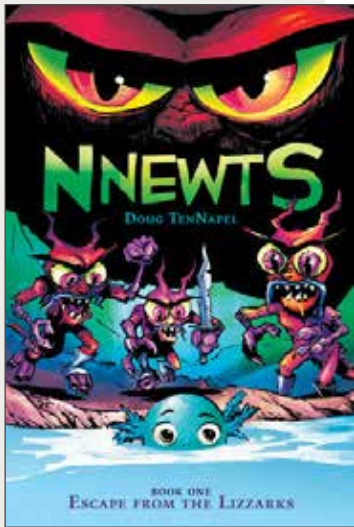
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Animal Beauty. Kristin Roskifte. Eerdmans Books for Young Readers.



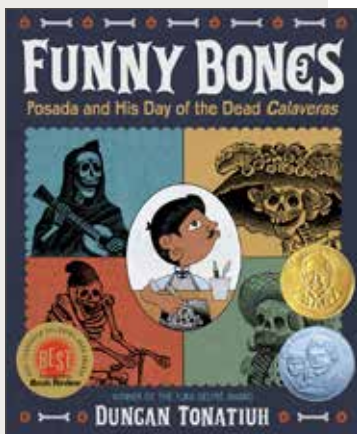
Animal Mouths. Mary Holland. Arbordale.



Escape From the Lizzarks (Nnews).
Doug TenNapel. GRAPHIX/
Scholastic.



Fort. Cynthia DeFelice. Farrar Straus
Giroux.



*Funny Bones: Posada and His Day
of the Dead Calaveras.* Duncan
Tonatiuh. Harry N. Abrams.

Claude in the Spotlight

Alex T. Smith. Peachtree.

Mr. and Mrs. Shineyshoes have no idea that Claude and his best friend, Sir Bobbysock, rush off for an adventure when they leave for work. Will a menacing ghost spoil his chance to become a star? Children will enjoy this clever, fast-paced story that surprises page after page.

The Crown Affair

Jeanie Franz Ransom. Ill. Stephen Axelsen. Charlesbridge.

Detective Joe Dumpty is out to locate the Jack who stole Jack's crown. Rounding up the usual suspects, Joe Dumpty eliminates them one by one. Lots of silly puns about eggs are dropped (oops!) in the text.

***Escape From the Lizzarks (Nnews)**

Doug TenNapel. GRAPHIX/Scholastic.

The story of Herk, a lovable Nnewt who longs for stronger legs. His village is attacked by the Lizzarks and he flees. Alone in the world, Herk meets strange creatures and an evil lord who is out to get him.

***Fort**

Cynthia DeFelice. Farrar Straus Giroux.

Wyatt and Augie are the best of friends despite seeing each other only during the summers when Wyatt lives with his dad. This summer is going to be the best ever because they plan to build a fort in the woods. Can they succeed with two bullies trying to spoil their fun and a small town outcast spying on their every move? Middle-school children will enjoy this relatable, coming-of-age story filled with adventure and humor.

***Funny Bones: Posada and His Day of the Dead Calaveras**

Duncan Tonatiuh. Harry N. Abrams.

This book tells the story of artist Guadalupe (Lupe) Posada, who made famous the skeletons in the park, skeletons wearing fancy hats, and the skeletons for the Day of the Dead. The book includes an author's note, glossary, and index.

Honey

Sarah Weeks. Scholastic.

In this story, Melody and her friend Nick set off for a bit of detective work. Their mission is to find the person Melody heard her dad refer to as "honey." The story takes a turn when a dog Mo comes to town. Intermediate elementary school children will enjoy this book about family life.

I (Don't) Like Snakes

Nicola Davies. Ill. Luciano Lozano. Candlewick.

A little girl claims that she hates snakes. In an attempt to correct her misconceptions, her family informs her of all sorts of cool things about snakes. By the end of the story, the little girl changes her mind and ends up loving snakes.

****I'm Trying to Love Spiders***

Bethany Barton. Viking Books for Young Readers.

This whimsical book is a mix of information and opinion about spiders. The narrator is attempting to talk himself into liking spiders, but he squishes a few along the way. In the end, he pets the spiders and thanks the spider for all that it does for humans.

I Wish You More

Amy Krouse Rosenthal. Ill. Tom Lichtenheld. Chronicle.

This uplifting book hits right at the heart of wishing someone well! Bright, simple illustrations highlight everyday events to which kids can totally relate, reminding them to find the positive in every situation.

Lailah's Lunchbox: A Ramadan Story

Reem Faruqi. Ill. Lea Lyon. Tilbury House.

After moving to Peachtree City from Abu Dhabi, Lailah worries none of her classmates will understand Ramadan. After doing everything she could possibly do to avoid telling her teacher, she finally comes clean and gets to share the story of Ramadan with her classmates.

LEGO Awesome Ideas

Daniel Lipkowitz. DK Children.

In this book of awesome ideas, kids' imaginations will be sparked. The LEGO book offers ideas and directions for building various LEGO scenes, such as the Wild West or outer space.

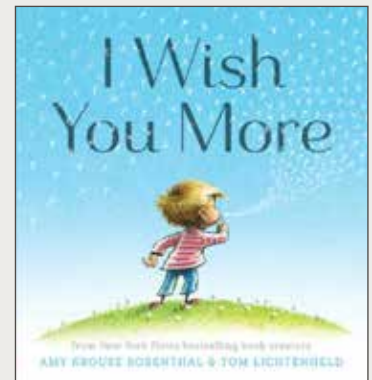
Little Red Riding Hood: An Interactive Fairy Tale Adventure

Eric Braun. Ill. Mariano Epelbaum. Capstone.

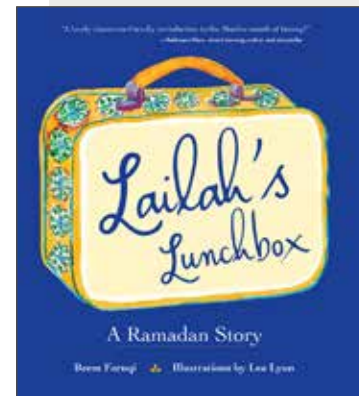
In this choose your own adventure story based on Little Red Riding Hood, danger lurks with every wrong decision. Girls AND boys will love the alternate settings...a city park or war zone. Scary survival story at its best!



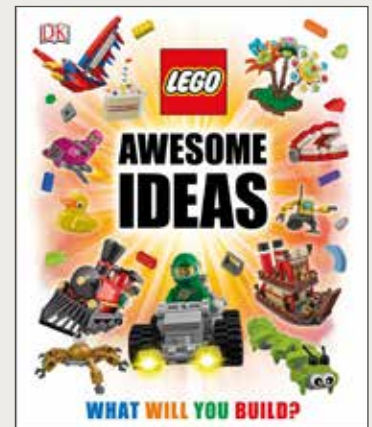
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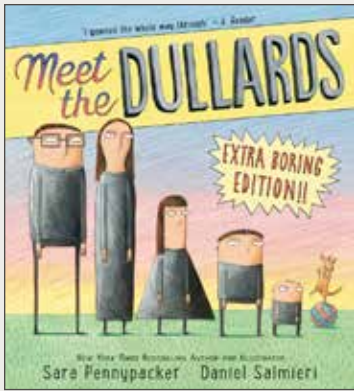
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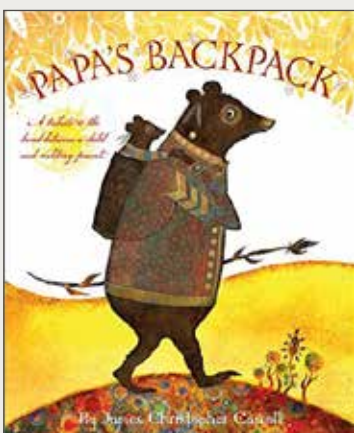
LEGO Awesome Ideas. Daniel Lipkowitz.
DK Children.



Meet the Dullards. Sara Pennypacker. Ill. Daniel Salmieri. Balzer + Bray.



Monkey and Elephant and a Secret Birthday Surprise. Carole Lexa Schaefer. Ill. Galia Bernstein. Candlewick.



Papa's Backpack. James Christopher Carroll. Sleeping Bear.

The Lunch Witch

Deb Lucke. Papercutz.

Grunhilda comes from a long line of witches. Cooking in a cauldron is her cup of tea. When the local school needs a lunch lady, Grunhilda gives it a shot. But then she encounters a little girl who is a kindred spirit. Can Grunhilda maintain her evil ways? The idea of becoming friends with the lunch lady will appeal to readers.

Max Goes to Mars

Jeffrey Bennett. Ill. Alan Okamoto. Big Kid Science.

Max Goes to Mars takes students on a fictional journey to Mars through the eyes of a friendly dog named Max. Readers of all ages will enjoy the story, but upper elementary students will appreciate the “Big Kid Boxes” designed to give readers scientific information about the story. The intersection of science and story is strong in this book!

Meet the Dullards

Sara Pennypacker. Ill. Daniel Salmieri. Balzer + Bray.

The Dullards, a family duller than any family in the neighborhood, move their three dull children to a home duller than their current one because their kids are itching for some excitement. After moving to their new home and making it duller than ever, the Dullards realize their kids found excitement at their new home, so they move back to their old home.

***Monkey and Elephant and a Secret Birthday Surprise**

Carole Lexa Schaefer. Ill. Galia Bernstein. Candlewick.

Monkey has a secret—she hates birthdays. Elephant has a secret, too. He can't keep a secret! In three short stories, Monkey and Elephant share adventures resulting in Monkey's birthday surprise. The digital illustrations are delightful.

Papa's Backpack

James Christopher Carroll. Sleeping Bear.

This book honors the bond between a parent/soldier and a child. The young bear dreams of accompanying his papa through deployment, wanting to stay close and provide support, ultimately overcoming enemies in the end.

The Secret Galaxy

Fran Hodgkins. Ill. Mike Taylor. Tilbury House.

This is a beautiful photo journey through our galaxy. Vivid photographs take students on an adventure through the Milky Way, exploring stars, black holes, planets, and matter. The information complements the photographs and would make any elementary student an astronaut!

Slappy's Tales of Horror

R.L. Stine. Ill. Dave Roman and Various. GRAPHIX/Scholastic.

Four scary tales: (1) Slappy, an evil ventriloquist, (2) a brother and sister testing rides in a theme park, (3) a boy and his dog who go sniffing around a swamp, and (4) a brother and sister investigating a legend and discovering a secret about their family.

The Spider Ring

Andrew Harwell. Scholastic.

When Maria's grandmother dies, she leaves a note saying Maria should love and appreciate spiders just as she did. Soon, Maria discovers that the ring her grandmother left her enables her to control spiders. Readers will be introduced to the horror genre with this book.

Star Wars Jedi Academy: The Phantom Bully

Jeffrey Brown. Scholastic.

Fans of Star Wars will enjoy this third installment of Jedi Academy featuring Roan. In this adventure, Roan is feeling the pain of middle school with a bully on the loose. Will he find out who it is and keep himself and his friends safe? A great book for intermediate-level readers.

Sunny Side Up

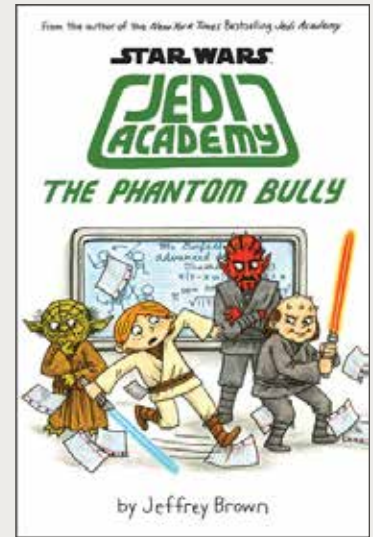
Jennifer L. Holm. Ill. Matthew Holm. GRAPHIX/Scholastic.

This graphic novel deals with the inner thoughts of a girl who is sent to her grandfather's house for the summer because her brother is in trouble. While in Florida, she meets a friend who introduces her to comics. They do odd jobs to earn money. She also learns about herself and helps her grandfather in the process.

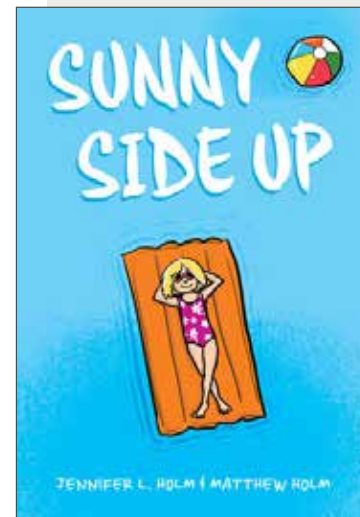
Swan: The Life and Dance of Anna Pavlova

Laurel Snyder. Ill. Julie Morstad. Chronicle.

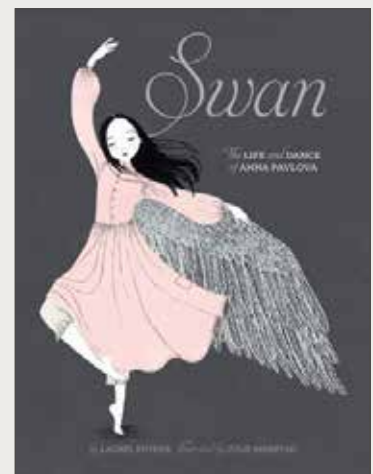
Told in simplistic poetic form, this biography of one of the world's prima ballerinas will appeal to the senses of young dancers. The artwork includes ink, gouache, graphite, pencil, and crayon and will foster young artists' imaginations.



Star Wars Jedi Academy: The Phantom Bully. Jeffrey Brown. Scholastic.



Sunny Side Up. Jennifer L. Holm. Ill. Matthew Holm. GRAPHIX/Scholastic.



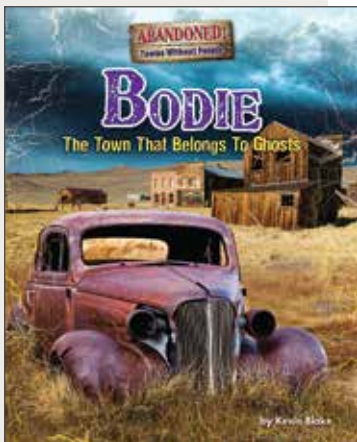
Swan: The Life and Dance of Anna Pavlova. Laurel Snyder. Ill. Julie Morstad. Chronicle.



Backlash. Sarah Darer Littman. Scholastic.



Blackbird Fly. Erin Entrada Kelly. Ill. Betsy Peterschmidt. Greenwillow.



Bodie: The Town That Belongs to Ghosts. Kevin Blake. Bearport.

Advanced Readers (Grades 5–6, Ages 10–12)

Baba Yaga's Assistant

Marika McCoola. Ill. Emily Carroll. Candlewick.

After the death of her mother, Masha lives with her grandmother, who tells Masha wild stories about Baba Yaga. After Masha's grandmother dies, she decides to answer the advertisement to be Baba Yaga's assistant. In order to enter Baba Yaga's house, Masha must find strength to survive and endure many tests given by Baba Yaga.

**Backlash*

Sarah Darer Littman. Scholastic.

Lara seems to have it all. After losing weight, she makes the cheerleading squad. Then she meets someone on social media. Her perfect life crashes as she falls victim to cyberbullying. The book shares hurt, pain, and depression. Readers will find this book good for discussing ethics about social media use.

Blackbird Fly

Erin Entrada Kelly. Ill. Betsy Peterschmidt. Greenwillow.

When Apple and her mother move to the United States to start a new life, Apple finds new friends and encounters backstabbers. Apple is determined to get a guitar and become a rock star in spite of it all. Readers will learn about diversity and the struggles of being an immigrant.

Bodie: The Town That Belongs to Ghosts

Kevin Blake. Bearport.

Bodie is a small miner town named after prospector W.S. Bodey. Much like many miner towns in the West, population grew quickly as people moved in hopes of finding gold. Just as quickly, the population died after the possibilities of finding gold became smaller and smaller. People moved out of the dangerous Bodie to other towns in hopes of finding gold and fresh starts. Now, rumored to be haunted, Bodie's only inhabitants are park rangers.

The Copper Gauntlet

Holly Black and Cassandra Clare. Scholastic.

In this mystery, Alkahest is the copper gauntlet that has been stolen. In their search to discover the thief, Callum Hunt and his friends awaken the attention of some very dangerous enemies.

Creepy Libraries

Troy Taylor. Bearport.

Part of the Scary Places series where horror stories meet real life. This story is perfect for middle-school students who want to be spooked by real life. Featuring 11 stories from around the United States, students can read accounts of the supernatural in one of the creepiest places of all—the library!

DC Superheroes Origami: 46 Folding Projects for Batman, Superman, Wonder Woman, and More!

John Montroll. Ill. Min Sung Ku. Capstone Young Readers.

The book provides hours of fun for anyone who likes crafts and superheroes. There are 46 pages of origami paper and step-by-step instructions to complete the paper-folding projects. This book would be appropriate for upper elementary readers.



DC Superheroes Origami: 46 Folding Projects for Batman, Superman, Wonder Woman, and More! John Montroll. Ill. Min Sung Ku. Capstone Young Readers.

Echo

Pam Muñoz Ryan. Scholastic.

Lost in a forest, Otto meets three sisters and finds himself tangled in a quest involving a prophecy, a promise, and a harmonica. Years later, Friedrich in Germany, Mike in Pennsylvania, and Ivy in California become interwoven when the same harmonica lands in their lives.

The Elementia Chronicles: Quest for Justice

Sean Fay Wolfe. HarperCollins.

This book is based on the Minecraft video game. When new players Stan, Kat, and Charlie arrive on the Elementia server, they quickly find themselves in trouble. They are targeted by the more experienced players as well as the normal evil forces in the game itself. The three “noobs” band together against the king and unravel the mysteries of Elementia in the name of justice.



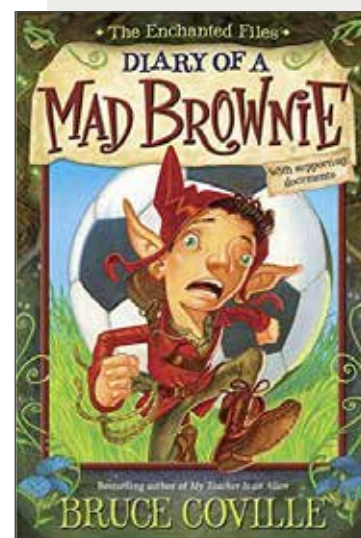
The Elementia Chronicles: Quest for Justice. Sean Fay Wolfe. HarperCollins.

The Enchanted Files: Diary of a Mad Brownie

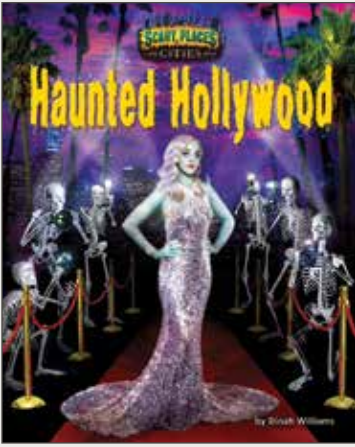
(Paperback title: *The Enchanted Files #1: Cursed*)

Bruce Coville. Random House Books for Young Readers.

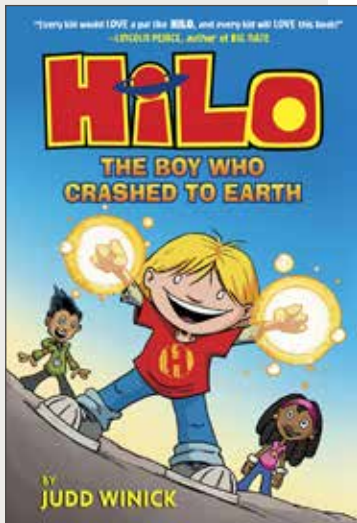
Angus, the Brownie, has been attached to the McGonagall family because of a curse that has plagued the family for years. After Sarah passes away, Angus must journey to the United States to become a magical servant to Alex, the youngest female in the McGonagall family over the age of 10. Shortly after his arrival, the curse of the McGonagall family is enacted, and Angus and Alex must set out to break the curse.



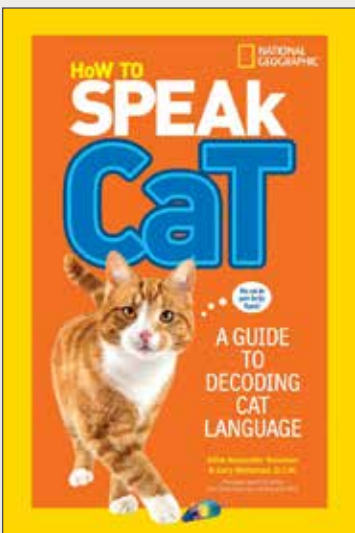
The Enchanted Files: Diary of a Mad Brownie. Bruce Coville. Random House Books for Young Readers.



Haunted Hollywood. Dinah Williams. Bearport.



Hilo Book 1: The Boy Who Crashed to Earth. Judd Winick. Random House Books for Young Readers.



How to Speak Cat: A Guide to Decoding Cat Language. Aline Alexander Newman and Gary Weitzman. National Geographic Children's Books.

Faceless

Alyssa Sheinmel. Scholastic.

A lightning strike leaves 16-year-old Maise's face severely burned. She undergoes a facial transplant in hopes of having a normal life. Teens will relate to her loss of identity, fear of rejection, and search for her inner self.

Flunked (Fairy Tale Reform School)

Jen Calonita. Sourcebooks Jabberwocky.

Flunked is the twisted fairy tale of the girl who lived in a shoe. Caught stealing to help feed her family, she is banished to the Fairy Tale Reform School—a place where the villains of our favorite fairy tales are learning to be good. Middle-school students will like the familiarity of the fairy tale characters and the excitement of the good vs. evil battle.

Haunted Hollywood

Dinah Williams. Bearport.

This Scary Places book focuses on Hollywood. This tour highlights famous scary places and famous people who haunt them. Students who like chills from things that go bump in the night will enjoy this tour book!

***Hilo Book 1: The Boy Who Crashed to Earth**

Judd Winick. Random House Books for Young Readers.

This graphic novel is the first in the Hilo series. Hilo is a robot boy who crashes to Earth not remembering who or what he is, but he protects his friends, DJ and Gina, by fighting the evil robot insects.

House Arrest

K.A. Holt. Chronicle.

When Timothy's father disappears, Timothy has to help with his family's finances because he has a younger brother with major health problems. Timothy steals a wallet and is put on probation. And his probation officer is flat-out tough. Part serious, part humorous, readers will find this an interesting story.

How to Speak Cat: A Guide to Decoding Cat Language

Aline Alexander Newman and Gary Weitzman. National Geographic Children's Books.

Curious, independent, and sensitive, cats have long been considered terrific pets. But what do their moves, tail waves, and purring mean? In 30 photos, the authors discuss cat feelings and cat language so even humans can understand.

National Geographic Kids Almanac 2016

National Geographic Children's Books.

This year's almanac is filled with weird-but-true facts, crafts, activities, and articles about animals, science, nature, and technology. Comes with a mobile media feature that allows access to videos, photos, and games.

National Geographic Kids Brain Games

Jennifer Swanson. National Geographic Children's Books.

A text companion to the popular television show. This informational, interactive book is sure to bend minds as well as entertain them. Upper elementary and middle-school students will enjoy learning about the science of their brains!

A Night Divided

Jennifer A. Nielsen. Scholastic.

When the Soviets build a wall to separate the East side of Germany from the West, which is under the Allied command, Gerta's family becomes separated. She, along with an older brother and their mother, are under Soviet control and the watchful eye of armed soldiers, ready to shoot at any moment. Thriller that history buffs will enjoy.

100 Things to Make You Happy

Lisa M. Gerry. National Geographic Children's Books.

This is an amazing guidebook for kids to self-motivate. This book gives 100 tips to be happy and to get the most out of life. On top of that, it introduces kids to diverse role models such as marine biologists and magicians to help them to think out of the box and to dream and overcome the impossible.

Percy Jackson's Greek Heroes

Rick Riordan. Ill. John Rocco. Disney-Hyperion.

This collection of Greek myths is told through none other than demigod Percy Jackson. He explains how the gods were born and how the world was created while giving his opinion on the gods and goddesses.

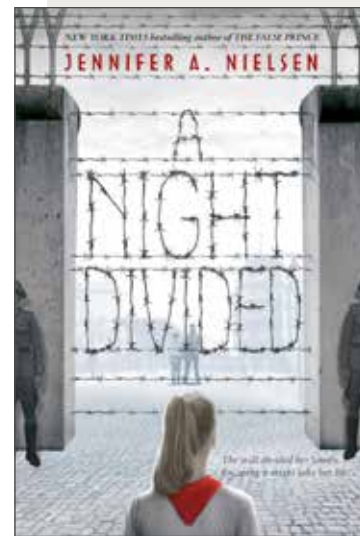
Roanoke Island: The Town That Vanished

Kevin Blake. Bearport.

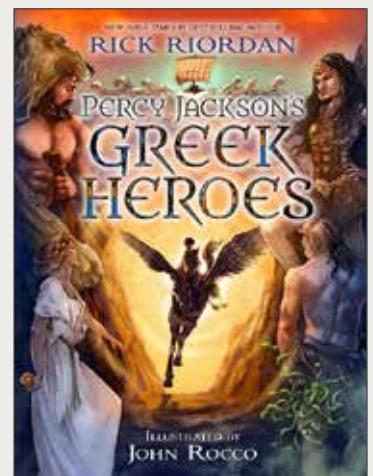
Part of the Abandoned Towns Without People series, Roanoke Island takes middle-school students on a historical adventure into the early days of America. Facts are presented alongside the mystery—what happened to the colonists? This is a real-life mystery to help students become excited about history.



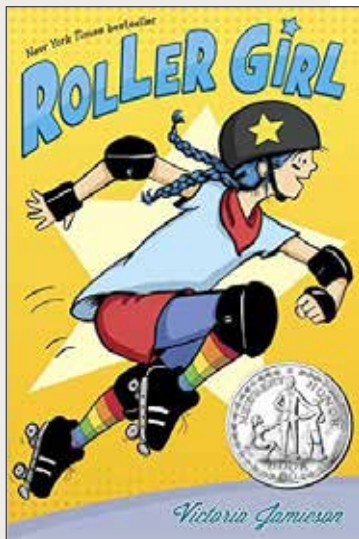
National Geographic Kids Almanac 2016. National Geographic Children's Books.



A Night Divided. Jennifer A. Nielsen. Scholastic.



Percy Jackson's Greek Heroes. Rick Riordan. Ill. John Rocco. Disney-Hyperion.



Roller Girl. Victoria Jamieson. Dial.

***Roller Girl**

Victoria Jamieson. Dial.

This Newberry Honor graphic novel is about how a girl deals with the transition summer before going to junior high. She and her best elementary friend like different things, and she signs up for roller derby camp. Ultimately the camp teaches her great life lessons, and she gains a great friend along the way.

Sanjay and Craig #1: Fight the Future With Flavor

Eric Esquivel. Ills. Ryan Jampole, Sam Spina, and James Kaminski. Papercutz.

Read about seven awesome food adventures in Lundgren with Sanjay Patel and Craig, his talking pet snake.

***Saved by the Bell**

Joelle Sellner. Ill. Chynna Clugston-Flores and Tim Fish. Roar Comics.

Another 90s classic is reimagined as a graphic novel. This book consists of multiple short episodes that any millennial is certain to recognize. Zach, Kelly, Screech, and the whole gang are here for the next generation to enjoy! Perfect for middle-school readers.



Saved by the Bell. Joelle Sellner. Ill. Chynna Clugston-Flores and Tim Fish. Roar Comics.

The Secrets to Ruling School (Without Even Trying)

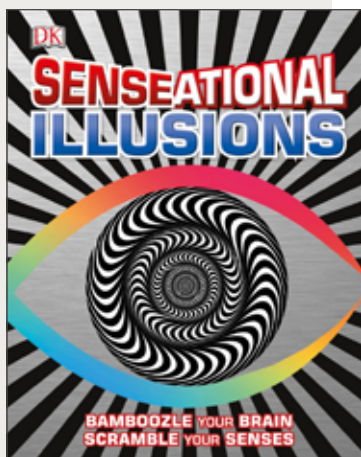
Neil Swaab. Harry N. Abrams.

Middle school can be a difficult world to navigate, but with the help of Max Corrigan, life coach, you will not only survive...you will thrive! Readers will enjoy this narrative that doubles as a how-to. Humorous characters will keep readers engaged through relatable situations.

SENSEational Illusions

DK Children.

This entertaining book is as much fun as it is informational. Children enjoy the interactive format and testing their sights and skills. Sight, sound, touch, taste, and smell are all involved in this immersive text. Middle-school children will love the playful learning in this book.



SENSEational Illusions. DK Children.

Strange but True!

DK Children.

Explore our "Weird, Wild, Wonderful World" in this fascinating informational book about the strange and crazy all around us. A food fight festival? Butterflies with numbers on their wings? All students will learn some new fun facts from this engaging text.

Super Shark Encyclopedia

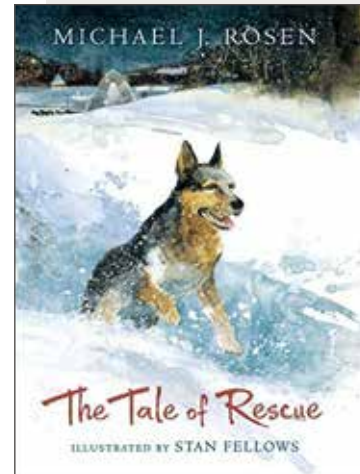
DK Children.

See the blue, hammerhead, and sandtiger sharks. Read about the best swimming sharks, their supernatural senses, and x-ray artwork with cross-sections and strip layers to show anatomical features. Read about record-breaking animals, the deadliest predators, the most venomous creatures, and the deep sea.

The Tale of Rescue

Michael J. Rosen. Ill. Stan Fellows. Candlewick.

A Florida family travels to the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains for a snowy vacation that quickly turns into a nightmare when they become lost in a blizzard. A witty and quite stubborn cattle dog from a nearby farm becomes their only chance of survival. Children will love this story of loyalty, survival, and gratitude.

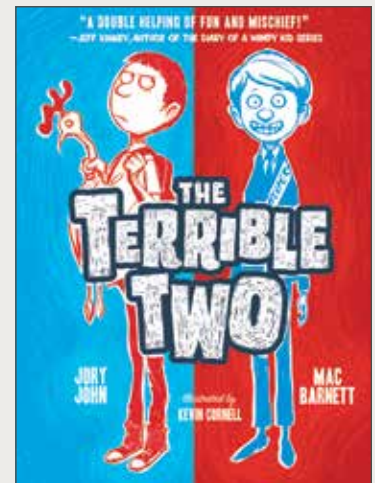


The Tale of Rescue. Michael J. Rosen. Ill. Stan Fellows. Candlewick.

***The Terrible Two**

Mac Barnett and Jory John. Ill. Kevin Cornell. Harry N. Abrams.

Miles Murphy is known as the best prankster at his school, but now he's moving with his family to Yawnee Valley, a sleepy town with cows and more cows. Can his new school hold two pranksters?



The Terrible Two. Mac Barnett and Jory John. Ill. Kevin Cornell. Harry N. Abrams.

***Tom Gates: Everything's Amazing (Sort Of)**

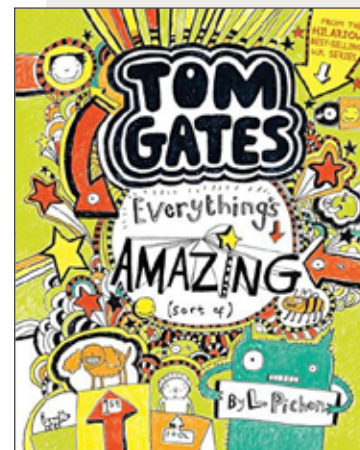
Liz Pichon. Candlewick.

Tom Gates wakes up one morning and makes toast doodles. Tom calls Mrs. Worthing "Mrs. Worthingstach" because she has a slight mustache. This leads him to write out her name correctly many times. Tom likes his English and art teacher, Mr. Fullerman. The story continues to walk the reader through his adventures as he goes to school, deals with his parents and sister, and has a birthday party with friends. This book is hilarious.

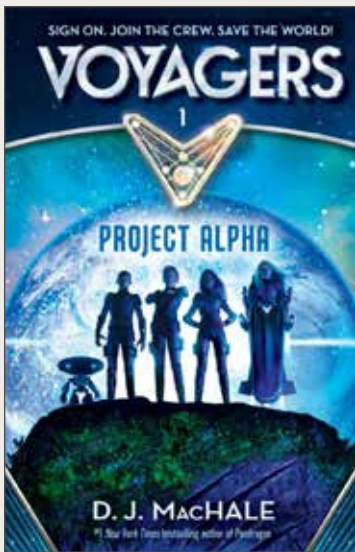
Untwine

Edwidge Danticat. Scholastic.

Identical twins Isabelle and Giselle are inseparable even as their parents contemplate divorce. When an auto accident kills her family, only Giselle is left. But her aunt believes it is Isabelle who lived and calls her Isabelle. Giselle has to fight to wake up from her coma to reveal her true identity.



Tom Gates: Everything's Amazing (Sort Of). Liz Pichon. Candlewick.



Voyagers: Project Alpha. D.J. MacHale. Random House Books for Young Readers.

Voyagers: Project Alpha

D.J. MacHale. Random House Books for Young Readers.

This is the first of six books written by different authors. Earth is about to go dark, and life as we know it will end. A global competition has begun to determine which four kids will join the secret mission to save the Earth. Project Alpha is the contest of physical, mental, and strategic challenges. After the competition, the Voyagers will journey to the far reaches of space to hopefully save Earth.

What's Up In...The Amazon Rainforest

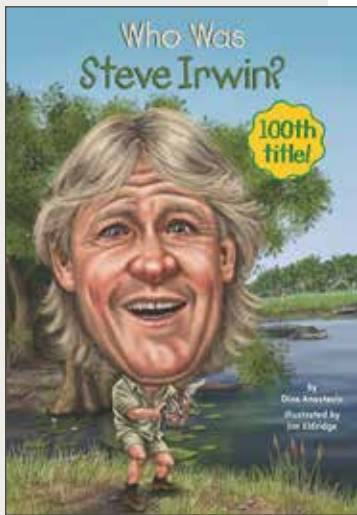
Ginjer L. Clarke. Grosset & Dunlap.

Read about the largest rainforest with 500-year-old trees, 427 mammals, 1,294 bird species, 2,200 fishes, and one million insects. Learn about plants, animals, trees, reptiles, and the people who live in the Amazon.

Who Was Steve Irwin?

Dina Anastasio. Ill. Jim Eldridge. Grosset & Dunlap.

Steve Irwin spent his career trying to protect wildlife and educating people about different animal species. This is an enticing and exciting narrative that reflects Steve's passion for and dedication to saving wildlife.

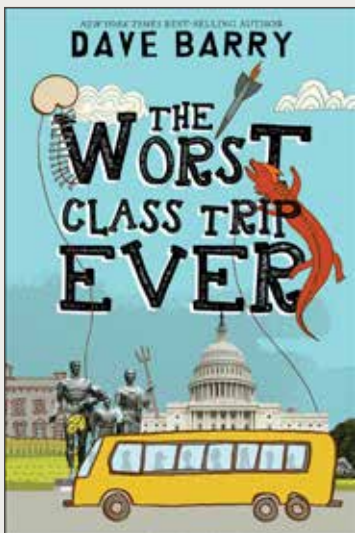


Who Was Steve Irwin? Dina Anastasio. Ill. Jim Eldridge. Grosset & Dunlap.

The Worst Class Trip Ever

Dave Barry. Disney-Hyperion.

Humorist Dave Barry takes readers on a rollicking class trip to Washington, DC. Wyatt and friends are called into action to save the President from an assassination plot. Middle-school students will like the fast-paced action and will be able to identify with the unlikely hero main character.



The Worst Class Trip Ever. Dave Barry. Disney-Hyperion.

*Books that received the highest number of reviews.

Children's Choices 2016 Reading List

Beginning Readers (Grades K–2, Ages 5–8)

- Bubble Trouble*. Tom Percival. Bloomsbury USA Childrens.
- Charlie Plays Ball*. Ree Drummond. Ill. Diane deGroat. HarperCollins.
- **Clark the Shark: Afraid of the Dark*. Bruce Hale. Ill. Guy Francis. HarperCollins.
- Fright Club*. Ethan Long. Bloomsbury USA Childrens.
- Get Out of My Bath!* Nosy Crow. Ill. Britta Teckentrup. Candlewick.
- How Do Dinosaurs Stay Safe?* Jane Yolen. Ill. Mark Teague. Blue Sky/Scholastic.
- I Am Henry Finch*. Alexis Deacon. Ill. Viviane Schwarz. Candlewick.
- If You Ever Want to Bring an Alligator to School, Don't!* Elise Parsley. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers.
- I Really Like Slop!* Mo Willems. Disney-Hyperion.
- I Will Take a Nap!* Mo Willems. Disney-Hyperion.
- **The Little Shop of Monsters*. R.L. Stine. Ill. Marc Brown. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers.
- Max the Brave*. Ed Vere. Sourcebooks Jabberwocky.
- Monkey and Duck Quack Up!* Jennifer Hamburg. Ill. Edwin Fotheringham. Scholastic.
- Monster Needs a Party*. Paul Czajak. Ill. Wendy Grieb. Mighty Media Kids.
- Must. Push. Buttons!* Jason Good. Ill. Jarrett Krosoczka. Bloomsbury USA Childrens.
- The Nuts: Sing and Dance in Your Polka-Dot Pants*. Eric Litwin. Ill. Scott Magoon. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers.
- Pete the Cat and the Bedtime Blues*. James Dean and Kimberly Dean. Ill. James Dean. HarperCollins.
- Please, Mr. Panda*. Steve Antony. Scholastic.
- Ragweed's Farm Dog Handbook*. Anne Vittur Kennedy. Candlewick.
- Rappy the Raptor*. Dan Gutman. Ill. Tim Bowers. HarperCollins.
- The Runaway Tortilla*. Eric A. Kimmel. Ill. Erik Brooks. Graphic Arts.
- **Sick Simon*. Dan Krall. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers.
- The Sky Is Falling!* Mark Teague. Orchard/Scholastic.
- **Stick and Stone*. Beth Ferry. Ill. Tom Lichtenheld. HMH Books for Young Readers.
- Ten Pigs: An Epic Bath Adventure*. Derek Anderson. Orchard/Scholastic.
- There's a Lion in My Cornflakes*. Michelle Robinson. Ill. Jim Field. Bloomsbury USA Childrens.
- **To the Sea*. Cale Atkinson. Disney-Hyperion.
- Welcome to the Neighborwood*. Shawn Sheehy. Candlewick.

Young Readers (Grades 3–4, Ages 8–10)

- Ancient Earth Journal: The Early Cretaceous: Notes, Drawings, and Observations From Prehistory*. Juan Carlos Alonso and Gregory S. Paul. Quarto/Walter Foster Jr.
- Animal Beauty*. Kristin Roskifte. Eerdmans Books for Young Readers.
- Animal Mouths*. Mary Holland. Arbordale.
- The Baby-Sitters Club: Kristy's Great Idea*. Ann M. Martin. Ill. Raina Telgemeier. GRAPHIX/Scholastic.
- The Case for Loving*. Selina Alko. Ill. Sean Qualls. Arthur A. Levine/Scholastic.
- Claude in the Spotlight*. Alex T. Smith. Peachtree.
- The Crown Affair*. Jeanie Franz Ransom. Ill. Stephen Axelsen. Charlesbridge.
- **Escape From the Lizzarks (Nnewts)*. Doug TenNapel. GRAPHIX/Scholastic.
- **Fort*. Cynthia DeFelice. Farrar Straus Giroux.
- **Funny Bones: Posada and His Day of the Dead* Calaveras. Duncan Tonatiuh. Harry N. Abrams.
- Honey*. Sarah Weeks. Scholastic.
- I (Don't) Like Snakes*. Nicola Davies. Ill. Luciano Lozano. Candlewick.
- **I'm Trying to Love Spiders*. Bethany Barton. Viking Books for Young Readers.
- I Wish You More*. Amy Krouse Rosenthal. Ill. Tom Lichtenheld. Chronicle.
- Lallah's Lunchbox: A Ramadan Story*. Reem Faruqi. Ill. Lea Lyon. Tilbury House.
- LEGO Awesome Ideas*. Daniel Lipkowitz. DK Children.
- Little Red Riding Hood: An Interactive Fairy Tale Adventure*. Eric Braun. Ill. Mariano Epelbaum. Capstone.
- The Lunch Witch*. Deb Lucke. Papercutz.
- Max Goes to Mars*. Jeffrey Bennett. Ill. Alan Okamoto. Big Kid Science.
- Meet the Dullards*. Sara Pennypacker. Ill. Daniel Salmieri. Balzer + Bray.
- **Monkey and Elephant and a Secret Birthday Surprise*. Carole Lexa Schaefer. Ill. Galia Bernstein. Candlewick.
- Papa's Backpack*. James Christopher Carroll. Sleeping Bear.
- The Secret Galaxy*. Fran Hodgkins. Ill. Mike Taylor. Tilbury House.
- Slappy's Tales of Horror*. R.L. Stine. Ill. Dave Roman and Various. GRAPHIX/Scholastic.
- The Spider Ring*. Andrew Harwell. Scholastic.
- Star Wars Jedi Academy: The Phantom Bully*. Jeffrey Brown. Scholastic.
- Sunny Side Up*. Jennifer L. Holm. Ill. Matthew Holm. GRAPHIX/Scholastic.
- Swan: The Life and Dance of Anna Pavlova*. Laurel Snyder. Ill. Julie Morstad. Chronicle.

(continued)

Children's Choices 2016 Reading List (Cont'd)

Advanced Readers (Grades 5–6, Ages 10–12)

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Blackbird Fly. Erin Entrada Kelly. Ill. Betsy Peterschmidt. Greenwillow.

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National Geographic Kids Brain Games. Jennifer Swanson. National Geographic Children's Books.

A Night Divided. Jennifer A. Nielsen. Scholastic.

100 Things to Make You Happy. Lisa M. Gerry. National Geographic Children's Books.

Percy Jackson's Greek Heroes. Rick Riordan. Ill. John Rocco. Disney-Hyperion.

Roanoke Island: The Town That Vanished. Kevin Blake. Bearport.

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Super Shark Encyclopedia. DK Children.

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The Worst Class Trip Ever. Dave Barry. Disney-Hyperion.

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More About Children's Choices

Thank you to the 2015–2016 ILA/CBC Children's Choices cochairs, team leaders, and review teams. The project members were Michelle Owens (cochair) and Anita Hernandez (cochair). Team leaders in the field test were Pamela Farris, Anita Hernandez, Terrilyn Lebel, Michelle Owens, Michele Svihovec, and Amy Vessel.

Get Involved!

For more information on the Children's Choices list, or to learn how to become involved, visit literacyworldwide.org/choices.

Tell Us!

We want to hear your success stories using Choices lists in your classroom! Contact us at social@reading.org.

ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL LITERACY ASSOCIATION

The International Literacy Association (ILA) is a global advocacy and membership organization dedicated to advancing literacy for all through its network of more than 300,000 literacy educators, researchers, and experts across 75 countries. With over 60 years of experience, ILA has set the standard for how literacy is defined, taught, and evaluated. ILA collaborates with partners across the world to develop, gather, and disseminate high-quality resources, best practices, and cutting-edge research to empower educators, inspire students, and inform policymakers. ILA publishes *The Reading Teacher*, *Journal of Adolescent & Adult Literacy*, and *Reading Research Quarterly*, which are peer reviewed and edited by leaders in the field. For more information, visit literacyworldwide.org.



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