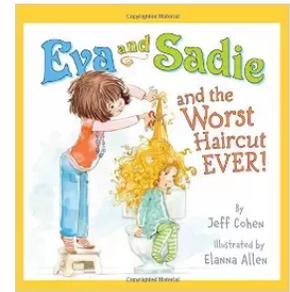


Suggested Books Grades K-1

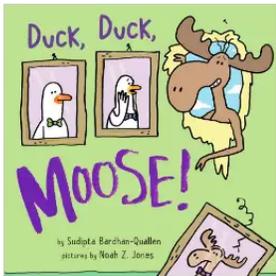
Eva and Sadie and the Worst Haircut EVER!, by Jeff Cohen

When big sister Sadie notices Eva's hair is just too long and getting out of control, she decides to take matters into her own hands. When the haircut is over and there's a pile of hair on the floor, Sadie realizes she may have done something wrong. What will Eva and Sadie's parents say? Will they be able to fix the worst haircut ever?



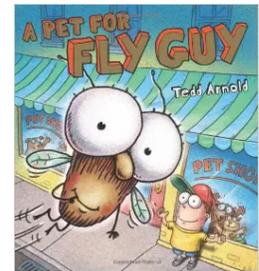
Duck, Duck, Moosel, by Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen

Duck and Duck are preparing for a party, and each step of the way, Moose inadvertently messes things up. When he disappears in shame, Duck and Duck must go find him so he can join in the party—which was for him! The slapstick physical humor of *Duck, Duck, Moose* will have kids overcome with the giggles.



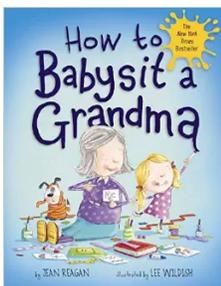
A Pet for Fly Guy, by Tedd Arnold

In the first zany, hilarious Fly Guy picture book, Buzz tries to help Fly Guy find the right pet. It seems that everyone else at the park has a pet, so Fly Guy wants one, too. A dog licked Fly Guy. A frog chased Fly Guy. A cricket was too jumpy. Who will be the best pet for Fly Guy? Like this book? Try the whole series!



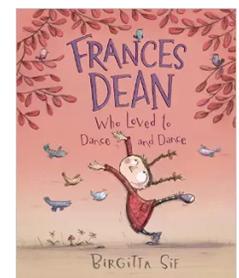
How to Babysit a Grandma, by Jean Reagan

When you babysit a grandma, if you're lucky . . . it's a sleepover at her house! And with the useful tips found in this book, you're guaranteed to become an expert grandma-sitter in no time. (Be sure to check out the sections on: How to keep a grandma busy; Things to do at the park; Possible places to sleep, and what to do once you're both snugly tucked in for the night.)



Frances Dean Who Loved to Dance and Dance, by Birgitta Sif

Frances Dean loves to dance. She feels the wind and she dances. She hears singing birds and she dances. In her every waking moment, she is inspired to move. But as soon as anyone is around, Frances Dean's knees begin to tremble, butterflies start to flutter in her tummy, and she forgets how to dance. Will she ever find the courage to share her talent with others and feel free?



Draw! By Raúl Colón.

Colón celebrates the power of imagination and creativity to heal a bedridden boy. The lush illustrations need no words as the boy goes on an artistic and exciting adventure.

The Farmer and the Clown. By Marla Frazee.

Muted browns and grays permeate the farmer's world until a small child falls off a circus train, bringing with him color and light. No words are needed in this quiet story of an unlikely friendship.

Firefly July: A Year of Very Short Poems. Selected by Paul B. Janeczko.

The four seasons are explored in short poems from both famed and newer poets and enhanced by Sweet's exquisite illustrations.

Flashlight. By Lizi Boyd.

In mostly black and white illustrations, a young child with a flashlight discovers many of the mysteries and joys of the night, then suddenly the tables are turned. Cut outs add to the fun of this highly imaginative book.

Gaston. By Kelly DiPucchio.

Gaston looks and acts different from his poodle sisters and a brief encounter in the park reveals the reason why. A lively and rhyming text is emphasized by the stylish illustrations.

Little Roja Riding Hood. By Susan Middleton Elya.

This spin on the classic fairy tale provides glimpses into a contemporary Hispanic family. Guevara's illustrations are a visual treat full of suspense and humor. (2015 Belpré Illustrator Honor Book)

The Most Magnificent Thing. By Ashley Spires.

A little girl, with the help of her dog, tries to build a magnificent thing. But it is harder than expected! See how her persistence pays off.

Shh! We Have a Plan. By Chris Haughton.

Four friends creep through the woods on a search for prey. Vibrant illustrations help tell the story of how even carefully laid plans can go awry.

Telephone. By Mac Barnett.

Clever page turns, hilarious details, and delightful wordplay abound in the bird world's version of the classic game of telephone. Colorful illustrations give each bird's personality its due.

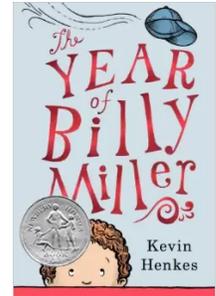
Weeds Find a Way. By Cindy Jenson-Elliott.

These often overlooked plants take center stage in this touching tribute to weeds. Jenson-Elliott highlights weeds' resilience with a catchy text full of attention. Fisher uses mixed media and digital collage to create bold, vibrant illustrations.

Suggested Books Grades 2-3

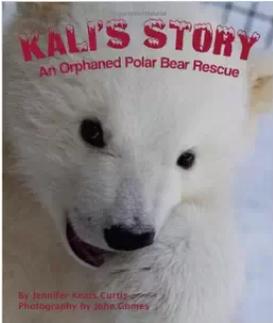
The Year of Billy Miller, by Kevin Henkes

The Caldecott Medal-winning creator of *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse* follows the second-grade year of young Billy Miller, who struggles to navigate the pitfalls of elementary school, appreciate a pesky younger sibling and help his busy parents.



Kali's Story: An Orphaned Polar Bear Rescue, by Jennifer Keats Curtis

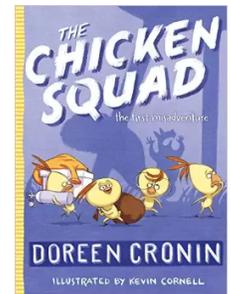
Follow the rescue of orphaned polar bear Kali (pronounced Cully) from the Inupiat village of Kali (Point Lay in English) to the Alaska Zoo in Anchorage to his new home at the Buffalo Zoo in New York with Luna, a female polar bear. This photographic journey beautifully captures the remarkable development of the cub, who initially drinks from a baby bottle, sucks his paw for comfort, and sleeps with a "blankie" as he rapidly grows into the largest land carnivore on Earth.



The Chicken Squad: The First Misadventure, by Doreen Cronin

They're darling. They're daring. They know their shapes! They're chicks on a mission—and on this, their first (mis)adventure, the Chicken Squad launches a galactic backyard expedition.

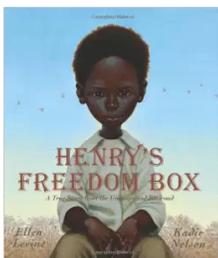
Meet the Chicken Squad: Dirt, Sugar, Poppy, and Sweetie. These chicks are not your typical barnyard puffs of fluff, and they are not about to spend their days pecking chicken feed and chasing bugs. No sir, they're too busy solving mysteries and fighting crime.



So when Squirrel comes barreling into the chicken coop, the chicks know they're about to get a case. But with his poor knowledge of shapes ("Big" is not a shape, Squirrel!) and utter fear of whatever it is that's out there, the panicky Squirrel is NO HELP. Good thing these chicks are professionals.

Henry's Freedom Box, by Ellen Levine

Henry Brown doesn't know how old he is. Nobody keeps records of slaves' birthdays. All the time he dreams about freedom, but that dream seems farther away than ever when he is torn from his family and put to work in a warehouse. Henry grows up and marries, but he is again devastated when his family is sold at the slave market. Then one day, as he lifts a crate at the warehouse, he knows exactly what he must do: He will mail himself to the North. After an arduous journey in the crate, Henry finally has a birthday -- his first day of freedom.



Before After. By Anne-Margot Ramstein & Matthias Arégui.

A clever wordless picture book that challenges the reader to figure out connections. Each reading reveals something new and different.

A Boy and a Jaguar. By Alan Rabinowitz

Alan Rabinowitz's story of feeling broken as a child yet experiencing great empathy for animals kept in cages at the zoo. He went on to become a zoologist and conservationist known around the world.

A Dance Like Starlight: One Ballerina's Dream. By Kristy Dempsey.

An inspirational message told in lyrical language about the power of dreams and one young girl's desire to dance. Soft colorful images support the poignant text.

Dare the Wind: The Record-Breaking Voyage of Eleanor Prentiss and the Flying Cloud. By Tracey Fern.

A thrilling, true story of a clipper ship race from New York to San Francisco navigated by Eleanor Prentiss, the first woman to make the journey.

Eye to Eye: How Animals See the World. By Steve Jenkins.

With a mixture of extraordinary artistry and jaw-dropping creativity, Jenkins has produced a colorful, large-format volume crafted with vivid, cut-paper collages that provide amazing details about the eyes of animals from bullfrogs to buzzards.

Little Melba and Her Big Trombone By Katheryn Russell-Brown.

A little known story of a self-taught prodigy and world-class trombone player, composer, and arranger whose music mirrors the black musical sounds of the 20th century.

The Noisy Paint Box: The Colors and Sounds of Kandinsky's Abstract Art. By Barb Rosenstock

The story of abstract artist Vasily Kandinsky, who experienced colors as sounds and sounds as colors and created work that was bold and groundbreaking. (2015 Caldecott Honor Book)

Once Upon an Alphabet. By Oliver Jeffers.

A creative, fresh take on the alphabet book! Jeffers tells a short story for each letter, giving each one its due glory. Full of humor and whimsy. Complete with distinctive illustrations that are one of a kind.

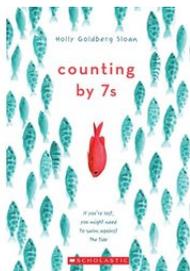
Star Stuff: Carl Sagan and the Mysteries of the Cosmos. By Stephanie Roth Sisson

The simple text describes how Sagan's childhood curiosity and persistence eventually lead to his involvement in the Voyager mission. Lively images and design reflect this notable life.

Tiny Creatures: The World of Microbes. By Nicola Davies

This straightforward narrative introduces young readers to microbes through simple descriptions, colorful examples, and concise writing. Watercolor images illustrate the examples and create a nostalgic feel.

Suggested Books Grades 4-5

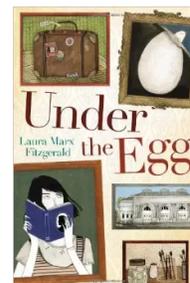


Counting by 7s, by Holly Goldberg Sloan

Twelve-year-old genius and outsider Willow Chance must figure out how to connect with other people and find a surrogate family for herself after her parents are killed in a car accident.

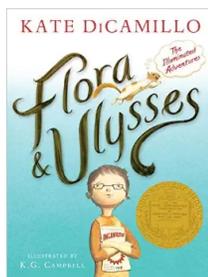
Under the Egg, by Laura Marx Fitzgerald

Her grandfather's dying words lead thirteen-year-old Theodora Tenpenny to a valuable, hidden painting she fears may be stolen, but it is her search for answers in her Greenwich Village neighborhood that brings a real treasure.



Flora and Ulysses, by Kate DiCamillo

It begins, as the best superhero stories do, with a tragic accident that has unexpected consequences. The squirrel never saw the vacuum cleaner coming, but self-described cynic Flora Belle Buckman, who has read every issue of the comic book *Terrible Things Can Happen to You!*, is just the right person to step in and save him. What neither can predict is that Ulysses (the squirrel) has been born anew, with powers of strength, flight, and misspelled poetry – and that Flora will be changed too, as she discovers the possibility of hope and the promise of a capacious heart.



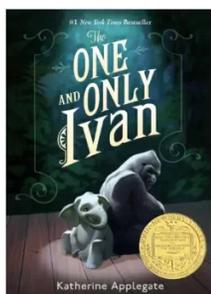
Brown Girl Dreaming, by Jacqueline Woodson

Raised in South Carolina and New York, Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement. Woodson's eloquent poetry also reflects the joy of finding her voice through writing stories, despite the fact that she struggled with reading as a child. Her love of stories inspired her and stayed with her, creating the first sparks of the gifted writer she was to become.



The One and Only Ivan, by Katherine Applegate

Having spent twenty-seven years behind the glass walls of his enclosure in a shopping mall, Ivan, a captive gorilla, has grown accustomed to humans watching him. He hardly ever thinks about his life in the jungle. Instead, Ivan occupies himself with television, his friends Stella and Bob, and painting. But when he meets Ruby, a baby elephant taken from the wild, he is forced to see their home, and his art, through new eyes.



Absolutely Almost. By Lisa Graff.

In this relatable tale, fifth grader Albie is not very good at a lot of things, but with a little help from a new babysitter, he finds out that being himself is the most important thing.

El Deafo. By Cece Bell. (2015 Newbery Honor Book)

In this insightful and humorous graphic novel memoir, Bell portrays growing up with a giant hearing aid strapped to her chest. Themes of navigating a new school, sleepovers, finding a true friend, and a first crush make this book universal in appeal.

The Luck Uglies. By Paul Durham.

When wicked Bog Noblins threaten her village, Rye turns to a mysterious stranger and the notorious Luck Uglies for help, ending up more involved than she imagined. A fast-paced fantasy.

The Misadventures of the Family Fletcher. By Dana Alison Levy.

The Fletcher family, with 2 dads, 4 boys, a dog, cat, and invisible cheetah, is always full of adventure. As the school year unfolds, they face many challenges with love and humor.

Neighborhood Sharks: Hunting with the Great Whites of California's Farallon Islands. By Katherine Roy. (2015 Sibert Honor Book)

With vivid paintings and clear, accessible text, Roy creates a heart-stopping look at what great white sharks do best—hunt for their next meal.

Rain Reign. By Ann M. Martin.

Rose's obsession with homophones and rules distinguishes her from most other fifth graders, but also provides insights into the world of a child challenged by Asperger's Syndrome. When Rain, Rose's beloved dog, goes missing, readers will be moved by the decisions she makes to find and care for her pet.

Separate Is Never Equal: Sylvia Mendez & Her Family's Fight for Desegregation. By Duncan Tonatiuh. (2015 Belpré Illustrator Honor Book & Sibert Honor Book)

Tonatiuh draws upon traditional Mixtec codex art to tell the story of 11-year-old Sylvia Mendez, who helped end school segregation in California seven years before Brown v. Board of Education.

The Turtle of Oman. By Naomi Shihab Nye.

Aref is unhappy about leaving Oman to journey to Michigan where his parents will study for three years. In his final days he shares many new experiences with his beloved grandfather, Sidi, and some quiet moments too.

The Whispering Town. By Jennifer Elvgren.

During WWII, a Danish family and their village help hide a Jewish family from the Nazis until they can safely escape. The artwork's graphic-novel quality enhances the story.

The Witch's Boy. By Kelly Barnhill

Follow the adventures of new friends Ned and Aine in this imaginative tale of tricky magic. A complex journey about finding your voice.