

**ELEMENTARY SUMMER READING LIST
2011**



**Paideia School Elementary Library
1509 Ponce de Leon Avenue
Atlanta, Georgia 30307**

Dear Parents,

Summer presents an extraordinary opportunity for immersion in reading. Students often tell me that as the school year progresses, they get so busy with sports, homework and other projects that they no longer have time to read; and worse, that their parents are too busy to read to them. The Paideia elementary faculty emphatically endorses reading for pleasure. Research shows that:

- Reading aloud to your child is an essential element in creating a reader and gives even excellent readers access to higher levels of literature. It is one of the greatest gifts you can give your child, both emotionally and academically. Do it daily. Don't let it slide.
- Having your child read, for 20-30 minutes each day, increases vocabulary, spelling, comprehension and reading ability. It is the best path to academic achievement, but it also inculcates empathy and depth of inner life.
- A child who reads only an average amount falls behind avid readers by many points on standardized tests each year. By the time a child reaches high school it is extremely difficult to make up for a lack of reading during these critical years.
- Light reading (comic books, children's magazines, series books) improves a child's skills dramatically if done regularly. Having a child read below his or her reading level helps build skills and fluency, and gives a greater sense of accomplishment, than making a child struggle with a harder book. Re-reading is excellent practice for consolidating skills. It doesn't bore children.

Every year, adding new books to this list means eliminating others due to space limitations--a hard task for me! Fortunately, your public library and online resources are available for reading suggestions. The list is not divided into rigid age groups, because many books for older children are terrific read-alouds for young students, and more and more picture books are being written for children of all ages.

Required Reading: Every child should read or hear a minimum of five age-appropriate books this summer. Your children are welcome to read titles other than those on this list. We include five post cards for Paideia students (or for their parents, if your child is a pre-reader) to fill out. Please return them to school before the start of the school year--you can mail them individually or as a bunch, or just drop them by the school office. Next year's teachers will be eager to see what your child read this summer.

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The Caldecott Awards
for the most distinguished American Picture Book for Children

- 2011. Stead, Philip C. *A Sick Day for Amos McGee.*
- 2010. Pinkney, Jerry. *The Lion & the Mouse.*
- 2009. Swanson, Susan Marie. *The House in the Night.*
- 2008. Selznick, Brian. *The Invention of Hugo Cabret.*
- 2007. Wiesner, David. *Flotsam.*
- 2006. Juster, Norton. *The Hello Goodbye Window.*
- 2005. Henkes, Kevin. *Kitten's First Full Moon.*
- 2004. Gerstein, Mordicai. *The Man Who Walked Between the Towers.*
- 2003. Rohmann, Eric. *My Friend Rabbit.*
- 2002. Wiesner, David. *The Three Pigs.*
- 2001. St. George, Judith. *So You Want To Be President?*
- 2000. Taback, Simms. *Joseph Had a Little Overcoat.*
- 1999. Martin, Jacqueline Briggs. *Snowflake Bentley.*
- 1998. Zelinsky, Paul O. *Rapunzel.*
- 1997. Wisniewski, David. *The Golem.*
- 1996. Rathmann, Peggy. *Officer Buckle and Gloria.*
- 1995. Bunting, Eve. *Smoky Night.*
- 1994. Say, Allen. *Grandfather's Journey.*
- 1993. McCully, Emily Arnold. *Mirette on the High Wire.*
- 1992. Wiesner, David. *Tuesday.*
- 1991. McCauley, David. *Black and White.*
- 1990. Young, Ed. *Lon Po Po.*
- 1989. Ackerman, Karen. *Song and Dance Man.*
- 1988. Yolen, Jane. *Owl Moon.*
- 1987. Yorinks, Arthur. *Hey, Al.*
- 1986. Van Allsburg, Chris. *The Polar Express.*
- 1985. Hodges, Margaret. *Saint George and the Dragon.*
- 1984. Provensen, Alice and Martin. *The Glorious Flight.*
- 1983. Cendrars, Blaise. *Shadow.*
- 1982. Van Allsburg, Chris. *Jumanji.*
- 1981. Lobel, Arnold. *Fables.*
- 1980. Hall, Donald. *Ox-Cart Man.*
- 1979. Goble, Paul. *The Girl Who Loved Wild Horses.*
- 1978. Spier, Peter. *Noah's Ark.*
- 1977. Musgrove, Margaret. *Ashanti to Zulu: African Traditions.*
- 1976. Aardema, Verna. *Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears.*
- 1975. McDermott, Gerald. *Arrow to the Sun.*
- 1974. Zemach, Harve. *Duffy and the Devil.*
- 1973. Mosel, Arlene. *The Funny Little Woman.*

For a complete list of all Caldecott winner and honorees, visit the American Library Association's website.

The Newbery Awards

for the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children

- 2011. Vanderpool, Clare. *Moon Over Manifest*.
- 2010. Stead, Rebecca. *When You Reach Me*.
- 2009. Gaiman, Neil. *The Graveyard Book*.
- 2008. Schlitz, Laura Amy. *Good Masters! Sweet Ladies! Voices from a Medieval Village*.
- 2007. Patron, Susan. *The Higher Power of Lucky*.
- 2006. Perkins, Lynne Rae. *Criss Cross*.
- 2005. Kadohata, Cynthia. *Kira-Kira*.
- 2004. DiCamillo, Kate. *The Tale of Despereaux*.
- 2003. Avi. *Crispin: The Cross of Lead*.
- 2002. Park, Lynda Sue. *A Single Shard*.
- 2001. Peck, Richard. *A Year Down Yonder*.
- 2000. Curtis, Christopher Paul. *Bud, Not Buddy*.
- 1999. Sachar, Louis. *Holes*.
- 1998. Hesse, Karen. *Out of the Dust*.
- 1997. Konigsberg, E.L. *The View From Saturday*.
- 1996. Cushman, Karen. *The Midwife's Apprentice*.
- 1995. Creech, Sharon. *Walk Two Moons*.
- 1994. Lowry, Lois. *The Giver*.
- 1993. Rylant, Cynthia. *Missing May*.
- 1992. Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds. *Shiloh*.
- 1991. Spinelli, Jerry. *Maniac Magee*.
- 1990. Lowry, Lois. *Number the Stars*.
- 1989. Fleischman, Paul. *Joyful Noise: Poems for Two Voices*.
- 1988. Freedman, Russell. *Lincoln: A Photobiography*.
- 1987. Fleischman, Sid. *The Whipping Boy*.
- 1986. MacLachlan, Patricia. *Sarah Plain and Tall*.
- 1985. McKinley, Robin. *The Hero and the Crown*.
- 1984. Cleary, Beverly. *Dear Mr. Henshaw*.
- 1983. Voigt, Cynthia. *Dacey's Song*.
- 1982. Willard, Nancy. *A Visit to William Blake's Inn: Poems for...Travelers*.
- 1981. Paterson, Katherine. *Jacob Have I Loved*.
- 1980. Blos, Joan W. *A Gathering of Days: A New England Girl's Journal*.
- 1979. Raskin, Ellen. *The Westing Game*.
- 1978. Paterson, Katherine. *Bridge to Terabithia*.
- 1977. Taylor, Mildred D. *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*.
- 1976. Cooper, Susan. *The Grey King*.
- 1975. Hamilton, Virginia. *M.C. Higgins, the Great*.
- 1974. Fox, Paula. *The Slave Dancer*.

For a complete list of all Newbery winners and honorees, visit the American Library Association's website.

Coretta Scott King Awards and Honor Books for Ages 5-12

Honors African American authors and illustrators for outstanding contributions to children's and young adult literature

(* = recently published)

- Bryan, Ashley. *Let It Shine. Beautiful Blackbird. ABC of African-Am Poetry.*
Caines, Jeannette. *Just Us Women.*
Collier, Bryan. *Uptown.*
Curtis, Gavine. *The Bat Boy and His Violin.*
Devard, Nancy. *The Secret Olivia Told Me.*
Diakite, Baba Wague. *The Hunterman and the Crocodile.*
Dillon, Leo and Diane. *Jazz on a Saturday Night. Rap a Tap Tap: Here's Bojangles – Think of That!*
English, Karen. *Neeny Coming, Neeny Going .*
Fluornoy, Valerie. *The Patchwork Quilt.*
Giovanni, Nikki. *Rosa.*
Greenfield, Eloise. *Night on Neighborhood Street.*
Grimes, Nikki. *Talkin' About Bessie: the Story of Aviator Elizabeth Coleman.*
Hamilton, Virginia. *The People Could Fly: The Picture Book.*
*Hill, Laban Carrick. *Dave the Potter.*
Holiday, Billie. *God Bless the Child.*
Howard, Elizabeth Fitzgerald. *Virgie Goes To School With Us Boys.*
*Hughes, Langston. *My People*, illus by Charles R. Smith.
Hughes, Langston. *The Negro Speaks of Rivers*, illus. by E.B. Lewis.
Johnson, James Weldon. *The Creation.*
Lester, Julius. *The Tales of Uncle Remus.*
Lewis, E.B. *The Bat Boy and His Violin.*
Mitchell, Margaret Kind. *Uncle Jed's Barbershop.*
McKissack, Patricia. *Mirandy and Brother Wind. Goin' Some Place Special.*
Mollet, Tololwa M. *My Rows and Piles of Coins.*
Myers, Christopher. *Black Cat. Jazz.*
Nelson, Kadir. *We Are the Ship.*
Nelson, Vaunda Micheaux. *Almost To Freedom.*
Nolen, Jerdine. *Thunder Rose.*
Pinkney, Andrea Davis. *Duke Ellington: The Piano Prince and His Orchestra.*
Rappoport, Doreen. *Martin's Big Words.*
Ringgold, Faith. *Tar Beach.*
Rockwell, Anne. *Only Passing Through: The Story of Sojourner Truth.*
San Souci, Robert. *Talking Eggs. The Faithful Friend. Sukey and the Mermaid.*
Shange, Ntozake. *ellington was not a street.*
Schroeder, Alan. *Minty: A Story of Young Harriet Tubman.*
Siegelson, Kim. *In the Time of the Drums.*
Step toe, John. *Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters.*
Thomas, Joyce Carol. *The Blacker the Berry.*
Walter, Mildred Pitts. *Justin and the Best Biscuits in the World.*
Weatherford, Carol Boston. *Before John Was a Jazz Giant. Moses: H.Tubman...*

Coretta Scott King Awards and Honor Books for Ages 9-12

- Bolden, Tonya. *Maritcha: A 19th Century American Girl*.
- Boyd, Candy Dawson. *Circle of Gold*.
- Christie, R. Gregory. *Brothers in Hope: The Story of the Lost Boys of Sudan*.
- Curtis, Christopher Paul. *Elijah of Buxton. Bud, Not Buddy.*
The Watsons Go To Birmingham, 1963.
- English, Karen. *Francie*.
- Feelings, Tom. *The Middle Passage: White Ships, Black Cargo*.
- Greenfield, Eloise. *Childtimes*.
- Grimes, Nikki. *The Road to Paris. Dark Sons*.
- Hamilton, Virginia. *Anthony Burns: ... Fugitive Slave. The People Could Fly.*
Her Stories: African American Folktales, Fairy Tales and True Tales.
- Hansen, Joyce. *The Captive. I Thought My Soul Would Rise and Fly.*
- Haskins, James. *Bayard Rustin: Behind the Scenes of the Civil Rights Movement*.
- Hughes, Langston. *Poetry for Young People*, ed. D. Roessel and A. Rampersand.
- Johnson, Angela. *Toning the Sweep*.
- Lester, Julius. *Day of Tears. Tales of Uncle Remus*.
- McKissack, Patricia. *Dark Thirty: Southern Tales of the Supernatural*.
- McKissack, Patricia C. and Frederick L. *Sojourner Truth: Ain't I A Woman?*
Days of Jubilee: The End of Slavery in the United States.
Rebels Against Slavery: American Slave Revolts.
Christmas in the Big House, Christmas in the Quarters.
Black Hands, White Sails: The Story of African-American Whalers.
Black Diamond: The Story of the Negro Baseball Leagues.
A Long Hard Journey: The Story of the Pullman Porter.
- Morrison, Toni. *Remember: The Journey to School Integration*.
- Myers, Christopher. *Jazz*.
- Myers, Walter Dean. *Fast Sam, Cool Clyde and Stuff.*
Malcolm X: By Any Means Necessary.
Now Is Your Time! The African American Struggle for Freedom.
- Nelson, Marilyn. *Carver: A Life in Poems*.
- Nelson, Vaunda Micheaux. *Bad News for Outlaws: The Remarkable Life of Bass Reeves, U.S. Deputy Marshall*.
- Pinkney, Andrea Davis. *Let It Shine: Stories of Black Women Freedom Fighters*.
- Smith, Anita Hope. *Keeping the Night Watch*.
- Taylor, Mildred D. *The Land. Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry.*
Let the Circle Be Unbroken. The Road to Memphis. The Friendship.
- Walter, Mildred Pitts. *Mississippi Challenge*.
- Williams-Garcia, Rita. *One Crazy Summer*.
- Woods, Brenda. *The Red Rose Box*.
- Woodson, Jacqueline. *Locomotion. I Hadn't Meant To Tell You This*.

For a complete list of winners and honorees, including Coretta Scott King award winners for young adults, visit the website of the American Library Association.

PICTURE BOOKS
They're not just for tots anymore
(* recently published)

*Agee, John. *Mr. Putney's Quacking Dog*. Comic wordplay in a hugely popular new title. Mr. Putney has all sorts of unusual friends including an overweight orangutan, an octopus with cold feet, and an elephant that is difficult to see. Also: *Milo's Hat Trick*. Milo the Magician needs a spectacular new trick and turns to a bear to rescue his failing show.

Anderson, Hans Christian. *The Emperor's New Clothes*, illus. Angela Barrett. Spectacular illustrations in an elegant 1910s European setting.

Armstrong, Jennifer. *Once Upon a Banana*. A runaway monkey discards a banana peel with hilarious consequences in this nearly wordless picture book.

Arnold, Ted. *Hi! Fly Guy*. A beautiful friendship begins when Buzz the boy proves that a fly can be one smart pet. Also: *Parts*. *No Jumping on the Bed*.

Asch, Frank. *Mr. Maxwell's Mouse*. An urbane cat on his lunch break orders a live mouse and finds himself in conversation with his entree.

Ayelsworth, Jim. *The Full Belly Bowl*. In return for his kindness to a wee small man, an old man gets a magical bowl that causes joy, then problems.

Bachelet, Gilles. *My Cat, the Silliest Cat in the World*. An artist describes his cat and its conventional behavior with surprisingly unconventional illustrations.

Bang, Molly. *When Sophie Gets Angry*. A furious young girl learns to take the time to cool off and regain her composure. Also: *The Paper Crane*.

Banks, Kate. *Max's Words*. When Max cuts out words from magazines and newspapers, collecting them the way his brothers collect stamps and coins, they all learn about words, sentences, and storytelling.

Bannerman, Helen. *The Story of Little Babaji*. Beloved *Little Black Sambo* is restored without the ugly stereotypes; a wonderful story of ingenuity.

Bateman, Teresa. *Keeper of Soles*. A shoemaker repeatedly outwits a black-robed figure who knocks on the shoemaker's door and demands his soul.

*Battle-Lavert, Gwendolyn. *Papa's Mark*. A young boy teaches his father how to write his own name in time to vote in the local election, the first in which African-Americans are being allowed to vote.

Beaumont, Karen. *I Ain't Gonna Paint No More!* A child who loves to paint everything he sees cannot resist adding one more dab of paint to some surprising places. Also: *Move Over, Rover!* and *I Like Myself!*

Becker, Bonnie. *A Visitor for Bear*. Bear's efforts to keep out visitors to his house are undermined by a very persistent mouse.

Bemelmans, Ludwig. *Madeline*. One in series about the irrepressible girl of Paris.

Best, Cari. *Three Cheers for Catherine the Great!* Sara's Russian grandmother wants no gifts at her 78th birthday party so Sara thinks of a gift from her heart.

Blake, Robert J. *Togo*. A sled dog and his team run across the frozen Arctic to deliver the serum to save Alaska from a life-threatening outbreak of diphtheria. Also: *Akiak: A Tale from the Iditarod*.

Bloom, Suzanne. *A Splendid Friend Indeed*. A studious polar bear meets an inquisitive and persistent goose and succumbs to friendship.

Blue, Rose. *Ron's Big Mission*. Nine-year-old Ron makes his own quiet stand against segregation when he decides to apply for his own library card. Based on the life of astronaut Ron McNair.

Bottner, Barbara. *Wallace's Lists*. Devoted to making lists, Wallace the mouse discovers the joy of spontaneity when he befriends his neighbor Albert.

Brett, Jan. *Daisy Comes Home*. Daisy, an unhappy hen in China, floats down the river in a basket and has an adventure. Also essential: *The Mitten*. *The Hat*.

Brown, Marc. *D.W. the Picky Eater*. Hilarious tale of an aardvark who hates spinach. Many others by this author, especially the *Arthur* series.

Browne, Anthony. *Voices in the Park*. A simple outing described by two parents and two children, each with a different emotional outlook.

*Bruel, Nick. *Bad Kitty*. When a kitty discovers there is no cat food in the house, she decides to become very, very bad.

Brunhoff, Jean de. *The Story of Babar, the Little Elephant*. Young Babar, escaping from a hunter, goes to the city where he is befriended by a rich old Lady.

Bunting, Eve. *Fly Away Home*. A homeless boy who lives in an airport with his father is given hope when he sees a trapped bird find its freedom. Also: *Christmas Cricket*, *So Far From the Sea*, many others.

Caines, Jeannette. *Just Us Women*. A young girl and her aunt take a road trip full of impromptu stops and chats.

Carle, Eric. *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. No young child should miss this classic: colors, numbers, foods, days of the week, satiety and metamorphosis. Also *The Very Busy Spider*, *The Very Lonely Firefly*, many others.

Chandra, Deborah and Madeleine Comora. *George Washington's Teeth*. A wild, factual, fun exploration of poor George's dental woes.

Chen, Chih-Yuan. *Guji-Guji*. Guji Guji, a crocodile hatched and raised by a mother duck, must save his family when a trio of plan to eat them for dinner.

Coffelt, Nancy. *Fred Stays with Me!* Fred the dog accompanies his young mistress to both her mom's and dad's home, an essential comfort despite the havoc he wreaks.

Cole, Brock. *Buttons*. When their father eats so much that he pops his buttons off, each of his daughters tries a different, silly plan to find replacements.

Conrad, Pam. *The Tub People*. A bathtime tale featuring a family of wooden toys and their experience with the drain.

Cooney, Barbara. *Miss Rumphius*. A retired librarian resolves to travel the world and then to make the world more beautiful.

Cowell, Cressida. *That Rabbit Belongs to Emily Brown*. Emily defends her stuffed rabbit from the naughty queen who is determined to get it any way she can.

Cronin, Doreen. *Diary of a Worm*. There are some good and some bad things about being a worm. Also hilarious: *Duck for President*. *Diary of a Spider*. *Click, Clack Moo: Cows That Type*. *Wiggle*.

Daly, Niki. *Pretty Salma: A Little Red Riding Hood Story from Africa*. A fractured fairy tale set in Ghana featuring big, bad Mr. Dog and a clever little girl.

Davis, Patricia Anne. *Brian's Bird*. A blind boy learns how to take care of his new parakeet and comes to realize that his older brother is not so bad after all.

Deedy, Carmen Agra. *Martina the Beautiful Cockroach*. An insect's search for true love with the author's irrepressible wit. *The Library Dragon*. *Tree Man*. *Agatha's Feather Bed*. Funny, punny, and warm.

dePaola, Tomie. *Bill and Pete*. When William Everett Crocodile is chosen to be a suitcase, his talking toothbrush becomes his salvation. *Strega Nona*. When Strega Nona leaves him alone with her magic pasta pot, Big Anthony is determined to show the townspeople how it works. Many others.

Dewdney, Anna. *Llama, Llama, Red Pajama*. A little llama gets scared after his mother puts him to bed and turns out the light and lots of llama drama ensues.

DiTerlizzi, Tony. *The Spider and the Fly*. Caldecott Honor. A dark and moody picture book pits a deliciously wicked spider against a helpless, naive fly.

Donnio, Sylviane. *I'd Really Like to Eat a Child*. A young crocodile refuses the food his parents provide, wanting a tasty child instead, until a little girl gives him his comeuppance.

*Dormer, Frank W. *Socksquatch*. Socksquatch, a hairy creature of few words, tries to find a replacement sock for his cold foot: "Got sock?"

Dorros, Arthur. *Abuela*. While riding on a bus with her grandmother, a little girl imagines that they are carried up into the sky and fly over the sights of NYC.

Egan, Tim. *The Pink Refrigerator*, in which Dodsworth the mole learns to break with routine and embrace the world. Several others featuring the deadpan mole.

Falconer, Ian. *Olivia Saves the Circus*. Sequel to *Olivia*, in which a spirited young pig plays dress up, paints on walls, builds with blocks and endures time-out in a joyfully illustrated work of imagination.

Faller, Regis. *The Adventures of Polo*. A wordless picture book about the fantastic voyage of a dog above and below water. Sequels.

Feiffer, George. *Bark, George*. A mother dog worries about the strange noises her puppy makes in this hilariously illustrated tale. *By the Side of the Road*. After his father leaves him by the side of the road because he refuses to stop fooling around in the back of the car, Richard decides that spot is where he wants to live.

Fleischman, Paul. *Weslandia*. Dramatically illustrated story of nonconformist Wesley, who creates his own civilization in his garden. Also: *Sidewalk Circus*.

Fleming, Candace. *Muncha! Muncha! Muncha!* Three clever bunnies manage to devour the veggies from Mr. McGreely's garden no matter how he barricades it.

Floca, Brian. *Lightship*. Explores a floating lighthouse, a small ship with a big job, with humor and quiet beauty.

Fraustino, Lisa Rowe. *The Hickory Chair*. Louis, blind since birth, is gifted with "blind sight" that his grandmother nurtures even after her death.

Frazer, Marla. *A Couple of Boys Have the Best Week Ever*. A cartoon tale of hilarious proportions. Two friends, visiting grandparents, endure nature camp, pig out on snacks, overdose on video games, and along the way notice nature.

Freeman, Don. *Corduroy*. A toy bear for sale wants a number of things, but when a little girl finally buys him he finds what he has always wanted most of all.

French, Jackie. *Diary of a Wombat*. Australia's most endangered mammal keeps a hilarious diary of her daily activities.

Freyman, Saxton. *How Are You Peeling?* Brief text and hilarious photographs of carvings made from vegetables introduce the world of emotions.

Funke, Cornelia. *Princess Knight*. Spirited Princess Violetta is horrified when the king plans a tournament, with the winner to win her hand in marriage.

Gag, Wanda. *Millions of Cats*. An old man searches for a pet for his lonely wife and returns with millions of cats, all claiming to be the most beautiful.

Gerstein, Mordicai. *The Man Who Walked Between the Towers*. A stunning illustration of the tightrope walker at the World Trade Center towers in 1974.

Giovanni, Nikki. *Rosa*. The courage of Rosa Parks told with richly colored collages.

Gonzalez, Maya. *My Colors, My World / Mis Colores, Mi Mundo*. Intensely colored paintings introduce the colors of the desert where Maya lives.

Gonzales, Rigoberto. *Antonio's Card*. With Mother's Day coming, Antonio finds he has to decide about what is important to him when his classmates make fun of the unusual appearance of his mother's partner. In English and Spanish.

Graham, Bob. *How to Heal a Broken Wing*. An emotionally-resonant and powerful story of a boy who finds and tenderly cares for a wounded bird. *Dimity Dumpty*, where Humpty's little sister saves the day. "Let's Get a Pup!," *Said Kate*, in which an energetic family abruptly leaves breakfast to go to the pound and choose a dog. *Tales from the Waterhole*. During the dry season, Morris the crocodile and his animal friends enjoy playing in and near the water hole.

Gravett, Emily. *Wolves*. When a young rabbit goes to the library and checks out a book about wolves, he learns thing he would rather not know.

Gregory, Nan. *Amber Waiting*. A young child is scared and lonely when her father is late picking her up after school.

Grey, Mini. *Traction Man Meets Turbodog*. Sequel to the hilarious and popular *Traction Man is Here!*, in which humor and imaginative play trump battery operated toys when

Traction Man braves the evil bin things to rescue beloved Scrubbing Brush. Also: *The Adventures of the Dish and the Spoon*. A dish and a spoon take off and become vaudeville stars before turning to a life of crime.

Harrington, Janice. *Going North*. A young girl and her family leave their home in Alabama hoping to escape segregation and find a better life.

Harris Robie H. *Mail Harry to the Moon!* A comic look at sibling rivalry. *Happy Birth Day!* The sweet joy of a newborn's first day in the world.

Henkes, Kevin. *Owen*. Owen's parents try to get him to give up his blanket before he starts school; at the end, a solution is reached that pleases everyone. *Lilly's Big Day*. The indomitable girl mouse now mistakenly assumes that she will get to be the flower girl at her teacher's wedding. Also: *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse*, *Chrysanthemum*, *Owen*, many others from an essential author every child should know.

Hicks, Barbara Jean. *Jitterbug Jam*. Little monster Bobo is convinced that a scary boy is under his bed, but grandpa's advice, he confronts and befriends his intruder.

*Hills, Tad. *How Rocket Learned to Read*. A little yellow bird teaches Rocket the dog how to read by introducing him to the alphabet. *Duck & Goose*, who learn to work together to take care of a ball that they think is an oversized egg.

Himmelman, John. *Chickens to the Rescue*. Farmer Greenstalk's unflappable fowls are (nearly) always ready to help the family and their animals recover from mishaps in this laugh-out-loud tale.

Hoban, Russell. *A Bargain for Frances*. A young badger figures out how to regain her savings after being tricked. Many others by this author.

Hopkinson, Deborah. *A Band of Angels: A Story Inspired by the Jubilee Singers*. The daughter of a slave forms a gospel singing group and goes on tour to raise money to save Fisk University. *Apples to Oregon: Being the (Slightly) True Narrative of How a Brave Pioneer Father Brought Apples, Peaches, Pears, Plums, Grapes, and Cherries (and Children) Across the Plains*. Comic tall tale.

Horse, Harry. *Little Rabbit's New Baby*. More of the endearing Little Rabbit, this time trying to cope with the chaos of three new siblings. *Little Rabbit Goes to School*. Little Rabbit takes his favorite toy, Charlie Horse, along for his first day of school and blames all the trouble on Charlie. Also: *Little Rabbit Lost*.

*Howe, James. *Brontorina*. Despite her size and not having the proper footwear, a determined dinosaur pursues her dream of becoming a ballerina. *Horace and Morris but Mostly Dolores*. Three mice friends learn that the best clubs include everyone.

Ichikawa, Satomi. *My Pig Amarillo*. Losing a beloved pet brings longing, grief and hope to a young Guatemalan boy.

Isadora, Rachel. *Ben's Trumpet*. A young boy plays only an imaginary instrument until a neighborhood jazz musician discovers his ambition.

James, Simon. *Little One Step*. Soft illustrations accompany the simple story of three lost ducklings in search of their mama.

Jenkins, Emily. *Skunkdog*. Dumpling, a dog with no friendship, strikes up a stinky friendship in a book with rich language and funny illustrations.

Johansen, Hanna. *Henrietta and the Golden Eggs*. A persistent hen works for better conditions for the 3333 chickens on a poultry farm in an illustrated allegory.

Johnson, Angela. *Julius*. Maya's grandfather brings her a pig from Alaska and the two of them learn about fun and sharing together.

Johnson, Crockett. *Harold and the Purple Crayon*. Harold uses his fantastic purple crayon to draw himself some wonderful adventures.

Johnson, D.B. *Henry Hikes to Fitchburg*. While his friend works hard to earn train fare, young Henry Thoreau walks the 30 miles through woods and fields.

Jonell, Lynne. *It's My Birthday, Too!* Christopher would rather have a dog than a little brother who ruins his birthday parties, but when his brother begins to act like a puppy, Christopher has a change of heart. Also: *I Need a Snake*.

Kasza, Keiko. *The Dog Who Cried Wolf*. Tired of being a house pet, Moka the dog moves to the mountains to be a wolf but soon misses the comforts of home. Also: *Wolf's Chicken Stew*, *Don't Laugh Joe*, *The Mightiest*.

Kellogg, Steven. *The Island of the Skog*. Tired of being terrorized by cats, mice sail to an island where they must defeat or befriend the resident "skog".

*Khan, Rukhsana. *The Big Red Lollipop*. An immigrant mother nearly wrecks her daughter's social life by insisting her younger sister attend a birthday party.

*Kirk, Daniel. *Library Mouse: A World to Explore*. Sam the library mouse returns, this time showing the intrepid explorer mouse Sara the world of reading.

Kraus, Robert. *Leo the Late Bloomer*. A sweetly reassuring tale about a tiger cub who eventually catches up to his more accomplished animal friends.

Kraus, Ruth. *The Carrot Seed*. Despite everyone's predictions, a little boy has faith in the carrot seed he plants.

Knudsen, Michelle. *Library Lion*. An affectionate tale of resourcefulness and devotion as a friendly lion fills in for an injured librarian.

Kvasnosky, Laura McGee. *Zelda and Ivy: The Runaways*. Two fox sisters run away from home, bury a time capsule, and take advantage of some creative juice.

Leaf, Munro. *The Story of Ferdinand*. Ferdinand loves to sit quietly and smell flowers, but when he gets stung by a bee, his snorting and stomping convince everyone that he is the fiercest of bulls.

Lester, Helen. *Hooway for Wodney Wat*. A timid rat who can't pronounce his r's becomes a hero when he outwits a bully. Also: *Tacky the Penguin* and sequels.

Lester, Mike. *A Is For Salad*. A goofy and irreverent alphabet book.

Levine, Ellen. *Henry's Freedom Box*. A fictionalized account of how a slave escaped by shipping himself in a wooden crate from Richmond to Philadelphia.

Lindenbaum, Pija. *Mini Mia and Her Darling Uncle*. Mini Mia loves hanging out with her eccentric Uncle Tommy, but she is not at all pleased when his friend Fergus comes to visit, until she learns he plays soccer.

Lionni, Leo. *Swimmy*. *Fish is Fish*. *Frederick*. Many others. Brightly illustrated, these stories are rich with humor and meaning.

London, Jonathan. *Froggy* series. One of the most popular series ever at our school: Froggy the frog copes with hilarious misunderstandings and embarrassing situations with the help of his goofy parents.

Long, Melinda. *How I Became a Pirate*. Jeremy joins a pirate crew, delighted by the lack of baths and vegetables, but he also learns there is no one to tuck him in.

Look, Lenore. *Uncle Peter's Amazing Chinese Wedding*. A Chinese American girl describes the festivities of her uncle's wedding and the customs behind them. Several others by this author.

Lum, Kate. *What! Cried Granny: An Almost Bedtime Story*. Granny's efforts to provide her grandson with a bed, pillow, and other necessities result in a sleepless night for them both.

Madison, Alan. *Velma Gratch & the Way Cool Butterfly*. First grade does not go very well for Velma until her class takes a trip to a butterfly conservatory and a monarch butterfly demands to be her friend.

Manushkin, Fran. *The Shivers in the Fridge*. One by one, members of the Shivers family disappear from inside their chilly home.

*Mason, Margaret. *These Hands*. An African American man tells his grandson about a time when, despite all the wonderful things his hands could do, they could not touch bread at the Wonder Bread factory.

Marshall, James. *George and Martha*. Comic tales of friendship between two hippopotamuses.

Martin, Jacqueline Briggs. *Grandmother Bryant's Pocket*. An 8-year old girl, traumatized by a fire in 1787, is helped to recover by loving grandparents.

Mathers, Petra. *A Cake for Herbie*. Herbie spends days writing poems about food for a contest and although he does not win, he does find an appreciative audience. Many others by this author.

McBratney, Sam. *The Dark at the Top of the Stairs*. Three little mice want to see the monster at the top of the stairs, but one "meow" has them running. Also: *Guess How Much I Love You*, where a rabbit child coyly tests his father's love.

McCloskey, Robert. *Make Way for Ducklings*. *Blueberries For Sal*. Classics no child should miss.

McDonald, Megan. *The Bone Keeper*. The Bone Woman searches the desert gathering bones to create a wondrous creature.

McFarland, Lyn Rossiter. *Widget*. A stray dog finds a home by fitting in with six cats.

McGhee, Alison. *Mrs. Watson Wants Your Teeth*. A 1st grader is frightened on her first day of school after hearing a rumor that her teacher is a 300-year-old alien with a purple tongue who steals baby teeth from her students.

McLeod, Bob. *SuperHero ABC*. Humorously-named superheroes such as Goo Girl and The Volcano represent the letters of the alphabet from A to Z.

McKissack, Patricia. *The All-I'll-Ever-Want for Christmas Doll*. During the Depression, three young sisters get one baby doll for Christmas and must find a way to share. *Goin' Someplace Special*. A young African-American girl braves a series of indignities and obstacles to get to one of the few integrated places in town: the public library. Also: *Precious and the Boo Hag*, many others.

McMullan, Kate. *I Stink!* An exuberant garbage truck makes his rounds.

Meade, Holly. *John Willy and Freddy McGee*. Two fearless guinea pigs escape, survive near catastrophes, return to their cage and start all over again.

Meddaugh, Susan. *Hog-Eye*. A young piggy heroine uses her wits to best a hungry wolf. Also: *Martha Speaks* and others, hilarious tales of a talking canine.

Meschenmoser, Sebastian. *Waiting for Winter*. After learning about the joy of snow from Deer, Squirrel waits impatiently for winter to arrive, but his "waiting" wakes his neighbors Hedgehog and Bear, who decide to help Squirrel find winter so they can go back to sleep.

Miller, William. *Richard Wright and the Library Card*. From a true story, a view of painful indignities and courage that were part of African Americans' lives.

Mitchell, Margaret King. *Uncle Jed's Barbershop*. A story of dreams deferred and finally realized in the segregated South, 1920s.

*Monroe, Chris. *Sneaky Sheep*. Blossom and Rocky, two sneaky and not very bright sheep, keep trying to get away from the rest of the flock, in spite of the dangers they encounter.

Mora, Pat. *Tomas and the Library Lady*. Story of a migrant family's annual trek, and the dreams and hopes that books bring to a young boy's life.

Morales, Yuyi. *Just a Minute: A Trickster Tale and Counting Book*. Grandma Beetle postpones a a trip to the next life with vitality and humor.

Moss, Lloyd. *Zin! Zin! Zin! A Violin!* Sizzling introduction to the orchestra.

*Muth, Jon J. *Zen Ghosts*. Stillwater the bear returns with more Zen wisdom. Also: *Zen Shorts and Zen Ties*. Stillwater tells stories of wisdom and humor to three siblings, teaching them to look at the world in new ways.

Myers, Christopher *Wings*. The new boy in school is outcast because he has wings. But his resilient spirit inspires one girl to speak up for him.

Nelson, Vaunda. *Almost to Freedom*. Story of a young girl's escape from slavery via the Underground Railroad, from the perspective of her beloved rag doll.

Newman, Jeff. *Hippo! No, Rhino!* Due to a misplaced sign, zoo visitors mistake the frustrated rhino for a hippo until a young boy comes along who can help.

Numeroff, Laura Joffe. *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*. A comic look at insatiability. Also: *If You Give A Moose A Muffin*, others.

Ogburn, Jacqueline. *The Bake Shop Ghost*. Miss Cora Lee Meriweather haunts her bake shop after her death, until the new owner makes a sweet deal with her. Also: *The Magic Nesting Doll*. After her grandmother dies, Katya finds herself in a kingdom where the Tsarvitch has been turned into living ice and she uses the magic nesting dolls her babushka had given her to try to break the curse.

Osborne, Mary Pope. *Kate and the Beanstalk*. A saucy girl outwits a giant and recovers her late father's castle in a new spin on an old tale.

Palatini, Margie. *Piggie Pie*. Gritch the witch flies to Old MacDonald's farm for some pigs to make a piggie pie, but when she arrives she can't find a single porker. Also: *Bedhead* and *Ding Dong Ding Dong*.

*Peete, Holly Robinson. *My Brother Charlie*. A girl tells what it is like living with her twin brother who has autism and sometimes finds it hard to communicate with words, but who, in most ways, is just like any other boy.

Peet, Bill. *Buford the Little Big Horn*. Goofy animals get into trouble! The story of an awkward and scrawny mountain sheep with oversized horns who escapes the hunters to become the sensation of a ski resort. Many others by this Disney animator: *Big Bad Bruce*. *Wump World*. *Huge Harold*.

Pilkey, Dav. *The Dumb Bunnies* and sequels. A masterpiece of really bad jokes that has enticed more children into reading than I can count. Beware: some parents don't love it, but I do.

Pinkney, Jerry. *The Lion and the Mouse*. Stunning, wordless, award-winning. *Little Red Riding Hood*. Pinkney's version is stunningly illustrated and rich in language. Pinkney has illustrated dozens of important titles for young readers and should not be missed.

Pinkwater, Daniel. *The Big Orange Splot*. When a seagull drops a can of orange paint on his neat house, Mr. Plumbean gets an idea that affects his entire neighborhood. Many other whimsical and delightful titles by this author.

Polacco, Patricia. *Thank You, Mr. Falker*. A young girl overcomes her reading disability with the help of a sensitive and persistent teacher. Many others: *The Keeping Quilt*, *Mrs. Katz and Tush*, *Pink and Say*, *Trees of the Dancing Goats*.

*Portis, Antoinette. *Not a Box!* To an imaginative little bunny, a box is not always a box.

*Ramsay, Calvin A. *Ruth and the Green Book*. This thoughtful story tells of Ruth and her parents on a road trip from Chicago to Atlanta at a time when many hotels, gas stations and restaurants would not serve African-Americans.

Rathmann, Peggy. *10 Minutes Till Bedtime*. A pet hamster leads caravans filled with curious vacationing hamsters through his young owner's home. Also: *Officer Buckle and Gloria*, *The Day the Babies Crawled Away*.

Raven, Margot. *Circle Unbroken*. A grandmother tells the tale of Gullahs and their beautiful sweetgrass baskets that keep their African heritage alive.

*Ray, Jane. *The Dollhouse Fairy*. Worried about her father's trip to the hospital, Rosy goes to play with the special dollhouse he built for her and finds Thistle, a very messy and mischievous fairy. *The Apple-Pip Princess*. In a land that has stood barren, parched by drought and ravaged by frosts since the Queen's death, the King sets his three daughters the task of making the kingdom bloom again, and discovers that sometimes the smallest things can make the biggest difference.

Rayner, Mary. *Mr. and Mrs. Pig's Evening Out*. Mr. and Mrs. Pig's new babysitter is not what she seems, but their piglets prove masters of the situation.

Recorvits, Helen. *My Name Is Yoon*. A shy newcomer from Korea adjusts to life in an American school.

Rey, H.A. *Curious George*. The irrepressible monkey delights yet another generation of young readers.

Richardson, Justin and Peter Parnell. *And Tango Makes Three*. When two male penguins make a nest together in the Central Park Zoo, a zoo keeper provides them with an egg, and the pair raise baby Tango as their own.

*Rickards, Lynne. *Pink!* Teased in school for being pink, Patrick the penguin leaves the South Pole to live with the flamingos in Africa.

Ringgold, Faith. *Tar Beach*. A flight of fancy over the buildings and bridges of New York City. Also: *Bonjour, Lonnie*. *Dinner at Aunt Connie's House*.

*Robinson, Sharon. *Jackie's Gift*. When young Steve, who is Jewish, tells his new neighbor, Jackie Robinson, that his family does not have a Christmas tree, Jackie brings one, not knowing that they celebrate Hanukkah, not Christmas.

Rodman, Mary Ann. *My Best Friend*. Six-year-old Lily has a best friend all picked out for play group day, but unfortunately the differences between first-graders and second-graders are sometimes very large.

Rohmann, Eric. *A Kitten Tale*. A frisky little kitten can't wait to play in the snow from the acclaimed illustrator. Also gorgeous: *My Friend Rabbit*. *Clara and Asha*. *Time Flies*. *The Cinder-Eyed Cats*.

Rosenthal, Amy Krouse. *Duck! Rabbit!* A line drawing can be whichever animal you decide it is. Wildly popular in our library.

*Ruzzier, Sergio. *Hey, Rabbit!* Rabbit finds something inside his suitcase for each of his friends, but worries that there might not be anything left for him.

Sansone, Adele. *The Little Green Goose*. Mr. Goose finds an egg, hatches it, and raises a green-skinned long-tailed chick.

Say, Allen. *Tree of Cranes*. A Japanese boy learns of Christmas when his mother decorates a pine tree with origami cranes. Also: *Tea with Milk, Grandfather's Journey*.

Schotter, Roni. *The Boy Who Loved Words*. Selig, who loves words and copies them on pieces of paper that he carries with him, goes on a trip to discover his purpose.

Seeger, Laura Vaccaro. *Dog and Bear: Two Friends, Three Stories*. A friendship book with sweet and comic episodes based on different personalities and bodies.

Scieszka, Jon, and Lane Smith. *The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales*. Also: *The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs by A. Wolf*. Wildly popular fractured fairy tales, beloved for their intelligence and silliness.

Sendak, Maurice. *Where the Wild Things Are*. A naughty little boy, sent to bed without his supper, sails to the land of the wild things where he becomes king. Also: *Pierre: A Cautionary Tale* in which an indifferent boy learns to care.

Shannon, David. *Good Boy, Fergus!* Shannon's own terrier gets into all kinds of trouble but remains a "good boy." Also beloved: *No, David!* and sequels, featuring the hilariously obstreperous preschooler, and *Duck on a Bike*.

Shaw, Nancy. *Sheep Take a Hike*. The 5th adventure of these silly sheep.

Shulevitz, Uri. *Snow*. A boy and his dog enjoy snowflakes that transform a dreary cityscape into a winter wonderland.

Siegelson, Kim. *In the Time of the Drums*. A young enslaved boy watches his beloved grandmother lead an insurrection of Ibo people arriving on a slave ship.

Sierra, Judy. *Thelonus Monster's Sky-High Fly Pie*. Tongue-twisting verse featuring a fuzzy monster and luscious flies. *Wild About Books*. A librarian introduces animals to the joy of reading by driving her bookmobile to the zoo.

Simont, Marc. *The Stray Dog*. A family befriends a stray dog, names him Willy, and decides to keep him in a gently humorous tale.

Sis, Peter. *Komodo*. A child who loves dragons goes to the Indonesian island of Komodo in hopes of seeing a real dragon. Also: *Madlenka's Dog*. Madlenka wants a dog but when her parents say no, Madlenka must use her imagination.

Slobodkina, Esphyr. *Caps for Sale*. A band of mischievous monkeys steals every one of a peddler's caps while he takes a nap under a tree.

Smith, Lane. *John, Paul, George & Ben*. A comic fusion of fact and fiction about America's Founding Fathers.

Spinelli, Eileen. *Sophie's Masterpiece: A Spider's Tale*. Sophie the Spider weaves her final masterpiece for a new baby whose mother can't afford a blanket.

Stanley, Diane. *Rumpelstiltskin's Daughter*. The feisty offspring of the miller's daughter and Rumpelstiltskin outwits the greedy king.

*Stead, Philip K. *A Sick Day for Amos McGee*. 2011 Caldecott Medal. The zookeeper who takes care of the animals gets a visit from them when he is ill.

Steig, William. *Zeke Pippin*. A young pig finds a magic, sleep-inducing harmonica. Also: *Dr. DeSoto*, *Sylvester and the Magic Pebble*, *Amos & Boris*.

*Stein, David Ezra. *Interrupting Chicken*. Little Chicken can't let her papa finish a bedtime story without repeated and hilarious interruptions.

Stevens, Janet. *And the Dish Ran Away with the Spoon*. Parody of the nursery rhyme, an adventure tale full of puns. Also: *Tops & Bottoms*. Hare turns his bad luck around by striking a clever deal with the rich and lazy bear down the road.

Stock, Catherine. *Gugu's House*. A joyful portrait of a wise, loving, artistic and resourceful grandmother in Zimbabwe. Also: *Where Are You Going, Manyoni?*

Sturges, Philemon. *The Little Red Hen (Makes a Pizza)*. A classic tale retold with a hen who likes shopping and an unhelpful but hungry dog, cat and duck.

Stuve-Bodeen, Stephanie. *Elizabethi's Doll*. A Tanzanian girl finds a round huggable rock on which to shower her affection.

Thompson, Lauren. *Ballerina Dreams*. Five young girls with muscle disorders finish a year of ballet in a recital with tutus, make-up, ballet shoes, and tiaras.

Turner, Pamela S. *Hachiko*. The true story of a dog who accompanied his master to and from a Tokyo train station daily and, after his master died, continued to wait for him there every day for many years.

Urban, Linda. *Mouse Was Mad*. Mouse struggles to find the right way to express his anger, modeling the behavior of Hare, Bear, Hedgehog, and Bobcat, only to discover that his own way may be the best way of all.

Van Allsburg, Chris. *Two Bad Ants*. When two bad ants desert their colony, they experience a dangerous adventure that convinces them to return to their former safety. Also: *Jumanji*, *Just A Dream*, *The Polar Express*, many others.

*Varon, Sara. *Chicken and Cat Clean Up*. A wordless story in which Chicken opens his own housekeeping business with Cat as his partner with comic results.

*Vere, Ed. *Banana*. Two wild and crazy monkeys, two words and only one banana lead to a spectacular tantrum in this comic take on sharing.

*Vernick, Audrey. *Is Your Buffalo Ready for Kindergarten?* Although kindergarten provides unique challenges for a young buffalo, one who follows the rules and tries his best will get along fine.

Viorst, Judith. *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*. A perpetual favorite of any kid who has ever had an awful day. Several others.

Waber, Bernard. *Bearsie Bear and the Surprise Sleepover Party*. A ridiculous cumulative tale where many animals share one warm bed--watch out for the porcupine! Many others, including *Ira Sleeps Over* and *Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile*.

Watt, Mélanie. *Scaredy Squirrel*. Afraid to leave his nut tree, a young squirrel discovers the rewards of taking a bit of a risk in this hilarious tale. Sequels: *Scaredy Squirrel Makes a Friend*. ...*At Night*. ...*At the Beach*.

Wells, Rosemary. *Yoko*. Her classmates make fun of Yoko's sushi lunch until one tries it and discovers it is delicious. *Bunny Cakes*. Max makes an earthworm cake for Grandma' while bossy Ruby makes a more traditional confection.

Whybrow, Ian. *Sammy and the Dinosaurs*. Sammy finds toy dinosaurs in the attic that come to life when he names each one.

Wiesner, David. *Flotsam*. The story --wordless--of what happens when a camera becomes a piece of flotsam. Also: *Sector 7*, *Tuesday* and *The Three Pigs*.

Wiles, Deborah. *Freedom Summer*. Two friends are elated to learn, in the summer of 1964, that they will be allowed to swim together in the town pool--until the town fills the pool with cement to preserve segregation.

*Willems, Mo. Genius Mo Willems OWNS the early reading world with humor, joy and social skills modelling. *Elephant & Piggie* series: *We Are In a Book! I Broke My Trunk*. Many others. *City Dog, Country Frog*. Unleashed on his visit to the country, a dog meets a new friend in frog and together they experience the seasons and the cycle of life. *What's Your Sound, Hound the Hound?* Pigeon series: *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus. The Pigeon Wants a Hot Dog. Cat the Cat* series. Plus: *Knuffle Bunny*. Baby Trixie freaks out and speaks her first word when her beloved bunny is left at the laundromat. Two sequels.

Williams, Vera. *A Chair for My Mother*. A young girl helps her mother save for a cozy chair to replace one lost in a fire.

Wilson, Karma. *Bear Snores On*. On a cold winter night many animals gather to party in the cave of a sleeping bear, who then awakes and protests that he has missed the food and the fun.

*Winter, Jeannette. *Nasreen's Secret School*. A little girl gets an education in Afghanistan, despite the vicious Taliban, thanks to her grandmother's determination. Also: *The Librarian of Basra*. During the Iraq War of 2003, librarian Alia Muhammad saves thirty thousand new and old books in her Basra library from destruction.

Winthrop, Elizabeth. *Squashed in the Middle*. Daisy, the middle child in a boisterous African-American family, cannot get anyone's attention until she leaves the house. Illustrated by Pat Cummings.

Wood, Audrey. *King Bidgood's in the Bathtub*. Despite pleas from his court, a fun-loving king refuses to get out of his bathtub to rule his kingdom. Also: *The Napping House*, in which a wakeful flea causes outsize commotion.

*Woodson, Jacqueline. *Pecan Pie Baby*. Gia is not looking forward to the birth of a new baby sibling--but her wise mother knows they both like pecan pie. *The Other Side*. A fence divides a neighborhood by race, but two young girls overcome the barrier and jump rope together.

Yolen, Jane. *How Do Dinosaurs Say Goodnight?* Human parents tuck realistic-looking dinosaurs in bed as the "children" use typical bedtime stalling tactics.

Zion, Gene. *Harry the Dirty Dog*. A white dog with black spots runs away from home and gets so dirty his family doesn't recognize him.

EASY READERS

Just a small sampling of easy readers, written with controlled vocabulary and large print especially for emerging readers.

Bang-Campbell, Monika. *Little Rat Makes Music*. She hates to practice, but hard work makes a violin recital worth it. *Little Rat Sets Sail*.

Benchley, Nathaniel. *Oscar Otter*. The adventures of a young otter as he discovers he has much to learn from his father.

Bottner, Barbara. *Pish & Posh Wish for Fairy Wings*. Beginner fairies Pish and Posh try to make four wise wishes in order to earn their wings.

Byars, Betsy. *My Brother, Ant*. *Ant Plays Bear*. Illuminates the affectionate relationship between creative Ant and his exasperated big brother.

Cazet, Denis. *Minnie and Moo* series. Two cow friends visit Paris, the moon, Planet X and go dancing in this lighthearted series.

Chaconas, Dori. *Cork & Fuzz: Short and Tall*. Third in a charming easy reader series with the friendship between a muskrat and a possum.

Cohen, Miriam. *See You In Second Grade!* It's the end of the year and the class trip is both funny and nostalgic as kids say goodbye. Many others.

Clements, Andrew. *Pets to the Rescue* series. True stories of dogs and cats rescuing humans from extreme danger.

Cosby, Bill, *Little Bill* series. Little Bill's adventures and involvement with family and friends often incorporate messages of empathy and imagination.

*Egan, Tim. *Dodsworth in Rome*. Dodsworth and the crazy deadpan duck continue their travels. *Dodsworth in New York*. *Dodsworth in Paris*.

George, Jean Craighead. *Goose and Duck*. Imprinting gone haywire: a newly hatched goose decides a young boy is its mother, and a newly hatched duck decides the goose is its mother.

Grant, Judyann. *Chicken Said, "Cluck!"* Chicken wants to help Earl and Pearl plant their pumpkins, but she only manages to get in the way, until grasshoppers invade the pumpkin patch and Chicken is the only one who can stop them.

Hoban, Lillian. *Silly Tilly's Valentine*. Mr. Bunny reminds her that the day is special, but Silly Tilly, the forgetful mole, gets distracted by the snow.

Hoff, Syd. Author of more than 50 timeless easy readers, *The New Yorker* cartoonist continues to speak to children with such works as *Danny and the Dinosaur*, *Barkley, Chester* and *Mrs. Brice's Mice*.

Howe, James. *Houndlsey and Catina*. Houndsley and Catina run into trouble when they decide to prove who is best at cooking and writing.

Kettner, Christine. *Oliver Cat on Planet B*. Three absurd stories in which Oliver has trouble fishing, has trouble choosing which game to play, and goes to great lengths to find a button for his shirt.

Livingston, Star. *Harley*. A bad-tempered llama refuses to become a pack animal but becomes a devoted guarder of sheep.

Lobel, Arnold. *Frog and Toad* series. Tales of loyalty, friendship and humor.

Michalak, Jamie. *Larry and Rita*. The adventures of two friends, a porcupine and a chipmunk.

Milgrim, David. *Swing Otto Swing!* An easy reader full of heart and humor in which a robot struggles to swing on vines like his monkey friends.

Miller, Sara Swan. *Three Stories You Can Read To Your Dog*. Humorous tales for a child to read aloud with a view inside a dog's head--great for new readers. Also: *Three Stories You Can Read To Your Cat*.

Mills, Claudia. *Gus and Grandpa at Basketball*. Seventh and best in a series about family relationships, with lessons in persistence and achievement.

Minarik, Elsie. *Little Bear* series, illus. by Maurice Sendak. Timeless and beloved stories of family life.

Rylant, Cynthia. *Henry and Mudge* series. A lonely boy finds joy in a great big dog. Many other titles by this author, esp. *When I Was Young in the Mountains*.

*Taha, Karen T. *Hotdog on TV*. A small brown dog tries out for a tv commercial.

*Thiesing, Lissa. *The Aliens Are Coming!* Peggy becomes very worried when she hears that the Aliens are coming, but then she learns that they are a rock band. Also: *The Viper*, a comic tale of misunderstanding.

Thomas, Shelley Moore. *Get Well, Good Night*. A good knight does his best to help his three ill dragon friends with a wizard's soups. Also: *Good Night, Good Knight*. A knight hears a roar in the forest and discovers three tiny dragons.

Van Leeuwen, Jean. *Amanda Pig and the Really Hot Day*. It's so hot. Hot as a fried egg, hot as oatmeal. Amanda tries an assortment of strategies to cool off.

Amanda Pig and the Wiggly Tooth. *Amanda Pig, Schoolgirl*.

*Yee, Wong Herbert. *Upstairs Mouse, Downstairs Mole*. Mouse and her downstairs neighbor, Mole, discover that when they help each other, housecleaning and other daily tasks are much easier *A Brand New Day with Mouse and Mole*.

Yolen, Jane. *Commander Toad* series. The intrepid crew of the space ship "Star Warts" lands on a water-covered planet inhabited by Deep Wader, a horrible hungry monster.

FOLK TALES, FAIRY TALES and MYTHS

NOTE: Folk tales and myths are a nourishing read for any age and stimulate creativity, imagination and courage. They are an essential component of literacy and should be part of a child's reading throughout elementary school. Check the library's 398.2 section for more.

Aardema, Verna. *How the Ostrich Got Its Long Neck*. A laugh-out-loud picture book by the author of *Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears*, many others.

Bodkin, Odds. *The Crane Wife*. A tale of mystery and tragedy with stunning Japanese-inspired illustrations.

Bruchac, Joseph. *The Boy Who Lived With the Bears and Other Stories*. A collection of six Iroquois tales, filled with humor and drama. Many others.

Callahan, Sheila MacGill. *The Seal Prince*. Grainne rejects the island suitors to be with Deodatus, a seal-man she once rescued from death.

Casanova, Mary. *The Hunter: A Chinese Folktale*. After learning to understand the language of animals, Hai Li Bu sacrifices himself to save his village.

Climo, Shirley. *The Korean Cinderella*. One of many variants by this author, with lovely illustrations.

Cullen, Lynn. *The Mightiest Heart*. Prince Llywelyn wrongly banishes his loyal dog Gelert when he believes that the dog has attacked his son.

Dasent, George. *East o' the Sun, West o' the Moon*. A stunning picture book version of the traditional Norse tale, with horrible long-nosed trolls, as a girl travels to a magical land to free her beloved prince from a magic spell.

Demi. *The Firebird*. Dmitri must capture the firebird and win Vassilissa's hand. This magnificent artist has produced many stunning fairy tales: *The Emperor's New Clothes*. *The Empty Pot*. *The Girl Who Drew a Phoenix*. *The Greatest Treasure*. *The Hungry Coat*. *The Magic Pillow*. *One Grain of Rice*.

Fleischman, Paul. *Glass Slipper, Gold Sandal: A Worldwide Cinderella*. A retelling that includes elements from Mexico, Iran, Korea, Russia and many more.

Garland, Sherry. *Children of the Dragon: Selected Tales from Vietnam*. Jewel-toned artwork illustrates a mix of comic, tragic and satisfyingly just tales.

Hamilton, Virginia. *The People Could Fly: The Picture Book*. A group of slaves calls upon the African magic that allows them to fly away. Also: *The Girl Who Spun Gold*. An exquisitely illustrated West Indian version of Rumpelstiltskin.

Haskins, James, col. *The Headless Haunt: And Other African-American Ghost Stories*. An important collection of tales that have been passed on for generations.

Hodges, Margaret. *Merlin and the King*. A simple retelling of three Arthurian legends with exquisite artwork reminiscent of detailed medieval manuscripts.

Hong, Lily Toy. *Two of Everything*. A poor old Chinese farmer finds a magic brass pot that doubles or duplicates whatever is placed inside it.

Huck, Charlotte. *Toads and Diamonds*. Two stepsisters receive appropriate gifts: one's words are accompanied by flowers and jewels, one by toads and snakes.

Johnson-Davies, Denys. *Goha the Wise Fool*. Goha imparts wisdom and tricks fools in 15 amusing stories, illustrated with traditional Egyptian embroideries.

Kajikawa, Kimiko. *Yoshi's Feast*. A feud between a fan maker and an eel broiler escalates to absurdity in this adaptation of a traditional Japanese tale.

Kimmel, Eric A, ed. *The McElderry Book of Greek Myths*. One of the best read-aloud collections ever. Also: *Anansi and the Moss-Covered Rock*. Anansi the Spider tricks the other animals until Little Bush deer teaches him a lesson. Many others. Also: *Count Silvernose*, in which a washerwoman's clever oldest daughter finds a way to rescue her two foolish sisters from the cruel Count Silvernose.

Knutsen, Barbara. *Love and Roast Chicken: A Trickster Tale from the Andes Mountains*. A clever guinea pig outsmarts the fox that wants to eat him.

*Laird, Elizabeth. *Pea Boy: And Stories from Iran*. Wise, funny & exotic, with whimsical illustrations. Also: *A Fistful of Pearls and Other Tales from Iraq*.

Langton, Jane. *The Queen's Necklace: A Swedish Folk tale*. A generous queen defies her greedy king by distributing the pearls of her necklace to the poor.

Lester, Julius. *Tales of Uncle Remus*. A wonderfully accessible retelling of the humorous tales, updated yet true to the original. Sequels. Also: *John Henry*.

Lunge-Larsen, Lise. *The Troll with No Heart in His Body: And Other Tales of Trolls from Norway*. Norwegian tales featuring ugly, dimwitted giants. Also: *The Hidden Folk: Stories of Fairies, Dwarves, Selkies and Other Secret Beings*.

MacDonald, Margaret Read. *Tunjur! Tunjur! Tunjur! A Palestinian Folktale*. A childless woman's prayers are answered by the arrival of a talking pot who needs to be taught right from wrong.

Martin, Rafe. *The Rough-Face Girl*. Lushly illustrated and haunting version of the Cinderella tale from Algonquin folklore.

McDermott, Gerald. *Musicians of the Sun*. Gloriously illustrated Aztec tale. *Zomo the Rabbit*. Wildly exuberant, full of slapstick and mischief.

Montes, Maris. *Juan Bobo Goes to Work*. Retelling of a Puerto Rican tale featuring Joan Bobo's humorous escapades and vivid Caribbean colors.

McGill, Alice. *Way Up and Over Everything*. Dignified folk art illustrates a classic story of enslaved people who fly to freedom.

Mosel, Arlene, retel. *Tikki Tikki Tembo*. A little boy with a long name falls into a well and nearly drowns, leading the Chinese to give children short names.

Myers, Christopher. *Lies and Other Tall Tales*. A collection of the wild, wicked short tales of Zora Neal Hurston.

Orgel, Doris. *The Bremen Town Musicians and Other Animal Tales from Grimm*. Fresh retellings in which the animals are imbued with wit and humor.

Phelps, Ethel J. *The Maid of the North: Feminist Folk tales from Around the World*. Old tales of enchantment and adventure, powerfully illustrated.

Philip, Neil. *The Arabian Nights*. Jewel-toned illustrations, these stories are told in elegant fairy-tale language. Many others by this anthologist.

Ray, Jane. *The Twelve Dancing Princesses*, in which the young ladies mysteriously wear out their slippers each night while supposedly sleeping in their locked bedroom.

Rylant, Cynthia. *The Beautiful Stories of Life: Six Greek Myths, Retold*. A blend of telling and interpretation in an accessible and elegant version of classics.

Sierra, Judy, retel. *The Gift of the Crocodile: A Cinderella Story*. Indonesian--a girl escapes her cruel stepmother with help from Grandmother Crocodile.

Russell, William F. *Classic Myths to Read Aloud*. Collection of Greek myths that includes pronunciation guides, organized from simplest to most complex.

*Sans Souci, Robert D. *The Secret of the Stones*. A childless couple discovers that the two stones they have brought home are actually two bewitched orphans. Sans Souci is a master folklorist: *The Faithful Friend*. *Cendrillon: A Caribbean Cinderella*. *The Hired Hand*. *Sukey and the Mermaid*. Many others.

Stephoe, John, retel. *Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters: An African Tale*. A Cinderella variant with two beautiful but very different young women.

Storace, Patricia. *Sugar Cane: A Caribbean Rapunzel*. A powerful version of the tale, suffused with rich language, in which a beautiful girl with long hair is imprisoned by an island sorceress.

Tchana, Katrin. *The Serpent Slayer and Other Stories of Strong Women*. A collection of twenty tales of strong and resourceful women. Also: *Changing Woman and Her Sisters: Stories of Goddesses from Around the World*.

Yolen, Jane. *Mightier than the Sword: World Folktales for Strong Boys*. A collection of tales which demonstrate the triumph of brains over brawn.

Young, Ed. *Lon Po Po*. Three sisters, home alone, are threatened by a hungry wolf disguised as their grandmother. *Seven Blind Mice*. Retelling of the Indian fable in which blind men discover different parts of an elephant.

Zelinsky, Paul. *Rapunzel*. *Rumpelstiltskin*. Sumptuously illustrated tellings.

LOWER and MIDDLE ELEMENTARY FICTION

(* recently published)

A word about series books: Many series books for this age group (*The Magic Tree House*, *Junie B. Jones*, etc.) are designed for children to read independently: the simplified syntax, controlled vocabulary and repetitive plots help emerging readers develop proficiency. Picture books, myths and folktales with sophisticated themes and rich vocabulary are still the superb choices to read aloud.

Adler, David. *Cam Jansen* mysteries. Easy-to-read , featuring the girl detective.

Ahlberg, Allan. *The Cat Who Got Carried Away*. Excitement for the Gaskitt family--missing pets, an unusual substitute teacher, and an addition to the family.

Amato, Mary. *The Riot Brothers* series, including *Drooling and Dangerous*, *Snarf Attack*, and *Stinky and Successful*. The *Captain Underpants* crowd will love the humorous adventures of brothers and best friends, Wilbur and Orville Riot.

Arkin, Alan. *The Lemming Condition*. Provocative allegory. A young lemming is haunted by doubts about the purpose of the great march to the sea.

Auch, Mary Jane. *I Was a Third Grade Science Project*. While trying to hypnotize his dog for the third grade science fair, Brian accidentally makes his best friend Josh think he's a cat. Also: *I Was a Third Grade Spy*.

Avi. *Poppy*. A small but valiant deer mouse confronts a terrifying owl to save her family. Sequels: *Poppy and Rye*, *Ragweed*, *Ereth's Birthday*.

Banks, Lynne Reid. *I, Houdini*. Tales of an escape artist hamster. Also: *The Fairy Rebel*, *The Farthest Away Mountain*, and *The Indian in the Cupboard*, all magically fine read-alouds.

Baker, E.D. *The Frog Princess*. *Dragon's Breath*. *The Dragon Princess*. *Once Upon a Curse*. Fairy-tale series with quirky, funny characters and magical beings. How do you learn to be human again after you've been a frog?

*Barnes, Derrick. *Ruby and the Booker Boys*. At last: An African-American heroine in a series! Ruby is funny, feisty, foolish and oh-so-social in her escapades with cheerleading and slumber parties.

Barrows, Annie. *Ivy + Bean*, series. When 7-year-old Bean plays a trick on her sister, she finds unexpected support for her antics from Ivy, the new neighbor.

Bauer, Marion Dane. *The Red Ghost*. Jenna purchases an old doll dressed in red velvet at a garage sale and realizes, with horror, that terrible things are happening.

Birney, Betty. *The World According to Humphrey*. Humphrey, pet hamster at Longfellow School, plays an important role in helping his classmates and teacher.

Blume, Judy. *Freckle Juice*. Andrew is so eager for freckles that he pays Sharon fifty cents for a secret recipe. *Fudge*, *Superfudge* and *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing* are other comical books for this age group.

*Blume, Leslie M.M. *Modern Fairies, Dwarves, Goblins and Other Nasties: A Practical Guide*. Not your usual sweet fairy book, but a set of tongue-in-cheek tales featuring magical creatures in New York and how to deal with them.

*Breathed, Berkeley. *Flawed Dogs: The Shocking Raid on Westminster*. A dachshund with a big heart gets revenge on a vicious show poodle.

Buchanan, Jane. *The Berry-Picking Man*. Maggie is angry that her mom invites crazy Old Sam home but eventually accepts him.

Cameron, Ann. *The Stories Julian Tells*. *More Stories Julian Tells*. Many others. Warm, friendly tales of mischief and love with two young brothers.

Carey, Peter. *The Big Bazoohley*. When his family needs money, 9-year-old Sam allows himself to be "borrowed" and entered into a contest to find the Perfecto Kiddo, hoping to win \$10,000.

Cheng, Andrea. *Honeysuckle House*. An all-American girl with Chinese ancestors and a new immigrant from China find little in common when they meet in the 4th grade, but both are missing best friends and discover other connections.

Cleary, Beverly. *Henry Huggins*. A lively tale about Henry and his dog Ribsy. Many others by Cleary are also beloved, especially the Ramona books.

Clements, Andrew. *Frindle*. Nick, a champion time-waster, faces the toughest teacher in school and invents a new language. Also the *Jake Drake* series.

Cohen, Barbara. *Molly's Pilgrim*. A young Russian immigrant struggles to overcome her feeling of alienation in her new American school.

*Cole, Henry. *A Nest for Celeste*. Celeste, a little mouse with a big capacity for empathy, befriends and inspires the assistant of painter John James Audubon.

Colfer, Eoin. *The Legend of Spud Murphy*. When their mother starts dropping them off at the library several afternoons a week, 9-year-old William and his brother must cope with a librarian armed with a potato gun and wicked stamps.
Also: *Eoin Colfer's Legend of -- The Worst Boy in the World*.

Coville, Bruce. *The Monster's Ring*. A timid boy, eager to frighten the school bully, gets a magic ring and the power to change himself into a hideous monster. Also: *Moongobble and Me* series. Life in the village of Pigbone is boring until an aspiring magician and his talking toad come to town and ask Edward to help them slay the Dragon of Doom. Also: *The Dragonslayers*. Witch Grizelda creates a dragon so fierce that it frightens even the king's knights.

Cutler, Jane. *Rats!* Jason and his brother Edward get ready for Halloween, acquire a couple of pet rats, and deal with not-birthday presents from Aunt Bea.

Dahl, Roald. *James and the Giant Peach*. A transatlantic adventure on a flying peach carrying a boy and an assortment of enormous insects. Also: *Matilda*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *The BFG*, others. Great read alouds.

Dalgliesh, Alice. *The Courage of Sarah Noble*. Sarah, age 8, journeys into the wilderness to cook and care for her father. Survival tale based on a true story.

Danziger, Paula. *Amber Brown* series. Feisty and resilient Amber goes through life's ups and downs in this series, by turns wistful and comic.

Denslow, Sharon Phillips. *Georgie Lee*. In a gently humorous story, a young boy and his grandmother share adventures on her farm with her cat and her cow.

Dewey, Kathleen. *The Unicorn's Secret* series. Heart Avamir rescues a wounded unicorn and defeats evil in this cliffhanger serial for emerging chapter book readers.

DiCamillo, Kate. *Mercy Watson to the Rescue*. The first in a series of six featuring the comic pink porker.

Dickinson, Peter. *Chuck and Danielle*. A clever story about Danielle and her dog, Chuck, whose timid world view creates many laugh-out-loud scenes.

Dorris, Michael. *Morning Girl*. A young Bahamian girl of the 15th century enjoys her family and island life, and eagerly swims out to meet the boats of Christopher Columbus. Also: *Sees Behind Trees*; *Guests*.

Dowell, Frances O'Roark. *Phineas L. Macguire--Erupts!* Science whiz Phineas is forced to team up with the new boy on a science fair project, but the boy's quirky personality makes Phineas wonder if they have any chance of winning.

*Draper, Sharon. *Sassy* series. A disastrous dinner party, a problem with a school musical and an adventure with her family stuck in an elevator are just a few dilemmas solved by this spunky heroine.

Eager, Edward. *Half Magic*. Four children enjoy a series of fantastic adventures by double-wishing on an ancient coin. Several others by this author.

Elliott, David. *The Transmogrification of Roscoe Wizzle*. After eating constantly at a local fast food restaurant, 10-year-old Roscoe begins to turn into a giant bug.

Enright, Elizabeth. *The Saturdays*. Old-fashioned storytelling at its best in the first of a series. Four New York City siblings decide to pool their resources so that each can do a special thing one Saturday in four.

Estes, Eleanor. *The Hundred Dresses*. Wanda, an immigrant girl who wears the same dress every day, suffers putdowns, and no one believes the claim that she has a hundred dresses. Also: *Ginger Pye*, the world's most lovable lost-and-found dog, and *The Moffats*, an old-fashioned family with old-fashioned charm.

Fienberg, Anna. *Tashi* series. Brave Tashi outsmarts giants, ghosts, demons, and witches as he travels around the world, escaping on the back of a swan.

Finney, Patricia. *I, Jack*. Jack, a Labrador Retriever, tells about his daily life of food, the "apedogs" (people) and "funny-looking dogs" (cats), and how everything changes when a girl dog moves into the neighborhood. Hilarious and a tad racy.

Fleischman, Sid. *Bandit's Moon*. A comic tale of the California gold rush era, where Annyrose links up with a gang of illiterate outlaws.

Funke, Cornelia. *Ghosthunters and the Gruesome Invisible Lightning Ghost*. A *Ghostbusters* style novel from the younger set. Hetty Hyssop and her assistant ghosthunters travel to a seaside hotel to investigate the appearance of one of the most dangerous ghosts in the world.

Gaiman, Neil. *Odd and the Frost Giants*. An unlucky Norwegian boy named Odd leads the bewitched Norse gods Loki, Thor, and Odin in an attempt to outwit evil Frost Giants who have taken over Asgard.

Gannett, Ruth Stiles. *My Father's Dragon*. A beloved first chapter book. Elmer goes to rescue a captive baby dragon using lollipops, chewing gum, and his wits. Two sequels.

Gardiner, John Reynolds. *The Stone Fox*. Little Willie hopes to pay the back taxes on his grandfather's farm with the purse from a dog sled race he enters.

Gauthier, Gail. *A Girl, a Boy and a Monster Cat*. Brandon reluctantly stays with his imaginative classmate, Hannah, and her oversized cat, but afternoons pick up when a new neighbor moves in with a ferocious chihuahua named Bucky.

George, Jean Craighead. *There's An Owl in the Shower*. A young boy whose father has lost a logging job befriends an endangered spotted owl.

Gosciny, René. *Nicholas*. Tr. from the French, a beloved collection of the hilarious escapades of a boy and his classmates at an all-boys school. Sequel: *Nicholas and the Gang*.

Grahame, Kenneth. *The Wind in the Willows*. A deservedly beloved, lyrical classic featuring Toad, Mole, Badger and Rat. Slow but poetic read-aloud.

Greene, Stephanie. *Owen Foote, Frontiersman*. Second grader Owen and his pal enjoy their tree fort until some bullies visiting his neighbor threaten to wreck it.

Hass, Jessie. *Runaway Radish*. When a pony grows too big for the girls who own him, he moves to a camp where he finds new children for him to train.

Haddad, Charles. *Meet Calliope Day*. Hilarious tale of an independent young girl determined to retrieve her plastic fangs from an unsympathetic teacher.

*Harper, Cherise Meracle. *Just Grace. Just Grace Walks the Dog. Still Just Grace*. Friendships, money-making schemes, and good intentions that backfire occupy Grace in this funny, quirky series.

Hale, Bruce. *The Big Nap: From the Tattered Casebook of Chet Gecko, Private Eye*. Someone is turning students into zombies, and it's up to private eye Chet Gecko to find out who. One of several mysteries featuring the gecko detective.

Hanel, Wolfram. *Abby*. Set on an island off the Irish coast, a story of Moira and her dog, Abby, who tends goats and is also the girl's best friend.

Henderson, Kathy. *Lugalbanda: The Boy Who Got Caught Up in a War*. A tale of ancient Iraq, in which a boy uses his wits and his courage to assist his kingdom.

Henkes, Kevin. *Sun & Spoon*. Spoon, a young boy, misses his late grandmother and seeks to capture memories in a touching, humorous story. Many others.

Hill, Kirkpatrick. *The Year of Miss Agnes*. An inspirational story about Alaska and a special teacher who tosses out the textbooks and dares her students to dream.

Howe, Deborah and James. *Bunnacula*. Told by the dog Harold, a mystery-comedy features a vampire bunny. Several sequels.

Hurwitz, Johanna. *Ever-Clever Elisa*. Elisa is back in a friendly, easy tale of good humor and empathy. Many others by this author for 7-10 year olds.

Jenkins, Emily. *Toy Dance Party*, sequel to the beloved *Toys Go Out: Being the Adventures of a Knowledgeable Stingray, a Toughy Little Buffalo, and Someone Called Plastic*. A sparkling tale of the social and interior lives of three toys with distinct and comic personalities.

Kerrin, Jessica Scott. *Martin Bridge, Ready for Takeoff!* three stories in which a boy's plans for a rocket, a bus driver, and an old hamster go wrong.

Kingfisher, Rupert. *Madame Pamplemousse and Her Incredible Edibles*. Forced to work in her unpleasant uncle's horrible restaurant, a Parisian girl finds comfort in a shop nearby that sells otherworldly foods prepared by a mysterious cook and her cat.

King-Smith, Dick. *Pigs Might Fly*. A runt piglet with puppy-like feet learns to swim with the help of a friendly otter and a duck and becomes a hero when their farm is flooded. Many others including *Lady Lollipop*, *The Merman*, *The School Mouse*, *A Mouse Called Wolf* and *Babe: The Gallant Pig*.

Kipling, Rudyard. *Rikki-Tikki-Tavi*, illus. Jerry Pinkney. A brave young mongoose saves a family living in India from the evil cobras in their garden.

Kline, Suzy. *What's the Matter with Herbie Jones?* One of many early chapter books by this author, featuring Herbie and his hilarious pals.

Koehler-Pentacoff, Elizabeth. *Louise the One and Only*. For kids who want to reminisce about kindergarten: humorous antics of Louise as she desperately tries to fit into the school routine.

Korman, Gordon. *Nose Pickers from Outer Space*. A nerdy exchange student turns out to be an alien who works magic with a computer inside his nose.

Lasky, Kathryn. *A Journey to the New World: The Diary of Remember Patience Whipple*. From the Dear America series, historical fiction told from the point of view of a young adolescent girl. Many others in series.

LeGuin, Ursula. *Catwings* (and 3 others in series). Four winged kittens leave the city slums in search of a safe place to live, finally meeting two kind children.

Levine, Gail Carson. *Fairy Dust and the Quest for the Egg*. Mother Dove does not know what to make of Prilla, the newest fairy to Never Land, until they face a devastating hurricane, Captain Hook, and an evil dragon.

Lewis, Maggie. *Morgy Makes His Move*. When third-grader Morgy MacDougal-MacDuff moves from California to Massachusetts with his parents, he has a lot of new things to get used to before he feels comfortable.

Lindgren, Astrid. *Pippi Longstocking*. With no grownups around, Pippi is her own boss and has an inventive, outrageous approach to life. Sequels.

Lisle, Janet Taylor. *The Gold Dust Letters*. Nine-year-old Angela leaves out a letter for her fairy godmother and gets a sparkling answer.

Look, Lenore. *Alvin Ho: Allergic To Girls, School and Other Scary Things*. In this charming start to a series, a little boy who loves superheroes and who comes from a long line of brave Chinese farmer-warriors wants to make friends, but first he must overcome his fear of everything. *Ruby Lu, Brave and True*. Ruby Lu goes to Chinese school, performs magic tricks and learns to drive. Sequels.

Lowry, Lois. *Gooney Bird Greene*. An eccentric second-grader tells tall tales to her dubious classmates in a laugh-out loud story as others join in the fun. Also: *See You Around, Sam*, and *Stay! Keeper's Story*.

MacDonald, Betty. *Mrs. Piggle Wiggle*. The kindly lady who solves kids' (and parents') problems with some quirky psychology and magic. Sequels.

MacLachlan, Patricia. *Sarah Plain and Tall*. 1986 Newbery Award. Family on the prairie gets a new mother. Sequel: *Skylark*.

Martin, Ann M. and Laura Godwin. *The Runaway Dolls*. Third in the series of *The Doll People*. A doll family that has lived in the same house for one hundred years is taken aback when a new family of plastic dolls arrives and doesn't follow "The Doll Code of Honor."

McDonald, Megan. *Judy Moody Gets Famous!* In a sequel to *Judy Moody*, Judy devises comical schemes to become the center of attention in a spelling bee. Also: *Stink: The Incredible Shrinking Kid*, who learns all about the shortest President, James Madison.

*Mills, Claudia. *How Oliver Olson Changed the World*. Oliver is afraid he will always be an outsider, like the ex-planet Pluto, until he changes his overprotective parents. Also: *7 X 9 = Trouble!* Wilson struggles to learn his times tables, stay ahead of his math whiz little brother, and convince his parents that he needs a pet.

Morgenstern, Susie. *A Book of Coupons*. An unconventional fifth-grade teacher gives coupon books for such things as dancing in class and sleeping late.

Myers, Laurie. *Surviving Brick Johnson*. Alex discovers that the classmate he fears as bully is nothing of the sort in a deftly comic easy-to-read chapter book.

Nagda, Ann Whitehead. *Dear Whiskers*. Jenny is discouraged when she discovers her pen pal does not speak English very well, but they slowly become friends.

*Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds. *Roxie and the Hooligans*. When she is trapped on an island with school bullies and murderous bankrobbers, Roxie's unusual knowledge base comes in handy.

*Nelson, Peter. *Herbert's Wormhole*. Alex and Herbert unexpectedly travel to the 22nd century through a space-time wormhole where they encounter aliens, jet packs, and their future selves in this comic, cartoony sci-fi offering.

Nelson, Vaunda. *Mayfield Crossing*. A group of small-town, baseball-loving friends must transfer to a new school where they face racial prejudice. Sequel: *Beyond Mayfield*.

Nesbit, E. *Melisande*. Cursed by an evil fairy at her christening, Princess Melisande grows up bald but finds herself facing another set of problems when her wish for golden hair is fulfilled. Other fine read-alouds include *Five Children and It*, *Wet Magic* and *The Enchanted Castle*.

Newman, Leslea. *Hachiko Waits*. Hachiko waits for his master at the train station every afternoon, and even after the professor has died. Based on a true story.

Nolan, Lucy. *Bad To the Bone*. Down Girl, the dog, tells how she protects her home from the enemy, Here Kitty Kitty, and how she attempts to train her master Rruff.

O'Connor, Barbara. *How to Steal a Dog*. Georgina, living in a car with her mother and brother, concocts a plan to steal a dog and collect the reward money to try to help her family's financial plight in this touching story.

Pennypacker, Sara. *Clementine's Letter*. An easy-to read chapter book sequel to *Clementine* and *The Talented Clementine*. The feisty 3rd grader is back, this time having to weigh between her own selfish desires and helping her beloved teacher.

Perkins, Mitali. *Rickshaw Girl*. Naimi, a young girl in Bangladesh with a talent for painting, disguises herself as a boy to help her family's finances.

Pinkwater, Daniel. *Mush, A Dog From Space*. Mush, an intelligent dog from space who can cook, befriends a girl in need of a dog in an outrageous and amusing tale. Also: *Fat Men From Space* --junk-food craving aliens invade!

Pullman, Philip. *I Was a Rat!* A boy suddenly appears and tells a lonely old couple he was a rat footman for a pumpkin coach--and needs to be rescued by a certain princess.

Pyle, Howard. *Bearskin*. A literary fairy tale. An abandoned infant, nurtured by a she-bear, grows into a brave man who rescues a princess from a dragon.

Raven, Margot Theis. *Night Boat to Freedom*. At the request of his fellow slave Granny Judith, Christmas John risks his life to take runaways across a river from Kentucky to Ohio. Based on slave narratives recorded in the 1930s.

Robinson, Barbara. *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. An uproarious farce about the wild Herdman kids wreaking havoc on a school Christmas pageant.

Rodda, Emily. *The Fairy Realm* series. Sparkling fantasy adventures for young girls--a magical world of fairies, elves, unicorns, miniature horses, and mermaids ruled by a queen in a beautiful golden palace.

Rodda, Emily. *Rowan of Rin* series. Crackling adventure, a magical map, clever rhyming clues, and a small hero who proves braver than anyone expects, makes this fast-paced fantasy series difficult to put down.

Rodowsky, Colby. *Not My Dog*. Ellie has to give up her dream of getting a puppy after her parents agree to take in the dog her great-aunt can no longer keep.

Sachar, Louis. *Wayside School Is Falling Down*. The wackiest elementary school in the world is guaranteed to make kids laugh. Also, the *Marvin Redpost* series, just right for new readers with its funny twists and laconic language.

Sachs, Marilyn. *The Four Ugly Cats in Apartment 3D*. After her neighbor dies, 10-year-old Lily tries to find homes for his four ugly, noisy cats.

*Schlitz, Laura Amy. *The Night Fairy*. My favorite book of the year. When Flory the night fairy's wings are accidentally broken and she cannot fly, she has to learn to do everything differently.

Scieszka, Jon. *The Time Warp Trio* series, wacky tales of time travel via a magic book. Includes *2025*, *Knights of the Kitchen Table*, *The Not-So-Jolly Roger*, *Summer Reading Is Killing Me*, *Tut Tut*, and *Your Mother Was a Neanderthal*.

Seidler, Tor. *Gully's Travels*. A well-bred Lhasa Apso named Gulliver is forced to leave his master and finds a new one named Carlos, the doorman of a Manhattan apartment building, who takes the dog to his place in Queens, where Gully meets low-life mutts and boisterous humans. *The Wainscott Weasel*. While the other young weasels dance, Bagley thinks about Bridget, a beautiful fish who needs rescuing. Also: *Mean Margaret*, in which woodchucks take a wailing human toddler into their home.

Selden, George. *The Cricket in Times Square*. Chester Cricket, accidentally brought into a NYC subway station, is befriended by a boy, a cat and a mouse.

Siegelson, Kim. *The Terrible, Wonderful Tellin' at Hog Hammock*. Jonas, a young boy living on a remote island off coastal Georgia, must take his late grandfather's place at the storytelling festivities.

Singh, Vandana. *Younguncle Comes to Town*. In a small town in India, three siblings anticipate the arrival of the eccentric Younguncle, whose tales of clever and funny adventures brighten the monsoon season.

Smith, Janice Lee. *The Kid Next Door and Other Headaches*. Two friends share different viewpoints about super heroes, cousins and neatness. One of many.

*Snyder, Laurel. *Any Which Wall*. If you liked the magnificent *Half Magic*, here you go. Four bored children discover a magic wall that can take them travelling through time and space. Also: *Up and Down the Scratchy Mountains*. Lucy, a milkmaid, and her best friend Wynston, a reluctant prince, go in search of information about Lucy's missing mother--even though Wynston is supposed to be searching for a proper princess to marry.

Steig, William. *Abel's Island*. A charming, meaningful tale about a mouse marooned on a desert island who learns about what it means to cope.

Stilton, Geronimo. *Geronimo Stilton* series. Although mouse-journalist Geronimo runs a newspaper on Mouse Island, his true passion is writing exciting, fun-filled tales of adventure, which he gladly shares with his readers.

Taylor, Sydney. *All-of-A-Kind-Family*. First in a longtime favorite series about a Jewish family on New York's Lower East Side at the turn of the century.

*Thomson, Melissa. *Keena Ford and the Second Grade Mix-Up*. Keena turns her honest mistake into the messiest and most embarrassing mix-up imaginable in this funny new novel.

Van Draanen, Wendelin. *Gecko and Sticky: The Villain's Lair*. First in a hilarious series. Dave and his sidekick, a talking gecko named Sticky, try to retrieve an ancient Aztec powerband and its magic ingots from the evil villain, Damien Black. Also: *Shredderman* series.

Warner, Sally. *Only Emma*. 3rd grader Emma's peaceful life is disrupted when she has to temporarily share her tidy bedroom with whirlwind 4-year-old Anthony. Also: *Accidental Lily*: Can she handle a sleepover without wetting the bed?

Waugh, Sylvia. *Space Race*. A young boy learns that he and his father must leave their ordinary life in England to return to their home planet, but a terrible accident separates them and Thomas must use his wits to locate his father.

White, E.B. *Stuart Little*. Great read-aloud classic of the mouse born to a human family who seeks his fortune in a tiny motor car and a small canoe. Also: *Charlotte's Web*, arguably the finest work of children's literature ever.

Whybrow, Ian. *Little Wolf's Book of Badness*. Little Wolf has been behaving too courteously, so his parents send him to his uncle's Big Bad Wolf school to learn to be a proper wolf. 3 sequels.

Winthrop, Elizabeth. *The Castle in the Attic*. William must shrink to join his toy knight to try to defeat a wicked magician. Sequel: *Battle for the Castle*.

Wojciechowski, Susan. *Don't Call Me Beanhead!* Beany worries about everything whether she is at home or school. One of a series.

UPPER ELEMENTARY FICTION

(*recently published)

Abbott, Tony. *Firegirl*. Tom, a 7th grader, is horrified by the arrival of a new classmate, a girl who has been badly disfigured by a fire. His gradual connection with her is a profound journey of acceptance and empathy.

Aiken, Joan. *The Wolves of Willoughby Chase*. Two cousins are left with an evil governess and devise a way to escape a country house besieged by wolves.

Alder, Elizabeth. *The King's Shadow*. The final years of Saxon England as seen through the eyes of an adolescent Welsh orphan.

Alexander, Lloyd. *The Book of Three* in *The Prydain Chronicles* series. Masterful fantasy tale of Taran, an assistant pig-keeper, who must fight forces of evil.

Almond, David. *Skellig*. Worried by his baby sister's illness and the chaos of moving, Michael retreats to the garage and finds a mysterious stranger.

Armstrong, Alan. *Whittington*. A battered tomcat entertains a group of ragtag animals with tales of his medieval ancestor, Dick Whittington's cat.

Armstrong, William H. *Sunder*. 1970 Newbery Award. Humiliated and angry when his sharecropper father is jailed for stealing food for his family, a young boy grows in courage and understanding with the help of the devoted dog Sunder.

Anderson, Laurie Halse. *Chains*. Gripping historical fiction in which Isabel, a slave girl, defends her sister from a cruel mistress and spies for the rebels during the Revolutionary War.

*Angleberger, Tom. *The Strange Case of Origami Yoda*. In this hilarious tale, Tommy and his sixth grade friends must decide if the advice of an origami finger puppet can be trusted.

*Appelt, Kathi. *Keeper*. Ten-year-old Keeper heads to a sandbar in a small boat along with her dog BD and a seagull named Captain in order to find her mother, a mermaid who left her when Keeper was only three. *The Underneath*. A violently abused hound dog protects motherless kittens while a mythical shape shifter deals out justice in this astonishing tale.

Applegate, Katherine. *Home of the Brave*. Kek, a refugee from Sudan, encounters strange things at the Minneapolis home of his relatives and longs for his missing mother, but finds comfort in the company of a cow and her owner.

Avi. *Seer of Shadows*. A photographer captures an image of the ghost of a society matron's dead daughter, who has returned to seek vengeance her murderers. *Crispin: At the Edge of the World*. In 14th c. England, Crispin and Bear face danger as they flee from their enemies. Also: over 60 magnificent titles, including *Crispin: The Cross of Lead*, *The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle*, *Perloo the Bold*. *Midnight Magic*, *Beyond the Western Sea*.

Babbitt, Natalie. *Tuck Everlasting*. Winnie Foster enters the forest and discovers mysteries of time and a promise of eternal youth in this timeless novel.

Balliett, Blue. *The Calder Game*. When 7th-grader Calder Pillay disappears from a remote English village--along with an Alexander Calder sculpture to which he has felt strangely drawn--his friends Petra and Tommy fly from Chicago to help his father find him. Other great mysteries: *The Wright 3* and *Chasing Vermeer*.

Banks, Kate. *Lenny's Space*. Academically gifted Lenny gets in trouble and has no friends because his interests are not like those of his classmates, until he meets Van, a boy his age who has leukemia. A gem of a story to build empathy.

Barry, Dave and Ridley Pearson. *Peter and the Star Catchers* and 3 sequels. A comic adventure prequel to *Peter Pan*, in which Peter and his friend Molly fight off thieves and pirates in order to protect a trunk filled with a magical substance.

Bell, Hilari *The Goblin Wood*. A young Hedgewitch, an idealistic knight, and an army of clever goblins fight against the ruling hierarchy that is trying to rid the land of all magical creatures.

Bell, Ted. *Nick of Time*. 12-year-old Nick tries to help his father and sister send vital information to England about imminent Nazi invasion, until he finds himself transported through time to help his ancestor defend British sailors from pirates.

Billingsley, Franny. *Well-Wished*. A lonely orphan and a wealthy disabled girl switch places through a wish made at a forbidden well in a magical fantasy.

Birdsall, Jeanne. *The Penderwicks*. Four sisters vacationing with their father in a summer cottage wreak havoc on the neighboring estate and rescue a boy in the process. A funny, old-fashioned novel with all the earmarks of a classic. Sequel!

*Bosch, Pseudonymous. New sequels to the popular *The Name of this Book is Secret*. The intrepid Cassandra and the trepid Max-Ernest continue their riveting exploits while unraveling evil mysteries in a museum, a hospital and the world of a dessert chef.

Boyd, Candy Dawson. *Circle of Gold*. Mattie is determined to get her mother a beautiful gold pin for Mother's Day, despite lack of money and loss of job.

*Boylan, Jennifer Finney. *Falcon Quinn and the Black Mirror*. Falcon Quinn and his friends are whisked to a school to teach them to contain their inner monsters in this fast-paced, riveting new fantasy.

Broach, Elise. *Masterpiece*. After Marvin, a beetle, makes a miniature drawing as an 11th birthday gift for James, a boy with whom he shares a house, the two new friends work together to help recover a stolen Durer drawing.

Brown, Susan Taylor. *Hugging the Rock*. Through a series of poems, Rachel expresses her feelings about her parents' divorce, living without her mother, and her changing attitude towards her father.

Buckley, Michael. *The Sisters Grimm: Book One, Fairy Tale Detectives*. Orphans Sabrina and Daphne Grimm are sent to live with an eccentric grandmother that they have always believed to be dead.

Butler, Susan. *The Hermit Thrush Sings*. After worldwide disaster, the orphaned Leora defies the oppressive laws of the land and joins a band of rebels trying to overthrow the government.

Cameron, Ann. *Colibri*. Kidnapped at the age of 4, Rosa, now 12, travels the Guatemalan countryside with her "uncle" who forces her to lie and beg for money.

Carbone, Elisa. *Blood on the River: Jamestown 1607*. Gripping historical fiction featuring Captain John Smith and his young page. *Storm Warriors*. In 1895, Nathan hopes to join the all-black crew at the nearby lifesaving station on the North Carolina coast. *Stealing Freedom*. A young slave girl endures all kinds of mistreatment and cruelty but eventually escapes to freedom in Canada.

Carman, Patrick. *The Dark Hills Divide*. Alexa, age 12, finds the key to a secret passageway leading out of the walled city of Bridewell, and is free to explore the mysterious forests and mountains that lie beyond its confines. First in a series.

Carvell, Marlene. *Sweetgrass Basket*. In alternating passages, two Mohawk sisters describe their lives at the Carlisle Indian Industrial School, as they try to assimilate into white culture and one of them is falsely accused of stealing.

Choldenko, Gennifer. *Al Capone Does My Shirts*. Twelve-year-old Moose moves to Alcatraz Island in 1935 when guards' families were housed there, and has to contend with his extraordinary new environment and life with his autistic sister. Sequel: *Al Capone Shines My Shoes*.

Clements, Andrew. *No Talking*. A hilarious and subversive story with thoughtful themes, when a class of noisy 5th grade boys challenge the equally loud girls to a silent contest. Other favorites: *A Week in the Woods*. *The Report Card*. *The Janitor's Boy*. *Things Not Seen*. *School Story*. *The Landry News*. *Frindle*.

Collins, Suzanne. *Gregor and the Overlander*. When 11-year-old Gregor and his 2-year-old sister fall into a strange underground world, an epic battle with humans, bats, rats, and cockroaches ensues in a tale of a quest foretold by prophecy.

Coman, Caroline. *The Big House*. When Ivy and Ray's parents are sent to jail and they are left in the custody of their parent's accusers, they decide to look for evidence that will "spring" their parents in this sly comedy.

Coombs, Kate. *The Runaway Princess*. 15-year-old Princess Meg uses magic and her wits to rescue a baby dragon and escape the unwanted attentions of princes hoping to gain her hand in marriage through a contest arranged by her father.

Cooney, Caroline B. *Goddess of Yesterday*. A king's daughter becomes caught up in the events of the siege of Troy in this fast-paced mythical adventure.

Cooper, Susan. *The Dark Is Rising* series. 11-year-old Will discovers he is one of the immortals who must save the world from the forces of evil. Also: *King of Shadows*. While performing in Atlanta circa 1999, Nat Field suddenly finds himself transported back to 1599, acting under the tutelage of Shakespeare himself.

Cottrell Boyce, Frank. *Millions*. In a sweet, fast-paced, funny novel set in the UK, 4th-grader Damien and his brother ponder what to do after a big bag of furnace-bound, pre-Euro pound notes is hurled from a train and lands at Damien's feet.

Coville, Bruce. *The Skull of Truth*. Rollicking yet serious tale in which a young liar inadvertently acquires an ancient skull that forces him to speak the truth. *Into the Land of Unicorns*. Having jumped off the church roof and into the fantastic Land of Luster, Cara joins Lightfoot the unicorn in the search for the Unicorn Queen. Sequels.

Creech, Sharon. *Ruby Holler*. Twins escape a terrible orphanage when an eccentric older couple invites them on an adventure. Also: *Heartbeat*, *Walk Two Moons*, *Bloomability*, *Chasing Redbird*, *The Wanderer*, *Love That Dog*.

Curtis, Christopher Paul. *Elijah of Buxton*. Elijah, a freeborn child in a Canadian community of escaped slaves in 1860, overcomes his fearful nature when faced with the horrors of slavery. *The Watsons Go To Birmingham--1963*. Kenny, age 10, spins a masterpiece of a tale both comic and serious about a 1960s family. *Bud, Not Buddy*. A boy escapes a bad foster home and sets out in search of the man he believes to be his father. Also: *Mr. Chickee's Messy Mission*, *Mr. Chickee's Funny Money*.

Cushman, Karen. *Catherine, Called Birdy*. The 13-year-old daughter of an English knight keeps a journal, particularly about her efforts to avoid being married off. *The Midwife's Apprentice*. In medieval England, a homeless girl is taken in by a sharp-tempered midwife, and eventually gains the three things she most wants: a full belly, a contented heart, and a place in this world. Also: *Rodzina*, *The Ballad of Lucy Whipple*, *Matilda Bone*.

D'Adamo, Francesco. *Iqbal*. A fictionalized account of the Pakistani child who escaped from bondage in a carpet factory and went on to help liberate other children like him before being gunned down at the age of thirteen.

Dahlberg, Maurine. *The Story of Jonas*. In the mid-1800s, a slave boy dreams of escaping to freedom while on a journey from Missouri to the gold fields of Kansas Territory with his master's n'er-do-well son.

*Dashner, James. *The Journal of Curious Letters*. Thirteen-year-old Atticus begins receiving mysterious letters from around the world signed only "M.G.," and the clues contained therein lead him on a journey to the perilous 13th Reality and a confrontation with evil Mistress Jane.

*Datlow, Ellen and Terry Windling, eds. *Troll's Eye View: A Book of Villainous Tales*. Familiar fairy tales re-told from the point of view of the villain. Funny, chilly, creepy, for older readers.

de Fombelle, Thimothée. *Toby Alone*. Tiny Toby Lolness, a member of a civilization of people no taller than two millimeters who live in an enormous oak, embarks on a quest to save himself, his family, and the Tree when corporate interests threaten to destroy them all.

Deans, Sis. *Racing the Past*. Ricky stops taking the school bus in order to evade bullies but gradually to improve his running speed and beat the bus home.

DeMari, Silvana. *The Last Dragon*. After his village is ruined by a flood, Yorsh, the world's last elf, realizes that in order to stop the torrential rains, he must find the only remaining dragon in this darkly comic quest fantasy.

Delaney, Joseph. *Revenge of the Witch*. Young Tom, the 7th son of a 7th son, becomes apprenticed to the village spook, whose job is to protect ordinary folk from "ghouls, boggarts, and all manner of wicked beasties" in this scary fantasy.

DiCamillo, Kate. *The Magician's Elephant*. A 10-year-old boy seeks his missing little sister in a fable of loss and forgiveness, desperation and humor. *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*. A pompous porcelain rabbit is changed forever by meeting a series of kind people. *The Tale of Despereaux*. The adventures of a small mouse, the princess that he loves, the servant girl who longs to be a princess, and a devious rat determined to bring them all to ruin. Also: *Because of Winn-Dixie*, *Tiger Rising*.

Divakaruni, Chitra. *The Conch Bearer*. Twelve-year-old Anand is entrusted with a conch shell that possesses mystical powers and sets out on a journey to return the shell to its rightful home many hundreds of miles away.

Dowd, Siobhan. *The London Eye Mystery*. Ted and Kat must use their unique talents to find their cousin Salim, who has mysteriously disappeared from the London Eye ferris wheel.

*Dowell, Frances O’Roark. *Falling In*. Isabelle Bean follows a mouse’s squeak into a closet and falls into a parallel universe where the children believe she is the witch they have feared for years, finally come to devour them. A fun-filled fantasy with empathy at its core. Also: *The Secret Language of Girls*. Marilyn and Kate have been friends since nursery school, but when Marilyn becomes a middle school cheerleader and Kate develops other interests, their relationship changes. *Chicken Boy*. *Dovey Coe*. *Where I’d Like to Be*. *Shooting the Moon*.

DuBois, William Pene. *The Twenty-One Balloons*. The incredible and comic adventures of Professor Sherman sets off in a balloon across the Pacific, survives the volcanic eruption of Krakatoa, and is eventually picked up in the Atlantic.

DuPrau, Jeanne. *The City of Ember*. As mammoth underground generators slowly break down, a city begins to die, and Lina and Doon try to persuade their fellow citizens to follow them to the unknown. Three sequels.

*Eames, Brian. *The Dagger Quick*. Paideia’s very own teacher! Enter a world of heroes and villains in 17th century England and follow the unlikely adventures of 12-year-old Kitto. Although he seems destined for the dull life of a cooper because he is cursed with a clubfoot, his world explodes in a stunning moment of murder and intrigue, and he must ally with his notorious uncle, the pirate William Quick. A jaw-dropping, must-read adventure story.

English, Karen. *Francie*. When the sixteen-year-old boy whom she tutors in reading is accused of attempting to murder a white man, Francie gets herself in serious trouble for her efforts at friendship.

Enright, Elizabeth. *The Saturdays*. Four New York City siblings decide to pool their resources so that each can do a special thing on the Saturday that is his turn to receive the combined allowance. Sequels.

Erdrich, Louise. *The Birchbark House* A 7-year-old Native American girl of the Ojibwa tribe lives through the joys of summer and the perils of winter on an island in Lake Superior in 1847. Sequel: *The Game of Silence*.

*Erskine, Katherine. *Mockingbird*. National Book Award. Ten-year-old Caitlin, who struggles with Asperger's Syndrome, seeks closure following the murder of her brother.

Farmer, Nancy. *Islands of the Blessed*. Third in series. The apprentice bard Jack and his Viking companion Thorgil confront the malevolent spirit of a vengeful mermaid. *Sea of Trolls*. Kidnapped from their Saxon village by Viking berserkers, Jack and his sister face trolls, giants and enslavement in a humorous, gripping saga. *The Ear, the Eye and the Arm*. A kidnapping of three children in 22nd century Zimbabwe sets off a dramatic chase as the children are pitted in a battle against evil. *A Girl Named Disaster*. Adventure tale of a young African girl's journey and escape from a forced marriage.

Feiffer, Jules. *A Barrel of Laughs, a Vale of Tears*. Roger, a prince who can't stop making others laugh, sets off on a quest to turn himself into a sober young man, worthy of the throne. Also: *The Man in the Ceiling*.

Feig, Paul. *Ignatius McFarland, Frequentaut!* In this silly pseudo-sci fi romp, 12-year-old Iggy gets his wish -- to escape school bullies -- when an explosion transports him to another planet filled with bizarre parodies of earthlings.

Fenner, Carol. *Yolanda's Genius*. Fifth-grade Yolanda, strong and unafraid of bullies, is determined to prove her younger brother is a musical prodigy.

Ferris, Jean. *Once Upon a Marigold*. A young man with a penchant for inventing things leaves the quirky troll who raised him, meets an unhappy princess he has loved from afar, and discovers a plot against her and her father. Also: *Love Among the Walnuts*.

Fine, Anne. *The Tulip Touch*. Natalie, who lives in the large hotel managed by her father, has a dangerous friendship with Tulip, the wildly uncontrollable girl on a neighboring farm. Also: *Step by Wicked Step, Up on Cloud Nine*.

Fitzhugh, Louise. *Harriet the Spy*. Harriet enjoys spying on friends and strangers and recording their actions in a diary--until the diary is found.

Fleischman, Sid. *The 13th Floor: A Ghost Story*. An elevator takes 12-year-old Buddy back in time to a pirate ship and to a New England witchcraft trial.

Fletcher, Susan. *Shadow Spinner*. When a 13-year-old crippled girl joins the Sultan's harem in Persia, she gathers stories which will save the queen's life.

Fogelin, Adrian. *Crossing Jordan*. Despite their families' prejudices, two 12-year-old girls of different races build a strong friendship around their talent for running and a pact to read Jane Eyre.

Forrester, Sandra. *Sound the Jubilee*. Runaway slaves find freedom on Roanoke Island with the feisty, intelligent girl Maddie at its center.

Frazier, Sundee T. *Brendan Buckley's Universe and Everything In It*. Brendan Buckley is passionate about science, identifying rocks and even measuring urine, in this comic and touching story about a biracial ten-year-old and his identity.

Fox, Paula. *The Slave Dancer*. 1974 Newbery Award. Kidnapped by the crew of an Africa-bound ship, a 13-year-old boy discovers to his horror that he is on a slaver and his job is to play music for the exercise periods of the human cargo.

Funke, Cornelia. *Inkheart*. Meggie, 12, learns that her father can "read" fictional characters to life when an evil ruler tries to force him to release a monster from the story. 2 sequels. *Dragon Rider*. A dragon is joined by a brownie and an orphan boy in a quest to find a haven for dragons while struggling to evade an old enemy. *The Thief Lord*. Two orphaned brothers hide out in Venice where they fall in with a 13-year-old boy who leads a crime ring of street children.

Fuqua, Jonathan Scott. *Darby*. In 1926, 9-year-old Darby stirs up trouble when she writes a story for the local newspaper promoting racial equality.

Gaiman, Neil. *The Graveyard Book*. Newbery Award, 2009. A macabre tale of a boy who must live in a graveyard among ghosts for protection from a murderer with an unexpected layer of love. *Coraline*. Coraline enters a parallel and creepy world where she must challenge a gruesome entity in order to save herself, her parents, and the souls of three others.

Gantos, Jack. *Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key*. To the disappointment of his mother and his teachers, Joey has trouble paying attention or controlling his mood swings when his prescription meds wear off and he starts acting wired. Sequels.

Gardner, Lynn. *Into the Woods*. A fairy tale novel featuring 3 sisters who are being pursued by an evil doctor for the musical pipe left them by their mother.

Gardner, Sally. *I, Coriander*. In 17th c. London, Coriander, a girl who has inherited magic, must save herself and another from the fairy world of her mother.

George, Jean Craighead. *My Side of the Mountain*. An ingenious city teen learns how to survive alone in the woods. *Julie of the Wolves*. 1973 Newbery Award. While running away from an unwanted marriage, a 13-year-old Eskimo girl is befriended by a wolf pack. Also: *Tree Castle Island*, several others.

Giff, Patricia Reilly. *Pictures of Hollis Woods*. A young artist searches for a foster family in this lyrical and rich tale. *Lily's Crossing*. Two children spend the summer of 1944 in Rockaway Beach, New York, and share secrets, lies, and worries about the war. Also: *Nory Ryan's Song*, *Willow Run*.

*Green, Tim. *Rivals*. Our popular author turns to baseball in a compelling story of conspiracies, umpire bribery and hilarious banter between the two main characters. *Football Genius*. Sixth grader Troy has an unusual gift for predicting football plays before they occur. He can only help his favorite team, the Atlanta Falcons, if the coach and players believe him. Also: *Football Hero*.

Grimes, Nikki. *The Road to Paris*. Paris, 9, a biracial child in search of a home and an identity, is placed with a loving foster family but separated from her brother.

Hale, Shannon. *Princess Academy*. While attending a strict academy for potential princesses with girls from her village, Miri, 14, discovers unexpected talents. *The Goose Girl*. A princess is betrayed by her guards and her lady-in-waiting and must become a goose girl to survive until she can reveal her true identity.

Hannigan, Katherine. *Ida B.-- and Her Plans to Maximize Fun, Avoid Disaster and (Possibly) Save the World*. Ida B spends happy hours being home-schooled until her mother begins cancer treatments and Ida must go to public school.

Hardinge, Frances. *The Lost Conspiracy*. An enticing fantasy in which two sisters grapple with evil. *Well-Witched*. Three friends fall prey to the demands of the Well Witch when they trespass in her wishing well and steal some coins in a dark, creepy, riveting tale. Also: *Fly By Night*.

Harmon, Jane. *Pip*. Illustrated by Ginger Birdsey. A young boy and his dog witness the brutal relocation of the Cherokees in the "Trail of Tears" in this touching coming of age story.

Henkes, Kevin. *Olive's Ocean*. On a visit to her grandmother's cottage, 12-year-old Martha gains perspective on the death of a classmate, her relationship with her grandmother, and her feelings for an older boy. *Bird Lake Moon*, many others.

Henry, Marguerite. *King of the Wind*. A modern racehorse and his famous 17th century Arabian ancestor engage in a battle of good and evil.

Hesse, Karen. *Brooklyn Bridge*. Joseph Michtom's life takes a dramatic turn when, in 1903 Brooklyn, his parents turn their apartment into a teddy bear factory. *Letters from Rifka*. A young Jewish girl chronicles her family's flight from Russia in 1919. *Out of the Dust*. In free verse, Billie-Jo relates the hardships of life on her family's farm during the Dust Bowl years. *Witness*. A small Vermont town deals with the Ku Klux Klan in the 1920s, told in poetry. Several others.

Hiaasen, Carl. *Scat*. Another wickedly funny madcap environmental thriller, in which Nick and Marta pursue the disappearance of a biology teacher, by the author of the hugely popular novels, *Flush* and *Hoot*.

Hickey, Caroline. *Cassie Was Here*. 11-year-old Bree revives her imaginary playmate with complex results for her new friendship with 13-year-old Cassie.

Hobbes, Valerie. *Defiance*. While vacationing in the country, eleven-year-old Toby, a cancer patient, learns some important lessons about living and dying from an elderly poet and her cow.

Hobbes, Will. *Go Big or Go Home*. Brady and his cousin love extreme sports, but nothing could prepare them for the aftermath of Brady's close encounter with a magical meteorite after it crashes into his bedroom. *Far North*. After the destruction of their float plane, 16-year-old Gabe and his friend struggle to survive a winter in the wilderness of the Northwest Territories of Canada. Many others.

*Holm, Jennifer L. *Turtle in Paradise*. Sassy 11-year-old Turtle finds her life turned on end when she is sent to live with her aunt in Depression-era Key West.

Also: *Babymouse: Queen of the World*. In a funny graphic novel, an imaginative mouse dreams of being queen of the world, but will settle for an invitation to the most popular girl's slumber party. *Our Only May Amelia*. The only girl in a large Finnish-American family in 1899, May Amelia prefers tricks and adventures to being a "Proper Young Lady."

Horvath, Polly. *My One Hundred Adventures*. The comic and eloquent Horvath does it again: 12-year-old Jane has an eventful summer accompanying her wacky pastor on Bible deliveries and being coerced into babysitting for a family of ill-mannered children. Other quirky, delightful novels: *The Pepins and their Problems*. *Everything On a Waffle*. *The Trolls*. *An Occasional Cow*.

Howe, James. *Totally Joe*. As a school assignment, a thirteen-year-old boy writes an alphabiography, and explores issues of friendship, family, school, and the challenges of being a gay teenager.

Hunter, Erin. *Warriors: Into the Wild*. Rusty, a bored house kitten, is apprenticed by the ThunderClan and must struggle to fit in when the group of feral cats is threatened by the enemy ShadowClan in this adventure fantasy. Many spin-offs for those who love the series.

Ibbotson, Eva. *The Dragonfly Pool*. Tally and her friends form a dance troupe and travel to Bergania, where she befriends Karil, the crown prince, and helps him flee the Nazis after his father is assassinated. Also, for younger readers: *The Star of Kazan*. Orphaned Annika eventually lives happily ever after in this riveting, old-fashioned adventure set in pre-World War I Vienna. Other magical favorites: *Journey to the River Sea*. *Dial-a-Ghost*. *The Island of the Aunts*. *The Secret of Platform 13*. *Haunting of Granite Falls*.

Jacques, Brian. *Redwall* series. A popular medieval fantasy adventure, some 18 volumes long, with Martin the Warrior mouse, comrades and enemies.

Jiménez, Francisco. *The Circuit: Stories from the Life of a Migrant Child*. Exquisite stories based on the author's experiences as a migrant farm worker.

Jonnell, Lynne. *The Secret of Zoom*. Ten-year-old Christina lives a sheltered life until she discovers a secret tunnel, an evil plot to enslave orphans, and a mysterious source of energy known as zoom. *Emmy and the Incredible Shrinking Rat*. Emmy's evil nanny is trying to control the family and Emmy seeks revenge in a comic fantasy featuring life-altering potions and a despicable villain. Sequel.

Kadohata, Cynthia. *Weedflower*. After Pearl Harbor, Sumiko and her family are relocated to a Japanese internment camp, where she clings to her dream of owning a flower shop. *Kira-Kira*. Newbery Award, 2005. Tragedy befalls two Japanese-American sisters growing up in Georgia during the late 1950s.

Kelly, Jacqueline. *The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate*. Newbery Honor. In central Texas in 1899, 11-year-old Callie is instructed to be a lady by her mother, learns about love from her brothers, and studies the natural world with her grandfather, the latter of which leads to an important discovery.

Kessler, Liz. *The Tail of Emily Windsnap*. After convincing her mother to let her take swimming lessons, 12 year old Emily discovers an amazing personal secret. Sequels. *Philippa Fisher and the Fairy Godsisister*. Another magical series with fantastic journeys, tricky wishes and complicated friendships.

Kindl, Patrice. *Goose Chase*. Lighthearted fairy-tale spoof, in which magical geese help Goose Girl flee from two awful suitors.

Klise, Kate. *Letters from Camp*. Sent to Camp Happy Harmony to learn how to get along with each other, pairs of brothers and sisters chronicle in letters home how they come to suspect the intentions of the singing family running the camp.

Konigsberg, E.L. *The View From Saturday*. 1997 Newbery Award. Four students, with their own individual stories, develop a special bond with a paraplegic teacher who chooses them to represent their 6th-grade class in the Academic Bowl competition. *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*. 1968 Newbery Award. Two suburban children run away from home and live luxuriously in New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art. Also: *The Outcasts of Schuyler Place*.

Korman, Goron. *Chasing the Falconer* series. A page-turner thriller in which Aiden and Meg Falconer must escape from a juvenile detention center in order to prove their parents innocent of charges which would put them in jail for life.

LaFevers, R.L. *Theodosia and the Serpents of Chaos*. Theodosia, who can detect black magic and ancient curses that are attached to objects in the Museum of Legends and Antiquities, discovers that a new artifact from Egypt is cursed. She must return it to its tomb before it destroys the British Empire. 2 sequels.

LaFleur, Suzanne. *Love, Aubrey*. While living with her Gram in Vermont, 11-year-old Aubrey writes letters as a way of dealing with losing her father and sister in a car accident, and then being abandoned by her grief-stricken mother. A touching story of loss and healing.

Law, Ingrid. *Savvy*. Newbery Honor. Mibs Beaumont belongs to a family each of whom has a unique “savvy” -- a magical, uncontrollable power--and in an effort to save her injured father, embarks on a series of bizarre and comic adventures.

Lawrence, Iain. *The Giant Slayer*. When her young neighbor is stricken with polio in 1955, 11-year-old Laurie discovers that there is power in her imagination, weaving a story during her visits with him and other patients confined to iron lung machines. *The Wreckers*. After a shipwreck in 1799, young John washes ashore in a town more threatening than the sea itself in this thriller adventure.

Lemna, Don. *When the Sergeant Came Marching Home*. When his father returns from the war in 1946, a 10-year-old boy and his family move from their home in a Montana town to an old, run-down farm in the middle of nowhere where they work hard trying to make ends meet.

Lesczynski, Diana. *Fern Verdant and the Silver Rose*. Fern Verdant's mother, a famous botanist, is kidnapped just before Fern's 13th birthday, and when Fern discovers that she has inherited the ability to communicate with plants, she realizes that this is the only way she will be able to find and save her mother.

L'Engle, Madeleine. *A Wrinkle in Time*. 1963 Newbery Award. Meg Murry and her friends become involved with unearthly strangers and a search for Meg's father, who disappeared while engaged in secret work for the government.

Levine, Gail Carson. *Ever*. Fourteen-year-old Kezi and Olus, Akkan god of the winds, fall in love and together try to change her fate--to be sacrificed to a Hyte god because of a rash promise her father made--through a series of quests that might make her immortal. Other magical fairytale novels: *Fairest*. *Ella Enchanted*. Also: *Dave at Night*.

Lin, Grace. *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon*. Minli, an adventurous girl from a poor village, buys a magical goldfish, and then joins a dragon who cannot fly on a quest to find the Old Man of the Moon in hopes of bringing life to Fruitless Mountain and freshness to Jade River.

Lord, Bette Bao. *In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson*. Shirley Temple Wong comes to the U.S. in 1947. Her efforts to make friends and fit in are successful when she discovers baseball.

Lord, Cynthia. *Rules*. 12-year-old Catherine creates rules for her autistic younger brother to help him cope and seem more normal. But what is normal?

Lowry, Lois. *The Willoughbys*. Four siblings set out to become "deserving orphans" after their neglectful parents embark on a treacherous trip, leaving them in the care of an odious nanny. *Gossamer*. A young dream giver, Littlest, works with an older dream giver to help an 8-year-old boy recover from nightmares stemming from abuse. *The Giver*. 1994 Newbery Award. Jonas becomes the receiver of memories shared by only one other and discovers the terrible truth about the dystopia in which he lives. Sequels: *Gathering Blue* and *Messenger*. Also: *Number the Stars*. 1990 Newbery Award. Ten-year-old Annemarie learns how to be brave and courageous when she helps shelter her Jewish friend from the Nazis.

Lupica, Mike. *Heat*. A 12-year-old pitching prodigy from Cuba conceals a secret in order to keep playing on his championship Little League team. Several others: *Travel Team*. *Miracle on 49th Street*. *Hot Hand*. *Two Minute Drill*.

Lyons, Mary E. *Letters from a Slave Girl*. Fictionalized autobiography of Harriet Jacobs, detailing her ordeals as she seeks to escape to freedom.

Magorian, Michelle. *Good Night, Mr. Tom*. Set in England during WW II, the story of an abused child which celebrates healing, friendship and love.

Maguire, Gregory. *The Good Liar*. Now an old man living in the United States, Marcel recalls his childhood in German-occupied France, especially the summer that he and his older brother Rene befriended a young German soldier.

Martin, Ann M. *A Dog's Life*. By turns touching and funny, Squirrel narrates the story of her life as a dog through many owners and adventures. *A Corner of the Universe*. The unexpected arrival of her mentally disabled uncle startles Hattie and leads to serious introspection. Also: *Here Today*, in which an 11-year-old girl takes on big responsibilities when her wacko mother disappears.

Matthews, L.S. *A Dog for Life*. John finds that his dog, Mouse, is scheduled to go to the pound and decides to run away and find his uncle, who may be able to help him keep the telepathic pet.

McAllister, M.I. *Urchin and the Raven War*. Book 3 in the compelling and hugely popular *Mistmantle Chronicles*, in which Urchin the squirrel, now a trusted member of the Circle in King Crispin's court, must call upon his bravery once again when the animals of Mistmantle rush to the aid of their friends on Swan Isle, only to call the wrath of the ravens down upon themselves.

McCaughrean, Geraldine. *The Kite Rider*. After trying to save his widowed mother from a horrendous second marriage, 12-year-old Haoyou takes to the sky as a circus kite rider and meets the great Mongol ruler Kublai Khan.

McEwan, Ian. *The Daydreamer*. A 10-year-old boy is engrossed in his magical, adventurous daydreams.

McGraw, Eloise. *The Moorchild*. A fairy story told from the point of view of a half-human, half-Moorfolk child who is exchanged for a human baby.

McKay, Hilary. *The Exiles* and sequels. The irrepressible Conroy sisters are sent off for a bookless summer. *Dog Friday*. A young boy overcomes his fear of dogs with the help of wild neighbor kids and an abandoned puppy. Also: *Indigo's Star* and *Saffy's Angel*, companion volumes bursting with humor and love.

McKissack, Patricia. *A Friendship for Today*. 12 year old Rosemary must face attending an all-white school alone after her best friend is stricken with polio.

Medina, Meg. *Milagros: Girl From Away*. Twelve-year-old Milagros barely survives an invasion of her tiny, Caribbean island home, escapes with the help of mysterious sea creatures, reunites briefly with her pirate-father, and learns about a mother's love when cast ashore on another island.

*Magoon, Kekla. *The Rock and the River*. A 14-year-old boy in Chicago, 1968, struggles to make sense of his father's non-violent Civil Rights leadership and his older brother's affiliation with the Black Panthers. For mature readers.

Morris, Gerald. *The Squire's Tale*. 14-year-old Terence finds his tranquil life suddenly changed when he accompanies the young Gawain on a quest as a squire. First in a funny and gripping series retelling of the Arthurian canon.

Morpurgo, Michael. *Kensuke's Kingdom*. A boy and his dog are washed overboard and survive on a small island with the help of a Japanese naval doctor who has been stranded there for 40 years.

Mull, Brandon. *Fablehaven*. Kendra and Seth find themselves in the midst of a battle between good and evil when they visit their grandparents' estate and discover that it is a sanctuary for magical creatures. Also: *The Candy Shop War*.

Murphy, Rita. *Black Angels*. The summer of 1961 brings change to eleven-year-old Celli when her beloved Sophie becomes involved in the Civil Rights Movement and Celli learns a secret about the long-absent father.

Myracle, Lauren. *Luv Ya Bunches*. Four friends--each named after a flower--navigate the ups and downs of fifth grade. Told through text messages, blog posts, screenplay, and straight narrative. Also popular: *Eleven. Twelve. Thirteen*.

Naidoo, Beverly. *The Other Side of Truth*. Smuggled out of Nigeria after their mother's murder, Sade and her brother struggle to survive as exiles in London.

Napoli, Donna Jo. *The King of Mulberry Street*. In 1892, 9-year-old Jewish Italian Dom stows away on a ship bound from Napoli to NYC, learns to survive alone, and challenges the ruthless padroni who prey on young immigrants. *Stones in Water*. During WW II, best friends Roberto and Samuel are abducted from Italy and taken to a work camp in Munich in a gripping coming-of-age novel.

Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds. *Shiloh*. 1992 Newbery Medal. When he finds a lost beagle in the hills, Marty tries to hide it from his family and the dog's real owner, a mean-spirited man known to mistreat his dogs. Two sequels. Also: The *Alice* series, comical and introspective look into a young girl's life.

Nichols, Sally. *Ways to Live Forever*. In a tender, moving, and sometimes funny narrative, 11-year-old Sam McQueen, who has leukemia, writes a book during the last three months of his life, in which he tells about what he would like to accomplish, how he feels, and things that have happened to him.

Nimmo, Jenny. *Midnight for Charlie Bone*. Charlie's life with his widowed mother and two grandmothers undergoes a dramatic change when he discovers that he can hear people in photographs talking. First in a popular fantasy series.

O'Brien, Robert C. *Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH*. 1972 Newbery Award. Having no one to help her with her problems, a widowed mouse visits the rats whose former imprisonment in a laboratory made them wise and long lived.

O'Connor, Barbara. *How to Steal a Dog*. Georgina lives with her penniless family in their car. She concocts a dog-napping scheme that results in unexpected events in a heartwarming read.

Orlev, Uri. *The Island on Bird Street*. A Holocaust story, based on the author's own experience as a child in the Warsaw ghetto, tells how he survives in hiding with only his white mouse for company.

Park, Lynda Sue. *A Single Shard*. A 13-year-old orphan in medieval Korea longs to become a potter. *When My Name Was Keoko*. A brother and sister face the increasingly oppressive occupation of Korea by Japan. Also: *The Kite Fighters*.

Paterson, Katherine. *Bridge to Terabithia*. 1978 Newbery Medal. Jesse's colorless world expands when he becomes fast friends with Leslie, the new girl in school in a story of love and loss. Also: *Preacher's Boy*, *The Great Gilly Hopkins*, many others.

Patron, Susan. *The Higher Power of Lucky*. 10-year-old Lucky must learn to trust her young French guardian in a quirky, heartwarming (and newsmaking) tale.

Paulsen, Gary. *Hatchet*, and 3 sequels. Gripping page turner, where 13-year old Brian, after surviving a plane crash, uses his ingenuity and his hatchet to survive alone in the Canadian north. Many others from this compelling writer.

Pearsall, Shelley. *Trouble Don't Last*. An 11-year old slave and the elderly slave who helped raise him attempt to escape to Canada via the Underground Railroad.

Paver, Michelle. *Wolf Brother*. A thrilling survival tale in which a 12-year-old, accompanied by a wolf cub, must avenge his father's death by destroying a demon-possessed bear.

Paolini, Christopher. *Eragon*. A 15-year-old boy of unknown lineage finds a mysterious stone that weaves his life into an intricate tapestry of destiny, magic, and power, peopled with dragons, elves, and monsters.

Peck, Richard. *A Season of Gifts*. Grandma Dowdel returns! rescues a nekkid neighbor boy from bullies! and dispenses sweet revenge plus sweet gifts. *A Long Way from Chicago* and *A Year Down Yonder*. Joey and Mary Alice spend summers with their bizarre, hilarious and larger-than-life grandmother during the Great Depression. Also: *The Teacher's Funeral: A Comedy in Three Parts*.

Perkins, Lynne Rae. *Criss Cross*. 2006 Newbery Medal. Childhood friends, now 14, face big decisions while dealing with urgent concerns about outfits, snappy retorts and crushes. Sequel to *All Alone in the Universe*. Debbie is devastated when her best friend Maureen inexplicably dumps her for another girl.

Philbrick, Rodman. *The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg*. Homer P. Figg escapes from his wretched foster home in Maine, and sets out to find his older brother, Harold, who has been illegally sold into the Union Army.

Pierce, Tamora. *Trickster's Choice*. Alianne must call forth her mother's courage and her father's wit in order to survive on the Copper Isles in a royal court rife with political intrigue and murderous conspiracy.

Pinkney, Andrea Davis. *Silent Thunder*. In 1862 11-year-old Summer and her 13-year-old brother Rosco take turns describing how life on the quiet Virginia plantation where they are slaves is affected by the Civil War.

Pratchett, Terry. *The Bromeliad Trilogy*. A group of 4-inch tall nomes discover their true nature with the help of a black box called the Thing in this satirical romp. Also: *The Amazing Maurice and His Educated Rodents*. A talking cat, intelligent rats and a boy run a con game in this delightful, comic fantasy.

Pullman, Philip. *The Golden Compass*. *The Subtle Knife*. *The Amber Spyglass*. Exquisite literary fantasy of the highest order, culminating in a battle between the forces of the Authority and those gathered by Lyra's father. *Count Karlstein*. The wicked Count plots to sacrifice his two orphaned nieces as prey for the Demon Huntsman. Also: *The Scarecrow and His Servant*. *Clockwork*.

Raskin, Ellen. *The Westing Game*. 1979 Newbery Award. The mysterious death of an odd millionaire brings together an unlikely assortment of heirs who must uncover the circumstances of his death before they can claim their inheritance.

Reiss, Kathryn. *Paint By Magic*. After his mom suddenly starts acting old-fashioned, 11-year-old Conner is transported back to 1926, where he must break the hold an obsessed artist has on his mom that is trapping her between times.

Rex, Adam. *The True Meaning of Smekday*. Twelve-year-old Gratuity "Tip" Tucci is left to fend for herself after Earth is colonized by aliens and her mother is abducted, and must try to stop another alien invasion with only the help of a cat named Pig and an alien named J. Lo.

Richardson, Bill. *After Hamelin*. Penelope's sudden unexplained deafness is the only thing that saves her when the Pied Piper returns to Hamelin to claim the town's children with his magical music, leaving her free to try and rescue them.

*Riordan, Rick. *The Lost Hero*. Jason, Piper, and Leo, three students from a school for "bad kids," find themselves at Camp Half-Blood, where they learn that they are demigods and begin a quest to free Hera. Don't miss the popular *Percy Jackson* series (*The Lightning Thief*) for compelling reading in Greek mythology and modern-day escapades, and the Egyptian explorations of *The Red Pyramid*.

Roberts, Willo Davis. *Scared Stiff*. When their mother disappears, two brothers go to stay with a great uncle next to an abandoned amusement park and begin a search which puts them in danger. Other mystery thrillers include *The View from the Cherry Tree*, *The Kidnappers*, and *Hostage*.

Robinet, Harriette. *Walking to the Bus Rider Blues*. Twelve-year-old Alfa Merryfield, his older sister, and their grandmother struggle for rent money, food, and their dignity as they participate in the Montgomery bus boycott of 1956.

Rook, Sebastian. *London, 1850: Vampire Plagues Book 1*. Jack Harkett meets Benedict Cole, a stowaway on a mysterious ship that sails into a London port, and they find themselves on the same side of deadly battle.

Rowling, J. K. *Harry Potter* series. What is there to say about the series that electrified the world of children's literature? Parents are urged to wait for their young children to discover these adventures when they reach middle elementary years, when they can appreciate complex themes of evil and suffering.

Roy, Jennifer. *Yellow Star*. A Jewish girl and her family struggle to survive in Poland's Lodz ghetto during the Nazi occupation.

Runholt, Susan. *The Mystery of the Third Lucretia*. While traveling in London, Paris, and Amsterdam, fourteen-year-old best friends Kari and Lucas solve an international art forgery mystery and put themselves in terrible danger.

*Ryan, Pam Muñoz. *The Dreamer*. One of the year's most acclaimed novels. A fictionalized biography of the poet Pablo Neruda as a young, sensitive, creative boy in a readable and elegant fusion of art, poetry and interior life. *Becoming Naomi León*. When Naomi's absent mother resurfaces, she runs away to Mexico with her great-grandmother and younger brother in search of her father. Also: *Esperanza Rising*. Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California in the Great Depression.

Rylant, Cynthia. *Missing May*. 1993 Newbery Award. After the death of the beloved aunt who has raised her, 12-year-old Summer and her uncle Ob leave their West Virginia trailer in search of the strength to go on living.

Sachar, Louis. *Holes*. 1999 Newbery Award. Stanley Yelnats is sent to a hellish correctional camp in the Texas desert where he finds his first real friend, a treasure, and a new sense of himself.

Sage, Angie. *Magyk* (book 1 of the *Septimus Heap* series). Jenna learns that she is a princess found as a baby by the man she believed was her father and now she and Septimus, who was taken at birth by the midwife, are being threatened by the evil wizard, DomDaniel, who intends to finish off the entire royal line.

*Sanderson, Branson. *Alcatraz Vs. the Evil Librarians*. On his thirteenth birthday, foster child Alcatraz Smedry receives a bag of sand which is immediately stolen by the evil Librarians who are trying to take over the world. Sequels.

Schlitz, Laura Amy. *A Drowned Maiden's Hair*. A rebellious and spunky orphan hopes to finally be loved when she is adopted by the elderly Hawthorne sisters, but she is instead roped into the family's crooked séance business.

Schmidt, Gary D. *The Wednesday Wars*. 7th-grader Holling Hoodhood is convinced his teacher hates him. Through their Wednesday afternoon Shakespeare sessions, she helps him cope with events both wildly funny and deadly serious. *Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy*. In 1911, Turner hates his new home in Maine, but things improve when he meets Lizzie Bright, a girl from a poor, nearby island community founded by former slaves.

Salisbury, Graham. *House of the Red Fish*. A young Japanese-American boy is determined to raise his father's fishing boat from where it was sunk during the attack on Pearl Harbor. Sequel to: *Under the Blood Red Sun*.

Sebestyen, Ouida. *Words by Heart*. The only black family in a small western town feels the pressure of prejudice in the early 20th century.

Seidler, Tor. *Toes*. After getting lost on Halloween night, an intelligent 7-toed kitten makes his way into the life of a struggling musician. Also: *Brainboy and the Death Master*. When Darryl, a 12 year-old orphan, is adopted by a technology genius, he finds himself the star of his very own life-threatening video game.

Selznick, Brian. *The Invention of Hugo Cabret*. When 12-year-old Hugo, an orphan living in a Paris train station in 1931, meets a mysterious toy seller and his goddaughter, his undercover life and his biggest secret are jeopardized.

Shan, Darren. *Cirque du Freak*. Horror fiction. Two boys visit an illegal freak show, where an encounter with a vampire and a deadly spider forces them to make life-changing choices.

Simmons, Michael. *Alien Feast*. In 2017, human-eating aliens (they don't eat the feet) have kidnapped two scientists, and 12-year-old William, his elderly uncle, and the scientists' daughter Sophie set out to rescue them.

Smiley, Jane. *The Georges and the Jewels*. Seventh-grader Abby Lovitt learns to train the horses her father sells--including a dangerous stallion--while trying to reconcile her strict religious upbringing with her own ideas about life.

Snyder, Zilpha Keatley. *The Unseen*. Feeling angry and out-of-place in her large family, 12-year-old Xandra finds a magical key to a world of ghostly phantoms that help her see herself and her siblings more clearly. Also: *The Egypt Game*.

Spinelli, Jerry. *Loser*. Even though his classmates have always considered him strange and a loser, Daniel Zinkoff's optimism and exuberance and the support of his loving family do not allow him to feel that way about himself. *Maniac Magee*. After his parents die, Jeffrey Magee becomes legendary, accomplishing athletic and other feats which awe his contemporaries. *Wringer*. *Crash*. Many others.

Spinner, Stephanie. *Quiver*. Atalanta, abandoned as an infant, has grown to become the swiftest mortal alive thanks to the goddess Artemis, so when her father issues an ultimatum that Atalanta marry and produce an heir, she counters with the condition that the man she weds must be able to best her in a foot race.

Stanley, Diane. *Bella at Midnight*. A modern fairy tale as a young girl uses her powers to save the prince she loves.

Stauffer, Sue. *Harry Sue*. In this funny, heartbreaking novel, 11-year-old Harry Sue Clotkin vows to become a convict so she can find her mom in prison. First, however, she has to rescue her quadriplegic friend Homer and the kids in her malevolent Granny's day care.

Staples, Suzanne Fisher. *Shabanu, Daughter of the Wind*. Spirited Shabanu, younger daughter of present-day Pakistani camel herders, loves her family's life, but she and her sister are betrothed to brothers. Sequel: *Haveli*.

Stead, Rebecca. *When You Reach Me*. Newbery Medal, 2010. A complex, time-travel mystery in which 6th grade Miranda, who continuously reads *A Wrinkle in Time*, must make sense of a series of anonymous notes and struggles to maintain her friendship with her lifelong friend.

Stewart, Trenton Lee. *The Mysterious Benedict Society*. After passing a series of mind-bending tests, four children are selected for a secret mission to foil an evil master who plans to take over the world. Several more in series.

Stolz, Joëlle. *The Shadows of Ghadames*. In 19th century Libya, 11-year-old Malika both enjoys and feels constricted by the narrow world of women, but an injured stranger enters her home and disrupts the traditional order of things.

Sutcliff, Rosemary. *The Sword and the Circle*. First of a series that is an outstanding and accessible introduction to the Arthurian stories.

Tan, Shaun. *The Arrival*. In this wordless graphic novel, a man leaves his homeland and sets off for a new country, where he must build a new life for himself and his family.

Taylor, Mildred D. *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*. Newbery Award, 1977. A African-American family living in the South during the 1930s is faced with prejudice and discrimination which its children do not understand.

*Teague, Mark. *The Doom Machine*. When a spaceship lands in his small town, juvenile delinquent Jack Creedle and prim, studious Isadora Shumway try to keep a group of extraterrestrials from stealing eccentric Uncle Bud's space travel machine.

*Thor, Annika. *A Faraway Island*. In 1939 Sweden, two Jewish sisters wait for their parents to flee the Nazis in Austria, but while eight-year-old Nellie settles in quickly, twelve-year-old Stephanie feels stranded at the end of the world, with a foster mother who is as cold and unforgiving as the island on which they live.

Townley, Rod. *The Great Good Thing*. Princess Sylvie's storybook kingdom really is a storybook, where nothing ever changes, until Sylvie discovers she can enter new worlds and find new adventures with the Reader.

Van Draanen, Wendelin. *Flipped*. In alternating chapters of a comic novel, two teens describe how their feelings about themselves, each other, and their families have changed over the years. *Swear to Howdy*. Two 13-year-old boys share neighborhood adventures, complaints about their older sisters, family secrets, and a terrible hidden guilt. Also: *Sammy Keyes* mystery series.

*Vanderpoole, Claire. *Moon Over Manifest*. 2010 Newbery Medal. Twelve-year-old Abilene, the daughter of a drifter, pries into her father's past and the secrets of a small Kansas town in 1936.

Voigt, Cynthia. *Homecoming*. 13-year-old Dicey leads her siblings in a search for an unknown grandmother after being abandoned by their mother. Sequel: *Dicey's Song*. Newbery Award, 1983.

Walter, Mildred Pitts. *Second Daughter: The Story of a Slave Girl*. Aissa struggles against a system which declares that she is property and must be silent.

*Westerfeld, Scott. *Leviathan*. An alternate 1914 Europe, in which a 15-year-old Austrian prince allies with a British girl disguised as a boy; each learning to use military inventions, including genetically engineered beasts. For mature readers.

Whelan, Gloria. *Homeless Bird*. When 13-year-old Koly becomes a widow, she must either suffer a destiny dictated by India's tradition or find the courage to oppose it.

White, Ruth. *Belle Prater's Boy*. Gypsy, a sixth grader, and her cousin Woodrow must each take steps toward independence in coping with the loss of a parent.

Wiles, Deborah. *Love, Ruby Lavender*. When her quirky grandmother goes to Hawaii, 9-year-old Ruby learns to survive on her own in Mississippi by writing letters, befriending chickens and finally coping with her grandfather's death.

Williams, Karen Lynn. *One Thing I'm Good At*. Julie, a middle child, feels overwhelmed by school problems, her teenage sister's moodiness, and her father's recent heart attack, but figures out what she is good at.

*Williams-Garcia, Rita. *One Crazy Summer*. Coretta Scott King Award, 2011. Funny & poignant. Three sisters find adventure when they are sent to Oakland in 1968 to meet their estranged poet-mother, who prints flyers for the Black Panthers.

Willner-Pardo, Gina. *Figuring Out Frances*. Ten-year-old Abigail's neighbor Travis, her best friend, upsets her when he ignores her at school and laughs at her grandmother's Alzheimer's along with his new friends.

Wilson, Jacqueline. *Candyfloss*. When her mother plans to move to Australia with her new husband and baby, Floss must decide on her loyalties while at the same time deal with rejection from her best friend. Other popular novels about friendships, rejection and family life : *Bad Girls*, *The Suitcase Kid* and *Double Act*.

Wolff, Virginia Euwer. *The Mozart Season*. A 12-year-old girl must listen to the messages of those around her before she can play her violin in a competition. Also: *Bat 6*. In small town, post-World War II Oregon, 21 girls recount the story of an annual softball game, during which one girl's bigotry comes to the surface.

Woods, Brenda. *The Red Rose Box*. In 1953, Leah Hopper dreams of leaving the poverty and segregation of her home in Louisiana, and when Aunt Olivia sends train tickets to Los Angeles, Leah gets a first taste of freedom.

Woodson, Jacqueline. *Feathers*. A new boy's arrival in a 6th-grade class helps Frannie recognize barriers that separate people in this poetic novel. *Locomotion*. Inspired by his teacher, 11-year-old Lonnie writes a series of poems in which he discusses his foster mom, his little sister and the death of his parents. *Hush*. 13-year old Toswiah finds her life changed when her family enters the witness protection program.

Wrede, Patricia C. *Dealing With Dragons* (and three others in series). An independent-minded princess rebels against an arranged marriage and seeks her fortune among the dragons.

Wynne-Jones, Diana. *Howl's Moving Castle*. A teenage girl, transformed into a witch, must unravel the mystery of the Wizard in this rich and clever fantasy.

Yee, Lisa. *Millicent Min, Girl Genius*. 11-year-old child prodigy Millicent Min records her struggles to learn to play volleyball, tutor her enemy, deal with her grandmother's departure, and make friends over the course of a tumultuous summer.

Yep, Lawrence. *Dragonwings*. A Chinese-American man's dream of building an aeroplane and the help his young son, newly arrived from China, provides. Many stunning titles by this award-winning author.

Ylvisaker, Anne. *Dear Papa*. In September of 1943, one year after her father's death, 9-year-old Isabelle begins writing him letters about her life.

Zucker, Naomi Flink. *Benno's Bear*. A boy struggles to break from a past of abuse and crime and accept love in an atmospheric tale that borrows form fantasy and fairy tale.

LOWER and MIDDLE ELEMENTARY BIOGRAPHY

There are too many wonderful children's biographies to be able to list them all here. Too often, children only read biographies for assignments. Here is just a sampling of the wealth in our biography section:

- Adler, David. *A Picture Book of ... Jesse Owens. Helen Keller. Lou Gehrig.*
- Anholt, Laurence. *Stone Girl, Bone Girl: The Story of Mary Anning.*
- Borden, Louise. *The Journey that Saved Curious George: The True Wartime Escape of Margaret and H.A. Rey.*
- Boston, Carol W. *Before John Was a Jazz Giant: A Story of John Coltrane. Moses: When Harriet Tubman Led Her People to Freedom.*
- Bridges, Ruby. *Through My Eyes.*
- Brown, Don. *Odd Boy Out: Young Albert Einstein.*
- Cline-Ransome, Lesa. *Satchel Paige.*
- Coles, Robert. *The Story of Ruby Bridges.*
- Collins, Mary. *Airborne: A Photobiography of Wilbur and Orville Wright.*
- Cooney, Barbara. *Eleanor.*
- Corey, Shana. *You Forgot Your Skirt, Amelia Bloomer!*
- Demi. *The Dalai Lama. Muhammad.*
- Everett, Gwen. *John Brown: One Man Against Slavery.*
- Fradin, Dennis. *Maria de Sautuola: The Bulls in the Cave.*
- Fritz, Jean. *Will You Sign Here, John Hancock?*
What's the Big Idea, Ben Franklin? Many others from American history.
- Govenar, Allan, ed. *Osceola: Memories of a Sharecropper's Daughter.*
- Kerley, Barbara. *The Dinosaurs of Waterhouse Hawkins.*
- Kerley, Barbara. *What To Do About Alice? How Alice Roosevelt Broke the Rules, Charmed the World and Drove Her Father Teddy Crazy!*
- Krull, Kathleen. *Lives of Extraordinary Women. Lives of the Writers. Wilma Unlimited: How Wilma Rudolph Became the World's Fastest Woman. Giants of Science series: Isaac Newton. Marie Curie. Leonardo Da Vinci.*
- McGovern, Ann. *The Secret Soldier: The Story of Deborah Sampson.*
- Myers, Walter Dean. *Malcolm X: A Fire Burning Brightly.*
- *Nelson, Vaunda Micheaux. *Bad News for Outlaws: The Remarkable Life of Bass Reeves, U.S. Deputy Marshall.*
- *Pinkney, Andrea Davis. *Soujourner Truth's Step Stop Stride. Ella Fitzgerald. Duke Ellington. Benjamin Banneker.*
- Poole, Josephine. *Joan of Arc.*
- Rappaport, Doreen. *Eleanor: Quiet No More. Martin's Big Words.*
- Rumford, James. *Sequoyah: The Cherokee Man Who Gave His People Writing.*
- Ryan, Pam Muñoz. *When Marian Sang: The True Recital of Marian Anderson.*
- Schroeder, Alan. *Minty: A Story of the Young Harriet Tubman.*
- Sis, Peter. *Starry Messenger: A Book Depicting the Life of Galileo Galilei. Tree of Life: A Book Depicting the Life of Charles Darwin.*
- Stanley, Diane. *Saladin: Noble Prince of Islam. Michelangelo. Cleopatra. Joan of Arc.*
- Winter, Jonah. *You Never Heard of Sandy Kofax?*

UPPER ELEMENTARY BIOGRAPHY/AUTOBIOGRAPHY

- Aronson, Marc. *Sir Walter Raleigh and the Quest for El Dorado*.
- Bridges, Ruby. *Through My Eyes*.
- Buchanan, Jane. *Mary Tudor: Courageous Queen or Bloody Mary?*
- Cameron, Ann. *The Kidnapped Prince: The Life of Olaudah Equiano*.
- Cooper, Michael L. *From Slave to Civil War Hero: The Life of Robert Smalls*.
- Douglass, Frederick. *Escape from Slavery: The Boyhood of Frederick Douglass*.
- Fleischman, Sid. *The Trouble Begins at 8: A Life of Mark Twain in the Wild Wild West. The Abracadabra Kid: A Writer's Life*.
- Fleming, Candace. *The Lincolns: A Scrapbook Look at Abraham and Mary*.
- Fradin, Dennis B. and Judith Bloom Fradin. *5,000 Miles to Freedom: Ellen and William Craft's Flight from Slavery. Fight On! Mary Church Terrell's Battle for Integration. Ida B. Wells: Mother of the Civil Rights Movement. My Family Shall Be Free!*
- Freedman, Russell. *Adventures of Marco Polo. Martha Graham: A Dancer's Life. The Voice that Challenged a Nation: Marian Anderson. Confucius: The Golden Rule. Lincoln: A Photobiography. 1998 Newbery Award. Babe Didrikson Zaharias: the Making of a Champion.*
- *Fleming, Candace. *The Great and Only Barnum*.
- Fritz, Jean. *Harriet Beecher Stowe and the Beecher Preachers*.
- Giblin, James. *The Amazing Life of Benjamin Franklin. Charles A. Lindbergh*.
- Goldberg, Enid A. *Rasputin: Holy Man or Mad Monk? (Wicked History series)*
- Goodman, Joan. *A Long and Uncertain Journey: The 27,000 Mile Voyage of Vasco de Gama*.
- Gourse, Leslie. *Dizzy Gillespie and the Birth of Bebop*.
- Greenberg, Jan & Sandra Jordan. *Vincent Van Gogh. Frank O. Gehry. Chuck Close, Up Close. Runaway Girl: The Artist Louise Bourgeois*.
- Haskins, James. *Bayard Rustin: Behind the Scenes of the Civil Rights Movement*.
- Hoose, Phillip. *Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice*.
- Jiang, Ji-li. *Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of the Cultural Revolution*.
- Levine, Karen. *Hana's Suitcase: A True Story*.
- Lyons, Mary E. *Catching the Fire: Philip Simmons, Blacksmith*.
- McKissack, Patricia and Frederick. *Sojourner Truth: Ain't I A Woman?*
- Mochizuki, Ken. *Passage To Freedom: The Sugihara Story*.
- Paulsen, Gary. *My Life in Dog Years*.
- Perl, Lila and Marion Lazan. *Four Perfect Pebbles: A Holocaust Story*.
- Price, Sean. *Ivan the Terrible: Tsar of Death (Wicked History series)*.
- Rampersad, Arnold and David Roessel. *Langston Hughes*.
- Reich, Susanna. *Clara Schumann : Piano Virtuoso*.
- *Robinson, Sharon. *Promises to Keep: How Jackie Robinson Changed America*.
- Tillage, Leon Walter. *Leon's Story*.
- Warren, Andrea. *Surviving Hitler: A Boy in the Nazi Death Camps*.
- Winter, Jonah. *Roberto Clemente: Pride of the Pittsburgh Pirates*.

...and more!

There are hundreds poetry and nonfiction titles that deserve to be on this list but just won't fit into a booklet. Children who can recognize and generate rhymes and appreciate imagery and metaphor become stronger and more literary readers. Check your library's 811 and 821 section for poetry. Nonfiction also should be a part of every child's reading diet. Help your child find an interest in science and history by exploring those sections of your public library. Children who develop an affinity for a subject area are some of our strongest students. Here are some outstanding ones from recent years:

- *Agee, Jon. *Orangutan Tongs: Poems to Tangle Your Tongue*. All ages.
- Arnosky, Jim. *Wild Tracks: A Guide to Nature's Footprints*. All ages.
- Ban, Molly. *Living Sunlight: How Plants Bring the Earth to Life*. Gr. K-3.
- Bishop, Nic. *Nic Bishop Butterflies & Moths. Nic Bishop Frogs*. Gr. K-3.
- Brown, Don. *All Stations! Distress! April 15, 1912: The Day the Titanic Sank*. Gr. 3-6.
- Burns, Lorelee. *Tracking Trash: Flotsam, Jetsom and the Science of Ocean Motion*. Gr. 5-8.
- Campbell, Sarah C. *Wolfsnail: A Backyard Predator*. Gr. K-3.
- Chin, Jason. *Redwoods*. Gr. K-3.
- Cox, Kenyon. *Mixed Beasts: or a Miscellany of Rare & Fantastic Creatures*. Poetry, all ages.
- Deem, James M. *Bodies from the Ice: Melting Glaciers and the Rediscovery of the Past*. Gr. 5-8.
- Floca, Brian. *Moonshot: The Flight of Apollo 11. Lightship*. Gr. K-3.
- Harris, Robie. *It's Not the Stork: A Book About Girls, Boys, Bodies, Babies, Families and Friends*. Gr. K-4.
- Hatkoff, Isabella. *Owen & Mzee: The Language of Friendship*. Gr. 2-6.
- McCaulay, David. *The Way We Work: Getting to Know the Amazing Human Body*. Gr. 5-8.
- National Children's Book and Literary Alliance. *Our White House: Looking In, Looking Out*. All ages.
- Nelson, Kadir. *We Are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball*. Gr. 3-6.
- Nelson, Marilyn. *Sweethearts of Rhythm: The Story of the Greatest All-Girl Swing Band*. Gr. 5-8.
- Patent, Dorothy Hinshaw. *When the Wolves Returned: Restoring Nature's Balance in Yellowstone*. Gr. 3-6.
- Ruelle, Karen Gray and Deborah DeSaix. *The Grand Mosque of Paris: A Story of How Muslims Rescued Jews During the Holocaust*. Gr. 3-6.
- *Singer, Marilyn. *Mirror Mirror: A Book of Reversible Verse*. All ages. Thompson, Laura. *Ballerina Dreams: A True Story*. Gr. K-4.
- Turner, Pamela S. *The Frog Scientist*. Gr. 5-9.
- Walker, Sally M. *Written in Bone: Buried Lives of Jamestown and Colonial Maryland*. Gr. 5-9.
- Weitzman, David. *Pharaoh's Boat*. Gr. 4-7.