

St. Hilda's & St. Hugh's
C.V. Starr Library & Learning Center



Summer Reading Suggestions 2021
Early Childhood: Nursery,
Junior Kindergarten and
Senior Kindergarten

TABLE OF CONTENTS

2021 Children’s Literary Award Winners.....	2
Tips for Parents	3
Suggested Libraries and Children’s Bookstores	3
New and Notable Picture Books.....	3
ABCs AND 123s: Alphabet, Numbers, and Concept Books.....	4
Audiobooks.....	4
Beginning Readers.....	5
Chapter Books to Read Aloud to Young Listeners	5
Classic Picture Books Every Child Should Know.....	6
Fables, Fairy Tales, Folklore and Nursery Rhymes.....	7
Family, Friendship and Other Adventures	9
Nonfiction Narratives: Arts, Biography, History, Religion, and Sports	13
Poetry Picks: 2021 Young People’s Poet Naomi Shihab Nye	15
S.T.E.M.: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics	15
Stomp, Stomp, Roar: Dinosaur Books For Budding Paleontologists.....	17
Things That Go Vroom: Cars, Trucks, Spaceships, and Other Machines.....	17
Unconventional Princes and Princesses	18
Wellness Building Blocks: Social-Emotional Learning	19
Suggested Resource For Parents and Caregivers	21
Magazines.....	21

2021 CHILDREN’S LITERARY AWARD WINNERS

Award-winning titles are referenced throughout and noted by color-coded star or symbol. Awarded by the American Library Association, the 2021 children’s book awards include:

Asian/Pacific American Award (★winner ★honor)

Coretta Scott King Illustrator Award (★winner
★honor)

Pura Belpré Illustrator Award (★winner ★honor)

Randolph Caldecott Medal (★winner ★honor)

Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Award (★winner
★honor)

Schneider Family Book Award (★winner ★honor)

Stonewall Book Award (★winner)

The Sydney Taylor Book Award (★winner)

Theodor Seuss Geisel Medal (★winner ★honor)

Additional young people’s literary awards:

❖ 2021 Amelia Bloomer List (honoring children’s books with feminist themes)

✚ Audie Audiobook Award Winner

✚ Orbis Pictus Award (recognizing excellence in the writing of nonfiction for children)

∞ Outstanding Science Trade Books selected by the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA)

TIPS FOR PARENTS

“Reading should not be presented to children as a chore or duty. It should be offered to them as a precious gift.”

— Kate DiCamillo, Newbery author of *Because of Winn-Dixie*

Here is a selection of books for you and your family to enjoy over the summer months and a few simple tips to help parents and caregivers nurture a child’s love of reading.

Make it a family value. Children are expert observers. Whether you prefer to read books, blogs, manuals or magazines, let your child see your enjoyment of your own reading.

Make it a shared activity. Talk with your child about what she or he is reading, or what you have read together. Discussing and retelling stories is a way to broaden your child’s understanding of the world. It also improves reading skills, builds vocabulary and fosters parent-child bonding.

Make it part of your summer routine. Try to share at least one book a day with your child. You can make reading a part of your child’s bedtime routine, or perhaps a breakfast read-aloud works better for your family. The goal is to encourage your child to pick up the habit of reading.

Many of these titles can be found at your local public library and may also be available in eBook or audiobook formats. You and your child may also want to refer to this list throughout the year when borrowing books from Sora, the school’s online eBook collection as well as the school library.

SUGGESTED LIBRARIES AND CHILDREN’S BOOKSTORES

St. Hilda’s & St. Hugh’s
C. V. Starr Library & Learning Center
Librarian: Angela Perna
aperna@sthildas.org

SOSH Sora eBook Library
<https://soraapp.com/welcome>

The New York Public Library
www.nypl.org

Book Culture
<https://www.bookculture.com>

Books of Wonder
<http://booksof wonder.com>

Bibliography compiled and arranged by Angela Perna, librarian, St. Hilda’s & St. Hugh’s. Annotations are courtesy of the American Library Association, Junior Library Guild, the Library of Congress, and The New York Public Library cataloging-in-publication notes.

NEW AND NOTABLE PICTURE BOOKS

*Listed throughout and noted with an asterisk preceding the title.

ABCs AND 123s: ALPHABET, NUMBERS, AND CONCEPT BOOKS

*Eek!: A Noisy Journey From A to Z – Julie Larios

Animals run amok from A to Z in this noisy alphabet book.

*The Eyeball Alphabet Book – Jerry Palotta

This alphabet book about animals and their eyes has an idiom that includes the word "eye" on every page.

*Out the Door – Christy Hale

Follows a girl through her day in a busy city as she travels to school and back again. A warm-hearted chronicle of a daily routine, and an appealing introduction to directional and positional prepositions.

*Pitter Pattern – Joyce Hesselberth

Lu and her friends spot patterns in their daily activities, including patterns found in music, weather, time, play, shapes, nature, math, and language.

*Shape Up, Construction Trucks! – Victoria Allenby

An engaging, multilayered book that helps little ones identify shapes on their favorite construction-site vehicles.

*Trillions of Trees: A Counting and Planting Book – Kurt Cyrus

From poplars to pines, alder, apple, peach, and plum, this rhyming story introduces the concept of orders of magnitude and celebrates the importance of planting different trees and preserving diverse ecosystems.

*Yes & No – Elisha Cooper

An adorably over-the-top puppy and a fastidious black cat offer a study in contrasts in this sweetly comic interlude.

AUDIOBOOKS

2021 Audie Award Winner (🏆) and Finalists for Young Listeners Category

Going Down Home with Daddy, written by Kelly Starling Lyons, narrated by Daxton Edwards, published by Dreamscape Media LLC.

🏆 **The Overground Railroad**, written by Lesa Cline-Ransome, narrated by Shayna Small and Dion Graham, published by Live Oak Media.

Rise! From Caged Bird to Poet of the People, Maya Angelou, written by Bethany Hegedus, narrated by Cherise Boothe, published by Live Oak Media.

Say Something, written and narrated by Peter H. Reynolds, published by Weston Woods Studios.



The Sesame Street Podcast with Foley and Friends by Sesame Workshop, narrated by Lindsey Briggs, Tyler Bunch, Ryan Dillon, and a full cast, published by Audible Studios.

Stuck, written by Chris Grabenstein, narrated by Mark Sanderlin, Elizabeth Hess, Oliver Wyman, Farah Bala, Rita Wolf, Caroline Grogan, Cynthia Darlow, Mateo D'Amato, J.J. Myers, Neil Hellegers, Genesis Oliver, and Chris Grabenstein, published by Audible Originals.

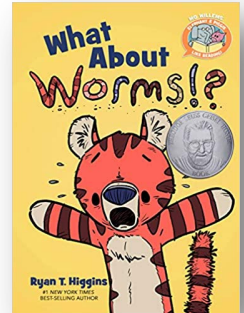
BEGINNING READERS

★ **The Bear in My Family** – Maya Tatsukawa

Living with a loud, messy, and bossy bear seems impossible, but it turns out they can be the best part of the family.

* **Bunny Will Not Jump** – Jason Tharp

With appealing comic-inspired speech bubbles and interactive storytelling that prompts kids to do everything from pressing an illustrated button to flipping a page back and forth like a flip-book to make Bunny jump, beginning readers will laugh their way through this Level 1 Ready-to-Read.



★ **See the Cat: Three Stories About a Dog** – David LaRochelle

In a laugh-out-loud story that keeps instructing readers to “see the cat,” Max the Dog must interact with the text to prove to the narrator and a cast of zany characters that he is indeed canine.

★ **Ty's Travels: Zip, Zoom** – Kelly Starling Lyons

With the help of a new friend, Ty beats the temptation to give up and masters the use of his new scooter.

★ **What About Worms!?** – Ryan T. Higgins

Tiger is big, brave, and not afraid of anything—except worms; and the worms are just as afraid of him...until they come across a book and learn more about tigers!

★ **Where's Baby?** – Anne Hunter

Can you find baby fox? Readers will enjoy following father's journey as he looks over, under, around, and into things, discovering all sorts of other animals, until he finally gets a hint from mother fox.

CHAPTER BOOKS TO READ ALOUD TO YOUNG LISTENERS

Beezus and Ramona – Beverly Cleary

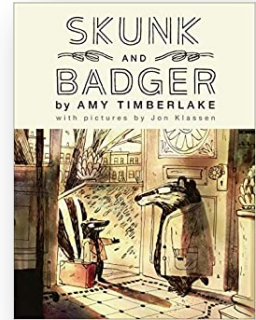
Ramona invites her whole kindergarten class to a party at her home without first mentioning it to her mother.

My Father's Dragon – Ruth Stiles Gannett

The boy who finds the dragon in the cave knows it is a kindly, harmless one, but how can he convince the frightened villagers and especially St. George the dragon killer that there is no cause for concern?

***Skunk and Badger** – Amy Timberlake

Everything in Badger's quiet and ordered life studying rocks is turned upside down when Skunk moves in, but after he drives Skunk and his chickens away, Badger starts to miss his roommate and sets out to find him and make amends.



Stuart Little – E. B. White

The adventures of the debonair mouse Stuart Little as he sets out in the world to seek out his dearest friend, a little bird who stayed a few days in his family's garden.

***Ways to Make Sunshine** – Renée Watson

Move over Ramona Quimby, Portland has another neighbor you have to meet!

CLASSIC PICTURE BOOKS EVERY CHILD SHOULD KNOW

Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day – Judith Viorst

On the worst of days, kids can take solace in the fact that everyone has terrible times.

Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? – Eric Carle

This cheerful introduction to colors comes alive through wonderful illustrations and rhyming text.

Caps for Sale – Esphyr Slobodkina

A band of mischievous monkeys steals every one of a peddler's caps while he takes a nap under a tree.

A Chair for My Mother – Vera B. Williams

A child, her waitress mother, and her grandmother save dimes to buy a comfortable armchair after all their furniture is lost in a fire.

Corduroy – Don Freeman

A lost button leads to lovable adventures for a bear that longs for a home.

Goodnight Moon – Margaret W. Brown

A little bunny says goodnight to all the familiar things in his little room.

Madeline – Ludwig Bemelmans

The rhymes in which the tale is told make it one that children will enjoy repeating.

Make Way for Ducklings – Robert McCloskey

Mr. and Mrs. Mallard found a quiet place to raise their babies then took them to the pond in the Boston Public Garden where there were peanuts to eat.

The Polar Express – Chris Van Allsburg

A magical train ride on Christmas Eve takes a boy to the North Pole to receive a special gift from Santa Claus.

Snowy Day – Ezra Jack Keats

The adventures of a little boy in the city on a very snowy day.

The Story of Ferdinand – Munro Leaf

The story of a bull that would rather sit quietly under a tree than fight.

Strega Nona – Tomie De Paola

A retelling of an old Italian tale about what happens when Strega Nona leaves her apprentice alone with her magic pasta pot, and he is determined to show the townspeople how it works.

Sylvester and the Magic Pebble – William Steig

In a moment of fright Sylvester, the donkey asks his magic pebble to turn him into a rock but then cannot hold the pebble to wish himself back to normal again.

The Tale of Peter Rabbit – Beatrix Potter

Peter disobeys his mother by going into Mr. McGregor's garden and almost gets caught.

Where the Wild Things Are – Maurice Sendak

After Max was sent to bed for misbehaving, he escapes by imagining that he sails away to a wild land full of monsters.

FABLES, FAIRY TALES, FOLKLORE AND NURSERY RHYMES

Anansi and the Magic Stick – Eric A. Kimmel

A West African folk tale about a lovable spider that steals Hyena's magic stick so he can clean up his own rickety house.

Beauty and the Beast – retold by H. Chuku Lee

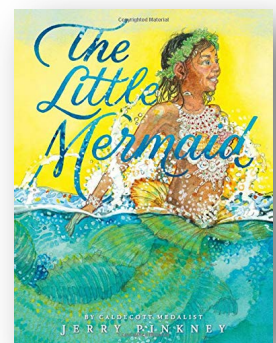
A lonely creature and a caring girl create a tender and gentle retelling. Close inspection of the African-inspired brilliant watercolor and gouache painting reveals pertinent details.

The Chinese Emperor's New Clothes – Ying Chang Compestine

This retelling of a classic fairy tale is inspired by the ban on Western literature during the Chinese Cultural Revolution.

Henny-Penny – Jane Wattenberg

A cumulative tale about Henny-Penny and her barnyard friends who were literally outfoxed on their journey to tell the king the sky was falling.



Here Comes Mother Goose – edited by Iona Opie
More than sixty traditional nursery rhymes.

❖ **The Little Mermaid** – Jerry Pinkney

In this reinvention of Hans Christian Andersen's classic tale, a little mermaid trades her voice for legs and makes a new friend on land, but must return to the sea to save her family.

***Little Red and the Very Hungry Lion** – Alex T. Smith

An amusing safari riff on Red Riding Hood features a very young girl outwitting a scheming lion.

Lon Po Po: A Red-riding Hood Story from China – Ed Young

An Asian retelling of the Little Red Riding Hood story.

Mangoes, Mischief, and Tales of Friendship: Stories from India – Chitra Soundar

In these original stories based on Indian folklore, a young prince and his friend cleverly solve disputes brought before the royal court.

Martina, the Beautiful Cockroach: A Cuban Folktale – Carmen Agra Deedy

In this humorous retelling of a Cuban folktale, a cockroach interviews her suitors in order to decide whom to marry.

Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters – John Steptoe

Featuring stunning illustrations, this African Cinderella story proves that beauty is only skin deep.

***The Musician** – Xuefeng Liu

Elegant and evocative, this culturally authentic folktale beautifully conveys the powerful bonds of music and friendship.

The Princess and the Warrior: A Tale of Two Volcanoes – Duncan Tonatiuh

The legend of Popocatepetl and Iztaccihuatl, the two majestic volcanoes that overlook Mexico City, is retold and enhanced with rich, Aztec-style mixed-media collages.

Stone Soup – Jon Muth

Three wise monks trick a poor, frightened community into finding happiness by teaching them the magic of generosity.

***The Tale of the Mandarin Duck: A Modern Fable** – Bette Midler

Inspired by the real-life rainbow-colored Mandarin Duck who appeared in New York's Central Park in 2018, this modern fable by Bette Midler celebrates the connections people make with each other and the world around them.

The Three Billy Goats Gruff – P. C. Asbørnsen

Three clever billy goats outwit a big, ugly troll who lives under the bridge they must cross on their way up the mountain.



The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse – Helen Ward

A retelling of Aesop's well-known fable in which a country mouse visits a town mouse and they find they each prefer a very different way of life. Set in 1930s New York at Christmas.

The Ugly Duckling – Hans Christian Anderson and adapted by Jerry Pinkney

An ugly duckling spends an unhappy year ostracized by the other animals before he grows into a beautiful swan.

★We Are Water Protectors – Carole Lindstrom; illustrated by Michaela Goade

An indigenous girl explains why water is sacred and that the "Black Snake" (pipelines) will destroy the earth. She takes up a rallying cry with her people to defend water and the planet.

Where's Halmoni? – Julie Kim

Searching for their missing grandmother, two Korean children follow tracks into a fantastic world filled with beings from folklore who speak in Korean.

FAMILY, FRIENDSHIP AND OTHER ADVENTURES

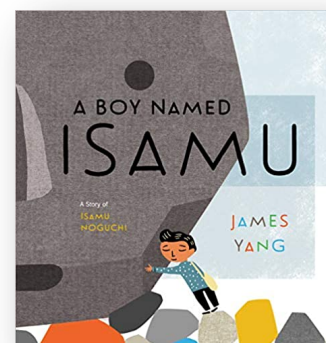
↪Freeman Book Award awarded by The National Consortium for Teaching about Asia at Columbia University

***America, My Love, America, My Heart** – Daria Peoples-Riley

America, do you love me? A single question from a single child multiplies across the country with every page turn, inviting in more and more children of color—and their questions. Includes author's note about growing up as a brown girl, whose grandmother and great-grandmother spoke Louisiana Creole, reciting the Pledge of Allegiance with her class every morning.

***Amira's Picture Day** – Reem Faruqi

Amira is excited because tomorrow is Eid with special clothes, treats, gifts, and a morning party at her mosque; but then she realizes that she is going to miss class picture day at school, something she was also looking forward to, so Amira has to figure out a way to be in two places at once.



***A Boy Named Isamu: A Story of Isamu Noguchi** – James Yang

Imagines a day in the boyhood of Japanese American artist, Isamu Noguchi, while wandering through an outdoor market, through the forest, and then by the ocean, seeing things Isamu sees through the eyes of a young artist.

★The Cat Man of Aleppo – Irene Latham and Karim Shamsi-Basha; illustrated by

Yuko Shimizu

War-torn Aleppo is given hope from Mohammad Alaa Aljaleel's humanitarian efforts to care for the deserted cats in the city.

***Chirri & Chirra: The Rainy Day** – Kaya Doi

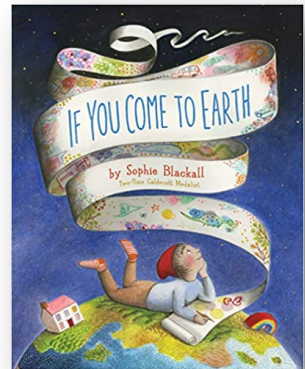
In this new installment of the beloved series, the twins brave a rainy day together...after all, stormy weather is no match for their boundless energy and curiosity!

***Clarinet and Trumpet** – Melanie Ellsworth

A charming and funny picture book featuring the harmonious friendship between Clarinet and Trumpet. But what happens when their friendship falls flat?

★Danbi Leads the School Parade – Anna Kim

A story of a girl on her first day of school in the United States after immigrating with her family from South Korea.



❖Evelyn Del Rey is Moving Away – Meg Medina

In a tender picture book that acknowledges loss and the power of friendship, two best friends spend one last afternoon playing together in their families' apartments before Evelyn moves away.

***Fatima's Great Outdoors** – Ambreen Tariq

An immigrant family embarks on their first camping trip in the Midwest in this lively picture book by Ambreen Tariq, outdoors activist and founder of @BrownPeopleCamping.

***Hello, Rain** – Kyo Maclear

A young girl experiences a rain storm from seeing the storm roll in, to splashing in the puddles, and then finally watching the sun coming back out.

***Home is in Between** – Mitali Perkins

Immigrating to America, a young girl navigates between her family's Bengali traditions and her new country's culture.

***If You Come to Earth** – Sophie Blackall

In this picture book, a boy writes a letter to an imagined alien, explaining all the things he will need to know about Earth and the people who live here—and adding a postscript asking what the alien might look like.

***Lift** – Minh Lê

Iris loves to push the elevator buttons. When she takes a discarded button home, she discovers it opens doors to new worlds that she shares with her brother.

★★Me & Mama – written and illustrated by Cozbi A. Cabrera

Lyrical prose and captivating paintings chronicle a day in the life of a mother and daughter and celebrate their special bond.

***Memory Jars** – Vera Brosgol

Freda uses jars to save everything from a chocolate chip cookie to the full moon, just as her grandmother saves summer blueberries. Includes a recipe for blueberry jam.

***Milo Imagines the World** – Matt de la Peña

Milo is on a long subway ride with his older sister. To pass the time, he studies the faces around him and makes pictures of their lives.

***My Day with the Payne** – Tami Charles

Lyrical and inspiring, with vibrant illustrations highlighting the beauty of Haiti, *My Day with the Payne* is a story of family legacy, cultural tradition, and hope for the future.

***The Night Walk** – Marie Dorléans

Embark on a midnight adventure in this special book about family togetherness and the beauty of the natural world.

❖ **The Ocean Calls: A Haenyeo Mermaid Story** – Tina Cho

Dayeon wants to be a haenyeo diver just like her grandmother, but is afraid of the deep ocean. With encouragement from her grandmother, they dive together in search of treasure.

❖ **Ohana Means Family** – Ilima Loomis

Told in the cadence of “The House that Jack Built,” we follow the growing process on a taro root farm through the lens of Hawaiian culture, concluding with the Hawaiian ohana sharing a pot of poi.

★ **Outside In** – Deborah Underwood; illustrated by Cindy Derby

This picture book explores the ever-present lure of the outdoors as it appears at our windows and tempts us with sounds and fragrances, even as we spend most of our time inside.

***Papa, Daddy and Riley** – Seamus Kirst

When a classmate insists a family must have a mother and a father, Riley fears she will have to choose between Papa and Daddy until her fathers assure her that love makes a family.

***The Ramble Shamle Children** – Christina Soontornvat

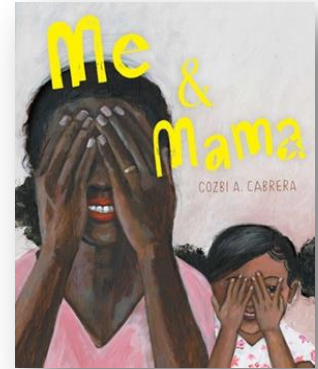
Five siblings worry that their shabby old house isn't 'proper' enough, but come to see that it's perfect just the way it is.

***The Rock from the Sky** – Jon Klassen

A hilarious meditation on the workings of friendship, fate, shared futuristic visions, and that funny feeling you get that there's something off somewhere, but you just can't put your finger on it.

❖ **Ritu Weds Chandni** – Ameya Narvankar

Ayesha is thrilled that her cousin, Ritu, is marrying her girlfriend, Chandni. Some, however, do not want to see them together. Can Ayesha find a way to help them celebrate?

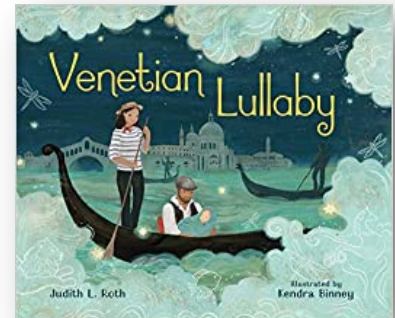


***Salma the Syrian Chef** – Danny Ramadan

Salma misses her mother's smile and laughter and hopes making her favorite Syrian dish will bring back her smile. When preparing the dish doesn't go as planned, Salma's community comes together to help finish the dish and celebrate her success.

***Sato the Rabbit** – Yuki Ainoya

In this surreal collection of short vignettes, we are transported to the world of Sato the Rabbit: a world very much like our own, yet one that is imbued with an added dimension of wonder and curiosity, in which ordinary objects and everyday routines become magical encounters.



Stella Brings the Family – Miriam B. Schiffer

Stella decides to bring her two fathers as well as other family members to a Mother's Day celebration at school.

***The Story I'll Tell** – Nancy Tupper Ling

A gentle and moving story of adoption and parental love that is sure to touch the hearts of readers everywhere, no matter how they came to be a family.

***Sugar in Milk** – Thrity Umrigar

This clever picture book reaches back to an Ancient Persian legend to help a young immigrant girl the courage to make friends in her new country.

***Swashby and the Sea** – Beth Ferry

Swashby has retired to a quiet life by his beloved sea. When a girl and her granny move in nearby, his lifestyle changes—for better.

***Time for Kenny** – Brian Pinkney

During his busy day, Kenny gets dressed, fights his fear of the vacuum cleaner, gets a soccer lesson from his sister, and prepares for bed, with his loving family always nearby.

★¡Vamos! Let's Go Eat – Raúl Gonzalez

Follow Little Lobo and his dog Bernabe on a journey to the market, where they see many friends who sell candy, comic books, and puppets in this enthralling bilingual story.

***Venetian Lullaby** – Judith L. Roth

Children cuddling on parents' laps anywhere in the world will be blissfully transported to wondrous Venice before nap—or bedtime by this dreamy lullaby and its peaceful pastel illustrations.

***We All Play** – Julie Flett

Animals and kids love to play! This wonderful book celebrates diversity and the interconnectedness of nature through an Indigenous perspective, complete with a glossary of Cree words for wild animals at the back of the book, and children repeating a Cree phrase throughout the book.

★ **Welcoming Elijah: A Passover Tale with a Tail** – Lesléa Newman

Inside the house, a boy prepares for the Passover ritual of welcoming Elijah—meanwhile, outside the house, a kitten lingers in the cold.

* **Your House, My House** – Marianne Dubuc

Welcome to an apartment building where the fun never ends! It's Little Rabbit's birthday, and he's having a party, but that's not the only thing going on here. The Cat family is moving in upstairs. The Fox family is having a new baby. Mr. Owl is trying to sleep. There's so much happening inside (and outside) this lively building, it's hard to keep track!

* **Zonia's Rain Forest** – Juana Neal-Martinez

Explores the wonders of the rain forest with Zonia, an Asháninka girl, in her joyful outdoor adventures.

NONFICTION NARRATIVES: ARTS, BIOGRAPHY, HISTORY, RELIGION, AND SPORTS

❖ 2021 Amelia Bloomer List (honoring children's books with feminist themes)

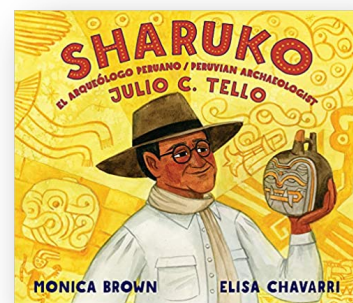
✦ Orbis Pictus Award (recognizing excellence in the writing of nonfiction for children)

✦ **Above the Rim: How Elgin Baylor Changed Basketball** – Jen Bryant

In the midst of the Black Civil Rights movement, NBA Hall of Famer Elgin Baylor made an impact on and off the basketball court in Jim Crow 1950s and 1960s.

★ **All the Way to the Top: How One Girl's Fight for Americans with Disabilities Changed Everything** – Annette Bay Pimentel

A powerfully illustrated biography of Jennifer Keelan's life and activism which helped pressure Congress into passing the Americans with Disabilities Act.



* **Dream Builder: The Story of Architect Philip Freelon** – Kelly Starlings Lyons

Depicts the life of Philip Freelon who would eventually build the National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C.

★★ ❖ **Exquisite: The Poetry and Life of Gwendolyn Brooks** – Suzanne Slade; illustrated by Cozbi A. Cabrera

The biography of Pulitzer-winning poet Gwendolyn Brooks reveals her childhood dreams and inspirations, her challenges with race, gender, and poverty, and her desires to share stories through poetry.

* **Fauja Singh Keeps Going: The True Story of The Oldest Person to Ever Run A Marathon** – Simran Jeet Singh

The inspiring true story of Fauja Singh, who broke world records to become the first 100-year-old to run a marathon, shares valuable lessons on the source of his grit, determination to overcome obstacles, and commitment to positive representation of the Sikh community.

***The Floating Field: How a Group of Thai Boys Built Their Own Soccer Field** – Scott Riley

On a tiny Thai island without room for a soccer field, a group of resourceful teen boys gathers scraps and works together to build a floating field so they can play the game they love.

❖For Spacious Skies: Katharine Lee Bates and the Inspiration for “America the Beautiful” – Nancy Churnin

Inspired by the beauty of the country during a long trip, Katherine Lee Bates wrote the poem that would become “America the Beautiful.”

❖Ice Breaker: How Mabel Fairbanks Changed Figure Skating – Rose Viña

Repeatedly turned away from public ice rinks for the color of her skin, Mabel Fairbanks pursued her dream of figure skating and broke barriers for herself and her students.



***In My Mosque** – M. O. Yuksel

No matter who you are or where you're from, everyone is welcome here. From grandmothers reading lines of the Qur'an and the imam telling stories of living as one, to meeting new friends and learning to help others, mosques are centers for friendship, community, and love.

★Itzhak: A Boy who Loved the Violin – Tracy Newman

Tells the early life story of Itzhak Perlman. His early love of music, contracting polio, and his fame from appearing on the Ed Sullivan show.

★Paper Son: The Inspiring Story of Tyrus Wong, Immigrant and Artist – Julie Leung

As a boy, Wong Geng Yeo assumed a fake identity to immigrate to the U.S., eventually becoming a Disney artist.

★R-E-S-P-E-C-T: Aretha Franklin, the Queen of Soul – Carole Boston Weatherford; illustrated by Frank Morrison

With words that sing and art that shines, this vibrant portrait of Aretha Franklin pays her the R-E-S-P-E-C-T this Queen of Soul deserves.

❖Ruth Objects: The Life of Ruth Bader Ginsburg – Doreen Rappaport

From her lace collars to her incredible work ethic, this picture book biography chronicles the hard work and dedication of RBG to become a Supreme Court Justice.

★Sharuko: El Arqueólogo Peruano/Peruvian Archaeologist Julio C. Tello – Monica Brown

This bilingual biography traces the life of Julio C. Tello, from a curious, young boy to an accomplished archaeologist who elevated Peru's indigenous history.

❖A Thousand Glass Flowers: Marietta Barovier and the Invention of the Rosetta Bead – Evan Turk

Despite being told that girls can't blow glass, Marietta learns the artform of glassblowing from her father and rediscovers the technique of creating rosettas.

***Try It!: How Frieda Caplan Changed the Way We Eat – Maria Rockliff**

A picture book biography of Frieda Caplan, the produce pioneer who changed the way Americans eat by introducing exciting new fruits and vegetables, from baby carrots to blood oranges to kiwis.

★We Are Little Feminists: Families – Archa Shrivastav

Beautiful photos of real-life families showcase all the wonderful forms of family, while poetic text builds both vocabulary and family connection.

POETRY PICKS: 2021 YOUNG PEOPLE’S POET NAOMI SHIHAB NYE

Each month, Young People’s Poet Laureate, Naomi Shihab Nye recommends a book of poetry for children. Selections include classics of children’s literature, adult collections that are well suited to children, as well as newly published books.

For more information: <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/learn/young-peoples-poet-laureate>

S.T.E.M.: SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS

∞ Outstanding Science Trade Books selected by the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA). Annotations borrowed from Outstanding Science Trade Books. NSTA. 2021. <https://www.nsta.org/ostb-2021>.

❖ 2021 Amelia Bloomer List (honoring children’s books with feminist themes)

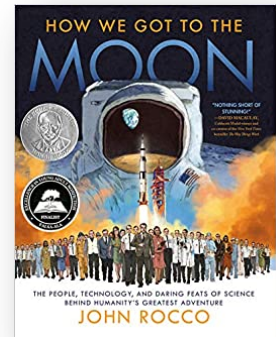
∞ **Animal Homes – Mary Holland**

Take a home tour of selected bugs, birds, and mammals. Beautiful, full-page photos complement descriptions, materials, and uses of animals’ homes.

***The Boy Whose Head Was Filled with Stars: A Life of Edwin Hubble –**

Isabelle Marinov

How many stars are in the sky? How did the universe begin? Where did it come from? This is the story of Edwin Hubble, a boy fascinated by the stars who surmounted many hurdles to follow his dreams of becoming an astronomer.



***Crossings: Extraordinary Structures for Extraordinary Animals – Katy S.**

Duffield.

This nonfiction picture book explores the variety of accommodations built around the world so that animals can safely access areas encroached upon by humans.

❖ **Cubs in the Tub – Candace Fleming**

Readers are told the story of Helen Martini's care for lion and tiger cubs, and her emergence as the Bronx Zoo's first woman zookeeper.

- *First Friend: How Dogs Evolved from Wolves to Become Our Best Friends** – Kersten Hamilton
First Friend is an exploration of how the wild wolves became dogs, and how we learned to communicate and grow alongside the creatures we love.
- ∞ **Grow: Secrets of Our DNA** – Nicola Davies
 This book introduces readers to DNA in a clear, engaging manner, beginning with plants and animals, then connecting to humans.
- ★+ **Honeybee: The Busy Life of Apis Mellifera** – Candace Fleming
 Get up close and personal with Apis, one honeybee, as she embarks on her journey through life, complete with exquisitely detailed illustrations.
- +∞ **If You Take Away the Otter** – Susannah Buhrman-Deever
 What happens to an entire habitat when a single element is depleted by hunters? Through striking illustrations, the role of sea otters over time in the Pacific Coast of North America is explored in detail.
- ∞ **Marjory Saves the Everglades: The Story of Marjory Stoneman Douglas** – Sandra Neil Wallace
 This book is a beautifully illustrated biography of Marjory Stoneman Douglas who advocated for designating the Florida Everglades as a national park. Her lifelong environmental activism helped save the diverse animal and plant species living in the Florida Everglades.
- ∞ **Nesting** – Henry Cole
 Through beautiful text and illustrations, learn about the life of a hatch of robins as its parents support the robins' survival.
- ∞ **North Pole / South Pole: From Pole to Pole: A Flip Book** – Michael Bright
 North Pole? South Pole? Are they really that different? With this fact-filled and engaging flip book, you can discover and compare the natural and human environments in both places.
- *Outdoor School: Spot and Sticker (Birds, Animals, Plants)** – Published by Odd Dot
 Finally--a sticker book for the curious and the adventurous! *The Outdoor School Sticker* series delivers the natural wonders of the world in gorgeous, scientifically-accurate stickers. Peel and place each sticker once you've seen each bird--or simply decorate your surroundings to make a bird-spotter's paradise.
- *Outside You Notice** – Erin Alladin
 In *Outside, You Notice*, a meditative thread of child-like observations (*How after the rain / Everything smells greener*) is paired with facts about the habits and habitats of animals, insects, birds, and plants (*A tree's roots reach as wide as its branches*).
- ∞ **What Do Scientists Do All Day?** – Jane Wilsher
 Discover the daily actions of different scientists on a visual tour of fourteen different places, from a nature reserve to an energy plant.
- ∞ **What Do You Do If You Work at the Zoo?** – Steve Jenkins and Robin Page
 Discover what zookeepers do with different animals in a zoo through this beautifully illustrated book presenting how various animals are cared for in zoos around the world.

***Your Place in the Universe** – Jason Chen

A non-fiction introduction to the massive scale of the known universe.

STOMP, STOMP, ROAR: DINOSAUR BOOKS FOR BUDDING PALEONTOLOGISTS

∞Dinosaur Lady: The Daring Discoveries of Mary Anning, the First Paleontologist – Linda Skeers

Follow Mary Anning on her fearless exploring and thirst for knowledge that led to the formation of paleontology as a scientific field of study.

Dinosaur Feathers – Dennis Nolan

This tongue-twisting, brightly illustrated poetry book introduces readers to a gaggle of dinosaurs.

Fossil by Fossil: Comparing Dinosaur Bones – Sara Levine

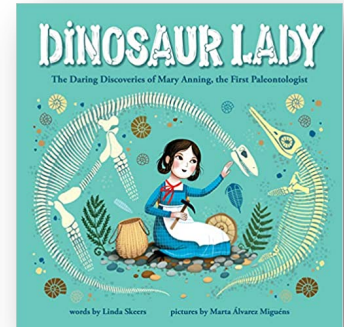
Humans and dinosaurs share many skeletal features, but the dinosaur's bones made them unique.

Lifesize Dinosaurs – Jessica Hann

Step into the book and see how you measure up against some of the world's most amazing dinosaurs.

***One-osaurus, Two-osaurus** – Kim Norman

Part counting game, part dinosaur celebration, this energetic romp is a numbers concept book for the ages.



THINGS THAT GO VROOM: CARS, TRUCKS, SPACESHIPS, AND OTHER MACHINES

***The Fearless Flights of Hazel Ying Lee** – Julie Leung

An inspiring picture book biography about Hazel Ying Lee, the first Chinese American woman to fly for the US military.

***Field Trip to the Ocean Deep** – John Hare

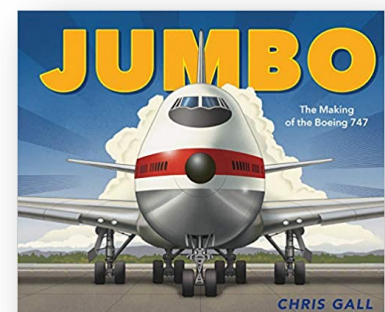
In this wordless picture book, a student is accidentally left behind on a field trip to the ocean deep.

***Goodnight, Astronaut** – Scott Kelly

The second picture book from astronaut Scott Kelly follows his adventure-seeking travels through some of the wild places he's slept!

★How We Got to the Moon: The People, Technology, and Daring Feats of Science Behind Humanity's Greatest Adventure – John Rocco

This ambitious nonfiction book chronicles one of the most exciting and miraculous accomplishments in American history—the 1969 lunar landing.



∞ **JUMBO: The Making of the Boeing 747** – Chris Gall

For the 50th anniversary of the Boeing 747's first commercial flight, a picture book about the development of the iconic passenger plane and how it changed the history of air travel.

***The Old Boat** – Jarrett Pumphrey and Jerome Pumphrey

Off a small island, a boy and his grandfather set sail in their beloved fishing boat. They ride the waves, catching wants and wishes and seeing the wonders of the ocean.

***Road Trip!: A Whiskers Hollow Adventure** – Steve Light

When Bear's old truck needs a new headlight, there's just one thing to do: organize a road trip to Elephant's Old Junk Tree to find a new one. And a road trip wouldn't be complete without friends!

***The Runaway No-Wheeler** – Peter Stein

A sturdy, long-hauling 18-wheeler navigates wheel-popping obstacles, from potholes and slimy cliffsides to duck crossings and alien space rockets, to make an important delivery in time.

***Someone Builds the Dream** – Lisa Wheeler

Celebrates the skilled women and men who work to see the plans of architects, engineers, and designers brought to life.

UNCONVENTIONAL PRINCES AND PRINCESSES

La Princesa and the Pea – Susan Middleton Elya

A rhyming twist on a classic fairy tale in which a queen places a pea under a young lady's mattress to see if she is truly a princess. Incorporates Spanish words and includes a glossary.

Not All Princesses Dress in Pink – Jane Yolen

Rhyming text affirms that girls can pursue their many interests, from playing sports to planting flowers in the dirt, without giving up their tiaras.

The Paper Bag Princess – Robert N. Munsch

Princess Elizabeth decides to rescue her fiancé Prince Ronald from a dragon who has burned up all her possessions.

Prince Cinders – Babette Cole

In this delightful retelling of the classic fairy tale, Prince Cinders sets out on an adventure, aided by his very own fairy godmother.

***Princess Arabella at the Museum** – Mylo Freeman

In Freeman's latest Princess Arabella book, this young Black princess gives her royal friends a tour of her very own museum.



Princess Grace – Mary Hoffman

Grace wants to participate in her community festival's princess float, but first she must decide what sort of a princess she wants to be, from an African princess in kente cloth robes to a fluffy pink fairy tale princess.

❖ **Princess Power** – Natalie Davis

Weaving together a day in the life of a contemporary girl with bold life lessons from the Disney Princesses, this vibrant picture book will inspire young readers to discover their inner Princess Power.

The Real Princess: A Mathematical Tale – Brenda Williams

Practice your math skills while enjoying this quirky take on The Princess and the Pea.

Sleeping Bobby – Will and Mary Pope Osborne

A retelling of the Grimm tale featuring a handsome prince who is put into a deep sleep by a curse until he is awakened by the kiss of a brave princess.

The Truly Brave Princesses – Dolores Brown

This eclectic collection of diverse women and girls celebrates the many different princesses in everyday modern life.

WELLNESS BUILDING BLOCKS: SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING

* **A Story About Afiya** – James Berry

Some people have dresses for every occasion but Afiya needs only one. Her dress records the memories of her childhood, from roses in bloom to pigeons in flight, from tigers at the zoo to October leaves falling. A joyful celebration of a young girl's childhood.

* **All Because You Matter** – Tami Charles

In a beautiful ode to generations of Black sacrifice, happiness, and love, a family tells the story that brought a young boy into being and emphasizes his inherent worth.

* **Alone Together: A Tale of Friendship and Hope** – Julia Seal

This heart-warming story highlights the importance of friendship and community during these challenging times.

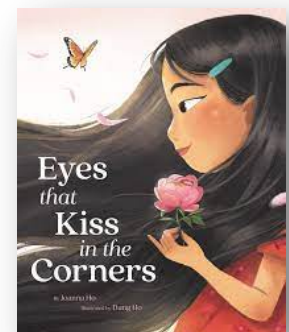
★ **A Place Inside of Me: A Poem to Heal the Heart** – Zetta Elliott; illustrated by

Noa Denmon

Illustrations and easy-to-read text express a child's awareness of being filled with deep emotions, from joy to sorrow and anger to compassion, but above all, love.

* **Born Ready: The True Story of a Boy Named Penelope** – Jodie Patterson

Just before his fifth birthday, Penelope lets his mother know he is a boy and, with her support and his ninja powers, faces the rest of his family and his classmates. Drawn from the author's memoir, *The Bold World*.



***Big Feelings** – Alexandra Penfold

A group of kids express a multitude of feelings and discover they are not alone.

***Eyes That Kiss in the Corners** – Joanna Ho Bradshaw

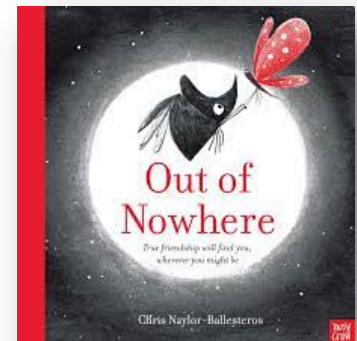
A young Asian girl notices that her eyes look different from her peers'. They have big, round eyes and long lashes. She realizes that her eyes are like her mother's, her grandmother's, and her little sister's. They have eyes that kiss in the corners and glow like warm tea, crinkle into crescent moons, and are filled with stories of the past and hope for the future. Drawing from the strength of these powerful women in her life, she recognizes her own beauty and discovers a path to self-love and empowerment

***How to Apologize** – David LaRochelle

Wouldn't the world be a better place if everyone knew how to apologize? Luckily, this humorous guidebook is full of practical tips about when, why, and how to say you're sorry.

***I Am Every Good Thing** – Derrick Barnes

This first-person affirmation celebrates Black boys and validates their right to be proud of themselves and deserving of respect, love, and joy.



***I Talk Like a River** – Jordan Scott

A young person with a stutter feels isolated. His father helps him understand that his speech moves like the ebb and flow of the river, giving him a new understanding of his way of speaking.

It Feels Good to Be Yourself: A Book About Gender Identity – Theresa Thorn

A picture book that introduces the concept of gender identity to the youngest reader.

***Jabari Tries** – Gaia Cornwall

Jabari is making a flying machine all by himself, but when it doesn't work the way he imagined, he learns about perseverance and problem-solving.

***Lulu the One and Only** – Lynnette Mawhinney

Lulu gets help from her brother, Zane, to respond to other people's confusion about her racial identity by using a "power phrase" to declare who she is, rather than what.

★Magnificent Homespun Brown: A Celebration – Samara Cole Doyon; illustrated by Kaylani Juanita

Joyful young narrators celebrate feeling at home in one's own skin.

❖My Hair is Magic – M. L. Marroquin

A confident Black child loves and defends her natural hair, even as others question why it's so big, messy, frizzy, kinky, wild, and complicated.

***Our Skin: A First Conversation About Race** – Megan Madison

An introduction to the concepts of race, gender, consent and body positivity for the very youngest.

***Out of Nowhere** – Chris Naylor-Ballesteros

This charming and timeless tale of a beetle searching for a missing friend (caterpillar) gently shows that true friendship endures through even the biggest of changes.

***There Must Be More Than That!** – Shinsuke Yoshitake

Troubled because her brother has told her that the future of Earth is bleak, a little girl goes to her grandmother who assures her that there are many possible futures and encourages her to use her imagination to explore some of the alternatives.

***Trouble** – Katherine Battersby

A thoughtful and entertaining children's parable about prejudice, starring a captivating trio of squirrel, mouse, and bear!

***Trying** – Kobi Yamada

Written by New York Times best-selling author Kobi Yamada, this captivating book celebrates the way failure is the just the beginning of the journey.

***Welcome Flower Child: The Magic of Your Birth Flower** – Brigette Barrager

This book reveals the qualities of babies born in each month of the year, and the accompanying flower that blooms in each birth month.

SUGGESTED RESOURCE FOR PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS

How to Raise a Reader – Pamela Paul and Maria Russo

Combining clear, practical advice with inspiration, wisdom, tips, and curated reading lists, *How to Raise a Reader*, from the authors of the original and viral New York Times Books feature, shows you how to instill the joy and time-stopping pleasure of reading.

MAGAZINES

Highlights High Five

Promotes reasoning, problem solving and creative self-expression. Ages 2-6.

Ladybug

Filled with enchanting stories and poems. Ages 3-7.

Ranger Rick, Jr

Filled with fun activities, simple stories and wild animals that the little ones love. Ages 3-7.