



Georgia Chapter Book Award Nominees 2020-2021



Each Tiny Spark by Pablo Cartaya

Sixth-grader Emilia Torres struggles with ADHD, her controlling abuela, her mother's work commitments, her father's distance after returning from deployment, evolving friendships, and a conflict over school redistricting. RL 4.4, L 680 (Fiction)



Saving Winslow by Sharon Creech

A young boy befriends an ailing newborn donkey and nurses him back to health. He learns that small things can have a big impact and how to deal with the absence of his brother. RL 4.2, L 690 (Fiction)



Louisiana's Way Here by Kate DiCamillo

When Louisiana granny wakes her up in the middle of the night to tell her that the day of reckoning has arrived, and they have to leave home immediately, Louisiana isn't overly worried at first. But this time, things are different. Granny intends for them to never return. As her life intersects with the lives of people in Richford, Georgia, she worries that she may only be destined for good-byes. RL 4.5, L 630 (Fiction)



Blended by Sharon Draper

Piano-prodigy Isabella, eleven, whose black father and white mother struggle to share custody, never feels whole, especially as racial tensions affect her school, her parents both become engaged, and she and her stepbrother are stopped by police. RL 4, L 610 (Fiction)



The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise by Dan Gemeinhart

Twelve-year-old Coyote and her father rush to Poplin Springs, Washington, in their old school bus to save a memory box buried in a park that will soon be demolished, after traveling for five years after her mother died. RL 4.7, L 730 (Fiction)



The Song for a Whale by Lynne Kelly

Twelve-year-old Iris and her grandmother, both deaf, drive from Texas to Alaska armed with Iris's plan to help Blue-55, a whale unable to communicate with other whales. RL 5.3, L 800 (Fiction)



The Unteachables by Gordon Korman

The worst class of kids in school is paired with the worst teacher-and they end up saving each other. RL 5.1 L 740 (Humorous Fiction)



All The Impossible Things by Lindsay Lackey

Red's power over the wind comes from her mother. Whenever Ruby "Red" Byrd is scared or angry, the wind picks up. And being placed in foster care, moving from family to family, tends to keep her skies stormy. Red knows she has to learn to control it, but can't figure out how. This time, the wind blows Red into the home of the Grooves, a quirky couple who run a petting zoo. But just when Red starts to settle into her new life, a fresh storm rolls in, one she knows all too well: her mother. RL 4.3 (Fiction with a touch of Fantasy)



Season of Styx Malone by Kekla Magoon

Caleb Franklin and his younger brother, Bobby Gene, spend an extraordinary summer with their new, older neighbor, Styx Malone, a foster boy from the city as they try to earn money for a moped that will get them out of their small town. RL 3.8, L 510 (Adventure Fiction)



Caterpillar Summer by Gillian McDunn

Since her father's death, Cat has taken care of her brother, Chicken, for their hardworking mother, but while spending time with grandparents they never knew, Cat has the chance to be a child again. RL 3.8, L 540 (Fiction)



Planet Earth is Blue by Nicole Panteleakos

Autistic and nearly nonverbal, twelve-year-old Nova is happy in her new foster home and school, but eagerly anticipates the 1986 Challenger launch, for which her sister, Bridget, promised to return.. RL 5 L 740 (Fiction)



The Boy at the Back of the Class by Onjali Raúf Q. Onjali

When quiet, nine-year-old Ahmet arrives in their classroom, a boy and his friends fail to draw him out but try a new plan after learning he is a Syrian refugee. RL 5.4, L 940 (Fiction)



Nikki on the Line by Barbara Carroll Roberts

Nikki, thirteen, dreams of being a great basketball player but struggles on her new, elite team while also juggling school stress, her non-traditional family, and revelations about her biological father. RL 5 L 840 (Fiction)



Lemons by Melissa Savage

After her mother dies in 1975, ten-year-old Lemonade must live with her grandfather in a small town famous for Bigfoot sightings and soon becomes friends with Tobin, a quirky Bigfoot investigator. RL 4.1, L 630 (Mystery)



To Night Owl From Dogfish by Holly Goldberg Sloan and Meg Wolitzer

Unhappy about being sent to the same summer camp after their fathers start dating, Bett and Avery, eleven, eventually begin scheming to get the couple back together after a break-up. Told entirely through emails.. RL 5.6 L 770 (Fiction)



Solving for M by Jennifer Swender

Shortly after starting fifth grade, Mika learns that her mother has cancer and uses her math notebook to explore the new changes in her life. RL 4.9, L 730 (Fiction)



They Called Us Enemy by George Takei

A graphic memoir recounting actor/author/activist George Takei's childhood imprisoned within American concentration camps, as one of 120,000 Japanese Americans imprisoned by the U.S. government during World War II. Experience the forces that shaped an American icon--and America itself--in this gripping tale of courage, country, loyalty, and love. RL 4.6, L 680 (Autobiographical Graphic Novel)



The Bridge Home by Padma Venkatraman

The story of four very determined homeless children make a life for themselves in Chennai, India. RL 4.4, L 680 (Fiction)



Some Places More Than Others by Renée Watson

Amara visits her father's family in Harlem for her twelfth birthday, hoping to better understand her family and herself, but New York City is not what she expected. RL 4.6, L 750 (Fiction)



Geneiss Begins Again by Alicia D. Williams

Thirteen-year-old Genesis tries again and again to lighten her black skin, thinking it is the root of her family's troubles, before discovering reasons to love herself as is. RL 4.5 L 670 (Fiction)

Additional Resources: Georgia Children's Book Awards

Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl

<http://gcba.coe.uga.edu/>

<http://www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/hrrb/>