MPS READS!

MILWAUKEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

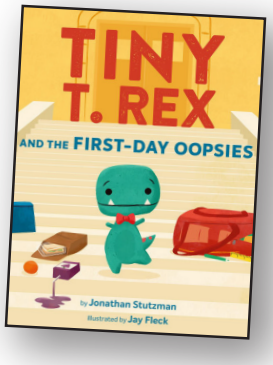
Selections for September 2025

Help children get excited about reading! Each month, a list of featured books will be available to: Assist teachers, librarians, and families in finding quality books to encourage independent reading; offer titles that allow students to see themselves, explore other cultures, and discover more about the world in which they live; and ignite a passion for reading.

PRESCHOOL

Tiny T. Rex and the First-Day Oopsies: A Back-to-School Book

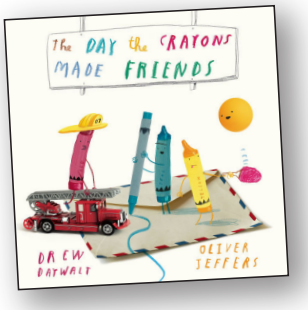
by Jonathan Stutzman



Tiny is certain he's ready for anything at his BIG new school—but learns that even the best-prepared dinosaur will still meet some "oopsies" along the way!

The Day the Crayons Made Friends

by Drew Daywalt

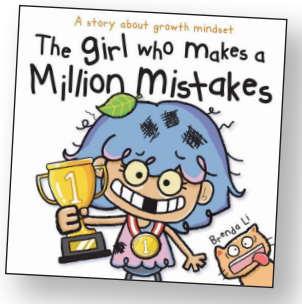


Duncan's crayons have gone into his room to make friends! From Red Crayon, who dreams of driving a firetruck, to Blue Crayon, who meets a fashion doll in need of a head, to fan favorite Esteban, who is off to tame a teddy bear, each crayon has an exciting story to share.

PRIMARY (GRADES KINDERGARTEN – 2)

The Girl Who Makes a Million Mistakes

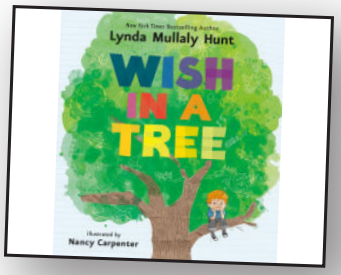
by Brenda Li



From tangled hair to missing teeth, Millie's track race turns into disaster when she makes mistakes. She dreams of being a top athlete, but she always messes up. Millie squeezes too much toothpaste, uses too much glue, spills milk, and spells "banana" wrong. Will she quit? Will she ever become an amazing athlete?

Wish in a Tree

by Lynda Mullaly Hunt

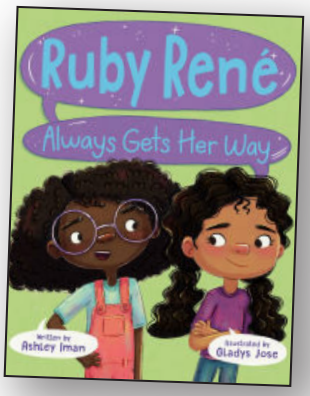


Oliver's brain is a volcano of ideas—always bubbling with questions. This makes it hard to focus at school. So it's a good thing he has a friend who reminds him that great minds don't think alike. And that a brain that blazes with curiosity and imagination is a glorious thing.

INTERMEDIATE (GRADES 3–5)

Ruby René Always Gets Her Way

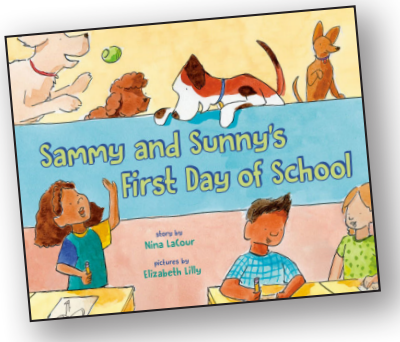
by Ashley Iman



Ruby René got her own segment on the morning announcements. But after an unexpected sick day, she returns to someone new sitting in her chair. Ruby reluctantly agrees to a shared show. When Yanin refuses to do the show, Ruby René is forced to reflect on how it's not only important to share her voice, but her ears, too.

Sammy and Sunny's First Day of School

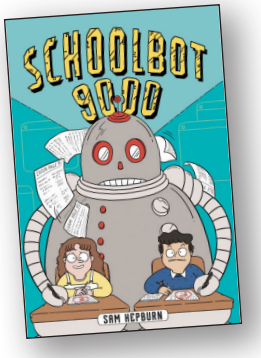
by Nina LaCour



It's the first day of kid school for Sammy and the first day of puppy school for Sunny. They both have a great time—making friends, playing, and learning. They tell Mom and each other all about day one. But what will happen on day two?

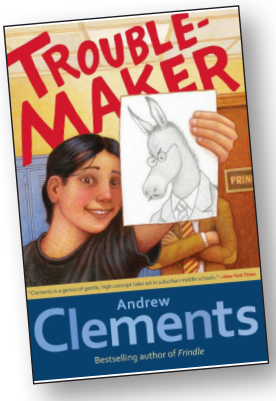
MIDDLE SCHOOL (GRADES 6 – 8)

Schoolbot 9000: A Graphic Novel
by Sam Hepburn



James is annoyed–Schoolbots are replacing all his favorite teachers! James's teachers have always cared about his feelings and supported his art, but all the Schoolbots care about is improving students' test scores. James is determined to fight back to keep these robot teachers from taking over his school.

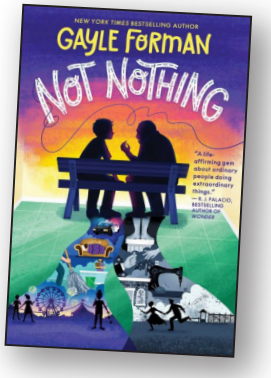
Troublemaker
by Andrew Clements



Clay is accustomed to trouble. His art teacher told the class to draw anything they wanted, and he decided to be "creative" by drawing a portrait of Principal Kelling as a donkey. When his big brother gets in serious trouble, Clay decides to change his ways, but he can't seem to shake his reputation as a troublemaker.

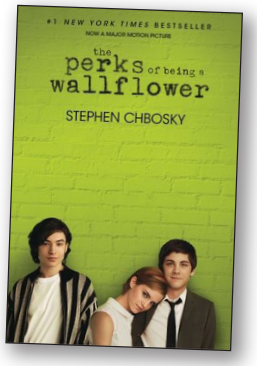
HIGH SCHOOL (GRADES 9 – 12)

Not Nothing
by Gayle Forman



A judge sentences Alex to spend his summer volunteering at a retirement home. The geriatric residents seem like zombies. Josey is 107 and survived a concentration camp. But now he is waiting to die—until he begins to tell Alex his story. Soon Alex is wondering: Can he rise to the occasion of his life, even if it means confronting the worst thing he's ever done?

The Perks of Being a Wallflower
by Stephen Chbosky



Charlie is a painfully shy freshman—a wallflower who watches the world around him. Which makes finding friends, dealing with his family, and falling in love difficult. When Charlie has a mental breakdown, he has to find a way back to the world and himself.

SEPTEMBER AUTHENTIC SPANISH SUGGESTION

Paletero Man/ ¡Que Paletero tan Cool!/Popsicle Man—What a Cool Popsicle Man!
by Lucky Diaz

Can you hear his call? Paletas for one! Paletas for all! / ¡Vengan a comprar! Paleta para uno ¡o pa' to'a la vecindad!

Follow along with our narrator as he passes through his busy neighborhood in search of the Paletero Man. But when he finally catches up with him, our narrator's pockets are empty. Oh, no! What happened to his dinero? It will take the help of the entire community to get the tasty treat now.

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