



MPS READS!



MILWAUKEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

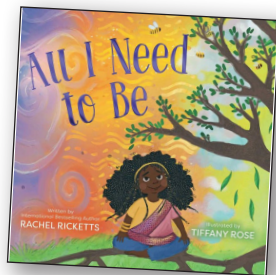
Selections for January 2025

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

All I Need to Be by Rachel Ricketts

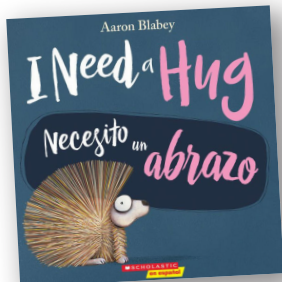
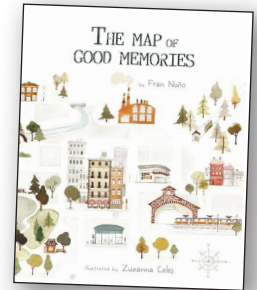
When the world gets to be too much, we can always look within ourselves for love, support, and healing. This guide filled with an inspiring, positive self-esteem message helps young ones feel big feelings and celebrate their whole being.



The Map of Good Memories/ El mapa de los buenos momentos

by Fran Nuño

Some say that we always return to the places where we embraced life, where we were happy. Zoe, a girl who must flee her city with her family because of the war, remembers them before she leaves and marks them on a special map.



I Need a Hug/ Necesito un abrazo by Aaron Blabey

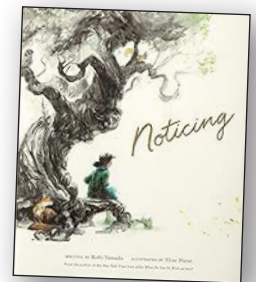
A tiny porcupine just wants a cuddle. All the other animals turn him away because of his prickly spikes. But finally, the porcupine meets an animal who's happy to hug—a snake!

INTERMEDIATE (GRADES 3 – 5)

Noticing

by Kobi Yamada

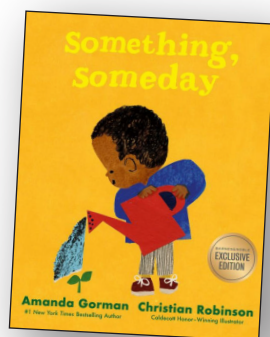
Follow a young girl and an accomplished painter as they learn to observe the beauty and magic in each day. This story will encourage you to pay attention, to make new discoveries, and to explore the unknown. It's an invitation to look within to your own hopes and dreams.



PRIMARY (GRADES KINDERGARTEN – 2)

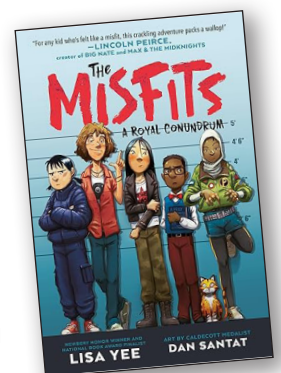
Something, Someday by Amanda Gorman

Sometimes the world feels broken and problems seem big. But we all have the power to make a difference. With a little faith, and maybe the help of a friend, we can find beauty and create change. This book reveals how even the smallest gesture can have a lasting impact.



The Misfits: A Royal Conundrum by Lisa Yee

Olive Cobin Zang has issues. Imagine her doubts when she's suddenly dropped off at the strangest boarding school ever! She's lumped with other kids who never quite fit in, and the academy is a cover for an elite group of misfits who fight crime. The school is in danger of closing unless Olive's class can stop the heist of the century.



MIDDLE SCHOOL (GRADES 6 – 8)

Wilderlore: The Accidental Apprentice

by Amanda Foody

Barclay unwittingly bonds with a beast in the nearby woods and is kicked out of his town. Determined to break this bond, he journeys to find the Lore Keepers, people who have bonded with beasts and share their powers. Barclay must make a difficult choice: return home or embrace the adventure awaiting him.

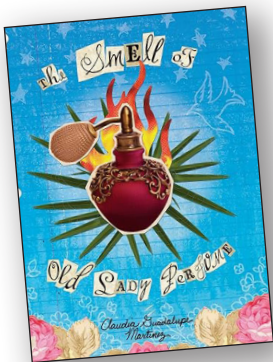


The Smell of Old Lady Perfume/ Olor a perfume de viejita

by Claudia Guadalupe Martinez

Chela is a nerdy soccer player who is excited to start sixth grade. But her best friend ditches her to hang out with the popular girls. She focuses on homework and her family. Everything changes when her dad suffers a stroke and her

grandmother moves in.

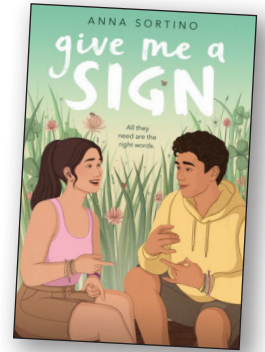


HIGH SCHOOL (GRADES 9 – 12)

Give Me a Sign

by Anna Sortino

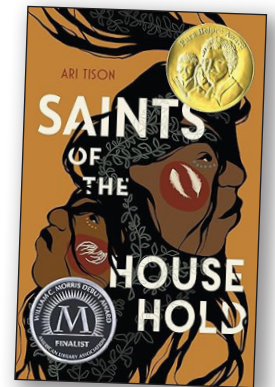
Lilah becomes a counselor at a summer camp for the deaf and blind. She finds cute British lifeguards who break hearts but not rules, a YouTuber who's a bit desperate for clout, the campers, and Isaac, the dreamy Deaf counselor who volunteers to help Lilah with her signing. All signs seem to point to love. Unless she's reading them wrong?



Saints of the Household

by Ari Tison

Two Indigenous Costa Rican-American brothers, Max and Jay, intervene in a fight, leading to violent consequences. As they face the repercussions, they question their identities and relationship while confronting the abuse in their past. Through alternating viewpoints, the story explores themes of brotherhood, trauma, and healing.



AUTHENTIC SPANISH SUGGESTION



Al otro lado

by Cristina Falcón Maldonado

Hoy Juan José no tiene nada que hacer porque se rompió el cable de la tirolina que es la que usa para llegar a la escuela al otro lado del río. Entonces, cierra los ojos y empieza a soñar despierto con todas las cosas que quiere en la vida. Este libro está inspirado en una historia real de Venezuela.

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