

Grades 2-3

PICTURE BOOKS

McNamara

A Poem in Your Pocket

Elinor is used to doing very well in school, but as Poem in Your Pocket Day approaches, bringing an opportunity to meet a real poet, her struggle to write a perfect poem causes Elinor's confidence to falter, despite Mr. Tiffin's guidance and reassurance.

Rosenstock

Ben Franklin's Big Splash: The Mostly True Story of His First Invention

Ben Franklin loved to swim and, at the age of eleven, he was determined to swim like a fish--fins and all. This ... account of young Ben's earliest invention follows the budding scientist's journey as he tests and retests his swim fins. That first big splash led Ben to even more innovations and inventions.

Silverstein

A Giraffe and a Half

Shel Silverstein's riotous rhyming picture book about a boy and his giraffe.

Whelan

Queen Victoria's Bathing Machine

Inspired by a true story, when Queen Victoria is unable to go swimming without her subjects glimpsing her in a swimming suit, her husband, Prince Albert, comes up with an innovative solution so his wife can indulge in the healthy exercise.

J ILLUSTRATED FICTION

Cole

Wall

A young boy and his mother and sister were separated from their father when the Berlin Wall was built between East and West Germany. This story shows the family's struggle as they try to cross the wall so they can be together again. This spectacular book is based on true stories about the Berlin Wall. Powerful illustrations teamed with an emotive storyline make this an impressive tale of triumph over adversity.

Kuhlmann

Lindbergh: The Tale of the Flying Mouse

In a country far away, a new invention--the mechanical mousetrap--has caused all the mice but one to flee to America. Now stranded in a dangerous country, the last mouse decides to build a plane and fly to the land of freedom.

Millard

Once a Shepherd

Here is the tale of Tom Shepherd, tending his lambs and shearing their fleece and wooing his sweetheart, who weaves the sheep's wool to make him a coat. But then the Great War comes, and Tom must leave his beloved wife and his unborn child and go off to fight. In a moving, sobering story that resolves in a heartbreaking but beautiful ending, *Once a Shepherd* evokes the reality of war in a way young children can understand, while fostering a deep-felt hope for peace.

J SERIES

Hank *Stop That Frog!*

Hank's class gets to take care of Principal Love's pet frog while he's away, and Hank is thrilled when he's selected to take it home for the weekend. But when he forgets to put the top back on the tank, Hank's excitement quickly turns to panic--the frog has escaped! The frog hunt is on, but time is running out. Hank needs to find that frog, and fast!

Sophia *My Family Adventure*

Little Sofia Martinez has a big personality and big plans, which makes every day memorable. Between her sisters and cousins, her family is the focus of her many adventures. From taking school pictures to doing chores, this 7-year-old knows how to make every moment count. Sofia loves her family and loves her life. What could be better?

Violet *Violet Mackerel's Pocket Protest*

Violet and Rose have shared their best secrets under the big oak tree in Clover Park. And they have found some very good small things there too. So when Johnson's Tree Services stomps in and posts a sign that says PUBLIC NOTICE--TREE REMOVAL, they know that they must do something to stop them.

J FICTION

Adler *The Squirting Donuts*

Danny and Calvin decide to find out why their fourth-grade teacher, Mrs. Cakel, is suddenly behaving very strangely by not only failing to enforce her many rules, but by violating some herself.

Bass *The Zero Degree Zombie Zone*

Bakari Katari Johnson is having a really bad day--class bullies Tariq and Keisha are mad at him, his best friend Wardell has nominated him for hall monitor, a pack of ice zombies from a frozen world are demanding he return the magic ring that Keisha has, and somehow he has to find a way to save the school.

Barnett *The Terrible Two*

When master prankster Miles Murphy moves to sleepy Yawnee Valley, he challenges the local mystery prankster in an epic battle of tricks, but soon the two join forces to pull off the biggest prank ever seen.

Birney *Humphrey's Playful Puppy Problem*

Humphrey, the pet hamster of Classroom 26, is helping Richie with a science project, but Richie's feisty puppy gets in the way.

🎧**Bonder-Stone** *Shivers!: The Pirate Who's Afraid of Everything*

Shivers, the pirate who's afraid of everything, battles a giant squid, discovers hidden treasures, and gets pooped on by a pigeon to save his parents from the clutches of evil.

☀**Butler** *The Haunted Library*

When ghost boy Kaz's haunt is torn down and he is separated from his ghost family, he meets a real girl named Claire, who lives above the town library with her parents and her grandmother. Claire has a special ability to see ghosts when other humans cannot and she and Kaz quickly form a friendship.

☀ **Cronin**

The Case of the Weird Blue Chicken: The Next Misadventure

When a weird blue chicken comes to Chicken Squad headquarters for help, siblings Dirt, Sugar, and Sweetie help find her missing house.

☀ **DiCamillo**

Leroy Ninker Saddles Up

Saddle up for this first volume in a spin-off series starring favorite characters from DiCamillo's "New York Times"-bestselling Mercy Watson books. Leroy Ninker has a hat, a lasso, and boots. What he doesn't have is a horse--until he meets Maybelline, and then it's love at first sight.

Green

A New Friend

Eight-year-old Sophie Mouse's excited to return to school after the long winter break, but there's a new student--a snake--and Sophie and the other animals are afraid to sit near him, much less ask him to play with them, because they've heard that snakes are awful.

☀ **Howard**

Shaun the Sheep: The Flock Factor

It's talent-show time on the farm, and the roosters and chickens are banding together in hopes of beating out their rivals, the sheep. Meanwhile, Shirley, a sheep whose flair for singing is as large as her frame, has a big problem--a massive case of stage fright. Can Shaun the sheep convince his jittery friend to wow the mole judges and take home the prize?

Howard

My New Team

Every day when Little Rhino comes home from school, he finishes his homework, grabs his bat, his glove, and runs outside to meet Grandpa James. They always practice catching and hitting in the backyard. Playing baseball with grandfather is Little Rhino's favorite thing to do, especially when he pretends to be a real Major League homerun hitter. One afternoon, after a long day of second grade, Little Rhino comes home to find out that Grandpa James has signed him up for a baseball league! Little Rhino will finally be a part of a team! But Little Rhino will quickly learn that is not always so easy to a good teammate, especially when there's a bully wearing the same uniform as you.

☀ **Jennings**

Hissy Fitz

Hissy, a sleep-deprived British shorthair in the extremely noisy Fitz household, recounts his frustrating day trying to find a place to sleep where people--particularly an annoying three-year-old human--will not bother him.

Look

Alvin Ho: Allergic to the Great Wall, the Forbidden Palace, and Other Tourist Attractions

Alvin, an Asian American second grader who's afraid of *everything*, is taking his fears to a whole new level—or should we say, continent. On a trip to introduce brand-new baby Ho to relatives in China, Alvin's anxiety is at fever pitch. First there's the harrowing 16-hour plane ride; then there's a whole slew of cultural differences to contend with: eating lunch food for breakfast, kung fu lessons, and acupuncture treatment (yikes!). Not to mention the crowds that make it easy for a small boy to get lost.

Mass

Space Taxi: Archie Takes Flight

On "Take Your Kid to Work Day," eight-year-old Archie discovers that his father drives a space taxi that shuttles aliens from one area of the universe to another.

McCall Smith

Precious and the Mystery of the Missing Lion

Staying with Aunt Bee at a safari camp in the Botswana countryside where a film crew is making a movie about a lion, nine-year-old Precious Ramotswe and her resourceful new friend Khumo use their detective skills to find the movie star lion when he goes missing.

☀ **McCreely**

My Zombie Hamster

Matt Hunter is expecting the latest sword-and-fantasy video game, but he's in for a disappointment when he receives a hamster for Christmas instead. A hamster called Snuffles. A hamster that dies, but somehow keeps going. A zombie hamster that has his eye on Matt.

McDonald

Stink Moody in Master of Disaster

Look up! Look out! A comet is coming, a comet is coming! Stink is camped out in the backyard with his sister, Judy, and he can't wait to lay eyes on P/2015 OZ4, also known as the Sherman-Holm Comet. But then news of an asteroid hitting Russia reaches Stink, and suddenly he's feeling squeamish (and squash-ish) about close encounters of the outer-space kind. Will donning an aluminum-foil cape and building a bunker in the basement help keep him safe? Can this fearless Asteroid Boy save Earth from disaster?

Mills

Annika Riz, Math Wiz

Annika hopes to change her best friends' hatred of math by winning a Sudoku contest, but she does not realize how important their lack of mathematical ability is until they make a mistake at the school carnival.

☀ **Reeve**

Oliver and the Seawigs

When Oliver's explorer parents go missing, he sets sail on the rescue mission with some new, unexpected friends.

Schanen

Quinny & Hopper

Two polar-opposite eight year olds who become summer best friends find their friendship threatened by the uncertainties of a new school year.

☀🎧 **Scieszka**

Frank Einstein and the Antimatter Motor

In his Grandpa Al's garage workshop, child genius Frank Einstein tries to invent a robot that can learn on its own, and after an accident brings wisecracking Klink and overly expressive Klank to life, they set about helping Frank perfect his Antimatter Motor until his archnemesis, T. Edison, steals the robots for his doomsday plan.

Scroggs

Snoop Troop: It Came from Beneath the Playground

Fifth-grade private eyes Logan and Gustavo use their doodling and detective skills to solve the mystery of a group of moles that have stolen the amusement park merry-go-round.

Webb

The Case of the Stolen Sixpence

Junior sleuth Maisie Hitchins, who lives in her grandmother's boarding house in Victorian London, uncovers an intriguing plot involving stolen sausages, pilfered halfpennies, and a fast-paced bicycle chase.

J GRAPHIC NOVEL

Wilson

Cat Dad, King of the Goblins

Miri and Luey have a dilemma. Their dad's been turned into a cat and their closet is a garden full of goblins. There is only one thing for them to do--grab their friend Phil the frog and dive headfirst into a wild, woolly, and wacky adventure.

J NON-FICTION

J 321 Aronin ***Merciless Monarchs and Ruthless Royalty***

Loyal subjects, watch out! Some of history's royal leaders were just as vicious as they were powerful. These kings and queens stole, tortured, and murdered. Some wanted revenge or riches. Others aimed to wipe out their competition for the throne. Often, their own family members received the worst fates. Read on to discover the gruesome ways these rulers terrorized their enemies, their own people, and even their own blood.

J 508 Smith ***The Kid's Guide to Exploring Nature***

This gorgeously illustrated guide will inspire kids to look closely at the world around them! Created by the experts at the renowned Brooklyn Botanic Garden, it teaches children how to observe environments as a naturalist does and leads them on 24 adventures that reveal the complex ecosystems of plants and animals in the woods, at the beach, and in a city park.

J 590 Rogers ***Animal Kingdom***

Complex facts about the animal kingdom are reinterpreted as stylish information graphics that astonish, amuse, and inform, and tabbed chapters make information fast to find.

J 591.47 Johnson ***When Lunch Fights Back: Wickedly Clever Animal Defenses***

Presents the various types of defenses mechanisms used by animals, including the bone spikes of the African hairy frog, the deadly poison of the blue-spotted N. taracua termite, and the hammer-like punch of the peacock mantis shrimp.

☀ **J 591.518 Scott** ***Nocturne: Creatures of the Night***

Whether fierce, cuddly, startling, mysterious, or some indefinable combination of all of the above, nocturnal animals never fail to fascinate. In *Nocturne: Creatures of the Night*, celebrated animal photographer Traer Scott takes the viewer on a journey through nighttime in the animal kingdom, revealing some of nature's most elusive creatures.

J 595.77 Markle ***The Case of the Vanishing Little Brown Bats***

This informative title sheds light on a mystery of nature: how little brown bats, nature's insect eaters, are mysteriously dying in their caves during hibernation. Each chapter takes readers into the problems that plague this endangered member of our ecosystem, describing how teams of scientists examined how "white-nose syndrome," caused by a fungus called Pd, is infecting the brown bat population.

J 624.19 Price ***Underworld: Exploring the Secret World Beneath Your Feet***

An introduction to underworld scenes shares intricately detailed spreads featuring wonders ranging from volcanoes and dinosaur bones to tombs, city works, and buried treasure.

J 636.7 Patent ***Super Sniffers: Dogs on the Job***

A dog's nose is 300 times more powerful than a human nose, so it's no wonder that dogs use their incredibly advanced sense of smell to do some very important jobs. Dorothy Hinshaw Patent explores the various ways specific dogs have put their super sniffing ability to use: from bedbug sniffers to explosive detectors to life-saving allergy detectors...and more. This dynamic photo-essay includes first-hand accounts from the people who work closely with these amazing dogs.

J 796.357 MARTÍNEZ

Tavares

Growing Up Pedro: How the Martínez Brothers Made It From the Dominican Republic All the Way to Major Leagues

Before Pedro Martínez pitched the Red Sox to a World Series championship, before he was named to the All-Star team eight times, before he won the Cy Young Award three times, he was a kid from a place called Manoguayabo in the Dominican Republic. Pedro loved baseball more than anything, and his older brother Ramón was the best pitcher he'd ever seen. He dreamed of the day he and his brother could play together in the major leagues. This is the story of how that dream came true.

J 796.357 MURPHY

McCully

Queen of the Diamond: The Lizzie Murphy Story

A picture book biography about Lizzie Murphy, the first woman to play in a major league exhibition game and the first person to play on both the New England and American leagues' all-star teams.

J BIOGRAPHY

J BIO CASH

Neri

Hello, I'm Johnny Cash

There's never been anyone like music legend Johnny Cash. His deep voice is instantly recognizable, and his heartfelt songs resonate with listeners of all ages and backgrounds. G. Neri captures Johnny's story in beautiful free verse, portraying an ordinary boy with an extraordinary talent who grew up in extreme poverty, faced incredible challenges, and ultimately found his calling by always being true to the gift of his voice. A. G. Ford's luscious paintings of the dramatic southern landscape of Johnny Cash's childhood illuminate this portrait of a legend, taking us from his humble beginnings to his enormous success on the world stage.

J BIO DePRINCE

DePrince

Ballerina Dreams: From Orphan to Dancer

At the age of three, Michaela DePrince found a photo of a ballerina that changed her life. She was living in an orphanage in Sierra Leone at the time, but was soon adopted by a family and brought to America. Michaela never forgot the photo of the dancer she once saw, and quickly decided to make her dream of becoming a ballerina come true. She has been dancing ever since and is now a principal dancer in New York City and has been featured in the ballet documentary *First Position*, as well as *Dancing with the Stars*, *Good Morning America*, and *Oprah* magazine.

J BIO ROGET

Bryant

The Right Word: Roget and His Thesaurus

The story of "shy young Peter Mark Roget, [for whom] books were the best companions--and it wasn't long before Peter began writing his own book. But he didn't write stories; he wrote lists. Peter took his love for words and turned it to organizing ideas and finding exactly the right word to express just what he thought. His lists grew and grew, eventually turning into one of the most important reference books of all time.

J BIO WASHINGTON

With Books and Bricks: How Booker T. Washington Built a School

Booker T. Washington had an incredible passion for learning. Born a slave, he taught himself to read. When the Civil War ended, Booker finally fulfilled his dream of attending school. After graduation, he was invited to teach in Tuskegee, Alabama. Finding many eager students, but no school, Booker set out to build his own school--brick by brick.

☀ = ebook available

🎵 = downloadable audiobook available

<http://digital.minlib.net/>

J BIO WILDER

McDonough

Little Author in the Big Woods: A Biography of Laura Ingalls Wilder

Many girls in elementary and middle school fall in love with the Little House books by Laura Ingalls Wilder. What they don't always realize is that Wilder's books are autobiographical. This narrative biography describes more of the details of the young Laura's real life as a young pioneer homesteading with her family on many adventurous journeys. This biography, complete with charming illustrations, points out the differences between the fictional series as well as the many similarities. It's a fascinating story of a much-celebrated writer.