

## **Recommended Reading 2023**

**Dear Librarians and Teachers,**

**Remember, when selecting from the recommended list, please pre-read books before assigning for reading. Some books may be better suited as directed or guided reading and not read alone.**

**You should inform parents that all books are available at Amazon and Barnes & Noble.**

**Thank you,**

**The Media Arts Curriculum Committee**

**March 15, 2023**

## Recommended Reading 2023

### PRE-K ENTERING KINDERGARTEN

***Big Shark, Little Shark* by Anna Membrino** Big Shark has big teeth; Little Shark has little teeth. Big Shark swims fast; Little Shark swims slow. But they are both hungry! ©2017 **Grade Level K-1**

***Feathers and Hair* by Jennifer Ward** At first glance, a wild animal's appearance may seem simple. But there is fascinating science behind every part of an animal's physique—from its nose to its toes! ©2017 **Grade Level K-1**

***Hello Lighthouse* by Sophie Blackall** Tells the story of life in a lighthouse. Told through full page illustrations, this fascinating picture book tells the story of a dedicated lighthouse keeper and his growing family. ©2018 **Grade Level Preschool-3, 2019 Caldecott Medal**

***Hot Dog* by Doug Salati** This hot dog has had enough of summer in the city! Enough of sizzling sidewalks, enough of wailing sirens, enough of people's feet right in his face. **Caldecott Medal Book ©2023 Grade Level K-1**

***If You Ever Want to Bring a Circus to the Library, Don't* by Elise Parsley** If you see a poster that says "You Can Do Anything at the Library!", it is NOT giving you permission to put on a circus! But Magnolia doesn't see any problem with setting up her own big top. She's got a lot of gusto and one mean human cannonball routine. **Caldecott Honor Book ©2017 Grade Level K-1**

***Jesus A to Z* – Michael O'Neill McGrath** This colorful and inviting children's ABC book combines delightful illustrations with alliterative and whimsical (yet appropriate) Scripture story allusions. ©2007 **Grade Level K-1**

***Kitten's First Full Moon* by Kevin Henkes** What a night! The moon is full. Kitten is hungry and inquisitive and brave. **Caldecott Medal Book and CCS ©2004 Grade Level K-1**

***The Legend of the Sand Dollar* by Chris Auer** Eight-year-old Kerry and her older sister are sent to their aunt's home near the Atlantic Coast, where Cousin Jack teaches Kerry many things, including how the sand dollar tells the story of Easter. ©2005 **Grade Level K-1**

***Lily Leads the Way* by Margi Preus** Lily the sailboat is small but sturdy, in a harbor full of enormous cargo ships, speedy fishing vessels, and bossy tugboats that all have somewhere to go. ©2022 **Grade Level K-1**

***Little White Rabbit* by Kevin Henkes** As he hops along a little rabbit wonders what it would be like to be green as grass, tall as fir trees, hard as rocks, and flutter like butterflies. ©2011 **Grade Level K-1**

***Mae Jamison: A Kid's Book About Reaching Your Dreams* by Mary Nhin** Mini Movers and Shakers children's book series comes with a cast of characters who have failed, yet succeeded despite overwhelming obstacles. In the fourth volume, we meet Mae Jamison. Find out what happens in this kids book about reaching your dreams. ©2020 **Grade Level K-1**

***Mama, Do You Love Me?* by Barbara M. Joesse** Story of a child testing the limits of her independence, a mother reassures that a parent's love is unconditional and everlasting. ©2014 **Grade Level K-1**

***My Pet Feet* by Josh Funk** When the letter R suddenly vanishes, a whole town goes upside-down. ©2022 **Grade Level K-1**

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***My Teacher for President* by Kay Winters** Oliver has been learning about the president's job, and his teacher would be the perfect candidate. She loves white houses, she's used to being followed everywhere, she attends lots of meetings, she finds jobs for people, and she believes in peace. ©2004 **Grade Level K-1**

***No David* by David Shannon** All he hears from his mother as he breaks his mother's rules is "No, David!", "That's enough, David!", and "Settle down!" Now David is all grown up. ©1998 **Grade Level K-1**

***One-osaurus, Two-osaurus* by Kim Norman** A counting book and dinosaurs celebrating make an entertaining book about numbers and counting. Ending has a Funny twist and shows how a child uses their imagination. ©2021 **Grade Level Preschool-2**

***Over in the Meadow* by John Langstaff** The old animal counting song. "Numbers for knee highs couldn't be more fun. Also has music for the song at the end. **Caldecott Medal Book** ©1973 **Grade Level K-1**

***Owen* by Kevin Henkes** Owen's fuzzy yellow blanket is his favorite possession. Everywhere Owen goes, his blanket goes with him. Upstairs, downstairs, in-between. **Caldecott Honor Book**, ©1993 **Grade Level K-1**

***Pete the Cat: Pete on the Beach* by James Dean** Pete the Cat is one groovy cat at finding shells and building sand castles at the beach. But when it gets too hot, there's only one way to cool off—jump into the ocean! ©2013 **Grade Level K-1**

***Quiet Bunny Many Colors* by Lisa McCue** Quiet Bunny loves the beautiful colors of springtime in the forest so much, he wants to change his fur's winter colors. ©2010 **Grade Level K-1**

***They All Saw a Cat* by Brendan Wenzel** The cat walked through the world, with its whiskers, ears, and paws. In this glorious celebration of observation, curiosity, and imagination, Brendan Wenzel shows us the many lives of one cat, and how perspective shapes what we see. When you see a cat, what do you see? **2017 Caldecott Honor Book** ©2016 **Grade Level Preschool-K**

***This Is Not My Hat* by Jon Klassen** A little fish thinks he can get away with stealing a hat. ©2012 **Caldecott Medal Book** **Grade Level K-1**

***Time for Kenny* by Brian Pinkey** First, Kenny must get dressed. Maybe he can wear his mom's shoes? And his grandpa's hat seems to fit perfectly on his head. Luckily, with the help of his family, Kenny is finally set to go. Then he must overcome his fear of the monstrous vacuum cleaner, learn to play soccer with his big sister, and—after all that fun—get ready for bedtime. ©2021 **Grade Level K-1**

***Truck* by Donald Crews** In this wordless Caldecott Honor book, striking graphics help little ones follow a big red truck on its bustling journey. ©1991 **Caldecott Honor Book** and **CCS** **Grade Level K-1**

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### KINDERGARTEN ENTERING FIRST GRADE

***Alma and How She Got Her Name* by Juana Martinez-Neal** When Alma's father shares family stories about the origins of her long beautiful name, she gains an appreciation for its uniqueness and connection to her history. Martinez-Neal uses smudgy graphite and colored pencil to convey a soft palette that gently transports readers into Alma's rich ancestral past. **2019 Caldecott Honor Book ©2018 Grade Level K-3**

***Berry Song* by Michaela Goade** On an island at the edge of a wide, wild sea, a girl and her grandmother gather gifts from the earth. Salmon from the stream, herring eggs from the ocean, and in the forest, a world of berries. **Caldecott Honor Book ©2022 Grade Level 1-2**

***Blackout* by John Rocco** One hot summer night in the city, all the power goes out. The TV shuts off and a boy wails, "Momm!" His sister can no longer use the phone, Mom can't work on her computer, and Dad can't finish cooking dinner. What's a family to do? **Caldecott Honor Book ©2011 Grade Level: K-2**

***Don't Throw It To Me!* by David A. Adler** Mo may not be the biggest, the strongest, or the fastest football player, but he won't let that stop him from playing! **Theodor Seuss Geisel Award ©2021 Grade Level K-2**

***Eyes That Kiss in the Corners* by Joanna Ho** 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. **©2019 Grade Level K-2**

***Finding Winnie* by Lindsay Mann Malaspina** In 1914, Harry Colebourn, a veterinarian on his way to tend horses in World War I, followed his heart and rescued a baby bear. He named her Winnie, after his hometown of Winnipeg, and he took the bear to war. **2016 Caldecott Medal Book ©2015 Grade Level 1-2**

***Hello Ruby, Adventures in Coding* by Linda Kiukas** Without requiring a computer, Hello Ruby introduces kids to a girl, Ruby, who is determined to solve any puzzle. Ruby makes friends with foxes, robots, and leopards as she strives to break down big problems into small ones. After each chapter, kids are prompted to help Ruby solve problems by applying computational thinking. **©2015 Grade Level 1-3**

***I Did It!* by Michael Emberley** A girl tries and tries again to learn to ride a bicycle and all her friends provide words of encouragement. **Theodor Seuss Geisel Award ©2022 Grade Level K-1**

***Katherine Johnson (You Should Meet)* by Thea Feldman** About a brilliant mathematician who worked at NASA in the early 1950s until retiring in 1986. Katherine's unparalleled calculations (done by hand) helped plan the trajectories for NASA's Mercury and Apollo missions (including the Apollo 11 moon landing). She is said to be one of the greatest American minds of all time. **©2017 Grade Level 1-3**

***Let's Go for a Drive* by Mo Willems** Elephant Gerald and Piggie want to go for a drive, but as Gerald thinks of one thing after another that they will have to take along, they come to realize that they lack the most important thing of all. **Theodore Seuss Geisel Honor Book ©2012 Grade Level K-2**

***Nana in the City* by Lauren Castillo** A young boy spends an overnight visit with his nana and is frightened to find that the city where she lives is filled with noise and crowds and scary things. But then Nana makes him a special cape to help him be brave, and soon the everyday sights, sounds, and smells of the city are not scary—but wonderful. **2015 Caldecott Honor Book ©2014 Grade Level 1-3**

***Outside Inside* by LeUyen Pham** From Caldecott honoree LeUyen Pham, *Outside, Inside* is a moving picture book that captures the unforgettable moment during the pandemic when people all over the world came together. It celebrates the essential workers, frontline workers, and communities that worked with each other to protect our loved ones. **©2021 Grade Level K-2**

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***Paper Son: The Inspiring Story of Tyrus Wong, Immigrant and Artist* by Julie Leung** Once in America, Tyrus seized every opportunity to make art, eventually enrolling at an art institute in Los Angeles. Working as a janitor at night, his mop twirled like a paintbrush in his hands. Eventually, he was given the opportunity of a lifetime--and using sparse brushstrokes and soft watercolors, Tyrus created the iconic backgrounds of Bambi. **American Library Association's 2021 Asian/Pacific American Award ©2019 Grade Level 1-2**

***The Pigeon Will Ride the Roller Coaster* by Mo Willems** The Pigeon is on an emotional—and physical—roller coaster. Since learning about the existence of roller coasters, he's become giddy with excitement. The Pigeon prepares mentally: He'll need a ticket and "exemplary patience" to wait in line. **©2022 Grade Level 1-2**

***Thank You, Omu!* by Oge Mora** Everyone in the neighborhood dreams of a taste of Omu's delicious stew! One by one, they follow their noses toward the scrumptious scent. And one by one, Omu offers a portion of her meal. Soon the pot is empty. **2019 Caldecott Honor Book ©2018 Grade Level K-3**

***Thunder Boy Jr.* by Sherman Alexie** Thunder Boy Jr. is named after his dad, but he wants a name that's all his own. Just because people call his dad Big Thunder doesn't mean he wants to be Little Thunder. He wants a name that celebrates something cool he's done, like Touch the Clouds, Not Afraid of Ten Thousand Teeth, or Full of Wonder. **New York Times Notable Children's Book of the Year ©2016 Grade Level 1-3**

***We Are in a Book!-An Elephant and Piggie Book* by Mo Willems** In *We Are in a Book!* Gerald and Piggie discover the joy of being read. But what will happen when the book ends? **2011 Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor ©2010 Grade Level 1-2**

## Recommended Reading 2023

### FIRST GRADE ENTERING SECOND GRADE

***All the World* by Liz Garton Scanlon** Frazee's small vignettes and sweeping double-page spreads invite readers to share a joyful day with a diverse, multigenerational community. **Caldecott Honor ©2009 Grade Level 2-3**

***Ben and the Emancipation Proclamation* by Pat Sherman** A self-taught young slave astonishes his fellow prisoners by reading aloud the newspaper account of Lincoln's new emancipation proclamation. Based on actual events. **©2020 Grade Level 2-3**

***Billy Miller Makes a Wish* by Kevin Henkes** As Billy blows out the candles on his birthday cake, an ambulance rushes down the street. Could his wish for some excitement have caused a dear neighbor friend to become ill? **©2021 Grade Level 2-3**

***A Bike Like Sergio's* by Maribeth Boelts** Ruben feels like he is the only kid without a bike. His friend Sergio reminds him that his birthday is coming, but Ruben knows that the kinds of birthday gifts he and Sergio receive are not the same. After all, when Ruben's mom sends him to Sonny's corner store for groceries, sometimes she doesn't have enough money for everything on the list. **©2016 Grade Level 2-3**

***The Clown of God* by Tomie de Paolo** Little Giovanni is poor and homeless, but he can do something wonderful: he can juggle. The people of Sorrento marvel at his talents, and before long, he becomes famous throughout Italy for his rainbow of colored balls that delight the nobility and townspeople alike. But as the years pass, Giovanni grows old, and his talents begin to fail him. **©1978 Grade Level 2-3**

***A Different Pond* by Bao Phi** As a young boy, Bao Phi awoke early, hours before his father's long workday began, to fish on the shores of a small pond in Minneapolis. Unlike many other anglers, Bao and his father fished for food, not recreation. A successful catch meant a fed family. Between hope-filled casts, Bao's father told him about a different pond in their homeland of Vietnam. **©2017 Caldecott Honor Book 2018, Charlotte Zolotow Award Winner 2018, Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature Winner 2018, Ezra Jack Keats New Writer Honor 2018, Ezra Jack Keats New Illustrator Honor Grade Level 2-3**

***The Girl With a Mind for Math* by Julia Finley Mosca** Meet Raye Montague—the hidden mastermind who made waves in the U.S. Navy! After touring a German submarine in the early 1940s, young Raye set her sights on becoming an engineer. Little did she know sexism and racial inequality would challenge that dream every step of the way, even keeping her greatest career accomplishment a secret for decades. **©2018 NSTA Outstanding Science Trade Book 2019, NSTA Best STEM Trade Books for Students K-12 2019, 2019 Amelia Bloomer List, and 2019 Mathical Honor Book Grade Level 2-4**

***The Gravity Tree: The True Story of a Tree That Inspired the World* by Anna Crowley Redding** “A tree may seem like an *ordinary* thing. But hundreds of years ago, a tree was about to embark on an *extraordinary* journey.” Sir Isaac Newton sat under that tree and came up with the theory of gravity, a tree and an idea that has continued to inspire other scientists and people all over the world. **©2021 Grade Level 2-3**

***Last Stop on Market Street* by Matt de la Pena** Every Sunday after church, CJ and his grandma ride the bus across town. But today, CJ wonders why they don't own a car like his friend Colby. Why doesn't he have an iPod like the boys on the bus? How come they always have to get off in the dirty part of town? **2016 Newbery Medal, 2016 Caldecott Honor Book and Coretta Scott King Illustrator Honor Book ©2015 Grade Level K-2**

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***Mars Is: Stark Slopes, Silvery Snow, and Startling Surprises* by Suzanne Slade** Information and a lyrical text combined with astonishing, textured photographs for a look at the mysterious red planet for a book that can be read, viewed, and enjoyed in several ways. ©2021 Grade Level 2-3

***Mercy Watson to the Rescue* by Kate DiCamillo** Mercy Watson is a pig, but to his owners, he's not just any pig. He's AMAZING! Everything is great until Mercy decides to get some snuggles by hopping into bed with them. When the bed breaks, his owners find themselves in trouble. ©2009 Grade Level 2-4

***Nate the Great* by Marjorie Weinman Sharmat** Shortly after a breakfast generously supplied with pancakes, Nate the Great got an urgent call from Annie. "I lost a picture," said Annie. "Can you help me find it?" "Of course," said Nate. "I have found lost balloons, books, slippers, and chickens. Even a lost goldfish. Now I, Nate the Great, will find a lost picture." ©1977 Grade Level 2-3

***Owl Moon* by Jane Yolen** Late one winter night a little girl and her father go owling. The trees stand still as statues and the world is silent as a dream. Whoo-who-who, the father calls to the mysterious nighttime bird. ©2019 Caldecott Honor Book ©2018 Grade Level 2-3

***Play It Again, Grandpa* by Jennifer Hunsicker** A young boy and his grandfather spend front-porch time playing music and learning from each other. Their music draws in family, friends, and neighbors for enjoyment, dancing, singing, and playing a variety of bluegrass instruments. A picture glossary of the instruments is included in the back as well as a brief history and explanation of bluegrass music. ©2021 Grade Level 1-3

***The Rough Patch* by Brian Lies** Evan, a fox, and his dog are best friends and in a series of acrylic, oil, and colored pencil vignettes, they are shown attending a fair, playing games, and, most important, working in Evan's meticulously groomed garden. These loving scenes are abruptly cut short by a large spread of white space with spare text stating: "But one day, the unthinkable happened." On the opposing page, white space surrounds a grieving Evan as he mourns the loss of his dog. ©2019 Caldecott Honor Book ©2018 Grade Level 1-3

***She Persisted: Maria Tallchief* by Christine Day and Chelsea Clinton** Maria Tallchief loved to dance, but was told that she might need to change her Osage name to one that sounded more Russian to make it as a professional ballerina. She refused, and worked hard at dancing her best, becoming America's first prima ballerina. ©2021 Grade Level 2-3

***Spoon* by Amy Krouse Rosenthal** He's always been a happy little utensil. But lately, he feels like life as a spoon just isn't cutting it. He thinks Fork, Knife, and The Chopsticks all have it so much better than him. But do they? ©2009 Grade Level 1-2

***Spring According to Humphrey* by Betty G. Birney** Spring has sprung and everyone at Longfellow School, including Ms. Brisbane's class, are HAPPY-HAPPY-HAPPY! It also means Family Fun Night is coming up and all the students' families are involved in making amazing circus activities. ©2017 Grade Level 2-4

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***What's Your Favorite Color?* by Eric Carle** Fifteen beloved children's book artists draw their favorite colors and explain why they love them. This personal collection will undoubtedly inspire readers to create favorite color drawings and stories of their own! ©2017 **Grade Level 2-3**

***The Whisper in the Ruins (Chime Travelers)* by Lisa Hende**y Somebody is angry, and they're taking it out on St. Anne's. Patrick and his twin sister Katie are shocked when they learn that someone threw a brick through the St. Francis of Assisi stained glass window at St. Anne's. What would make someone angry enough to damage the beautiful old window? ©2016 **Grade Level 2-5**



## Recommended Reading 2023

### SECOND GRADE ENTERING THIRD GRADE

***All That's Missing* by Sarah Sullivan** Secretly providing for himself and a beloved grandfather who is succumbing to dementia, young Arlo is placed in the care of a social worker and runs away to find and connect with his only other family member. ©2013 Grade Level 3-7

***Balloons Over Broadway: The True Story of the Puppeteer of Macy's Parade* by Melissa Sweet** Everyone's a New Yorker on Thanksgiving Day, when young and old rise early to see what giant new balloons will fill the skies for Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. **Robert F. Sibert Medal and the NCTE Orbis Pictus Award** ©2011 Grade Level 3-4

***Bunnica* by Deborah and James Howe** Before it's too late, Harold the dog and Chester the cat must find out the truth about the newest pet in the Monroe household -- a suspicious-looking bunny with unusual habits and fangs! ©1979 & ©2010 Grade Level 3-4

***A Boy Called Bat* by Elana K. Arnold** Bixby Alexander Tam (nicknamed Bat), life tends to be full of surprises—some of them good, some not so good. Today, though, is a good-surprise day. Bat's mom, a veterinarian, has brought home a baby skunk, which she needs to take care of until she can hand him over to a wild-animal shelter. ©2018 Grade Level: 3-5

***The Boy on Fairfield Street: How Ted Geisel Grew Up to Become Dr. Seuss* by Kathleen Krull**

"Once upon a time, there lived a boy who feasted on books and was wild about animals." So begins this young biography of Dr. Seuss. ©2018 Grade Level 3-4

***Chocolate Fever* by Robert K. Smith** Henry Green doesn't just like chocolate... he's crazy about it! Read how Henry comes down with the world's first case of "chocolate fever." ©1972 & ©2006 Grade Level 3-4

***Grand Canyon* by Jason Chin** Rivers wind through earth, cutting down and eroding the soil for millions of years, creating a cavity in the ground 277 miles long, 18 miles wide, and more than a mile deep known as the Grand Canyon. **Caldecott Honor Book, Sibert Honor Book** ©2017 Grade Level 3-5

***The Great Kapok Tree: A Tale of the Amazon Rain Forest* by Lynna Cherry** The many animals that live in a great Kapok tree in the Brazilian rainforest try to convince a man with an ax of the importance of not cutting down their home. ©2000 Grade Level 3-5

***The Hero Two Doors Down* by Sharon Robinson** Based on the true story of a boy in Brooklyn who became neighbors and friends with his hero, Jackie Robinson. ©2017 Grade Level 4-5

***John Lincoln Clem: a Civil War Drummer Boy* by E. F. Abbott** Do you have what it takes to run off and join the army, leaving your family behind? That's what John Lincoln Clem, a nine-year-old boy living in Ohio, does as the American Civil War rages on. ©2017 Grade Level 3-4

***Meet George Washington* by Joan Heilbroner** George Washington grew up in the English colony of Virginia. He was tall and strong, fair in judgment, and respected by his friends as a good leader. As he grew older, George saw how England took advantage of the American colonies—and he didn't like it. ©2001 Grade Level 3-4

***Rocket to the Moon* by Don Brown** On July 20, 1969, Neil Armstrong took "one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind" when Apollo 11 landed on the moon. But it wasn't just one man who got us to the moon. ©2019 Grade Level 3-4

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***St. John Bosco and His Big Gray Dog* by Hayley Medeiros** It is hard to believe that anyone would have ever wanted to hurt good Father John Bosco. He helped so many people. But there were times when his life was in danger. During those times, a very special guardian would appear to protect him. ©2015 Grade Level 2-4

***St. George and the Dragon* by Margaret Hodges** The tale of Saint George, the Red Cross Knight, slaying the dragon that had been terrorizing the countryside for years. **Caldecott Medal ©1984 & ©1990** Grade Level 2-3

***The Seashore Book* by Charlotte Zolotow** Hunting for seashells and building sandcastles, this tribute to the power of imagination and the tenderness of a mother-child connection is also a sweet ode to summer's greatest pastimes. ©2015 Grade Level 2-3

***Separate is Never Equal* by Duncan Tonatiuh** Seven years before Brown v. Board of Education, the Mendez family fought to end segregation in California schools. **Jane Addams Award ©2014** Grade Level 3-4

***Sergeant Reckless: The True Story of the Little Horse Who Became a Hero* by Patricia McCormick** When a group of US Marines fighting in the Korean War found a bedraggled mare, they wondered if she could be trained to a packhorse. ©2017 Grade Level 1-5

***Six Dots: A Story of Young Louis Braille* by Jen Bryant** Louis Braille was just five years old when he lost his sight. He was a clever boy, determined to live like everyone else, and what he wanted more than anything was to be able to read. ©2016 Grade Level 2-4

***The Sign of the Carved Cross* by Lisa M. Hendey** Katie joins her friends in being mean to the new girl, Lily. But suddenly, Katie becomes the new girl—in 1675! She has no idea how she traveled in time to a Native American village, but she's hoping the young woman she meets will be nicer to her than Katie was to Lily. ©2015 Grade Level 3-5

***Stargazing* by Jen Wang** Moon is everything Christine isn't. She's confident, impulsive, artistic and though they both grew up in the same Chinese-American suburb, Moon is somehow unlike anyone Christine has ever known. ©2019 Grade Level 3-4

***The Undefeated* by Kwame Alexander** This poem is a love letter to black life in the United States. It highlights the unspeakable trauma of slavery, the faith and fire of the civil rights movement, and the grit, passion, and perseverance of some of the world's greatest heroes. **Caldecott Medal, Newbery Honor Book, and Coretta Scott King** ©2019 Grade Level 3-4

***Voice of Freedom: Fannie Lou Hamer, Spirit of the Civil Rights Movement* by Carole Boston Weatherford** Despite fierce prejudice and abuse, even being beaten to within an inch of her life, Fannie Lou Hamer was a champion of civil rights from the 1950s until her death in 1977. **Caldecott Honor Book, Robert F. Sibert Honor Book, and John Steptoe New Talent Illustrator Award** ©2015 Grade Level 3-6

***The Whisper in the Ruins (Chime Travelers)* by Lisa M. Hendey** Somebody is angry, and they're taking it out on St. Anne's. Patrick and his twin sister Katie are shocked when they learn that someone threw a brick through the St. Francis of Assisi stained glass window at St. Anne's. What would make someone angry enough to damage the beautiful old window? ©2016 Grade Level 2-5

***Wish* by Barbara O'Connor** "A story about a girl who, with the help of the dog of her dreams, discovers that family doesn't always have to be related--they are simply people who love you for who you are." ©2016 Grade Level 3-5

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***Year of Billy Miller* by Kevin Henkes** Seven-year-old Billy Miller starts second grade with a bump on his head and a lot of worries, but by the end of the year he has developed good relationships with his teacher, his little sister, and his parents and learned many important lessons. **Newbery Honor Book @2013 Grade Level 3-4**

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### THIRD GRADE ENTERING FOURTH GRADE

***Because of Winn Dixie* by Kate DiCamillo** Ten-year-old India Opal Buloni describes her first summer in the town of Naomi, Florida, and all the good things that happen to her because of her big ugly dog Winn-Dixie. **Newbery Honor Book ©2021 Grade Level 4-5**

***Casey at the Bat: A Ballad of the Republic Sung in the Year 1888* by Ernest Lawrence Thayer** "And somewhere men are laughing, and somewhere children shout; But there is no joy in Mudville- mighty Casey has struck out." **Caldecott Honor Book ©2000 Grade Level 4-5**

***Dave the Potter: Artist, Poet, Slave* by Laban Carrick Hill** Collier's arrestingly beautiful artistic interpretation of Hill's poetic text reveals Dave the potter's artistic process while also conveying the dignified triumph of his humanity in the face of oppression. **Caldecott Honor Book ©2010 Grade Level 4-5**

***A Dog Called Homeless* by Sarah Lean** Cally Fisher knows she can see her dead mother, but the only other living soul who does is a mysterious wolfhound who always seems to be there when her mom appears. How can Cally convince anyone that her mom is still with the family, or persuade her dad that the huge silver-gray dog belongs with them? **©2014 Grade Level 4-7**

***Lemonade War* by Jacqueline Davies** When money disappears from fourth-grader Evan's pocket and everyone thinks that his annoying classmate Scott stole it, Evan's younger sister stages a trial involving the entire class, trying to prove what happened. **©2009 Grade Level 4-5**

***Princess Academy* by Shannon Hale** While attending a strict academy for potential princesses with the other girls from her mountain village, fourteen-year-old Miri discovers unexpected talents and connections to her homeland. **Newbery Honor Book ©2015 Grade Level 4-5**

***Mr. Popper's Penguins* by Richard Atwater** The unexpected delivery of a large crate containing an Antarctic penguin changes the life and fortune of Mr. Popper. **Newbery Honor Book ©1995 First published 1938 Grade Level 4-5**

***Promises to Keep: How Jackie Robinson Changed America* by Sharon Robinson** A biography of baseball legend Jackie Robinson, the first African American to play in the major leagues, as told by his daughter. **©2004 Grade Level 4-6**

***The Remarkable Journey of Charlie Price* by Jennifer Maschari** Ever since twelve-year-old Charlie Price's mom died, he feels like his world has been split into two parts. Before included stargazing and Mathletes and Saturday scavenger hunts with his family. After means a dad who's completely checked out, comically bad dinners, and grief group that's anything but helpful. It seems like losing Mom meant losing everything else he loved, too. **©2016 Grade Level 4-6**

***Revolutionary Friends: General George Washington and the Marquis de Lafayette* by Selene Castrovilla** The Marquis de Lafayette has just ventured to America from France to join the Patriotic Cause and meet General George Washington. **©2013 Grade Level 4-5**

***A River of Words: The Story of William Carlos Williams* by Jen Bryant** Sweet's mixed-media collage and primitive watercolors flow seamlessly with Bryant's prose to reveal the important bits and pieces of Williams' ordinary, yet extraordinary, life as a doctor and poet. **Caldecott Honor Book ©2008 Grade Level 4-5**

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***Rump: The (Fairly) True Tale of Rumpelstiltskin* by Liesl Shurtliff** In a magic kingdom where your name is your destiny, 12-year-old Rump is the butt of everyone's joke. But when he finds an old spinning wheel, his luck seems to change. Rump discovers he has a gift for spinning straw into gold. His best friend, Red Riding Hood, warns him that magic is dangerous, and she's right. ©2011 **Grade Level 3–5**

***Summer According to Humphrey* by Betty G. Birney** When Humphrey hears that school is ending, he can't believe his ears. What's a classroom hamster to do if there's no more school? It turns out that Mrs. Brisbane has planned something thrilling for Humphrey and Og the frog. ©2014 **Grade Level 3–5**

***Who Was Ben Franklin?* by Dennis Brindell Fradin** Ben Franklin was the scientist who, with the help of a kite, discovered that lightning is electricity. He was also a statesman, an inventor, a printer, and an author—a man of such amazingly varied talents that some people claimed he had magical powers! ©2002 **Grade Level 3–5**

***A Whole New Ballgame* by Phil Bildner** "From the first morning with their odd new teacher, fifth grade is full of shocking surprises for best friends Rip and Red." ©2015 **Grade Level 4–6**

## Recommended Reading 2023

### FOURTH GRADE ENTERING FIFTH GRADE

***All Rise for the Honorable Perry T. Cook* by Leslie Connor 2016** Eleven-year-old Perry was born and raised by his mom at the Blue River Co-ed Correctional Facility in tiny Surprise, Nebraska. His mom is a resident on Cell Block C, and so far, Warden Daugherty has made it possible for them to be together. ©2017 Grade Level 5-7

***Back in Time with Benjamin Franklin* by Dan Gutman** One minute Qwerty Stevens is researching a last-minute report on the Internet, and the next minute Benjamin Franklin is sitting on his bed! ©2005 Grade Level 4-6

***Bud, Not Buddy* by Christopher Paul Curtis** It's 1936, in Flint, Michigan. Times may be hard, and ten-year-old Bud may be a motherless boy on the run, but Bud's got a few things going for him. **Newbery Medal Book** ©1999 Grade Level 5-6

***Crenshaw* by Katherine Applegate** "A story about a homeless boy and his imaginary friend that proves in unexpected ways that friends matter, whether real or imaginary" ©2012 Grade Level 5-8

***The Dreamer* by Pam Munoz Ryan** A fictionalized biography of the Nobel Prize-winning Chilean poet Pablo Neruda, who grew up a painfully shy child, ridiculed by his overbearing father, but who became one of the most widely-read poets in the world. Includes author's notes about the poet. **Pura Belpré Award Winner** ©2012 Grade Level 5-9

***The Mighty Miss Mallone* by Christopher Paul Curtis** "We are a family on a journey to a place called wonderful" is the motto of Deza Malone's family. Deza is the smartest girl in her class in Gary, Indiana, singled out by teachers for a special path in life. ©2012 Grade Level 5-7

***Moon over Manifest* by Clare Vanderpool** Abilene Tucker feels abandoned. Her father has put her on a train, sending her off to live with an old friend for the summer while he works a railroad job. Armed only with a few possessions and her list of universals, Abilene jumps off the train in Manifest, Kansas, aiming to learn about the boy her father once was. **Newbery Medal Book** ©2011 Grade Level 5-8

***Never Blame the Umpire* by Gene Fehler** Eleven-year-old Kate is having a wonderful summer, playing baseball and taking a poetry class, until her mother is diagnosed with terminal cancer, causing Kate to struggle to keep her faith and trust in God. ©2012 Grade Level: 4-7

***No Talking* by Andrew Clements** It's boys vs. girls when the noisiest, most talkative, and most competitive fifth graders in history challenge one another to see who can go longer without talking. Teachers and school administrators are in an uproar, until an innovative teacher sees how the kids' experiment can provide a terrific and unique lesson in communication. ©2009 Grade Level 5-6

***The Strange Case of Origami Yoda* by Tom Angleberger** In this funny, uncannily wise portrait of the dynamics of a sixth-grade class and of the greatness that sometimes comes in unlikely packages, Dwight, a loser, talks to his classmates via an origami finger puppet of Yoda. ©2015 Grade Level 5-7

***Surviving Jamestown* by Gail Karwoski** Sam Collier, a twelve-year-old, serves as page to John Smith during the relentless hardship experienced by the founders at the first permanent English settlement in the New World. ©2001 Grade Level 5-6

***The Tale of Despereaux* by Kate DiCamillo** He has big dreams and gets out of the world of mice and into the world of people and rats. **Newbery Medal Book** ©2003 Grade Level 5-7

***Two Minute Drill* by Mike Lupica** Chris Conlan is the coolest kid in sixth grade?the golden-armed quarterback of the football team and the boy all the others look up to. Scott Parry is the new kid, the boy with the huge brain, but with feet that trip over themselves. ©2009 Grade Level 5-7

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## Recommended Reading 2023

***Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* by Grace Lin** Minli, an adventurous girl from a poor village, buys a magical goldfish, and then joins a dragon who cannot fly on a quest to find the Old Man of the Moon in hopes of bringing life to Fruitless Mountain and freshness to Jade River. **Newbery Honor Book ©2009 Grade Level 5-7**

***Young Fredle* by Cynthia Voigt** A young mouse cast out of his home, faces dangers and predators outside, makes some important discoveries and allies, and learns the meaning of freedom as he struggles to return home. **©2011 Grade Level 5-7**

***When You Trap a Tiger* by Tae Keller** When Lily and her family move in with her sick grandmother, a magical tiger straight out of her halmoni's Korean folktales arrives, prompting Lily to unravel a secret family history. **Newbery Medal and Asian/Pacific American Award ©2020 Grade Level 4-5**

## Recommended Reading 2023

### FIFTH GRADE ENTERING SIXTH GRADE

***Abby Carnelia's One and Only Magical Power* by David Pogue** One day, Abby Carnelia, ordinary sixth grader, realizes she has a magical power. Okay, it's not a fancy one: she can make a hard-boiled egg spin by tugging on her ears. But it's the only one she has, and it's enough to launch her into an adventure where she meets a host of kids with similarly silly powers. ©2014 **Grade Level: 5-7**

***Al Capone Does My Homework* by Gennifer Choldenko** Alcatraz Island in the 1930s isn't the most normal place to grow up, but it is home for Moose Flanagan, his autistic sister, Natalie, and all the families of the guards. When Moose's dad gets promoted to Associate Warden, despite being an unlikely candidate, it's a big deal. ©2013 **Grade Level 5-8**

***Anything But Typical* by Nora Raleigh Baskin** Jason can be himself when he writes and he thinks that Phoneix Bird—her name is Rebecca—could be his first real friend. But as desperate as Jason is to meet her, he's terrified that if they do meet, Rebecca will only see his autism and not who Jason really is. ©2012 **Grade Level 5-7**

***Because of Anya* by Margaret Peterson Haddix** While ten-year-old Anya faces the difficulties of losing her hair to alopecia, her classmate Keely learns how to stand up for what she knows is right. ©2002 **Grade Level 5-7**

***The Boy at the End of the World* – Greg Van Eekhout** In a future world, Fisher is the last boy on earth. But evidence suggests there may be a far-away survival bunk with other humans. In order to get there, he'll need to rely on a ragtag team he assembles, including a robot, a mammoth, and a prairie dog with basic English skills. Readers will be riveted as this unlikely team races toward survival. ©2011 **Grade Level 5-8**

***The Boy Who Saved Baseball* by John H. Ritter** The fate of a small California town rests on the outcome of one baseball game, and Tom Gallagher hopes to lead his team to victory with the secrets of the now disgraced player, Dante Del Gato. ©2003 **Grade Level: 4 - 7**

***Bridge to Terabithia* by Katherine Paterson** Jess Aarons' greatest ambition is to be the fastest runner in his grade. He's been practicing all summer and can't wait to see his classmates' faces when he beats them all. But on the first day of school, a new girl boldly crosses over to the boys' side and outruns everyone. **Newbery Medal Book** ©1978 **Grade Level 5-7**

***Dorko the Magnificent* – Andrea Beaty** Robbie Darko is a magician. An old-school, pull-a-rabbit-out-of-your-hat-style magician. Robbie loves magic and he's good at it—sort of. Despite his best efforts, passion, and practice, something always goes wrong with his tricks, landing Robbie in trouble. ©2013 **Grade Level 5-7**

***The Dreamer* by Pam Munoz Ryan** A fictionalized biography of the Nobel Prize-winning Chilean poet Pablo Neruda, who grew up a painfully shy child, ridiculed by his overbearing father, but who became one of the most widely-read poets in the world. Includes author's notes about the poet. **Pura Belpré Award Winner** ©2012 **Grade Level 5-9**

***Dead End in Norvelt* by Jack Gantos** In the historic town of Norvelt, Pennsylvania, twelve-year-old Jack Gantos spends the summer of 1962 grounded for various offenses until he is assigned to help an elderly neighbor with a most unusual chore involving the newly dead, molten wax, twisted promises, Girl Scout cookies, underage driving, lessons from history, typewriting, and countless bloody noses. **Newbery Medal Book** ©2011 **Grade Level 5–8**

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## Recommended Reading 2023

**Eggs by Jerry Spinelle** David has recently lost his mother to a freak accident, his salesman father is constantly on the road, and he is letting his anger out on his grandmother. Primrose lives with her unstable, childlike, fortune teller mother, and the only evidence of the father she never knew is a framed picture. ©2008 **Grade Level 5-7**

**Flora and Ulysses by Kate DiCamillo** Rescuing a squirrel after an accident involving a vacuum cleaner, comic-reading cynic Flora Belle Buckman is astonished when the squirrel, Ulysses, demonstrates astonishing powers of strength and flight after being revived. **Newbery Medal Book ©2013**  
**Grade Level 5–7**

**Isabel Feeney, Star Reporter by Beth Fantaskey** It's 1920s Chicago—the guns-and-gangster era of Al Capone—and it's unusual for a girl to be selling the *Tribune* on the street corner. But ten-year-old Isabel Feeney is unusually obsessed with being a news reporter. ©2017 **Grade Level 5-7**

**Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli** Jeffrey Lionel "Maniac" Magee might have lived a normal life if a freak accident hadn't made him an orphan. After living with his unhappy and uptight aunt and uncle for eight years, he decides to run--and not just run away, but run. **Newbery Medal ©2017 Grade Level 6-7**

**The Rat Prince by Bridget Hodder** A new twist to an old fairy tale. When Cinderella's frightful stepmother Wilhelmina has control of the manor, nobody is safe, including the rats that she wants poisoned. Cinderella and Prince Char devise a plan to end Wilhelmina's tyranny. ©2017 **Grade Level 6-7**

**Savvy by Ingrid Law** Thirteen is when a Beaumont's savvy hits—and with one brother who causes hurricanes and another who creates electricity, Mibs Beaumont is eager to see what she gets. But just before the big day, Poppa is in a terrible accident. And now all Mibs wants is a savvy that will save him. **Newbery Honor Book ©2012 Grade Level 5-7**

**The Unexpected Life of Oliver Cromwell Pitts by Avi** Oliver is left on his own after a terrible storm hits his English community in 1724. High adventure and near disasters meet Oliver as he tries to make his way to London to find his sister, Charity. Once in London and reunited with Charity, life does not calm down. Avi leaves readers hanging—will they survive? ©2012 **Grade Level 6-8**

## Recommended Reading 2023

### SIXTH GRADE ENTERING SEVENTH GRADE

**Assassin - Anna Myers** In alternating passages, a young White House seamstress named Bella and the actor John Wilkes Booth describe the events that lead to the latter's assassination of Abraham Lincoln. ©2005 **Grade Level 5–8**

**Good Brother, Bad Brother: The Story of Edwin Booth and John Wilkes Booth by James Giblin** Most people know the name John Wilkes Booth, but few likely have heard of his elder brother Edwin. Find out about the brothers through first-hand accounts. Learn how alike and how different they were, and how each made a lasting impression on American history. ©2017 **Grade Level 5–8**

**The Great Fire by Jim Murphy** Vivid firsthand descriptions by persons who lived through the 1871 Chicago fire are woven into a gripping account that is absorbing and riveting reading. **Newbery Honor Book** ©2006 **Grade Level 5–7**

**Heartbeat by Sharon Creech** RUN, RUN, RUN that's what twelve-year-old Annie loves to do. When she's barefoot and running she can hear her heart beating. ©2004 **Grade Level 5–7**

**Jesse Bowman: A Union Boy's War Story by Tom McGowen** In this action-packed historical fiction novel, Jesse Bowman joins the Union Army in hopes of finding adventure. However, this teenage soldier learns that victory comes at a great cost. He discovers the hardships of war, the horror of battle, and the loss of friendship on his journey through the Civil War. ©2008 **Grade Level 5–6**

**Liar and Spy by Rebecca Stead** Seventh-grader Georges moves into a Brooklyn apartment building and meets Safer, a twelve-year-old self-appointed spy. Georges becomes Safer's first spy recruit. His assignment? Tracking the mysterious Mr. X, who lives in the apartment upstairs. ©2013 **Grade Level 6-7**

**Ranger's Apprentice Book One: The Ruins of Gorlan by John Flanagan** He had always wanted to be a warrior. The Rangers, with their dark cloaks and shadowy ways, made him nervous. The villagers believe the Rangers practice magic that makes them invisible to ordinary people. And now fifteen year-old Will, always small for his age, has been chosen as a Ranger's apprentice. ©2006 **Grade Level 5–7**

**Sand Dollar Summer by Kimberly K. Jones** Twelve-year-old Lise watches her safe world fall apart when her strong, self-reliant mom is injured in a car accident. To recuperate, Mom takes Lise and her bright little brother to live in a rattletrap house on the beach in Maine for the summer. Although her mother grew up there, this is Lise's first experience with the ocean. She's terrified by what may be lurking in the cold depths and confused by the ways that Maine is changing her mother. ©2008 **Grade Level: 6-8**

**Saving Lucas Biggs by Marisa de los Santos** Thirteen-year-old Margaret knows her father is innocent, but that doesn't stop the cruel Judge Biggs from sentencing him to death. Margaret is determined to save her dad, even if it means using her family's secret—and forbidden—ability to time travel. ©2015 **Grade Level 6–8**

**Secret Within by Theresa Martin Golding** Carly Chambers spends her summer days delivering mysterious packages for her harsh father but when she sneaks out at night to find some freedom, she faces danger from all sides. ©2014 **Grade Level 6–8**

**Soldier's Heart: Being the Story of the Enlistment and Due Service of the Boy Charley Goddard in the First Minnesota Volunteers by Gary Paulsen** In June 1861, when the Civil War began, Charley Goddard enlisted in the First Minnesota Volunteers. He was 15. He didn't know what a "shooting war" meant or what he was fighting for. But he didn't want to miss out on a great adventure. ©2000 **Grade Level 5–7**

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## Recommended Reading 2023

***The Wednesday Wars* by Gary D. Schmidt** Seventh-grader, Holling Hoodhood, is convinced his teacher hates him. Through their Wednesday afternoon Shakespeare sessions she helps him cope with events both wildly funny and deadly serious. **Newbery Honor Book ©2007 Grade Level 5-7**

***What Elephants Know* by Eric Dinerstein** Abandoned in the jungle of the Nepalese Borderlands, two-year-old Nandu is found living under the protective watch of a pack of wild dogs. **©2016 Grade Level 5-9**

***A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle** It was a dark and stormy night; Meg Murry, her small brother Charles Wallace, and her mother had come down to the kitchen for a midnight snack when they were upset by the arrival of a most disturbing stranger. **Newbery Medal @2012 Grade Level 6-8**

# Recommended Summer Reading 2023

## SEVENTH GRADE ENTERING EIGHTH GRADE

***Amari and the Night Brothers* by B.B. Alston** Quinton Peters was the golden boy of the Rosewood low-income housing projects, receiving full scholarship offers to two different Ivy League schools. When he mysteriously goes missing, his little sister, 13-year-old Amari Peters, can't understand why it's not a bigger deal. Why isn't his story all over the news? And why do the police automatically assume he was into something illegal? **NAACP Image Award, Coretta Scott King Author Book Award ©2021 Grade Level 7-8**

***Before the Ever After* by Jacqueline Woodson** For as long as ZJ can remember, his dad has been everyone's hero. As a charming, talented pro football star, he's as beloved to the neighborhood kids he plays with as he is to his millions of adoring sports fans. But lately life at ZJ's house is anything but charming. His dad is having trouble remembering things and seems to be angry all the time. **©2022 Grade Level 7-8**

***The Boys Who Challenged Hitler: Knud Pedersen and the Churchill Club* by Phillip Hoose** At the outset of World War II, Denmark did not resist German occupation. Deeply ashamed of his nation's leaders, fifteen-year-old Knud Pedersen resolved with his brother and a handful of schoolmates to take action against the Nazis if the adults would not. **Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Honor ©2016 Grade Level 8-10**

***Brother's Keeper* by Julie Lee** Twelve-year-old Sora and her family live under an iron set of rules: No travel without a permit. No criticism of the government. No absences from Communist meetings. Wear red. Hang pictures of the Great Leader. Don't trust your neighbors. Don't speak your mind. You are being watched. **©2020 Grade Level 7-8**

***Code Talker: A Novel About The Navajo Marines Of World War Two* by Joseph Bruchac** After being taught in a boarding school run by whites that Navajo is a useless language, Ned Begay is recruited by the Marines to become a Code Talker, sending urgent messages during WW2 in his native tongue. **©2005 Grade Level 7-9**

***Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie* by Jordan Sonnenblick** When his younger brother is diagnosed with leukemia, thirteen-year-old Steven tries to deal with his complicated emotions, his school life, and his desire to support his family. **©2005 Grade Level 7-8**

***Freak the Mighty* by Rodman Philbrick** Two boys - a slow learner stuck in the body of a teenage giant and a tiny Einstein in leg braces - forge a unique friendship when they pair up to create one formidable human force. **©2001 Grade Level 7-8**

***Good Different* by Meg Edén Kuyatt** Selah knows her rules for being normal. She always, always sticks to them. This means keeping her feelings locked tightly inside, despite the way they build up inside her as each school day goes on, so that she has to run to the bathroom and hide in the stall until she can calm down. So that she has to tear off her normal-person mask the second she gets home from school, and listen to her favorite pop song on repeat, trying to recharge. **©2023 Grade Level 7-8**

***Imprisoned: The Betrayal of Japanese Americans During World War II* by Marin W. Sandler** While Americans fought for freedom and democracy abroad, fear and suspicion towards Japanese Americans swept the country after Japan's sneak attack on Pearl Harbor. **©2013 Grade Level 7-Up**

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## Recommended Reading 2023

***The Last Cuentista* by Donna Barba Higuera** There lived a girl named Petra Peña, who wanted nothing more than to be a storyteller, like her abuelita. But Petra's world is ending. Earth has been destroyed by a comet, and only a few hundred scientists and their children - among them Petra and her family - have been chosen to journey to a new planet. They are the ones who must carry on the human race. **Newbery Medal, Pura Belpré Award ©2021 Grade Level 7-8**

***Lily's Ghost* by Laura Ruby** Lily is Furious. She can't believe she has to move again after her mom's break-up with the latest boyfriend. Now they're broke and they'll have to spend the winter in Uncle Wes's creepy summerhouse in Cape May, New Jersey. And the place is crawling with ghosts. **©2005 Grade Level 7-8**

***Okay for Now* by Gary D. Schmidt** In this companion novel to *The Wednesday Wars*, Doug struggles to be more than the "skinny thug" that some people think him to be. He finds an unlikely ally in Lil Spicer, who gives him the strength to endure an abusive father, the suspicions of a town, and the return of his oldest brother, forever scarred, from Vietnam. **National Book Award Finalist ©2011 Grade Level 8-9**

***Pictures of Hollis Woods* by Patricia Giff** Hollis Woods has been in so many foster homes she can hardly remember them all. She is a mountain of trouble. She runs away even from the Regans, the one family who offers her a home. **Newbery Honor ©2004 Grade Level 7-8**

***The 13 Clocks* by Deckle Edge** The hands of all thirteen clocks stand still in the gloomy castle on a lonely hill where a wicked Duke lives with his niece, the beautiful Princess Saralinda. The Duke fancies he has frozen time, for he is afraid that one day a Prince may come and win away the hand of the Princess—the only warm hand in the castle. **©2016 Grade Level 7-8**

***The Underneath* by Kathi Appelt** A calico cat, about to have kittens, hears the lonely howl of a chained-up hound deep in the backwaters of the bayou. She dares to find him in the forest, and the hound dares to befriend this cat, this feline, this creature he is supposed to hate. They are an unlikely pair, about to become an unlikely family. Ranger urges the cat to hide underneath the porch, to raise her kittens there because Gar-Face, the man living inside the house, will surely use them as alligator bait should he find them. But they are safe in the Underneath...as long as they stay in the Underneath. **Newbery Honor, National Book Award Finalist ©2004 Grade Level 7-8**

***Torpedoed: The True Story of the World War II Sinking of the "Children's Ship"* by Deborah Heiligman** Amid the constant rain of German bombs and the escalating violence of World War II, British parents by the thousands chose to send their children out of the country: the wealthy, independently; the poor, through a government relocation program called CORB. In September 1940, passenger liner SS *City of Benares* set sail for Canada with one hundred children on board. **Golden Kite Award ©2023 Grade Level 6-8**

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## Recommended Reading 2023

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