

Fiction

Arnold, Tedd. **Attack of the 50-foot Fly Guy.** 2019

After grabbing a snack from a radioactive trash can, Fly Guy grows to 50 feet tall! Can Buzz and the scientist figure out how to shrink him before the police and military attack?

Reader Arnold (series)

Buchet, Nelly. **Cat Dog Dog: The Story of a Blended Family.** 2020

“Cat and Dog live with their human in a suburban house with a big backyard. Sure, they fight like.... well, cats and dogs, but they're used to one another. Dog-- a different dog-- lives a happy only child life in the city with his dad. He has the bed to himself, he never has to share his toys, and that's the way he likes it. So what happens when the Dog's dad and Cat and Dog's mom move in together? Well, it's chaotic. There's not enough room on the bed, for starters. But as the seasons pass, the three animals become a trio and learn to (mostly) love one another. Just as they're settling into a cozy life as a threesome, along comes.... a baby!”

E Buchet

Burach, Ross. **Don't Worry, Bee Happy.** 2020

Bumble and Bee love to buzz around the pond and make mischief. Their cranky best friend Froggy prefers the peace and quiet of sitting on a lily pad. They may be an unlikely trio, but no matter what these friends dream up -- from picture day problem-solving to a comical cure for the hiccups -- you can count on hilarious, unexpected FUN!

J GN Burach

Castillo, Lauren. **Our Friend Hedgehog: The Story of Us.** 2020

“Hedgehog lives on a teeny-tiny island with only her stuffed dog, Muttie, for company. When a great storm carries Muttie away, she embarks on a quest to find her friend. Following the trail of clues Muttie left behind, brave Hedgehog meets a wiggly Mole, a wordy Owl, a curmudgeonly Beaver, a scatterbrained Hen and Chicks, and a girl who's new to the neighborhood, Annika May. With bravery and teamwork, there's nothing that can stop these seven from finding Muttie, but along the way they discover something even more important: each other.”

J Fic Castillo

Daywalt, Drew. **This is MY Fort!** 2019

Meet Monkey and Cake. They are silly and they are curious. Sometimes they agree. Sometimes they do not. But Monkey and Cake are always best friends. Monkey and Cake love building forts! When Cake decides to build his own fort, Monkey feels left out. Monkey builds his own fort that's even bigger than Cake's fort. But before long, they both discover that being alone in a fort is no fun!

Reader Daywalt (series)

Dean, Kim. **Pete the Kitty Goes to the Doctor.** 2019

Oh no! Pete the Kitty has a tummy ache. Good thing his dad knows just what to do. It's time to go to the doctor! Except Pete may be a teensy-weensy bit nervous about his first visit to the doctor. With the help of his dad, Pete discovers the doctor isn't scary!

Reader Dean (series)

Derting, Kimberly. **Libby Loves Science: Mix and Measure.** 2021

"Libby hosts a puppy party for her friends and their dogs. With the help of her friend Rosa and little brother, Libby decorates, stuffs goody bags and bakes delicious cupcakes. But when they realize they've forgotten an important ingredient, they use science to solve the problem just in the nick of time."

Reader Derting

Duncan, Reed. **Look at Rollo!** 2020

"For fans of Tiny, Biscuit, and Charlie the Ranch Dog comes an easy-to-read series about a rambunctious, mischievous, and totally lovable bulldog, Rollo! Meet Rollo, a little bulldog with a giant personality. It's Rollo's big day at the park! Time to run, play, and catch the ball... and, of course, get messy along the way. Look at Rollo go!"

Reader Duncan

Elliott, Zetta. **A Place Inside of Me: A Poem to Heal the Heart.** 2021

A 2021 Caldecott Honor Book that captures a black child's transition of emotions over the passage of a year—from joy to sorrow followed by anger upon learning of a shooting, and, subsequently, to hope and love. "Summertime is filled with joy—skateboarding and playing basketball—until his community is deeply wounded by a police shooting. As fall turns to winter and then spring, fear grows into anger, then pride and peace."

E Elliott

Flowers, Luke. **Ninja on the job.** 2019

Moby Shinobi is a very helpful ninja! Moby heads to a construction site to help the construction workers build a house. Moby tries to chop lumber, hammer in nails, and use other construction tools, but each try ends in a funny mess. What if Moby's ninja skills aren't right for the job? Then someone gets stuck in wet concrete. It's finally Moby's turn to save the day!

Reader Flowers (series), Overdrive eBook

Hunter, Anne. **Where's Baby?** 2020

A 2021 Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor book. "Here is an adorable, interactive read-aloud for fans of **Are You My Mother?** In this clever introduction to prepositions, a near-sighted Papa is looking for his baby. Is Baby up in the tree? Is Baby under the log? Is Baby around the corner? Where could Baby be?"

E Hunter

Kann, Victoria. **Pinkalicious and the Flower Fairy.** 2019

Pinkalicious is absolutely positive that a flower fairy will visit her garden. After all, flower fairies love pink, and so does Pinkalicious! When Pinkalicious transforms her garden into a pink wonderland, will it entice the flower fairy to visit?

Reader Kann (series)

Kunkel, Angela Burke. **Digging For Words: José Alberto Gutiérrez and the Library He Built.** 2020

An inspiring story based on the life of José Alberto Gutiérrez: “In the city of Bogata, in the barrio of La Nueva Gloria, there live two Josés. One is a boy who dreams of Saturdays-- that's the day he gets to visit Paradise, the library. The second José is a garbage collector. From dusk until dawn, he scans the sidewalks as he drives, squinting in the dim light, searching household trash for hidden treasure . . . books! Some are stacked in neat piles, as if waiting for José. Others take a bit more digging.”

E Kunkel

LaRochelle, David. **See the Cat: Three Stories About a Dog.** 2020

“Move over, Spot. . . Spoofing classic primers, Max the Dog talks back to the book in a twist that will have fans of funny early readers howling. See Max. Max is not a cat—Max is a dog. But much to Max’s dismay, the book keeps instructing readers to “see the cat.” How can Max get through to the book that he is a DOG?” A hilarious book filled with twists and turns that keep readers engaged. This book is the 2021 Theodor Seuss Geisel medal winner.

Reader LaRochelle

Lindstrom, Carole. **We Are Water Protectors.** 2020

Winner of the 2021 Caldecott Medal. Told from an indigenous person’s perspective, this book issues an urgent rallying cry to all people about the importance of safeguarding the Earth’s water from harm and corruption. “Water is the first medicine. It affects and connects us all . . . When a black snake threatens to destroy the Earth and poison her people’s water, one young water protector takes a stand to defend Earth’s most sacred resource.”

E Lindstrom

Lobel, Arnold. **Frog and Toad are Friends.** 1979

These timeless tales of friendship between Frog and Toad continue to charm beginning readers.

Reader Lobel, Readalong Lobel, OverDrive eAudiobook (series)

Lupica, Mike. **The Soccer Secret.** 2019

There's nothing eight-year-old twins Zach and Zoe Walker love more than playing sports and solving mysteries. And when those two worlds collide . . . well, it doesn't get any better than that. Soccer season is underway, and though Zach and Zoe play on different travel teams, they're on the same team when it comes to solving mysteries. So when a package arrives in the mail addressed to Zach, the twins are surprised to find a soccer jersey identical to the one Zach

wears for his team. But Zach's jersey is in his closet--so who does this jersey belong to and why did they send it? It's a soccer secret--and Zach and Zoe are on the case!

J Fic Lupica (series)

Lyons, Kelly Starling. **Ty's Travels: Zip, Zoom!** 2020

A 2021 Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor Book. A Chicago Public Library Best Fiction Book for Young Readers 2020. Listed as one of 2021's Here Wee Read Ultimate Diverse Children's Books. This is a story about a boy named Ty and his experience with his brand-new scooter. "Other kids zip and zoom by like race cars, but all Ty can do is wobble! Ty wants to give up, but a new friend helps Ty give it another try."

Reader Lyons

Mack, Jeff. **Mr. Monkey Takes a Hike.** 2019

Mr. Monkey takes a break from his favorite video game to do something outside, but nothing goes as planned.

Reader Mack (series)

Manushkin, Fran. **Good Morning, Farmer Carmen!** 2020

Katie is sure it would be fun to be a farmer. All you have to do is plant seeds and watch them grow. Pedro's aunt is a farmer, and she works very hard. Katie will find out just how hard farmers work when she and Pedro help get ready for a day at the farmer's market.

Reader Manushkin (series)

Seuss, Dr. **Maybe You Should Fly a Jet! Maybe You Should Be a Vet!** 2020

Unavailable for almost 20 years, a little-known Dr. Seuss book about careers gets a fresh new look! Wildly imaginative and told in rollicking rhyme, this book features a mix of real jobs (like firefighter, doctor, teacher, farmer, etc.) and Seussian ones (including perfume smeller, fishbone boner, bass-drum banger, and roller coaster owner).

Reader Seuss

Sharmat, Marjorie Weinman. **Nate the Great and the Wandering Word.** 2018

Join the world's greatest detective, Nate the Great, as he solves the mystery of the missing word! Esmeralda came up with the perfect name for Rosamond's pet concert, but she lost the pink paper where she wrote the word--and she can't remember what it is. Nate the Great and his dog, Sludge, take on the unusual case, and they are soon braving pink papers and barking, oinking, and talking pets. Will Nate and Sludge find the word in time for the show to go on?

Reader Sharmat (series), Overdrive eBook

Tatsukawa, Maya. **The Bear in My Family.** 2020

"Bear is loud, messy, uncouth, and very strong (too strong!). It's not easy living with a bear, but one little boy learns that sometimes, a bear in the family can end up to be the best thing in the world." This delightful book is a 2021 Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor Book.

E Tatsukawa

Willems, Mo and Ryan T. Higgins. **What About Worms!?** 2020

Another fun book from the "Elephant & Piggie Like Reading!" series which is also a 2021 Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor Book. "Tiger is BIG. Tiger is BRAVE. And Tiger is NOT afraid of anything . . . except WORMS! Are Tiger's worm worries worse than worms?"

Reader Willems

Worth, Bonnie. **Cows Can Moo! Can You?: All About Farms.** 2018

A visit to a family farm with the Cat in the Hat! Join the Cat in the Hat as he spends a day on the farm with Mr. and Mrs. Greenbean and their three little Greenbeans: Jean, Dean, and baby Irene! From dawn to dusk, kids will see cows being milked, chickens being fed, sheep being sheered, fields being tilled, fertilized, reaped, mowed, irrigated--and lots more!

Reader Cat (series)

Non-Fiction

Bryant, Jen. **Above the Rim: How Elgin Baylor Changed Basketball.** 2020

"Though not as widely known as other basketball legends, hall-of-famer Elgin Baylor was one of the game's all-time greatest players-an innovative athlete, team player, and quiet force for change. A member of the early, scrappy NBA and one of the first professional African American players, Elgin (b. 1934) played in the late 1950s and early 1960s for the Minneapolis/Los Angeles Lakers, taking risks on and off the court. Known for his acrobatic style of moving and shooting, he inspired others to get creative with their game. But when traveling for away games, hotels and restaurants weren't as welcoming of Elgin as they were of his white teammates. Together, Elgin and his teammates boycotted places practicing segregation until the entire NBA followed suit. From picture book powerhouses Jen Bryant and Frank Morrison, **Above the Rim** is a peek into the early days of the NBA, a poetic telling of the life of an under-known athlete, and a celebration of standing up for what is right."

J Bio Baylor

Buhrman-Deever, Susannah. **If You Take Away the Otter.** 2020

"When the sea otters disappear, why does their kelp forest habitat disappear, too? On the Pacific Coast of North America, sea otters play, dive, and hunt for sea urchins, crabs, abalone, and fish in the lush kelp forests beneath the waves. But there was a time when people hunted the otters almost to extinction. Without sea otters to eat them, an army of hungry sea urchins grew and destroyed entire kelp forests. Fish and other animals that depended on the kelp were lost, too. But when people protected the sea otters with new laws, their numbers began to recover, and so did the kelp forests."

J 599.769 Buhrman-Deever

Caruso, Nick. **Does it Fart?: A Kid's Guide to the Gas Animals Pass.** 2019

In this gaseous guide to kids' favorite animals (and some they've probably never heard of), young readers will discover not only which animals pass gas, but also which have the stinkiest farts, which fart the most, and where all this smelly stuff comes from. They'll even learn which species has its own secret fart code! Perfect for reluctant readers, and with full-color illustrations throughout, **Does It Fart?** is the funniest book you never knew you needed.

J 591.5 Caruso

Chin, Jason. **Your Place in the Universe.** 2020

"Most eight-year-olds are about five times as tall as this book . . . but only half as tall as an ostrich, which is half as tall as a giraffe . . . twenty times smaller than a California Redwood! How do they compare to the tallest buildings? To Mt. Everest? To stars, galaxy clusters, and . . . the universe? Explore the known Universe and consider its mind-boggling scale in this crisply illustrated, well-researched book."

J 530.8 Chin

Coombs, Esther. **Plant, Sow, Make & Grow: Mud-tastic Activities for Budding Gardeners.** 2019

Get little gardeners growing and learning with this low-stress approach to producing yummy fruit, veggies, and bug-friendly flowers. You'll find plenty of handy gardening information to get you started, plus tips about what wildlife you may see, ideas for raiding your recycling box to make some useful gardening accessories, and more.

J 635 Coombs

Davidson, Rose. **Odd Animals.** 2019

Get to know the weirdest, silliest, most unique critters in the animal kingdom, from the axolotl to the star-nosed mole! This quirky early reader from National Geographic Kids is full of awesome animals that march (and crawl, swim, and fly) to the beat of their own drum.

J 590 Davidson

Davidson, Rose. **Squeak!: 100 Fun Facts About Hamsters, Mice, Guinea Pigs, and More.** 2019

Mice and rats may be the most famous rodents. However, there are so many more to discover from cavies and capybaras to jerboas and gerbils to pocket mice and porcupines, get ready to learn about rodents. Packed with weird-but-true facts and tons of animal info, this book shows just how endearing rodents can be.

J 599.35 Davidson

Fleming, Candace. **Honeybee: The Busy Life of Apis Mellifera.** 2020

The 2021 Robert F. Sibert Medal Winner. Finalist for the AAAS/Subaru SB&F Prize for Excellence in Science Books. "A tiny honeybee emerges through the wax cap of her cell. Driven to protect and take care of her hive, she cleans the nursery and feeds the larvae and the queen." Within

the pages of this book you can join Apis, one honeybee, as she embarks on her journey through life!

J 595.799 Fleming

Hubbard, Rita L. **The Oldest Student: How Mary Walker Learned to Read.** 2020

"Imagine learning to read at the age of 116! Discover the true story of Mary Walker, the nation's oldest student who did just that. In 1848, Mary Walker was born into slavery. At age 15, she was freed, and by age 20, she was married and had her first child. By age 68, she had worked numerous jobs, including cooking, cleaning, babysitting, and selling sandwiches to raise money for her church. At 114, she was the last remaining member of her family. And at 116, she learned to read."

J Bio Walker

Kartes, Danielle. **My Very First Cookbook: Joyful Recipes to Make Together!** 2020

"Watching mom or dad in the kitchen is usually a child's first introduction to cooking. And when that inevitable question pops up ("Can I help?"), now you can say, "Yes!" These delightful and delicious kid-friendly recipes are the perfect introduction to cooking for little chefs just starting out. Step-by-step instructions are written directly to the child reader with clear indications for when they need a grown-up's assistance."

J 641.5 Kartes

Lunde, Darrin P. **Whose Footprint is That?** 2019

Written by a mammologist at the Smithsonian, this clever preschool page-turner pairs seven tracks with information about the animals' locomotion, asking kids to guess which animal left which tracks behind.

J 591.479 Lunde

Murray, Helen. **Lego 100 Ways to Rebuild the World.** 2020

"Discover 100 fun ideas to be kind and spread joy to the world around you. Get creative with your LEGO® bricks and be inspired to care for others, yourself, and the planet. Make a neighbor a LEGO thank-you card - Get active with a LEGO building race - Create a LEGO emoji to make your friend smile - Plant bee-friendly flowers and build LEGO bees to spread the message - Bring joy to your neighborhood with a LEGO rainbow in your window. How will you rebuild the world?"

J 688.725 Murray

Portis, Antoinette. **Hey, Water!** 2019

Join a young girl, in this 2020 Robert F. Sibert Honor Book, as she explores her surroundings and sees that water is everywhere. But water doesn't always look the same, it doesn't always feel the same, and it shows up in lots of different shapes. Water can be a lake, it can be steam, it can be a tear, or it can even be a snowman.

J 553.7 Portis

Russell-Brown, Katheryn. **A Voice Named Aretha.** 2020

Aretha Franklin is the Queen of Soul, a legend. But before she became a star, she was a shy little girl with a voice so powerful it made people jump up, sway, and hum along. Raised in a house full of talking and singing, Aretha learned the values that would carry her through life-- from her church choir in Detroit to stages across the world. When she moved to New York City to start her career, it took years of hard work before she had a hit song. In the turbulent 1960s, she sang about "Respect" and refused to perform before segregated audiences. The first woman inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, Aretha always remembered who she was and where she came from.

J Bio Franklin

Sayler, Hannah. **Packs: Strength in Numbers.** 2020

Groups, packs, herds of millions, and more—our world teems with animals on land, air, and sea. Packs is an inspiring celebration of how togetherness helps many creatures thrive, in both nonhuman and human communities.

J 591.5 Sayler

Slade, Suzanne. **Exquisite: The Poetry and Life of Gwendolyn Brooks.** 2020

“A picture-book biography of celebrated poet Gwendolyn Brooks, the first Black person to win the Pulitzer Prize. A 2021 Coretta Scott King Book Award Illustrator Honor Book. A 2021 Robert F. Sibert Informational Honor Book. A 2021 Association of Library Service to Children Notable Children's Book. Gwendolyn Brooks (1917–2000) is known for her poems about “real life.” She wrote about love, loneliness, family, and poverty—showing readers how just about anything could become a beautiful poem.”

J Bio Brooks

Weatherford, Carole Boston. **BOX: Henry Brown Mails Himself to Freedom.** 2020

A 2021 Newbery Honor Book that uses poetry to tell the emotional and true story of Henry Brown. “Henry Brown wrote that long before he came to be known as Box, he “entered the world a slave.” He was put to work as a child and passed down from one generation to the next — as property. When he was an adult, his wife and children were sold away from him out of spite. Henry Brown watched as his family left bound in chains, headed to the deeper South. What more could be taken from him? But then hope — and help — came in the form of the Underground Railroad. Escape!”

J Bio Brown