

Fiction

Bailey, Linda. “Cinderella – with Dogs!” 2023

A hilarious picture book featuring a dog-loving kingdom and the most fabulous, far-out fairy DOGmother ever! Here is a Cinderella story like no other. When Cinderella wishes for a fairy godmother, she’s not expecting one that barks. And this fairy dogmother has a different agenda. Yes, Cinderella will have a new dress, but made of a cozy dog blanket. Yes, they will go to the ball, but they will run there and chase squirrels along the way. There’s nothing like a canine companion to get a girl out of the house and her mind off her troubles. Yes, indeed, dogs do make everything better — and are a reminder that you don’t need “happily ever after” when you have the joy of now. Readers will get a kick out of this retelling with its lovable cast of characters and refreshing ending.

E BAILEY

Blabey, Aaron. “The Bad Guys in the Others?!” 2022

They may look like Bad Guys, but these wannabe heroes are doing good deeds ... whether you like it or not in this New York Times bestselling illustrated series.

J GN BLABEY

Brockenbrough, Martha. “Frank and the Bad Surprise” 2022

Frank the cat has it good: tons of toys, unlimited Whiskies and space and quiet to stretch and nap and think and write. Then his people bring home a box. A box with something unexpected inside. A puppy. A puppy who doesn’t know the rules of naps. A puppy who slobbers and tackles and barks. This won’t do. Frank will just have to find a better home. Should be easy, right?

READER BROCKENBROUGH

Cordell, Matthew. “Cornbread & Poppy” 2022

Cornbread LOVES planning. Poppy does not. Cornbread ADORES preparing. Poppy does not. Cornbread IS ready for winter. Poppy is not. But Cornbread and Poppy are the best of friends, so when Poppy is left without any food for the long winter, Cornbread volunteers to help her out. Their search leads them up, up, up Holler Mountain, where these mice might find a new friend ... and an old one. Celebrating both partnership and the value of what makes us individuals, young readers will find this classic odd-couple irresistible as they encounter relatable issues with humor and heart.

READER CORDELL

Coven, Wanda. "Henry Heckelbeck and the Great Frog Escape" 2022

Henry Heckelbeck and his friends spend the day at Brewster Creek, a place where they can relax, run around, and catch frogs. When Henry accidentally brings a frog home, it does not want to stay put. Will Henry be able to return the frog to the creek, or will this great frog escape turn into a disaster?

J FIC COVEN

Davies, Jacqueline. "Sydney & Taylor and the Great Friend Expedition" 2022

In this laugh-out-loud early chapter book with charming full-color illustrations, best-selling author Jacqueline Davies follows hedgehog Taylor and skunk Sydney as they set out on an adventure to make new friends. Perfect for fans of the Mercy Watson and Owl Diaries series.

J FIC DAVIES

Dean, Kimberly & James. "Pete the Cat's Not so Groovy Day" 2022

Pete the Cat is having a bad day. His best shirt is dirty, he left his crayons at home, and he's late for school. What will it take for Pete to turn his not so groovy day into a cool one after all?

READER DEAN

De Seve, Randall. "This Story Is Not about a Kitten" 2022

This story is not about a kitten, hungry and dirty, scared and alone, needing a home. It is also not about the dog who heard the kitten meowing sadly. Even less so about the woman and child walking the dog, who stopped when their dog heard the kitten. Nor is it about the friends who brought a box for the kitten, or the man who offered it some milk. No, this story is not about a kitten at all — well, maybe a little — but more importantly this is a story about community, compassion, and generosity.

E DE SEVE

DiCamillo, Kate. "Franklin Endicott and the Third Key: Tales from Deckawoo Drive" 2022

Frank Endicott is a worrier. He worries about lions, submarines, black holes, leprosy and armadillos. He lists his worries alphabetically in a notebook and suffers vivid nightmares that even a certain neighborhood pig can't dispatch. When he accompanies Eugenia Lincoln on an errand to duplicate a key at her favorite dark and dusty thrift shop, Frank earns fresh cause for alarm. Odd Buddy Lamp, the shop's proprietor, has sent them home with the original key and its copy. Can Frank come to terms with the mystery without buckling under his mounting dread?

J FIC DICAMILLO

Eliopoulos, Nick. "The Sky's the Limit! (Minecraft)" 2023

Join Emmy and Birch — and their tame wolf Byte — are new to the world of Minecraft but always ready to explore and take to the sky. Birch wants to go flying more than anything. Emmy has an idea for getting the right materials, but it is going to be an incredible journey.

READER MINECRAFT

Elliot, Rebecca. "Unicorn Diaries: The Missing Magic" 2022

Unicorn Bo and friends attend the Big Festival of Magic hoping to show off their magical skills, but when all the magic goes missing, they must find a way to return it.

J FIC ELLIOTT; J PAPERBACK ELLIOTT

Falconer, Ian. "Two Dogs" 2022

From Ian Falconer, Caldecott Honor winner and No. 1 New York Times bestselling creator of the Olivia series, comes a dashingly delightful picture book about two unforgettable dachshunds and their search for fun. Dachshund brothers Perry and Augie are home alone and desperately want to get outside and have a good time.

E FALCONER

Ferry, Beth. "Crab & Snail: The Invisible Whale" 2022

The never-ending rain is putting a damper on Crab and Snail's plans for a sunny, funny day. So when the BBFs (Best Beach Friends) realize that it's only raining on them, they put their heads together and consult a know-it-all gull to get to the bottom of it. By the time the rain clears, the duo will have made a new friend and learned something new and wonderful about friendship.

J GN FERRY; POP NOW J GN FERRY

Ferry, Beth. "Stick and Stone: Explore and More" 2022

Join Stick and Stone as they get swept up in scavenger hunt. Accompany them to a campfire calamity. And laugh along with them in this graphic novel series starring two best buddies and a whole cast of new characters. Each story has a fun activity to make you feel part of the action.

J GN FERRY

Flintham, Thomas. "Press Start! Super Rabbit Boy World" 2022

King Viking has come up with a new way to cause trouble in Super World. He has a Multi-plan Plan! Instead of one evil plan, King Viking is doing a lot of evil plans all at once. Super Rabbit Boy runs across Super World from one robot attack to another and another. But Super Rabbit Boy is getting tired. Will he be able to keep up with all the trouble? Or will he need Moon Girl's help to save the day?

J PAPERBACK FLINTHAM

Hale, Bruce. "Clark the Shark: Friends Forever" 2022

Clark the Shark is super excited about the drawing contest. The winner gets Captain Suckermouth comics, signed by Captain Suckermouth himself. When Clark asks Joey Mackerel for help, his excitement gets the best of him and he doesn't listen to his friend. Joey is sad because his pet catfish died. Will Clark be able to truly listen and put his friend first?

READER HALE

Iwai, Melissa. "Gigi and Ojiji. What's In a Name?" 2023

Gigi wants to go by something besides her baby name, but her full name, Geraldine, is too long to write and Hanako, her middle name, doesn't feel quite right. Will Gigi find the perfect name?

READER IWAI

Jihyun, Kim. "The Depth of the Lake and the Height of the Sky" 2022

A heartfelt and uplifting story of a child's independent discovery of the natural world using just pictures. Kim Jihyun cleverly captures excitement, wonder and joy in intricate illustrations using a deceptively simple color palate. This is a beautiful wordless story about allowing ourselves to be present in the moment and see the world afresh.

E JIHYUN

John, Jory. "The Bad Seed Goes to the Library" 2022

The Bad Seed is in a good mood ... for once. That's because there's a really cool book at the library available for checkout. The Bad Seed reads and reads until the book can't be read anymore. But suddenly, he gets bad news: The book must be returned to the library so another seed can enjoy it. Will the Bad Seed return to his baaaaaad ways and keep the book? Pick up this really cool book to find out!

READER JOHN; POP NOW READER JOHN

Jones, Matt. “Star Wars Grogu's Galaxy: Meet Mando's New Friend!” 2023

Learn more about the cute child, Grogu, from “The Mandalorian” seasons one and two, and “The Book of Boba Fett.” Take a trip through the galaxy and see it through Grogu’s eyes as he goes on his fantastic journey, while finding out more about his amazing allies, including the Mandalorian, Din Djarin, Luke Skywalker and Ahsoka Tano.

READER STAR WARS

Kessler, Liz. “Emily's Big Discovery” 2022

Even though she lives in a houseboat, Emily Windsnap doesn’t know how to swim. Her mother has always cautioned her to stay out of the water. But it’s hard to make friends at the beach when everyone else is having fun in the waves. When swimming lessons start at school, Emily is excited to finally have the chance to learn. Standing beside the pool, she feels the water calling her, but when she jumps in, she gets a strange, kind of scary sensation ... like her legs are stuck together. Eager to figure out what’s happening, Emily later dives into the sea. She gets that weird feeling again, but this time she looks down to see that her legs are gone — replaced by a shiny, beautiful tail!

READER KESSLER

King, S.J. “The Secret Explorers and the Moon Mission” 2022

Meet the Secret Explorers—a band of brainiac kids from all over the world. Everyone in this diverse group of young experts has a specialty, from outer space to dinosaurs, and each story follows a character who gets chosen for a “secret exploration.” In this fun, fact-filled children’s book, space expert Roshni and geology expert Cheng blast off into outer space on a mission to the moon. There, they must navigate the dangerous terrain to clear up space debris before it can interfere with a lunar mission. Along the way, the Secret Explorers pilot a space buggy and collect important rock samples.

J FIC KING

Lyons, Kelly Starling. “King of the Ice (Miles Lewis)” 2022

Miles Lewis loves science and sports, but when his teacher announces a class field trip to an ice skating rink to learn about physics, he isn't so excited. He's never ice skated before, and his friend RJ won't let him forget it. RJ even challenges him to a bet: If Miles skates without falling, RJ will put a “Miles is the man” sign on his backpack. But if Miles falls, he has to put one on his that says the same about RJ. Miles can barely focus on the bet, though, because he suspects his beloved Nana has plans to move out of his family's house — and that's just too much to bear. Can he keep his cool with all the pressure from RJ while finding a way to make his grandma stay?

J FIC LYONS

Quinn, Jordan. "Stroke of midnight (Kingdom of Wrenly)" 2022

After a witch-in-training accidentally makes Prince Lucas and Lady Clara switch lives, the three kids must find a way to change Prince Lucas and Lady Clara back before the stroke of midnight.

J PAPERBACK QUINN

Reynolds, Aaron. "Creepy Crayon!" 2022

In his newest eerie encounter, Jasper Rabbit, who is NOT doing well in school, stumbles upon a pointy, perfect purple crayon, who wants to help him. Things take a sinister turn when the purple fiend tries to take over his life.

E REYNOLDS; POP NOW E REYNOLDS; PLAYAWAY REYNOLDS; LIBBY: eBook

Shannon, David. "Gold!" 2022

Max Midas isn't like the other kids. Instead of trying to make friends, he decides to make millions and spends it all on what he loves best: GOLD. Gold statues. Gold fountains. Piles and piles of gold, and atop them all, a golden castle. But one day, things get lonely inside his shiny castle and Max finally learns that gold isn't worth anything without friends and family by your side.

E SHANNON

Shaskan, Stephan. "Pizza and Taco: Too Cool for School" 2022

New backpacks? Check! Besties Pizza and Taco are ready to head back to school, but are they ready to meet the cool new kid? B.L.T. wears sunglasses – even in school. He's not even worried about being late to class. SO COOL! I mean, "whatever." Pizza and Taco quickly pick up on what's cool – and what's not – by watching B.L.T.'s every move. Will that spell t-r-o-u-b-l-e for Pizza and Taco with their teacher, Mr. Apple?

J GN SHASKAN

Song, Mika. "Pizza My Heart" 2022

Norma and Belly want pizza. Hot, cheesy, tasty pizza. Too bad no one will deliver. Now they must get creative to nab a slice, even if it means taking on a wild beast. With the help of their friends, old and new, these squirrels are up to the task.

J GN SONG

Stilton, Geronimo. "Mouse vs. Wild" 2022

When you're with Geronimo Stilton, it's always a fabumouse adventure. Trap had finally talked Geronimo into taking a relaxing vacation, but it turned out it wouldn't just be given to him. He was going to have to win it! He was on his way to Port Stinky to win a race against the wild. Could he stand the smell long enough to win?

J PAPERBACK STILTON

Tabor, Corey. "Sir Ladybug" 2022

Sir Ladybug never shies away from a quest, even when he'd rather be playing a video game or baking a cake. So when a caterpillar needs rescuing from a "monster" (a hungry chickadee), Sir Ladybug and his trusty friends — his herald, a roly-poly named Pell, and his squire, a snail named Sterling — hatch the perfect (delicious) plan.

J GN TABOR

Thompkins-Bigelow, Jamilah. "Abdul's Story" 2022

Abdul loves to tell stories, but writing them down is hard. His letters refuse to stay straight and face the right way. And despite all his attempts, his papers often wind up with more eraser smudges than actual words. Abdul decides his stories just aren't meant to be written down until a special visitor comes to class and shows Abdul that even the best writers — and superheroes — make mistakes.

E THOMPKINS-BIGELOW; READALONG THOMPKINS-BIGELOW; Libby: eBook

Warner, Gertrude Chandler. "The Mystery at the Ballpark (Boxcar Children)" 2023

The Aldens are excited to join Greenfield's baseball team, the Bears, but when their equipment goes missing, it's clear that someone doesn't want them to take the field. Can the Aldens save the season?

READER WARNER

West, Tracey. "Dragon Masters: Guarding the Invisible Dragons" 2022

A nest of baby Invisible Dragons has been discovered in Aragon and the babies' parents are nowhere to be found. The baby dragons need to eat the fruit from the magical Dragon Tree to keep their invisible powers, but the tree grows on the dangerous Dove Island. Drake, Worm and Carlos' cousin Val must travel there to find the baby dragons' parents and the fruit before the baby dragons lose their powers forever. Also, one of the baby dragons forms a close bond with Val. Could Val be a Dragon Master?

J PAPERBACK WEST

Woodson, Jacqueline. "The Year We Learned to Fly" 2022

On a dreary, stuck-inside kind of day, a brother and sister heed their grandmother's advice: "Use those beautiful and brilliant minds of yours. Lift your arms, close your eyes, take a deep breath, and believe in a thing. Somebody somewhere at some point was just as bored you are now." And before they know it, their imaginations lift them up and out of their boredom. Then, on a day full of quarrels, it's time for a trip outside their minds again, and they are able to leave their anger behind. This precious skill, their grandmother tells them, harkens back to the days long before they were born, when their ancestors showed the world the strength and resilience of their beautiful and brilliant minds. Jacqueline Woodson's lyrical text and Rafael Lopez's dazzling art celebrate the extraordinary ability to lift ourselves up and imagine a better world.

E WOODSON

Non-fiction

Ben-Barack, Idan. "We Go Way Back: A Book About Life on Earth and How It All Began" 2023

From the author of kid-favorite "Do Not Lick This Book" comes an innovative, hilarious and expansive picture book about the biggest question of all: What is life? It's not an easy question. Life is more than just one thing. Where did it start? Peer back in time – way back in time – to the story of how life began.

J 576.83 BEN

Brew-Hammond, Nana Ekoa. "Blue: A History of the Color as Deep as the Sea and as Wide as the Sky" 2022

For centuries, blue powders and dyes were some of the most sought-after materials in the world. Ancient Afghan painters ground mass quantities of sapphire rocks to use for their paints, while snails were harvested in Eurasia for the tiny amounts of blue that their bodies would release. And then there was indigo, which was so valuable that American plantations grew it as a cash crop on the backs of African slaves. It wasn't until 1905, when Adolf von Baeyer created a chemical blue dye, that blue could be used for anything and everything – most notably that uniform of workers everywhere, blue jeans. With stunning illustrations by Caldecott Honor Artist Daniel Minter, this vibrant and fascinating picture book follows one color's journey through time and across the world, as it becomes the blue we know today.

J 535.6 BRE

Bridges, Ruby. "I Am Ruby Bridges" 2022

Ruby Bridges tells her story as never before and shares the events of the momentous day in 1960 when six-year-old Ruby became the first Black child to integrate the all-white William Franz Elementary. It's a personal and intimate look through a child's lens at a landmark moment in our Civil Rights history.

J BIO BRIDGES

Clark, Karen Henry. "Library Girl: How Nancy Pearl Became America's Most Celebrated Librarian" 2022

Nancy Pearl loved books and spent so much time in her school library that her grade school classmates teased her, calling her "library girl." When she discovers her neighborhood public library is open on Saturday, she begins the adventure of her lifetime. There, an inspiring librarian recognizes her abilities, recommends books that ignite her vivid imagination, and provides experiences to bolster her burgeoning self-confidence. As she loses herself in the books she finds herself in their pages and comes to recognize her strengths. Her self-discovery brings a realization at a young age that she wants to become a librarian so she can help children discover their dreams.

J BIO PEARL

Cocca-Leffler, Maryann. "Fighting for Yes: The Story of Disability Rights Activist Judith Heumann" 2022

This picture book biography celebrates the life and work of disability rights activist and icon Judith Heumann, highlighting one of her landmark achievements – leading the historic 504 Sit-in in 1977.

J BIO HEUMANN

De la Bédoyère, Camilla. "Come Closer If You Dare" 2022

This visual guide offers an up-close and personal view of 22 dangerous predators. While there are plenty of facts to be found, the photographs steal the show, and are sure to captivate budding biologist.

J 591.53 DE LA BEDO

Fleming, Candace. "Polar Bear" 2022

When it is time to go back into hibernation, a mother polar bear takes her two cubs on a 40-mile journey across the Arctic landscape, fending off wolves, hunting for food and swimming miles and miles along the way.

J 599.786 FLE

Heck, Ellen. "A is for Bee" 2022

What letter does the word bee start with? If you said "B" you're right – in English! But in many, many languages, it actually starts with "A." Bee is Anū in Igbo, Aamoo in Ojibwe, Abelha in Portuguese. And Ari in Turkish. Come and explore the gorgeous variations in the ways we talk about familiar things, unified and illuminated through Ellen Heck's eye-catching, graphic scratchboard details and hidden letterforms.

J 411 HECK

Kelley, Tera. "Listen to the Language of Trees: A Story of How Forests Communicate Underground." 2022

Readers will discover that trees have their own social network, and helping one another thrive is trending. A lyrical read aloud, this is the story of a seedling, newly sprouted at the base of a giant tree. As it stretches its roots into an underground web of fungi, it learns that its fellow trees use the fungi to pass messages and share resources. It will take great luck for this tiny seedling to survive, but it will have help from its friends in the forest. The Douglas fir forest also harbors creatures like a zany Yellow Pine chipmunk gathering and forgetting seed cones, an owl nested in the giant tree, and chattering Steller's jays. And, as we must never forget, no part of the forest is entirely free from danger.

J 582.16 KEL; LIBBY: eBook

Kuo, Julia. "Luminous: Living Things that Light Up the Night" 2022

When it's dark out, we need light to see. But what if your body could make its own light? From acclaimed author-illustrator Julia Kuo comes a remarkable picture book about bioluminescence, the light made from living things, and its many forms: fireflies and foxfire, fungi and glow-worms, deep-sea fish and vampire squids. Kuo's radiant art portrays a young child and adult discovering different bioluminescent creatures, accompanied by simple lyrical text and informative sidebars that reveal fascinating scientific facts about each of them.

J 572.4358 KUO

Lilley, Matt. "Good Eating: The Short Life of Krill" 2022

Just 2 inches long full-grown, this little guy is the foundation of the Southern Ocean food chain. An unidentified narrator follows one krill among billions as it pursues its brief existence, eating and eating while metamorphosing from one thing into another and trying to avoid being eaten. Questions and advice are hurled at the krill on every page, but the krill never responds – because, after all, krill can't talk, and this is nonfiction. Krill are the largest animals able to catch and eat phytoplankton, and they in turn are eaten by the largest animals ever to live on earth – blue whales – as well as by seals, penguins, and a host of others. In other words, krill are really good at eating, and they make really good eating. And that makes them the most important animals in the high-latitude oceans.

J 595.389 LILLEY

McNulty, Stacy. "Our Planet! There's No Place Like Earth" 2022

Meet Earth. Planet Awesome! And your awesome home. Actually, Earth is home to all the plants and all the animals in the solar system, including nearly eight billion people. Humans have accidentally moved Earth's climate change into the fast lane, and she need your help to put on the brakes. Earthlings need Earth, and Earth needs Earthlings, so let's save Earth together.

J 363.7 MCANULTY

Moore, Lindsay. "Yoshi and the Ocean: A Sea Turtle's Incredible Journey Home" 2022

In 1997, a young loggerhead sea turtle was rescued from the ocean after an injury to her shell. The fishermen who rescued her named her Yoshi and took her to the Two Oceans Aquarium in Cape Town, South Africa. She was rehabilitated there and grew stronger — and larger — every day. She also became one of the most popular exhibits at the aquarium. After 20 years in captivity, Yoshi was released back into the ocean and traveled more than 25,000 miles in 1,003 days to find her way home. A tracking device on her shell transmitted data about her journey to marine biologists and turtle enthusiasts of all ages around the world.

J 597.9289 MOORE

Pizzoli, Greg. "Pizza: A Slice of History" 2022

People love pizza, but where did it come from? And who made the first pizza? Join award-winning author and illustrator Greg Pizzoli as he travels through time and around the globe to discover the mouth-watering history of pizza. Bursting with color, flavor and fun facts.

J 641.8248 PIZZOLI

Prud'homme, Alex. "Born Hungry: Julia Child Becomes 'The French Chef'" 2022

How did Julia Child become one of America's most celebrated and beloved chefs? Her grandnephew reveals her story in this picture book that Jacques Pepin calls a "vivid portrait ... an enjoyable read." Julia's kid-friendly recipe for Oeufs Brouillés (Scrambled Eggs) is included.

Julia Child was born hungry, but she was not born a chef. In fact, Julia didn't discover her passion for cooking until she had a life-changing luncheon in France and became determined to share her newfound love of food with everyone.

J BIO CHILD

Rex, Adam. "Digestion: The Musical" 2022

Despite being told that she is nothing but "empty calories," Candy is excited by her big break – being digested by the body, in this humorous exploration of the digestive system, presented as a Broadway musical.

E REX

Richardson, Anne. "Octopuses Have Zero Bones: A Counting Book About Our Amazing World" 2022

This multilayered and eye-opening romp through the ability of numbers to describe, explain, provide perspective, and amaze celebrates the numbers from zero to nine and the power of numbers ten to nine billion. Kids at all levels will find accessible ways to explore the concepts that enliven every page, from basic counting to higher-level ideas that include measurement, extrapolation, estimation, and orders of magnitude. All of this learning begins with 0 and simple statement: "ZERO, all by itself, is nothing. Can you imagine nothing?"

J 513.211 RICHARDSON

Vegara, Maria Isabel Sanchez. "J.R.R. Tolkien" 2022

Little John experienced lots of change in his life from a young age. Moving from South Africa to a big city in England, he longed for the nature he grew up around. After the death of both of his parents, John found comfort in telling stories and building imaginary worlds with his friends. And he continued to tell stories for the rest of his life, creating epic tales of hobbits, dwarves, elves, and wizards as J.R.R. Tolkien. This inspiring book features stylish and quirky illustrations and extra facts at the back, including a biographical timeline with historical photos and a detailed profile of the writer's life.

J BIO TOLKIEN

Winters, C.E. "Cut: How Lotte Reiniger and a Pair of Scissors Revolutionized Animation" 2023

A picture book biography about the remarkable and often overshadowed career of Lotte Reiniger, a moviemaking pioneer, who first used her talent for hand-cutting paper silhouettes in the 1920s to create stop-motion animated movies. She invented the multiplane camera to give her animations depth of field and, with a small team, designed and directed the oldest full-length animated film in existence. Lotte eventually created approximately 60 films for movies and television.

J BIO REINIGER