

FICTION

Adventure and Mystery



The Baddies

by Julia Donaldson, illustrated by Axel Scheffler (Scholastic Press, \$17.99) 978-1-339-00906-3
Using their special powers, a troll, a witch, and a ghost compete to be the first to steal from a girl, with surprising results. In rhyming text. Sendak-style illustrations. (5-8)

Dakota Crumb and the Secret Bookshop: A Tiny Treasure Hunt (Dakota Crumb series)

by Jamie Michalak, illustrated by Kelly Murphy (Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-1-5362-2330-9
Dakota, a treasure-hunting mouse, follows ingenious clues in her search for a rare book. Detailed, colorful pen and ink illustrations. (5-8)

*** Evergreen**

written and illustrated by Matthew Cordell (Feiwei and Friends/Macmillan, \$18.99) 978-1-250-31717-9
A fearful young squirrel finds courage through a series of action-filled encounters during a journey through the dangerous Buckthorn Forest. Pen and watercolor art in earth tones. (4-7)



*** Harriet Spies**

by Elana K. Arnold, illustrated by Dung Ho (Walden Pond Press/HarperCollins, \$18.99) 978-0-06-309213-6
During a summer at her grandmother's B&B, Harriet solves mysteries, makes friends, and learns something about truth-telling. Sequel to *Just Harriet*. Spot art. (7-9)



The Search for the Giant Arctic Jellyfish

written and illustrated by Chloe Savage (Candlewick Press, \$18.99) 978-1-5362-2851-9
Dr. Morley and her crew search the Arctic Ocean in hopes of encountering the fabled giant jellyfish. Meticulously detailed ink and watercolor illustrations. (6-9)

Stranded!:

A Mostly True Story from Iceland

by Ævar Þór Benediktsson, illustrated by Anne Wilson (Barefoot Books, \$17.99) 978-1-64686-991-6
When two adventurers travel to a newly formed volcanic island in Iceland to explore it, their ride home forgets to pick them up. Humorous mixed-media illustrations. Back matter. (6-9)



*** A Way to the Stars**

by David Almond, illustrated by Gill Smith (Candlewick Press, \$18.99) 978-1-5362-3125-0
A father encourages his son's dream to find a way to defeat gravity. After several failed attempts, they discover a great way to soar among the stars. Mixed-media illustrations. (6-8)

Animals

Cat's Very Good Day

by Kristen Tracy, illustrated by David Small (G. P. Putnam's Sons/Penguin Random House, \$18.99) 978-1-9848-1520-0
Rhyming couplets capture a house cat's varied daily adventures. Digitally rendered illustrations match the active, ever-changing spirit of the feline. (5-8)

*** Every Dreaming Creature**

written and illustrated by Brendan Wenzel (Little, Brown/Hachette, \$18.99) 978-0-316-51253-4
A succession of nighttime visions slip from the mind of one animal to another, exploring the interconnectedness of all life. Hypnotic prose poetry and vibrant mixed-media art. (5-7)

Beginning Readers

*** Billy & Rose:**

Just the Way They Are (Billy & Rose series)

by Amy Hest, illustrated by Kady MacDonald Denton (Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-1-5362-1420-8
Expressive and humorous illustrations capture the close relationship of two friends. (5-7)

Doggo and Pupper Search for Cozy (Doggo and Pupper series)

by Katherine Applegate, illustrated by Charlie Adler (Feiwel and Friends/Macmillan, \$9.99)

978-1-250-62102-3

Canine characters help Cat understand that you can't create coziness—it just is. Accepting change takes time, especially when you've been given a new bed. Engaging digital art. (4-7)



Fish and Worm (I Can Read Comics! series)

written and illustrated by Sergio Ruzzier

(HarperAlley/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-329035-8

Fish develops an unlikely friendship with what was to be his meal. A lighthearted introduction for those who question eating living beings. Pastel colored illustrations. (4-7)

D Gigi and Ojiji:

Food for Thought (Gigi and Ojiji series/I Can Read! series)

written and illustrated by Melissa Iwai

(Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-320812-4

A young girl from a multicultural family strengthens her relationship with her Japanese grandfather by preparing breakfast and sharing it with him. Colorful cartoon-style illustrations. (5-7)

D How to Love a Pony (Beginner Books series)

by Michelle Meadows, illustrated by Sawyer Cloud (Beginner Books/Random House/PRH, \$9.99)

978-0-593-48316-9

In gentle rhymes, a young Black girl tells how she cares for her pony on the family farm. Full-color illustrations show the changing seasons. (4-6)

D Makeda Makes a Birthday Treat (I Can Read! series)

by Olugbemisola Rhuday-Perkovich, illustrated by Lydia Mba

(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$17.99)

978-0-06-321726-3

Although most of the class brings cupcakes to school for their birthdays, Makeda, a Black child, brings her favorite treat—coconut drops. Will the others like them? Colorful illustrations. (5-6)



The Mambo Rescue! (Tow on the Go! series/Ready-to-Read series)

by Patricia Lakin, illustrated by Chiara Galletti (Simon Spotlight/Simon & Schuster, \$17.99)

978-1-6659-2007-0

When ten cars all get stuck in the snow, they call Mo the tow truck to help. Can he tow them all together? Bright colorful illustrations. (4-7)



Nat the Cat Takes a Nap (Nat the Cat series/Ready-to-Read series)

written and illustrated by Jarret Lerner

(Simon Spotlight/Simon & Schuster, \$17.99)

978-1-6659-1891-6

Sleepy Nat really wants to take a nap but keeps getting interrupted. Simple rhyming text. Colorful cartoon illustrations. (5-7)

Oslo Learns to Swim (Rex & Oslo series/Ready-to-Read series)

written and illustrated by Doug Cushman

(Simon Spotlight/Simon & Schuster, \$17.99)

978-1-6659-2648-5

Simple balloon text captures the humor and trust when two friends go swimming. Colorful digital art. (4-7)

D Reina Ramos Meets a BIG Puppy (Reina Ramos series/I Can Read! series)

by Emma Otheguy, illustrated by Andrés Landazábal (Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-322315-8

Reina is afraid of her friend Lila's big dog. Lila is scared to try Reina's signature cartwheels. Can they overcome their fears? Colorful illustrations. Spanish glossary. Also available in Spanish. (6-7)

D The Talent Show (Confetti Kids series)

by Samantha Thornhill, illustrated by Shirley Ng-Benitez

(Lee & Low Books, \$15.95) 978-1-64379-493-8

Henry, encouraged by his mom and her partner, Joy, decides to do something new for the school performance—dance! Engaging cartoon-style illustrations. (5-7)

D When Things Aren't Going Right, Go Left

by Marc Colagiovanni, illustrated by Peter H. Reynolds (Orchard Books/Scholastic, \$18.99)

978-1-338-83118-4

A brown-skinned boy narrates a day full of worries and doubts. His fears become manageable, and he changes course. Cheerful cartoon-style illustrations. (5-7)

Concept Books



Are We There Yet?

written and illustrated by Sven Völker
(Cicada Books, \$16.99) 978-1-80066-037-3
Bear learns to appreciate the journey he is taking with Butterfly and all they experience during it, rather than focusing only on getting to their destination. Simple tonal illustrations. (7-9)

*** The Bear and the Wildcat**

by Kazumi Yumoto, illustrated by Komako Sakai,
translated from the Japanese by Cathy Hirano
(Gecko Press/Lerner, \$19.99) 978-1-8774-6770-7
Bear struggles with grief after his best friend's death, until a music-playing cat leads him gently back into the world. Charcoal art complements the text. (6-8)

(D) * Eleven Words for Love:

A Journey through Arabic Expressions of Love

by Rana Abdel-Fattah, illustrated by
Maxine Beneba Clarke
(Candlewick Press, \$18.99) 978-1-5362-3021-5
As her family settles in a new country, a young girl poetically names the different ways to say "love" in their language. Text includes the Arabic words she lists. Soft, colorful mixed-media illustrations. (8-9)



Enough Is . . .

by Jessica Whipple, illustrated by Nicole Wong
(Tilbury House, \$18.95) 978-0-88448-932-0
A child considers what lies "between a little and a lot" and finds the value and joy of "just enough." Soft pastel chalk and watercolor illustrations. (5-8)

*** Let's Read Animal Words**

written and illustrated by Ji Lee
(Harper/HarperCollins, \$19.99) 978-0-06-32499-3
A variety of animals are drawn using the letters that make up their names. Information about each creature accompanies the images. An innovative, visually arresting presentation. (5-8)



The Moon Is a Ball:

Stories of Panda & Squirrel

by Ed Franck, illustrated by Thé Tjong-Khing, translated from the Dutch by David Colmer
(Gecko Press/Lerner, \$19.99) 978-1-7765-7493-3
Nine interlinked contemplative tales show the multifaceted nature of a deep and lasting friendship. Watercolor and ink illustrations. (6-8)

(D) * More Than Words:

So Many Ways to Say What We Mean

written and illustrated by Roz MacLean
(Henry Holt/Macmillan, \$18.99) 978-1-250-86450-5
Glowing illustrations accompany limited text, celebrating myriad ways of communicating: words, gestures, art, music, collaboration, listening, acts of friendship, and more. (4-7)



Sensitive

by Sara Levine, illustrated by Mehrdokht Amini
(Carolrhoda Books/Lerner, \$18.99) 978-1-7284-5092-6
Other people's words crowd inside a sensitive child, but with time and creativity, she rearranges them, revealing hidden strength. Mixed-media collage blends text and illustrations. (5-8)

(D) Small Places, Close to Home:

A Children's Declaration of Rights

by Deborah Hopkinson, illustrated by Kate Gardiner
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$19.99)
978-0-0630-9258-7
A poetic and moving statement of the rights of children and the responsibility to respect the rights of others. Illustrations in a muted palette depict people of diverse races and cultures. (7-9)

You Rule!

written and illustrated by Rilla Alexander
(Handprint Books/Chronicle Books, \$17.99)
978-1-7972-1179-4
A range of possible answers to questions about feelings and thoughts depict ways to measure the intangible. Colorful digital art. (5-7)

Contemporary Issues

(D) Boyogi:

How a Wounded Family Learned to Heal

by David Barclay Moore, illustrated by Noa Denmon
(Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-1-53621-370-6
A young African American boy notices the persistent sadness of his father, who has returned from military service. Yoga helps the whole family. Varying color palettes reflect the emotional changes. Digital illustrations. (6-8)

**D Ganesha Goes Green**

by Lakshmi Thamizhmani, illustrated by Debasmita Dasgupta

(Barefoot Books, \$17.99) 978-1-64686-997-8

Concerned that the Ganesha Chaturthi celebration will pollute the river, Prema and her friends create a safe, earth-friendly alternative to the event's traditional statues. Mixed-media art. Back matter. (5-8)

D Hello, Mister Blue

written and illustrated by Daria Peoples

(Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, \$19.99)

978-0-06-320675-5

A young girl and her grandfather spend a day playing music with Papa's old friend, now unhoused, but nonetheless a popular neighborhood fixture. Oil paint and graphite illustrations. (5-8)

D M That Flag

by Tameka Fryer Brown, illustrated by Nikkolos Smith (Harper/HarperCollins, \$18.99) 978-0-06-309344-7

Two best friends, one Black and one White, are challenged and changed while learning about Black history at a museum and experiencing violent racism. Powerful digital artwork. Extensive back matter. (7-9) Mature content

D These Olive Trees:**A Palestinian Family's Story**

written and illustrated by Aya Ghanameh (Viking/Penguin Random House, \$18.99)

978-0-593-52518-0

Hand-drawn earth-toned illustrations accompany this poignant story centering on cherished olive trees and a Palestinian child whose family is forever exiled from their homeland. Author's note provides historical background. (8-10)

D We Are Here

by Tami Charles, illustrated by Bryan Collier (Orchard Books/Scholastic, \$18.99)

978-1-338-75204-5

A celebration of Black creativity delivers its message through powerful free verse and arresting watercolor/collage illustrations. Includes a list of historic figures, glossary, and author's and illustrator's notes. (5-8)

D The Words We Share

written and illustrated by Jack Wong

(Annick Press, \$18.99) 978-1-77321-797-0

Angie translates and paints signs for her father and other non-English-speaking Chinese immigrants. But when she mistranslates something, her father's knowledge of dialects saves the day. Gently humorous illustrations. (5-8)

Ecology

The Tree and the River

written and illustrated by Aaron Becker

(Candlewick Press, \$18.99) 978-1-5362-2329-3

The effects of human settlement and industrialization through time are reimagined in the presence of an aging tree. Wordless. Pencil, gouache, and digital illustrations. (6-9)

Family/School/Community

D Ali the Great and the Market Mishap

by Saadia Faruqi, illustrated by Debby Rahmalia (Picture Window Books/Capstone, \$16.99)

978-1-66639-387-3

Pakistani American Ali repeatedly and inventively rescues little brother Fateh from mischief as they shop with their grandfather for traditional snacks. Cheery cartoon-style art. Glossary. (5-6)

D Always Sisters:**A Story of Loss and Love**

by Saira Mir, illustrated by Shahrzad Maydani

(Simon & Schuster, \$18.99) 978-1-6659-0156-7

Raya can't wait to be a big sister, but when she learns the baby won't be coming home, she is devastated. How can she grieve this loss? Soft, blurred illustrations. (6-9)

D Bábó:**A Tale of Armenian Rug-Washing Day**

by Astrid Kamalyan, illustrated by Anait Semirdzhyan (Charlesbridge, \$17.99) 978-1-62354-358-7

Four siblings spend their day helping their grandmother clean their Armenian rugs and having fun playing in the soapy water. Digitally created illustrations. Glossary. Author's note. (5-8)

**D * Big**

written and illustrated by Vashti Harrison
(Little, Brown/Hachette, \$19.99) 978-0-316-35322-9
A brown-skinned girl navigates a world that makes her feel small because of her size. Digital pink-hued illustrations and spare text convey love and warmth in this emotionally powerful story. (4-7)

D Bitsy Bat, School Star (Bitsy Bat series)

written and illustrated by Kaz Windness
(Paula Wiseman Books/Simon & Schuster BFYR/S & S, \$18.99) 978-1-6695-0505-3
An autistic kindergartner finds a way to fit in and helps herself and others find their unique qualities. Graphite on paper and digital paintings. Back matter about autism. (5-8)

D * Building a Dream:**How the Boys of Koh Panyee Became Champions (Spectacular STEAM for Curious Readers series)**

by Darshana Khiani, illustrated by Dow Phumiruk
(Eerdmans BFYR/Eerdmans, \$18.99)
978-0-8028-5547-3
Vivid illustrations and lyrical text capture the determination of young Thai boys obsessed with playing soccer despite living in a water-based community. Author's note. (5-8)

Cloud Babies

by Eoin Colfer, illustrated by Chris Judge
(Candlewick Press, \$18.99) 978-1-5362-3107-6
Colorful illustrations accompany this heartfelt story of Erin, a child who endures many hospital stays. Her imagination ultimately enables her to bridge hospital and school life. (6-8)

D * Empty and Me:**A Tale of Friendship and Loss**

by Azam Mahdavi, illustrated by Maryam Tahmasebi, translated from the Persian by Parisa Saranj
(Lee & Low Books, \$21.95) 978-1-64379-622-2
Until she is ready to rejoin the world, a young girl whose mother has died is accompanied through her grief by a translucent creature. Mood-matching digital art in a muted palette. Bilingual in Persian and English. (5-8)

D A Garden in My Hands

by Meera Sriram, illustrated by Sandhya Prabhat
(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-42710-1
A mother paints henna designs, mehndi, on her little daughter's hands in preparation for an Indian wedding. Poetic text and vivid, stylized digital illustrations. Back matter. (4-6)

*** Gloria's Promise (American Ballet Theatre Presents series)**

by Robin Preiss Glasser and Jacqueline Preiss Weitzman, illustrated by Robin Preiss Glasser
(Random House Studio/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-18100-3
When a young girl, passionate about dancing, auditions for the American Ballet Theatre school, she falls! Can she possibly be accepted? Gouache and watercolor illustrations. (5-8)

D * Grandma's Tipi:**A Present-Day Lakota Story**

written and illustrated by S. D. Nelson
(Abrams BFYR/Abrams, \$18.99) 978-1-4197-3192-1
Clara learns about her rich tribal heritage while spending the summer on the reservation with her grandmother. Immersive acrylic art. Extensive author's note. (6-8)

*** Grandpa and the Kingfisher**

by Anna Wilson, illustrated by Sarah Massini
(Nosy Crow, \$17.99) 979-8-88777-017-8
While they observe river birds through the seasons, a grandfather gently teaches his grandchild that no one lives forever, but nature and the world abide. Digital art. Includes link to audiobook. (5-8)

D Henry, Like Always

by Jenn Bailey, illustrated by Mika Song
(Chronicle Books, \$14.99) 978-1-7972-1389-7
When his teacher announces a parade, Henry gets upset that the classroom routine will change. Then he finds a way to manage. Early chapter book. Gentle ink and blue wash illustrations. (6-7)

D Homeland:**My Father Dreams of Palestine**

by Hannah Moushabeck, illustrated by Reem Madooh
(Chronicle Books, \$18.99) 978-1-7972-0205-1
A young girl shares the stories her father told about life in Palestine before his family left their homeland in 1948. Colorful, detailed illustrations. (5-7)

D The Hospital Book

written and illustrated by Lisa Brown
(Neal PorterBooks/Holiday House, \$18.99)
978-0-8234-4665-0
A young brown-skinned girl is hospitalized with abdominal pain. After surgery, she recovers and returns home. Detailed india ink and watercolor illustrations. (5-8)

** I Absolutely, Positively Love My Spots**

by Lid'ya C. Rivera, illustrated by Niña Mata (Harper/HarperCollins, \$19.99) 978-0-06-311997-0
Inspired by her own experience, the author pens a celebratory ode to children with vitiligo. Vibrant, joyful illustrations. Back matter about the author's life. (7-9)

I Can Open It for You

written and illustrated by Shinsuke Yoshitake, translated from the Japanese by Lisa Wilcut (Chronicle Books, \$15.99) 978-1-7972-1994-3
A child, frustrated at being unable to open a candy wrapper, dreams of being able to do it independently. Simple, colorful illustrations. (4-7)

*** In the Dark**

by Kate Hoefler, illustrated by Corinna Luyken (Alfred A. Knopf/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-37283-8
When strangers arrive from the dark woods, townsfolk must overcome prejudice to recognize their new neighbors' humanity. A vertically flipped book with ink, watercolor, and pencil art. (5-7)

** * Jump In!**

written and illustrated by Shadra Strickland (Bloomsbury Children's Books/Bloomsbury, \$18.99) 978-1-61963-580-7
From Double Dutch to hip hop, all movement styles are welcome in effervescent jump rope play in a diverse neighborhood. Free verse with an off-beat rhythm. Sun-drenched digital art. (4-7)

** Just Like Grandma**

by Kim Rogers, illustrated by Julie Flett (Heartdrum/Harper Collins, \$19.99) 978-0-06-304924-6
Becca learns traditional beading, painting, and dancing with her role-model Native American grandma who shares in her granddaughter's basketball tryouts. Lyrical text paired with evocative earth-toned illustrations. Back matter. (5-8)

** * Kicks in the Sky**

written and illustrated by C. G. Esperanza (Katherine Tegen Books/HarperCollins, \$19.99) 978-0-06-297623-9
Everyone wonders how some colorful sneakers ended up on telephone wires. Then the kicks are knocked down, and amazing things happen when kids wear them. Bouncing, rhythmic, rhyming text. Vibrant mixed-media art. (5-8)

** Like Lava in My Veins**

by Derrick Barnes, illustrated by Shawn Martinbrough, colors by Adriano Lucas (Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin Random House, \$18.99) 978-0-525-51874-7
Bobby Beacon, a Black boy, enters a new superhero school, but can't always control his powers. A teacher who recognizes his strengths and issues helps him. Dynamic, action-packed graphic panels. (7-10)

** Listening to the Quiet**

by Cassie Silva, illustrated by Frances Ives (Lantana, \$18.99) 978-1-915244-48-2
Soft colors and slightly blurred artwork echo the loss of a mother's hearing in this poignant story of a child learning new ways to continue a loving relationship. (6-8)

** Martina Has Too Many Tías**

by Emma Otheguy, illustrated by Sara Palacios (Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster, \$18.99) 978-1-5344-4536-9
A young Latina girl uses her imagination to escape from her lovable but boisterous family. Humorous, colorful mixed-media illustrations. Also available in Spanish. (4-7)

** Masala Chai, Fast and Slow**

by Rajani LaRocca, illustrated by Neha Rawat (Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-1-5362-1940-1
Aarav loves the ritual of making chai with his grandfather every day. When Thatha is injured, can Aarav make the spiced drink for him just the way Thatha likes it? Digital illustrations. (5-8)

Maurice

written and illustrated by Jessixa Bagley (Chronicle Books, \$17.99) 978-1-79721-173-2
In a Paris whose inhabitants are anthropomorphic dogs, accordionist Maurice rediscovers his musical spirit and passion for the world around him. Bright, energetic watercolor and digital illustrations. (5-7)

Maybe a Whale

by Kirsten Pendreigh, illustrated by Crystal Smith (Groundwood Books/House of Anansi, \$21.99) 978-1-77306-664-6
A young girl takes a kayaking camping trip with her mother, finding peace while she grieves as they seek the whales her grandfather loved. Digital art. (5-8)

**Mina Belongs Here**

by Sandra Niebuhr-Siebert, illustrated by Lars Baus,
translated from the German by Polly Lawson
(Floris Books, \$17.95) 978-178250-811-3

A girl starts kindergarten in a new country and slowly adapts, learning the language, making friends, and helping other children. Monochrome illustrations change to bright colors as the protagonist's sense of belonging grows. (5-8)

D * My Powerful Hair

by Carole Lindstrom, illustrated by Steph Littlebird
(Abrams BFYR/Abrams, \$18.99) 978-1-4197-5843-7

A Native American child shares the importance of growing hair long in her culture. Spare text and vibrant pencil artwork. Back matter. (6-8)

D * My Strange Shrinking Parents

written and illustrated by Zeno Sworder
(Thames & Hudson, \$17.95) 978-1-760-76295-7
A symbolic representation of the sacrifices that Chinese immigrant parents make to give their child clothes, books, and an education, until the child grows up and takes care of them. Dreamlike woodblock-inspired illustrations. (7-10)

Never Forget Eleanor

by Jason June, illustrated by Loren Long
(Harper/HarperCollins, \$18.99) 978-0-06-303962-9
Elijah, an anthropomorphized elephant, loves his grandmother, her stories, and her cleverness with language. When she starts to be forgetful, he helps her create pathways for her words. Gouache illustrations. (5-8)

D * Only Only Marisol Rainey (Maybe Marisol series)

written and illustrated by Erin Entrada Kelly
(Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, \$18.99)
978-0-06-297048-0
Filipina American Marisol is afraid of the big dog that just escaped from his backyard, and wonders what she should do if she sees him. Black-and-white illustrations. (7-9)

Other Words for Nonno

by Dave Cameron, illustrated by Yong Ling Kang
(Kids Can Press, \$21.99) 978-1-5-52530-575-7
When Jill notices her grandfather's growing silences and repetitions during their weekly word game, she finds an ingenious way to help him. Watercolors in a muted palette. (4-7)

D * Our Pool

written and illustrated by Lucy Ruth Cummins
(Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster, \$18.99)
978-1-5344-9923-2

On a hot summer day, the narrator and their mom head to the local city pool to cool off, along with the whole neighborhood. Gouache and color pencil illustrations. (5-8)

D Our Roof Is Blue

by Sara E. Echenique, illustrated by Ashley Vargas
(Charlesbridge, \$17.99) 978-1-62354-233-7
After a hurricane in Puerto Rico blows the roof off the family house, Antonio stops speaking. Can his older sister help restore his voice? Digital illustrations. Back matter. (6-9)

D Outside Amelia's Window

by Caroline Nastro, illustrated by Anca Sandu Budisan
(Two Lions, \$17.99) 978-1-542-02785-4
Amelia, a shy wheelchair user, is reluctant to play with her new neighbors, until she finds inspiration from a family of birds. Soft, dreamy illustrations in pencil and watercolors. (5-7)

D Papá's Magical Water-Jug Clock

by Jesús Trejo, illustrated by Eliza Kinkz
(Minerva/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House, \$18.99)
978-1-6626-5104-5
Mexican American Jesús doesn't realize that the jug of water that he and his gardener father take with them must last their entire working day. Vivid, detailed mixed-media illustrations. Also available in Spanish. (5-7)

D Plátanos Go with Everything

by Lissette Norman, illustrated by Sara Palacios
(Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-306751-6
Yesenia, a young Dominican American girl, relates the ways her family uses plátanos to feel close to home. Vibrant digital illustrations. Plátanos recipe included. Bilingual edition in Spanish and English also available. (6-9)

D The Promise

by Bridget Hodder and Fawzia Gilani-Williams,
illustrated by Cinzia Battistel
(Kar-Ben Publishing/Lerner, \$19.99)
978-1-7284-6024-6
In Morocco, Jacob, who is Jewish, and Hassan, who is Muslim, tend their garden together until World War II threatens. Will the garden and their friendship survive? Expressive color illustrations. (6-9)

 * **Rainbow Shopping**

written and illustrated by Qing Zhuang
(Holiday House, \$18.99) 978-0-82334-4977-4
A girl discovers the wonders of Chinatown as she shops with her mother for dinner for her Chinese American family who are recent immigrants. Impressionistic illustrations. Back matter. (5-8)

 * **Remembering**

by Xelena González, illustrated by Adriana M. Garcia
(Simon & Schuster BFYR/S & S, \$18.99)
978-1-5344-9963-8
On the Day of the Dead, a young girl collects favorite items to make an ofrenda for her beloved pet dog who has passed away. Bold acrylic illustrations. Author's and illustrator's notes. (7-9)

 * **Salat in Secret**

by Jamilah Thompkins Bigelow, illustrated by Hatem Aly
(Random House Studio/Random House Children's Books /PRH, \$18.99) 978-1-984-848-093
A Muslim boy receives a prayer rug for his seventh birthday and becomes empowered by his faith. Digital illustrations. (5-7)

* **Skating Wild on an Inland Sea**

by Jean E. Pendziwol, illustrated by Todd Stewart
(Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, \$19.99)
978-1-77306-704-9
Two siblings experience the glory of nature as they skate on the frozen surface of Lake Superior. Poetic text. Digital art with screen-printed textures. (5-7)

* **A Smart, Smart School**

by Sharon Creech, illustrated by Anait Semirdzhyan
(Harper/HarperCollins, \$19.99) 978-0-06-305961-0
The principal becomes ill and is replaced by a substitute who demands testing rather than creativity. Will the popular Mr. Keene return? Colorful, expressive digital illustrations. (5-8)

 * **Something Wild**

written and illustrated by Molly Ruttan
(Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin Random House, \$18.99) 978-0-593-11234-2
Hannah loves to play the violin, but performing before an audience makes her nervous. Her imagination helps her find a way. Playful full-page illustrations. (5-8)

 Summer Is for Cousins

by Rajani LaRocca, illustrated by Abhi Alwar
(Abrams BFYR/Abrams, \$17.99) 978-1-4197-5733-4
Ravi is excited about spending summer vacation with his extended family. But will his favorite cousin, who has matured, still want to spend time with Ravi? Vibrant digital illustrations. (5-8)

 The Together Tree

by Aisha Saeed, illustrated by LeUyen Pham
(Saleem Reads/Simon & Schuster, \$18.99)
978-1-5344-6296-0
When Rumi, a new student, is bullied for being different, a classmate steps in to play with him, and soon others join them under an old willow tree. Expressive illustrations. (5-7)

 ¡Vamos! Let's Go Read (World of ¡Vamos! series)

written and illustrated by Raúl the Third, colors by Elaine Bay
(Versify/HarperCollins, \$16.99) 978-0-35-853936-0
Celebrate libraries and books with Little Lobo and his friends at a Libro Love book festival. Enthusiastic, colorful graphic-format-style illustrations. Spanish glossary. Author's note. (5-8)

 Veó, Veó, I See You

written and illustrated by Lulu Delacre
(Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster, \$18.99)
978-1-6659-1191-7
Mami, who lost her job during COVID, plays I Spy with her children, spotting essential workers in their diverse community. Dialogue alternates between Spanish and English. Vibrant collage illustrations. (4-6)

 * **The Walk (A Stroll to the Poll)**

by Winsome Bingham, illustrated by E. B. Lewis
(Abrams BFYR/Abrams, \$18.99) 978-1-4197-4772-4
A Black grandmother takes her granddaughter on an important walk to corral a community to come out together to vote. Detailed, watercolor illustrations. (4-7)

 We Are Lions!

by Jens Mattsson, illustrated by Jenny Lucander, translated from the Swedish by B. J. Woodstein
(Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, \$19.99)
978-1-77306-701-8
Two biracial siblings play at being lions, until one falls ill. Even while dealing with hospitalization and hair loss, they continue to have wild adventures. Unusual mixed-media illustrations show the savanna and everyday life. (5-7)



Willow and Bunny

by Anitra Rowe Schulte, illustrated by Christopher Denise

(Two Lions, \$17.99) 978-1-542-02569-0

Willow has always provided Bunny with a safe home. When a tornado damages Willow's beautiful branches, Bunny knows it is time to help her friend. Atmospheric digital illustrations. (6-8)

D The Yellow Handkerchief/El pañuel amarillo

by Donna Barbra Higuera, illustrated by Cynthia Alonso (Abrams BFYR/Abrams, \$18.99) 978-1-4197-6014-3

Conflicted by her embarrassment of, and love for, her Mexican grandmother, a young girl comes to appreciate the language and culture that made her feel different. Colorful illustrations. (5-8)

Folklore and Fairy Tales



The Amazing and True Story of Tooth Mouse Pérez

by Ana Cristina Herreros, illustrated by Violeta López, translated from the Spanish by Sara Lissa Paulson (Enchanted Lion Books, \$18.95) 978-1-59270-359-3

A storyteller recounts how the tooth mouse (the Hispanic equivalent of the tooth fairy) got his start, long ago and far away in Spain. Mixed-media art sets the mood. (6-8)

D Ancient Night

by David Álvarez, with David Bowles, illustrated by David Álvarez

(Em Querido Books/Levine Querido, \$18.99) 978-1-64614-251-4

After Opossum steals the nectar used to illuminate the moon, he finds a way to bring different light to the world. Acrylic and oil paintings. Detailed source notes. (6-9)

D * Carina Felina:

A Cuban Retelling of a Favorite Folktale

by Carmen Agra Deedy, illustrated by Henry Cole (Scholastic Press, \$19.99) 978-1-338-74916-8

A greedy cat learns a lesson with the help of two crustaceans. Colorful illustrations. (4-7)

*** The Courage of the Little Hummingbird: A Tale Told around the World**

by Leah Henderson, illustrated by Magaly Morales (Abrams BFYR/Abrams, \$18.99) 978-1-4197-5455-5
A little hummingbird refuses to give up, doing all he can and calling others to action. Vivid illustrations. Back matter. (5-7)

The North Wind & the Sun

written and illustrated by Philip Stead (Neal Porter Books/Holiday House, \$18.99) 978-0-8234-5583-6

When three elderly sisters take a walk, the cold North Wind and the warm Sun compete to take their coats away. Who will win this tug-of-war? Textured color pencil illustrations. (7-10)

*** One Chicken Nugget**

written and illustrated by Tadgh Bentley (Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$18.99) 978-0-06-268982-5

Celeste cooks up a scheme to rid herself of a monster whose insatiable appetite for chicken nuggets threatens Celeste's business. Animated mixed-media illustrations. Author's note. (5-8)



Paul Bunyan:

The Invention of an American Legend

written and illustrated by Noah Van Sciver, with additional stories and art by Marlena Myles, introduction by Lee Francis IV, postscript by Deondre Smiles

(TOON Books/Astra Publishing House, \$17.99) 978-1-6626-6522-6

The legend of a lumberjack whose enormous strength could alter landscapes is revisited, showing how forests and Indigenous peoples are devastated for profit. Dramatic graphics. Back matter. (7-10)

D The Shade Tree

written and illustrated by Suzy Lee, translated from the Korean by Helen Mixter

(Aldana Libros Books/Greystone Kids/Greystone Books, \$18.95) 978-1-77840-018-6

Capitalizing on the greed of a man who's monopolizing the shade of a large tree, a traveler secures shade for all in the community. A retelling of a Korean folktale. Spare, painterly illustrations. (6-9)

D Tokyo Night Parade

by J. P. Takahashi, illustrated by Minako Tomigahara (Katherine Tegen Books/HarperCollins, \$19.99) 978-0-06-322496-4

A child living in New York returns to Tokyo for the annual parade of mythical Japanese creatures, knowing this may be the last time she can attend it. Dreamlike mixed-media illustrations. (4-7)

 Where's Joon?

written and illustrated by Julie Kim
(Little Bigfoot/Sasquatch Books, \$22.00)
978-1-63217-415-4
Jin and Joon embark on a mystical adventure through the world of Korean folktales to find their grandmother's pot, encountering magic, friendship, and hilarious twists. Vibrant detailed color panels. (6-9)

Historical Fiction

 * **Rivka's Presents**

by Laurie Wallmark, illustrated by Adelina Lirius
(Random House Studio/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-48207-0
When her father's illness keeps her from school, disappointment can't keep a young girl from fulfilling her desire to learn. Realistic artwork captures scenes of 1918 New York City. Yiddish glossary. (5-8)

Holidays and Religion

 * **How Does Santa Go Down the Chimney?**

by Mac Barnett, illustrated by Jon Klassen
(Candlewick Press, \$18.99) 978-1-5362-2376-7
An author speculates about one of life's greatest mysteries. Hilarious illustrations. (4-7)

 The Night before Freedom: A Juneteenth Story

by Glenda Armand, illustrated by Corey Barksdale
(Crown BFYR/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-56746-3
Vibrant and imaginative illustrations depict this historical view of Juneteenth through the words of "Grandma's Story" about anticipation, emancipation, and jubilation, which has been retold across generations. (7-10)

Humor

 The Boo-Boos of Bluebell Elementary

by Chelsea Lin Wallace, illustrated by Alison Farrell
(Chronicle Books, \$17.99) 978-1-7972-1081-0
Rhyming text and lively watercolor and ink illustrations capture a brown-skinned school nurse's workday. She tends to ills, large and small, with humor and warmth, then finally goes home for some TLC. (5-8)

 Boom! (I Like to Read Comics series)

written and illustrated by Paul Meisel
(Holiday House, \$14.99) 978-0-8243-4857-9
Cat isn't afraid of the thunderstorm, but Dog is, frantically searching for a safe place to hide. Dog finally falls asleep and has a surprising dream. Color pen and ink illustrations. (5-8)

The Hole Story

written and illustrated by Kelly Canby
(Star Bright Books, \$16.99) 978-1-59572-939-2
Charlie seeks to find a new owner for the troublesome hole he discovers. Will he find a willing taker? Endpapers provide a thoughtful twist. Brushstroke illustrations. (5-7)

Hornbeam All In (Hornbeam series)

by Cynthia Rylant, illustrated by Arthur Howard
(Beach Lane Books/Simon & Schuster, \$18.99)
978-1-6659-2481-8
Three short stories featuring a goofy moose focus on themes of supporting friends, being generous, and understanding shortcomings. Cartoon-style art captures the gentle humor. (4-6)

The King Penguin

written and illustrated by Vanessa Roeder
(Dial BFYR/Penguin Random House, \$18.99)
978-0-593-32441-7
A want-to-be ruler from Antarctica realizes through a variety of humbling experiences that a society functions best as a democracy. Acrylic and pencil artwork. (6-8)

 * **Luna Ranchera**

by Rodrigo Morlesin, illustrated by Mariana Ruiz Johnson, translated from the Spanish by Sara Lissa Paulson
(Minerva/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House, \$18.99)
978-1-66265-110-6
Luna and Ranchera, a canine mother-daughter singing act, become famous all over the world. Colorful marker and digital illustrations filled with amusing people and animals. (7-9)

 The Red Jacket

written and illustrated by Bob Holt
(Harper/HarperCollins, \$19.99) 978-0-06-323760-5
A gift of outerwear gives seagull Bob a new sense of style, helping him become recognized as an individual. Bright pencil and digital cartoons. (4-7)

*** See the Ghost:****Three Stories about Things You Cannot See**

by David LaRoche, illustrated by Mike Wohnoutka
(Candlewick Press, \$9.99) 978-1-5362-1982-1

An invisible ghost scares a yellow dog and a blue cat.
The arrival of a tiny fairy causes real havoc for the
three. Comical gouache illustrations. (5-8)

**Sick Day Jitters (Jitters series)**

by Julie Danneberg, illustrated by Judy Love
(Charlesbridge, \$17.99) 978-1-6235-4424-9

Mrs. Hartwell is ill and cannot teach her class. A lack
of dependable substitutes sends it into disarray.
Watercolor, transparent dye, and india ink illustrations.
(5-7)

*** A Snow Day for Plum!**

written and illustrated by Matt Phelan
(Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99)
978-0-06-307920-5

Zoo animals visiting a local elementary school get
snowed in. Some scurrying school pets set them free,
setting some issues in motion. Entertaining black-and-
white illustrations. (6-8)

Why Did the Monster Cross the Road?

by R. L. Stine, illustrated by Marc Brown
(Orchard Books/Scholastic, \$18.99) 978-1-338-81525-2
Larger Funny tries to make smaller Hunny laugh and
cheer up by telling Monster jokes. Bold artwork. (6-9)

Magical Realism

*** Cargo**

by Adèle Tariel, illustrated by Jérôme Peyrat
(Orca Book Publishers, \$21.95) 978-1-4598-3376-0
A young boy, missing his ocean-going father, imagines
himself as a seagull following the container ship on its
voyage. Colorful, stylized art. (6-8)

Sports

D Obioma Plays Football

by Chika Unigwe, illustrated by Chinyere Okoroafor
(Cassava Republic Press, \$20.95) 978-1-9131-7537-5
In Nigeria, mischievous young Obioma loves to play
football (soccer) in her wheelchair. A move to the city
is lonely. Can a new friend help her shine again? Bold,
colorful drawings. (5-7)

D Wei Skates On

by Nathan Chen, illustrated by Lorraine Nam
(Harper/HarperCollins, \$19.99) 978-0-06-328282-7
Wei loves figure skating, but competitions scare him.
His wise mom gives him some good advice, but will it
help? Mixed-media illustrations. (5-8)

STEM (Science/Technology/Engineering/Mathematics)

**As Night Falls:****Creatures That Go Wild after Dark**

by Donna Jo Napoli, illustrated by Felicita Sala
(Random House Studio/Random House Children's
Books/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-37429-0
Lyrical writing and lively illustrations evoke the world of
nocturnal animals, some exotic and little known, in their
roles as predator and prey. Children's bedtime antics
included. (5-8)

Bompa's Insect Expedition

by David Suzuki, with Tanya Lloyd Kyi, illustrated by
Qin Leng
(Greystone Kids/Greystone Books, \$18.95)
978-1-77164-882-0

Spending time with their grandfather, two children
discover the fascinating tiny world of bugs. Detailed
watercolor art. Back matter. (5-8)

Eclipse

written and illustrated by Andy Rash
(Scholastic Press, \$18.99) 978-1-338-60882-3
A boy and his father bond as they witness the dramatic
total eclipse of the sun in 2017. Lively cartoon-style
digital art. Brief back matter on eclipses. (6-8)

**Friends beyond Measure**

written and illustrated by Lalena Fisher
(Harper/HarperCollins, \$18.99) 978-0-06-321052-3
With pencil, marker, and Photoshop illustrations,
this book features 12 types of infographics depicting
different aspects of the friendship between two girls,
even after one moves away. (6-9)

The Most Important Animal of All

by Penny Worms, illustrated by Hannah Bailey
(Jolly Fish Press/North Star Editions, \$19.99)
978-1-63163-701-8
At the end of the school year, children share their
research on seven important animals. Detailed
color illustrations. Back matter includes additional
information, glossary, and index. (7-9)

D Sejal Sinha Swims with Sea Dragons (Sejal Sinha series)

by Maya Prasad, illustrated by Abira Das
(Aladdin/Simon & Schuster, \$17.99),
978-1-6659-1181-8

A science loving South Asian Indian American girl goes on magical adventures with her marine biologist aunt. Black-and-white illustrations. (6-8)

D You and the Bowerbird

by Maria Gianferrari, illustrated by Maris Wicks
(Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck, \$19.99)
978-1-250-84987-8

With binoculars and notepad, a curious brown-skinned child watches Satin, a male bowerbird, collecting and defending his collection of items (mostly blue), in preparation for mating. Cheerful illustrations. Back matter. (5-8)

POETRY

**Animals in Surprising Shades:
Poems about Earth's Colorful Creatures**

by Susan Johnston Taylor, illustrated by Annie Bakst
(Gnome Road Publishing, \$18.99) 975-1-957655-04-8
Various forms of poetry and playful, colorful artwork depict brilliantly hued creatures, from orange newts to red velvet ants, on double-page spreads. Glossary. Sources. (5-8)

Winner of the 2024 Claudia Lewis Award

D * At the Poles

by David Elliott, illustrated by Ellen Rooney
(Candlewick Press, \$18.99) 978-1-5362-0599-2
A rhyming lyrical look at musk oxen, emperor penguins, and other creatures that inhabit the North and South Poles. Rich mixed-media illustrations. Back matter. (4-7)

D * Remember

by Joy Harjo, illustrated by Michaela Goade
(Random House Studio/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-48484-5
An adaptation of a renowned poem that explores how deeply we are interconnected with the earth. An homage to nature and Indigenous culture. Watercolor, gouache, and pencil illustrations. (7-10)

D * Where I Live:

Poems about My Home, My Street, and My Town
selected by Paul B. Janeczko, illustrated by Hyewon Yum

(Candlewick Press, \$18.99) 978-1-5362-0094-2
This posthumous collection includes the work of 34 established poets, capturing the meaning of home and neighborhoods. Colored pencil and watercolor illustrations accompany each poem. (5-8)

D Windrush Child:

The Tale of a Caribbean Child Who Faced a New Horizon

by John Agard, illustrated by Sophie Bass
(Candlewick Press, \$18.99) 978-1-5362-2853-3
Vibrant gouache and pen illustrations and lyrical text evoke a child's personal experience of a challenging period in mid-20th century history, evoking the universal hope that stories of immigration can bring. (6-8)

D * You So Black

by Theresa tha S.O.N.G.B.I.R.D., illustrated by London Ladd
(Denene Millner Books/Simon & Schuster BFYR/S & S, \$18.99) 978-1-6659-0034-8
Musical language celebrates everything about being Black, from history to family to religion. Mixed-media illustrations. (4-6)

D Zap! Clap! Boom!:

The Story of a Thunderstorm

by Laura Purdie Salas, illustrated by Elly MacKay
(Bloomsbury Children's Books/Bloomsbury, \$18.99)
978-1-5476-0225-4
A beautiful summer day is interrupted when a sudden thunderstorm sends three children scurrying for home. Rhyming text. Colorful, fluid illustrations. Engaging back matter. (4-5)

INFORMATIONAL BOOKS

Arts

D * Breaking to the Beat!

by Linda J. Acevedo, illustrated by Frank Morrison
(Lee & Low Books, \$19.95) 978-1-64379-639-0
Determination and passion permeate the history of hip-hop, which was conceived in the Bronx and then became a nationwide phenomenon. Persistence bred success. Bold, acrylic illustrations. Extensive back matter. (7-10)



Mary's Idea

written and illustrated by Chris Raschka
(Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, \$19.99)
978-0-06-321050-9
Spare text and impressionistic watercolor illustrations of her hands and keyboard poetically evoke the spirit of piano prodigy and jazz icon Mary Lou Williams (1910–1981). Back matter includes a biographical sketch and archival photo. (5-8)



There Was a Party for Langston

by Jason Reynolds, illustrated by Jerome Pumphrey and Jarrett Pumphrey
(Caitlyn Dlouhy Books/Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster, \$18.99) 978-1-5344-3944-3
An homage to Langston Hughes (1901–1967) and the generations of poets he influenced. Joyful, graphical illustrations interwoven with the text. (6-9)



Twice As Many Friends/¡El doble de amigos! (Barefoot Singalongs series)

by Brian Amador, illustrated by Vanina Starkoff
(Barefoot Books, \$16.99) 978-1-64686-845-2
Being able to speak two languages means being able to make twice as many amigos! Colorful, expressive acrylic illustrations. Back matter includes the song. (4-7)

Biography and Memoir



*** All Rise:**

The Story of Ketanji Brown Jackson

by Carole Boston Weatherford, illustrated by Ashley Evans
(Crown BFYR/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-65016-5
Taught that she could overcome any obstacles through hard work and determination, Brown Jackson became the first African American woman on the Supreme Court. Bold digital illustrations. Back matter. (6-8)

*** Cut!:**

How Lottie Reiniger and a Pair of Scissors Revolutionized Animation

by C. E. Winters, illustrated by Matt Schu
(Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, \$18.99)
978-0-06-306739-4
Creating the first animated full-length movie, a German woman used her paper silhouette figures and multiplane camera to provide motion and depth to images. Silent-film-style illustrations. Extensive back matter. (7-9)



Dream by Dream:

The Story of Rabbi Isaac Mayer Wise

by Geri Kolesar, illustrated by Sofia Moore
(Kar-Ben Publishing/Lerner, \$19.99)
978-1-7284-6793-1
While studying, Wise questioned Jewish traditions, such as the unequal treatment of women, and then brought his ideas of modernizing Judaism to the United States. Watercolor digital illustrations. (7-10)



*** Ellen Takes Flight:**

The Life of Astronaut Ellen Ochoa

by Doreen Rappaport, illustrated by Oliver Dominguez
(Little, Brown/Hachette, \$19.99) 978-0-7595-5494-8
An accomplished flutist and electrical engineer, Ochoa later traveled in space, becoming the first Latina astronaut and the first Latinx director of the Johnson Space Center. Dynamic illustrations. Back matter. (8-10)



*** The Girl Who Heard the Music: How One Pianist and 85,000 Bottles and Cans Brought New Hope to an Island**

by Marni Fogelson, with Mahani Teave, illustrated by Marta Álvarez Miguéns
(Sourcebooks Explore/Sourcebooks, \$18.99)
978-1-7282-6231-4
Teave, an award-winning musician and environmentalist, was born on Rapa Nui and, using garbage in its construction, created a school of the arts there. Digital paintings. Back matter. (6-9)

Good Books for Bad Children:

The Genius of Ursula Nordstrom

by Beth Kephart, illustrated by Chloe Bristol
(Anne Schwartz Books/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-37957-8
Never forgetting what it felt like to be a child, Nordstrom revolutionized children's book publishing, working with Maurice Sendak, E. B. White, Margaret Wise Brown, and others. Evocative drawings of the 1950s. (6-9)



The Green Piano:

How Little Me Found Music

by Roberta Flack, with Tonya Bolden, illustrated by Hayden Goodman
(Anne Schwartz Books/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-47987-2
The Grammy-winning singer, songwriter, and pianist shares how her parents' extraordinary support made her early start to a shining musical career possible. Gouache artwork. Back matter. (6-8)

D * How Do You Spell Unfair?:

MacNolia Cox and the National Spelling Bee

by Carole Boston Weatherford, illustrated by Frank Morrison

(Candlewick Press, \$18.99) 978-1-5362-1554-0

Despite the practice of excluding Black children from the competition as well as numerous other barriers, one brave, talented girl made history in 1936. Oil paintings convey deep emotion. Foreword and epilogue. (7-10)

Josephine and Her Dishwashing Machine:

Josephine Cochrane's Bright Invention Makes a Splash

by Kate Hannigan, illustrated by Sarah Green
(Calkins Creek/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House, \$18.99) 978-1-63592-621-7

In 1893, despite facing gender discrimination, a woman determined to alleviate the drudgery of a household chore won recognition for her invention. Colorful sketches and diagrams. Back matter. (5-8)



*** Kati's Tiny Messengers:**

Dr. Katalin Karikó and the Battle against COVID-19

by Megan Hoyt, illustrated by Vivien Mildenerger
(Quill Tree Books/HarperCollins, \$19.99) 978-0-06321-662-4

Karikó's lifelong determination to disrupt the spread of viruses by using the power of messenger RNA led to the creation of the COVID-19 vaccine. Mixed-media digital illustrations. Extensive back matter. (6-9)

D Kozo the Sparrow

written and illustrated by Allen Say
(Clarion Books/HarperCollins, \$19.99) 978-0-06-324846-5

In Japan after World War II, an eight-year-old boy saved an abandoned baby sparrow from neighborhood bullies and raised it to adulthood. Pencil, pen, and watercolor illustrations. Author's note. (4-7)

D Lion on the Inside:

How One Girl Changed Basketball (CitizenKid series)

by Bilqis Abdul-Qaadir, with Judith Henderson, illustrated by Katherine Ahmed
(Kids Can Press, \$21.99) 978-1-52531003-4

Barred from competitions because she refused to remove her hijab, a rising basketball star became an activist for Muslim women. Digital illustrations capture a Muslim American environment. Back matter. (6-9)

The Little Books of the Little Brontës

by Sarah O'Leary, illustrated by Briony May Smith
(Tundra Books/Penguin Random House, \$18.99) 978-0-7352-6369-7

Four young siblings loved stories and wrote their own match-box size books, and then grew up to be famous British authors. Painterly illustrations. Time line, author's note, sources. (7-10)

D Masked Hero:

How Wu Lien-teh Invented the Mask That Ended an Epidemic

by Dr. Shan Woo Liu and Kaili Liu Gormley, illustrated by Lisa Wee
(mit Kids Press/Candlewick, \$18.99) 978-1-5362-2898-4

Discrimination under British rule did not stop the dedicated Chinese Malaysian doctor who introduced face masks to combat a 1910 plague, a protocol still recommended today. Realistic artwork. Time line. (7-9)



*** Milloo's Mind:**

The Story of Maryam Faruqi, Trailblazer for Women's Education

by Reem Faruqi, illustrated by Hoda Hadadi
(Harper/HarperCollins Publishers, \$18.99) 978-0-06-305661-9

In India in the 1930s, a young girl pursued her love of learning, and then founded schools for girls in Pakistan after the 1947 Partition. Vibrant collages. Glossary, author's note. (6-9)

Pitch Perfect and Persistent!:

The Musical Debut of Amy Cheney Beach

by Caitlin DeLems, illustrated by Alison Jay
(Calkins Creek/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House, \$18.99) 978-1-66268-008-3

Folk-art-style illustrations and lively text introduce a musical prodigy whose impact and reputation were diminished by 19th-century attitudes toward women. (7-10)

D * Rock, Rosetta, Rock! Roll, Rosetta, Roll!:

Presenting Sister Rosetta Tharpe, the Godmother of Rock & Roll

by Tonya Bolden, illustrated by R. Gregory Christie
(Harper/HarperCollins, \$18.99) 978-0-06-299438-7
A little girl with a big guitar and a big voice grew up to blend many musical traditions, inspiring the birth of a new genre. Exuberant gouache artwork. Back matter. (6-9)

 Rooting for Plants:**The Unstoppable Charles S. Parker, Black Botanist and Collector**

by Janice N. Harrington, illustrated by Theodore Taylor III (Calkins Creek/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House, \$18.99) 978-1-6626-8019-9

Lyrical text and eye-catching cartoon-style illustrations introduce a pioneering Black botanist whose extensive study of plants and their diseases inspired young Black science students. Extensive back matter. (7-10)

The Snow Man

by Jonah Winter, illustrated by Jeanette Winter (Beach Lane Books/Simon & Schuster, \$18.99) 978-1-6659-3239-4

For over 51 years, while living alone in the Rocky Mountains, Billy Barr made observations about changes in nature, helping scientists studying climate change. Simple folk-art-style illustrations. (7-8)

**This Is Tap:****Savion Glover Finds His Funk**

by Selene Castrovilla, illustrated by Laura Freeman (Holiday House, \$18.99) 978-0-8234-3863-1

Glover's influence on dance is conveyed through rhythmic text and energetic, digitally created color illustrations. (7-9)

Tiny Jumper:**How Tiny Broadwick Created the Parachute Rip Cord**

by Candy Dahl, illustrated by Maithili Joshi (Little Bee Books, \$18.99) 978-1-4998-1394-4

A little-known heroine leapt from hot air balloons and airplanes to try to make parachutes safe for all. Bright digital art. Back matter. (6-9)

To See Clearly:**A Portrait of David Hockney**

written and illustrated by Evan Turk (Abrams BFYR/Abrams, \$19.99) 978-1-4196-5290-2
Mixed-media art in Hockney's style accompanies the life story of this world-famous English artist, encouraging readers to look closely at the world. Back matter and sourcing. (6-9)

*** Tomfoolery:****Randolph Caldecott and the Rambunctious Coming-of-Age of Children's Books**

by Michelle Markel, illustrated by Barbara McClintock (Chronicle Books, \$18.99) 978-0-8118-7923-1

In the 1870s an irrepressible Englishman's dynamic illustrations revolutionized the once-staid field of children's publishing. Exuberant pen and watercolor tableaux. Back matter includes time line and sources. (7-9)

*** Virginia Wouldn't Slow Down:****The Unstoppable Dr. Apgar and Her Life-Saving Invention**

by Carrie A. Pearson, illustrated by Nancy Carpenter (Norton Young Readers/W. W. Norton, \$18.95) 978-1-324-00393-9

Persevering despite numerous obstacles, Apgar became an anesthesiologist when the field was new and used her experience to develop the diagnostic test that has an impact on newborns' lives to this day. Warm, humorous illustrations. (7-9)

 *** What Rosa Brought**

by Jacob Sager Weinstein, illustrated by Eliza Wheeler (Katherine Tegen Books/HarperCollins, \$19.99) 978-0-06-305648-0

What will Rosa take with her when her family has to leave their home? A true story of one child's experience of the Holocaust. Immersive mixed-media art. (6-8)

 Yukie's Island:**My Family's World War II Story**

by Yukie Kimura, Kōdo Kimura, and Steve Sheinkin, illustrated by Kōdo Kimura

(Roaring Book Press/Holtzbrinck, \$19.99) 978-1-250-20650-3

A lighthouse family in a remote island in northern Japan seemed largely untouched by war. Then the bombs came; yet life went on. Cinematic illustrations and archival images and photographs. Authors' notes. (7-9)

Contemporary Issues

Just One Pebble:**One Boy's Quest to End Hunger**

by Dianna Wilson Sirkovsky, illustrated by Sara Casilda (Clavis Publishing, \$18.95) 978-160537767-4

After he encountered an unhoused man, nine-year-old Braeden Mannering was challenged to figure out how he could help people struggling with food insecurity. Mixed-media drawings. Back matter. (6-9)

**D Stand As Tall As the Trees:
How an Amazonian Community Protected the Rain Forest**

by Patricia Gualinga and Laura Resau, illustrated by Vanessa Jaramillo
(Charlesbridge, \$17.99) 978-1-62354236-8
With members of her Ecuadorean Kichwa community, Gualinga fought in the Court of Human Rights against the commercial exploitation that was devastating the rainforest. Lyrical text. Poignant watercolor illustrations. Back matter. (7-10)

Ecology

*** At Home with the Prairie Dog:
The Story of a Keystone Species**

by Dorothy Hinshaw Patent, photographed by William Muñoz; graphics by Marlo Garnsworthy
(Web of Life Children's Books, \$17.95)
978-1-970039-06-1
A comprehensive exploration of sustainability and the important role of one species in preserving and restoring an ecosystem. Vivid color photographs and clear graphics. (6-9)

**D The Day the River Caught Fire:
How the Cuyahoga River Exploded and Ignited the Earth Day Movement**

by Barry Wittenstein, illustrated by Jessie Hartland
(Paula Wiseman Books/Simon & Schuster BFYR/S & S, \$18.99) 978-1-5344-8083-4
KABOOM! A 1969 explosion and fire on Cleveland's Cuyahoga River sparked the creation of Earth Day in 1970 and new environmental laws. Evocative gouache illustrations. Extensive back matter. (7-9)

**Emperor of the Ice:
How a Changing Climate Affects a Penguin Colony**
by Nicola Davies, illustrated by Cathrine Rayner
(Candlewick Press, \$18.99) 978-1-5362-2839-7
As Antarctic penguins undertake the breeding process, their survival is threatened as the number of nesting ice blocks shrinks due to global warming. Evocative glowing illustrations. Back matter. (6-9)

Great Carrier Reef (Books for a Better Earth series)
by Jessica Stremmer, illustrated by Gordy Wright
(Holiday House, \$18.99) 978-0-8234-5268-2
The retired carrier USS Oriskany, refitted as an artificial reef off the coast of Florida, serves as a protective environment for endangered coral reef ecosystems. Detailed illustrations. Back matter. (6-9)

*** The River That Flows beside Me**
by Charlotte Guillain, illustrated by Jo Empson
(Quarto Publishing Group, \$26.00) 978-07112-8349-7
Journey down a river from its source to the sea, exploring wildlife and history along the way. Concertina-style format with bright, mixed-media art. (6-9)

Tibbles the Cat
by Michal Sanda, illustrated by David Dolenský
(Albatros, \$14.95) 978-80-00-07005-6
In 1894 David Lyall moved to New Zealand with his cat to be a lighthouse keeper on Stephens Island, with tragic consequences for a rare indigenous bird. Vintage-style illustrations. (6-9)

**Whale Fall:
Exploring an Ocean-Floor Ecosystem**
by Melissa Stewart, illustrated by Rob Dunlavey
(Random House Studio/PRH, \$18.99)
978-0-593-38060-4
A 50-year food chain is detailed as a whale's body descends to the ocean floor. Watercolor, mixed-media, and digital artwork illustrate the process. Back matter. (6-9)

History

The Bees of Notre-Dame
by Meghan P. Browne, illustrated by E.B. Goodale
(Random House Studio/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-37456-6
In 2013 beekeepers began tending hives on an iconic cathedral's roof, but in 2019 a fire changed everything. Lyrical text and evocative mixed-media illustrations. Back matter. (6-9)

Gertie, the Darling Duck of WWII
by Shari Swanson, illustrated by Renée Graef
(Sleeping Bear Press, \$18.99) 978-1-53411-171-4
In 1945 a duck built her nest on precarious pilings in the Milwaukee River as the whole town cheered her and her ducklings on. Sepia-toned illustrations. Back matter. (6-8)

Holidays and Religion



Moon's Ramadan

written and illustrated by Natasha Khan Kazi
(Versify/HarperCollins, \$18.99) 978-0-35-869409-0
The cycle of the moon during the Islamic month of fasting is interwoven with Ramadan and Eid al-Fitr customs in many countries. Intensely colored mixed-media illustrations. Back matter. (5-8)



*** Two New Years**

by Richard Ho, illustrated by Lynn Scurfield
(Chronicle Books, \$18.99) 978-1-7972-1281-4
A multicultural family celebrates both the Jewish new year and the Asian Lunar new year. Colorful ink and digitally collaged illustrations illuminate the customs. Rich back matter. (5-7)

Sports



Ready, Set, Run!:

The Amazing New York City Marathon

by Leslie Kimmelman, illustrated by Jessica Hartland
(Random House Studio/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-43365-2
Playful illustrations and lively language evoke the spirit of an annual athletic event in the Big Apple. Includes a hand-drawn city map. (5-8)

STEM (Science/Technology/Engineering/Mathematics)



*** Behold the Octopus!**

by Suzanne Slade, illustrated by Thomas Gonzalez
(Peachtree Publishing, \$18.99) 978-1-68263-312-0
What animal species has no bones and eight arms, lives in the ocean, varies in size from one inch to 30 feet, and can change color? Luminous photorealistic art. Back matter. (7-9)



*** The Book of Turtles**

by Sy Montgomery, illustrated by Matt Patterson
(Clarion Books/HarperCollins, \$19.99) 978-0-35-845807-4
A clear, comprehensive, and enthusiastic introduction to all aspects of these venerable reptiles. Includes suggestions for helping save the species. Acrylic paintings. Sources. (6-9)



The Clues Are in the Poo:

The Story of Dinosaur Scientist Karen Chin

by Jane Kurtz and Karen Chin, illustrated by Francisco Riobos
(Reycraft, \$18.95) 978-1-4788-7617-5
A multiracial paleontologist explores what fossilized dinosaur dung reveals about prehistoric creatures and their world. Bold, colorful illustrations. (6-9)

Darwin's Super-Pooping Worm Spectacular

by Polly Owen, illustrated by Gwen Millward
(Wide Eyed Editions/Quarto Publishing, \$19.99) 978-0-7112-7597-3
Darwin's research with worms revealed how they feed the world with the superpower of poop, as well as how they "see" and "hear." Colorful, detailed illustrations. Back matter. (7-9)

Destiny Finds Her Way:

How a Rescued Baby Sloth Learned to be Wild

by Margarita Engle, photographed by Sam Tull
(National Geographic, \$16.99) 978-1-4263-7234-6
Scientists simulated the diet of an orphaned sloth found in a Costa Rican rain forest and encouraged her socialization, preparing her to return to her natural habitat. Stunning photographs. Back matter. (5-8)



Follow the Flyway:

The Marvel of Bird Migration

by Sarah Nelson, illustrated by Maya Hanisch
(Barefoot Books, \$17.99) 978-1-64686-632-8
A variety of birds travel South following their annual path. Rhyming, lyrical text. Soft mixed-media illustrations. Extensive back matter. (5-8)

The Gentle Genius of Trees

written and illustrated by Philip Bunting
(Crown BFYR/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-56781-4
An introduction to trees, containing clear descriptions of topics such as photosynthesis. Simple digital art supports the playful text with many diagrams. (5-8)

Glitter Everywhere!:

Where It Came From, Where It's Found & Where It's Going

by Chris Barton, illustrated by Chaaya Prabhat
(Charlesbridge, \$19.99) 978-1-62354-252-8
Explore the art, science, history, and negative social and environmental impact of these sparkling specks. Colorful digital art. Back matter includes extensive bibliography. (7-9)

How Birds Sleep

by David Obuchowski and Sarah Pedry, illustrated by Sarah Pedry
(Mineditionus/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House, \$17.99) 978-1-6626-5097-0
Charcoal, ink, and gouache illustrations accompany this informative text on how a wide variety of birds sleep. Extensive back matter. (5-8)



* How the Sea Came to Be: And All the Creatures in It (Spectacular STEAM for Curious Readers series)

by Jennifer Berne, illustrated by Amanda Hall
(Eerdmans BFYR/Eerdmans, \$18.99) 978-0-8028-5478-0
How did life begin on Earth? Dramatic, sweeping illustrations capture single-celled creatures, invertebrates, arthropods, and finally, fish. Told in rhyming verse. Sources, glossary, time line. (7-10)

Jumper:

A Day in the Life of a Backyard Jumping Spider

written and illustrated by Jessica Lanan
(Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck, \$19.99) 978-1-250-81036-6
A child at play outdoors is prompted to consider the sensory experiences and survival challenges of a tiny arachnid. Watercolor art illustrates the spider's perspective. Rich back matter. (6-9)

Mama Mammals:

Reproduction and Birth in Mammals

by Cathy Evans, illustrated by Bia Melo
(Cicada Books, \$16.99) 978-1-80066-026-7
Detailed drawings and clear text depict how different mammals create a family, from fertilization to pregnancy to birth. Glossary. (8-10)



* The Moon Tonight: Our Moon's Journey around Earth

by Jung Chang-hoon, illustrated by Jang Ho, translated from the Korean by Paige Morris
(Blue Dot Kids Press, \$18.95) 978-1-7376032-5-2
A father and daughter observe the waxing and waning of the Moon on its 29-day journey around Earth. Full-color illustrations. (7-10)

Nature Is a Sculptor:

Weathering and Erosion

by Heather Ferranti Kinser
(Millbrook Press/Lerner, \$29.32) 978-1-7284-7719-0
Water, ice, and wind etch shapes and carve land into natural forms of beauty. Poetic text and stunning photographs. Back matter. (7-10)



* The Penguin of Ilha Grande: From Animal Rescue to Extraordinary Friendship

by Shannon Earle, illustrated by Renato Alarcão
(Charlesbridge, \$17.99) 978-1-62354-166-8
When Seu João rescued a penguin, the two formed a deep relationship. Vivid watercolor illustrations capture the tenderness. Back matter. (5-8)

Poop for Breakfast:

Why Some Animals Eat It

by Sara Levine, illustrated by Florence Weiser
(Millbrook Press/Lerner, \$20.99) 978-1-7284-5796-3
A highly informative explanation of various animals' propensity to eat their own excrement. Pencil, paper, and digital illustrations add to the fun. Back matter. (6-9)

The Power of Snow

by Bob Raczka, illustrated by Bryony Clarkson
(Millbrook Press/Lerner, \$20.99) 978-1-7284-5091-9
Rhyming text and paper collage/digital illustrations introduce a landscape growing increasingly snow-covered as snowflakes multiply exponentially. Math formulas on each page. Endnotes. (4-7)

Rise to the Sky:

How the World's Tallest Trees Grow Up

by Rebecca E. Hirsch, illustrated by Mia Posada
(Millbrook Press/Lerner, \$20.99) 978-1-728-44087-3
How do sunlight, water, and carbohydrates produce immensely tall trees? The growth process of arboreal giants is presented in poetic text. Textured cut-paper collage and watercolor illustrations. Back matter. (5-8)

A River of Dust:

The Life-Giving Link between North Africa and the Amazon

by Jilanne Hoffmann, illustrated by Eugenia Mello
(Chronicle Books, \$18.99) 978-1-7972-1175-6
Follow the surprising and important journey of dust across the planet from the Sahara to the Amazon rainforest. Lyrical text. Vibrant digital art. Extensive back matter. (7-10)

Science, Matter and the Baseball Park

by Catherine Ciocchi, illustrated by Chantelle Thome and Burgen Thome
(Gnome Road Publishing, \$18.99) 978-1-957655-02-4
Action-oriented illustrations and rhyming text link matter—solid, liquid, and gas—to a baseball game. (7-9)

Shall We Dance?

written and illustrated by Robin Page
(Beach Lane Books/Simon & Schuster, \$18.99)
978-1-6659-1605-9

Simple words, accompanied by explanatory paragraphs and brightly hued illustrations, feature animals from seahorses to eagles dancing to court a mate, to alert others, or maybe just to have fun. (6-9)

D * **Shigeru Ban Builds a Better World (Art for Good series)**

by Isodoro Saturno, illustrated by Stefano Di Cristofaro
(Tra Publishing, \$19.99) 979-8-9866406-3-1

A world-famous Japanese architect turns paper into lasting buildings for disaster victims. Simple, elegant illustrations. Interview with Ban, time line, and booklet insert included. (7-10)

* **The Sky Is Not the Limit (Spectacular STEAM for Curious Readers series)**

written and illustrated by Jérémie Decalf, translated from the French by Jérémie Decalf
(Eerdmans BFYR/Eerdmans, \$18.99)
978-0-8028-5602-9

In lyrical text, the Voyager 2 space probe narrates the trajectory of its adventures in outer space. Digital illustrations. Back matter. (6-9)

The Smallest Owlet

written and illustrated by Georgia Graham
(Fitzhenry & Whiteside, \$24.95) 978-1-55455-614-4
Follow along over winter, spring, and summer as two great horned owls care for and raise their three young owlets. Realistic, exquisitely detailed illustrations. Back matter. (7-10)

Supermoms! (Animal Heroes series)

by Heather Lang and Jamie Harper, illustrated by Jamie Harper
(Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-1-5362-1797-1
In comic-style panels with humorous speech bubbles, a variety of animals are displayed in their maternal roles as teachers, protectors, builders, transporters, and foragers. Back matter. (4-7)

Tee Time on the Moon:

How Astronaut Alan Shepard Played Lunar Golf

by David A. Kelly, illustrated by Edwin Fotheringham
(Calkins Creek/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House, \$18.99) 978-1-6626-8017-5

An Apollo 14 astronaut carried out an “unauthorized” experiment—hitting a golf ball in an environment with no gravity. Dramatic digital illustrations. (7-9)

We Go Way Back

by Idan Ben-Barak, illustrated by Philip Bunting
(Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck, \$18.99)
978-1-250-85079-9

Simple text and bold, humorous cartoon-like illustrations reveal how life began. Dramatic vertical gatefold depicts a family tree of Earth’s fauna. (7-10)

When Moon Became the Moon

written and illustrated by Rob Hodgson
(RISE X Penguin Workshop/Penguin Random House, \$18.99) 978-0-593-52362-9

The moon narrates the story of its origin, its orbit, and its effect on the earth. Colorful whimsical art. (5-8)

* **Wind:**

Discovering Air in Motion (Spectacular STEAM for Curious Readers series)

written and illustrated by Olga Fadeeva, translated from the Russian by Lena Traer
(Eerdmans BFYR/Eerdmans, \$18.99)
978-0-8028-5599-2

What is wind? Where does it come from, how does it affect plants and animals, and how do we use it? Sweeping, bold illustrations. Author’s notes. (7-10)

Your One and Only Heart

by Rajani LaRocca, MD, illustrated by Lauren Paige Conrad
(Dial BFYR/Penguin Random House, \$18.99)
978-0-593-32633-6

Lyrical language and bold, colorful images convey the power of this vital organ. The juxtaposition of complex information with familiar experiences makes the content accessible. Text boxes. Diagrams. (6-8)

World

D * **Nomads:**

Life on the Move

written and illustrated by Kinchoi Lam
(Cicada Books, \$22.99) 978-1-80066-032-8
Copious colorful detailed illustrations and informative text depict how seven tribes in seven different environments create the culture, objects, and shelters needed for nomadic life. Back matter. (8-10)

We, the Curious Ones

by Marion Dane Bauer, illustrated by Hari and Deepti
(Candlewick Press, \$18.99) 978-1-6382-1868-8

Poetic text and shimmering paper-cut art illuminate
the connection between long-held beliefs and our
ever-changing knowledge of the universe. Important
contributions in back matter. (6-9)