

FIVE TO NINE

FICTION

Adventure and Mystery



Cool Buds to the Rescue! (Cool Buds series)

written and illustrated by Barbara Lehman
(Clarion Books/HarperAlley/HarperCollins, P \$5.99)
978-0-06-338905-2

Three animal friends use their talents to rescue and settle an animal stranded by a volcano on their island. Full-color cartoon-style illustrations. (5-8)



Hide & Seek with Clyde & Monique:

Clyde in Plain Sight

written and illustrated by Graham Annable
(HarperAlley/HarperCollins, \$17.99)
978-0-06-341415-0

In this brightly illustrated cartoon-style early reader, Monique eagerly searches for her best friend, Clyde, a self-proclaimed hiding expert. Tips for navigating graphic storytelling provided. (5-7)

Piece Out

written and illustrated by Alex Willan
(Astra Young Readers/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House, \$18.99) 978-1-6626-2093-5
A board game piece, left out of the box and then sucked up by a vacuum cleaner, braves many hazards to be reunited with its mates. Colorful, dynamic, humorous illustrations. (4-7)

Animals

④ Alpacas Here, Alpacas There

by Carrie Tillotson, illustrated by Elisa Chavarri
(Beach Lane Books/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$19.99) 978-1-6659-4202-7
An engaging look at the characteristics and behavior of alpacas. Bouncy rhymed text supported by informational paragraphs. Bright acrylic gouache art. (4-7)

*** Cat Nap**

written and illustrated by Brian Lies
(Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, \$19.99)
978-0-0626-7128-8

A cat's nap is disturbed by a mouse jumping into an art poster. The cat follows, chasing through thousands of years of artworks. Photographed cleverly reproduced 3-D art. Back matter. (7-10)

Elvis & Romeo (Elvis & Romeo series)

by David Soman and Jacky Davis, illustrated by David Soman
(Aladdin/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$19.99) 978-1-6659-4806-7

Dynamic illustrations highlight the making of an incredible friendship between two dogs, demonstrating that you don't have to like all the same things to bond together. (5-7)



The Littlest Drop

by Sascha Alper, illustrated by Jerry Pinkney and Brian Pinkney
(Anne Schwartz Books/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-30912-4
When a fire breaks out in the forest, a hummingbird inspires all the animals to do their part to put it out. Animated illustrations. Author's and illustrators' notes. (5-8)

*** Odder:**

An Otter's Story

by Katherine Applegate, illustrated by Charles Santoso
(Feiwel and Friends/Macmillan, \$18.99)
978-1-250-32359-0

A young otter rescued by humans finds that she is able to help other otter pups separated from their families. Lyrically written. Picturesque illustrations. (5-7)



*** To See an Owl**

written and illustrated by Matthew Cordell
(Random House Studio/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-64989-3
A young bird watcher has been trying to spot an owl for months. Inspired by her passionate teacher, she tries one more time. Realistic pen and ink and watercolor illustrations. (5-8)

Beginning Readers

Bulldozer's Big Rescue (Bulldozer and Friends series)

by Elise Broach, illustrated by Kelly Murphy
(Little, Brown Books for Young Readers/Hachette,
P \$6.99) 978-0-316-56417-5

Shy bulldozer is nervous about starting school. Spending time with new neighbors might help. Two-color line drawings with clear backgrounds invite young readers to cheer for this timid truck. (5-7)

Earl & Worm series

• **The Bad Idea and Other Stories** (978-0-593-64965-7)

• **The Big Mess and Other Stories** (978-0-593-64970-1)

written and illustrated by Greg Pizzoli
(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House Children's Books/
PRH, \$10.99)

The adventures of two unlikely friends—a happy bird and a pessimistic worm—are chronicled in these early chapter books. Engaging, expressive, comical digital illustrations. (5-7)

Little Mouse Saves the Day! (Little Mouse series)

written and illustrated by Jeff Smith
(TOON Books/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House,
\$13.99) 978-1-6626-6545-5

A “supermouse” faces his bedtime fear of the dark and the strange things he sees in his closet. Tips for adults on how to read comics with kids. Expressive, animated artwork. (4-6)

Monti and Leo:

A Mystery in Pocketville (Monti and Leo series)

written and illustrated by Sylvie Kantorovitz
(Walker Books US/Candlewick Press, \$16.99)
978-1-5362-3861-7

When the truth is discovered after Leo the lizard is falsely accused by Monti the mole, they learn the meaning of friendship. Illustrations in muted colors. (5-7)

Orris and Timble:

Lost and Found (Orris and Timble series)

by Kate DiCamillo, illustrated by Carmen Mok
(Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-1-5362-2530-3

A friendship between a rat and a young owl develops as they share stories each evening, until one day the owl doesn't return. Will the two ever get to share another story? Gouache, colored pencil, and graphite pencil illustrations. (5-8)



Tate Tuber: Space Spud

written and illustrated by Michael Slack
(Holiday House, \$14.99) 978-0-8234-5847-9
A potato who wants to be an astronaut and his progeny save a space craft when the electrical power fails. Playful cartoon-style artwork. (6-8)

Concept Books

Here Is a Book

written and illustrated by Elisha Cooper
(Abrams BYR/Abrams, \$18.99) 978-1-4197-6675-6
Inviting two-page spreads and detailed spot illustrations in cool, soothing watercolor and pencil follow a book as it makes its way from author to publisher to reader. (5-7)

D Jordan's Perfect Haircut

written and illustrated by Sharee Miller
(Little, Brown Books for Young Readers/Hachette,
\$18.99) 978-0-316-59228-4
School picture day is coming, and Jordan's friends are getting new haircuts. What style should he choose? Vibrant illustrations. (4-7)

D * Popo the Xolo

by Paloma Angelina Lopez, illustrated by Abraham Matias
(Charlesbridge, \$17.99) 978-1-62354-457-7
After a day of lovingly caring for her family, an elderly Mexican grandmother sits in her armchair while her lapdog accompanies her on her final, dreamlike journey. Gentle digital illustrations. Cultural notes, glossary. (5-7)

A Seed in the Universe

written and illustrated by Elyon Liu
(Post Wave Children's Books, \$16.99)
979-8-89509-000-8
A celebration of connectedness in our boundless galaxy. Die-cut pages, board book format. Heavily outlined illustrations with limited, but beautiful, color palette. (4-7)

The Wombats Go Wild for Words

by Beth Ferry, illustrated by Lori Nichols
(Random House Studio/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-71105-7
Wombats change a duckling into a verbivore as they use nouns, verbs, and adjectives to transform the forest where she lives. Colorful digital illustrations. (6-9)

Contemporary Issues

D Dancing with Water

by Gwendolyn Wallace, illustrated by Tonya Engel
(Kokila/Penguin Random House, \$18.99)
978-0-593-61790-8

Growing populations exacerbate water scarcity. Fortunately, Kit's grandfather knows a thing or two about dowsing for water. Vibrant acrylic and oil glazes infuse this story with hope. (5-8)

D A Place for Us: A Story in Pictures

written and illustrated by James E. Ransome
(Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin Random House,
\$18.99) 978-0-593-32488-2
Experience a day in the life of an unhoused Black mother and son as they go from school to library to park bench for the night. Full-bleed watercolor illustrations. (6-9)

Ecology

D Dream for the Land

by Laekan Zea Kemp, illustrated by Leo Espinosa
(Anne Schwartz Books/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-71030-2
Drought strains a Latine family's Texas farm. Pa helps his daughter to see how things once were and imagine how, with widespread mindful stewardship, they might be once again. Cinematic illustrations. (5-7)

Good Golden Sun

written and illustrated by Brendan Wenzel
(Little, Brown Books for Young Readers/Hachette,
\$19.99) 978-0-316-51263-3
A paean to the light of the sun and its effects on all forms of life below. Rhyming text. Glowing collage-style mixed-media art. (5-8)

Over in the Mangroves

by Jyoti Rajan Gopal, illustrated by Dikshaa Pawaskar
(Orchard Books/Scholastic, \$19.99)
978-1-5461-0333-2
In a reimagined classic nursery rhyme, ten animals in the Sundarbans National Forest are introduced, revealing their interconnectedness in their swampy environment. Lush animated illustrations. Back matter. (5-7)

D The Silver Shadow

by Mariesa Dulak, illustrated by Alea Marley
(Walker Books US/Candlewick Press, \$18.99)
978-1-5362-3940-9

In Barbados, a child exploring a tidal pool comes upon a baby shark stuck in the shallows and protects it until the tide comes back in. Richly hued seascapes. Author's note. (4-7)

Strange Creatures

by Cristina Sitja Rubio and Cristóbal León, illustrated by Cristina Sitja Rubio, translated from French by Cristóbal León
(Kids Can Press, \$21.99) 978-1-5253-1380-6
While forest animals dance and eat at a party, their homes disappear. With the help of children, they plan to restore their habitat. Gouache and colored pencil illustrations. (5-8)

Trouble Dog:

From Shelter Dog to Conservation Hero (Spectacular STEAM for Curious Readers series)

by Carol A. Foote, illustrated by Larry Day
(Eerdmans BFYR/Eerdmans, \$18.99)
978-08028-5581-7

A professional conservationist trains her rambunctious rescue dog to redirect his energy, learning to identify scents to save wildlife. Based on a true story. Animated watercolor illustrations. Back matter. (5-8)

Wind Watchers

written and illustrated by Micha Archer
(Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin Random House,
\$18.99) 978-0-593-61655-0
Three siblings interact with the wind while exploring nature through the cycle of the seasons. Bright acrylic ink and patterned paper collage. (4-7)

Family and Community

D Across the Ice:

How We Saved the Ojibwe Horse

by Darcy Whitecrow and Heather M. O'Connor, illustrated by Natasha Donovan
(Candlewick Press, \$18.99) 978-1-5362-2945-5
The rescue journey of the Ojibwe horses is shared by a grandmother as a village welcomes them home. Bright digital art. Back matter. (6-9)

 Afloat

by Kirli Saunders, illustrated by Freya Blackwood (Levine Querido, \$18.99) 978-1-64614-507-2
An Elder and a child gather people from many cultures together as they explore weaving in a changing world. A metaphorical tale of unity. Haunting mixed-media illustrations. (4-7)

Another Word for Neighbor

by Angela Pham Krans, illustrated by Thai My Phuong (Harper/HarperCollins, \$19.99) 978-0-06-333491-5
New to the neighborhood, Kate and Olly overcome the objections of their old and mostly ornery neighbor to expose him to new adventures. Evocative digital illustrations. (5-7)

Before I Lived Here

by Stacy S. Jensen, illustrated by Victo Ngai (Neal Porter Books/Holiday House, \$18.99) 978-0-8234-5223-1
A boy reflects on the changes in his neighborhood from the present day back to the prehistoric era. Bright, swirling mixed-media and digital art. (5-8)

Before She Was My Grandmother

written and illustrated by Giselle Potter (Enchanted Lion Books, \$18.99) 978-1-59270-431-6
Through stories and mementos, a child learns about her grandmother's rich and complex life. Pastel painted illustrations. (5-8)

 The Couch in the Yard

by Kate Hoefler, illustrated by Dena Seiferling (Neal Porter Books/Holiday House, \$18.99) 978-0-8234-5675-8
A tight-knit Appalachian family's nightly drives are reimagined as wondrous journeys to the moon. Lifting rhymed couplets. Glowing, brush-textured digital art. (5-7)

 Family Feast!

by Carole Boston Weatherford, illustrated by Frank Morrison (Crown BFYR/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-89829-1
When a Black family gets together to prepare and enjoy a special meal, everyone has their job to do, including the dog. Colorful, bold, oil paint illustrations. (6-9)

 Fish Fry Friday

by Winsome Bingham, illustrated by C. G. Esperanza (Abrams BYR/Abrams, \$19.99) 978-1-4197-6693-0
A young Black narrator loves spending summertime Fridays with his grandmother, fishing from a Chesapeake pier and later preparing their catch for the whole family to enjoy. Bold, colorful, energetic illustrations. (5-8)

 The House That Floated

written and illustrated by Guojing (Random House Studio/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-70905-4
A family rafts their tiny cottage across rising floodwaters to a safe location. Wordless, with quietly powerful chalk and digital art. (6-8)

 *** How to Grow a Family Tree**

by Bea Birdsong, illustrated by Jasu Hu (Neal Porter Books/Holiday House, \$18.99) 978-0-8234-5396-2
Emmylou thinks she has no relatives to put on her family tree... until she realizes she and her mom have built a family of friends and neighbors. Soft watercolor illustrations. (8-10)

The Interpreter

by Olivia Abtahi, illustrated by Monica Arnaldo (Kokila/Penguin Random House, \$18.99) 978-0-593-62044-1
Cecilia wants to enjoy herself but struggles with her "second job"—interpreting for her Spanish-speaking parents. Speech balloons include English and Spanish translations. Humorous watercolor and pencil crayon illustrations. Also available in Spanish. (6-8)

 The Jade Bracelet

by Hà Dinh, illustrated by Yong Ling Kang (Random House Studio/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-71178-1
Tiên, seven, wants a colorful bracelet that is just like her schoolmates'. When her mother gives her a jade bracelet, Tiên is unhappy until she learns its significance. Watercolor and color pencil illustrations. (6-9)

A Knot Is Not a Tangle

by Daniel Nayeri, illustrated by Vesper Stamper (Alfred A. Knopf/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-80969-3
An Iranian boy helps weave a rug with his grandmother, learning the traditional handicraft and the value of imperfections that create lasting memories. Stylized Iranian illustrations. Author's note. (5-8)

ⓓ Kwesi and Nana Ruby Learn to Swim

by Kobina Commeh, illustrated by Bárbara Quintino (Barefoot Books, \$17.99) 979-888859-362-2
Kwesi and his Ghanaian grandmother, neither of whom can swim, face their fear of the water together, making their undertaking more likely to succeed. Vibrant colorful illustrations. (5-7)

Late Today

by Jungyoon Huh, illustrated by Myungae Lee, translated from Korean by Aerin Park (Eerdmans BFYR/Eerdmans, \$18.99) 978-0-8028-5649-4
A traffic jam ensues when a stray cat crosses the highway. Will any of the busy commuters stop and help? Thoughtful colored pencil and oil pastel illustrations. (5-7)

ⓓ Lulu in the Spotlight:

A South Asian Wedding Story

written and illustrated by Natasha Khan Kazi (Versify/HarperCollins, \$19.99) 978-0-35-873220-4
Lulu wants to win the prize for the traditional stealing of the groom's shoes, but her cousins are at least as determined as she is. Pastel illustrations. (5-8)

ⓓ ¡Mistaco!:

A Tale of Tragedy y Tortillas

written and illustrated by Eliza Kinkz (Kokila/Penguin Random House, \$18.99) 978-0-593-70025-5
Accident-prone Izzy struggles while making tortillas with her grandfather, who reassures her, with warmth and humor, that everyone makes mistakes. Zany, childlike mixed-media drawings. (5-6)

ⓓ * Moon Song

written and illustrated by Michaela Goade (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers/Hachette, \$18.99) 978-0-316-46163-4
To ease her cousin's fears of the dark, a Tlingit girl guides him through a snowy night landscape. Melodic text and resplendent watercolor and mixed-media illustrations celebrate nature's light. (5-8)

ⓓ My Sister the Apple Tree:

A Refugee Story of Hope and Resilience

by Jordan Scott and Jamal Saeed, illustrated by Zahra Marwan (Random House Studio/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-80843-6
Forced to leave his country, a boy carries the tree he has claimed as his sister and confidant to his new home. Soft, flowing, watercolor pen and ink illustrations. (5-8)

ⓓ New Shoes for Leo

by Lauren Agra Deedy, illustrated by Susan Gal (Scholastic Press/Scholastic, \$18.99) 978-1-338-77021-6
Helping to assemble a care package for his relatives in Cuba, William seeks shoes for his cousin. Vibrant pencil, ink, and watercolor illustrations. Spanish glossary. Also available in Spanish. (5-7)

Night Walk

written and illustrated by Jason Cockcroft (Candlewick Press, \$18.99) 978-1-5362-3961-4
Under twinkling stars, a grieving grandchild visits Grandma's favorite woodland places with his grandfather, eventually greeting the rising sun and new day. Mixed-media illustrations. (7-10)

The One About the Blackbird

by Melanie Florence, illustrated by Matt James (Tundra Books/Penguin Random House Canada, \$18.99) 978-1-77488-266-5
Though he's frustrated as he learns to play the guitar, a boy grows up to become a musician. As his grandad is losing his memory, the boy mirrors the gentle encouragement he gave. Emotions depicted in the artwork. (7-9)

Our Lake

written and illustrated by Angie Kang (Kokila/Penguin Random House, \$19.99) 978-0-593-69823-5
A small boy hikes with his brother to their special spot at the lake, but without their late father with them, can he jump into it now? Poignant gouache and digital art. (5-7)

ⓓ The Peanut Man

by Carmen Agra Deedy, illustrated by Raúl Colón (Margaret Quinlin Books/Peachtree Publishing, \$18.99) 978-1-68263-568-1
When Coqui's Cuban family moves to America, she misses her special vendor friend. Years later, a baseball game brings back unmistakably familiar smells and fond memories. Radiant illustrations. (6-8)

ⓓ The Pink Pajamas:

A Story About Love and Loss

written and illustrated by Charlene Chua (Simon & Schuster BFYR/S & S, \$19.99) 978-1-6659-4316-1
Ah Yi shows her love for her niece by sewing pajamas for her. Rejecting a pink pair, the girl discovers a surprise in her aunt's drawer after her death. Colorful cartoon-like illustrations. (5-8)

Rabbit's Feat

written and illustrated by Barney Saltzberg
(Hippo Park/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House,
\$18.99) 978-1-6626-4080-3

Boulder dreams of seeing Cactus bloom, but is too far away. An empathetic bunny enlists friends to bring the dream to life. Mixed-media illustrations on handmade paper. (4-7)

④ * A Song for Two Homes

by Dr. Michael Datcher, illustrated by Charly Palmer
(Random House Studio/Random House Children's
Books/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-42936-5

Auset, a Black girl, learns to live in two places when her parents get divorced. Lyrical text is matched by expressive, textured acrylic paintings. (6-8)

④ Taking the Long Way Home

by Jake Hope, illustrated by Brian Fitzgerald
(Sallywag Press/Lerner, \$18.99) 978-1-83630-015-1

On the day that Uncle Jerome picks them up from school, two Black siblings find joy and discovery in the journey, rather than in just the destination. Lively digital illustrations. (4-6)

④ Tíos and Primos

written and illustrated by Jacqueline Alcántara
(Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin Random House,
\$18.99) 978-0-593-62013-7

On a visit to her father's Spanish-speaking homeland, a girl bonds with her large family despite language barriers. Bright color illustrations. (5-8)

④ We Are the Scrappy Ones

by Rebekah Taussig, illustrated by Kirbi Fagan
(Carolrhoda Books/Lerner, \$19.99) 978-1-7284-8770-0

A celebration of diversity in race, ethnicity, and ability. Lyrical text and cheerful illustrations encourage self-esteem and inclusiveness. Back matter includes author's and illustrator's personal experiences. (5-8)

④ We Go Slow

by Mariahadessa Ekere Tallie, illustrated by Aaron Becker

(Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster,
\$19.99) 978-1-6659-5060-2

On a morning walk, a Black girl and her grandfather use their senses to explore their urban neighborhood. Rich, shady illustrations in watercolor and colored pencil. (5-8)

④ Welcome Home, Esmerelda

by Daniela Ramirez, illustrated by Maribel Lechuga
(Charlesbridge, \$17.99) 978-1-62354-390-7

A Latina girl worries about her military family's move from Germany to the States. She'll miss her friends; will Texas ever feel like home? Digital illustrations. (5-8)

When Auggie Learned to Play Chess

by Meredith Rusu, illustrated by Stephen Costanza
(Anne Schwartz Books/Random House Children's
Books/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-71081-4

A boy moves to a new school and suffers from loneliness, but chess helps create social connections and teaches important life lessons. Colorful, digital illustrations. (6-9)

④ With a Needle & Thread:

A Jewish Folktale from Cuba

by Jennifer Stempel, illustrated by Libi Axelrod
(Kalaniot Books, \$19.99) 978-1-962011-06-8

In a Jewish enclave in Cuba, a girl and her abuelita continually reuse an outgrown dress to the benefit of their community. Mixed-media illustrations. Also available in Spanish. (5-8)

④ Yáadilá!:

Good Grief!

by Laurel Goodluck, illustrated by Jonathan Nelson
(Heartdrum/HarperCollins, \$19.99)

978-0-06-327440-2

A Diné (Navajo) boy creatively helps his grandmother adjust as she moves from her sheep camp home to live with her extended family. Mixed-media illustrations. (5-8)

Fantasy

Circus of Shadows

written and illustrated by Lidia Branković
(Cicada Books, \$16.99) 978-1-80066-052-6

A young girl's shadow begins misbehaving and soon whisks her away to an eerie night world where she learns to conquer her fears. Spooky, deep-hued illustrations. (5-7)



Eliza and the Flower Fairies (Fairy Door Diaries series)

by Megan McDonald, illustrated by Lenny Wen
(Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-1-5362-0142-0

When Eliza of the Elves goes through a magical fairy door to the Land of the Flower Fairies, she has unexpected adventures. Enchanting gouache and colored pencil illustrations. (5-8)



Have a Good Trip, Mousse! (Mousse series)

written and illustrated by Claire Lebourg, translated from French by Sophie Lewis
(Transit Children's Editions/Transit Books, \$18.95)
979-8-893380-05-7

Tired of rainy days, a small creature embarks on a seaside vacation, but he feels left out when his best friend finds a new playmate. Detailed watercolor illustrations. (5-8)



Mr. Norton's New Hat

by Huw Lewis Jones, illustrated by Corey Egbert
(Tiger Tales, \$18.99) 978-1-6643-0065-1

After a week of waking up to different animals in his house, kind Mr. Norton has had enough. Or so he thinks. Whimsical illustrations. (5-8)

*** One Day a Mayfly**

by Shirley Marr, illustrated by Michael Speechley
(Candlewick Press, \$18.99) 978-1-5362-4361-1

A mayfly nymph emerges as an adult with only 24 hours to live and spends that time in discovery, wonder, and joy. Inviting pencil, ink, and gouache illustrations. (6-8)

Pencil

written and illustrated by Hye-Eun Kim
(TOON Books/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House, \$18.99) 978-1-6626-6553-0

A girl uses the power of her pencil to heal the forest from which its wood was harvested. Wordless, with colored pencil and marker illustrations. (4-7)

ⓓ The Polar Bear and the Ballerina

written and illustrated by Eric Velasquez
(Holiday House, \$18.99) 978-0-8234-4918-7

A polar bear travels to a young Black dancer's ballet performance to return a scarf and faces suspicion and bias. Largely wordless. Oil painting illustrations. (5-8)

ⓓ * Sakina and the Uninvited Guests

written and illustrated by Zahra Marwan
(Bloomsbury Children's Books/Bloomsbury, \$18.99)
978-1-5476-1342-7

A young Middle Eastern girl, bored by a museum visit, finds that three sentient artifacts have followed her home to help her connect art to her ancestral history. Dramatic watercolor and pen illustrations. (6-9)

ⓓ Seven Ways Through the Woods

by Jenn Reese, illustrated by Devin Elle Kurtz
(Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, \$19.99)
978-0-06-335626-9

A group of children take a fantasy journey through the forest. Glowing art replete with griffins, sprites, and serpents. (4-7)



Shark Girl

written and illustrated by Kate Beaton
(Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$18.99)
978-1-250-18492-4

A shark-tailed mergirl seeks revenge on the ornery captain who caught her in his net, but soon befriends his fishing crew. A Little Mermaid riff with spunk. Zany digital art. (6-8)



To Catch a Ghost

written and illustrated by Rachel Michelle Wilson
(Orchard Books/Scholastic, \$19.99)
978-1-339-03195-8

To impress classmates at her new school's show-and-tell, a girl goes ghost hunting. Chalk pastel, acrylic, and digital art cleverly frame the endearing little phantom in negative space. (5-7)

ⓓ The Trickster Shadow

written and illustrated by Mangeshig Pawis-Steckley
(Little, Brown Books for Young Readers/Hachette, \$18.99) 978-0-316-57451-8

To help Zoon control his unruly shadow, his grandmother gives him a drum that beats with the rhythm of his heart. Bright, thick-lined digital art. Author's note. Glossary. (4-7)



Troubling Tonsils! (Jasper Rabbit's Creepy Tales! series)

by Aaron Reynolds, illustrated by Peter Brown
(Simon & Schuster BFYR/S & S, \$13.99)
978-1-6659-6108-0

When the doctor starts to remove Charlie Marmot's infected tonsils, it turns out that they have already been taken out. Charlie is in for the surprise of his life! Cartoon-style grayscale illustrations. (7-10)



ⓓ The Wanting Monster

by Martine Murray, illustrated by Anna Read
(Enchanted Lion Books, \$19.95) 978-1-59270-419-4
A strange beast afflicts the local town with insatiable greed. Wild, expressive, deep-colored art. (5-8)



*** The Wild Robot on the Island (Wild Robot series)**

written and illustrated by Peter Brown
(Little, Brown Books for Young Readers/Hachette,
\$19.99) 978-0-3166-6946-7

After falling off a ship, Roz, a robot, learns to adapt to her new surroundings on an island by studying how the animals survive there. Digital illustrations. Picture book adaptation of *The Wild Robot*. (5-8)

*** The Witch in the Tower**

written and illustrated by Júlia Sardà
(Candlewick Studio/Candlewick Press, \$19.99)
978-1-5362-4301-7

Feeling abandoned by her maturing older sister, a girl meets a mysterious witch and discovers her own inner power. Dazzling digital art filled with wild creatures and enigmatic symbolism. (7-10)

Folklore and Fairy Tales



D The Animal People Choose a Leader (Richard Wagamese Storybook Collection)

by Richard Wagamese, illustrated by Bridget George
(Douglas and McIntyre, \$18.95) 978-1-77162-418-3
A race to determine the animals' leader turns into a profound lesson on pride, misplaced goals, appreciation, and community. Mysterious, stately art by an Anishinaabe illustrator. (6-9)



Hansel and Gretel

by Stephen King, illustrated by Maurice Sendak
(HarperCollins, \$26.99) 978-0-06-264469-5
Abandoned in the woods, a brother and sister must outwit an evil witch. A lively, faithful adaptation by King with wild illustrations repurposed from Sendak's opera designs. (5-8)



The Lost Sunday

written and illustrated by Ileana Surducan
(Oni Press, \$14.99) 978-1-63715-775-6
A girl seeks out an underground witch who legend says has stolen a day of the week. Detailed artwork in a dark palette. (6-9)

D Minh and the Magic Grains of Rice

by Đỗ Nguyệt Hà, illustrated by Lê Phương Quỳnh,
translated from Vietnamese (Tiếng Việt) by Bac H. Tran
(Chronicle Books, \$17.99) 978-1-7972-1333-0
After carelessly spilling rice, a Vietnamese boy visits the past and learns the value of hard work and the harvest alongside his ancestors. Jovial cartoon-style digital art. Back matter. (5-8)

D My Abuela Is a Bruja

by Mayra Cuevas, illustrated by Lorena Alvarez Gómez
(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House Children's Books/
PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-48063-2

A young Puerto Rican girl waxes poetic about the magic her grandmother imparts in all she does. Cartoon-like mixed-media illustrations. (5-8)

D * Take a Walk with the Wind

written and illustrated by Xiong Liang, translated from Chinese by Chloe Garcia Roberts
(Elsewhere Editions, \$19.95) 978-1-962770-26-2
A Treeling, taken unwillingly on a wild adventure by the wind, apologizes profusely for his disturbance of the peaceful lives of the beings along his path. Breathtakingly gorgeous Chinese wash ink. (5-8)

Historical Fiction

D Chidori:

A Story of One Thousand Birds

by Jennifer Maruno, illustrated by Miki Sato
(Pajama Press, \$18.95) 978-1-77278-316-2
In 2011 a young girl on Honshu survives a tsunami, but her artist mother perishes. The family starts finding solace together by painting birds that the mother loved. Evocative collage art. (5-8)

D The Gift of the Great Buffalo

by Carole Lindstrom, illustrated by Aly McKnight
(Bloomsbury Children's Books/Bloomsbury, \$18.99)
978-1-5476-0688-7
In the 1880s the Métis-Ojibwe people gathered for communal buffalo hunts. One year, young Rose sets out alone to track the herd. Watercolor and graphite paintings. (6-8)

D The Library in the Woods

by Calvin Alexander Ramsey, illustrated by R. Gregory Christie
(Carolrhoda Books/Lerner, \$19.99) 978-1-5415-9912-3
In 1959, when his family's farm fails, a young Black boy moves to town and is introduced to a treasure in the forest. Representational artwork. (6-9)

D Sharing the Dream

by Shelia P. Moses, illustrated by Keith Mallett
(Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin Random House,
\$18.99) 978-0-593-61729-8
Sitting on her daddy's shoulders, a young Black girl from Alabama experiences the inspiring speeches and tremendous, peaceful, multiracial crowd at the 1963 March on Washington. Warm, inviting illustrations. (5-7)

Holidays and Religion



Dasher and the Polar Bear (Dasher series)

written and illustrated by Matt Tavares
(Candlewick Press, \$18.99) 978-1-5362-3631-6
While flying and enjoying the northern lights, reindeer Dasher makes a new friend, a polar bear named George who wishes he could fly, too. Digital full-bleed illustrations. (5-8)

④ Giving Thanks with Halmoni:

Celebrating Chuseok, the Korean Harvest Festival

by Kathleen Choi and Sook Nyul Choi, illustrated by Il Sung Na

(Red Comet Press, \$19.99) 978-1-63655-161-6
Su-Jin and her best friends learn about an important Korean holiday, and help Halmoni (grandmother) prepare a feast to share with other friends. Stylized illustrations. Back matter. (5-7)

④ The Invisible Parade

by Leigh Bardugo, illustrated by John Picacio
(Little, Brown Books for Young Readers/Hachette, \$19.99) 978-0-316-29570-3
Four mysterious horsemen help Cala come to terms with her grandfather's death at her family's Día de Muertos celebration. Arrestingly cinematic hand-drawn graphite art, steeped in dark fantasy symbolism. (5-8)

④ Legendary Cakes:

A Story of Tết, the Vietnamese New Year

written and illustrated by Kerisa Greene
(Feiwel and Friends/Macmillan, \$18.99) 978-1-250-32589-1
Two siblings sleep over at their grandmother's, celebrating Lunar New Year with steamed rice cakes and storytelling. Lighthearted digital collage using found textures and hand-carved patterns. Glossary. Recipe. (5-7)

④ The Remembering Candle

by Alison Goldberg, illustrated by Selina Alko
(Barefoot Books, \$17.99) 979-8-88859-648-7
Lighting a yahrzeit candle to commemorate the anniversary of a family member's passing is a Jewish tradition, but this gentle story offers everyone a comforting way to honor their loved ones' death. Joyful illustrations. Back matter. (5-8)

Humor

Bear and Bird:

The Stick and Other Stories (Bear and Bird series)

written and illustrated by Jarvis
(Candlewick Press, P \$5.99) 978-1-5362-3927-0
Clever short stories with subtle humor show how friends Bear and Bird negotiate their differences. Friendly illustrations. (5-7)



Bitty and Bub:

Best Buds (Bitty and Bub series)

written and illustrated by Janee Trasler
(Holiday House, \$14.99) 978-0-8234-5980-3
Laugh at the five comic adventures of these two unlikely friends, Bitty the rabbit and Bub the squirrel. Bold yet spare colorful illustrations. (4-7)



*** Don't Trust Fish**

by Neil Sharpson, illustrated by Dan Santat
(Dial BFYR/Penguin Random House, \$18.99) 978-0-593-61667-3
A hilarious, full-throated diatribe warning about the sinister nature of fish. Wildly imaginative pencil, watercolor, and digital art. (4-7)



Echo

written and illustrated by Adam Rex
(Dial BFYR/Penguin Random House, \$19.99) 978-0-593-69932-4
Growing up with an agreeable mountain echo leads young Junior Junior to believe he is always right. The new girl next door sets him straight. Comical digital paintings. (5-7)

It's Taco Knight!

by Megan Maynor, illustrated by Estrela Lourenço
(Clarion Books/HarperCollins, \$19.99) 978-0-35-868297-4
The Knights of Dinner take turns providing meals in a land where nobody cooks. An overly enthusiastic newcomer's popularity threatens to upend the peace. Slyly punny text. Jolly digital illustrations. (6-9)

Recess

written and illustrated by Lane Smith
(Abrams BYR/Abrams, \$19.99) 978-1-4197-7689-2
Students in a classroom long for a break; a narrator invites them (and readers) to give their pent-up energy a lively and restorative airing. Bold, joyful, color-saturated panels. (4-6)

The Richest Cow in the World

written and illustrated by Barroux, translated from French

(Kids Can Press, \$19.99) 978-1-525334411-7

Pig suggests to a contented cow sitting under an apple tree that apples could become a multinational business, and then Cow could retire. A modern take on an old parable. Witty drawings. (4-6)



Steve:

A Rare Egg

written and illustrated by Kelly Collier

(Kids Can Press, \$16.99) 978-1-5253-1300-4

A horse discovers a thingamabob that he identifies as an egg and determines to care for it. Cheery illustrations. (5-8)

Who Ate Steve?

by Susannah Lloyd, illustrated by Kate Hindley
(Nosy Crow, \$18.99) 979-8-88777-131-1

A large bird makes multiple attempts to consume a small worm. Then a new predator arrives, inviting readers to reconsider what “large” and “small” are. Mixed-media illustrations. (4-7)



*** Zip Zap Wickety Wack:**

A Story About Sharing

written and illustrated by Matthew Diffie

(Neal Porter Books/Holiday House, \$18.99)

978-0-8234-5871-4

“The sheep says ‘baa.’” But the goat claims proprietorship of “baa,” sparking a lively territorial battle among farm animals for their own unique sounds. Rich wax and colored pencil illustrations. (4-7)

School



Amina Banana series

• Amina Banana and the Formula for Friendship

(978-0-593-69914-0)

• Amina Banana and the Formula for Winning

(978-0-593-69916-4)

by Shifa Saltagi Safadi, illustrated by Aaliya Jaleel

(G. P. Putnam’s Sons/Penguin Random House, P \$6.98)

A Syrian third grader adjusts to life in America, despite language challenges. Black-and-white illustrations. (7-9)

ⓓ * Ava Lin:

One of a Kind

written and illustrated by Vicky Fang

(Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-1-5362-2970-7

With the support of her family, friend, and teacher, an overthinking first grader explores what kindness requires and means. Black-and-white digital illustrations. (6-9)



Brianna Banana:

Helper of the Day (Orca Echoes series)

by Lana Button, illustrated by Suharu Ogawa

(Orca Book Publishers, P \$8.95) 978-1-4598-4001-0

A third grader who struggles for acceptance and friendship is bewildered that her behavior often yields negative consequences. Amusing black-and-white illustrations. (6-9)

ⓓ Call Me Gebyanesh

by Arlene Rosenfeld Shenker and Gebyanesh Addisu
illustrated by Chiara Fedele

(Apples & Honey Press/Behrman Publishers, \$19.95)

978-1-68115-660-6

An Ethiopian Jew in an Israeli school reclaims her name after a teacher renames her. Realistic mixed-media and digital illustrations. Back matter. (6-9)

ⓓ * Henry’s Picture-Perfect Day (Henry series)

by Jenn Bailey, illustrated by Mika Song

(Chronicle Books, \$14.99) 978-1-7972-3025-2

On school picture day, Henry deals with uncomfortable clothes and problems in the classroom. Black, white, and purple drawings accompany this tenderhearted short chapter book. (5-6)

ⓓ No More Chairs

by Dan Gill, illustrated by Susan Gal

(Little, Brown Books for Young Readers/Hachette,

\$18.99) 978-0-316-55269-1

A teacher remembers standing by his friend who was excluded from a birthday party because of racism. His lesson? All are welcome here. Mixed-media art. (6-8)

ⓓ Sarang Saves the School

by Korena Di Roma Howley, illustrated by Joowon Oh
(Candlewick Press, \$18.99) 978-1-5362-3231-8

When a girl’s rural South Korean school is in danger of closing because of diminishing enrollment, she finds an ingenious way to recruit new students. Colorful animated illustrations. (5-8)

Science Fiction

Astro

written and illustrated by Manuel Marsol, translated from Spanish by Lizzie Davis

(Transit Children's Editions/Transit Books, \$21.95)

979-8-89338-904-3

A curious alien companion narrates an astronaut's sojourn on a wild, mysterious planet. A poignant, philosophical tale paired with otherworldly mixed-media images. Also available in Portuguese and in Spanish. (6-9)

Social-Emotional Learning

D The Arguers

written and illustrated by Corinna Luyken

(Rocky Pond Books/Penguin Random House, \$18.99)

978-1-9848-1442-5

A community descends from petty squabbles into bitter feuds. Can they agree on anything? A striking modern parable. Ornate illustrations in watercolor, ink, pencil, and gouache. (4-6)

D * The Blue Velvet Chair

by Rio Cortez, illustrated by Aaron Marin

(Denene Millner Books/Simon & Schuster BFYR/S & S, \$19.99) 978-1-6659-1259-4

From the vantage point of a chair in front of an upper story apartment window, a Black child observes the ever-changing cityscape. Richly hued digital illustrations. (4-7)

Boar and Hedgehog

by David Elliott, illustrated by Eugene Yelchin

(Candlewick Press, \$18.99) 978-1-5362-2871-7

Curmudgeonly, antisocial Boar tries, with decreasing success, to resist gentle Hedgehog's gestures of friendliness, until the day that the latter needs help. Slyly humorous mixed-media illustrations. (5-8)



Caring

by Kobi Yamada, illustrated by Elise Hurst

(Compendium, \$17.95) 978-1-957-89160-6

A boy befriends an elderly gardener whose devoted lifelong work has spread beauty throughout the land. Swirling art awash in rich colors. (6-9)



The Fib

by Pedro Iniguez, illustrated by Nathan Kwan

(Gloo Books, \$19.99) 978-1-96235130-0

Second grader Pepe learns how critical honesty can be after he lies about the existence of a mythical creature that comes terrifyingly to life. Vivid illustrations. (5-8)



Freya and the Snake

by Fredrik Sonck, illustrated by Jenny Lucander

(Kids Can Press, \$21.99) 978-1-5253-1372-1

A girl is devastated after her father kills the snake she found in the rocks. Expressive, stylized line drawings with watercolor and digital collage. (4-7)

The Grumpy Ghost Upstairs

written and illustrated by Mamiko Shiotani, translated

from Japanese by Polly Lawson

(Floris Books, \$18.99) 978-178250-926-4

A specter tries every trick to frighten a scary little girl from his attic, but his visitor just wants to be friends. Hand-drawn illustrations using charcoal pencil. (5-7)

The Hole

by Lindsay Bonilla, illustrated by Brizida Magro

(Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin Random House, \$18.99) 978-0-593-52914-0

A boy copes with the loss of his brother, symbolized by an ever present black hole in his life. Watercolor, pencil, and paper collage art, digitally assembled. (4-7)

D I Hear the Snow, I Smell the Sea

by Janice Milusich, illustrated by Chris Raschka

(Anne Schwartz Books/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-30817-2

In sensual language, a blind child narrates how she experiences the four seasons through her other senses. Swirling pastels and oil drawings. (5-6)

I Know the Whale

by Robin Yardi, illustrated by Matt Schu

(Little Bee Books, \$18.99) 978-1-4998-16-7-5

A young girl, coming upon a beached whale, studies it, contemplating its life and death, as her father collects shells nearby. Undulating, mysterious, gentle illustrations. Semi-autobiographical. (6-8)



The Language of Birds

by Jon-Erik Lappano, illustrated by Zach Manbeck

(Random House Studio/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-80665-4

Mira, who feels a kinship with birds, befriends a new boy in school who expresses himself through artistic images of trees. Glowing earth-toned illustrations. (5-7)

D * My Home Is in My Backpack

by Eugenia Perrella, illustrated by Angela Salerno,
translated from Spanish by Sally Polson
(Floris Books, \$18.99) 978-178250-925-7

A young girl and her family are forced to flee their country but learn that there are many ways to define home. Graphite pencil, watercolor, and digital illustrations. (5-7)



The Other Side of the Rocks

written and illustrated by Nahid Kazemi
(Enchanted Lion Books, \$19.99) 978-1-59270-458-3

A wise fish encourages Froggy to explore a world outside her home. Afterward, Froggy returns home, forever changed by lessons learned from different creatures. Pastel illustrations. Inspired Persian poet Rumi's works. (5-7)

D * Picking Tea with Baba

by Xu Bin, illustrated by Yu Yin, translated from Chinese by Shan Chen

(Charlesbridge, \$18.99) 9-78-1-623-54-6236

A young boy derives pleasure and a sense of pride from the work of harvesting leaves in his family's tea garden. Vivid folk-art-style illustrations. (5-9)

Rain and the Reading Horse

by Maria Gianferrari, illustrated by Hannah Salyer
(Clarion Books/HarperCollins, \$19.99)

978-0-06-325725-2

Spending time reading to and caring for a gentle horse helps a child overcome anxiety and shyness. Gentle mixed-media art. (6-8)

Rock

by Laurel Croza, illustrated by Matt James
(Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, \$19.99)
978-1-77306-948-7

A seagull, dismayed to discover that the stone it tried to eat isn't food, taunts and belittles it. A child, however, sees its beauty. Richly illustrated in mixed media. (5-7)

The Slightly Spooky Tale of Fox and Mole

written and illustrated by Cecilia Heikkilä, translated from Swedish by Polly Lawson
(Floris Books, \$19.99) 978-178250-953-0

Vexed by Mole's selfishness, long-suffering Fox transforms into an unearthly shadow beast. Can Mole make amends before it's too late? Eerie watercolor, gouache, pastel, and digital art. (7-10)

*** Where Are You, Brontë?**

by Tomie dePaola, illustrated by Barbara McClintock
(Simon & Schuster BFYR/S & S, \$19.99)

978-1-5344-1850-9

A gentle tale of love, joy, grief, and healing, perfect for all to prepare for life's unavoidable losses. Engaging, comforting. mixed-media art. (5-7)

STEM (Science/Technology/Engineering/Mathematics)



Beansprout

written and illustrated by Sarah Lynne Reul
(Charlesbridge, \$17.99) 978-1-62354-475-1

Ben and his classmates are each allowed to pick a seed and plant it. His doesn't grow, but he has an idea about what to do next. Mixed-media illustrations. Back matter includes information on plant germination. (5-8)

POETRY



Amazing Peace:

A Christmas Poem

by Maya Angelou, illustrated by Steve Johnson and Lou Fancher

(Anne Schwartz Books/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$19.99) 978-0-593-51861-8

A family heads out on a snowy night to attend a Christmas tree lighting at the town hall and to celebrate peace and hope with their neighbors. Mixed-media illustrations. (5-8)

D The Biggest, Highest Wave

written and illustrated by Kerry McQuaide
(Peter Pauper Press, \$16.99) 978-1-4413-4488-5

A young Black surfer braves the famous swells of Nazaré, Portugal, and is victorious. Rhyming verse. Block print illustrations. Author's note. (5-8)

The Book of Candles:

Eight Poems for Hanukkah

by Laurel Snyder, illustrated by Leanne Hatch
(Clarion/HarperCollins, \$19.99) 978-0-06-327814-1

A family celebrates the Jewish Festival of Lights on each day of the holiday. One night brings an unexpected "mess and a scramble." Digital art. Back matter. (6-8)



Cows and Sheep and Chicks That Cheep

written and illustrated by Douglas Florian
(Beach Lane Books/Simon & Schuster Children's
Publishing/S & S, \$19.99) 978-1-6659-3774-0
A collection of humorous poems about life on a farm
describing animal behaviors and the hard work of a
farmer's daily routine. Mixed-media illustrations. (6-9)

*** Dear Acorn (Love, Oak):**

Letter Poems to Friends

by Joyce Sidman, illustrated by Melissa Sweet
(Clarion Books/HarperCollins, \$19.99)
978-0-35-8333476-7

Eight pairs of personified objects (including sky/bubble,
river/pebble, and coat/button) exchange poems
meditating on the relationship between big and small.
Playful, profound imagery using inventive mixed-media
collage. (6-9)

Winner of the 2026 Claudia Lewis Award



*** For a Girl Becoming**

by Joy Harjo, illustrated by Adriana Garcia
(Norton Young Readers/W. W. Norton, \$18.99)
978-1-324-05224-1

As a brown-skinned baby is welcomed into her
family, they give her loving, empowering messages
about her special place in the world. Free verse.
Richly hued, tactile illustrations. (5-8)



A Forest Song

by Kirsten Hall, illustrated by Evan Turk
(Random House Studio/Random House Children's
Books/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-48036-6
A boy takes a rapturous journey through the autumn
woods. Melodic text in the form of a cento (all lines
are taken from classic poems). Swirling, jewel-toned
gouache illustrations. (5-8)



Girls on the Rise

by Amanda Gorman, illustrated by Loveis Wise
(Viking/Penguin Random House, \$19.99)
978-0-593-62418-0

A powerful and lyrical message affirming the special
wisdom, beauty, and strength in all girls. Collage and
digital graphics. (6-9)

How Elegant the Elephant:

Poems About Animals and Insects

by Mary Ann Hoberman, illustrated by Marla Frazee
(Megan Tingley Books/Little, Brown Books for Young
Readers/Hachette, \$20.99) 978-0-316-41712-9
Whimsical pencil and watercolor illustrations depict
a busy hotel for animals in this rollicking collection
of poems, both new and previously published, with a
variety of forms and meters. (5-8)



In the Desert

by David Elliott, illustrated by Gordy Wright
(Candlewick Press, \$18.99) 978-1-5362-2338-5
Clever rhymes invite readers to look at the wide variety
of creatures that inhabit the Sahara Desert. Rich
gouache and acrylic illustrations, finished digitally. Back
matter. (6-9)

INFORMATIONAL BOOKS

Activities

Growing Green:

A First Book of Gardening

created by Candlewick Press, illustrated by
Daniela Sosa
(Candlewick Press, \$18.99) 978-1-5362-3551-7
Simple, clear instructions along with clear, detailed
color illustrations will help aspiring gardeners plant and
harvest their vegetables. (6-9)

Arts

How to Love the Whole World:

A Story About Artist Agnes Martin

by Henry Martin, illustrated by Shelley Hampe
(Abrams BYR/Abrams, \$19.99) 978-1-949480-53-5
Loving her natural surroundings, a Canadian American
painter expressed her intense feelings in lines and
grids, which were initially misunderstood. Illustrations
capture her minimalist style. (7-10)

JIM!:

Six True Stories About One Great Artist: James Marshall

written and illustrated by Jerrold Connors
(Dial BFYR/Penguin Random House, \$20.99)
978-0-593-85934-6

This somewhat fictionalized account recreates the
renowned illustrator's cartoon style and depicts aspects
of his life through animal characters. Hilarious! (6-8)

④ A Line Can Go Anywhere:

The Brilliant, Resilient Life of Artist Ruth Asawa

by Caroline McAlister, illustrated by Jamie Green
(Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$19.99)
978-1-250-31037-8

A California Nisei, interned during World War II, achieved acclaim by creating soaring wire sculptures and teaching. Expressive charcoal, watercolor, and digital illustrations. Archival photos. Author's note. Bibliography. (7-9)

Miffy and the Artists (Miffy series)

written and illustrated by Dick Bruna
(Thames & Hudson, \$16.95) 978-0-500-65378-4
The author takes us on an art museum tour featuring 24 artists that directly influenced his art style. Thought-provoking for young art critics and aficionados. Bold color graphics and photographs and reproductions of paintings and sculptures. Back matter. (6-9)

④ * When I Hear Spirituals

by Cheryl Willis Hudson, illustrated by London Ladd
(Holiday House, \$18.99) 978-0-8234-5380-1
Lyrics of songs that express joy and sorrow interweave with a young narrator's emotional responses. Excellent resource for pairing with audio recordings. Realistic artwork. Glossary and extensive back matter. (6-9)

Biography and Memoir

④ Amazing Annie:

The Spectacular and Mostly True Adventures of Annie Kopchovsky

by Stephen Krensky, illustrated by Adriana Predoi
(Apples & Honey Press, Behrman Publishers, \$19.95)
978-1-68115-657-6

In 1894 a Jewish Latvian immigrant woman broke societal barriers by biking around the world, entertaining audiences along the way with imagined adventures. Colorful, detailed illustrations. (6-8)

**The Apprenticeship of Andrew Wyeth:
Painting a Family Legacy**

written and illustrated by Gene Barretta
(Christy Ottaviano Books/Little, Brown Books for Young Readers/Hachette, \$18.99) 978-0-316-33908-7
The son of N. C. Wyeth, a renowned painter and illustrator with an outsized personality, Andrew developed his own artistic vocabulary and achieved a lifetime of creative success. Watercolor and colored pencil illustrations. (6-9)

④ A Banquet for Cecilia:

How Cecilia Chiang Revolutionized Chinese Food in America

by Julie Leung, illustrated by Melissa Iwai
(Little, Brown Books for Young Readers/Hachette, \$18.99) 978-0-7595-5741-3
The daughter of once wealthy parents escaped China after the Communist Revolution and used memories of delicious home-cooked meals to evolve into a celebrated restaurateur. Evocative illustrations. Archival photographs. Maps. Author's note. (7-9)

④ Beacon of Hope:

The Life of Barack Obama (Big Words series)

by Doreen Rappaport, illustrated by Tonya Engel
(Little, Brown Books for Young Readers/Hachette, \$19.99) 978-0-316-39783-4
The 44th president's personal background, achievements, and message, with notable quotes and colorful paintings, inspire and inform. Back matter includes an extensive time line. (6-9)

④ Becoming a Ballerina:

The Story of Michaela Mabinty DePrince

by Laura Obuobi, illustrated by Olivia Duchess
(Harper/HarperCollins, \$19.99) 978-0-06-322246-5
Sierra Leonean adoptee DePrince faced discrimination in the American ballet world for her skin color and vitiligo, yet became a prima ballerina. Colorful digital illustrations. Back matter. (6-8)

Becoming Real:

The True Story of the Velveteen Rabbit

by Molly Golden, illustrated by Paola Escobar
(Clarion Books/HarperCollins, \$19.99)
978-0-35-868154-0
Author Margery Williams grew up with imaginary friends. Later, she wrote books about them. Period illustrations. Activities with toys. Back matter. (6-9)

The Girl Who Tested the Waters:

Ellen Swallow, Environmental Scientist

by Patricia Daniele, illustrated by Junyi Wu
(MIT Kids Press/Candlewick Press, \$18.99)
978-1-5362-3005-5
A woman defied 19th-century norms by pursuing a career in science at an all-male university and then identified contaminated food and water. Colored pencil artwork evokes the period. (7-10)

D **The Glass Pyramid:**

A Story of the Louvre Museum and Architect I. M. Pei

by Jeanne Walker Harvey, illustrated by Khoa Le
(Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster, \$19.99)

978-1-6659-5333-7

An outsider in France, Chinese American designer Pei worked in secret before unveiling his iconic new entrance to the Louvre. Striking digital artwork. STEM connections in back matter. (7-10)

D **Go Tell It:**

How James Baldwin Became a Writer

by Quartez Harris, illustrated by Gordon C. James
(Little, Brown Books for Young Readers/Hachette, \$18.99) 978-0-316-48393-3

As a boy, a brilliant and celebrated Black writer with an angry stepfather sought escape in his love of words and writing. Lush, painterly art. (6-8)

His Fairytale Life:

A Book About Hans Christian Andersen

by Jane Yolen, illustrated by Brooke Boynton-Hughes
(Neal Porter Books/Holiday House, \$18.99)

978-0-8234-5103-6

Narrator Yolen, the renowned children's book author, interweaves the struggles and triumphs of a legendary storyteller's life with detailed luminous illustrations of some of the more than 150 fairy tales that he wrote. Back matter. (5-8)

Lady of the Lines:

How Maria Reiche Saved the Nazca Lines by Sweeping the Desert

by Michaela MacColl, illustrated by Elisa Chavarri
(Astra Young Readers/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House, \$18.99) 978-1-6626-2009-6

Enchanted by Peru and its ancient civilization, a German mathematician and archaeologist devoted her life to uncovering enormous drawings hidden under sand. Realistic illustrations. Archival photographs. Back matter. (7-10)

*** Magic in a Drop of Water:**

How Ruth Patrick Taught the World About Water Pollution

by Julie Winterbottom, illustrated by Susan Reagan
(Rocky Pond Books/Penguin Random House, \$19.99) 978-0-593-62022-9

Microscopic views of pond scum galvanized a young girl to devote her life to protecting waterways and their myriad life forms. Watercolor with delicate line art. (6-9)

D **Make a Pretty Sound:**

A Story of Ella Jenkins—The First Lady of Children's Music

by Traci N. Todd, illustrated by Eleanor Davis
(Chronicle Books, \$19.99) 978-1-4521-7064-0

A Black girl from Chicago who always loved music grew up to become a legendary children's music teacher, folk singer, and composer. Expressive digital color artwork. Time line. Back matter. (7-10)

Making Light Bloom:

Clara Driscoll and the Tiffany Lamps

by Sandra Nickel, illustrated by Julia Paschkis
(Peachtree Publishing, \$18.99) 978-1-68263609-1
Working for a renowned glassmaker in the mid-1900s, Driscoll incorporated nature and landscape designs in world-famous cut-glass garden lamps. Painting and ink illustrations showcase examples of her work. Extensive back matter. (7-10)

D **The Music Inside Us:**

Yo-Yo Ma & His Gifts to the World

by James Howe, illustrated by Jack Wong
(Abrams BYR/Abrams, \$19.99) 978-1-4197-5521-7
Ma's journey from child prodigy to ambassador for world music and harmony is explored in evocative prose and emotional paintings. Readers are encouraged to treasure their own gifts. Back matter. (7-10)

D **The One and Only Rumi**

by Rabiah York, illustrated by Maneli Manouchehri
(Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin Random House, \$18.99) 978-0-59332576-6
Exiled from Afghanistan as a child, the 13th-century poet Rumi drew joy from music, nature, and inner journeys. Drawings infused with gold. (6-9)

One Girl's Voice:

How Lucy Stone Helped Change the Law of the Land

by Vivian Kirkfield, illustrated by Rebecca Gibbon
(Calkins Creek/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House, \$18.99) 978-1-6626-8045-8

Stone, a 19th-century activist, was an abolitionist and an early champion of women's rights. Detailed acrylic ink and colored pencil illustrations. Back matter. (6-9)

*** Outside In and the Inside Out:**

A Story About Arnold Lobel

written and illustrated by Emmy Kastner
(Viking/Penguin Random House, \$18.99)
978-0-593-69250-9

A second grader who started drawing during an extended illness grew up to become a beloved author-illustrator. Rich, charming illustrations convey much of the storytelling. Sources and list of Lobel's works. Heartfelt author's note. (6-9)

④ Pedal Pusher:

How One Woman's Bicycle Adventure Helped Change the World

by Mary Boone, illustrated by Lisa Anchin
(Henry Holt BYR/Macmillan, \$19.99)
978-1-250-83712-7

In 1894 a dynamic young Latvian Jewish mother of three became the first woman to ride her bike around the world. Detailed, dynamic illustrations. Back matter. (6-8)

④ The Prince of Stars:

Ulugh Beg's Quest to Map the Stars and Seasons

by M. O. Yuksel, illustrated by Zelma Firdauzia
(Harper/HarperCollins, \$19.99) 978-0-06-324015-5

In the 15th century, a brilliant Muslim prince built the largest observatory of his time and made extraordinary discoveries, laying the foundation for modern astronomy. Detailed digital art. Back matter. (6-9)

*** Revolutionary Mary:**

The True Story of One Woman, the Declaration of Independence, and America's Fight for Freedom

by Karen Blumenthal and Jen McCartney, illustrated by Elizabeth Baddeley
(Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$18.99)
978-1-62672-311-5

The only woman whose name appears on the Declaration of Independence was Mary Goddard, the passionate patriot who risked her life to print it. Mixed-media art. Back matter. (7-10)

④ Rewriting the Rules:

How Dr. Kathleen Friel Created New Possibilities for Brain Research and Disability

by Danna Zeiger, illustrated by Josée Bisailon
(Millbrook Press/Lerner, \$19.99) 979-8-7656-4727-1
Childhood experiences due to cerebral palsy led a girl to pioneer research to develop therapies to improve function in children with similar conditions. Animated, colorful illustrations. Back matter. (7-9)

The Spider Lady:

Nan Songer and Her Arachnid WWII Army

by Penny Parker Klostermann, illustrated by Anne Lambelet
(Calkins Creek/Astra BFYR/Astra Publishing House, \$18.99) 978-1-6626-8035-9

A young girl's interest in bugs evolved into a fascination with spiders. She taught herself how to harvest spider silk for crosshairs in gunsights and other equipment. Detailed mixed-media illustrations. (8-10)



*** Wanda Hears The Stars:**

A Blind Astronomer Listens to the Universe

by Amy S. Hansen, with Wanda Díaz Merced, illustrated by Rocío Arreola Mendoza
(Charlesbridge, \$18.99) 978-1-62354-487-4

Although she became blind, by using sonification—presenting data through sound—Díaz Merced achieved her dream of becoming an astronomer. Vibrant illustrations. Excellent back matter. (6-9)

Contemporary Issues

④ The Bi Book

by A. J. Irving, illustrated by Cynthia Alonso
(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$18.99) 978-0-593-57182-8

A depiction of the many ways that "bi" at the beginning of a word, including bisexuality, means two. Charming crayon-like drawings. (6-8)



The Camel Library:

A True Story from Pakistan

by Marzieh Abbas, illustrated by Anain Shaikh
(Feiwel and Friends/Macmillan, \$18.99)
978-1-250-32202-9

After the arrival of a viral pandemic, a camel and his human switch from delivering firewood to delivering books to children. Cartoon-style digital illustrations. Back matter features color photos. (5-8)

④ Some of Us:

A Story of Citizenship and the United States

by Rajani LaRocca, illustrated by Huy Voun Lee
(Christy Ottaviano Books/Little, Brown Books for Young Readers/Hachette, \$18.99) 978-0-316-57175-3
The difficult journey to become a citizen in our nation is beautifully shared through inspiring language and expressive mixed-media art. (6-9)

Ecology

The Air We Share:

A Pollution Problem and Finding Ways to Fix It (Books for a Better Earth collection)

by Dee Romito, illustrated by Mariona Cabassa (Holiday House, \$19.99) 978-0-8234-5500-3
Three events—the eruption of Krakatoa in 1883; Black Sunday, a massive Oklahoma dust storm in 1935; and the Great Smog of 1952 in London—illustrate the global effects of airborne particulates. Colorful illustrations. Glossary, index, sources. (7-9)

📖 Bird Brothers: A Delhi Story

by Rina Singh, illustrated by Barkha Lohia (Orca Book Publishers, \$21.95) 978-1-4598-3856-7
Two Muslim Indian brothers learn to rescue black kites in a city where those birds, ironically, are wounded by the glass-coated strings used for paper-kite fighting. Mixed-media illustrations. Author's note. (6-9)

*** Dawn**

written and illustrated by Marc Martin (Candlewick Studio/Candlewick Press, \$18.99) 978-1-5362-3240-0
See the world come alive as the sun rises and animals, insects, and flowers greet the day. Spare text and elaborate watercolor, pencil, and digital illustrations. (6-9)

*** I Am We:**

How Crows Come Together to Survive

by Leslie Barnard Booth, illustrated by Alexandra Finkeldey (Chronicle Books, \$18.99) 978-1-7972-2615-6
When the seasons change, thousands of crows take refuge together at night, huddling for warmth and protection. Stunning dark and evocative illustrations. Lyrical language. Comprehensive back matter. (7-9)



Ice Journey of the Polar Bear

by Martin Jenkins, illustrated by Lou Baker-Smith (Candlewick Press, \$18.99) 978-1-5362-3571-5
A polar bear and her two cubs wander the Arctic looking for food and shelter amid changing conditions and melting ice. Bright, textured mixed-media illustrations. (7-10)

Just in Case:

Saving Seeds in the Svalbard Global Seed Vault

by Megan Clendenan, illustrated by Brittany Cicchese (Charlesbridge, \$17.99) 978-1-6235-4480-5
Buried deep underground in the Arctic, a Norwegian facility stores more than 580 million global crop seeds, preserving them for future food supplies. Animated, colorful illustrations. Back matter. (6-8)

Mighty:

The Story of an Oak Tree Ecosystem

written and illustrated by Henry Cole (Peachtree Publishing, \$18.99) 978-1-68263-733-3
An acorn grows into a great oak, evolving as part of an ecosystem and becoming a beloved town landmark. Finely detailed black-and-white pencil drawings. (7-10)

📖 * My Pollinator Garden:

How I Plant for Bees, Butterflies, Beetles, and More (Books for a Better Earth collection)

by Jordan Zwetchkenbaum, illustrated by Kate Cosgrove (Holiday House, \$18.99) 978-0-8234-5498-3
A colorful and inviting guide with detailed information about how pollination works and the vital role of pollinators. Striking pencil and digital art drawing. (5-8)



Plight of the Pelican:

How Science Saved a Species (Books for a Better Earth collection)

by Jessica Stremer, illustrated by Gordy Wright (Holiday House, \$19.99) 978-0-8234-5703-8
In the late 1960s and early 1970s, DDT, a pesticide, was endangering the population of pelicans (and other living creatures). Scientists discovered why and fought to solve the problem. Full-page gouache and acrylic illustrations. (7-9)

Recycling Day:

What Happens to the Things We Throw Away

by Polly Faber, illustrated by Klas Fahlén (Nosy Crow, \$17.99) 979-8-88777-115-1
Learn about the many useful ways that metal, plastic, paper, fabric, and food scraps can be repurposed after we discard them. Colorful descriptive illustrations. Suggested conservation practices. (8-10)

Whales in the City

by Nancy F. Castaldo, illustrated by Chuck Groenink (Farrar, Straus & Giroux (BYR)/Macmillan, \$18.99) 978-0-374-30856-8
After many years of being driven away by overfishing, pollution, and other consequences of human activity, whales were brought back to New York Harbor through staunch efforts of activists. Dramatic mixed-media illustrations. Sources. (7-10)



When a Tree Falls:

Nurse Logs and Their Incredible Forest Power

by Kirsten Pendreigh, illustrated by Elke Boschinger
(Chronicle Books, \$18.99) 978-1-7972-1867-0

What happens when a tree falls in the forest?

Sometimes it continues nursing life. Simple, poetic text and full-page digital illustrations transport readers into the woods. (5-8)

Worm Makes a Sandwich

written and illustrated by Brianne Farley
(G. P. Putnam's Sons/Penguin Random House, \$18.99)
978-0-593-69780-1

A humorous explanation of the critical role worm poop plays in a successful garden. Mixed-media color illustrations. (5-8)

History

*** The Friendship Train:**

A True Story of Helping and Healing After World War II

by Debbie Levy, illustrated by Boris Kulikov
(Bloomsbury Children's Books/Bloomsbury, \$20.99)
978-1-5476-0802-7

In 1947 children played an important role in filling boxcars traveling across the U.S. with essential food to be shipped to hungry Europeans. Striking illustrations evoke the time period. Back matter. (7-10)

📖 The History of We

written and illustrated by Nikkolas Smith
(Kokila/Penguin Random House, \$18.99)
978-0-593-61968-1

Enter the African continent, where communication, the arts, sciences, and exploration originated, creating our shared global humanity. Lyrical text. Acrylic art. Back matter. (7-10)



*** The House on the Canal**

by Thomas Harding, illustrated by Britta Teckentrup
(Candlewick Studio/Candlewick Press, \$19.99)
978-1-5362-4070-2

Follow the 400-year history of 263 Prinsengracht, the building on a plot of marshland in Amsterdam where Anne Frank and her family hid during World War II. Mixed-media illustrations. Back matter. (7-10)

📖 * The Keeper of Stories

by Caroline Kusin Pritchard, illustrated by Selina Alko
(Simon & Schuster BFYR/S & S, \$19.99)
978-1-6659-1497-0

In 1966, when fire destroyed many precious volumes at the Jewish Theological Seminary library, the wider community rallied in a massive salvage operation, known as "Operation Booklift." Striking illustrations. (7-10)



📖 One Day:

A True Story of Survival in the Holocaust

by Michael Rosen, illustrated by Benjamin Phillips
(Candlewick Studio/Candlewick Press, \$18.99)
978-1-5362-3894-5

A Hungarian Jewish father and son fought the Nazis with the Resistance in Paris, but were captured. Would they escape the Auschwitz-bound train that they were on? Mixed-media illustrations. (7-10) Mature content



Returning the Sword:

How a Japanese Sword of War Became a Symbol of Friendship and Peace

by Caren Stelson, illustrated by Amanda Yoshida
(Carolrhoda Books/Lerner, \$18.99)
979-8-7656-1153-1

Years after World War II, a retired American soldier returned a treasured Japanese artifact, taken as plunder but unflaggingly cared for, to its original owner's family. Warm digital illustrations. Bibliography, notes. (7-10)

📖 The Secret Recipe

by Ilan Stavans, illustrated by Taia Morley
(Kar-Ben Publishing/Lerner, \$18.99)
978-1-7284-8643-7

While making a traditional pastry with his grandmother, using her recipe written in Ladino (Judeo-Spanish), a boy learns about the language's origins and survival. Bold color illustrations. Glossary. Recipe. (5-8)

STEM (Science/Technology/Engineering/Mathematics)

📖 Akeem Keeps Bees:

A Close-Up Look at the Honey Makers and Pollinators of Sankofa Farms

by Kamal E. Bell, with Akeem Bell, illustrated by Darnell Johnson
(Storey Publishing/Workman Publishing/Hachette, \$18.99) 978-1-63586-609-4

A Black boy describes how his family farm's apiary operates. Colorful, detailed graphic-novel-style illustrations. Back matter. (8-10)

D  * **Alberto Salas Plays Paka Paka con la Papa**
by Sara Andrea Fajardo, illustrated by
Juana Martinez-Neal
(Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$19.99)
978-1-250-83861-2

An Andean-born agronomist's fluency in both Spanish and Quechua helped make him an unprecedentedly effective plant collector and protector of biodiversity. Rich, earthy illustrations. Glossary, biographical information. Also available in Spanish. (7-9)

The Blue Jays That Grew a Forest

by Lynn Street, illustrated by Anne Hunter
(Margaret Quinlin Books/Peachtree Publishing,
\$18.99) 978-1-68263-604-6

A year in the lives of omnivorous blue jays, who, in the fall, stash ripened acorns far and wide, not all of which are eaten, but instead grow into oaks. Gentle mixed-media illustrations. Notes on keystone species and symbiosis. (6-8)

Don't Eat the Cleaners!:

Tiny Fish with a BIG Job

written and illustrated by Susan Stockdale
(Peachtree Publishing, \$18.99) 978-1-68263-729-6
To stay healthy, marine animals need to have parasites and dead skin removed. At coral reef cleaning stations, wrasse, angelfish, cleaner shrimp, and other sea creatures provide that service. Colorful digital illustrations. Back matter. (6-8)

A Gift of Dust:

How Saharan Plumes Feed the Planet

by Martha Brockenbrough, illustrated by
Juana Martinez-Neal
(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House Children's Books/
PRH, \$19.99) 978-0-593-42842-9
Myriad organic and inorganic materials, both ancient and new, float nearly invisibly through our atmosphere on an epic journey. Rich mixed-media illustrations. Back matter. (7-10)

I, Rock:

A Geology Tale

by Katie Slivensky, illustrated by Steph Stilwell
(Beach Lane Books/Simon & Schuster Children's
Publishing/S & S, \$19.99) 978-1-6659-4036-8
A small rock narrates his story as part of Earth's geological history, from four billion years ago to the present. Bold illustrations. Back matter. (7-10)

*** I Am a Lioness**

written and illustrated by Hyewon Kyung
(Peter Pauper Press, \$17.99) 978-1-4413-4661-2
Clearing up the misconception that males run the pride, a lioness explains that it is the females that band together for safety, food, security, and protection of the cubs. Paint and pencil illustrations on handmade paper. (5-7)



*** In the World of Whales**

by Michelle Cusolito, illustrated by Jessica Lanan
(Neal Porter Books/Holiday House, \$18.99)
978-0-8234-5342-9

A free diver happens upon a sperm whale birth. The miraculous experience impacts him deeply. The blue illustration color palette invites readers beneath the ocean too. (7-10)

The Lonely Goose

by Lela Nargi, illustrated by Anne Hunter
(Random House Studio/Random House Children's
Books/PRH, \$19.99) 978-0-593-64755-4
Follow a goose as she mates, raises goslings, mourns when her partner dies, and then finds a new mate. Mixed-media illustrations. Back matter. (5-8)

D Meena and the Microbiome

by Dr. Majdi Osman, illustrated by Teresa Martínez
(MIT Kids Press/Candlewick Press, \$18.99)
978-1-5362-2759-8
Meena's scientist mom provides clear explanations about the fascinating role of microbes in our world and bodies. Digital art. Back matter. (5-7)

Meet the Mini-Mammals:

A Night at the Natural History Museum

by Melissa Stewart, illustrated by Brian Lies
(Beach Lane Books/Simon & Schuster Children's
Publishing, \$19.99) 978-1-6659-4716-9
Discover the amazing number of the world's tiniest mammals and the environments they live in. Acrylic and pencil illustrations. Bibliography. (6-9)

*** Salmon Run:**

An Epic Journey to the Ocean and Back

written and illustrated by Annie Chen
(Red Comet Press, \$19.99) 978-1-63655-165-4
Follow the remarkable and perilous life of a Pacific Northwest salmon, from hatchling to parent. Lush translucent illustrations. Maps. Back matter. (7-9)

Stuck!:

The Story of La Brea Tar Pits

by Joyce Uglow, illustrated by Valerya Milovanova (Bushel & Peck Books, \$18.99) 978-1-63819-188-0
Excavation of the Los Angeles tar pit revealed clues about its formation and the fossilized prehistoric creatures entrapped there. Lyrical text. Evocative, dynamic illustrations. Time line, glossary. (7-10)

Sun Bird:

The Amazing Journey of the Arctic Tern

written and illustrated by Lindsay Moore (Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, \$19.99) 978-0-06-306100-2
One year in the life of a bird that feeds, mates, nests, and eludes predators while migrating 18,000 miles each year. Dramatic immersive digital art. Rich back matter. (6-9)

Sunflower Seeds

written and illustrated by Ellen Heck (Levine Querido, \$19.99) 978-1-64614-623-9
A teacher gives each student a few seedlings to nurture over the summer so they can witness the wonders of nature up close. Vibrant oil illustrations. (5-7)

Toes, Teeth, and Tentacles:

A Curious Counting Book

written and illustrated by Steve Jenkins and Robin Page (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers/Hachette, \$18.99) 978-0-316-45669-2
Fascinating facts with exquisite detailed collage art bring remarkable animals up close. Find creatures with nine eyes or five legs or two tongues! Back matter. (5-8)



*** Trapped in the Tar Pit:**

How Paleontologists Unearthed a City's Prehistoric Past

by Jessica Stremer, illustrated by Alexander Vidal (Beach Lane Books/Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing/S & S, \$19.99) 978-1-6659-5317-7
The history of the massive graveyard of extinct animals that was unearthed in Los Angeles 40,000 years after the tar pit's formation. Stylized digital illustrations. Species index, historical notes, resources. (7-10)



The True and Lucky Life of a Turtle

by Sy Montgomery, illustrated by Matt Patterson (Clarion Books/HarperCollins, \$19.99) 978-0-06-332516-6
Fire Chief was a fortunate turtle for most of his 40+ years, until he was hit by a car. Afterward, with help from a rescue league, he recovered. Dramatic, realistic illustrations. (5-8)

Zero!:

The Number That Almost Wasn't

by Sarah Albee, illustrated by Chris Hsu (Charlesbridge, \$17.99) 978-1-62354-432-4
The concept of zero was not always universally accepted, and controversy over its existence has had a long history of political and religious biases. Time-period-specific illustrations. Back matter. (7-10)

World

④ Soy Sauce!

written and illustrated by Laura G. Lee (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers/Hachette, \$18.99) 978-1-5235-2838-7
This Asian staple is actually many, since every country that makes it has its own distinct methods and ingredients. Jaunty text with tempting mixed-media illustrations (including several different soy sauces). (5-8)

*** This Is Orange:**

A Field Trip Through Color

by Rachel Poliquin, illustrated by Julie Morstad (Candlewick Press, \$18.99) 978-1-5362-3052-9
The history, etymology, chemical makeup(s), and symbologies of the "color between yellow and red," which there was once no word for in English. Luscious mixed-media illustrations. (7-10)