

**B** Board Book

**(D)** 

Diversity

Outstanding Merit

(4-6) Age Range

#### 13 Stories about Harris

written and illustrated by Amy Schwartz (Holiday House, \$18.99) 978-0-8234-4249-2 Short playful vignettes are paired with simple line illustrations to capture moments in a toddler's urban childhood. Perfect for emergent readers and toddlers. (3-6)

### (D) (B) ABC What Can I Be?: YOU Can Be Anything YOU Want To Be, from A to Z (ABC for Me series)

written and illustrated by Jessie Ford (Walter Foster Jr. Quarto Group, \$16.99) 978-1-6005-8882-2

A diverse group of children are introduced to both traditional and nontraditional jobs, arranged alphabetically from astronaut to zookeeper. Animated, colorful illustrations with minimal text. (3-6)

#### All along the River

written and illustrated by Magnus Weightman, translated from the Dutch by Magnus Weightman (Clavis Publishing, \$19.95) 978-1-60537-518-2 Join Bunny and her brothers in a journey to recover her beloved Little Duck. Detailed illustrations and picture clues abound in this search-and-find adventure. (3-6)

#### **Almost Time**

by Gary D. Schmidt and Elizabeth Stickney, illustrated by G. Brian Karas (Clarion Books/HMH, \$17.99) 978-0-544-78581-6 Young Ethan must be patient as he waits for the sap to run and for his loose tooth to fall out. Expressive digitally colored illustrations. (4-6)

- **B** Animal Families series
- Animal Families: Forest (978-1-5362-1198-6)
- Animal Families: Safari (978-1-5362-1199-3) written and illustrated by Jane Ormes (Nosy Crow/Candlewick Press, \$9.99) Bright colors, sturdy flaps, and simple text introduce readers to animal families in these visually striking interactive board books with screen-printed illustrations. (0-3)

#### **Animal Olympics:**

# Creatures Great and Small Competing in Incredible, Impressive, and Extraordinary Events!

by Carron Brown illustrated by Katy Tanis (Ivy Kids/Quarto, \$16.99) 978-1-7824-0987-8 The surprising animal winners competing in twelve Olympic games are introduced with accompanying facts. Animated color illustrations, humorous endpapers. Back matter. (5-6)

#### At the Pond

written and illustrated by Geraldo Valério (Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, \$19.95) 978-1-77306-232-7

In this wordless book, a child befriends a swan. When the swan is leashed, the sky turns black. Only when the swan is freed do the pastel colors return. Mixed-media illustrations. (4-6)

#### The Bear and the Moon

by Matthew Burgess, illustrated by Cátia Chien (Chronicle Books, \$18.99) 978-1-4521-7191-3 After befriending a stray balloon, a gentle bear experiences the joy of companionship, heartache of loss, and relief of forgiveness. Evocative illustrations create a gentle mood.(4-6)

#### (D) Bedtime for Sweet Creatures

by Nikki Grimes, illustrated by Elizabeth Zunon (Sourcebooks Jabberwocky/Sourcebooks, \$17.99) 978-1-4926-3832-2

A young child and her menagerie of wild creatures get ready for bed. Colorful mixed-media illustrations. (2-4)

#### **Beehive**

written and illustrated by Jorey Hurley (Paula Wiseman Books/Simon & Schuster, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-7003-2

Using only one word on each two-page spread, the author follows the life cycle of a bee busy making honey. Soft pastel illustrations. Back matter. (4-6)

#### **Bird Hugs**

written and illustrated by Ged Adamson (Two Lions/Amazon Publishing, \$17.99) 978-1-5420-9271-5

What if your body could not do the one thing you had imagined it had been built for? Embrace your differences! Amusing watercolor and pencil illustrations. (4-6)



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#### **Bo the Brave**

written and illustrated by Bethan Woollvin (Peachtree Publishing, \$17.99) 978-1-68263-182-9 A griffin, a kraken, and a dragon help Bo show her brothers that girls can hunt monsters too. gouache illustrations in a limited palette. (4-6)

#### \* Brian Wildsmith's Animal Gallery

written and illustrated by Brian Wildsmith (Candlewick Studio/Candlewick Press, \$18.99) 978-1-5362-1235-8

In this reissued artistic treasure, see animals in their habitats and learn what a group of each is called. Watercolors, chalk, colored pencil, and gouache. (3-6)

## **D** Brick by Brick

written and illustrated by Heidi Woodward Sheffield (Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin Random House, \$17.99) 978-0-525-51730-6

A loving Latino father and son work toward a dream of owning their "always" home in the United States. Creative collage-based digital paintings. (4-6)

#### Bye, Penguin!

written and illustrated by Seou Lee (Levine Querido, \$17.99) 978-1-64614-021-3 In this wordless tale, a stranded penguin travels the world on a shrinking ice floe, passing famous sights like the Statue of Liberty, and returns on a surfboard. Colorful digital illustrations. (4-6)

#### **Cannonball Coralie and the Lion**

written and illustrated by Grace Easton (Frances Lincoln Children's Books, \$18.99) 978-0-7112-5215-8

When Coralie is dismissed by a cruel ringmaster, her bravery and dignity motivate her lion friend and others to follow. Quirky engaging digital illustrations. (4-6)

#### \* Cat Dog Dog:

#### The Story of a Blended Family

by Nelly Buchet, illustrated by Andrea Zuill (Schwartz & Wade/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$17.99) 978-1-9848-4899-4

In this nearly wordless story, two people move in together very happily. But will their pets get along too? Humorous energetic digital ink illustrations. (3-5)

### (D) Catch That Chicken

by Atinuke, illustrated by Angela Brooksbank (Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-1-5362-1268-6 Spare, alliterative text joins bold mixed-media illustrations in this joyful tale of a resourceful Nigerian girl in her quest to catch chickens. (3-6)

#### **Cave Dada**

written and illustrated by Brandon Reese (Chronicle Books, \$16.99) 978-1-4521-7994-0 When Baba demands the perfect bedtime book, Dada looks for the perfect stone tablet. Hilarious color pencil, and gouache Photoshopped illustrations. (2-4)

#### Cozy

written and illustrated by Jan Brett (G.P. Putnam's Sons BFYR/Penguin Random House, \$18.99) 978-0-593-10979-3 Exquisitely detailed watercolor illustrations immerse

Exquisitely detailed watercolor illustrations immerse us in this gentle tale of Arctic tundra animals sheltering from a storm within a musk ox's coat. (4-6)

### D Danbi Leads the School Parade

written and illustrated by Anna Kim (Viking BFYR/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-451-47889-4 New to the United States from Korea, Danbi bravely goes to school, but no one plays with her until a magical moment at lunchtime! Soft, sweet illustrations. (4-6)

#### **Dandelion's Dream**

written and illustrated by Yoko Tanaka (Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-1-5362-0453-7 Digitally colored charcoal illustrations depict the ethereal adventures of a flower as it transforms into a yellow-maned dandelion before it goes to seed. (4-6)

#### \* Don't Worry, Little Crab

written and illustrated by Chris Haughton (Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-1-5362-1119-1 Gently encouraged by Very Big Crab, Little Crab finds the courage to overcome his fear of the ocean and discover a new world. Simple, colorful digital illustrations. (2-5)

## (D) (B) Families Belong

by Dan Saks, illustrated by Brooke Smart (Penguin Workshop/Penguin Random House, \$7.99) 978-0-593-22276-8

Families of various configurations show many ways of being together. Colorful illustrations depict multiple racial representations. (2-4)



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## **D** Federico and the Wolf

by Rebecca J. Gomez, illustrated by Elisa Chavarri (Clarion Books/Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$17.99) 978-1-328-567788-9

A resourceful Latinx boy saves the day in this rollicking Red Riding Hood retelling. Colorful Photoshopped illustrations. Salsa recipe. Spanish/English glossary included. (3-6)

### Fight the Night

written and illustrated by Tomie dePaola (Simon & Schuster BFYR/ Simon & Schuster, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-4373-0

Animated, crosshatched black ink/color illustrations elevate the story of a young boy's struggle to resist sleep. Refreshed edition of a 1968 classic. (3-6)

## (D) Friday Night Wrestlefest

by J. F. Fox, illustrated by Micah Player (Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-1-250-21240-5

Rollicking text, vibrant digital art, and a diaper joke will have young readers sharing one family's fun—their weekly bedtime tradition. (4-6)

#### **Green on Green**

by Dianne White, illustrated by Felicita Sala (Beach Lane Books/ Simon & Schuster, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-6278-5

Share a family's joyful experience of a pregnancy as the seasons pass. Lyrical rhyming text. Engaging watercolor, gouache, and colored pencil illustrations. (4-6)

#### \* The Heart of a Whale

written and illustrated by Anna Pignataro (Philomel Books/Penguin Random House, \$17.99) 978-1-984-83627-4

A whale's song is filled with kindness, but it takes another whale's friendship to bring happiness and fulfillment. Evocative watercolor illustrations. (4-6)

#### How to Be a Pirate

by Isaac Fitzgerald, illustrated by Brigette Barrager (Bloomsbury Children's Books, \$17.99) 978-1-68119-778-4

Can girls be pirates? CeCe sets out to learn from her grandfather if she has what it takes. Bright, engaging illustrations. (4-6)

#### **How to Potty Train Your Porcupine**

written and illustrated by Tom Toro (Little, Brown BFYR/Hachette, \$17.99) 978-0-316-49539-4

A sister and brother go to extreme measures in an attempt to potty train a porcupine. Rollicking antics ensue. Very entertaining color illustrations. (2-5)

## (D) I Am Brown

by Ashok Banker, illustrated by Sandhya Prabhat (Lantana Publishing, \$17.99) 978-1-911373-94-0 Children celebrate being brown and take pride in who they are and where they come from. Bright, cheerful illustrations. (4-6)

## **B** I Love You, Little Moo

by Tilly Temple, illustrated by Laura Deo (Tiger Tales, \$9.99) 978-1-68010-624-4 In this simple lift-the-flap board book, animal parents express their love for their children. Bold colorful illustrations. (2-4)

## (D) I Promise

by LeBron James, illustrated by Nina Mata (HarperCollins, \$19.99) 978-0-06-297106-7 The activities at the school James started in Akron, Ohio, are the focus of this account of the joyful experience of learning together. Exuberant colorful digital illustrations. (3-6)

## **D** In a Garden

by Tim McCanna, illustrated by Aimée Sicuro (Paula Wiseman Books/ Simon & Schuster, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-1797-7

Critters, insects, and plantings abound as friends and neighbors come together in a community garden throughout the year. Colorful, playful mixed-media illustrations. (3-6)

#### In a Jar

written and illustrated by Deborah Marcero (G.P. Putnam's Sons BFYR/Penguin Random House, \$17.99) 978-0-525-5149-6

Wonderful watercolors show us the world of Llewellyn, a rabbit, who loves to collect things in jars. After he meets Evelyn, they collect and share sunsets, rainbows, and even heartbreak. (4-6)



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## (D) (B) In My Heart

by Mackenzie Porter, illustrated by Jenny Løvlie (Little Simon, \$7.99) 978-1-5344-5433-0 A child is reassured by her mother that even when they are not together, she is always in her mother's heart. Bold, textured illustrations. (1-4)

#### In the City

written and illustrated by Chris Raschka (Richard Jackson Books/ Atheneum, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-8627-9

Ink and watercolor illustrations vividly capture the pulse of a busy city where winged and two-legged creatures find and make friends. Rhyming text. (4-6)

#### \* It Is a Tree

written and illustrated by Susan Batori (Holiday House, \$15.99) 978-0-8234-4531-8 When blindfolded animals must identify an elephant, their guess reflects their self-referenced perspective. Based on an ancient Indian fable. Sparse text and humorous digital illustrations. (3-5)

#### It's My Tree

written and illustrated by Olivier Tallec, translated from the French by Yvette Ghione (Kids Can Press, \$17.99) 978-1-525-30547-4 A squirrel must figure out a way to keep everyone else away from "his" pine cones. Can he enforce his proclamation? Should he? Expressive illustrations with an emphasis on yellow and orange. (3-5)

#### Ivy Bird

by Tania McCartney, illustrated by Jess Racklyeft (Blue Dot Kids Press, \$17.95) 978-1-7331212-1-7 Ivy spreads her imaginary wings and imitates the sounds and manners of twelve birds as she goes about her daily activities. Vivid playful illustrations. (3-6)

#### Julia's House Moves On

written and illustrated by Ben Hatke (First Second, \$18.99) 978-1-250-19137-3 Julia is faced with many challenges as she tries to move her house full of lost creatures. Beautiful exciting watercolor illustrations. (3-6)

#### **Keith among the Pigeons**

written and illustrated by Katie Brosnan (Child's Play, \$17.99) 978-1-78628-344-3 Keith, the cat, wishes he were a pigeon. Maybe if he pastes feathers on his body, he can become one. Bright colorful illustrations. (3-5)

### D Lali's Feather

by Farhana Zia, illustrated by Stephanie Fizer Coleman (Peachtree, \$17.99) 978-1-68263-129-4 Set in India, this gentle story of a creative little girl who finds a stray feather celebrates the power of imagination. Colorful, detailed illustrations of Lali's rural community. (3-6)

#### Let's Swap for a Day

written and illustrated by Shu-Ti Liao (Reycraft, \$14.95) 978-1-4788-6819-4 A child and her dog enjoy trading lives for a day until... Child-friendly, energetic illustrations match a humorous, breezy tale. (3-6)

#### Lift

by Minh Lê, illustrated by Dan Santat (Little, Brown BFYR/Hachette, \$17.99) 978-1-368-03692-4

The exuberant emotional maturing of a little girl who loves to push the elevator button is shown through the power of her imagination. Sparse text and dynamic illustrations. (4-6)

- (B) Little Baby's Busy Day: A Finger Wiggle Book (978-1-5362-1278-5)
- **B** Little Baby's Playtime:

**A Finger Wiggle Book** (978-1-5362-1279-2)

by Sally Symes, illustrated by Nick Sharratt (Candlewick Press, \$8.99)

A toddler's activities are enhanced by colorful cutout illustrations that allow children's fingers to poke through holes to create legs. (0-3)

#### \* Little Bear's Treasures

written and illustrated by Stella Dreis (Greystone Kids, \$17.95) 978-1-77164-653-6 No one appreciates Little Bear's humble treasured objects. Then Little Bird comes along. Soft, muted pastels with accents of color magically capture the wonder of friendship. (3-6)

#### The Little Duckling Who Wouldn't Get Wet

written and illustrated by Gek Tessaro (Holiday House, \$16.99) 978-0-8234-4564-6 A duckling refuses to go in the water until he is good and ready. Colorful cut-paper collage illustrations. (3-5)



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## **B** Little Penguin (Little Animal Friends series)

by Julie Abery, illustrated by Suzie Mason (Amicus Ink, \$8.99) 978-1-68152-741-3 An emperor penguin chick takes his first step in his journey to leave his mama. Warm, textured illustrations. (0-3)

#### **Little Wise Wolf**

by Gijs van der Hammen, illustrated by Hanneke Siemensma, translated from the Dutch by Laura Watkinson (Kids Can Press, \$17.99) 978-1-5253-0549-8 Too busy to engage with others, a wolf with superior abilities is humbled by the kindness of friends. Words and illustrations add a touch of magic. (4-6)

#### **Looking for Smile**

by Ellen Tarlow, illustrated by Lauren Stringer (Beach Lane Books/Simon & Schuster, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-6619-7

Bear learns that he may not always feel happy, but a friend and a song can help restore his mood and smile. Tender illustrations; color palette reflects changing emotions. (4-6)

#### Louis

by Tom Lichtenheld, illustrated by Julie Rowan-Zoch (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt BFYR/HMH, \$17.99) 978-1-328-49806-9

In this sweet relatable story, a beloved teddy bear speaks out about all the unreasonable requirements of his job, Expressive vibrant artwork created on an iPad using Procreate. (3-5)

## **D** Love by Sophia (The Sophia Books series)

by Jim Averbeck, illustrated by Yasmeen Ismail (Margaret K. McElderry Books/Simon & Schuster, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-7790-1

A girl learns the power of perspective in life and art as she defends her vision of love to her diverse family. Watercolor illustrations. Art lesson included. (4-6)

#### Mommy, Carry Me Please

written and illustrated by Jane Cabrera (Holiday House, \$18.99) 978-0-8234-4474-8 Animal mothers carry their babies on their tails, in their arms, and in many other ways. Evocative vibrant illustrations. (3-4)

## D The Most Amazing Bird

by Michael Arvaarluk Kusugak, illustrated by Andrew Qappik (Annick Press, \$18.95) 978-1-77321-418-4 An Inuit girl overcomes her dislike of ravens, eagerly awaiting their return during the harsh winter after other species have migrated. Soft-tone illustrations illuminate the changing seasons. (4-6)

#### **Motor Mouse Delivers (Motor Mouse series)**

by Cynthia Rylant, illustrated by Arthur Howard (Beach Lane Books/Simon & Schuster, \$18.99) 978-1-4814-9128-0

Follow a very philosophical mouse on three humorous adventures. Richly detailed mixed-media illustrations. (3-6)

## D My Rainy Day Rocket Ship

by Markette Sheppard, illustrated by Charly Palmer (Denene Millner Books/ Simon & Schuster, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-6177-2

A stay-at-home day challenges a creative girl to create an imaginative rocket ship for a space adventure. Bright painterly illustrations. (2-5)

## **D** Natsumi's Song of Summer

by Robert Paul Weston, illustrated by Misa Saburi (Tundra Books/Penguin Random House Canada/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-7352-6541-7

Young Natsumi welcomes her American cousin to Japan and shares her favorite things about summer, including cicadas! Traditional Japanese verse is showcased by soft vibrant illustrations. Back matter. (4-6)

#### **No Ordinary Jacket**

by Sue-Ellen Pashley, illustrated by Thea Baker (Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-1-5362-0966-2 Amelia's favorite jacket doesn't fit her any more. What will she do to keep it forever? Engaging collage illustrations. (4-6)

#### (B) On the Go Awesome

by Lisl H. Detlefsen, illustrated by Robert Neubecker (Alfred A. Knopf BFYR/Penguin Random House, \$17.99) 978-1-9848-5234-2

A young boy imagines himself not only watching a variety of things that go, but actually operating them. Bold over-the-top digital art captures the excitement. (3-6)







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#### Only a Tree Knows How to Be a Tree

written and illustrated by Mary Murphy (Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-1-5362-1470-3 All living things, including trees, dogs, fish, and people, have unique characteristics that define them. Digital illustrations in brush and ink. (3-5)

## (D) Only the Cat Saw

written and illustrated by Ashley Wolff (Beach Lane Books/Simon & Schuster, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-6692-9

Warm acrylic gouache illustrations on double-page spreads showcase a cat experiencing the natural world around him as his family goes about their daily activities. (4-6)

#### **The Perfectly Perfect Wish**

by Lisa Mantchev, illustrated by Jessica Courtney-Tickle (Paula Wiseman Books/Simon & Schuster, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-0619-3

A girl who is offered one wish shows what it means to be empathetic and kind. Watercolor and digital illustrations. (4-6)

#### Play Outside!

written and illustrated by Laurent Moreau, translated from the French (Norton Young Readers/W. W. Norton, \$18.95) 978-1-324-01547-5

Children, sent outside to play, embark upon a worldwide adventure and "discover" 250 animals. Simple illustrations. Chart with data on each animal. (4-6)

## **D** Plenty of Hugs

by Fran Manushkin, illustrated by Kate Alizadeh (Dial BFYR/Penguin Random House, \$17.99) 978-0-525-55401-1

Two moms and their toddler spend a day celebrating nature and their time together as a family. Vibrant illustrations. (2-4)

#### \* A Polar Bear in the Snow

by Mac Barnett, illustrated by Shawn Harris (Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-1-5362-0396-7 Simple words and cut-paper collages in white, greys, and blues invite us to follow a black nose on a polar bear's joyous journeying in the Arctic. (3-5)

#### **Prairie Days**

by Patricia MacLachlan, illustrated by Micha Archer (Margaret K. McElderry Books/Simon & Schuster, \$17.99) 978-1-4424-4191-0

Mixed-media illustrations filled with period details perfectly complement this lyrical ode to life on the farm in days gone by. (4-6)

#### **Red Red Red**

written and illustrated by Polly Dunbar (Kane Miller, \$14.99) 978-1-68464-026-3 A toddler wants a biscuit, falls, and has a temper tantrum. Mom comes to the rescue with a way to help him calm down. Simple, warm illustrations. (2-4)

#### **Share Some Kindness, Bring Some Light**

written and illustrated by Apryl Stott (Simon & Schuster BFYR/Simon & Schuster, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-6238-0

When Coco sets out to help her friend, Bear, prove that he is not mean, the other animals soon learn the true meaning of kindness. Joyful watercolor and digital ink illustrations. (3-6)

#### \* Smart George

written and illustrated by Jules Feiffer (Michael Di Capua Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-279099-6

Puppy George resists his mother's simple arithmetic problems but is caught in a dream where trees and other creatures demand answers. Hilarious cartoon illustrations. (4-6)

#### **Snail Crossing**

written and illustrated by Corey R. Tabor (Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-0628-7800-7

Whimsical watercolor illustrations depict a humorous and heartfelt burgeoning friendship. (4-6)

#### (D) The Snow Dancer

by Addie Boswell, illustrated by Mercè López (Two Lions/Amazon Publishing, \$17.99) 978-1-5420-9317-0

Sparkling illustrations full of playful motion magnify the magic of a snowy day that neighborhood children discover when they're inspired by a young girl. (3-5)



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## D A Space for Me

written and illustrated by Cathryn Falwell (Lee & Low Books, \$18.95) 978-1-62014-963-8 Tired of sharing a room with his younger brother, Lucas, Alex creates a space for himself in the backyard, but it makes Lucas sad. What will Alex do? Coloful cut-paper collage illustrations. (3-5)

#### A Stopwatch from Grampa

by Loretta Garbutt, illustrated by Carmen Mok (Kids Can Press, \$17.99) 978-1-5253-0144-5 When a young child is left a watch by a beloved grandfather, it evokes their connection, intensifies the child's grief, and reawakens their memories. Evocative colorful gouache and graphite pencil illustrations. (4-6)

#### Studio:

#### A Place for Art to Start

by Emily Arrow, illustrated by
The Little Friends of Printmaking
(Tundra Books/Penguin Random House Canada/PRH,
\$17.99) 978-0-7352-6485-4
Rhyming text shows a bunny searching for a creative
space for art. Digital illustrations include a black outline
and bright color scheme. (3-6)

#### \* Summer Song

by Kevin Henkes, illustrated by Laura Dronzek (Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, \$18.99) 978-0-06-286613-4

In the green grass, children hear music everywhere from frogs, even in silence, in a lyrical description of summer. Acrylic paints in full-color illustrations. (3-5)

#### **Sun and Moon Have a Tea Party**

by Yumi Heo, illustrated by Naoko Stoop (Schwartz & Wade/Random House Children's Books/ PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-385-39033-0 Sun and Moon argue about the activities that each celestial orb sees on Earth, until Cloud helps to reconcile their differences. Delightful mixed-media and

#### **Sun Flower Lion**

digital illustrations. (4-6)

written and illustrated by Kevin Henkes (Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, \$18.99) 978-0-06-286610-3

Six short chapters introduce three recurring shapes interacting in a satisfying story. Brush and ink illustrations artfully employ a limited palette. (2-5)

## (D) Superhero Gran

by Timothy Knapman, illustrated by Joe Berger (Nosy Crow/Candlewick Press, \$15.99) 978-1-5362-1442-0

Nothing's more fun than a day with Gran—except one that turns into a sleepover. Colorful digital illustrations. (3-6)

## **D** Ten Ways to Hear Snow

by Cathy Camper, illustrated by Kenard Pak (Kokila/Penguin Random House, \$17.99) 978-0-39-918633-2

On the way to visit her grandmother to make warak enab (stuffed grape leaves), Lina listens to the many sounds that snow makes. Serene digital illustrations. (4-6)

#### This Is Gus

written and illustrated by Chris Chatterton (Penguin Workshop/Penguin Random House, \$17.99) 978-0-5930-9736-6

Grumpy Gus doesn't like (among other things) walks, being petted, and birthdays, but there are two things he *does* like. Amusing simple text and bold colorful illustrations. (3-5)

#### The Three Billy Goats Gruff: The Full Story

by Richard Jackson, illustrated by Katherine Tillotson (Caitlyn Dlouhy Books/Atheneum/Simon & Schuster, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-1573-6

This humorous retelling retains the fear and suspense about whether the bullying troll will succeed. Colorful, large-scale illustrations. (3-5)

#### **Turtle Walk**

written and illustrated by Matt Phelan (Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-006-293413-0

In luscious watercolors, a family of turtles is shown slowly walking through the seasons, asking "Are we there yet?" It ends in pure joy. (3-5)

#### \* Two Little Trains

by Margaret Wise Brown, illustrated by Greg Pizzoli (Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-267651-1 Rubber stamp artwork provides an imaginative and appealing new look at an old, favorite tale of a steam engine and a sleek modern train traveling across the United States. (3-6)



B Boa

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#### **Two Many Birds**

written and illustrated by Cindy Derby (Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$18.99) 978-1-250-23254-0

When one bird goes too far in trying to control all the other birds, a revolt results in positive change. Humorous watercolor illustrations accompany this allegory. (5-6)

#### **Under the Great Plum Tree**

by Sufiya Ahmed, illustrated by Reza Dalvand (Tiny Owl, \$17.95) 978-1-910328-46-0 With friendship, quick thinking, and bravery, a goodhearted monkey survives after almost being betrayed by her friend, the crocodile. Both are horrified. Colorful illustrations incorporate Indo-Persian designs. (5-6)

#### **Up on Bob**

written and illustrated by Mary Sullivan (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$17.99) 978-1-328-99471-4

A dog clears the bed of dolls and toys to settle down for a nap, but an intruder spoils his plans. Expressive digital art. (3-6)

#### Vinny Gets a Job

written and illustrated by Terry Brodner (Aladdin/ Simon & Schuster, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-1356-6 Seeking to imitate his owner, a pet dog gets a seeking to imitate his owner, a pet dog gets a seeking to imitate his owner.

Seeking to imitate his owner, a pet dog gets a job but continually misunderstands directions. Humorous illustrations. (4-6)

#### **Welcome to Your World**

by Smriti Prasadam-Halls, illustrated by Jaime Kim (Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-1-5362-0622-7 A mother introduces mountains, valleys, oceans, and skies to her baby. Lyrical rhymes and brightly colored illustrations illuminate the natural world. (3-5)

#### **What Matters Most**

written and illustrated by Emma Dodd (Templar Books/ Candlewick Press, \$14.99) 978-1-5362-1017-0

In simple rhymed text, a horse reassures her foal that their love will endure. Emotionally evocative muted color illustrations with embossed foil. (3-5)

#### Where's Baby?

written and illustrated by Anne Hunter (Tundra Books/Penguin Random House Canada/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-7352-6498-4

Finely textured pen and pencil drawings in black and white against a pale blue sky and river reveal a rust-colored baby fox that Papa can never quite see. (2-5)

## (D) Who Will You Be?

written and illustrated by Andrea Pippins (Schwartz & Wade/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$17.99) 978-1-9848-4948-9

A mother invites her child to consider whether she will grow up to be loving, bold, joyful, curious, or adventurous like her relatives. How will she become uniquely wonderful? Digitally colored illustrations. (4-6)

#### Witchy Things

written by Mariasole Brusa, illustrated by Marta Sevilla, translated from the Italian by Cecilia Ross (NubeOcho, \$16.95) 978-84-17673-60-4 Worried that her blue hair doesn't make her scary enough, a witch decides to snatch a boy. This leads to unexpected and delightful consequences. Humorous illustrations. Also available in Spanish. (4-6)

#### **Woodland Dreams**

by Karen Jameson, illustrated by Marc Boutavant (Chronicle Books, \$17.99) 978-1-4521-7063-3 On her way home, a girl stops to sketch woodland creatures and uses lyrical rhyming verse to beckon them to bed. Warm, earth-toned illustrations. (4-6)

## You Are Ready!: The World Is Waiting

written and illustrated by Eric Carle (HarperCollins, \$9.99) 978-0-06-295352-0 Animals offer their offspring advice and reassure them that they will be able to face life's challenges on their own. Minimal text. Bold, colorful illustrations. (3-6)

## **Concept Books**

#### **ABC Animals**

written and illustrated by Christopher Evans (Peter Pauper Press, \$17.99) 978-1-4413-3463-3 An arresting ABC showcases a variety of mammals, reptiles, birds, and more. Artistic finely textured digital woodcuts. (4-6)



**B** Board Book

**D** Diversity

\* Outstanding Merit

(4-6) Age Range

#### **The Button Book**

by Sally Nicholls, illustrated by Bethan Woollvin (Tundra Books/Penguin Random House Canada/PRH, \$16.99) 978-0-7352-6715-2

In this interactive book, animals press different buttons to explore shapes, colors, and actions. Humorous splashes of colors match the buttons. Mixed-media illustrations. (3-6)

# D Do I Have to Wear a Coat?: A Journey through the Seasons

written and illustrated by Rachel Isadora (Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin YR/Penguin Random House, \$17.99) 978-0-525-51660-6

Varied activities of a diverse group of children celebrate the seasons. Ink and watercolor illustrations. (4-6)

#### **Every Little Letter**

by Deborah Underwood, illustrated by Joy Hwang Ruiz (Dial BFYR/Penguin Random House, \$17.99) 978-0-525-55402-8

In this "not an alphabet book," lowercase letters convince uppercase letters to welcome strangers by breaking down barriers. Vibrant digital illustrations. (4-6)

#### The Hidden Rainbow

written and illustrated by Christie Matheson (Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-0623-9341-8

Colors, numbers, and the important work of bees coalesce engagingly in this interactive book. Inviting mix of watercolor and collage art. Endnote on bees. (3-5)

## **B** \* I Love My Tutu Too! (Never Bored Book series)

written and illustrated by Ross Burach (Scholastic Press/Scholastic, \$7.99) 978-1-33850-427-9

Join the counting fun with animals, word play, and tutus. Brightly colored cartoons display numerals, written-out numbers, and dancing animals. (2-4)

#### \* Knowing the Name of a Bird

by Jane Yolen, illustrated by Jori van der Linde (Creative Editions, \$18.99) 978-1-56846-349-0 Poetic language and vivid illustrations of birds gently deliver the important message that we cannot understand any living creature, including a fellow human, without striving to connect deeply. (4-6)

# **B** My Favorite Color: I Can Only Pick One?

written and illustrated by Aaron Becker (Candlewick Studio/Candlewick Press, \$15.99) 978-1-53621-474-1

A gorgeous spectrum of color palettes viewed through translucent light and accompanied by lyrical text provide an invitation to understand what a favorite means. (4-6)

## D The Power of One: Every Act of Kindness Counts

by Trudy Ludwig, illustrated by Mike Curato (Alfred A. Knopf/Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$17.99) 978-1-5247-7158-4

Straightforward minimal text and colorful expressive illustrations spotlighting specific examples enhance the message that even the act of a single person can effect positive change. Back matter. (4-6)

#### **Some Dinosaurs Are Small**

written and illustrated by Charlotte Voake (Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-1-5362-0936-5 A reassuring message for small children is subtly offered in the simple descriptions of a variety of dinosaurs. Bright watercolor and ink illustrations help make the point. (3-5)

## Holidays and Religion

#### **Christmas Is Joy**

written and illustrated by Emma Dodd (Templar Books/Candlewick Press, \$14.99) 978-1-5362-1545-8

A little reindeer discovers the true meaning of Christmas—joy, love, family, and peace. Gentle expressive digital illustrations on double-page spreads. (3-5)

#### **Cookie Boo**

written and illustrated by Ruth Paul (Harper Festival/HarperCollins, \$10.99) 978-0-06-286956-2

Vibrant digital illustrations and a shiny cover enhance this rhyming tale of cookies escaping the cookie tin for an adventurous Halloween night. (4-6)



**B** Board Book

**D** Diversity

★ Outstanding Merit

(4-6) Age Range

#### The Ghosts Went Floating

by Kim Norman, illustrated by Jay Fleck (Farrar, Straus and Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-0-374-31213-8

All types of spooky creatures make their way across vivid, playfully illustrated pages in this Halloween counting book. Rhythm and rhyme inspired by "The Ants Go Marching." (3-6)

STEM (Science/Technology/Engineering/Mathematics)

#### **Bug Dipping, Bug Sipping**

by Marilyn Singer, illustrated by Lucy Semple (Simon Spotlight/Simon & Schuster, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-4140-8

Simple, rhyming text introduces bugs and their habits. Colorful digital art and bug facts. (4-6)

#### Feel the Fog (Weather Walks series)

written and photographed by April Pulley Sayre (Beach Lane Books/ Simon & Schuster, \$17.99) 978-1-5344-3760-9

Readers are immersed in fog in this poetic volume. Stunning full-color photographs. Extensive endnotes provide opportunities for further exploration of this surprisingly exciting meteorological phenomenon. (4-6)

#### \* Nesting

written and illustrated by Henry Cole (Katherine Tegen Books/ HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-288592-0

Beginning with the male's early-spring mating song, simple but elegant text traces the life cycle of this family of robins. Arresting pen and acrylic illustrations add lively details. (3-5)

#### **Secrets of the Loon**

by Laura Purdie Salas, photographed by Charles Dayton (Minnesota Historical Society Press, \$16.95) 978-1-68134-158-3

Rhymed text enveloped in lyrical settings captures an aquatic bird's first year as she learns to survive and spread her wings. Striking photographs. Back matter. (3-6)

DB Up to My Knees! (Storytelling Math series) written and illustrated by Grace Lin

(Charlesbridge, \$6.99) 978-1-62354-123-1 A child plants a sunflower seed and measures how tall it grows by comparing its height to her body. Clear, colorful illustrations. Back matter. (1-4)

(D) B) What Will Fit? (Storytelling Math series)

written and illustrated by Grace Lin (Charlesbridge, \$6.99) 978-1-6235-4125-5 At the farmer's market, a Black child tries to put a "just right" object in her basket. An age-appropriate exploration of spatial skills. Bold colorful art. (1-4)

#### When the Storm Comes

by Linda Ashman, illustrated by Taeeun Yoo (Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin, \$17.99) 978-0-399-54609-9

How do people and animals shelter to protect themselves from storms? Simple rhyming text and colorful digital and pencil drawings provide some answers. (3-5)