

FIVE TO NINE

KEY

★ Outstanding merit

 Read-aloud

• **SERIES TITLE**

■ (series books follow)

(4-6) Age range

 Graphic novel

Adventure/Mystery

Benjamin and Bumper to the Rescue

by Molly Coxe, photos by Olivier Toppin

(Brave Mouse Books, \$16.95) 978-0-9819697-1-8

A brave, resourceful mouse sets out to find his other with the help of his faithful elephant friend. Splendid photographs of the fabric-sculpted creatures and their miniature world. (5-8)

The Case that Time Forgot

by Tracy Barrett

(Henry Holt, \$15.99) 978-0-8050-8046-9

Xena and her younger brother Xander star in a school mystery that takes them around London and, in their research, back to ancient Egypt. (7-10)

Edgar Allan's Official Crime Investigation Notebook

by Mary Amato

(Holiday House, \$16.95) 978-0-8234-2271-5

With the help of his friends, his notebook, and his newfound love of poetry, Edgar Allan solves the case of the missing classroom goldfish. (7-10)

The Painting That Wasn't There

by Steve Brezenoff, illustrated by C. B. Canga

(Stone Arch Books,) 978-1-4342-1608-3

Young detectives use their powers of observation and deduction to solve a mystery on their school visit to a museum. (7-9)

Animals

Brown Rabbit in the City

written and illustrated by Natalie Russell
(Viking, \$16.99) 978-0-670-01234-3

Brown Rabbit travels to the city to spend a special day with his friend. Soft pastel drawings. (4-6)

Gator on the Loose!

by Sue Stauffacher, illustrated by Priscilla Lamont
(Knopf, \$12.99) 978-0-375-85847-5

Ten-year-old Keisha and her family run Carters' Urban Rescue, saving wild animals lost in their Michigan town. (7-10)



***Herbert: The True Story of a Brave Sea Dog**

written and illustrated by Robyn Belton
(Candlewick, \$15.99) 978-0-7636-4741-4

The incredible, true story of a beloved dog who survived for thirty hours in the sea and his eleven-year-old owner who didn't give up hope. Pencil and watercolor illustrations. (5-8)

Tiger and Turtle

written and illustrated by James Rumford
(Roaring Brook, \$17.99) 978-1-59643-416-5

Gloriously colored pages with Indian motifs provide a background to this simple fable about Tiger and Turtle and their fight over a flower. (5-7)

Turtle, Turtle, Watch Out!

by April Pulley Sayre, illustrated by Annie Patterson
(Charlesbridge, \$17.95) 978-1-58089-148-6

The life of a sea turtle, from hatching to birthing and how its existence is aided by caring individuals, is described. Watercolors evoke the sea. Includes practical information. (6-8)

Wonder Horse:



The True Story of the World's Smartest Horse

written and illustrated by Emily Arnold McCully
(Henry Holt, \$16.99) 978-0-8050-8793-2

Born a slave, veterinarian Bill "Doc" Key believed that an animal treated kindly could do anything; even his horse, Jim, did learn to spell! Rich watercolor illustrations. (6-9)

***Young Fredle**

by Cynthia Voigt, ill. by Louise Yates
(Knopf, \$16.99) 978-0-375-86457-5

When Fredle, a young pantry mouse, is pushed out of his home, he finds the outside full of surprises, good and bad. Soft gray and white illustrations. (7-9)

Beginning Readers



***Aggie the Brave**

by Lori Ries, illustrated by Frank W. Dormer

(Charlesbridge, \$12.95) 978-1-57091-635-9

Ben, nervous about leaving his dog, Aggie, at the vet's overnight, takes good care of her when she comes home. (6-8)

Annie and Snowball and the Magical House

by Cynthia Rylant, illustrated by Suçie Stevenson

(Aladdin, \$15.99) 978-1-4169-3945-0

Annie and her bunny visit her new friend Sarah and create a fairy tea party in her beautiful garden. (5-7)



Have You Seen My Dinosaur?

by Jon Sural, illustrated by Joe Mathieu

(Random House, \$8.99) 978-0-375-85639-6

A young boy searches for his dinosaur who lurks in every setting, but eludes him and the skeptical adults. Humorous rhyming text and illustrations. (5-7)

Safari

by Gail Tuchman

(National Geographic, P\$3.99) 978-1-4263-0614-3

Attractive photographs and simple text show the animals seen on a safari. (5-7)

Coming of Age

The Best Horse Ever

by Alice DeLaCroix, illustrated by Ronald Himler

(Holiday House, \$15.95) 978-0-8234-2254-8

Will Abby lose the affection of her best friend when she immerses herself in taking care of and riding her new horse? Realistic black-and-white drawings. (6-8)

Garmann's Street

written and illustrated by Stian Hole

(Eerdmans, \$16.99) 978-0-8028-5357-8

A Norwegian boy experiences the pain of bullying. Quirky painting and collage illustrations. (7-10)

Happily Ever Emma

by Sally Warner, illustrated by Jamie Harper

(Viking, \$14.99) 978-0-670-01084-4

Eight-year-old Emma resents her mother's new boyfriend, and she does what she can to spoil the relationship, but that causes even more problems. (6-8)



How Tía Lola Learned to Teach

by Julia Alvarez

(Knopf, \$15.99) 978-0-375-86460-5

Third-grader Juanita and her older brother, Miguel, learn about the power of their new Vermont community when their caretaker aunt teaches their classmates Spanish. (7-9)

In the Garden with Dr. Carver

by Susan Grigsby, illustrated by Nicole Tadgell

(Albert Whitman, \$16.99) 978-0-8075-3630-8

When George Washington Carver brings his "movable school" to Sally's Alabama town, she learns that when you "listen to the plants, they'll tell you what they need." (7-9)



The Pirate of Kindergarten

by George Ella Lyon, illustrated by Lynne Avril

(Atheneum, \$16.99) 978-1-4169-5024-0

Ginny's eyes play tricks on her until she gets the proper medical attention. Lively chalk and pencil illustrations. (5-7)



The PS Brothers

by Maribeth Boelts

(Harcourt, \$15.00) 978-0-547-34249-8

Two best friends, both poor and picked on, discover and uncover much to be thankful for in their quest for a dog. (8-12)



Three Scoops and a Fig

by Sara Laux Akin, illustrated by Susan Kathleen Hartung

(Peachtree, \$15.95) 978-1-56145-522-5

Sofia's grandparents are coming to dinner and she wants to prepare the meal--but everyone says she is "troppo piccola" (too little). Gentle watercolor illustrations. (5-7)

Fantasy



April and Esme: Tooth Fairies

written and illustrated by Bob Graham

(Candlewick, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-4683-7

Two of the youngest and most modern fairies take their first trip to collect a boy's tooth and make it back home successfully. Whimsical watercolors. (4-7)

Chalk

written and illustrated by Bill Thomson

(Marshall Cavendish, \$15.99) 978-0-7614-5526-4

On a rainy day in the park, some children create life with their chalk drawings: the sun, butterflies, and a scary dinosaur. A wordless book with acrylic paint and colored pencil illustrations. (4-6)

Princess Says Goodnight

by Naomi Howland, illustrated by David Small

(Harper, \$16.99) 978-0-06-145525-4

A little girl tackles bedtime rituals with great imagination and exuberance getting the royal treatment every step of the way. Humorous, sketchy watercolor illustrations. (5-7)

Snook Alone

by Marilyn Nelson, illustrated by Timothy Basil Ering

(Candlewick, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-2667-9

An emotional tale of a dog and master separated and reunited is told in poetic prose with evocative acrylic and ink illustrations. (5-9)

Song for a Princess

by Rachael Mortimer, illustrated by Maddy McClellan

(Chicken House, \$17.99) 978-0-545-24835-8

A small bird uses his collected happy words to make a princess smile. Eye-catching mixed-media illustrations. (5-7)

The Weaver

by Thacher Hurd, illustrated by Elisa Kleven

(FSG, \$16.99) 978-0-374-38254-4

Lyrical words and soft illustrations tell a soothing story of a weaver who uses the love of people to create a protective blanket of dreams for the world. (5-9)

Folk



The Boy in the Garden

written and illustrated by Allen Say

(HMH, \$17.99) 978-0-547-21410-8

Jiro, a young Japanese boy, sees a beautiful crane statue in the garden and imagines that he is part of the famous folktale, The Crane Wife. Haunting watercolors. (6-9)

Cloud Tea Monkeys

by Mal Peet and Elspeth Graham, illustrated by Juan Wijngaard
(Candlewick, \$15.99) 978-0-7636-4453-6

When her mother becomes too ill to work on the tea plantation, the monkeys that Tashi has befriended help her out. Based on legend. Framed ink and gouache illustrations. (6-10)

Maneki Neko: the Tale of the Beckoning Cat by Susan Lendroth, illustrated by Kathryn Otoshi

(Shen's Books, \$17.95) 978-1-885008-39-8

A cat becomes the symbol of luck and prosperity. Based on Japanese folklore. Traditional old Japanese landscape illustrations. (5-7)

***Mary's Penny**

by Tanya Landman, illustrated by Richard Holland
(Candlewick, \$15.99) 978-0-7636-4768-1

Mary convinces her father and brothers that it takes brains not brawn to run their farm. Unique mixed-media illustrations. (6-9)

Nabeel's New Pants:

An Eid Tale

retold by Fawia Gilani-Williams, illustrated by Proiti Roy
(Marshall Cavendish, \$15.99) 978-0-7614-5629-2

Nabeel finds time after a busy day to buy gifts for each family member for Eid. But he does have a problem with his pants. (6-10)



Ol' Bloo's: Boogie-Woogie Band and Blues Ensemble

by Jan Huling, illustrated by Henri Sorensen
(Peachtree, \$16.95) '10 978-1-56145-436-5

Based on "The Bremer Town Musicians," and set in Louisiana, four old animals, rejected by their owners, set out to find stardom. Effective oil paintings, with silhouettes. (6-8)



Once Upon a Time/Había Una Vez:

Traditional Latin American Tales/Cuentos Tradicionales Latinoamericanos

by Rueben Martínez, illustrated by Raúl Colón
(Rayo, \$19.99) 978-0-06-146895-7

Beloved tales from Spain and Latin America are retold in this bilingual collection. Full page painterly illustrations. (7-10)



Robin Hood and the Golden Arrow

retold by Robert D. San Souci, illustrated by E. B. Lewis
(Orchard, \$17.99) 978-0-439-62538-8

Richly detailed watercolors will draw readers into this exciting tale based on an old ballad. Robin, as usual, outwits the Sheriff of Nottingham. (7-10)



The Rooster Prince of Breslov

by Ann Redisch Stampler, illustrated by Eugene Yelchin
(Clarion, \$16.99) 978-0-618-98974-4

In this hilarious tale, a young prince throws off his royal robes and starts acting like a rooster. Only a wise man can readjust the situation. Humorous gouache paintings. (6-9)



Sivu's Six Wishes

written and illustrated by Jude Daly
(Eerdmans, \$16.99) 978-0-8028-5369-1

Sivu, a stone cutter, grows envious of people and things with more power than he believes he possesses--until he can recognize his own power. Soft acrylics trace his magical transformations. (6-8)



The Spider's Gift:

A Ukrainian Christmas Story

retold by Eric A. Kimmel, illustrated by Katya Krenina
(Holiday House, \$16.95) 978-0-8234-1743-8

In this retelling of a traditional story, Katrusya's family is rewarded when they allow baby spiders to spin webs in their Christmas tree. (4-8)

The Storyteller's Secrets

by Tony Mitton, illustrated by Peter Bailey
(David Fickling, \$15.99) 978-0-385-75190-2

Twins Toby and Tess are entranced by a mysterious stranger and his Celtic stories with morals. Pen and ink illustrations. (7-9)



Young Zeus

written and illustrated by G. Brian Karas
(Scholastic, \$17.99) 978-0-439-72806-5

Starting with the Greek myths, this imaginary tale of Zeus unfolds with fierce fighting and sibling rivalry. Amusing gouache and pencil illustrations. (6-9)

Historical fiction

Anna Maria's Gift

by Janice Shefelman, illustrated by Robert Papp
(Random House, \$12.99) 978-0-375-85881-9

Moving to the Pieta orphanage in Venice with her precious violin, Anna Maria has many adventures -- including studying with a renowned composer. (6-9)



***Back of the Bus**

by Aaron Reynolds, illustrated by Floyd Cooper
(Philomel, \$16.99) 978-0-399-25091-0

Poetically told with rich, luminous oil paintings, a fictional young boy experiences the day when Rosa Parks refuses to move to the back of the bus. (6-8)



Ben and the Emancipation Proclamation

by Pat Sherman, illustrated by Floyd Cooper
(Eerdmans, \$16.99) 978-0-8028-5319-6

A young slave surreptitiously teaches himself to read, allowing him to read the famous document which declared freedom for his fellow prisoners. Engaging oil paintings. (7-10)



***Brave Donatella and the Jasmine Thief**

by Caroline McAlister, illustrated by Donald Hendricks
(Charlesbridge, \$16.95) 978-1-57091-729-5

A clever young woman rescues her boyfriend after he steals a sprig of Duke Cosimo de Medici's jasmine plant. Based on a legend. Detailed colored pencil drawings. (7-10)

A Chanukah Noel:

A True Story

by Sharon Jennings, illustrated by Gillian Newland
(Second Story Press, \$15.95) 978-1-897187-74-6

A young Jewish girl, recently transplanted from Canada to a French village, wants desperately to fit in and celebrate Christmas. Strong, intense illustrations. (6-9)

Feivel's Flying Horses

by Heidi Smith Hyde, illustrated by Johanna van der Sterre
(Kar-Ben, \$7.95) 978-0-7613-3959-5

An immigrant, who is saving money to bring his family to America, carves ornate horses for a carousel on Coney Island. (5-7)



Lucky Beans

by Becky Birtha; illustrated by Nicole Tadgell
(Albert Whitman, \$16.99) 978-0-8075-4782-3

With his knowledge of math and the desire to help his family during the Depression, Marshall turns his dislike of beans into a worthy cause. Soft, watercolor illustrations. (6-9)

A Place Where Hurricanes Happen

by Renée Watson, illustrated by Shadra Strickland
(Random House, \$17.99) 978-0-375-85609-9

Realistic watercolor illustrations depict the warm relationship between four friends before and after Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans (7-10)

The Ride:

The Legend of Betsy Dowdy

by Kitty Griffin, illustrated by Marjorie Priceman

(Atheneum, \$16.99) 978-1-4169-2816-4

Though no documents attest to Betsy's adventure during the American Revolution, this story of her ride to defend her town has stayed alive. Quirky drawings. (6-8)

Ruth and the Green Book

by Calvin Alexander Ramsey, illustrated by Floyd Cooper

(Carolrhoda, \$16.95) 978-0-7613-5255-6

In the early 1950s, Ruth's family learns about The Green Book that lists "Negro-friendly" places to stop during their road trip from Chicago to Alabama. Expressive illustrations. (7-10)

Humor

Ace Lacewing Bug Detective:

The Big Swat

written and illustrated by David Biedrzycki

(Charlesbridge, \$16.95) 978-1-57091-747-9

Who stole Bugsy's bat? Ace Lacewing, crack detective, is on the case searching Motham City before the big play-off game. Detailed illustrations. (7-10)

***Art & Max**

written and illustrated by David Wiesner

(Clarion, \$17.99) 978-0-618-75663-6

Two reptilian friends take readers on a highly imaginative, thought-provoking, artistic adventure. (4-8)

***A Bedtime for Bear**

by Bonny Becker, illustrated by Kady MacDonald Denton

(Candlewick, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-4101-6

Because Bear is a very light sleeper, his first overnight guest is really a challenge. Detailed, humorous, mixed-media illustrations. (5-7)

Bedtime for Mommy

by Amy Krouse Rosenthal, illustrated by LeUyen Pham

(Bloomsbury, \$16.99) 978-1-59990-341-5

Simple text and humorous illustrations put a new spin on the nightly bedtime routine. (4-7)

***Benny and Penny in The Toy Breaker**

written and illustrated by Geoffrey Hayes

(Toon Books, \$12.95) 978-1-935179-07-8

When cousin Bo comes to play, Benny and Penny hide their toys to keep them safe. Graphic format. (6-8)

The Bicklebys' Birdbath

by Andrea Perry, illustrated by Roberta Angaramo
(Atheneum, \$16.99) 978-1-4169-0624-7

A cumulative rhyme deconstructs the events leading to the broken birdbath. Creative acrylic illustrations of the chaos. (5-8)



Bink & Gollie

by Kate DiCamillo, and Alison McGhee, illustrated by Tony Fucile
(Candlewick, \$15.99) 978-0-7636-3266-3

Friendship between two friends, including occasional friction, is described with wit and accompanied by digitally generated art which captures each girl's individual quirkiness. (6-9)

***Binky to the Rescue**

written and illustrated by Ashley Spires
(Kids Can, P\$8.95) 978-1-55453-597-2

Binky, the space cat, falls out of a window and rescues his friend Ted. Ink and watercolor illustrations. (6-8)



***Brontorina**

by James Howe, illustrated by Randy Cecil
(Candlewick, \$15.99) 978-0-7636-4437-6

Brontorina Apatosaurus wants to dance--but she's too big for the ballet studio. Endearing oil paintings illustrate this story of ambition and acceptance. (4-8)

Calvin Coconut:

Dog Heaven

by Graham Salisbury, illustrated by Jacqueline Rogers
(Wendy Lamb, \$12.99) 978-0-385-73703-6

Fourth-grader Calvin tells why he should have a dog for a writing assignment, convincing his Mom he should actually have one is harder. (6-9)



***Children Make Terrible Pets**

by Peter Brown
(Little, Brown, \$16.99) 978-0-316-01548-6

When Lucy, a young, friendly bear, finds an adorable little boy, she wants to keep him for a pet, but her mother issues warnings. Retro drawings using paper and wood. (5-8)

Cinco de Mouse-O!

by Judy Cox, illustrated by Jeffrey Ebbeler
(Holiday House, \$16.95) 978-0-8234-2194-7

Mouse is drawn to a Cinco de Mayo celebration by the wonderful aromas, but Cat is out for a meal of his own. Paintings have a Mexican feeling. (5-8)



Clever Jack Takes the Cake

by Candace Fleming, illustrated by G. Brian Karas
(S&W, \$17.99) 978-0-375-84979-4

When the cake he has baked for the princess disappears piece by piece, poor Jack thinks he has nothing to give her. Gouache and pencil illustrations. (5-7)

Dogs Don't Do Ballet

by Anna Kemp, illustrated by Sara Ogilvie
(S&S, \$15.99) 978-1-4169-9839-6

Dogs may not do ballet, but Biff's perseverance turns this impossible dream around to save the day. Humorous illustrations. (5-7)



***Frankie Works the Night Shift**

by Lisa Westberg Peters, illustrated by Jennifer Taylor
(Greenwillow, \$16.99) 978-0-06-009095-1

This counting tale of a feline progresses as he "empties one wastebasket," "cleans two counters," and causes nocturnal chaos. An inventive use of photographs. (5-7)

Gumption!

by Elise Broach, illustrated by Richard Egielski
(Atheneum, \$16.99) 978-1-4169-1628-4

Bold, humorous ink and watercolor illustrations provide the subtext as Peter and his uncle go exploring. (7-9)



***Hamster and Cheese**

by Colleen A. Venable, illustrated by Stephanie Yue
(Lerner, \$27.93) 978-0-7613-4598-5

Sasspants the guinea pig, reluctant detective, cracks the case of the missing sandwich in this highly humorous graphic novel. (6-8)

Home on the Range

by Lucy Nolan, illustrated by Mike Reed
(Marshall Cavendish, \$14.99) 978-0-7614-5649-0

City dogs, Down Girl and Sit, go on vacation to a dude ranch and find adventure in the Wild West. (7-9)

How to Clean Your Room in 10 Easy Steps

by Jennifer LaRue Huget, illustrated by Edward Koren
(S&W, \$16.99) 978-0-375-84410-2

A young girl offers very funny "how to" advice accompanied by quivering ink-and-watercolor line drawings. (5-8)

The Inside Tree

by Linda Smith, illustrated by David Parkins
(HarperCollins, \$16.99) 978-0-06-028241-7

Everything is fine after Mr. Potter brings his 'lonely' tree into the house. And then it rains. Bold, colorful illustrations. (5-7)



Interrupting Chicken

written and illustrated by David Ezra Stein

(Candlewick, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-4168-9

Will Papa ever be able to finish telling Chicken a bedtime story? Vibrant mixed media illustrations. (5-7)

Joha Makes a Wish: A Middle Eastern Tale

adapted by Eric A. Kimmel, illustrated by Omar Rayyan

(Marshall Cavendish, \$17.99) 978-0-7614-5599-8

Joha, the trickster, acquires a "wishing stick" in an original tale based on Middle Eastern folklore. Humorously exaggerated watercolors. (6-8)



Just Desserts

by Hallie Durand, illustrated by Christine Davenier

(Atheneum, \$15.99) 978-1-4169-6387-5

Dessert thinks she has a plan to control her annoying siblings and make a profit at the same time. (7-10)



***Lulu and the Brontosaurus**

by Judith Viorst, illustrated by Lane Smith

(Atheneum, \$15.99) 978-1-4169-9961-4

Never one to accept "no" for an answer, even when she demands a brontosaurus for a birthday present, Lulu finds one for herself, but he has surprising plans of his own. (7-9)

Magnus Maximus, A Marvelous Measurer

by Kathleen T. Pelley, illustrated by S. D. Schindler

(FSG, \$16.99) 978-0-374-34725-3

When he breaks his glasses, Magnus Maximus discovers there is more to life than measuring and counting all manner of strange things. Humorously told. Intricate Victorian-type illustrations. (5-8)

Making the Moose Out of Life

written and illustrated by Nicholas Oldland

(Kids Can, \$16.95) 978-1-55453-580-4

Timid moose knows there's something missing in his life, and he sets out bravely to find it. Bold, detailed illustrations. (5-8)

***Monsters Eat Whiny Children**

written and illustrated by Bruce Eric Kaplan

(S&S, \$15.99) 978-1-4169-8689-8

Two whiny children ignore their father's warning and are kidnapped by monsters who argue over how to eat them. Cartoon-like ink and watercolor illustrations. (4-8)

Mr. Putney's Quacking Dog

written and illustrated by Jon Agee

(Scholastic, \$16.95) 978-0-545-16203-6

With inventive wordplay, Mr. Putney's animal friends show how much fun there can be in a pun. Humorous watercolors show a deadpan Mr. Putney. (5-7)



The Odious Ogre

by Norton Juster, illustrated by Jules Feiffer

(Scholastic, \$17.95) 978-0-545-16202-9

To his surprise, a hateful ogre meets his match. Humorous, exaggerated illustrations. (6-9)

Once Upon a Baby Brother

by Sarah Sullivan, illustrated by Tricia Tua

(FSG, \$16.99) 978-0-374-34635-5

Lizzie's baby brother goes from an annoyance to an inspiration for her creative stories. Humorous pen-and-ink and watercolor drawings. (5-7)

Otis and Sydney and the Best Birthday Ever

by Laura Numeroff, illustrated by Dan Adreassen

(Abrams, \$16.95) 978-0-8109-8959-7

A wrong date on a birthday invitation doesn't stop two friends from having a great day. Soft, cheerful illustrations. (5-8)



***A Pig Parade is a Terrible Idea**

by Michael Ian Black, illustrated by Kevin Hawkes

(S&S, \$16.99) 978-1-4169-7922-7

As the deadpan narrator states "No," pigs won't march and don't particularly care for floats with literary themes. Realistic "piggish" paintings. (5-8)



***Pigs to the Rescue**

written and illustrated by John Himmelman

(Henry Holt, \$16.99) 978-0-8050-8683-6

Throughout the week, the pigs try to help around the farm with hilarious results. Brilliantly imaginative illustrations. (4-7)

Princesses are Not Perfect

by Kate Lum, illustrated by Sue Hellard

(Bloomsbury, \$16.99) 978-1-59990-432-0

Three princesses learn that they are not good at everything, just the things they love. Whimsical watercolors. (5-7)



Shark vs. Train

by Chris Barton, illustrated by Tom Lichtenheld

(Little, Brown, \$16.99) 978-0-316-00762-7

What does it take to be a winner in this wildly imaginative competition between two toys? Annotated humorous illustrations. (4-9)

Splinters

written and illustrated by Kevin Sylvester

(Tundra, \$17.95) 978-0-88776-944-3

Cindy's desire to play on the local hockey team is stymied until her fairy godmother arrives in this humorous take on the Cinderella story. Rich pen and ink drawings. (6-8)

Spork

by Kyo Maclear, illustrated by Isabelle Arsenault

(Kids Can, \$16.95) 978-1-55337-736-8

Spork just doesn't seem to fit in anywhere. Will he ever find a place where he belongs? (5-7)



Stink: Solar System Superhero

by Megan McDonald, illustrated by Peter H. Reynolds

(Candlewick, \$12.99) 978-0-7636-4321-8

Is it fair that Pluto isn't considered a planet anymore? Stink launches a clever campaign to restore its status (at least in his classroom). Amusing black-and-white illustrations. (7-9)

The Taming of Lola: A Shrew Story

by Ellen Weiss, illustrated by Jerry Smath

(Abrams, \$15.95) 978-0-8109-4066-6

Lola is a willful shrew who meets her match when cousin Lenny comes to visit--a stretch on Shakespeare's tale. Humorous, detailed illustrations. (6-8)

Ten-Gallon Bart Beats the Heat

by Susan Stevens Crummel, illustrated by Dorothy Donohue

(Marshall Cavendish, \$17.99) 978-0-7614-5634-6

Ten-Gallon Bart tries to find a cool place to live and learns what's best about home and friends. (6-9)

That Cat Can't Stay

by Thad Krasnesky, illustrated by David Parkins

(Flashlight, \$16.95) 978-097-997-465-6

Mom keeps finding stray cats and bringing them home, to Dad's dismay. Then one day Dad visits the pound. Energetic, cartoon-like illustrations. (5-7)

Todd's TV

written and illustrated by James Proimos

(Katherine Tegen Books, \$15.99) 978-0-06-170985-2

Todd's television takes over parental duties in this parody of our dependence on TV. Amusing, cartoon-like illustrations. (4-8)



What the Ladybug Heard

by Julia Donaldson, illustrated by Lydia Monks
(Henry Holt, \$16.99) 978-0-8050-9028-4

Ladybug never says a word until the day two robbers appear on the farm. Colorful collages enliven the animal humor. (4-7)

***Why Do I Have to Make My Bed?: Or, A History of Messy Rooms**

by Wade Bradford, ill. by Johanna van der Sterre
(Tricycle, \$16.99) 978-1-58246-327-8

The answer to this age-old question is finally answered. Watercolors reveal the history. (7-10)

Sports

Goal!

by Mina Javaherbin, illustrated by A. G. Ford
(Candlewick, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-4571-7

Young South African boys triumph over dangerous streets and local bullies when they play soccer together. Full page oil paintings convey the tension. (6-8)

Gunner, Football Hero

written and illustrated by James E. Ransome
(Holiday House, \$16.95) 978-0-8234-2053-7

Gunner, the team's third-string quarterback, practices harder than anyone else--but will he ever get to play? Expressive watercolors. (5-7)

Today



•ANNA HIBISCUS

Anna Hibiscus

Hooray for Anna Hibiscus!

by Atinuke, illustrated by Lauren Tobia
(Kane/Miller, P\$5.99) 978-1-935279-73-0,
978-1-935279-74-7

Anna lives with her family in amazing Africa but learns that not everyone is as blessed. Written in the oral tradition by a Nigerian storyteller. (6-8)

Bag in the Wind

by Ted Kooser, illustrated by Barry Root
(Candlewick, \$17.99) 978-0-7636-3001-0

A plastic bag in a landfill is transported by wind and people and reused in many different ways in this story with an ecological message. Soft watercolor and gouache illustrations. (6-9)

Bridget's Beret

written and illustrated by Tom Lichtenheld
(Henry Holt, \$16.99) 978-0-8050-8775-8

When Bridget's artist beret is missing, she is convinced she will never be able to draw again. Lively illustrations and tips and facts for budding artists. (6-9)

Carmen Learns English

by Judy Cox, illustrated by Angela Dominguez
(Holiday House, \$16.95) 978-0-8234-2174-9

Starting school and having to learn English at the same time isn't easy, but with determination and a sensitive teacher, Carmen succeeds. Bold multimedia illustrations. (5-7)

***Farm**

written and illustrated by Elisha Cooper
(Orchard, \$17.99) 978-0-545-07075-1

A simple, poetic, and cumulative explanation of the workings of a modern farm gives a clear picture from early Spring planting to Fall harvest. Delicate but detailed watercolors. (5-8)

The First Pup:

The Real Story of How Bo Got to the White House

written and illustrated by Bob Staake
(Feiwel, \$16.99) 978-0-312-61346-4

The true story of how Bo the dog came to the Obama White House. Cheery, cartoonish paper illustrations add to the fun. (5-8)

***Fly Free!**

by Roseanne Thong, Eujin Kim Neilan
(Boyd's Mills, \$17.95) 978-1-59078-550-8

Mai, a young Vietnamese girl, feeds the caged sparrows in a temple, thereby starting a chain of good deeds that come back to her. A gentle story reflected in soft watercolor illustrations. (6-8)

Grandma's Gloves

by Cecil Castellucci, illustrated by Juia Denos
(Candlewick, \$15.99) 978-0-7636-3168-0

A young girl's love for her gardening grandmother and the things she taught her continue even after the grandmother's death. Warm and inviting illustrations. (6-9)

**Justin Case:**

School, Drool, and other Daily Disasters

by Rachel Vail, illustrated by Matthew Cordell
(Feiwel, \$16.99) 978-0-312-53290-1

Humorous line drawings enhance this tale of a third-grade boy with whom kids will empathize. (7-9)

Lucy and the Green Man

by Linda Newbery

(David Fickling, \$16.99) 978-0-385-75204-6

Lucy wonders when she will see the mysterious, invisible helper in of her grandparents' gardens. A delightful fantasy. (7-9)

Mirror:

Two Cultures, Two stories

written and illustrated by Jeannie Baker

(Candlewick, \$18.99) 978-0-763-64848-0

This double picture book compares the lives of two boys and their Australian and Moroccan families in parallel presentations. (6-8)

My Brother Charlie

by Holly Robinson Peete, and Ryan Elizabeth Peete, illustrated by Shane W. Evans

(Scholastic, \$16.99) 978-0-545-09466-5

A warm account by a mother and daughter who create an accepting atmosphere for Ryan's autistic twin brother. Mixed-media illustrations. (5-8)

Nibbles: A Green Tale

written and illustrated by Charlotte Middleton

(Marshall Cavendish, \$17.99) 978-0-7614-5791-6

The guinea pigs of Dandeville have eaten all the dandelions except for one, But Nibbles has an idea--to the library! Cheerful mixed-media illustrations. (5-8)

Only One Year

by Andrea Cheng, illustrated by Nicole Wong

(Lee & Low, \$16.95) 978-1-60060-252-8

Fourth grader Sharon and first grader May grow closer after little brother Di Di goes to China, and then when he comes back. (7-10)

Porky and Bess

by Ellen Weiss, and Mel Friedman, illustrated by Marsha Winborn

(Random House, \$12.99) 978-0-375-85458-3

Despite their differences, Porky and Bess are best fiends and support each other in all endeavors. Easy reader. (7-9)

Rain School

written and illustrated by James Rumford

(HMH, \$16.99) 978-0-547-24307-8

An easy-to-read story of children in Chad who are hard at work building their own school and learning their ABCs. Bright crayon drawings. Based on the author's Peace Corps experience (5-7)

Silas' Seven Grandparents

by Anita Horrocks, illustrated by Helen Flook

(Orca, \$19.95) 978-1-55143-561-9

Having seven adoring grandparents sometimes leads to complications. Amusing illustrations in acrylic water based ink. (5-7)

This Tree Counts!

by Alison Formento, illustrated by Sarah Snow
(Albert Whitman, \$16.99) 978-0-8075-7890-2

A teacher and a group of school children plant trees and discover their many uses. Simple collage and acrylic illustrations. (4-8)

Time to Pray

by Maha Addasi, illustrated by Ned Gannon, trans. by Nuha Albitar
(Boyd's Mills, \$17.95) 978-1-59078-611-6

On a visit to her loving grandmother, Yazmin learns to practice basic Muslim prayer traditions. The text is accompanied by a translation to Arabic. Oil paintings. (6-8)

We Planted a Tree

by Diane Muldrow, illustrated by Bob Staake
(Golden, \$17.99) 978-0-375-86432-2

Poetic text and vibrant, folksy illustrations celebrate the importance of trees to the planet. (5-8)

What Will You Be, Sara Mee?

by Kate Aver Avraham, illustrated by Anne Sibley O'Brien
(Charlesbridge, \$16.95) 978-1-58089-210-0

Young Sara Mee celebrates her "tol," a Korean tradition ending her first year and forecasting her potential future. Ink brushline with watercolor illustrations. (6-7)

**Yasmin's Hammer**

by Ann Malaspina, illustrated by Doug Ghayka
(Lee & Low, \$18.95) 978-1-60060-359-4

In Dhaka, Bangladesh, Yasmin helps to support her family by chipping bricks all day, until her parents send her to school. Colorful oil paintings capture the bustle of the city. (7-9)

Zapato Power:

Freddie Ramos Takes Off

by Jacqueline Jules, illustrated by Miguel Benítez
(Albert Whitman, \$14.99) 978-0-8075-9480-3

As Freddie investigates a gift in a strange box left for him, the reader is taken on a series of adventures. (6-8)