

* = Outstanding Merit



= Read Aloud

(5-8) = Suggested Age Range



= Graphic Format

FICTION**Adventure and Mystery****Chick-o-Saurus Rex**

by Lenore Jennewein, illustrated by Daniel Jennewein (Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$16.99) 978-1-4424-5186-5
Chick learns that chickens are descended from dinosaurs and is inspired to be brave! Fun, lively illustrations. (5-8)

Emma in Paris

written and illustrated by Claire Frossard, photographs by Christophe Urbain (Enchanted Lion Books, \$17.95) 978-1-59270-139-1
A tour of Paris in photographs follows a New York sparrow when she goes to visit her cousin. Illustrations superimposed on the photographs. Includes a tourist map. (7-10)

**Lulu and the Dog from the Sea**

by Hilary McKay, illustrated by Priscilla Lamont (Albert Whitman, \$13.99) 978-0-8075-4820-2
Lulu's family and her friend, Mellie, vacation at the beach where a mysterious dog saves the day. Pen and ink illustrations. (6-9)

**Open This Little Book**

by Jesse Klausmeier, illustrated by Suzy Lee (Chronicle Books, \$16.99) 978-0-8118-6783-2
Brightly colored die-cut pages open to reveal readers and their gentle journeys that land at a library. (4-7)

The Pearl of Bengal (Agatha: Girl of Mystery series)

by Steve Stevenson, illustrated by Stefano Turconi, translated from the Italian by Siobhan Kelly, adapted by Maya Gold (Grosset & Dunlap/Penguin, P \$5.99) 978-0-448-46219-6
Dash and his spunky cousin Agatha join forces to discover who defiled the temple of Hindu goddess Kali. Black-and-white illustrations. (8-10)

The Super Secret Mystery (Cinderella Smith series)

by Stephanie Barden, illustrated by Diane Goode (Harper/HarperCollins, \$16.99) 978-0-06-200443-7
All the third graders are involved in research projects about endangered animals, but some of the students face obstacles. Who is responsible? Charming, supportive sketches. (7-10)

Animals***Glasswings: A Butterfly's Story**

written and illustrated by Elisa Kleven (Dial BFYR/Penguin, \$16.99) 978-0-8037-3742-6
A butterfly lands in the city and, with her new friends, helps build a city garden and thrives there. Ink, watercolor, and pastel illustrations. (5-8)

Lumpito and the Painter from Spain

by Monica Kulling, illustrated by Dean Griffiths (Pajama Press, \$19.95) 978-1-927485-00-2
Accompanying his owner, a photographer, Lump the dachshund catches the fancy of Pablo Picasso, finding a more congenial home in France with the painter. Colorful, realistic illustrations enliven the text. (5-8)

**Trouper**

by Meg Kearney, illustrated by E. B. Lewis (Scholastic Press, \$16.99) 978-0-545-10041-0
A three-legged dog finds his boy and his home. (Based on a real rescue story.) Watercolor illustrations. (5-9)

Beginning Readers***A Big Guy Took My Ball! (Elephant & Piggie series)**

written and illustrated by Mo Willems (Hyperion Books for Children/Disney, \$8.99) 978-1-4231-7491-2
Elephant wants to help Piggie get her ball back, but the big guy is really, really big. Amusing line drawings and simple text. (5-7)

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Beginning Readers, continued**The Big Wet Balloon/El Globo Grande y Mojado**

written and illustrated by Liniers
(Toon /Candlewick Press, \$12.95 each) 978-1-935179-32-0 (English)/978-1-935179-40-5 (Spanish)
Matilda teaches her younger sister all the delights of a rainy day—thunder, rainbows, and splashing. Action-based, expressive cartoon illustrations. (5-7)

Bink & Gollie: Best Friends Forever (Bink & Gollie series)

by Kate DiCamillo and Alison McGhee, illustrated by Tony Fucile
(Candlewick Press, \$15.99) 978-0-7636-3497-1
The friendship between companions of different sizes and ideas survives imaginative exploits in three short stories. Simple but expressive and humorous illustrations. (6-8)

- **Boris (series)**

Boris for the Win**Boris Gets a Lizard****Boris on the Move**

written and illustrated by Andrew Joyner
(Branches/Scholastic, P \$4.99) 978-0-545-48449-7;
978-0-545-48447-3; 978-0-545-48443-5
Boris has big ideas that lead him and his friends on adventures. Illustrations add more detail to the stories. Each book ends with an activity. (5-8)

Dig, Scoop, Ka-boom!

by Joan Holub, illustrated by David Gordon
(Random House, P \$3.99) 978-0-375-86910-5
Mighty trucks and sight words in rhyme capture the joy of building in a playground. Bright, colorful illustrations. (4-6)

Frog and Friends: Outdoor Surprises (I Am a Reader: Frog and Friends series)

by Eve Bunting, illustrated by Josée Masse
(Sleeping Bear Press, \$9.95) 978-1-58536-807-5
Frog and his friends rescue a baby bird, put on a show, and tell scary stories. Amusing, colorful illustrations. (5-7)

Penny and Her Marble

written and illustrated by Kevin Henkes
(Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, \$12.99)
978-0-06-208203-9
During her walk, Penny finds a marble. Whose is it? Should she keep it? Watercolor and ink drawings. (5-7)

A Pet Named Sneaker

by Joan Heilbroner, illustrated by Pascal Lemaitre
(Beginner Books/Random House, \$8.99)
978-0-307-97580-5
Colorful, cartoon-like illustrations accompany this story of a pet snake who proves to be far more than meets the eye. (5-7)

Pinch and Dash and the Terrible Couch

by Michael J. Daley, illustrated by Thomas F. Yezerski
(Charlesbridge, \$12.95) 978-1-58089-379-4
Oh no! Pinch gets a very unwelcome surprise. What can he do about it? Detailed pen, ink, and watercolor illustrations add to the fun. (6-8)

Poppy the Pirate Dog

by Liz Kessler, illustrated by Mike Phillips
(Candlewick Press, \$14.99) 978-0-7636-6569-2
A family of four and Poppy, their fearful Dalmatian, seek the perfect pirate boat ride. Ink and watercolor illustrations. (5-8)

Robot, Go Bot!

by Dana Meachen Rau, illustrated by Wook Jin Jung
(Random House, P \$3.99) 978-0-375-87083-5
Simple words in comic-style balloons tell the engaging story of a bossy girl and her robot. Colorful illustrations. (4-6)

Squirrels on Skis

by J. Hamilton Ray, illustrated by Pascal Lemaitre
(Beginner Books/Random House, \$8.99)
978-0-449-81081-1
In this far-fetched, rhyming tall tale, an intrepid girl reporter tries to lure away the squirrels invading her town. Humorous color illustrations (5-8)

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Beginning Readers, continued**Urgency Emergency!: Big Bad Wolf**

written and illustrated by Dosh Archer
(Albert Whitman, \$12.99) 978-0-8075-8352-4
It's a busy day at City Hospital. Little Red can't find Grandma and the Big Bad Wolf is choking on something...or someone. Humorous illustrations. (5-7)

Urgency Emergency!: Itsy Bitsy Spider

written and illustrated by Dosh Archer
(Albert Whitman, \$12.99) 978-0-8075-8358-6
What happened whenafter the spider got "washed out" of a waterspout? A humorous continuation of the classic tale. Simple, colorful, supportive illustrations. (5-7)

Coming of Age**All about Ellie (The Critter Club series)**

by Callie Barkley, illustrated by Marsha Riti
(Little Simon/Simon & Schuster, \$15.99)
978-1-4424-5789-8
When Ellie gets a starring role in the spring play, she neglects her friends and the animals in the Critter Club shelter. Black-and-white illustrations. (5-8)

Amy and the Missing Puppy (The Critter Club series)

by Callie Barkley, illustrated by Marsha Riti
(Little Simon/Simon & Schuster, \$15.99)
978-1-4424-5770-6
The rescue of a Saint Bernard puppy leads Amy and her friends to start an animal rescue center. Black-and-white illustrations. (5-8)

**My Cold Plum Lemon Pie Bluesy Mood**

by Tameka Fryer Brown, illustrated by Shane W. Evans
(Viking BFYR/Penguin, \$16.99) 978-0-670-01285-5
A color for each mood, expressed in rhyme, describes Jamie's feelings as a middle child in a large family. Oil painted collages. (4-7)

My Happy Life

by Rose Lagercrantz, illustrated by Eva Eriksson, translated from the Swedish by Julia Marshall
(Gecko Press, \$16.95) 978-1-877579-35-6
Dani starts at a new school. She makes a best friend, Ella, but then Ella moves away. Black-and-white line drawings are an equal part with the text. (5-8)

**No Ordinary Family**

written and illustrated by Ute Krause, translated from the German by Nicholas Miller
(NorthSouth Books, \$17.95) 978-0-7358-4149-9
When their parents divorce, the seven bandit children must adjust to new members in the family. Amusing, clever illustrations. (5-8)

**Princess Cupcake Jones and the Missing Tutu**

by Ylleya Fields, illustrated by Michael LaDuca
(Belle Publishing, \$15.95) 978-0-578-11303-6
A real-world princess discovers the virtues of putting her possessions back where they belong. Expressive and colorful illustrations. (5-8)

Stones for Grandpa

by Renee Londner, illustrated by Martha Avilés
(Kar-Ben/Lerner, \$17.95; P \$7.95) 978-0-7613-7495-4;
978-0-7613-7496-1
A young boy recaptures joyful memories of his grandpa who died one year ago. Colorful, comforting illustrations. (5-7)

The Web

by Nette Hilton, illustrated by Kerry Millard
(Kane/Miller/EDC, P \$5.99) 978-1-61067-087-6
Jenny is close to her great grandmother, Violet-Anne, and stays in her wonderful old house full of secrets until her parents decide that Violet-Anne must go to a nursing home "to be safe." Pen and ink illustrations. (6-9)

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Fantasy**Awesome Dawson**

written and illustrated by Chris Gall
(Little, Brown and Company/Hachette, \$16.99)
978-0-316-21330-1

Dawson invented his Vacu-Maniac to do his chores, but now the gigantic robot is out of control. Engravings with color on ink-coated clayboard. (5-7)

***Journey**

written and illustrated by Aaron Becker
(Candlewick Press, \$15.99) 978-0-7636-6053-6
A girl's fantastic journey is helped by her magical red crayon. Wordless story with sumptuous watercolor and pen and ink illustrations. (5-8)

Mermaids in the Backyard

by Catherine Hapka, illustrated by Patricia Castelao
(Random House, P \$4.99) 978-0-307-97637-6
When she leaves Chicago and her best friend behind, Lindy wonders if she will make friends in her new beachfront home. Black-and-white illustrations. (6-9)

The Monstore

by Tara Lazar, illustrated by James Burks
(Aladdin/Simon & Schuster, \$16.99) 978-1-4424-2017-5
Could a monster or two stop Zack's pesky little sister? Humorous, colorful full-page illustrations. (5-9)

***Mr. Wuffles!**

written and illustrated by David Wiesner
(Clarion/HMH, \$17.99) 978-0-618-75661-2
A cat disdains his toys, but he's intrigued by a tiny space ship filled with aliens who collaborate with ants and beetles to escape. A wordless book with brilliant, expressive watercolors. (5-7)

Part-Time Princess

by Deborah Underwood, illustrated by Cambria Evans
(Disney-Hyperion Books, \$16.99) 978-1-4231-2485-6
With nighttime adventures as a firefighter and dragon-befriending princess, a little girl redefines this royal role. Mixed-media illustrations. (5-8)

***Tiger in My Soup**

by Kashmiria Sheth, illustrated by Jeffrey Ebbeler
(Peachtree, \$15.95) 978-1-56145-696-3
Will our young narrator's sister *ever* read to him? Full-page action illustrations celebrate imagination as the menacing tiger leaps across pages. (5-8)

***Toys in Space**

written and illustrated by Mini Grey
(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House, \$16.99)
978-0-307-97812-7
In a story within a story, seven toys are abducted by aliens. Can they escape and return home? Expressive, detailed illustrations. (5-7)

Folklore and Fairy Tales***Can't Scare Me**

written and illustrated by Ashley Bryan
(Atheneum BFYR/ Simon & Schuster, \$16.99)
978-1-4424-7657-8
In this captivating read-aloud, a boy who knows no fear gets a dose of humility when he encounters the three-headed giant that his grandmother warned him about. Tempera and watercolor paintings accent the humor. (5-8)

Grandma and the Great Gourd: A Bengali Folktale

retold by Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni, illustrated by Susy Pilgrim Waters
(Neal Porter Books/Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-1-59643-378-6
On the way to visit her daughter, Grandma meets a hungry fox, a bear, and a tiger who want to eat her. Can she outwit them? Vibrant collage illustrations. (5-7)

Johnny Kaw: A Tall Tale

by Devin Scillian, illustrated by Brad Sneed
(Sleeping Bear Press, \$15.95) 978-1-58536-791-7
Six-foot Johnny cleans the plains, tames a tornado, and creates the Rocky Mountains. Rhymed text and dramatic illustrations. (6-10)

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Folklore and Fairy Tales, continued***The King of Little Things**

by Bil Lepp, illustrated by David T. Wenzel

(Peachtree, \$16.95) 978-1-56145-708-3

When King Normous decides to rule the whole world, the King of Little Things and his subjects find a way to outsmart him and keep their kingdom safe. Rich, painterly illustrations. (5-8)

Nasreddine

by Odile Weulersse, illustrated by Rébecca Dautremer, translated from the French by Kathleen Merz

(Eerdmans BFYR, \$17.00) 978-0-8028-5416-2

Young Nasreddine derives wisdom from his very patient father as he learns to ignore his neighbors' criticism. Amusing watercolors. (7-9)

Nelly May Has Her Say

by Cynthia DeFelice, illustrated by Henry Cole

(Margaret Ferguson Books/Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, \$16.99) 978-0-374-39899-6

In a humorous retelling of an English folktale, Lord Pinkwinkle insists that his new housekeeper learn his special names for common objects. Vibrant ink and watercolor illustrations. (5-8)

***Ol' Clip-Clop: A Ghost Story**

by Patricia C. McKissack, illustrated by Eric Velasquez (Holiday House, \$16.95) 978-0-8234-2265-4

Was that a ghost following John Leep when the cruel landlord came in the night to evict the widow Mayes? Mixed-media and oil illustrations. (7-10)

The Race for the Chinese Zodiac

by Gabrielle Wang, illustrated by Sally Rippin

(Candlewick Press, \$14.99) 978-0-7636-6778-8

Colorful, powerful pen and ink paintings accompany the retelling of this how and why story. (6-9)

***The Tortoise & the Hare**

written and illustrated by Jerry Pinkney

(Little, Brown and Company/Hachette, \$18.00)

978-0-316-18356-7

The classic tale of perseverance versus speed is set in the American Southwest. Few words with extraordinary storytelling watercolors. (5-9)

Historical Fiction**The First Drawing**

written and illustrated by Mordicai Gerstein

(Little, Brown and Company/Hachette, \$17.00)

978-0-316-20478-1

Could the first cave artist have been a child? How might it have happened? Expressive mixed-media illustrations. (5-7)

**Knit Your Bit: A World War I Story**

by Deborah Hopkinson, illustrated by Steven Guarnaccia

(Putnam Juvenile/Penguin, \$16.99) 978-0-399-25241-9

With Pop fighting in the army, Mikey and his friends enter the Central Park Knitting Bee to help the war effort. Pen and ink and watercolor illustrations. (6-9)

***The Matchbox Diary**

by Paul Fleischman, illustrated by Bagram Ibatoulline

(Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-4601-1

A kindergartner visits her great-grandfather who collected stories about his journey from Italy and his early life in America. History-capturing acrylic gouache illustrations. (7-9)

**Mysterious Traveler**

by Mal Peet and Elspeth Graham, illustrated by P. J. Lynch

(Candlewick Press, \$15.99) 978-0-7636-6232-5

When desert guide Issa goes blind, his adopted granddaughter becomes his eyes. Can they rescue travelers stranded in a sandstorm? Mixed-media illustrations. (6-9)

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Historical Fiction, continued**Nora's Chicks**

by Patricia MacLachlan, illustrated by Kathryn Brown (Candlewick Press, \$15.99) 978-0-7636-4753-7
After Nora and her family move from Russia to the American prairie, she feels very lonely—until her father brings home some chicks. Soft watercolor illustrations. (5-8)

Papa's Mechanical Fish

by Candace Fleming, illustrated by Boris Kulikov (Margaret Ferguson Books/Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, \$16.99) 978-0-374-39908-5
With help from his whole family, Papa finally succeeds in creating a submarine. Humorous sketches and watercolor illustrations. (7-9)

Paper Son: Lee's Journey to America

by Helen Foster James and Virginia Shin-Mui Loh, illustrated by Wilson Ong (Sleeping Bear Press, \$16.99) 978-1-58536-833-4
Lee, a twelve-year-old "paper son," journeys from China to America in 1926. Expressive, muted oil paintings. (6-9)

Red Kite, Blue Kite

by Ji-li Jiang, illustrated by Greg Ruth (Hyperion Books for Children/Disney, \$17.99) 978-1-4231-2753-6
When Tai Shan's father is sent to a labor camp, they are able to keep in touch with each other by flying their kites. Realistic watercolor illustrations (7-10)

***This Is the Rope: A Story from the Great Migration**

by Jacqueline Woodson, illustrated by James Ransome (Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin, \$16.99) 978-0-399-23986-1
A found piece of rope binds a family together through three generations as they journey from South Carolina to Brooklyn. Realistic oil paintings. (6-9)

Welcome to America, Champ!

by Catherine Stier, illustrated by Doris Ettliger (Sleeping Bear Press, \$17.95) 978-1-58536-606-4
After his English mother marries an American G.I., Thomas is ambivalent about moving to America when the war ends in 1945. Atmospheric color illustrations. (6-8)

Holidays**Hanukkah Bear**

by Eric A. Kimmel, illustrated by Mike Wohnoutka (Holiday House, \$16.95) 978-0-8234-2855-7
When the rabbi arrives at Bubba Brayna's house to celebrate the first night of the holiday, the latkes are all gone. Guess who got there first? Cheerful acrylics. (5-8)

The Longest Night: A Passover Story

by Laurel Snyder, illustrated by Catia Chien (Schwartz & Wade Books/Random House, \$17.99) 978-0-375-86942-6
A Hebrew slave girl recounts the harrowing experiences during the Exodus from Egypt. Lyrical rhymed text and expressive, muted illustrations. (6-9)

Tallulah's Nutcracker

by Marilyn Singer, illustrated by Alexandra Boiger (Clarion/HMH, \$16.99) 978-0-547-84557-9
Tallulah's role as a moose in the Christmas classic ballet is not what she expects. Whimsical watercolor and gouache illustrations. (5-8)

Humor**123 versus ABC**

written and illustrated by Mike Boldt (Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-210299-7
Bright, digitally painted illustrations lend energy and humor to this story of a 1 and an A who duel for control of the book. (5-7)

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Humor, continued**Are the Dinosaurs Dead, Dad?**

by Julie Middleton, illustrated by Russell Ayto
(Peachtree, \$16.95) 978-1-56145-690-1
Dad assures Dave that dinosaurs are dead, but after a visit to a museum, Dave isn't so sure. Quirky pen, ink, watercolor, and collage illustrations. (4-7)

The Beginner's Guide to Running Away from Home

by Jennifer Larue Huget, illustrated by Red Nose Studio
(Chris Sickels)
(Schwartz & Wade Books/Random House, \$17.99)
978-0-375-86739-2
Frustrated with your family? Thinking of running away? Here are step-by-step instructions, including reasons to come back home. Brilliantly detailed, three-dimensional illustrations. (5-7)

***The Boy Who Cried Bigfoot!**

written and illustrated by Scott Magoon
(Paula Wiseman Books/Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$16.99)
978-1-4424-1257-6
Ben has so often lied about seeing Bigfoot that no one believes him when the big guy really does show up. Suitably wacky, computer-generated illustrations. (5-8)

***Bugs in My Hair**

written and illustrated by David Shannon
(Blue Sky/Scholastic, \$17.99) 978-0-545-14313-4
Larger-than-life, exaggerated illustrations and some well-chosen words tell the tale of fighting a lice infestation. (5-8)

Cowpoke Clyde and Dirty Dawg

by Lori Mortensen, illustrated by Michael Allen Austin
(Clarion/HMH, \$16.99) 978-0-547-23993-4
Humorous acrylic and colored pencil illustrations accompany the engaging rhymed tall tale of a cowboy and his attempt to bathe his feisty pet. (5-8)

Dirty Bertie Worms!

by Alan MacDonald, created and illustrated by David Roberts
(Capstone, \$23.99, P\$4.95) 978-1-4342-4619-6;
978-1-4342-4823-7
Perpetually dirty and filled with "interesting" ideas, six-year-old Bertie blithely races from one situation to another—often to the dismay of those around him. Humorous black-and-white illustrations. (7-9)

Dodsworth in Tokyo

written and illustrated by Tim Egan
(Houghton Mifflin/HMH, \$14.99) 978-0-547-87745-7
Dodsworth is traveling again. He pleads with friend Duck to be on his best behavior and Duck really tries. Ink and watercolor illustrations. (5-8)

Exclamation Mark

by Amy Krouse Rosenthal, illustrated by Tom Lichtenheld
(Scholastic Press, \$17.99) 978-0-545-43679-3
Unsure of his role in life, an exclamation point finds his groove once a question mark appears. Simple ink drawings. (6-8)

**The Frazzle Family Finds a Way**

by Ann Bonwill, illustrated by Stephen Gammell
(Holiday House, \$16.95) 978-0-8234-2405-4
Annie's family can't remember a single thing until she has a sudden revelation. Frazzled looking watercolors. (5-8)

Henry's Map

written and illustrated by David Elliot
(Philomel Books/Penguin, \$16.99) 9780399160721
Henry draws a map of his beloved farmyard, but when the animals move, is his map still accurate? Amusing pencil and watercolor illustrations. (6-9)

How Martha Saved Her Parents from Green Beans

by David LaRochelle, illustrated by Mark Fearing
(Dial BFYR/Penguin, \$16.99) 978-0-8037-3766-2
Attention, picky eaters! Brave Martha confronts and

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defeats invading, evil green beans who capture her parents. Colorful, cartoon-like illustrations. (5-8)

Humor, continued

*I'm a Frog (Elephant & Piggie series)

written and illustrated by Mo Willems
(Hyperion Books for Children/Disney, \$8.99)
978-1-4231-8305-1

Piggie decides she is a frog and Gerald worries about his friend and himself, until he finds out what it means to pretend. Simple, humorous, ink-outlined drawings. (5-8)

Kelsey Green, Reading Queen (Franklin School Friends series)

by Claudia Mills, illustrated by Rob Shepperson
(Margaret Ferguson Books/Farrar Straus Giroux
BFYR/Macmillan, \$15.99) 978-0-374-37485-3
Third grader Kelsey becomes obsessed with her school's reading contest. Beside devouring books, she offers a helping hand. Full-page black-and-white illustrations. (7-10)

Musk Ox Counts

by Erin Cabatingan, illustrated by Matthew Myers
(Neal Porter Books/Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan,
\$16.99) 978-1-59643-798-2

Humorous animated illustrations follow an ox that refuses to stay on his assigned page as "number 1," causing chaos in this hilarious math romp. (5-7)

My Crocodile Does Not Bite

written and illustrated by Joe Kulka
(Carolrhoda/Lerner, \$16.95) 978-0-7613-8937-8
Cindy Lou insists that Ernest's lovable giant crocodile is dangerous, until she gets a surprise comeuppance. Computer-manipulated acrylic illustrations. (5-8)

My New Teacher and Me!

by Al Yankovic, illustrated by Wes Hargis
(Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-219203-5
A serious teacher tries to rein in Billy's imagination until he realizes that maybe Billy's stories really aren't so far-fetched. Engaging rhymes. Watercolor, pencil, and digital illustrations. (6-8)

*Niño Wrestles the World

written and illustrated by Yuyi Morales
(Neal Porter Books/Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan,
\$16.99) 978-1-59643-604-6

A very young, fearless, quick-thinking Mexican wrestler has vanquished all comers—so far. But is he a match for his final opponents? Bilingual with energetic, colorful illustrations. (5-7)

No Pirates Allowed! Said Library Lou

by Rhonda Gowler Greene, illustrated by Brian Ajhar
(Sleeping Bear Press, \$15.95) 978-1-58536-796-2
Big Pete storms the library looking for gold as Library Lou shows him a different treasure. Rhyming text. Large, colorful illustrations. (5-9)



Not Your Typical Dragon

by Dan Bar-el, illustrated by Tim Bowers
(Viking BFYR/Penguin, \$16.99) 978-0-670-01402-6
Seven-year-old dragons like Crispin should begin breathing fire, not whipped cream, Band-Aids or marshmallows. His new friend, Sir George, tries to help. Bold, colorful illustrations. (5-8)

Odd Duck

by Cecil Castellucci, illustrated by Sara Varon
(First Second/Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$15.99)
978-1-59643-557-5
Theodora thinks she's a normal duck; Chad thinks he is too. And they each find the other strange. Whimsical illustrations. (6-9)

*Paul Meets Bernadette

written and illustrated by Rosy Lamb
(Candlewick Press, \$14.00) 978-0-7636-6130-4
Paul's life was very dull until Bernadette opened his eyes to the fascinating world around him. Vibrant oil paints reveal the humor in Bernadette's perception. (4-7)

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Humor, continued**Rabbit and the Not-So-Big-Bad Wolf**

by Michael Escoffier, illustrated by Kris Di Giacomo, translated from the French by Grace Maccarone (Holiday House, \$16.95) 978-0-8234-2813-7
Humorous mixed-media drawings capture this imaginative tale of a scared rabbit, which may inspire readers to draw their own creations. (4-8)

Sophie's Squash

by Pat Zietlow Miller, illustrated by Anne Wilsdorf (Schwartz & Wade Books/Random House, \$16.99) 978-0-307-97896-7
Sophie becomes friends with a squash that she names Bernice. When Bernice starts to get blotchy and soft, Sophie and her family wonder what can be done. Lively ink and watercolor illustrations. (4-7)

Tea Rex

written and illustrated by Molly Idle (Viking/Penguin, \$16.99) 978-0-670-01430-9
A tea party primer featuring a most unusual guest offers charm and surprises. Bold compositions in richly colored Prismacolor pencil. (5-8)

***That Is Not a Good Idea**

written and illustrated by Mo Willems (Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 9780062203090
A fox woos a duck, with surprising results. Mixed-media illustrations. (6-8)

***The Very Inappropriate Word**

by Jim Tobin, illustrated by Dave Coverly (Christy Ottaviano Books/Henry Holt BFYR/Macmillan, \$16.99) 978-0-8050-9474-9
Michael loves and collects words. He even shares a word that he knows is...bad. Delightful, humorous ink and watercolor illustrations. (6-9)

***Warning: Do Not Open This Book!**

by Adam Lehrhaupt, illustrated by Matthew Forsythe (Paula Wiseman Books/Simon & Schuster, \$16.99) 978-1-4424-3582-7
Even at the risk of setting free the monkeys, children won't be able to resist opening this humorous book that warns readers away with each page. Digital illustrations. (5-7)

**Zombelina**

by Kristyn Crow, illustrated by Molly Idle (Walker BFYR/Bloomsbury Children's Books, \$16.99) 978-0-8027-2803-6
Being inexperienced—or green—doesn't keep Zombelina from dance class. But will her stage fright turn her dance recital into a ghastly affair? Vivid Prismacolor pencil illustrations. (5-7)

Sports (Fiction)**A Baseball Story**

written and illustrated by Richard Torrey (Kane/Miller/EDC, \$10.99) 978-1-61067-054-8
What's even better than ice cream? Baseball! It's the first day of the season and Jordan can't wait to step up to the plate. Cheerful color illustrations. (5-7)

Take Me Out to the Yakyu

written and illustrated by Aaron Meshon (Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster, \$15.99) 978-1-4424-4177-4
What would it be like to go to a baseball game in Japan? Some things about it are different, but the fun is the same! Bold, colorful illustrations, (6-8)

* = Outstanding Merit



= Read Aloud

(5-8) = Suggested Age Range



= Graphic Format

Today**The Apple Orchard Riddle**

by Margaret McNamara, illustrated by G. Brian Karas
(Schwartz & Wade Books/Random House, \$15.99)
9780375847448

When students are invited to solve a riddle on a class trip to an apple orchard, Tara's daydreaming leads to the answer. Gouache, acrylic, and pencil illustrations. (7-9)

The Bad Butterfly (Billie B. Brown series)

by Sally Rippin, illustrated by Aki Fukuoka
(Kane/Miller/EDC, P \$4.99) 978-1-61067-095-1

Billie wants to be a delicate ballerina, but even practice doesn't make her perfect, until she and her friend, Jack, come up with a new plan. Black-and-white spot illustrations. (5-7)

Ben Rides On

written and illustrated by Matt Davies
(Neal Porter Books/Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$16.99) 978-1-59643-794-4

Colorful illustrations bring to life the tale of an imposing bully, a stolen bicycle, and a lesson learned. (6-9)

Bluebird

written and illustrated by Bob Staake
(Schwartz & Wade Books/Random House, \$17.99)
978-0-375-87037-8

In this nearly wordless story, blue and gray images depict the friendship between a boy and a bird and show the power of the relationship in the face of bullying. (6-8)

Bramble and Maggie: Give and Take

by Jessie Haas, illustrated by Alison Friend
(Candlewick Press, \$14.99) 978-0-7636-5021-6
The second in a series, this early chapter book is about the relationship between a girl, her horse, and her neighbor. Expressive watercolors. (6-8)

Cowboy Up!: Ride the Navajo Rodeo

by Nancy Bo Flood, photographs by Jan Sonnenmair
(Wordsong/Boyd's Mills Press/Highlights, \$17.95)
978-1-59078-893-6

A day of roping and riding competitions at a rodeo is depicted through photographs, poetry, and prose. (6-9)

Finnegan and Fox: The Ten-Foot Cop

by Helen L. Wilbur, illustrated by John Manders
(Sleeping Bear Press, \$16.95) 978-1-58536-784-9
During a busy day, New York police horse Finnegan demonstrates how he and his mount, Officer Fox, are partners protecting the public. Cartoon illustrations. Facts about mounted police in back matter. (5-8)

A Good Trade

by Alma Fullerton, illustrated by Karen Patkau
(Pajama Press, \$19.95) 978-0-9869495-9-3
After a long walk, barefoot, to collect water, Kato gets a wonderful surprise. Bright, digital collages. (6-8)

**In the Tree House**

by Andrew Larsen, illustrated by Dušan Petričić
(Kids Can Press, \$16.95) 978-1-55453-635-1
A boy yearns for a tree house and the companionship of his older brother. Simple drawings with dashes of color. (5-8)

***King for a Day**

by Rukhsana Khan, illustrated by Christiane Krömer
(Lee & Low, \$17.95) 978-1-60060-659-5
Stationed in his wheelchair on a rooftop in Lahore, Malik celebrates the festival of Basant, expertly bringing down competitors' kites with his small, speedy kite. Colorful mixed-media collages. (6-10)

***Knock Knock: My Dad's Dream for Me**

by Daniel Beaty, illustrated by Bryan Collier
(Little, Brown and Company/Hachette, \$18.00)
978-0-316-20917-5
The anguish caused by a suddenly absent parent, expressed in a child's voice, evolves from despair into a powerful declaration of hope. Mixed-media collages. (6-8)

* = Outstanding Merit



= Read Aloud

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= Graphic Format

Today, continued**The Market Bowl**

written and illustrated by Jim Averbeck
(Charlesbridge, \$16.95) 978-1-58089-368-8
In a Cameroonian village, a girl must find a way to restore the blessing over the market bowl after she offends the powerful Brother Coin. Digitally assembled acrylic illustrations. (6-9)

A No-Sneeze Pet (Pet Friends Forever series)

by Diana G. Gallgher, illustrated by Adriana Juárez Puglisi
(Picture Window/Capstone, \$23.99) 978-1-4048-7499-2
Though Emma wants a dog, she and her friends look at other pets because her mother has allergies. Humorous illustrations. Glossary and pet care suggestions. (5-8)

**Saturday Is Dadurday**

by Robin Pulver, illustrated by R. W. Alley
(Walker BFYR/Bloomsbury Children's Books, \$16.99)
978-0-8027-8691-3
Mimi and Dad plan fun, rain or shine, until Dad has to work. What will become of Dadurday? Expressive watercolor, pen and ink illustrations. (5-8)

***The Silver Button**

written and illustrated by Bob Graham
(Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-6437-4
Simple, elegant text accompanies lavishly detailed watercolor illustrations depicting small magical moments as a baby takes his first step. (6-8)

**Snowflakes Fall**

by Patricia MacLachlan, illustrated by Steven Kellogg
(Random House, \$17.99) 978-0-385-37693-8
A simple parable related to the events in Sandy Hook, Connecticut, is enhanced by full-page detailed illustrations. (4-8)

Splash, Anna Hibiscus!

by Atinuke, illustrated by Lauren Tobia
(Kane/Miller/EDC, \$14.99) 978-1-61067-173-6
A warm look at an African family's day at the beach and the lure of the "laughing" waves. Detailed, action-filled artwork. (6-8)

Starring Jules (in Drama-Rama)

by Beth Ain, illustrated by Anne Kennan Higgins
(Scholastic Press, \$14.99) 978-0-545-44354-8
Second grader Jules, an aspiring actress, learns about best friends, T-pilots, and her own limitations. Her experiences provide a humorous look at New York City life. Fluid black-and-white illustrations. (7-9)

Theo's Mood

written and illustrated by Maryann Cocca-Leffler
(Albert Whitman, \$15.99) 978-0-8075-7778-3
How does Theo identify his own mood? He has a new baby sister and is feeling confused. Will his classmates help? Whimsical, humorous full-color illustrations. (5-8)

The Way Home

by Becky Citra
(Second Story, P \$8.95) 978-1-927583-01-2
While Tory, a foster child, is at a temporary placement, she and a pony that is no longer of use to his family bond. Will they be separated? (7-9)

White Fur Flying

by Patricia MacLachlan
(Margaret K. McElderry Books/Simon & Schuster, \$15.99) 978-1-4424-2171-4
Silent nine-year-old Phillip moves next door with his aunt and uncle. It takes the warmth of Zoe's family and a dog who loves him to get him talking. (7-9)

Who Needs Glasses? (The Katie Woo Series)

by Fran Manushkin; illustrated by Tammie Lyon
(Picture Window/Capstone, P \$5.95) 978-1-4048-8049-8
When things look blurry, maybe it's time to have your eyes checked. Katie and Pedro find that glasses really help. Watercolor illustrations. (5-7)

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Today, continued**The Year of Billy Miller**

written and illustrated by Kevin Henkes
(Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, \$16.99)
978-0-06-226812-9

As Billy enters second grade, he fears he might have trouble keeping up, but the school year holds surprises, fun, and valuable life lessons for him. Black-and-white spot illustrations. (7-9)

Yes, Let's

by Galen Goodwin Longstreth, illustrated by Maris Wicks
(Tanglewood, \$15.95) 978-1-933718-87-3
A family trip to the woods, including a hike, a picnic, and swimming, packs a lot of fun into one day. Colorful, humorous illustrations. (5-8)

POETRY**Cat Talk**

by Patricia MacLachan, and Emily MacLachlan Charest, illustrated by Barry Moser
(Katherine Tegen Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99)
978-0-06-027978-3
Meet Romeo, Tuck, and other felines. Each tells his own story in easy-to-read free verse. Engaging watercolors. (6-9)

**The Deer Watch**

by Pat Lowery Collins, illustrated by David Slonim
(Candlewick Press, \$15.99) 978-0-7636-4890-9
A father and son look for deer in the dunes, marshes, and woods on a summer vacation. Can they be quiet enough? Impressionistic oils. (6-8)

Follow Follow: A Book of Reverso Poems

by Marilyn Singer, illustrated by Josée Masse
(Dial BFYR/Penguin, \$16.99) 978-0-8037-3769-3
Poems based on classic fairy tales are flipped to present another point of view. Vibrant acrylic illustrations. (7-10)

***Forest Has a Song: Poems**

by Amy Ludwig VanDerwater, illustrated by Robbin Gourley
(Clarion/HMH, \$16.99) 978-0-618-84349-7
Children explore the forest through beautiful poems that whisper its truths. Exquisite watercolors share more of the forest's secrets. (6-10)

**Once upon a Northern Night**

by Jean E. Pendziwol, illustrated by Isabelle Arsenault
(Groundwood/House of Anansi Press, \$17.95)
978-1-55498-138-0
Wintry mixed-media illustrations help convey all the wonders of nature found outside a young boy's window on a cold frosty night. (5-7)

**Poems to Learn by Heart**

edited by Caroline Kennedy, illustrated by Jon J. Muth
(Disney-Hyperion Books, \$19.99) 978-1-4231-0805-4
This diverse collection brings together old and new poems that celebrate both special and everyday moments in life. Vivid watercolor illustrations throughout. (6-14)

World Rat Day: Poems about Real Holidays You've Never Heard Of

by J. Patrick Lewis, illustrated by Anna Raff
(Candlewick Press, \$15.99) 978-0-7636-5402-3
The former Children's Poet Laureate plays with language and humor as he writes about holidays that just might exist. Ink wash and drawings complement the text. (6-10)

INFORMATION BOOKS**Activities*****Inside Outside**

written and illustrated by Lizi Boyd
(Chronicle Books, \$15.99) 978-1-4521-0644-1
A boy and his dog explore the seasons in a wordless celebration. Paintings on kraft paper in gouache with die-cuts. (4-9)

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Architecture***Building Our House**

written and illustrated by Jonathan Bean
(Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99)
978-0-374-38023-6
From weedy field to family home, this is a compelling look at the how-to's of construction and the experiences that bind a family. Informative, detailed watercolor illustrations. (5-8)

Arts**Brush of the Gods**

by Lenore Look, illustrated by Meilo So
(Schwartz & Wade Books/Random House, \$17.99)
978-0-375-87001-9
Seventh-Century Chinese artist Wu Daozi's paintings were so magical that they came to life. Watercolor, ink, gouache, and colored pencil illustrations. (7-9)

***Mr. Flux**

by Kyo Maclear, illustrated by Matte Stephens
(Kids Can Press, \$16.95) 978-1-55453-781-5
Everything is seen in a new way when an artist moves in on Martin's street. Gouache illustrations. (6-8)

***The Museum**

by Susan Verde, illustrated by Peter H. Reynolds
(Abrams BFYR, \$16.95) 978-1-4197-0594-6
A girl's encounter with famous paintings elicits a variety of emotions and ultimately stimulates her own creativity. Rhymed text and experiential, action-filled watercolors. (5-9)

Paul Thurlby's Wildlife

written and illustrated by Paul Thurlby
(Templar/Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-0-7636-6563-0
Colorful digital posters with captions provide unusual facts about tigers, polar bears, flamingos and more. (6-8)

Saint-Saëns's Danse Macabre

by Anna Harwell Celenza, illustrated by JoAnn E. Kitchel
(Charlesbridge, \$19.95) 978-1-57091-348-8
After visiting a Parisian cemetery, the nineteenth-century composer struggles to capture the spooky, mischievous sounds of skeletons dancing. Period-style watercolor illustrations. CD included. (7-9)

***A Splash of Red: The Life and Art of Horace Pippin**

by Jen Bryant, illustrated by Melissa Sweet
(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House, \$17.99) 978-0-375-86712-5
As a child, Horace Pippin loved to draw, but a war injury interrupted his career until he found a unique way to continue his art, which was celebrated in his later years. Excellent mixed-media illustrations. References. (6-10)

**When Stravinsky Met Nijinsky: Two Artists, Their Ballet, and One Extraordinary Riot**

written and illustrated by Lauren Stringer
(Harcourt Children's Books/HMH, \$16.99)
978-0-547-90725-3
The collaboration that resulted in the 1913 premiere of the revolutionary ballet *The Rite of Spring* is depicted with dynamic illustrations. (7-9)

Biography**Becoming Babe Ruth**

written and illustrated by Matt Tavares
(Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-5646-1
He grew up to be one of history's greatest baseball players, but he never forgot the reform school where his talents were nurtured. Gentle watercolor, gouache, and pencil illustrations. (7-9)

***The Boy Who Loved Math: The Improbable Life of Paul Erdős**

by Deborah Heiligman, illustrated by LeUyen Pham
(Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$17.99)
978-1-59643-307-6
This picture book biography of Paul Erdős traces his early love of math as well as the ideas and people he connected in service to its study. Lively illustrations incorporate mathematical concepts. (7-10)

* = Outstanding Merit



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Biography, continued***Brave Girl: Clara and the Shirtwaist Makers' Strike of 1909**

by Michelle Markel, illustrated by Melissa Sweet
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$17.99)
978-0-06-180442-7

Newly arrived in New York City as an immigrant, Clara Lemlich went from overworked factory seamstress to pioneering labor leader. Mixed-media illustrations. Good references. (7-9)

Mister and Lady Day: Billie Holiday and the Dog Who Loved Her

by Amy Novesky, illustrated by Vanessa Brantley Newton
(Harcourt Children's Books/HMH, \$16.99)
978-0-15-205806-7

Spare text and colorful gouache and collage illustrations portray the great jazz singer and the dogs who were an important part of her life. (7-10)

Nelson Mandela

written and illustrated by Kadir Nelson
(Katherine Tegen Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99)
978-0-06-178374-6

Through this brief but powerful portrait, meet the South African leader who helped establish racial equality in his country. Strong oil paintings. (7-10)

***On a Beam of Light: A Story of Albert Einstein**

by Jennifer Berne, illustrated by Vladimir Radunsky
(Chronicle Books, \$17.99) 978-0-8118-7235-5
The life and passions of one of the world's most brilliant physicists are captured in engaging text and whimsical pen, ink, and gouache illustrations. (6-9)

***A Splash of Red: The Life and Art of Horace Pippin**

by Jen Bryant, illustrated by Melissa Sweet
(Alfred A. Knopf/Random House, \$17.99)
978-0-375-86712-5
As a child, Horace Pippin loved to draw, but a war injury interrupted his career until he found a unique way to continue his art, which was celebrated in his later years. Excellent mixed-media illustrations. References. (6-10)

Tito Puente: Mambo King/Rey del Mambo

by Monica Brown, illustrated by Rafael López
(Rayo/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-122783-7
Tito Puente's life as a Grammy award-winning musician and bandleader is described in English and Spanish. Bold, acrylic illustrations. (5-8)

***To Dare Mighty Things: The Life of Theodore Roosevelt**

by Doreen Rappaport, illustrated by C. F. Payne
(Disney-Hyperion Books, \$17.99) 978-1-4231-2488-7
From his sickly childhood through his personal and political setbacks and successes to his fearless presidency, "Teddy" is presented in vivid text with direct quotes. Well referenced. Haunting mixed-media illustrations. (6-9)

***The Tree Lady: The True Story of How One Tree-Loving Woman Changed a City Forever**

by H. Joseph Hopkins, illustrated by Jill McElmurry
(Beach Lane Books/ Simon & Schuster, \$16.99)
978-1-4424-1402-0
Kate Sessions didn't let being a girl stop her from exploring and learning. As an adult, she grew trees where no one believed it possible. Gouache illustrations provide delectable details, such as which seeds would yield plants that could thrive in San Diego's arid climate. (6-10)

You Never Heard of Willie Mays?!

by Jonah Winter, illustrated by Terry Widener
(Schwartz & Wade Books/Random House, \$17.99)
978-0-375-86844-3
The road to the major leagues was difficult for African Americans, but Willie Mays became one of the greatest players ever. Vernacular language with acrylic illustrations on chipboard. (6-9)

* = Outstanding Merit



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= Graphic Format

History**Ecology****It's Our Garden: From Seeds to Harvest in a School Garden**

written and photographs by George Ancona
(Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-5392-7
Photographs chronicle a school's communal garden through the seasons, demonstrating the work and joy of growing food. (5-8)

***No Monkeys, No Chocolate**

by Melissa Stewart and Allen Young, illustrated by Nicole Wong
(Charlesbridge, \$16.95) 978-1-58089-287-2
Where does chocolate come from? This description takes you along the many steps from candy bar back to cocoa beans—with commentary by two humorous bookworms. Clear text and detailed illustrations. (7-10)

Snow School

by Sandra Markle, illustrated by Alan Marks
(Charlesbridge, \$16.95) 978-1-58089-410-4
A snow leopard teaches her cubs to survive in the harsh Pakistan Hindu Kush mountain range. Dramatic watercolors. (6-9)

***The Tree Lady: The True Story of How One Tree-Loving Woman Changed a City Forever**

by H. Joseph Hopkins, illustrated by Jill McElmurry
(Beach Lane Books/ Simon & Schuster, \$16.99)
978-1-4424-1402-0
Kate Sessions didn't let being a girl stop her from exploring and learning. As an adult, she grew trees where no one believed it possible. Gouache illustrations provide delectable details, such as which seeds would yield plants that could thrive in San Diego's arid climate. (6-10)

***Brick by Brick**

by Charles R. Smith Jr., illustrated by Floyd Cooper
(Amistad/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-192082-0
Though slaves worked long hard hours building the White House, their wages went to their owners. Sepia-toned oil illustrations. (6-9)

***Locomotive**

written and illustrated by Brian Floca
(Richard Jackson Books/Atheneum/Simon & Schuster, \$17.99) 978-1-4169-9415-2
Readers follow one family from Omaha, Nebraska, to Sacramento, California, and learn about the Transcontinental Railroad. Watercolor landscapes and close-up views of the train's inner workings heighten the experience. (7-10)

***Martin & Mahalia: His Words, Her Song**

by Andrea Davis Pinkney, illustrated by Brian Pinkney
(Little, Brown and Company/Hachette, \$17.99)
978-0-316-07013-3
Together Martin Luther King and Mahalia Jackson fought for equality during the Civil Rights Movement using Word and Song. Fluid watercolor and ink illustrations. (7-9)

Revolutionary Friends: General George Washington and the Marquis de Lafayette

by Selene Castrovilla, illustrated by Drazen Kozjan
(Calkins Creek/Highlights, \$16.95) 978-1-59078-880-6
The young marquis came to America to help fight for freedom and formed a friendship with the commander-in-chief of the Continental Army. Period-style illustrations with digital color. (7-10)

**We Shall Overcome: The Story of a Song**

by Debbie Levy, illustrated by Vanessa Brantley-Newton
(Jump at the Sun/Disney-Hyperion Books, \$16.99)
978-1-4231-1954-8
The important historical context of how a song can play a role in change is presented for young readers. Mixed-media illustrations sing along. (6-9)

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= Graphic Format

Mathematics***The Boy Who Loved Math: The Improbable Life of Paul Erdős**

by Deborah Heiligman, illustrated by LeUyen Pham
(Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$17.99)
978-1-59643-307-6

This picture book biography of Paul Erdős traces his early love of math as well as the ideas and people he connected in service to its study. Lively illustrations incorporate mathematical concepts. (7-10)

**Lifetime: The Amazing Numbers in Animal Lives**

by Lola M. Schaefer, illustrated by Christopher Silas Neal
(Chronicle Books, \$17.99) 978-1-4521-0714-1

How many sets of antlers will a caribou grow and shed in a lifetime? How many egg sacs will a spider spin? Includes math challenges. Colorful mixed-media illustrations. (5-9)

That's a Possibility!: A Book about What Might Happen

written and illustrated by Bruce Goldstone
(Henry Holt BFYR/Macmillan, \$16.99)
978-0-8050-8998-1

It is more certain than probable, with these fun photos and examples, that you will walk away with a better grasp and appreciation of probabilities. Colorful photographs. (7-10)

Memoir**My Daddy, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**

by Martin Luther King III, illustrated by AG Ford
(Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-028075-8

The son of the dynamic leader shares his memories of the Civil Rights Movement and of his father. Acrylic and oil illustrations. (6-9)

Rifka Takes a Bow

by Betty Rosenberg Perlov, illustrated by Cosei Kawa
(Kar-Ben/Lerner, \$17.95) 978-0-7613-8127-3
Born to actors in the Yiddish theater, a girl learns the wonders of stagecraft and steals the show. Whimsical illustrations. (5-8)

**Year of the Jungle**

by Suzanne Collins, illustrated by James Proimos
(Scholastic Press, \$17.99) 978-0-545-42516-2

A year is a long time for Suzy when her dad is sent to war in Vietnam. Will he ever come home? Colorful ink and Corel Painter illustrations. (5-8)

Reference***Ann and Nan Are Anagrams: A Mixed-Up Word Dilemma**

by Mark Shulman, illustrated by Adam McCauley
(Chronicle Books, \$16.99) 978-1-4521-0914-5
Drool! Win a fussy chump! Word play is so much fun! Bold, funny mixed-media illustrations. (7-10)

Religion**Deep In the Sahara**

by Kelly Cunnane, illustrated by Hoda Hadadi
(Schwartz & Wade Books/Random House, \$17.99)
978-0-375-87034-7

Young Lalla wants to wear a malafa and grow into a fuller understanding of her traditions in the vibrant cultural life of Muslim West Africa. Collage illustrations. (5-9)

Science**Beavers**

written and illustrated by Gail Gibbons
(Holiday House, \$17.95) 978-0-8234-2412-2
Full-page and close-up labeled illustrations bring common and unique facts about beavers and their habitats to life. (7-10)

***Bone by Bone: Comparing Animal Skeletons**

by Sara Levine, illustrated by T.S Spookytooth
(Millbrook Press/Lerner, \$23.94) 978-0-7613-8464-9
What animal would you be like if your finger bones reached your feet? If you had no arms? Guess and compare your skeleton to other animals'. Useful illustrations. (6-9)

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Science, continued**A Butterfly Called Hope**

by Mary Alice Monroe, with Linda Love, photographs by Barbara J. Bergwerf

(Sylvan Dell, P \$9.95) 978-1-60718-8568

Hope finds a butterfly and learns to identify and care for it in this story of the life cycle of a monarch.

Photographs show its development at each stage. (4-7)

The Eagles Are Back

by Jean Craighead George, illustrated by Wendell Minor (Dial BFYR/Penguin, \$16.99) 978-0-8037-3771-6

In the 1950s, when the bald eagle was in danger of extinction, a ranger placed an egg from Alaska in a local nest in the hope that it would be adopted. Soft paintings in gouache and watercolor. (7-10)

**Eight Dolphins of Katrina: A True Tale of Survival**

by Janet Wyman Coleman, illustrated by Yan Nascimbene

(Houghton Mifflin/HMH, \$16.99) 978-0-547-71923-8

When Hurricane Katrina destroys the Marine Life Oceanarium, eight dolphins find themselves in the Gulf of Mexico. Can they be found? Simple watercolors. (6-8)

Eye: How It Works

written and illustrated by David Macaulay, with Sheila Keenan

(David Macaulay Studio/Macmillan, \$15.99; P \$3.99)

978-1-59643-781-4; 978-1-59643-782-1

Learn how the human eye functions. Well-labeled illustrations and clear, simple text. (6-9)

Ferdinand Fox's First Summer

written and photographs by Mary Holland

(Sylvan Dell, P \$9.95) 978-1-60718-626-7

The first summer of a litter of foxes is described in detail. Close-up and dramatic photographs add to the text. (6-8)

**Flight of the Honey Bee**

by Raymond Huber, illustrated by Brian Lovelock (Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-6760-3

Travel along with Scout as she leaves the hive in search of nectar and pollen to make delicious honey. Colorful acrylic, pencil and watercolor illustrations. (6-8)

**Frog Song**

by Brenda Z. Guiberson, illustrated by Gennady Spirin (Henry Holt BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99)

978-0-8050-9254-7

Lush illustrations in tempera, watercolor, and pencil illuminate facts about various frogs around the world. Rich background information. (7-10)

***The Greatest Dinosaur Ever**

by Brenda Z. Guiberson, illustrated by Gennady Spirin (Henry Holt BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99)

978-0-8050-9625-5

Simple, clear text describes the special feature that might make each of the twelve dinosaurs presented "the greatest." Exquisite oil paint illustrations. (5-8)

Here Come the Humpbacks!

by April Pulley Sayre, illustrated by Jamie Hogan (Charlesbridge, \$17.95) 978-1-58089-405-0

Learn how humpback whales are born, nurture their young, behave in pods, and migrate—and how we can protect them. Rich charcoal and pastel illustrations. (5-8)

***How Big Were Dinosaurs?**

written and illustrated by Lita Judge

(Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$17.99)

978-1-59643-719-7

Simple text and amusing color illustrations compare the size and weight of familiar and lesser-known dinosaurs to familiar animals and objects. (4-7)

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Science, continued**The Long, Long Journey: The Godwit's Amazing Migration**

by Sandra Markle, illustrated by Mia Posada
(Millbrook Press/Lerner, \$19.95) 978-0-7613-5623-3
From her first June day out of the egg, this godwit eats and grows, getting ready for her nonstop migration. Soft natural collages. (6-8)

***On a Beam of Light: A Story of Albert Einstein**

by Jennifer Berne, illustrated by Vladimir Radunsky
(Chronicle Books, \$17.99) 978-0-8118-7235-5
The life and passions of one of the world's most brilliant physicists are captured in engaging text and whimsical pen, ink, and gouache illustrations. (6-9)

***One Gorilla: A Counting Book**

written and illustrated by Anthony Browne
(Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-6352-0
Bold colors and expressive faces portray primates in this surprising counting book. (4-7)

**Parrots over Puerto Rico**

by Susan L. Roth and Cindy Trumbore, illustrated by Susan L. Roth
(Lee & Low, \$19.95) 978-1-62014-004-8
In a burst of brilliant colors, the parrots of Puerto Rico are presented in ingenious cut-paper and fabric collages. Clear, comprehensive text including information about Puerto Rico's history. References. (7-9)

***Python**

by Christopher Cheng, illustrated by Mark Jackson
(Candlewick Press, \$15.99) 978-0-7636-6396-4
Large mixed-media illustrations show Python warming up, molting, hunting, and reproducing. Additional information in captions and at the end of the book. (6-9)

**See What a Seal Can Do**

by Chris Butterworth, illustrated by Kate Nelms
(Candlewick Press, \$14.99) 978-0-7636-6574-6
Discover the surprisingly active life of a gray seal as it dives deep into the sea in search of food. Lovely, realistic mixed-media illustrations. (5-8)

***Stripes of All Types**

written and illustrated by Susan Stockdale
(Peachtree, \$15.95) 978-1-56145-695-6
Learn why okapis, turkeys, cactus bees, and many other animals have stripes. Clear, simple text and clean, vivid acrylic illustrations. (5-7)

***Volcano Rising**

by Elizabeth Rusch, illustrated by Susan Swan
(Charlesbridge, \$17.95) 978-1-58089-408-1
Vivid mixed-media illustrations highlight how eight volcanoes grow and shape their landscapes. Glossary, bibliography. (7-10)

**What's in the Garden?**

by Marianne Berkes, illustrated by Cris Arbo
(Dawn Publications, P \$8.95) 978-1-58469-190-7
Can you guess what each thing growing in the garden is? Turn each page to see if you are right and find a delicious, easy recipe. Illustrated with realistic paintings. (6-9)

Sports**Alan and His Perfectly Pointy Impossibly Perpendicular Pinky**

by Alan Page and Kamie Page, illustrated by David Geister
(Page Education Foundation, \$17.95)
978-0-615-76028-5
Why is Judge Alan Page's pinky finger so odd looking? This former defensive tackle shares his secrets in a read-aloud session at his old school. Oil painting illustrations. (5-8)

* = Outstanding Merit



= Read Aloud

(5-8) = Suggested Age Range

= Graphic Format

Sports, continued

Miracle Mud: Lena Blackburne and the Secret Mud that Changed Baseball

by David A. Kelly, illustrated by Oliver Dominguez
(Millbrook Press/Lerner, \$16.95) 978-0-7613-8092-4
New baseballs are too smooth for pitchers to grip. In the 1930s Lena Blackburne found a way to solve the problem. Detailed, richly textured illustrations. (7-10)

Technology

***Toilet: How It Works**

written and illustrated by David Macaulay with Sheila Keenan
(David Macaulay Studio/Macmillan, \$15.99)
978-1-56943-779-1
Learn how toilets, plumbing, sewers, and treatment plants work. Clarifying drawings. (6-8)



Train

written and illustrated by Elisha Cooper
(Orchard Books/Scholastic, \$17.99) 978-0-545-38495-7
Follow commuter trains, freight trains, high-speed trains, and more on their journeys. Gentle, detailed watercolor and pencil illustrations. (5-7)