

# Summer Reading List

## Students Entering Grades 2 and 3



### Series Chapter Books

*The following titles are good choices for students entering Grade 2.*

**S** = a book in the series. Read any title in the series.

Adler, David. **Cam Jansen and the Millionaire Mystery**. Viking, 2013.

Using her excellent memory, Cam Jansen, aided by her friend Eric, investigates the disappearance of Mrs. Scott's valuable pearl necklace during a charity brunch. **S**

Barnes, Derrick. **Ruby Flips for Attention: Ruby and the Booker Boys Series**. Scholastic 2009.

Ruby Booker means business. She wants to make the drill team with her BFF and gets her brother to help.

Barrows, Annie. **Ivy & Bean Make the Rules**. Chronicle Books, 2012.

Seven-year-old Bean is too young to go to the camp her sister Nancy is attending, so she and her best friend Ivy decide to create their own camp. **S**

Broad, Michael. **Agent Amelia, Spooky Ballet!** Darby Creek, 2011. Young Amelia, a secret agent, investigates a class of entranced ballet students, a scarecrow that can control crows, and a librarian whose work on the school library's computers seems to turn students into robots. **S**

Brown, Jeff. **Flat Stanley's Worldwide Adventures: Framed in France**. Harper, 2014.

Stanley Lambchop is whisked away to Paris, where he must help catch a mastermind art thief at the historical Louvre museum by using his flatness to pose as a painting. Includes facts about Paris. **S**

Bruel, Nick. **Bad Kitty Drawn to Trouble**. Roaring Brook Press, 2014.

Bruel tries to explain to the reader how to write a story, but Bad Kitty is not at all happy about the plot, which has her going on a turnip diet to lose weight. Includes a recipe for roasted turnips. **S**

Butler, Dori Hillstad. **The Buddy Files: The Case of the Library Monster**. Albert Whitman, 2011.

Buddy the dog discovers a strange, blue-tongued creature in the school library, and investigates. **S**

Coven, Wanda. **Heidi Heckelbeck Has a Secret**. Simon & Schuster, 2012.

After being homeschooled her whole life, Heidi Heckelbeck enters a real school in second grade, where she encounters a mean girl named Melanie who makes her feel like an alien. **S**

Danziger, Paula. **Second Grade Rules, Amber Brown**. Putnam's Sons, 2004. (Amber Brown Series)

Amber Brown loves the second grade, but wonders if she will ever receive an award from the desk fairy for keeping her desk clean. **S**

Draper, Sharon. **Stars and Sparks Go On Stage**. Aladdin, 2007. (Ziggy Series)

Ziggy and his friends look forward to using the money they think they will win in the school talent show to fix up their clubhouse, until they meet a very talented girl who needs the money more than they do. **S**

Hass, Jessie. **Bramble & Maggie Give and Take**. Candlewick, 2013. When Maggie wants to go for a ride, Bramble is hesitant because she feels that neither she nor Maggie should be boss all the time. There should be some give-and-take. Maggie agrees, and a carrot seals the deal. *Read the series.*

Keene, Carolyn. **Nancy Drew and the Clue Crew: Cooking Camp Disaster #35**. Aladdin, 2013. Nancy and her friends investigate the kitchen at their Kid Cuisine camp after the food is sabotaged. **S**

Kline, Susie. **Horrible Harry and the Secret Treasure**. Viking, 2011 (Horrible Harry Series). Third-grader Harry thinks of a way to patch up a conflict with his classmate Mary and include his friends in 3B by challenging them to discover what he has hidden in a giant, old suitcase. **S**

Look, Lenore. **Ruby Lu, Star of the Show**. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2011. Ruby Lu's father loses his job on her first day of third grade, which causes many things in her life to change. She is willing to do a lot to help out, but giving up some things seems impossible. **S**

McDonald, Megan. **The Big Bad Blackout (Judy Moody & Stink)** Candlewick, 2014. As Hurricane Elmer hits, Judy, Stink, and the Moody clan hunker down to ride out the storm, but when the power goes out, Grandma Lou proposes activities to pass the time in the dark. **S**

McDonald, Megan. **Stink and the Incredible Super-Galactic Jawbreaker**. . Candlewick Press, 2013. Seven-year-old Stink Moody gets so caught up in his letter writing campaign for free samples that he misses his best friend's birthday, but he plans a super surprise to make up for his mistake. **S**

Meadows, Daisy. **Jessie the Lyrics Fairy**. Scholastic, 2013. *Read any title in the Rainbow Magic Series.* Rachel and Kirsty help Jessie the Lyrics Fairy, who is in charge of lyrics for the Fairyland Music Festival, find her magic music clef after it is stolen by Jack Frost, who plans to use it to become a superstar. **S**

Osborne, Mary Pope. **Soccer on Sunday: Magic Tree House Series #52**. Random House, 2014. Jack and Annie travel to a soccer field in Mexico where they meet a young soccer player who dreams of one day playing in the World Cup just like his hero, the great Brazilian soccer player, Pelé! **S**

Parish, Peggy. **Amelia Bedelia Goes Camping**. Greenwillow Books, 1985. As always, Amelia Bedelia gets all mixed up and follows exactly the instructions given to her on a camping trip, including pitching a tent and rowing boats. **S**

Peterson, John. **The Littles**. Scholastic, 1967. When the Biggs go on a three-month vacation and an untidy family from the city moves into the house, the Littles must take action. **S**

Rylant, Cynthia. **In Aunt Lucy's Kitchen: Cobble Street Cousins Series**. Simon Schuster, 1998. While staying with their aunt for a year, three nine-year-old cousins keep busy baking and selling cookies, performing, and encouraging a romance between their aunt and one of their former customers. **S**

Sharmat, Marjorie. **Nate the Great and the Hungry Book Club**. Delacourte Press, 2009. Rosamond, who starts a book club, claims there is a monster on the loose who is ruining pages of her cookbook, which leads Nate the Great and his dog, Sludge, to investigate as undercover detectives. **S**

Stilton, Geronimo. **Paws Off, Cheddarface!** Scholastic, 2004. Series. Geronimo Stilton, reporter and editor for "The Rodent's Gazette" in New Mouse City, finds himself fighting for control of his life when a look-alike impostor tries to take over the newspaper. Read other Geronimo Stilton series, including the **Thea Stilton** and **Kingdom of Fantasy** series. **S**

Vernon, Ursula. **Dragonbreath**. Dial Books, 2009. Danny Dragonbreath and his friend Wendell get an up-close underwater tour of the Sargasso Sea from Danny's sea-serpent cousin, encountering giant squid and mako sharks, and learning about standing up to bullies in the process. **S**

Wallace, Rich. **Game Day Jitters: Kickers Book 4**. Alfred Knopf, 2011. With the help of his older brother Larry, nine-year-old Ben learns to cope with nervousness about the Kickers League playoffs. **S**



## Fiction - Students Entering Grade 3

*S indicates the book is part of a series.*

Angleberger, Tom. **The Strange Case of Origami Yoda**. Amulet Books, 2010. Tommy and his friends describe their interactions with a paper finger puppet of Yoda, as they try to figure out whether or not the puppet can really predict the future. **S**

Atwater, Richard & Florence. **Mr. Popper's Penguins**. Little, Brown & Company, 1966. Mr. Popper starts out with one penguin in his house, but before he knows it there are twelve.

Birney, Betty. **Secrets According to Humphrey**. Putnam, 2014. Humphrey, the pet hamster of Longfellow School's Room 26, learns that his classroom is full of secrets, the most important of which is that a student will be leaving soon. **S**

Blume, Judy. **Freckle Juice**. Simon & Schuster, c. 1971. Andrew wants freckles so badly that he buys Sharon's freckle recipe for fifty cents.

Blume, Judy. **Soupy Saturdays with the Pain and the Great One**. Delacorte Press, 2007. First-grader Jake is the Pain, and his annoying sister is the Great One, third-grader Abigail. Although Jake and Abigail drive each other nuts, it's clear that they care about each other. **S**

Blume, Judy. **Superfudge**. Dutton Children's Books, 1980. Peter describes the highs and lows of life with his younger brother, Fudge. Also read **Fudge-a-mania** and **Double Fudge**. **S**

Blume, Judy. **Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing**. Dutton Children's Books, c. 1971. Peter finds his demanding two-year-old brother an ever-increasing problem. **S**

Bruel, Nick. **Bad Kitty for President**. Roaring Brook Press, 2012. It's time to elect a new president of the Neighborhood Cat Coalition! Who will win—the candidate chosen by the kitties on the right side of the street or the candidate chosen by the kitties on the left side? **S**

Catling, Patric. **The Chocolate Touch**. Morrow, 1979. A boy acquires a magical gift that turns everything his lips touch into chocolate.

Child, Lauren. **Utterly Me, Clarice Bean**. Candlewick Press, 2002. When someone steals the winner's trophy for the school book project, Clarice emulates her favorite book heroine, Ruby, the detective. Also read **Clarice Bean Spells Trouble**, 2004. **S**

Christopher, Matt. **The Catcher's Mask**. Little, Brown, 1998. The Mudders' catcher is having a bad season behind the plate until, at a yard sale, he buys a used catcher's mask that greatly improves his playing. *Read any sports story by this author.* **S**

Cleary, Beverly. **Mouse and the Motorcycle**. Morrow Junior Books, 1965. A reckless young mouse named Ralph makes friends with a boy in room 215 of the Mountain View Inn and discovers the joys of motorcycling. Read other titles by this author.

Cleary, Beverly. **Ramona the Brave**. Harper Collins, 2006. Six-year-old Ramona tries to cope with her mother's returning to work, monsters under her bed, and an unsympathetic first-grade teacher. **S**

Clements, Andrew. **Lunch Money**. Simon & Schuster, 2005. Twelve-year-old Greg, who has always been good at moneymaking projects, is surprised to find himself teaming up with his lifelong rival, Maura, to create a series of comic books to sell at school.

Dahl, Roald. **The BFG**. Knopf, 1993. Snatched from her orphanage by a Big Friendly Giant, who blows happy dreams to children, Sophie concocts a plan to save the world from nine other giants.

Dahl, Roald. **Matilda**. Viking, 1988. Matilda applies her mental powers to rid the school of the child-hating headmistress, Miss Trunchbull, and restore her nice teacher, Miss Honey, to financial security.

Davies, Jacqueline. **The Lemonade War**. Houghton Mifflin, 2007. Evan is horrified that his younger sister is skipping third grade and joining his class. In the last days of summer, they compete for who can make the most profit selling lemonade. *Read the sequels.* **S**

DiCamillo, Kate. **Because of Winn Dixie**. Candlewick Press, 2000. Ten-year-old India Opal Buloni describes her first summer in the town of Naomi, Florida, and all the good things that happen to her because of her big ugly dog Winn-Dixie. *Newbery Honor Book 2000.*

DiCamillo, Kate. **Flora & Ulysses**. Candlewick, 2013. After Flora saves a squirrel named Ulysses from a run-in with a vacuum cleaner, they team up to use Ulysses' superpowers to conquer villains and protect the weak. *Newbery Medal 2014.*

Eager, Edward. **Half Magic**. Harcourt Brace, 1999. Four children looking forward to an ordinary summer enjoy a series of fantastic adventures by double-wishing on an ancient coin. **S**

Fleming, Candace. **The Fabled Fourth Graders of Aesop Elementary School**. Schwartz & Wade, 2007. An unlikely teacher takes over Aesop's disorderly fourth-grade class with surprising results.

Friedman, Laurie. **Mallory in the Spotlight**. Lerner, 2010. The world is a stage for Mallory McDonald! When Mallory tries out for a part in the school play and gets the lead, she is excited, but not everyone shares her enthusiasm, especially her friend Mary Ann.

Gutman, Dan. **Bunny Double, We're in Trouble!** HarperCollins, 2014. (My Weird School Series) A. J. and his friends have the weirdest Easter in the history of the world when Mayor Hubble hosts an egg hunt at the mayor's mansion. **S**

Gutman, Dan. **Mr. Jack is a Maniac!** Harper, 2014. (#10 My Weirder School Series). A. J. and the Ella Mentry School gang learn some unusual self-defense moves from a wacky teacher who thinks he's an action hero. *Also read **My Weird School Daze** series.* **S**

Gutman, Dan. **The Kid Who Ran for President**. Scholastic, 1996. With his friend as campaign manager and his former babysitter as running mate, twelve-year-old Judson Moon sets out to become President of the United States.

Hanal, Rachel. **Can You Survive an Earthquake? An Interactive Survival Adventure**. Capstone, 2013. You're in the middle of an unpredictable natural disaster, an earthquake. How will you survive? Readers can choose how the story ends in different adventures about survival during an earthquake. **S**

Harper, Charice. **Just Grace**. Houghton Mifflin, 2007. Misnamed by her teacher, seven-year-old Just Grace prides herself on being empathetic, but when she tries to help a neighbor feel better, her good intentions backfire. **S**

Henkes, Kevin. **Year of Billy Miller**. Harper Collins, 2013. Seven-year-old Billy Miller starts second grade with a bump on his head and many worries, but by the end of the year he learns important lessons and develops good relationships with his teacher, his little sister, and his parents. *Newbery Honor 2014.*

Horvath, Polly. **Mr. and Mrs. Bunny – Detectives Extraordinaire!** Schwartz Wade, 2012. Middle-schooler Madeline’s hippy parents have been kidnapped from Hornby Island, Canada, by foxes. Madeline, who can understand animal languages, hires two rabbit detectives to find them.

King-Smith, Dick. **Clever Lollipop.** Candlewick Press, 2003. Lady Lollipop, the clever pig, joins Princess Penelope and Johnny in their lessons with a magician and has a surprise for Penelope’s birthday. **S**

Klimo, Kate. **The Dragon in the Library.** Random House, 2010. Dragon Keepers Daisy and Jesse and their dragon, Emmy, must save their friend Professor Andersson from an evil witch, who has captured the professor for her boyfriend, St. George the Dragon Slayer. **S**

Look, Lenore. **Alvin Ho: Allergic to Camping, Hiking, and Other Natural Disasters.** Schwartz & Wade, 2009. Second-grader Alvin Ho loves superheroes and wants to make friends, but he is afraid of many things, and can’t talk at all at school. **S**

Lowry, Lois. **Gooney Bird and All Her Charms.** Houghton Mifflin, 2013. Gooney Bird’s uncle lends her second grade class a skeleton while they study human anatomy, and at the end of the month the students use Gooney Bird’s charm bracelet to present all they have learned. **S**

McDonald, Megan. **Judy Moody and the Bad Luck.** Candlewick, 2012. (Judy Moody Series). The lucky penny in Judy Moody’s pocket seems to be working. She can’t stop winning at bowling, spelling, the unbeatable Prize Claw, everything all the way to Washington, D.C. **S**

McDonald, Megan. **Stink and the Freaky Frog Freak Out.** Candlewick Press, 2013. Stink is having trouble in his swimming class because he cannot put his face in the water, but all of that is about to change when he has a close encounter with a freaky mutant frog. **S**

Messner, Kate. **Marty McGuire Digs Worms.** Scholastic, 2012. Marty’s third-grade class has a special assignment: Save the Earth! With help from her Grandma, Marty builds a habitat for worms in her school cafeteria as part of the “Save the Earth Project.”

Mills, Claudia. **Kelsey Green, Reading Queen.** Farrar, Strauss, Giroux, 2013. Kelsey is the best reader in her class, and she is determined to lead her class to victory in the all-school reading contest.

Mills, Claudia. **Fractions = Trouble.** Farrar, Strauss, Giroux, 2011. Wilson Williams does not want anyone to know his parents have hired a tutor to help him with his math, but the secret could spell disaster for his friendship with Josh. Sequel to: **7 x 9 = Trouble!**

Osborne, Mary Pope. **Soccer on Sunday: Magic Tree House Series #52.** Random House, 2014. Jack and Annie travel to a soccer field in Mexico where they meet a young soccer player who dreams of one day playing in the World Cup just like his hero, the great Brazilian soccer player, Pelé!  
*Also read the Nonfiction Companions to this series.* **S**

Patrick, Skene Catling. **The Chocolate Touch.** Harper Trophy, 2006. A boy acquires a magical gift that turns everything his lips touch into chocolate.

Pennypacker, Sara. **Clementine and the Family Meeting.** Hyperion, 2012. Third-grader Clementine tries to adjust to the news that her perfect family of four is adding a new brother or sister. **S**

Peterson, John. **The Littles.** Scholastic, 1967. When the Biggs go on a three month vacation and an untidy family from the city moves into the house, the Littles must take action. **S**

Riordan, Rick. **Maze of Bones (39 Clues Series).** Scholastic, 2008. Amy and Dan, members of the powerful Cahill family, try to uncover the thirty-nine clues which will reveal the secrets of their lineage and find out what really happened to their parents. **S**

Sachar, Louis. **Sideways Stories from the Wayside School**. Morrow, 1978. Humorous episodes from the thirtieth-floor of Wayside School, which was accidentally built sideways with one classroom on each story. **S**

Salisbury, Graham. **Calvin Coconut: Dog Heaven**. Wendy Lamb, 2010. Fourth-grader Calvin creates a unique way to express his desire for a dog after his teacher asks him to write a persuasive argument about something he really wants. **S**

Sobol, Donald. **Encyclopedia Brown and the Case of the Soccer Scheme**. Dutton Books, 2012. Encyclopedia Brown, boy detective extraordinaire, solves a new case about a nail-biting soccer game. Solutions provided at the end of each chapter. *Read any book in the series.* **S**

Spinelli, Jerry. **Third Grade Angels**. Arthur Levine Books, 2012. (Prequel to Fourth Grade Rats) George “Suds” Morton competes with his third-grade classmates to earn the first “halo” of the year for good behavior, but being good turns out to be more stressful than he anticipated.

Sternberg, Julie. **Like Bug Juice on a Burger**. Amulet, 2013. Nine-year-old Eleanor realizes that being at summer camp isn’t so bad after all, and is full of special surprises. Sequel to **Like Pickle Juice on a Cookie**.

Stilton, Geronimo. **Flight of the Red Bandit # 56 (Geronimo Stilton Series)**. Scholastic, 2014.

Geronimo Stilton travels to Arizona to find his grandfather’s friend the Red Bandit. **S**

**Help, I’m in Hot Lava (Cavemice Series #3)**. Scholastic, 2013.

“Geronimo Stiltonoot” and his family search for a cure for Grandma Ratrock’s aches and pains.

**Alien Escape (Spacemice Series #1)**. Scholastic, 2014.

Geronimo Stiltonix’s spaceship is in danger of exploding! When a group of mysterious aliens claim they can help, Geronimo is relieved. But are the aliens as friendly as they seem? **S**

**Thea Stilton and the Dancing Shadows (Thea Stilton Series)**. Scholastic, 2013.

Thea Stilton’s group The Thea Sisters travel to Italy for a ballet competition and try to uncover the group who is plotting to rig the contest. **S**

**The Volcano of Fire: The fifth adventure in the Kingdom of Fantasy**. Scholastic, 2013.

Geronimo Stilton finds himself back in the Kingdom of Fantasy, summoned by the Elves, who want him to travel to the Great Explanatorium to find an answer to the earthquakes. **S**

**The Journey Through Time: Special Edition**. Scholastic, 2014.

From the Jurassic period and the dinosaurs to a medieval castle, Geronimo Stilton and his relatives embark on an adventure through time in Professor von Volt’s new time machine. **S**

Tarshis, Lauren. **I Survived the Battle of Gettysburg, 1863 (I Survived Series)**. Scholastic, 2013.

In 1863, child slaves Thomas and Birdie journey north and meet Union soldiers going to Gettysburg. **S**

Warner, Gertrude Chandler. **The Boxcar Children Mysteries**. Whitman, 1977.

Four orphans, two boys and two girls, set up housekeeping in an old boxcar. **S**

Watson, Tom. **Stick Dog**. Harper, 2013.

Stick Dog and his four friend□ Stripes, Mutt, Poo-Poo and Karen□ will do anything to steal some sweet-smelling hamburgers from a family at Picasso Park!

White, E.B. **Charlotte’s Web**. Harper Collins, c.1980, c.1952.

Wilbur, the pig, is desolate when he discovers that he is destined to be the farmer’s Christmas dinner until his spider friend, Charlotte, decides to help him. *Newbery Honor Book.*

Wilder, Laura Ingalls. **Little House in the Big Woods**. Harper Collins, 1953.

A year in the life of two young girls growing up on the Wisconsin frontier. *Read the series.* **S**



## Fiction to Read-Aloud

*Books for children and parents to share and enjoy together.  
(Advanced readers may read them on their own.)*

Applegate, Katherine. **The One and Only Ivan**. Harper, 2012.

When Ivan, a gorilla who has lived for years in a down-and-out circus-themed mall, meets Ruby, a baby elephant that has been added to the mall, he decides that he must find her a better life. A novel of friendship, inspired by a true story. *Newbery Award 2013*.

Dahl, Roald. **BFG**. Puffin Books, 1998, 1992.

Kidsnatched from her orphanage by a BFG (Big Friendly Giant) who spends his life blowing happy dreams to children, Sophie concocts a plan with him to save the world from nine man-gobbling giants.

Dahl, Roald. **Charlie and the Chocolate Factory**. Alfred Knopf, 1964.

With his winning Golden Ticket, Charlie Bucket gets a rare tour of Willy Wonka's chocolate factory and a large supply of chocolate. *Read any title by this author*.

DiCamillo, Kate. **Because of Winn Dixie**. Candlewick Press, 2000.

Ten-year-old India Opal Buloni describes her first summer in the town of Naomi, Florida, and all the good things that happen to her because of her big ugly dog Winn-Dixie. *Newbery Honor Book, 2000*.

DiCamillo, Kate. **The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane**. Candlewick Press, 2006.

Edward Tulane, a cold-hearted toy rabbit, loves only himself until he is separated from the little girl who adores him. He travels across the country, acquiring new owners and listening to their hopes and dreams.

DiCamillo, Kate. **The Tale of Despereaux**. Thornkdiike Press, 2004.

The adventures of Despereaux Tilling, a small mouse of unusual talents, the princess that he loves, the servant girl who longs to be a princess and a rat determined to bring them to ruin. *Newbery Medal 2004*.

Du Bois, William Pene. **Twenty-One Balloons**. Viking, 1975.

Three weeks after leaving San Francisco in a balloon to fly across the Pacific, Professor Sherman is picked up in the Atlantic clinging to wreckage.

Gaiman, Neil. **Fortunately, the Milk**. Harper, 2014.

While picking up milk for his children's cereal, a father tells them a story about being abducted by aliens in a wild adventure through time and space. Hilarious story!

Jenkins, Emily. **Toys Come Home**. Schwartz & Wade, 2011.

Lumphu, StingRay, and Plastic become part of a little girl's toy collection. Follow their adventures as they make friends with other toys and try to navigate the world of real people. *Read other titles in the series. **S***

Kurtz, Chris. **The Adventures of a South Pole Pig**. Houghton Mifflin, 2014.

Flora the pig ditches the sedentary life on the farm for an adventure in Antarctica, where she escapes the knife and lives her dream of pulling a sled with a team of dogs. Great for reading aloud!

MacDonald, Betty. **Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle**. Lippincott, 1974, 1947.

Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle loves children, both good and bad. She never scolds, but has positive cures for children with special problems such as answering back or never wanting to go to bed.



## Picture Books

Banks, Kate. **Eraserheads**. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2010.

Three eraserheads that live with a boy in the land of pencils, paper, rulers, numbers, letters, and drawings become trapped in one of his pictures while trying to correct mistakes.

Bildner, Phil. **Shoeless Joe and Black Betsy**. Simon & Schuster, 2002.

Shoeless Joe Jackson goes into a hitting slump, just before he is to start his minor league career. He asks his friend to make him a special bat to help him hit. *Bluebonnet Award Winner*.

Fleischman, Paul. **Matchbox Diary**. Candlewick, 2014.

Follow a girl's perusal of her great-grandfather's collection of matchboxes and small curios that document his poignant immigration journey from Italy to a new country.

Fleming, Candace. **Clever Jack Takes the Cake**. Schwartz & Wade, 2010.

A poor boy named Jack struggles to deliver a birthday present worthy of the princess.

Hoberman, Mary Ann. **You Read to Me, I'll Read to You**. Little, Brown, 2004.

This title presents short retellings of familiar fairy tales, each told in two voices designed for children and adults to read together. Great to practice reading aloud. *Read any title in the series*.

Hoffman, Mary. **Princess Grace**. Dial Books for Young Readers, 2008.

Grace wants to participate in her community festival's princess float, but first she must decide what sort of princess to be—from an African princess in kente cloth robes to a floaty pink fairy tale princess.

Hopkinson, Deborah. **Abe Lincoln Crosses a Creek: A Tall, Thin Tale**. Schwartz & Wade, 2008.

In Knob Creek, Kentucky, in 1816, seven-year-old Abe Lincoln falls into a creek and is rescued by his best friend, Austin Gollaher. Austin saves his life and Abe promises that he'll never forget it.

Jenkins, Steve. **What Do You Do With a Tail Like This?** Houghton Mifflin, 2003.

Explore the many amazing things animals can do with their ears, eyes, mouths, noses, feet, and tails in this beautifully illustrated guessing book. *Caldecott Honor Book 2004*.

Keller, Laurie. **The Scrambled States of America**. H. Holt, 1998.

The states become bored with their positions on the map and decide to change places for a while. Includes state facts.

Krensky, Stephen. **Play Ball, Jackie**. Millbrook Press, 2011.

Ten-year-old Matty is excited to see Jackie Robinson and the Brooklyn Dodgers take on the Boston Braves in 1947, but many of the fans are not happy to see Jackie playing in the major league.

Lester, Helen. **The Sheep in Wolf's Clothing**. Houghton Mifflin, 2007.

Ewetopia has never been comfortable in her own wool, so when she is invited to a costume party, she thinks she has found the perfect chance to shine. But her costume is a flop, leaving her on the sidelines, until a mysterious guest sweeps Ewetopia off her feet.

Lyons, Kelly Starling. **Ellen's Broom**. G.P. Putnam, 2012. *Coretta Scott King Honor, 2012*.

Ellen remembers to bring the broom her parents used in their wedding ceremony and is excited to accompany them to the courthouse when the law changes and they are allowed to officially marry.

McKissack, Patricia. **The Honest-To-Goodness Truth**. Atheneum, 2000.

After promising never to lie, Libby learns that it's not always necessary to blurt out the whole truth.

Milway, Katie Smith. **One Hen: How One Small Loan Made a Big Difference**. Kids Can Press, 2008.

Kojo, a poor boy in Ghana, finds a way out of poverty and helps others do the same after he is given a small loan and buys a hen.

Mortenson, Greg. **Listen to the Wind: The Story Of Dr. Greg and the Three Cups Of Tea**. c.2009.

A children's book that tells the story of Dr. Greg Mortenson's promise to build a school in a remote Himalayan village after the villagers saved his life.

Polacco, Patricia. **Junkyard Wonders**. Philomel Books, 2010.

A class of special-needs students invents something that could convince the whole school they are justifiably proud to be "Junkyard Wonders."

Pulver, Robin. **Punctuation Takes a Vacation**. Holiday House, 2003.

When all the punctuation marks in Mr. Wright's class decide to take a vacation, the students discover just how difficult life can be without them.

Sieczka, Jon. **Cowboy and Octopus**. Viking, 2007.

A cowboy and an octopus learn a thing or two about friendship as they struggle through a knock-knock joke, ugly hats, and a special dinner of beans.

Sieczka, Jon. **The True Story of the Three Little Pigs**. Viking, 1989.

The wolf gives his own version of what really happened when he tangled with the three little pigs.

Sieczka, Jon. **Science Verse**. Viking, 2004.

A teacher tells his class that they can hear the poetry of science in everything and a student is struck with a curse of hearing only science verses. **S**

Smith, Lane. **John, Paul, George & Ben**. Hyperion, 2006.

A humorous and informative look at the early lives of five founding fathers of the United States, including George Washington, John Hancock, Paul Revere, Ben Franklin, and Thomas Jefferson.

Smith, Lane. **Madam President**. Hyperion Books for Children, 2008.

A little girl imagines what her day would be like if she were President of the United States.

St. George, Judith. **So You Want to be President?** Philomel Books, 2004.

Presents an assortment of facts about the qualifications and characteristics of U.S. presidents.

St. George, Judith. **So You Want to be an Inventor?** Philomel Books, 2002.

Presents some of the characteristics of inventors by describing the inventions of people such as Alexander Graham Bell, Thomas Edison, and Eli Whitney.

Tan, Shaun. **Rules of Summer**. Scholastic, 2014.

Two boys explain the occasionally mysterious "rules" they learned over the summer, like never eat the last olive at a party, never ruin a perfect plan, and never give your keys to a stranger.

Teague, Mark. **LaRue Across America: Postcards from the Vacation**. Blue Sky Press, 2011.

Mrs. LaRue takes a cross-country drive with her hospitalized neighbor's cats and her own dog, Ike, who keeps the cats' owner informed of their misadventures through a series of postcards. **S**



## Nonfiction

Adler, David. **Things That Float and Things That Don't**. Holiday House, 2013.

It can be surprising which objects float and which don't. An apple floats, but a ball of aluminum foil does not. But if that same ball of foil is shaped into a boat, it floats! Why? And how is it possible that a huge ship made of steel floats? This book answers questions about density and flotation.

Baker, Nick. **Bug Zoo**. DK, 2010.

A guide to capturing and keeping insects, spiders, worms, and other creatures from one's backyard as pets, with information on building an ant farm, a spider house, and more.

Bishop, Nic. **Nic Bishop Snakes**. Scholastic Nonfiction, 2012.

Full color photographs and easy-to-follow text profile different types of snakes, with information about their habitat, physical characteristics, diet, and abilities of various species of reptiles.

Cate, Annette. **Look Up! Bird-watching in Your Own Backyard**. Candlewick, 2014.

Humorous introduction to bird-watching encourages kids to get outdoors with a sketchbook and really look around. Talkative cartoon birds tell how to identify various birds by color, shape, behavior, birdcall, and other characteristics. Meanwhile, bug-eyed birds banter with each other and boast about their traits.

Cole, Joanna. **The Magic School Bus & the Climate Challenge**. Scholastic Press, 2010.

Ms. Frizzle and her students board the Magic School Bus for a lesson on climate change and what can be done to save the Earth. **S**

Cole, Joanna. **Ms. Frizzle Adventure: Imperial China**. Scholastic, 2005.

Wacky and wonderful Ms. Frizzle is invited to celebrate Chinese New Year with her student Wanda's family, and travels back in time one thousand years to ancient China, where she and her young friends embark on a journey and learn a lot about Chinese culture.

Floca, Brian. **Locomotive**. Atheneum, 2013. In 1869, trains, crews, and families are traveling together along America's brand-new transcontinental railroad. Describes the sounds, speed, and strength of the mighty locomotives; the work that keeps them moving; and the thrill of travel from plains to mountains to ocean. *Caldecott Medal Winner 2014*.

Gibbons, Gail. **Alligators and Crocodiles**. Holiday House, 2010.

This introduction to alligators and crocodiles describes their physical characteristics, natural habitats, and behaviors, as well as threats to their populations and conservation efforts.

McKissack, Patricia. **The Honest-To-Goodness Truth**. Atheneum, 2000.

After promising never to lie, Libby learns that it's not always necessary to blurt out the whole truth.

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After promising never to lie, Libby learns that it's not always necessary to blurt out the whole truth.

Hatkoff, Isabella. **Knut: How One Little Polar Bear Captivated the World**. Scholastic, 2007.

The story of Knut, the first polar bear cub at the Berlin Zoo in more than thirty years, and the efforts of Thomas Dorflein, a zookeeper who nurtured and fed him after the cub's mother rejected him.

Hatkoff, Isabella. **Owen & Mzee: the True Story of a Remarkable Friendship**. Scholastic, 2006.

Tells the true story of the unusual relationship between Owen, a baby hippopotamus orphaned by the tsunami, and Mzee, a 130-year-old giant tortoise.

Herzog, Brad. **G is for Gold**. Sleeping Bear Press, 2011.

An alphabet book of the Olympic Games, accompanied by facts about the history of the Olympics from their origins in Ancient Greece to the current day.

Jenkins, Steve. **The Beetle Book**. Houghton Mifflin, 2012.

With legs, antennae, horns, beautiful shells, knobs, and other oddities—what’s not to like about beetles? Introduces a variety of species with information on unique characteristics and how they adapted.

Jenkins, Steve. **Eye to Eye: How Animals See the World**. Houghton Mifflin, 2013.

Introduces animals with unusual eyes, explains how for most animals, eyes are the most important source of information about their world, and describes how an amazing variety of eyes have evolved.

Jenkins, Steve. **Just a Second**. Houghton Mifflin, 2011.

There’s more to time than the tick of a clock. Author Steve Jenkins introduces unexpected ways to understand a second, such as the whirl of a bumblebee’s wings and the beat of a crocodile’s heart.

Kimmel, Elizabeth. **Balto and the Great Race**. Random House, 1999.

Balto, a sled dog, delivered medicine through a raging snowstorm to save Nome, Alaska, from an epidemic.

Kurtz, Chris. **The Adventures of a South Pole Pig**. Houghton Mifflin, 2014.

Flora the pig ditches the sedentary life on the farm for an adventure in Antarctica, where she escapes the knife and lives her dream of pulling a sled with a team of dogs. Great for reading aloud!

Macaulay, David. **Jet Plane: How It Works (How It Works Series)**. MacMillan, 2012.

An introduction to jet planes, discussing how a plane works and what makes it fly. From the engine that provides the power and wings that lift the plane off the ground to the cockpit controls and passenger cabin, see how planes work and what makes them stay in the air.

Osborne, Mary Pope. **Soccer (Magic Tree House Fact Tracker #29)**. Random House, 2014.

When Jack and Annie got back from their adventure in *Magic Tree House #52: Soccer on Sunday*, they had lots of questions. How did soccer get started? Who are some of its greatest players? What is the World Cup? Find out the answers to these questions and more as Jack and Annie track the facts. **S**

Rabin, Staton. **Mr. Lincoln’s Boys**. Viking, 2008.

An illustrated story recounting the adventures of Abraham Lincoln and his two sons during the years Lincoln was President.

Roberts, Cokie. **Founding Mothers: Remembering the Ladies**. Harper Collins, 2014.

Brief portraits of women from the period of the Revolution and early United States.

Sis, Peter. **Train of States**. Greenwillow Books, 2004.

Gives information about each state, including capital, motto, state tree, state bird, source of name, and date of statehood.

Tang, Gregory. **The Grapes of Math: Mind Stretching Math Riddles**. Scholastic, 2001.

Illustrated riddles introduce strategies for solving a variety of math problems by using visual clues.

Turner, Pamela. **The Dolphins of Shark Bay**. Houghton Mifflin, 2013.

Recounts the experiences of Janet Mann and her research team observing the dolphins of Shark Bay, in Australia, describing the discoveries they made about dolphins. *Best Books of the Year 2013 - Nonfiction*.

Winter, Jeanette. **Wangari’s Trees of Peace: A True Story of Africa**. Harcourt, 2008.

Wangari Maathai, a Nobel Prize-winning environmentalist, was shocked to see entire forests cut down in her native Kenya. She decided to take action, beginning by planting nine seedlings in her own backyard.

**What Is the Statue of Liberty?** Joan Holub. Grosset & Dunlop, 2014.

In 1876, France gave the United States a very big and special present—the Statue of Liberty. The gift was to commemorate the 100th birthday of the United States. This is the story of how the 111 foot-tall lady took her place in the New York Harbor. **Read any title in the *What is... and What Was... Series*.**



## Poetry

Florian, Douglas. **Comets, Stars, the Moon, and Mars: Space Poems and Paint.** Harcourt, 2007.  
Twenty whimsical poems about comets, the stars, moon, and the planets.

Florian, Douglas. **Dinothesaurus: Prehistoric Poems and Paintings.** Harcourt Brace, 2009.  
Examines the physical characteristics and behaviors of different species of dinosaurs.

Glaser, Linda. **Emma's Poems: The Voice of the Statue of Liberty.** Houghton Mifflin, 2010.  
“Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free...” Who wrote these words? And why? In 1883, Emma Lazarus wrote a sonnet that was to give voice to the Statue of Liberty.

Hoberman, Mary Ann. **Forget-Me-Knots.** Little, Brown, 2012.  
A collection of more than 120 poems for children to learn, including selections from classic and contemporary poets, with tips and tricks from on memorization and recitation.

Prelutsky, Jack. **Carnival of the Animals.** Alfred Knopf, 2010. Award Winner.  
Art, music, and poetry are all pulled together into one colorful picture book. The sometimes silly verses illustrate various animal characteristics and behaviors

Prelutsky, Jack. **Good Sports Rymes about Running, Jumping, Throwing and More.** Knopf, 2007.  
An illustrated collection of poems for children about various sports activities.

Prelutsky, Jack. **My Dog May Be a Genius.** Greenwillow Books, 2008.  
A collection of poems by children's poet laureate Jack Prelutsky that celebrate the joys of childhood and the wackier side of life.

Sidman, Joyce. **Ubiquitous, Celebrating Nature's Survivors.** Houghton Mifflin, 2010.  
Collection of poems that examine survival in nature, and includes information about a number of plants and animals.



## Biographies

Asim, Jabari. **Fifty Cents and a Dream: Young Booker T. Washington**. Little, Brown 2012. Born into slavery, young Booker T. Washington could only dream of learning to read and write. After emancipation, Booker began a five-hundred-mile journey, taking his first of many steps towards a college degree. When he arrived, he had just fifty cents in his pocket and a dream about to come true.

Bryant, Jennifer. **A Splash of Red: The Life and Art of Horace Pippin**. Knopf, 2013. This is the inspiring story of a self-taught painter from humble beginnings who despite many obstacles, was able to do what he loved, and be recognized for who he was: an artist. *Best Books of the Year 2013*.

De La Pena, Matt. **A Nation's Hope: The Story of Boxing Legend Joe Louis**. Dial Books, 2011. This powerful picture book biography centers around the historic fight on the eve of World War II in which Black and White America put aside prejudice to come together to celebrate our nation's ideals.

Ferris, Jeri Chase. **Noah Webster and His Words**. Houghton Mifflin, 2012. An illustrated biography of Noah Webster, a Connecticut farm boy who spent twenty years writing the first American dictionary.

Heiligman, Deborah **The Boy Who Loved Math : The Improbable Life of Paul Erdos**. Roaring Brook Press, 2013. Biography of the life of mathematician Paul Erdos, who never followed the usual path. At the age of four, he could ask you when you were born and then calculate the number of seconds you had been alive in his head. But he didn't learn to butter his own bread until he turned twenty.

Johnson, Jen Cullerton. **Seeds of Change: Planting a Path to Peace**. Lee & Low Books, 2010. The life of Kenyan Nobel Peace Prize-winner and environmentalist Wangari Maathai, who made a stand in the face of opposition to women's rights and started an effort to restore Kenya's ecosystem.

Jurmain, Suzanne. **George Did It**. Dutton Children's Books, 2006. Looks at the life of President George Washington, providing a humorous account of how he didn't want to take on the role of president after serving in the U.S. military during the Revolutionary War.

Kamkwamba, William. **The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind**. Dial Books, 2012. When fourteen-year-old William Kamkwamba's Malawi village was hit by drought, the crops began to fail. Without money for food, let alone school, William spent his days in the library and figured out how to bring electricity to his village.

Moss, Marissa. **The Bravest Woman in America**. Tricycle Press, 2011. Tells the true story of Ida Lewis, explaining how she learned to tend a lighthouse from her father, discussing her responsibilities as the lighthouse keeper, and describing her heroic rescues.

Powell, Patricia Hruby. **Josephine: The Dazzling Life of Josephine Baker**. Chronicle, 2014. Portrait of the passionate performer and civil rights advocate Josephine Baker, who worked her way from the slums of St. Louis to the grandest stages in the world.

**Time For Kids Biographies Series**. Harper Collins. (Read any title in the series). A photo-illustrated chronicle of the lives of famous Americans such as Henry Ford, Thomas Edison, Clara Barton, John F. Kennedy, Rosa Parks, Alexander Graham Bell, Jesse Owens and more..

**Who Was... and Who Is...Biography Series**. Grosset & Dunlop. An exciting, illustrated series perfect for children who are beyond easy-to-read books about famous people, but not ready for long biographies.



## Folktales and Fairy Tales

Demi. **The Empty Pot**. H. Holt, 1990. Chinese folktale.

The Emperor of China honors Ping's honesty when he admits that he can't grow a certain flower seed.

De Paola, Tomie. **Jamie O'Rourke and the Big Potato**. Putnam, 1992.

The laziest man in all of Ireland catches a leprechaun, who offers a potato seed instead of a pot of gold.

Fleischman, Paul. **Glass Slipper, Gold Sandal: A Worldwide Cinderella**. Holt, 2007.

A retelling of the "Cinderella" story based on a variety of folk traditions, including elements from Mexico, Iran, Korea, Russia, Appalachia, and other countries and regions. *Read any Cinderella story.*

Haley, Gail E. **A Story, A Story: An African Tale**. Atheneum, 1970.

Anansi, the spider man, wins stories from the Sky God. *An African folktale.*

Noble, Trinka Hakes. **A Christmas Spider's Miracle**. Sleeping Bear Press, 2011.

One bitterly cold Christmas Eve, the lives of a poor peasant family and a family of spiders cross paths, their mutual kindness resulting in a beautiful Christmas miracle. *Based on a Ukrainian folktale.*

San Souci, Robert. **The Talking Eggs**. Dial Books for Young Readers, 1989.

Blanche obeys the witch and gains riches while her greedy sister loses.

Stanley, Diane. **Rumpelstiltskin's Daughter**. HarperCollins, 1977.

Rumpelstiltskin's daughter may not be able to spin straw into gold, but she is more than a match for a monarch whose greed has blighted an entire kingdom.

Step toe, John. **Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters**. Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Books, 1987.

Mufaro's beautiful daughters, one bad-tempered, one kind and sweet, meet the king, who is choosing a wife. *An African folktale.*

Vamos, Samantha. **The Cazuela That the Farm Maiden Stirred**. Charlesbridge, 2011.

In a variation on "The House That Jack Built," a farm maiden stirs a *cazuela* as all the animals help. Children learn Spanish words as they enjoy a tale of cooperation and celebration.

Young, Ed. **What About Me?** Philomel, 2002.

In this Sufi tale, a young boy follows the instructions of the Grand Master in the hope of gaining knowledge, only to be surprised as to how he acquires it.



## Caldecott Medal Winners, 1938 to Present

Choose from these books which were honored for best illustrations.

***Locomotive***, by Brian Floca, 2014

***This Is Not My Hat***, by Jon Klassen, 2013

***A Ball for Daisy***, by Christopher Raschka, 2012

***A Sick Day for Amos McGee***, by Philip Christian Stead, 2011

***The Lion and the Mouse***, by Jerry Pinkney, 2010

***The House in the Night***, illustrated by Beth Krommes, written by Susan Marie Swanson, 2009

***The Invention of Hugo Cabret***, by Brian Selznick, 2008

***Flotsam***, by David Wiesner, 2007

***The Hello, Goodbye Window***, illustrated by Chris Raschka, written by Norton Juster, 2006

***Kitten's First Full Moon***, by Kevin Henkes, 2005

***The Man Who Walked Between the Towers***, by Mordicai Gerstein, 2004

***My Friend Rabbit***, by Eric Rohmann, 2003

***The Three Pigs***, by David Wiesner, 2002

***So You Want to Be President?*** illustrated by David Small, text by Judith St. George, 2001

***Joseph Had a Little Overcoat***, by Simms Taback, 2000

***Snowflake Bentley***, illustrated by Mary Azarian, text by Jacqueline Briggs Martin, 1999

***Rapunzel***, by Paul O. Zelinsky, 1998

***Golem***, by David Wisniewski, 1997

***Officer Buckle and Gloria***, by Peggy Rathmann, 1996

***Smoky Night***, illustrated by David Diaz, text by Eve Bunting, 1995

***Grandfather's Journey***, by Allen Say, text edited by Walter Lorraine, 1994

***Mirette on the High Wire***, by Emily Arnold McCully, 1993

***Tuesday***, by David Wiesner, 1992

***Black and White***, by David Macaulay, 1991

***Lon Po Po: A Red-Riding Hood Story from China*** by Ed Young, 1990

***Song and Dance Man***, illustrated by Stephen Gammell, text by Karen Ackerman, 1989

***Owl Moon***, illustrated by John Schoenherr, text by Jane Yolen, 1988

***Hey, Al***, illustrated by Richard Egielski, text by Arthur Yorinks, 1987

***The Polar Express***, by Chris Van Allsburg, 1986

***Saint George & the Dragon***, illustrated by Trina Schart Hyman, text by Margaret Hodges, 1985

***The Glorious Flight: Across the Channel with Louis Bleriot***, by Alice & Martin Provensen, 1984

***Shadow***, translated and illustrated by Marcia Brown; original in French by Blaise Cendrars, 1983

***Jumanji***, by Chris Van Allsburg, 1982

***Fables***, by Arnold Lobel, 1981

***Ox-Cart Man***, illustrated by Barbara Cooney, text by Donald Hall, 1980

***The Girl Who Loved Wild Horses***, by Paul Goble, 1979

***Noah's Ark***, by Peter Spier, 1978

*Ashanti to Zulu: African Traditions*, illustrated by Leo & Diane Dillon, text by Margaret Musgrove, **1977**  
*Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears*, illustrated by Leo & Diane Dillon, retold by Verna Aardema, **1976**  
*Arrow to the Sun*, by Gerald McDermott, **1975**  
*Duffy and the Devil*, illustrated by Margot Zemach, retold by Harve Zemach, **1974**  
*The Funny Little Woman*, illustrated by Blair Lent, retold by Arlene Mosel, **1973**  
*One Fine Day*, retold and illustrated by Nonny Hogrogian, **1972**  
*A Story, A Story*, retold and illustrated by Gail E. Haley, **1971**  
*Sylvester and the Magic Pebble*, by William Steig, **1970**  
*The Fool of the World & the Flying Ship*, illustrated by Uri Shulevitz, retold by Arthur Ransome, **1969**  
*Drummer Hoff*, illustrated by Ed Emberley, text adapted by Barbara Emberley, **1968**  
*Sam, Bangs & Moonshine*, by Evaline Ness, **1967**  
*Always Room for One More*, illustrated by Nonny Hogrogian, text by Sorche Nic Leodhas, **1966**  
*May I Bring a Friend?* illustrated by Beni Montresor, text by Beatrice Schenk de Regniers, **1965**  
*Where the Wild Things Are*, by Maurice Sendak, **1964**  
*The Snowy Day*, by Ezra Jack Keats, **1963**  
*Once a Mouse*, retold and illustrated by Marcia Brown, **1962**  
*Baboushka and the Three Kings*, illustrated by Nicolas Sidjakov, text by Ruth Robbins, **1961**  
*Nine Days to Christmas*, illustrated by Marie Hall Ets, text by Marie Hall Ets & Aurora Labastida, **1960**  
*Chanticleer and the Fox*, illustrated by Barbara Cooney; text adapted by Barbara Cooney, **1959**  
*Time of Wonder*, by Robert McCloskey, **1958**  
*A Tree Is Nice*, illustrated by Marc Simont, text by Janice Udry, **1957**  
*Frog Went A-Courtin'*, illustrated by Feodor Rojankovsky, retold by John Langstaff, **1956**  
*Cinderella, or the Little Glass Slipper*, illustrated and translated by Marcia Brown, **1955**  
*Madeline's Rescue*, by Ludwig Bemelmans, **1954**  
*The Biggest Bear*, by Lynd Ward, **1953**  
*Finders Keepers*, illustrated by Nicolas, text by William Lipkind, **1952**  
*The Egg Tree*, by Katherine Milhous, **1951**  
*Song of the Swallows*, by Leo Politi, **1950**  
*The Big Snow*, by Berta & Elmer Hader, **1949**  
*White Snow, Bright Snow*, illustrated by Roger Duvoisin, text by Alvin Tresselt, **1948**  
*The Little Island*, illustrated by Leonard Weisgard, text by Margaret Wise Brown, **1947**  
*The Rooster Crows*, by Maud & Miska Petersham, **1946**  
*Prayer for a Child*, illustrated by Elizabeth Orton Jones, text by Rachel Field, **1945**  
*Many Moons*, illustrated by Louis Slobodkin, text by James Thurber, **1944**  
*The Little House*, by Virginia Lee Burton, **1943**  
*Make Way for Ducklings*, by Robert McCloskey, **1942**  
*They Were Strong and Good*, by Robert Lawson, **1941**  
*Abraham Lincoln*, by Ingri & Edgar Parin d'Aulaire, **1940**  
*Mei Li*, by Thomas Handforth, **1939**  
*Animals of the Bible*, illustrated by Dorothy P. Lathrop, text selected by Helen Dean Fish, **1938**



