



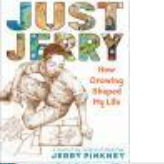


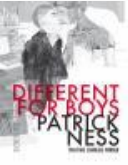



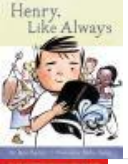

















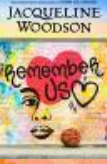



**2023 ACL Distinguished Books**



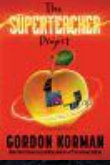

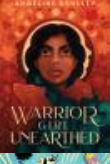



	TITLE	AUTHOR		ILLUSTRATOR		BOOK GROUP	GRADE	RANGE	ANNOTATION
	The Green Piano: How Little Me Found Music	Flack	Roberta	Goodman	Hayden	Biography	Kindergarten	2	As a beautiful tribute to finding a love of music in childhood, award-winning musician Roberta Flack shares memories of her journey. With accomplished biographer Tonya Bolden and the joyful art of Hayden Goodman, a life full of depth is translated to a clear lyrical line of music for all to hear.
	Holding Her Own: The Exceptional Life of Jackie Ormes	Todd	Traci N.	Wright	Shannon	Biography	2	5	Meet stylish Jackie Ormes, the first Black woman to publish a nationally syndicated comic strip. Lively illustrations and an informative narrative provide a unique window into the life of a notable mid-twentieth century Black American female artist.
	The Indestructible Tom Crean: Heroic Explorer of the Antarctic	Thermes	Jennifer	Thermes	Jennifer	Biography	1	4	A colorful biography chronicles the adventures of Tom Crean, a resourceful crew member on three historic Antarctic expeditions. Filled with fascinating details, the well-organized, fast-paced story is complemented by easy-to-read maps and dramatic watercolor and pencil illustrations.
	Jovita Wore Pants: The Story of a Mexican Freedom Fighter	Salazar	Aida	Mendoza	Molly	Biography	1	4	Jovita Valdivinos was a Cristero leader in Mexico in the early twentieth century. Salazar's prose is engaging and moves the story along, while the illustrations portray Jovita's determination.
	Just Jerry: How Drawing Shaped My Life	Pinkney	Jerry	Pinkney	Jerry	Biography	4	8	This warm memoir by Caldecott Medalist Jerry Pinkney describes his youth, growing up in Philadelphia where he always seemed to be drawing. He had a large, loving family and supportive teachers and mentors, even though he struggled with a learning disability.
	Loud and Proud: The Life of Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm	Cline-Ransome	Lesa	Juanita	Kaylani	Biography	1	4	Shirley Chisholm rose from poverty to political heights, including being the first African American woman to run for President. Bright, bold illustrations capture the Congresswoman's dynamic personality, as well as the tenor and style of the times.
	Rock, Rosetta, Rock! Roll, Rosetta, Roll!: Presenting Sister Rosetta Tharpe, the Godmother of Rock & Roll	Bolden	Tonya	Christie	R. Gregory	Biography	Preschool	3	This picture book biography vibrantly captures the energy and excitement of Sister Rosetta Tharpe, the Godmother of Rock & Roll.

	Shining a Light: Celebrating 40 Asian Americans & Pacific Islanders Who Changed the World	Bybee	Veeda	Ngai	Victo	Biography	4	8	This informative and attractive collection highlights hidden figures from Asian American and Pacific Islander US and global history.
	This Boy: The Early Lives of John Lennon & Paul McCartney	Cooper	Ilene			Biography	5	9	This dual biography of the Beatles' founding members and songwriting team Lennon and McCartney is filled with quotations from family members and classmates, making it lively and authentic. This contains many b&w photos, source notes, a bibliography, and index.
	Tomfoolery! Randolph Caldecott and the Rambunctious Coming-of-Age of Children's Books	Markel	Michelle	McClintock	Barbara	Biography	1	5	This brief picture book biography of nineteenth century illustrator Randolph Caldecott is lively and energetic, describing his youth, attempts at newspaper and magazine illustrations, and finally his success. McClintock's illustrations evoke the style of Caldecott.
	Aniana Del Mar Jumps In	Mendez	Jasminne			Fiction	5	9	This engaging novel in verse gives voice to Aniana Del Mar, a strong and believable twelve-year-old with a chronic health condition that prevents her from doing what she loves most--swimming. The book offers a hopeful perspective without sugar-coating the challenges she faces.
	Barely Floating	Rivera	Lilliam			Fiction	4	7	Bold and brash twelve-year-old Nat finds a path toward her dreams pursuing a sport not known for valuing a "fat and proud" Latina like herself. Like synchronized swimming, Rivera displays the power of believing in yourself, supporting one another, and floating when life seems determined to pull you down.
	The Blood Years	Arnold	Elana K.			Fiction	8	12	Set in Romania, during World War II, this breathtakingly intimate account of two sisters is based on Arnold's Jewish grandmother. Nuanced characters, thorough research, and a rich sense of place combine to deliver a powerful story of the bloody business of surviving to choose your own path.
	Check & Mate	Hazelwood	Ali			Fiction	10	12	STEMinist rom-com author Hazelwood successfully shifts into young adult territory with this appealing romance. After four years' absence, eighteen-year-old prodigy Mallory Greenleaf returns to competitive chess while supporting her family and falling for world champion, Nolan Sawyer.

	Different for Boys	Ness	Patrick	Bendix	Tea	Fiction	9	12	In this wistful and reflective novella about identity, isolation, and the yearning to belong, closeted gay high school junior, Ant Stephenson, searches for connection through his changing relationships with three friends.
	Enter the Body	McCullough	Joy			Fiction	9	12	Readers are thrown into a highly emotional matrix as they watch the bodies of Shakespeare's heroines drop into an imaginary trap room after their deaths onstage, and hear their personal narrations of their fates and desires. A compelling balance of poetry, stage direction, and personal histories.
	The Eyes and the Impossible	Eggers	Dave	Harris	Shawn	Fiction	2	6	Eggers has written a wild dog adventure with a fresh, engaging, and exhilarating voice. The story of a daring escape and a seemingly impossible plan unfolds with perfect pacing.
	Hamra and the Jungle of Memories	Alkaf	Hanna			Fiction	5	8	When Hamra, just thirteen, angrily enters the jungle and flouts the rules, a weretiger traps her in a quest. Flawless storytelling and insights into the loss and growth shared by adolescents and the old, mesh in this action-packed Red Riding Hood riff, set in the rich world of Malaysian folklore.
	Henry, Like Always	Bailey	Jenn	Song	Mika	Fiction	1	4	Henry likes school but doesn't like it when the schedule changes or things are not done as expected. It isn't ever mentioned, but readers may infer that he may have OCD or autism. This early five-chapter book is perfect for those just moving out of readers into transitional fiction.
	I Kick and I Fly	Gupta	Ruchira			Fiction	7	12	Heera lives in extreme poverty in Bihar, India, and the threat of sex trafficking is nearly upon her, but a few women help her turn her life around via schooling and karate. Both depressing and uplifting, this powerfully written story shows real situations happening around the world.
	Imogen, Obviously	Albertalli	Becky			Fiction	9	12	This sensitive coming-of-age story portrays the internal struggle Imogen faces as she confronts her own assumptions about sexual orientation. The author skillfully exposes her fears and anxieties, right alongside her excitement, as she and her peers transition from high school to college life.
	Into the Light	Oshiro	Mark			Fiction	7	12	Told in multiple timelines and voices, this intense book looks at religious communities seeking to save queer youth of color. Very well written, the story moves from mystery and thriller to horror, and includes trigger warnings for content.

	The Labors of Hercules Beal	Schmidt	Gary D.				Fiction	5	7	An assignment to perform and reflect on the twelve labors of the mythic Hercules forces seventh-grade, recently orphaned, Hercules to discover how the heroic can be found in the everyday. Full of humor and oddball adventures, with richly believable characters.
	Leeva at Last	Pennypacker	Sara	Cordell	Matthew		Fiction	4	8	Leeva has the worst parents in children's literature since Roald Dahl's Matilda, because they practically keep her imprisoned doing housework. This is partly a satiric look at corrupt politicians, since Leeva's mother is the mayor and her father the town's financial manager.
	The Lost Year	Marsh	Katherine				Fiction	5	8	When Matthew and his 100-year-old Ukrainian great-grandmother (GG) find an old picture, GG reveals their secret story about the Ukrainian famine of 1932. This compelling survival story brings timely information, and the themes of propaganda, fake news, and human compassion will resonate.
	The Manifestor Prophecy	Thomas	Angie	Fiadzibey	Setor		Fiction	3	7	Angie Thomas's ear for dialogue is stellar, and her magical world is filled with delights and surprises, mixing fantasy and magic with folktales and African American history. Best of all, this is a smartly written and sweet adventure story centering on a young, brave, smart Black girl (and her pet hellhound).
	The Many Assassinations of Samir, the Seller of Dreams	Nayeri	Daniel	Miyares	Daniel		Fiction	4	8	A wild adventure of life in a caravan on the Silk Road in ancient times, <i>The Many Assassinations of Samir, the Seller of Dreams</i> tells the story of young Omar (aka Monkey) who is bemused by his unlikely benefactor, the wily and unreliable Samir. Lyrical language, humor, and complexly entwined stories.
	Mascot	Waters	Charles				Fiction	5	9	This novel in verse follows six racially diverse middle-grade students as they grapple with the issues around having an "Indian Brave" as a school mascot. Sparse and concise writing conveys depth and emotion about this relevant and timely topic.
	The Next New Syrian Girl	Shukairy	Ream				Fiction	8	12	Teenagers Khadija Shaami and Leene Taher share Syrian roots and a home as Leene and her mother arrive in suburban Detroit as refugees, but they have more differences than similarities until a mystery from Leene's past forces them to work together and use both head and heart to solve it.
	Nothing Else but Miracles	Albus	Kate				Fiction	4	7	While Pop is off fighting Nazis, the neighbors look out for Dory and her brothers, until a new landlord reports them to the city. Luckily Dory has a genius plan. Combining the best of children's classics, this page-turning adventure, set in a white Lower East Side, is perfect for family read-alouds

	The Notorious Scarlett and Browne	Stroud	Jonathan			Fiction	6	10	When old adversaries hold Scarlett and Albert's loved ones hostage, the partners must undertake their most impossible heist yet. Set in post-apocalyptic Britain with fast-paced action, crackling repartee, and well-defined characters.
	Only This Beautiful Moment	Nazemian	Abdi			Fiction	9	Adult	A deftly plotted, multigenerational story of identity and family secrets, <i>Only This Beautiful Moment</i> takes the reader through the lives of three generations of men in the Jafarzadeh family.
	Painted Devils	Owen	Margaret			Fiction	8	Adult	Though Vania is the goddaughter of Death and Fortune, with success behind her and love awaiting her, she takes a detour into drunkenness due to her self-doubt, and ends up inventing/invoking a destructive mythical figure, The Scarlet Maiden. The follow-up to <i>Little Thieves</i> .
	Promise Boys	Brooks	Nick			Fiction	9	12	When the principal of their school is shot, three students become the prime suspects and must team up to clear their names. A succinct and hard-hitting young adult murder mystery that illuminates the systemic racism facing Black and brown young men from impoverished backgrounds.
	Remember Us	Woodson	Jacqueline			Fiction	5	9	In her unique poetic style of short, lyrical chapters where every word matters, Woodson creates a portrait of loss and grief amidst friendships, community, and joy. A masterful examination of mature concepts presented with childlike directness and wonder.
	Rez Ball	Graves	Byron			Fiction	6	12	In this strong debut novel, Graves, who is also Ojibwe and played high school basketball on the Red Lake Indian Reservation, authentically portrays family grief, first crushes, and the extreme pressure to achieve success for a whole community amidst racism and disadvantages.
	Ruby Lost and Found	Li	Christina			Fiction	5	7	Grounded and exiled to her grandmother's, Chinese American Ruby retraces the paths of her dead grandfather's epic scavenger hunts. Vibrant characters, pertinent issues and a powerful sense of place come together in a coming-of-age story set in San Francisco.
	Saints of the Household	Tison	Ari			Fiction	9	12	This heartfelt young adult novel explores how two Indigenous brothers struggle with family trauma and domestic violence in their lives. Chronicling the restorative justice sessions they must attend after attacking a classmate, it artfully follows both brothers' journeys toward healing and self-forgiveness.

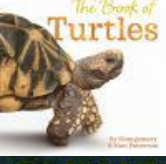
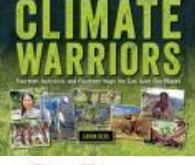
	Simon Sort of Says	Bow	Erin				Fiction	6	8	Simon moves to the National Quiet Zone for Radio Telescopes and starts a new school, while also dealing with PTSD from surviving a tragic event two years earlier. Strong emotional scenes are alleviated by moments of hilarity.
	The Story of Gumluck the Wizard	Rex	Adam	Rex	Adam		Fiction	3	4	A naïve but helpful wizard named Gumluck is introduced in this first book in a cozy fantasy series for early elementary readers. Quirky and caricatured monochrome sketches adorn each page, while a sarcastic raven narrator adds laugh-out-loud commentary to the gentle fantasy with low-stakes drama.
	The Superteacher Project	Korman	Gordon				Fiction	4	7	Mr. Aidact is a new teacher at Brightling Middle School, but there is something different about him. Korman's alternating first-person chapters explore what is going on in the school and what eventually emerges about this special teacher. A fast-paced, fun read for many types of readers to enjoy.
	Unraveller	Hardinge	Frances				Fiction	7	12	Teenagers Kellen, and his friend Nettle, are drawn into a dangerous plan to uncover a hidden league of cursers. Elegant prose, a richly imagined world, and complex characters contribute to a superb fantasy adventure.
	Warrior Girl Unearthed	Boulley	Angeline				Fiction	8	12	Looking forward to a lazy summer in 2014, Perry Firekeeper-Birch finds herself in a tribal museum internship and unexpectedly set on a new life path. Perry highlights the emotional toll of NAGPRA (Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act) noncompliance, as well as violence against Indigenous women, issues that remain relevant.
	What Happened to Rachel Riley?	Swinarski	Claire				Fiction	4	7	Why has Rachel Riley become an outcast at her middle school? This book will engage readers with its slowly unfurling mystery creatively written in a combination of text, audio interviews, emails, messages, chat, and other ephemera.
	Wishing Season	Rissi	Anica Mrose				Fiction	3	7	Lily and her single mother navigate the profound grief of losing their brother and son. Rissi employs elegant writing skills to address the deep pain experienced by those who have lost loved ones, inviting readers to empathize with the characters' emotional struggles.
	You Are Here: Connecting Flights	Oh	Ellen [editor]				Fiction	3	6	Written by a powerhouse collection of authors, these short stories deftly interweave the experiences of a dozen young Asian American travelers as they move through Chicago's O'Hare airport on the same day. Beginning with a crisis at the TSA checkpoint, the stories ripple through the airport as the characters observe and often interact with one another.








	Eagle Drums	Hopson	Nasuḡraq Rainey	Hopson	Nasuḡraq Rainey	Folklore	5	8	This retelling of the origin of the Messenger Feast brings to life Piḡa's journey and courage, using powerful storytelling, vivid illustrations, and rich cultural teachings of the Inupiat, which show the importance of community relationships.
	The Skull: A Tyrolean Folktale	Klassen	Jon	Klassen	Jon	Folklore	2	5	Otilla is lost in the forest when she comes upon a mansion and hears a voice, which turns out to be a skull who needs Otilla's help to get away from a vengeful skeleton. This slightly scary story is told in a way that will assist those moving into chapter books and makes a great read-aloud.
	83 Days in Mariupol: A War Diary	Brown	Don	Brown	Don	Graphic	9	12	Direct quotes mixed with blow-by-blow descriptions reveal life in a war zone. Sketchy ink wash and line drawings convey specificity, but the smooth faces and often empty eyes allow readers some distance from the suffering. Prologue and back matter provide context and sources, but little comfort.
	A First Time for Everything	Santat	Dan	Santat	Dan	Graphic	5	8	The summer before high school, a European adventure produces a host of firsts that change the Asian American author/illustrator's understanding of himself and what the world has to offer. Personality-filled characterizations and specific details bring the story, and the late 1980s, to life.
	Bea Wolf	Weinersmith	Zach	Boulet		Graphic	4	8	Beowulf's anachronistic spirit is translated into thoroughly modern irreverence. Heavily crosshatched black and white cartoons combine big-eyed cuteness with a moody gravitas, as diverse tots glare out from cinematic shadows, ready to battle Grindle—a fun-grinding, grim-faced, joy gobbler.
	Bomb: Graphic Novel	Sheinkin	Steve	Bertozzi	Nick	Graphic	5	8	An FBI interrogation connects the disparate, dramatic elements of the race to build, and steal, the atomic bomb. Pithy dialog and direct quotes bring immediacy. Period-style comic illustrations play backup, except for dramatic wordless sections that pack a punch.
	Cross My Heart and Never Lie	Dåsnes	Nora	Dåsnes	Nora	Graphic	5	8	Tuva is twelve years old and starting to grapple with what it will mean to be a teenager. With a soft, sketchy art style, this addition to the coming-of-age genre is deeply relatable and beautifully describes struggling during times of transition.







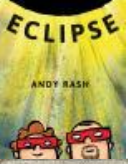



	Family Style: Memories of an American from Vietnam	Pham	Thien	Pham	Thien	Graphic	7	Adult	This graphic memoir of a family's journey from Vietnam to California is a wonderful mix of both intensity and pathos, passion and joy, and illustrates that the American success story is really a story of community, family, hope--and food.
	Mabuhay!: A Graphic Novel	Sterling	Zachary	Sterling	Zachary	Graphic	3	7	Two Filipino American siblings are embarrassed to have to help with their family food truck business, until witches and monsters attack. With a winning combination of pre-colonial Filipino folklore, tween angst, and humor, this fast-paced graphic novel celebrates immigrant family ties and courage.
	Mexikid: A Graphic Memoir	Martin	Pedro	Martin	Pedro	Graphic	4	10	<i>Mexikid</i> , a graphic memoir, captures both a deeply personal coming-of-age voyage that the narrator takes with his family as well as a snapshot of life in the 1970s. Martin's humor, attention to detail, and versatile artwork bring us along on an epic adventure.
	The Ojja-Wojja	Visaggio	Magdalene	St-Onge	Jenn	Graphic	6	10	Teenage anxieties of belonging and exclusion, multigenerational town secrets, imagination, and horror all combine in a beautiful, confusing yet ultimately understandable story bolstered by creepy, colorful, and insightful illustrations in <i>The Ojja-Wojja</i> featuring friends Val and Lonnie.
	Pardalita	Estrela	Joana	Estrela	Joana	Graphic	8	12	Raquel develops feelings for Pardalita, an artistic, enigmatic girl who attends the same high school. The illustrated novel unfolds through black and white comic panels and single images interspersed with short vignettes, providing a window into teen life in a small Portuguese town.
	Saving H'Non: Chang and the Elephant	Nhuyễn	Trang	Zdŭng	Jeet	Graphic	4	7	A young Vietnamese wildlife activist helps save an abused elephant, H'non. Exquisite, expressive, and detailed watercolor illustrations reveal a gorgeous interconnected South Asian ecosystem, while dynamic comic panels tell the moving story of H'non's reintroduction to the wild.
	A Long Time Coming: A Lyrical Biography of Race in America from Ona Judge to Barack Obama	Shepard	Ray Anthony	Christie	R. Gregory	Nonfiction	7	12	This unusual collective biography in free verse celebrates US Civil Rights movement icons Ona Judge (slave of Martha Washington), Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass, Ida B. Wells Barnett, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Barack Obama.



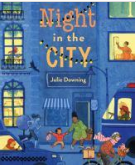
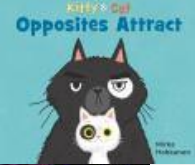






	Accountable: The True Story of a Racist Social Media Account and the Teenagers Whose Lives It Changed	Slater	Dashka				Nonfiction	6	12	In a complex narrative pieced together from detailed research, Dashka Slater examines the racist Instagram postings that shocked the community of Albany, CA.
	America Redux: Stories from Our Visual History	Aberg-Riger	Ariel				Nonfiction	9	12	An engaging narrative shows the continuity of various US civil rights movements throughout the decades. Its brilliant use of colorful visuals, factual data, and "shock tactics" makes it an outstanding read.
	An American Story	Alexander	Kwame	Coulter	Dare		Nonfiction	4	6	A teacher confronts the horror of the history of American slaves without the typical sugarcoating. <i>An American Story</i> was six years in the making, and the extra effort shines through.
	Behold the Octopus!	Slade	Suzanne	Gonzalez	Thomas		Nonfiction	Preschool	4	Bold, rhyming adjectives, matched with riveting detailed text, follow flowing images to capture the essence of twelve species of octopus. Vivid pastel and colored pencil illustrations give a strong sense of dynamic movement on--and off!--every page. A versatile read-aloud that will inspire awe in all.
	The Book of Turtles	Montgomery	Sy	Patterson	Matt		Nonfiction	2	6	The remarkable turtle (which includes tortoises and terrapins) is the focus of this engaging book for a wide age range. The brief text uses a conversational style, and acrylic illustrations depict turtles quite realistically.
	Climate Warriors: Fourteen Scientists and Fourteen Ways We Can Save Our Planet	Gehl	Laura				Nonfiction	4	8	This representative portrait of a diverse mix of "climate warriors" is a STEM gem. It will engage and empower young readers to be brave, innovative, and proactive when facing environmental challenges in their own lives.
	Fungi Grow	Gianferrari	Maria	Sudyka	Diana		Nonfiction	Kindergarten	4	An immersive book celebrating the amazing diversity and adaptability of fungi. Eye-popping illustrations, a lyrical narrative, and extensive support material make this a great choice for nonfiction storytimes and individual exploration.
	Geology	Schaefer	Lola M.	Santiago	Druscilla		Nonfiction	Kindergarten	2	An introduction to geology and its related terms, in an exciting and engaging storyline.

	How Birds Sleep	Obuchowski	David	Pedry	Sarah	Nonfiction	Preschool	3	Journey around the world discovering the different ways and places birds sleep with richly colored gouache paintings and simple text. Suitable for preschool bedtime or older nature lovers. Back matter delves into the science of sleep, climate change, and offers suggestions for how to aid birds.
	Impossible Escape: A True Story of Survival and Heroism in Nazi Europe	Sheinkin	Steve			Nonfiction	8	12	Exemplary research and cinematic writing capture the layers of horror as two teens are caught up in the Holocaust. Immersive action, crucial historical background, unforgettable characters, and the best and worst of human behavior add up to a page-turning nonfiction account of a world historic event.
	Jumper: A Day in the Life of a Backyard Jumping Spider	Lanan	Jessica	Lanan	Jessica	Nonfiction	1	5	An engaging text describes what it is to be a regal jumping spider, one of the most common spiders in the world. The full-color ink, watercolor, and gouache illustrations depict the spider and her surroundings realistically.
	The Mona Lisa Vanishes: A Legendary Painter, a Shocking Heist, and the Birth of a Global Celebrity	Day	Nicholas	Helquist	Brett	Nonfiction	4	8	The Mona Lisa is the most famous painting in the world. Learn why in this page-turning, revealing, irreverent, and utterly fascinating story of the greatest heist in history. Prepare to be surprised. Back matter includes an epilogue and extensive sources.
	Race Against Death: The Greatest POW Rescue of World War II	Hopkinson	Deborah			Nonfiction	6	12	This dramatically told WWII history focuses on the era's largest rescue of prisoners of war, who were held at Cabanatuan prison camp in the Philippines. The voices of nurses, Filipino people, and many Latino soldiers are included. Filled with b&w photos and maps.
	Shipwrecked!: Diving for Hidden Time Capsules on the Ocean Floor	Sandler	Martin W.			Nonfiction	6	12	The topic of marine archaeology, where investigation of shipwrecks focuses on the history of the ship's owner instead of just plundering lost treasure, is told using a compelling narrative nonfiction writing style. The book design includes color photos, sidebars, and drawings.
	Small Shoes, Great Strides: How Three Brave Girls Opened Doors to School Equality	Nelson	Vaunda Micheaux	Bostic	Alex	Nonfiction	2	6	Detailed picture book account of the three Black students who integrated McDonough 19 in New Orleans at the same time Ruby Bridges integrated a previously all-white school across town. A luminously illustrated tribute to three overlooked civil rights pioneers.
	Stars of the Night: The Courageous Children of the Czech Kindertransport	Stelson	Caren	Alko	Selina	Nonfiction	3	6	Using the collective voice of 669 children evacuated from Czechoslovakia during World War II, Stelson delivers a powerful account of the young people saved by British businessman Nicholas Winton. Stelson masterfully provides background context, while keeping the focus on the children's experience.


	What Goes On Inside a Beaver Pond?	Gop	Becky Cushing	Shryock	Carrie	Nonfiction	2	5	Captivating images and brief, fact-filled descriptions capture a young beaver's journey to find a new home. Detailed comic panels top naturalistic landscapes. Panoramic spreads and cross-sections add variety and include a wealth of ecosystem information, inviting curiosity and encouraging rereading.
	What's a Germ, Joseph Lister?: The Medical Mystery That Forever Changed the Way We Heal	Alexander	Lori	Duncan	Daniel	Nonfiction	5	7	Surgery in the 1860s was bloody and butchering. Lister's innovations transformed hospitals from death houses to places of recovery. Clear prose, dramatic framing, and plenty of gruesome details reveal the perils of the past, and how one person's dogged scientific inquiry saved millions of lives.
	A Crown for Corina	Kemp	Laekan Zea	Chavarri	Eliza	Picture Book	Kindergarten	4	On Corina's birthday, her abuela guides her in making a Mexican flower crown, an activity full of tradition and love. Corina is adorably illustrated with a double chin just like her abuela. This positive representation of a fat kid is so rare and so needed.
	Afterward, Everything Was Different: A Tale for the Pleistocene	Buitrago	Jairo	Yockteng	Rafael	Picture Book	Preschool	4	This nearly wordless book traces the harsh life of a nomadic tribe in the Pleistocene Age and the emergence of the first cave paintings. Full spreads of stunning graphite and ink drawings provide a riveting visual storytelling experience about the very beginnings of visual storytelling itself.
	All Aboard the Schooltrain: A Little Story from the Great Migration	Armand	Glenda	Morris	Keisha	Picture Book	Preschool	3	Thelma, a young Black girl in Jim Crow-era rural Louisiana, loves trains and school, and eagerly awaits the "schooltrain" (the children's daily walk to school). Excellent, accessible storytelling introduces the Great Migration to young children.
	All About Nothing	Rusch	Elizabeth	Goss	Elizabeth	Picture Book	Preschool	3	<i>All About Nothing</i> describes and vibrantly illustrates the nothingness and empty spaces that surround us in daily life.
	Ancient Night	Bowles	David	Álvarez	David	Picture Book	Preschool	Kindergarten	This book features two pourquoi stories of the Maya and Nahua people—an origin story of the sun and moon's light. The book's narrative, illustrations, and glossary support and enhance the cultural origins of the story.

	Big	Harrison	Vashti	Harrison	Vashti	Picture Book	Preschool	2	A young Black girl experiences the joy of childhood, and then the hurt. Extraordinary chalk pastel illustrations portray the impact of body-shaming, as well as determination to push back by affirming the power of inner strength and self-acceptance in a sometimes small-minded world.
	The Concrete Garden	Graham	Bob	Graham	Bob	Picture Book	Preschool	3	Amanda, a young girl who presents as Black, shares out a big box of chalk, leading to the creation of a glowing drawing in front of her apartment building. A simple storyline holds positive messages about sharing, community, and healing.
	Dim Sum Palace	Fang	X.	Fang	X.	Picture Book	Preschool	2	Too excited to sleep, Liddy follows delicious smells to the magical Dim Sum Palace where she finds herself wrapped in a dumpling and served to the Empress! Filled with mouth-watering depictions of a wide variety of dishes, <i>Dim Sum Palace</i> is a delightful picture book to read aloud to young gourmands.
	Do You Remember?	Smith	Sydney	Smith	Sydney	Picture Book	Preschool	3	Lying in bed, a white mother and child trade memories. Painterly full-page illustrations alternate with vignettes that unspool like cells of film, recalling events rich with sensory description. Oblique indications of what has been left behind add emotional punch, as the pair imagine their future.
	Eclipse	Rash	Andy	Rash	Andy	Picture Book	Kindergarten	4	When a young, white student learns of an upcoming eclipse, he makes plans to see it with his dad. Colorful comic-style illustrations, outlined in black, show the preparations, totality, and future ramifications. An utterly charming and inspiring science-based story.
	Evergreen	Cordell	Matthew	Cordell	Matthew	Picture Book	Preschool	2	A fearful young squirrel travels through the forest to bring healing soup to Granny Oak. Filled with humor and delightful plot twists, the gentle story's expressive sketches provide the perfect complement to language that rolls right off the tongue.
	Friends Beyond Measure: A Story Told with Infographics	Fisher	Lalena	Fisher	Lalena	Picture Book	2	5	Ana is sad when she learns that her bestie Harwin is moving away. Offering a fresh take on a familiar theme, the creative tale unfolds through descriptive infographics.
	Hornbeam All In	Rylant	Cynthia	Howard	Arthur	Picture Book	Preschool	2	Hornbeam is a reluctant moose who stars in three brief chapters in this picture book that could also serve as a beginning reader. Hornbeam goes on a picnic with duck Eureka, sleeps over at Cuddy the bull's house, and is taught to swim by skunk Adorabelle.


	The Hospital Book	Brown	Lisa	Brown	Lisa	Picture Book	Kindergarten	3	Follow a young girl's journey, from home to hospital and operating table back home. Young patients going to the hospital for the first time will find comfort as well as answers to their many questions in this engaging and empathetic book.
	How to Count to One (and Don't Even THINK About Bigger Numbers!)	Salmon	Caspar	Hunt	Matt	Picture Book	Preschool	1	No matter how exciting the items to count, readers are unreasonably told to only count to one. Defiant young audiences will not be able to resist counting, shouting, and giggling through every page. A crowd-pleasing read-aloud cleverly enticing young readers to take on higher numbers with enthusiasm.
	How to Write a Poem	Alexander	Kwame	Sweet	Melissa	Picture Book	Kindergarten	3	In this companion to <i>How to Read a Book</i> (2019), readers are encouraged to jump right into the writing process by using their imaginations to describe things in nature. The colorful collage artwork includes a variety of cut papers including newsprint, pencil drawings, and gouache.
	I'll Be a Chicken, Too	Vanderlee	Lana	Deas	Mike	Picture Book	Baby/Toddler	Preschool	In this board book, the rhyming text is made up of dialogue from various parents, telling their children how much they are loved: "If you can bark and wag your tail, well, then I'll be a dog. And if you live on lily pads, of course, I'll be a frog!" A great choice for a read-aloud.
	In Every Life	Fraze	Marla	Fraze	Marla	Picture Book	Preschool	1	A gloriously illustrated achievement using a Jewish baby-naming blessing to illuminate all aspects of life. Tour life's big accomplishments and small with Marla Frazee's lovely, poetic picture story.
	Mi Papá Es un Agrícola / My Father, the Farmworker	Varela	J. Roman Pérez	Ramirez	Jose	Picture Book	Preschool	3	An admiring son's tribute, this bilingual tale follows the life of a hard-working campesino through a full day of working the land from dawn to dusk. Deeply hued, bold illustrations and a poetic cadence depict each moment with great honor, conveying heartfelt gratitude for sacrifice lovingly given.
	Mr. S	Arnaldo	Monica	Arnaldo	Monica	Picture Book	Preschool	3	An incredibly satisfying and fun back-to-school book. The bright but detailed illustrations and fun visual puns make this a great read for storytimes as well as for more intimate lap sits where kids and their adults can enjoy the more subtle visual treats.
	Nell Plants a Tree	Wynter	Anne	Miyares	Daniel	Picture Book	Kindergarten	3	Long ago, Nell planted a seed and now a pecan tree has grown, providing a special place for her African American family to gather. Illustrations in luminous fall colors complement the gentle read-aloud verse, conveying the passage of time for both the tree and the people who enjoy its bounty.

	Night in the City	Downing	Julie	Downing	Julie	Picture Book	Preschool	3	A brown-skinned child's diurnal schedule is juxtaposed with diverse urban workers on the night shift. Lively, cheerful illustrations reveal interlocking stories filled with rich narrative details that encourage multiple rereadings.
	Opposites Attract	Hokkanen	Mirka	Hokkanen	Mirka	Picture Book	Baby/Toddler	Kindergarten	Old, grumpy, black-haired cat is forced to interact with a young, frisky, white-haired kitten in this simple concept book.
	Remember	Harjo	Joy	Goade	Michaela	Picture Book	Preschool	3	Illustrator Michaela Goade takes Joy Harjo's poem to new heights with her stunning and colorful illustrations. Dual-page spreads of deep blues, purples, and reds hold repeated imagery of stars and Pacific Northwest/Tlingit symbols which almost spring from page to page as they accompany the image of a young girl growing.
	Stillwater and Koo Save the World	Muth	Jon J.	Muth	Jon J.	Picture Book	Preschool	2	A joyfully told, timeless tale of mending the broken bits illustrates how it can be as simple as caring for all the precious inhabitants of the world, one by one. An impactful, compassionate story.
	Stranded!: A Mostly True Story from Iceland	Benediktsson	Ævar Þór	Willson	Anne	Picture Book	1	4	This factual recounting of being stranded on a new volcanic island features stunning and vibrant illustrations of lava flows, sunsets, and Norse Gods while telling a fun and fantastical adventure story.
	Summer Is for Cousins	LaRocca	Rajani	Alwar	Abhi	Picture Book	Preschool	3	An irresistible mix of summer adventure and warm family interactions is enriched by colorful, lively illustrations and specific examples of how a young Indian American boy's maturity brings new skills and opportunities to step up, contribute, and add to the joy.
	That Flag	Fryer Brown	Tameka	Smith	Nikkolas	Picture Book	1	5	This outstanding picture book about how displaying a Confederate flag at home comes between best friends, one Black and one white, provides teachers, librarians, and families an entry point to have clear and honest discussions about structural racism in America.
	The Truth About Dragons	Leung	Julie	Cha	Hanna	Picture Book	Kindergarten	3	An Asian mother tells her son a story about dragons, including the two cultural descriptions of dragons, one European and one Asian, reflecting the child's biracial identity. Accomplished using ink drawings colored digitally, this is a Caldecott Honor book.



	There Was a Party for Langston	Reynolds	Jason	Pumphrey	Jerome and Jarrett	Picture Book	Kindergarten	3	This Caldecott Honor book is a joyous and energetic celebration of poetry and heritage showcasing the writing talents of Jason Reynolds and the artistic mastery of the Pumphrey brothers.
	This Is a Story	Schu	John	Castillo	Lauren	Picture Book	Preschool	2	In this picture book with repetition, a young girl visits the public library and sees the world of information and imagination. The full-color ink, watercolor, and pastel illustrations present the library as a warm and welcoming place. There are many actual books shown in the artwork.
	Two New Years	Ho	Richard	Scurfield	Lynn	Picture Book	Preschool	3	One family's joyful celebrations guide us through two New Year traditions: Rosh Hashanah in the fall and Lunar New Year in the spring. Inspired by his own multicultural experiences, Ho conveys the joy of recognizing connection among us all—a complex achievement simply and exuberantly presented.
	The Voice in the Hollow	Hillenbrand	Will	Hillenbrand	Will	Picture Book	Preschool	2	During a snowstorm, Hubert (a young mouse) takes a shortcut home through the hollow after visiting the library. Although the story has a quiet quality, there is plenty of narrative tension, and the dramatic illustrations are memorable.
	When You Can Swim	Wong	Jack	Wong	Jack	Picture Book	Kindergarten	3	Recipient of the Boston Globe-Horn Book Award, this lovely picture book begins with a parent telling a child that once they learn to swim, they can explore the ocean and other areas of nature. Different parent-and-child pairs are shown, representing a variety of racial and ethnic groups.
	Woo Hoo! You're Doing Great!	Boynton	Sandra	Boynton	Sandra	Picture Book	Preschool	1	A chicken insists she has the solution to the common problems of stress—everyone needs a friend who will cheer them on with a “Woo Hoo!” which is repeated several times and will get listeners to cheer along when used for storytime.
	Yellow Butterfly	Shatokhin	Oleksandr	Shatokhin	Oleksandr	Picture Book	3	8	This powerful wordless book by a Ukrainian artist explores both the horror of war and the belief in a brighter future from the dream-like perspective of a young girl. Endnotes offer helpful tips on how to share wordless picture books and guide conversations on difficult subjects.



	My Head Has a Bellyache: More Nonsense for Mischievous Kids and Immature Grown-Ups	Harris	Chris	Tsurumi	Andrea	Poetry	2	6	This follow-up to <i>I'm Just No Good at Rhyming</i> offers a collection of "zany poems and nonsense" that are just as much laugh-out-loud fun as the original.
	Elena Rides	Medina	Juana	Medina	Juana	Reader	Kindergarten	1	Elena is a purple elephant who learns to ride a bike, demonstrating that it takes practice and perseverance to learn to ride. The brief text with just one or two sentences per page contains rhyming words, repetition, dialogue balloons, and onomatopoeia that will help young children learn to read.
	Fox Has a Problem	Tabor	Cory R.	Tabor	Cory R.	Reader	Preschool	2	In this Geisel Award winner, Fox has a problem, but each solution makes it worse. Sparse text and winning sherbet-colored pencil drawings leave plenty of space for emerging readers to predict the action. A handful of adjectives transform a few simple words into a satisfying and humorous story that celebrates collaboration.
	Too Small Tola Gets Tough	Atinuke		Iwu	Onyinye	Reader	1	3	Three dramatic short stories full of warmth, humor, hardship, and resilience reveal how Tola and her family negotiate Lagos's COVID lockdown. Illustrated with appealing black, white, and grey drawings. The final story will have readers cheering when Tola solves a math-based mystery.