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Children's Book Update for 2011

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Children's Book Update for 2011
Xenia Community Schools
December 12, 2011

Adams, Tom. Feel the Force: Science in Pop-up Bite-Sized Bits. Candlewick Press, 2011. ISBN: 9780763655662

Readers will explore how things move, friction, gravity, light, sound, magnetism, and electricity, among other key areas of physics. Packed with hands-on paper novelties and a range of simple experiments, this is the perfect book to make science fascinating and fun. RL 4.2

Adoff, Arnold. Roots and Blues: A Celebration, illustrated by R. Gregory Christie. Clarion Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780547235547

Lyrical text explores how Blues have been part of everyday life throughout history, from its origins in the sounds of the earth, through slaves' voices singing of freedom, to today's greatest performers--and listeners. RL 4.4

Allen, Elanna. Itsy Mitsy Runs Away. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2011. ISBN: 9781442406711

When a little girl decides to run away, her father helps her pack. RL 1.6

Arnold, Tedd, et al. Manners Mash-Up: A Goofy Guide to Good Behavior. Dial Books for Young Readers, 2011. ISBN: 9780803734807

From the dinner table to the doctor's office, from the playground to the pool, this irreverent book will help kids navigate any social scenario with utmost grace. RL 1.7

Arnosky, Jim. At This Very Moment. Dutton Children's Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780525422525

Identifies some of the things happening in nature while one goes about an ordinary day, such as a shark circling a reef while one brushes one's teeth, or puffins eating fresh-caught fish while one eats dinner. RL 6.0

Arnosky, Jim. Thunder Birds: Nature's Flying Predators. Sterling, 2011. ISBN: 9781402756610

The author describes and identifies winged predators, and explains why there are no feathers on a vulture's head, which bird is the deep-diving champ, and what makes an owl's wings perfectly silent in flight, in a text with fold-out pages. RL 5.8

Aston Dianna Hutts. A Butterfly Is Patient, illustrated by Sylvia Long. Chronicle Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780811864794

Colorful illustrations and simple text describe the many characteristics of butterflies. RL 5.9

Aston, Dianna Hutts. Dream Something Big, illustrated by Susan L. Roth. Dial Books for Young Readers, 2011. ISBN: 9780803732452

In Watts, California, over a period of many years, a man known to all as Uncle Sam spends his free time collecting broken bits of pottery, glass, and other scraps and turning them into a work of art. RL 3.1

Baker-Smith, Grahame. FArTHER. Templar Books, 2011. ISBN: 9781848771260

When a father who dreams of flying goes off to war and does not return, his son decides to make the dream come true. Grahame Baker-Smith's moving story, with stunning

illustrations, shows how, with love and a bit of ambition, you can reach seemingly impossible goals. *Kate Greenaway Medal*

Banks, Kate. Max's Castle, illustrated by Boris Kulikov. Farrar Straus Giroux, 2011. ISBN: 9780374399191

When Max finds a box of long-forgotten toys, he builds a kingdom filled with adventures for himself and his two brothers. RL 2.0

Bartoletti, Susan Campbell. Naamah and the Ark at Night, illustrated by Holy Meade. Candlewick Press, 2011. ISBN: 9780763642426

Noah's wife settles the animals on the ark to sleep by singing a soothing lullaby. RL 1.5

Barton, Chris. Shark vs. Train, illustrated by Tom Lichtenfeld. Little, Brown, 2010. ISBN: 9780316007627

A shark and a train compete in a series of contests on a seesaw, in hot air balloons, bowling, shooting baskets, playing hide-and-peek, and more. RL 4.4

Battut, Éric. Little Mouse's Big Secret. Sterling, 2011. ISBN: 9781402774621

Little Mouse refuses to reveal his secret despite being questioned by his friends. RL 1.4

Bell, Marvin. A Primer About the Flag, illustrated by Chris Raschka. Candlewick, 2011. ISBN: 9780763649913

An illustrated poem which explores the artistry and purposes of flags. RL 3.4

Bently, Peter. King Jack and the Dragon. Dial Books for Young Readers, 2011.

ISBN: 9780803736986

Jack, Zack, and Caspar build a castle fort, then spend a day fighting dragons and beasts, but at day's end giants carry away first Sir Zack, then Caspar, and King Jack is left to face night creatures alone. RL 2.5

Bernier-Grand, Carmen T. Alicia Alonso: Prima Ballerina, illustrated by Raúl Colón. Marshall Cavendish Children's, 2011. ISBN: 9780761455622

An illustrated overview of the life of Cuban prima ballerina Alicia Alonso, who was afflicted with an eye defect which caused her to be partially blind; presented in verse. RL 3.9

Bildner, Phil. The Unforgettable Season: The Story of Joe DiMaggio, Ted Williams and the Record-Setting Summer of '41, illustrated by S.D. Schindler. G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2011.

ISBN: 9780399255014

Illustrations and text describe the 1941 baseball season, in which Red Sox players Joe DiMaggio and Ted Williams set hitting records. RL 2.0

Blackaby, Susan. Brownie Groundhog and the February Fox, illustrated by Carmen Segovia. Sterling, 2011. ISBN: 9781402743368

Brownie the groundhog encounters a fox while waiting for winter to be over, and through clever maneuvering--and tasty snacks--the two become friends. RL 2.6

Boisrobert, Anouck. Wake Up, Sloth! Roaring Brook Press, 2011. ISBN: 9781596437128

In a lush, green forest, a sloth sleeps. Turn the pages of his story--told in a stunning pop-up display--to witness the tragic process of deforestation and watch as a single seed brings new life. RL 2.8

Bottner, Barbara. An Annoying ABC, illustrated by Michael Emberley. Alfred A. Knopf, 2011. ISBN: 9780375967085

When Adelaide annoys Bailey, their entire preschool class gets upset, one child after another, until Zelda zaps Adelaide and a round of apologies begins. RL 1.9

Bouler, Olivia. Olivia's Birds: Saving the Gulf. Sterling Children's Books, 2011. ISBN: 9781402786655

Eleven-year-old Olivia Bouler has written and illustrated a brief guide to endangered birds in an effort use book sales to contribute to the clean-up expenses for the oil contamination of the Gulf of Mexico. RL 4.9

Brett, Jan. Home for Christmas. G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2011. ISBN: 9780399256530
Rollo the troll is tired of chores, but after spending time on the tundra with various animal families, from owls to moose, he realizes that he wants to be home for Christmas even if that means behaving himself. RL 3.0

Brown, Don. America Is Under Attack: September 11, 2001, the Day the Towers Fell. Roaring Brook Press, 2011. ISBN: 9781596436947
Narrates the terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001, from the plane hijackings to the collapse of the World Trade Center. RL 5.6

Brown, Monica. Pablo Neruda: Poet of the People, illustrated by Julie Paschkis. Henry Holt & Co., 2011. ISBN: 9780805091984
Describes the life and times of the Nobel Prize-winning Chilean poet. RL 3.5

Bruel, Nick. A Bad Kitty Christmas. Roaring Brook Press, 2011. ISBN: 9781596436688
After destroying all of the gifts and decorations at home, Bad Kitty escapes from the car on Christmas Eve and finds a new friend, who helps her learn the true meaning of Christmas. RL 3.5

Brun-Cosme, Nadine. Big Wolf & Little Wolf: Such a Beautiful Orange!, illustrated by Olivier Tellec. Enchanted Lion Books, 2011. ISBN: 9781592701063
When Little Wolf does not return after chasing an orange that Big Wolf has tossed to him, Big Wolf begins to worry about all the things that might have happened to his friend. RL 2.0

Buck, Nola. A Christmas Goodnight, illustrated by Sarah Jane Wright. Katherine Tegen Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780061664915
Illustrations and rhyming text portray characters from the Nativity story, from doves in the stable to the wise men, as they go to sleep on Christmas Eve. RL 2.0

Burkert, Rand. Mouse & Lion, illustrated by Nancy Ekholm Burkert. Scholastic, 2011. ISBN: 9780545101479
Presents an adaptation of Aesop's classic tale about an unlikely friendship between a mouse and a lion in which an act of mercy proves to be a lifesaving gesture. RL 3.4

Burleigh, Robert. The Adventures of Mark Twain by Huckleberry Finn, illustrated by Barry Blitt. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2011. ISBN: 9780689830419
An illustrated biography of American author Mark Twain, presented from the perspective of the Twain's famous literary character Huckleberry Finn. RL 5.1

Burleigh, Robert. Night Flight: Amelia Earhart Crosses the Atlantic, illustrated by Wendell Minor. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Reader, 2011. ISBN: 9781416967330
An account of Amelia Earhart's dangerous 1932 flight across the Atlantic Ocean from Newfoundland to Ireland, in which she survived bad weather and a malfunctioning airplane. Includes a brief biography of the aviator. RL 2.4

Burpo, Colton. Heaven Is for Real for Kids, illustrated by Wilson Ong. Tommy Nelson, 2011. ISBN: 9781400318704

Todd Burpo shares his son Colton's experiences having visions of heaven after a near-fatal illness, describing what Colton saw in heaven and the lessons he has learned about faith and love after listening to Colton's stories of his time with Jesus. RL 3.0

Buzzeo, Toni. Lighthouse Christmas, illustrated by Nancy Carpenter. Dial Books for Young Readers, 2011. ISBN: 9780803730533

Christmas is two days away, but Frances and her little brother Peter, who recently moved with their father to a lighthouse on an isolated island, fear that they will have no treats, no music, and no visit from Santa. Includes facts about the Flying Santa Service. RL 3.5

Carle, Eric. The Artist Who Pianted a Blue Horse. Philomel Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780399257131

Rather than use the same old colors, a child paints animals and objects in a variety of different hues. Includes biographical information about the German painter Franz Marc, who created unconventional animal paintings in the early 1900s. RL 1.5

Castillo, Lauren, illus, Christmas Is Here. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2010. ISBN: 9781442408227

Snowflakes fall on a young family watching a live nativity scene in their city neighborhood. As the boy peers into the manger, the story shifts to an ancient field underneath gentle moonlight and a brilliant star's guiding light on the holy night observed by shepherds. RL 4.0

Chin, Jason. Coral Reefs. Roaring Brook Press, 2011. ISBN: 9781596435636

During an ordinary visit to the library, a girl pulls a not-so-ordinary book from the shelves. As she turns the pages in this book about coral reefs, the city around her slips away and she finds herself surrounded by the coral cities of the sea and the mysterious plants and animals that live, hunt, and hide there. RL 6.1

Christensen, Bonnie. Fabulous! A A Portrait of Andy Warhol. Henry Holt & Co., 2011. ISBN: 9780805087536

Provides an introduction to the life of artist Andy Warhol, describing how he became a renowned Pop Art icon and profiling some of his most famous works. RL 4.2

Cole, Brock. The Money We'll Save. Farrar Straus Giroux, 2011. ISBN: 9780374350116

In nineteenth-century New York City, when Pa brings home a young turkey in hopes of saving money on their Christmas dinner, his family faces all sorts of trouble--and expense--in their tiny apartment. RL 3.0

Croza, Laurel. I Know Here, illustrated by Matt James. Groundwood Books, 2010. ISBN: 9780888999238

A tale about a young girl whose family moves from the forests of northeastern Saskatchewan to a strange new place called 'Toronto'. RL 2.3 *Boston Globe-Horn Book Award*

Crum, Shutta. Mine!, illustrated by Patrice Barton. Alfred A. Knopf, 2011. ISBN: 9780375867118

Two young children and a dog learn about the troubles and triumph of sharing. Wordless book

Cushman, Doug. Christmas Eve Good Night. Henry Holt, 2011. ISBN: 9780805066036

On Christmas Eve, animals at the North Pole, gingerbread men, robots, and more say good night to their mommas, papas, and buddies. RL 5.3

Cyrus, Kurt. The Voyage of Turtle Rex. Harcourt Children's Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780547429243

Follows the life of a giant prehistoric sea turtle. RL 3.4

Czekaj, Jef. Cat Secrets. Balzer + Bray, 2011. ISBN: 9780061920882

Important secrets about how best to live a cat's life will be revealed only to those who can prove that they are genuine cats. RL 2.2

Dahl, Roald. Charlie and the Chocolate Factory Pop-Up Book. Puffin Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780142419304

An adaptation of Roald Dahl's story of Charlie Bucket, a young boy who finds a golden ticket that leads him to the most wonderful place in the world--Willie Wonka's chocolate factory. RL 4.9

Daly, Cathleen. Prudence Wants a Pet, illustrated by Stephen Michael King. Roaring Brook Press, 2011. ISBN: 9781596434684

Prudence wants a pet so much that she adopts a branch, a twig, a tire, and even a shoe named Formal Footwear, but none is a suitable pet for Prudence. RL 1.6

De Kockere, Geert. Willy, illustrated by Carll Cnuet. Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 2011. ISBN: 9780802853950

Willy the elephant has everything an elephant should have, from four sturdy legs to a tail with a little brush on the end. RL 2.9

de la Peña, Matt. A Nation's Hope: The Story of Boxing legend Joe Louis, illustrated by Kadir Nelson. Dial Books for Young Readers, 2011. ISBN: 9780803731677

An illustrated introduction to the life and accomplishments of professional boxer Joe Louis. RL 3.6

dePaola, Tomie. Strega Nona's Gift. Nancy Paulsen Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780399256493

In Strega Nona's village, the holiday season is a time of celebrations--and nothing says celebration like a feast. All the kitchens are bustling from the Feast of San Nicola, when the children choose the food, to the Feast of Epiphany, when someone gets to be king or queen for the day. Even the animals share in the holiday spirit, and when Big Anthony smells the delicious treats Strega Nona is cooking for them, he decides that just a taste couldn't hurt, right? Wrong. Big Anthony gets his just "desserts," while Strega Nona surprises everyone with a special gift. RL 3.9

Dewdney, Anna. Llama Llama Holiday Drama. Viking, 2010. ISBN: 9780670011612

Llama Llama becomes overwhelmed as Christmas preparations progress, until his mother reminds him of the real gift the holiday brings. RL 2.6

DiCamillo, Kate and Alison McGhee. Bink & Gollie, illustrated by Tony Fucile. Candlewick Press, 2010. ISBN: 9780763632663

Two roller-skating best friends--one tiny, one tall--share three comical adventures involving outrageously bright socks, an impromptu trek to the Andes, and a most unlikely marvelous companion. RL 1.5 *Theodor Seuss Geisel Award*

DiPucchio, Kelly. Clink, illustrated by Matthew Myers. Balzer & Bray, 2011. ISBN: 9780061929281

While newer, fancier robots are quickly purchased, Clink, an old-fashioned robot who can only make toast and music, gathers dust and feels downhearted until a young boy enters the shop looking for something special. RL 3.4

Dorion, Christiane. How the Weather Works: A Hand-On Guide to Our Changing Climate. Candlewick Press, 2011. ISBN: 9780763652623

Tackling both normal and extreme scenarios, this is an entertaining and enlightening exploration of the world's weather. With bright, friendly illustrations, plus pop-ups, pull-tabs, and booklets, this interactive book stimulates learning and encourages children to think about how humans can influence the Earth's climate.

Drummond, Allan. Energy Island: How One Community Harnessed the Wind and Changed Their World. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2011. ISBN: 9780374321840

It's windy on the Danish island of Samsø. Meet the environmentally friendly folks who, in a few short years, worked together for energy independence, and who now proudly call their home Energy Island. RL 2.8

Dunrea, Olivier. A Christmas Tree for Pyn. Philomel Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780399245060
Little Pyn finally persuades her gruff father to find the perfect Christmas tree in the snowy forest and, after bringing it home, decorates it with him. RL 2.1

Durango, Julia. Under the Mambo Moon, illustrated by Fabricio VandenBroeck. Charlesbridge, 2011. ISBN: 9781570917233

Contains poems about the different people who stop by Marisol's father's music store on a hot summer night, looking for just the right songs to make their hearts fly home. RL 3.8

Ehlert, Lois. Rrralph. Beach Lane Books, 2011. ISBN: 9781442413054

The narrator describes discovering how Ralph the dog can talk, appropriately saying words such as "roof," "rough," "bark," and "wolf." RL 1.4

Egielski, Richard. Captain Sky Blue. Scholastic, 2010. ISBN: 9780545213424

Separated from his favorite toy pilot action figure, young Jack envisions his lost friend's brave journey back home across the ocean, in a story complemented by a glossary of pilot terms. RL 1.9

Emmett, Jonathan. The Princess and the Pig, illustrated by Poly Bernatene. Bloomsbury, 2011. ISBN: 9780802723345

When a new baby princess accidentally changes places with a piglet, both of their lives are forever changed. RL 3.1

Engelbreit, Mary. Mary Engelbreit's Nutcracker. HarperCollins, 2011. ISBN: 9780060885793

In this retelling of the original 1816 German story, a nutcracker under a terrible spell is given to young Marie as a Christmas gift, and when she helps him defeat the Mouse King, breaking the spell, he takes her to visit kingdom. RL 4.7

Evans, Shane W. Underground. Roaring Brook Press, 2011. ISBN: 9781596435384
An introduction to the Underground Railroad, narrated by a group of slaves. RL 0.6

Farmer, Jacqueline. O Christmas Tree: Its History and Holiday Traditions, illustrated by Joanne Friar. Charlesbridge, 2010. ISBN: 9781580892384

Recounts the traditions and folklore surrounding the Christmas tree, including its origin, customs around the world, and the activities that take place on a Christmas tree farm. RL 5.9

Feiffer, Kate. My Side of the Car, illustrated by Jules Feiffer. Candlewick Press, 2011. ISBN: 9780763644055

Sadie and her father have been planning a trip to the zoo for a long time but something always gets in the way, so when they finally start out and her father sees some raindrops, Sadie insists there is no rain on her side of the car. RL 2.7

Finlay, Lizzie. Little Croc's Purse. Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 2011. ISBN: 9780802853929

When Little Croc and his friends find a purse filled with money, they must decide whether to spend the money or turn in the purse. RL 3.6

Fosbury, Jennifer. My Name Is Not Alexander, illustrated by Mike Litwin. Sourcebooks Jabberwocky, 2011. ISBN: 9781402254338

Through his imaginative journey, Alexander discovers how great men become heroes: a tough president has a soft spot for nature, a proud warrior is also the most peaceful, and sometimes, being brave about what makes you different will not only help you break records, but inspire others. RL 2.6

Frederick, Heather Vogel. Hide and Squeak, illustrated by C.F. Payne. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2011. ISBN: 9780689855702

A mouse baby leads his father on a merry game of hide-and-squeak at bedtime. RL 1.1

Freedman, Deborah. Blue Chicken. Viking, 2011. ISBN: 9780670012930

An enterprising chicken attempts to help an artist paint the barnyard and accidentally turns the whole picture blue. RL 1.9

Galbraith, Kathryn O. Planting the Wild Garden, illustrated by Wendy Anderson Halperin. Peachtree Publishers, 2011. ISBN: 9781561455638

An exploration of the different ways seeds are dispersed into the environment. RL 2.2

Gall, Chris. Substitute Creacher. Little, Brown, 2011. ISBN: 9780316089159

Mr. Creacher, a multi-tentacled substitute teacher, warns his prankish students not to misbehave, recounting rhyming cautionary tales of the weird, spooky, and unexpected. RL 3.4

George, Kristine O'Connell. Emma Dilemma: Big Sister Poems, illustrated by Nancy Carpenter. Clarion Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780618428427

Emma is Jess's little sister ... and her dilemma. How can one small girl be sweet, funny, imaginative, playful, and affectionate as well as a clinging vine, brat, tattletale, and nuisance—all at the same time? Why is Jess supposed to be a good big sister while Emma doesn't have to be a good little sister? The highlights and low points of this sibling relationship are insightfully evoked in short and simple poems, some funny, some touching, and all resonant with emotional truth. Every child with a younger sibling will recognize Jess's dilemma and the combination of ambivalence and deep loyalty that is built into the sibling relationship. RL 4.0

Gibbs, Edward I Spy with My Little Eye. Templar Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780763652845

Peeking through the pages, children will be able to spot a different colored animal every time, and guess what it is using a simple, factual clue. Bold illustrations and die-cut holes will absorb young readers as they learn about colors and animal names. RL 2.0

Goodrich, Carter. Say Hello to Zorro! Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2011. ISBN: 9781416938934

Mister Bud, the family dog, has a satisfying routine to his life, but when another dog joins the family and disrupts his schedule, Mister Bud must learn to adapt. RL 1.7

Gormley, Greg. Dog in Boots, illustrated by Roberta Angaramo. Holiday House, 2011. ISBN: 9780823423477

After reading "Puss in Boots," an adventurous dog sets out to find the perfect pair of shoes to suit his every need. RL 2.9

Graham, Bob. April and Esme, Tooth Fairies. Candlewick Press, 2010. ISBN: 9780763646837

On their first assignment, two young tooth fairy sisters journey by night into the huge world of humans to collect Daniel Dangerfield's tooth and fly it safely home. RL 1.7 *Charlotte Zolotow Honor*

Grandits, John. Ten Rules You Absolutely Must Not Break If You Want to Survive the School Bus, illustrated by Michael Allen Austin. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2011. ISBN: 9780618788224

Before Kyle rides a school bus for the first time, his older brother gives him a list of rules he must follow but after breaking every single one the first day, Kyle discovers the rule his brother left out. RL 3.5

Greenfield, Eloise. The Great Migration: Journey to the North, illustrated by Jan Spivey Gilchrist. Amistad, 2011. ISBN: 9780061259210

Describes the period of the 20th century when many African Americans left the South to make better lives for themselves in the northern states. RL 5.6

Hale, Nathan. The Twelve Bots of Christmas. Walker & Co., 2010. ISBN: 9780802722379

In this variation on the folk song "The Twelve Days of Christmas," Robo-Santa gives gifts that consist of electronic gear, including a cartridge in a gear tree, three wrench hens, and nine droids a-dancing. RL 2.4

Hall, Michael. Perfect Square. Greenwillow Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780061915130

A perfect square that's perfectly happy is torn into pieces, punched with holes, crumpled, and otherwise changed, but finds in each transformation that it can be something new, and just as happy. RL 3.1

Hauth, Katherine B. What's for Dinner?: Quirky, Squirmy Poems from the Animal World. Charlesbridge, 2011. ISBN: 9781570914713

Describes in poetic verse the predatory habits of a variety of animals and the foods that they eat. RL 4.8

Helquist, Brett. Bedtime for Bear. HarperCollins Publishers, 2011. ISBN: 9780060502058

Just after the first snowfall, Bear is ready to go to sleep until spring but his friends encourage him to spend one last day playing with them. RL 1.6

Henkes, Kevin. Little White Rabbit. Greenwillow Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780062006424

As he hops along a little rabbit wonders what it would be like to be green as grass, tall as fir trees, hard as rocks, and flutter like butterflies. RL 3.3

Hill, Laban Carrick. Dave the Potter: Artist, Poet, Slave, illustrated by Bryan Collier. Little, Brown, 2010. ISBN: 9780316107310

Chronicles the life of Dave, a nineteenth-century slave who went on to become an influential poet, artist, and potter. RL 3.1 *Caldecott Honor, Coretta Scott King Illustrator Award*

Hillenbrand, Will. Mother Goose Picture Puzzles. Marshall Cavendish Children's, 2011. ISBN: 9780761458081

Nursery rhymes are presented in the form of rebuses. RL 1.6

Hillenbrand, Will. Spring Is Here. Holiday House, 2011. ISBN: 9780823416028
Excited that spring has finally arrived, Mole tries--unsuccessfully--to wake up Bear, but then he comes up with the perfect plan. RL 2.2

Hills, Tad. Duck & Goose: It's Time for Christmas. Schwartz & Wade, 2010. ISBN: 9780375864841

Goose is more interested in skating, sledding, and making snow angels than in helping Duck decorate their big Christmas tree. RL 1.5

Himmelman, John. Cows to the Rescue. Henry Holt, 2011. ISBN: 9780805092493
After helping the Greenstalk family get to the county fair, the cows busy themselves finding solutions to many other problems that arise during the day. RL 2.2

Hines, Anna Grossnickle. Peaceful Pieces: Poems and Quilts About Peace. Henry Holt, 2011. ISBN: 9780805089967
A collection of poems about peace by Anna Grossnickle Hines, accompanied by illustrations that feature homemade quilts. RL 3.3

Hodge, Bodie. Dragons: Legends & Lore of Dinosaurs, illustrated by Bill Looney. Master Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780890515587

Explores the biblical and cultural history of dragons and argues that these fantastic beings are connected to the last living dinosaurs.

Hopkins, Lee Bennett. Hear My Prayer, illustrated by Gretchen Moore. Zonderkidz, 2011. ISBN: 9780310718116

Contains twelve original prayers for beginning readers that gives young readers and their families a chance to celebrate the simple but important things in life. RL 2.3

Hughes, Shirley. The Christmas Eve Ghost. Candlewick Press, 2010. ISBN: 9780763644727

In 1930s Liverpool, England, Bronwen and Dylan live with their widowed mother, who works long hours doing other people's washing, and even though she sometimes must leave the children alone in the house, she cautions them not to speak to the O'Rileys next door, who go to a different church. RL 2.6

Isadora, Rachel. 12 Days of Christmas. G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2010. ISBN: 9780399250736

Sets the traditional Christmas carol in Africa, using a combination of text and rebuses. Includes author's note about some of the African traditions depicted. RL 3.2

Jackson, Ellen. The Seven Seas, illustrated by Bill Slavin. Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 2011. ISBN: 9780802853417

During a geography lesson, a child takes an imaginary journey to each of the seven seas, including the Brown Sea which is made of chocolate, and the Pink Sea which has flamingos. RL 3.9

James, Simon. George Flies South. Candlewick Press, 2011. ISBN: 9780763657246

George does not feel ready to learn to fly, leave his nest, and go south with the other birds, despite his mother's encouragement, but when a strong autumn wind gets hold of the nest, he may have no choice. RL 1.6

Jay, Alison. The Nutcracker. Dial Books for Young Readers, 2010. ISBN: 9780803732858
After rescuing her Christmas nutcracker from an army of angry toys, Marie and her brother are rewarded by the nutcracker, now a prince, with a fantastic nighttime journey to a realm of dancing fairies, beautiful palaces, and wonderful things to eat. RL 3.3

Jenkins, Emily. Toys Come Home. Illustrated by Paul O. Zelinsky. Schwartz & Wade Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780375862007
When a little girl gets a plush stingray for her birthday, it makes friends with some of her other toys as they all try to navigate in the world of real people. RL 3.2

Jenkins, Martin. Can We Save the Tiger?, illustrated by Vicky White. Candlewick Press, 2011. ISBN: 9780763649098
The tiger is just one of thousands of animals -- including the ground iguana, the white-rumped vulture, and the partula snail -- currently in danger of becoming extinct, joining the dodo, the marsupial wolf, the great auk, and countless others we will never see again.
RL 3.5 *Boston Globe-Horn Book Honor*

Jenkins, Steve. Just a Second: A Different Way to Look at Time. Houghton Mifflin Books for Children, 2011. ISBN: 9780618708963
Describes a series of events in the natural world to provide an exploration of how people think about time. RL 4.7

Jenkins, Steve and Robin Page. Time for a Bath. Houghton Mifflin, 2011.
ISBN: 9780547250373
It's time for a bath! Find out which animals soak, lick, bake, or spray their dirt away.
RL 3.9

Jenkins, Steve and Robin Page. Time to Eat. Houghton Mifflin, 2011.
ISBN: 9780547250328
Provides an introduction to what animals eat and how they collect, store, and digest their food. RL 4.0

Jenkins, Steve and Robin Page. Time to Sleep. Houghton Mifflin Books for Children, 2011. ISBN: 9780547250403
It's time to sleep! Who dozes standing on one leg without falling over, snores while flying, or snuggles together in a big sleepy pile? RL 3.9

Johnson, Rebecca L. Journey Into the Deep: Discovering New Ocean Creatures. Millbrook Press, 2011. ISBN: 9780761341482
Presents new animals discovered during a ten year project of documenting sea life, describing new species of such creatures as jellyfish, octopuses, squids, sea worms, and crabs, found along coral reefs, ocean mountain ranges, and in the dark zone. RL 6.5

Johnston, Tony. Levi Strauss Gets a Bright Idea, illustrated by Stacy Innerst. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2011. ISBN: 9780152061456
Retells, in tall-tale fashion, how Levi Strauss went to California during the Gold Rush, saw the need for a sturdier kind of trouser, and invented jeans. RL 2.6

Judge, Lita. Red Sled. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2011. ISBN: 9781442420076

At night, a host of woodland creatures plays with a child's red sled in this nearly wordless book.

Juster, Norton. Neville, illustrated by G. Brian Karas. Schwartz & Wade Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780375867651

When a boy and his family move to a new house, he devises an ingenious way to meet people in the neighborhood. RL 3.3

Kaplan, Michael B. Betty Bunny Loves Chocolate Cake, illustrated by Stéphane Jorisch. Dial Books for Young Readers, 2011. ISBN: 9780803734074

From her first bite, young Betty Bunny likes chocolate cake so much that she claims she will marry it one day, and she has trouble learning to wait patiently until she can have her next taste. RL 3.3

Katz, Jon. Meet the Dogs of Bedlam Farm. H. Holt, 2011. ISBN: 9780805092196

Contains photographs and the stories of Rose, Izzy, Frieda, and Lenore, four dogs that perform various jobs on Bedlam Farm. RL 2.0

Kimmel, Eric A. The Golem's Latkes, illustrated by Aaron Jasinski. Marshall Cavendish Children, 2011. ISBN: 9780761459040

Rabbi Judah Loew ben Bezalel visits the Emperor, leaving a new housemaid to prepare for his Hanukkah party, but returns to find that she has misused the clay man he created. Includes historical and cultural notes. RL 2.4

Kladstrup, Kristin. A Night in Santa's Great Big Bag, illustrated by Tim Jessell. Viking, 2010. ISBN: 9780670011650

Louis's favorite toy lamb inadvertently falls into Santa's bag on Christmas Eve. RL 2.2

Klassen, Jon. I Want My Hat Back. Candlewick Press, 2011. ISBN: 9780763655983

A bear almost gives up his search for his missing hat until he remembers something important. RL 1.4

Kontis, Alethea. AlphaOops: H Is for Halloween, illustrated by Bob Kolar. Candlewick Press, 2010. ISBN: 9780763639662

While putting on a Halloween pageant, the alphabet mixes things up with some spooky, and funny, results. RL 1.9

Kornell, Max. Bear with Me. G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2011. ISBN: 9780399252570

A boy at first is angry when his parents suddenly welcome a giant bear named Gary into their family, but eventually he and Gary learn to get along. RL 1.6

Lamb, Albert. Tell Me the Day Backwards, illustrated by David McPhail. Candlewick Press, 2011. ISBN: 9780763650551

As he gets into bed, Timmy Bear asks his mother to play a game with him in which they remember everything he did during the day, but in reverse order. RL 2.7

Landau, Elaine. Oil Spill! Disaster in the Gulf of Mexico. Millbrook Press, 2011.

ISBN: 9780761374855

Presents facts about the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico that began on April 20, 2010. RL 5.9

LaRoche, Giles. If You Lived Here: Houses of the World. Houghton Mifflin, 2011.

ISBN: 9780547238920

Features detailed, bas-relief collage spreads of dwellings in other world regions and historical times to explain how different people live and have lived, from a village house in South Africa to a floating green house in the Netherlands. RL 6.3

Laval, Thierry. Colors. Chronicle Books, 2011. ISBN: 9781442430488
Colorful photos and simple text introduce colors in this lift-the-flap book.

Lear, Edward. His Shoes Were Far Too Tight, illustrated by Calef Brown. Chronicle Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780811867924
Come inside this book and meet the Pobble with his chilly feet, the Owl and the Pussycat, a Sieve to sail away and back, a hive of silvery bees. Come inside this book and find poetry to feed your mind. RL 2.2

Lehman, Barbara. The Secret Box. Houghton Mifflin Books for Children, 2011. ISBN: 9780547238685
A young schoolboy from the early twentieth century hides a candy box with secret instructions in the floorboards of his boarding school for future generations of schoolchildren to find and follow to a mysterious hidden place. Story without words.

Lester, Alison. Running with the Horses. North-South Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780735840027
Nina is determined to save the horses at the famous Spanish Riding School in Vienna during the war. RL 3.7

Lester, Helen. Tacky's Christmas. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2010. ISBN: 9780547172088
Goodly, Lovely, Angel, Neatly, Perfect, and Tacky are having a wonderful Christmas, complete with an unusual tree, when Tacky's odd behavior saves them from a group of hunters. RL 3.6

Light, Steve. The Christmas Giant. Candlewick Press, 2010. ISBN: 9780763646929
When two best friends, a giant and an elf, grow Christmastown's holiday tree, disaster strikes. RL 1.6

Liwska, Renata. Red Wagon. Philomel Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780399252372
When Lucy gets a new red wagon she wants to play with it immediately, but first she must use it to bring vegetables home from the market for her mother. RL 2.1

Lloyd-Jones, Sally. Song of the Stars: A Christmas Story, illustrated by Alison Jay. Zonderkidz, 2011. ISBN: 9780310722915
Nature and the animal kingdom celebrate the birth of Jesus, while most people do not even notice that a miracle has occurred. RL 2.4

Long, laurel. The Twelve Days of Christmas. Dial Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780803733572
An illustrated version of the traditional song.

Lossani, Chiara. Vincent van Gogh and the Colors of the Wind, illustrated by Octavia Monaco. Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 2011. ISBN: 9780802853905
Inspired by letters that Vincent wrote to Theo, his closest friend and constant encourager, the text of Vincent van Gogh and the Colors of the Wind is vibrantly illustrated in a style that recalls the paintings of the artist himself. The book also includes fourteen reproductions of van Gogh's actual paintings. This lyrical story provides a thoughtful and fresh look at the life of one of the world's most famous artists.

Lyon, George Ella. All the Water in the World, illustrated by Katherine Tillotson. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2011. ISBN: 9781416971306
Introduces young children to the water cycle with simple text and illustrations. RL 3.0

Mackall, Dandi Daley. Listen to the Silent Night, illustrated by Steve Johnson and Lou Fancher. Dutton Children's Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780525422761
Rhyming text reveals many sounds heard on the night of Jesus' birth, such as the flapping of Joseph's sandals as he walks into Bethlehem, the lowing of a cow in the stable, and the flutter of angels' wings as they proclaim the news. RL 3.2

MacLachlan, Patricia. Before You Came, illustrated by David Diaz. Katherine Tegen Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780060512347
A mother relates how she spent time before her child arrived, then passes on a gift of days paddling a red canoe, reading in a pillow-filled hammock until dark, and watching the moon rise at night. RL 2.4

Macy, Sue. Basketball Belles: How Two Teams and One Scrappy Player Put Women's Hoops on the Map, illustrated by Matt Collins. Holiday House, 2011. ISBN: 9780823421633
Raised on a cattle ranch, Agnes Morley was sent to Stanford University to learn to be a lady. Yet in no time she exchanged her breeches and spurs for bloomers and a basketball; and in April 1896 she made history. In a heart-pounding game against the University of California at Berkeley, Agnes led her team to victory in the first-ever intercollegiate women's basketball game, earning national attention and putting women's basketball on the map. RL 3.3

Magical Christmas, A. Disney Press, 2011. ISBN: 9781423146544
Brief text, illustrations, and lenticular, or moving pictures, present Christmas scenes from Disney films and cartoons. RL 2.3

Malaspina, Ann. Yasmin's Hammer, illustrated by Doug Ghayka. Lee & Low, 2010. ISBN: 9781600603594
In Dhaka, Bangladesh, as two girls work hard all day to help support their family by chipping bricks into small pieces, older sister Yasmin seeks a way to attend school and learn to read so that she can have a better life one day. Includes author's note about conditions in Bangladesh, child labor, and how to help. RL 4.5 *Asian/Pacific American Picture Book Award*

Marcus, Leonard S.. Nursery Rhyme Comics. First Second, 2011. ISBN: 9781596436008
Presents fifty traditional nursery rhymes in comic book format, with illustrations by well-known cartoonists. RL 3.8

Markle, Sandra. The Case of the Vanishing Golden Frogs: A Scientific Mystery. Millbrook Press, 2012. ISBN: 9780761351085
Looks at the Panamanian golden frog, the national symbol of Panama, which has been vanishing due to a fungus infection, and follows a team of scientists working to save these frogs and protect frog populations worldwide. RL 5.7

Martin, Bill, Jr. Ten Little Caterpillars, illustrated by Lois Ehlert. Beach Lane Books, 2011. ISBN: 9781442433854
Illustrations and rhyming text follow ten caterpillars as one wriggles up a flower stem, another sails across a garden pool, and one reaches an apple leaf, where something amazing happens. RL 2.9

- McBratney, Sam.** Guess How Much I Love You: The Pop-Up Edition, illustrated by Anita Jeram. Candlewick Press, 2011. ISBN: 9780763653781
During a bedtime game, every time Little Nutbrown Hare demonstrates how much he loves his father, Big Nutbrown Hare gently shows him that the love is returned even more. Includes pop-up illustrations. RL 2.8
- McDonnell, Christine.** Goyangi Means Cat, illustrated by Steve Johnson and Lou Fancher. Viking, 2011. ISBN: 9780670011797
An understanding cat helps a young Korean girl adjust to her new home in America. RL 2.4
- McDonnell, Patrick.** Me...Jane. Little, Brown, 2011. ISBN: 9780316045469
Holding her stuffed toy chimpanzee, young Jane Goodall observes nature, reads Tarzan books, and dreams of living in Africa and helping animals. Includes biographical information on the prominent zoologist. RL 3.5
- McKissack, Patricia C.** Never Forgotten, illustrated by Leo and Diane Dillon. Schwartz & Wade Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780375843846
In eighteenth-century West Africa, a boy raised by his blacksmith father and the Mother Elements--Wind, Fire, Water, and Earth--is captured and taken to America as a slave. RL 4.0
- McMullan, Kate.** Bulldog's Big Day, illustrated by Pascal Memaitre, Orchard Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780545171557
While looking for a job, Bulldog tries being a firefighter, a window washer, a sign painter, and a bookseller before finding just the right job for himself. RL 2.9
- Meade, Holly.** If I Never Forever Endeavor. Candlewick, 2011. ISBN: 9780763640712
A young bird, safe in its nest, debates whether or not to risk trying its wings. RL 3.0
- Milgrim, David.** Santa Duck and His Merry Helpers. G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2010. ISBN: 9780399254734
Every Christmas, Nicholas Duck helps Santa by collecting gift lists, but this year his little brothers and sister create havoc when they try to help, leading Nicholas to contemplate the true meaning of Christmas. RL 2.8
- Moore, Clement Clarke.** The Night Before Christmas, illustrated by Eric Puybaret. Imagine Publishers, 2010. ISBN: 9781936140060
An illustrated version of the classic Christmas poem about a visit from St. Nick. Includes a specially created three-track musical and narrative CD featuring Moore's tale stunningly set to music by Noel Paul Stookey, an enchanting reading by Mary Travers over a special score composed by Peter Yarrow with Peter and Noel joining Mary one last time in her final performance, plus the classic Peter, Paul and Mary holiday favorite, "'A' Soalin." RL 4.3
- Moundlic, Charlotte.** The Scar, illustrated by Olivier Tallec. Candlewick Press, 2011. ISBN: 9780763653415
When his mother dies, a little boy is angry at his loss but does everything he can to hold onto the memory of her scent, her voice, and the special things she did for him, even as he tries to help his father and grandmother cope. RL 2.7
- Murray, Laura.** The Gingerbread Man Loose in the School, illustrated by Mike Lowery. New York : G. P. Putnam's, 2011. ISBN: 9780399250521
A gingerbread man searches all over the school for the group of children that made him and then left him behind. RL 2.6

Myers, Walter Dean. We Are America: A Tribute from the Heart, illustrated by Christopher Myers. Collins, 2011. ISBN: 9780060523084
Examines the events and people that have shaped America, providing portraits of figures such as Chief Tecumseh, President Abraham Lincoln, and musician Jimi Hendrix, and featuring lyrical, free-verse poetic text. RL 4.3

Nelson, Kadir. Heart and Soul: The Story of America and African Americans. Balzer + Bray, 2011. ISBN: 9780061730740
A simple introduction to African-American history, from Revolutionary-era slavery up to the election of President Obama. RL 5.8

Neubecker, Robert. Wow! Ocean! Disney/Hyperion Books, 2011. ISBN: 9781423131137
Izzy, raised in the mountains, visits the ocean on a hot summer day.

Nevius, Carol. Soccer Hour, illustrated by Bill Thomson. Marshall Cavendish, 2011. ISBN: 9780761456896
Pictures and rhyming text describe the drills and scrimmages of a team at soccer practice. RL 1.9

Niemann, Christoph. That's How! Greenwillow Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780062019639
A very imaginative boy answers a girl's questions about how different kinds of vehicles work. RL 0.7

Nivola, Claire A. Orani: My Father's Village. Frances Foster Books/Farrar Straus Giroux, 2011. ISBN: 9780374356576
Children's book author Claire A. Nivola explores the village of Orani, the tiny hamlet in the mountains of central Sardinia where her father lived before moving to New York during World War II. RL 5.0

Nolan, Dennis. Sea of Dreams. Roaring Brook Press, 2011. ISBN: 9781596434707
A wordless picture book featuring a sandcastle that takes on a life of its own.

Nolen, Jerdine. Christmas in the Time of Billy Lee, illustrated by Barry Moser. Disney/Jump at the Sun Books, 2010. ISBN: 9780786818716
When Ellie makes three wishes and begins to believe in the magic of Christmas, all kinds of miracles occur, from broken tree lights twinkling again, to angel shapes appearing in snow, to the biggest of all: a baby brother arriving soon. It all happened in the time of Billy Lee. RL 2.2

Norworth, Jack. Take Me Out to the Ball Game, illustrated by Amiko Hirao. Imagine, 2011. ISBN: 9781936140268
Text and illustrations present the well-known song about baseball games. CD included, performed by Carly Simon. RL 6.7

Novesky, Amy. Me, Frida, illustrated by David Diaz. Abrams Books for Young Readers, 2010. ISBN: 9780810989696
Artist Frida Kahlo finds her own voice and style when her famous husband, Diego Rivera, is commissioned to paint a mural in San Francisco, California, in the 1930s and she finds herself exploring the city on her own. RL 4.2 *Pura Belpre Illustrator Award Honor*

Numeroff, Laura. If You Give a Dog a Donut, illustrated by Felicia Bond. Balzer + Bray, 2011. ISBN: 9780060266837
Chaos might ensue if you were to give a dog a donut. RL 1.8

O'Connor, Jane. Fancy Nancy, Aspiring Artist, illustrated by Robin Preiss Glasser. Harper, 2011. ISBN: 9780061915260

Inspired by such art masters as Edgar Degas, Henri Matisse, and Jackson Pollock, Nancy, who likes to use fancy words, dons her beret to create her own fabulous artwork. RL 3.5

O'Connor, Jane. Fancy Nancy, Stellar Stargazer!. Harper, 2011. ISBN: 9780061915239

Fancy Nancy and her father love stargazing, and during her first campout under the stars she describes the heavens to him and her sister, JoJo, using her fancy words. RL 1.8

Park, Linda Sue. The Third Gift, illustrated by Bagram Ibatoulline. Clarion Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780547201955

After harvesting an especially large "tear" of a resin known as myrrh, a young boy and his father visit a spice merchant whose three customers are seeking a special gift to bring to a baby. Includes biblical references and historical information about the Magi and myrrh. RL 2.2

Paterson, Katherine. Brother Sun, Sister Moon: Saint Francis of Assisi's Canticle of the Creatures, illustrated by Pamela Dalton. Chronicle Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780811877343
Reimagines Francis of Assisi's 1224 prayer of praise in celebration of God's gifts throughout the universe. RL 3.7

Pfister, Marcus. Questions, Questions. NorthSouth Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780735840003
Questions about the wonders of Nature. RL 2.9

Polacco, Patricia. Just in Time, Abraham Lincoln. Putnam's Sons, 2011.

ISBN: 9780399254710

When two brothers visit a museum in Harper's Ferry, West Virginia, with their grandmother, they find themselves in a very realistic Civil War setting where they see the Antietam battlefield and meet historical figures from the aftermath of that momentous battle. Includes author's note on the Battle of Antietam. RL 5.1

Primavera, Elise. Louise the Big Cheese and the Back-to-School Smarty Pants, illustrated by Diane Goode. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2011. ISBN:

9781442406001

Louise the Big Cheese is determined to make the grade in school this year and that means straight A's. But she's stuck with the toughest teacher ever. Will Louise make the grade? RL 3.1

Pulver, Robin. Christmas Kitten: Home at Last, illustrated by Layne Johnson. Albert Whitman, 2010. ISBN: 9780807511572

When Santa's allergies prevent him from keeping a homeless kitten, he and Mrs. Claus find it a perfect home. RL 2.4

Raschka, Chris. A Ball for Daisy. Schwartz & Wade Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780375858611

A wordless picture book showing the fun a dog has with her ball, and what happens when it is lost.

Raczka, Bob. Lemonade, and Other Poems Squeezed from a Single Word, illustrated by Nancy Doniger. Roaring Brook Press, 2011. ISBN: 9781596435414

Part anagram, part rebus, part riddle - this brand new poetic form turns word puzzles into poetry. RL 6.1

Ramsden, Ashley. Seven Fathers, illustrated by Ed Young. Roaring Brook Press, 2011. ISBN: 9781596435445

A lone traveler, tired, hungry, and cold, finds a house and asks for a room for the night, but the old man to whom he speaks refers him to his father, and that man to his father, until he is finally rewarded for his efforts by the eldest. RL 3.6

Rasmussen, Halfdan. A Little Bitty Man and Other Poems for the Very Young, illustrated by Marilyn Nelson and Pamela Espeland. Candlewick Press, 2011. ISBN: 9780763623791 Halfdan Rasmussen was born in Copenhagen in 1915 and fought in the Danish resistance during the German occupation. This is a selection of his children's poetry translated into English. RL 2.7

Rawlings, Marjorie Kinnan. The Secret River, illustrated by Leon and Diane Dillon. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2011. ISBN: 9781416911791 A young girl takes her dog to a river in a forest, where she catches enough fish to feed her neighbors, even after giving some to forest creatures she meets on the way home. RL 3.0

Ray, Jane. The Twelve Days of Christmas. Candlewick Press, 2011. ISBN: 9780763657352 On each of the twelve days of Christmas, more and more gifts arrive from the recipient's true love. RL 2.3

Ray, Mary Lyn. Stars, illustrated by Marla Frazee. Beach Lane Books, 2011. ISBN: 9781442422490 Explores the wonder of stars, whether they are in the night sky, on a plant as a promise of fruit to come, or in one's pocket for those days when one does not feel shiny. RL 2.1

Rayner, Catherine. The Bear Who Shared. Dial Books for Young Readers, 2011. ISBN: 9780803735767 Norris the bear has been waiting patiently for the last ripe fruit to fall from the tree, and when it does he decides to share it with his two new friends. RL 1.5

Reinhart, Matthew and Robert Sabuda. Encyclopedia Mythologica: Dragons and Monsters. Candlewick, 2011. ISBN: 9780763631734 Master paper engineers Matthew Reinhart and Robert Sabuda unfold the legends and lore of cultures around the world to reveal these monsters and dragons that have prowled countrysides and imaginations for centuries. Pop-up fans and fantasy lovers will be equally enthralled by the dynamic creatures depicted in this astonishing volume, the climax of the Encyclopedia Mythologica trilogy.

Rey, H. A. Curious George Christmas Carols. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2010. ISBN: 9780547408613 Lyrics and simple scores for traditional Christmas carols are brought to life with illustrations by the creator of the "Curious George" series in which the notes on the staff are representing by pictures. Includes CD. RL 2.9

Rinker, Sherri Duskey. Goodnight, Goodnight, Construction Site. Chronicle Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780811877824 At sunset, when their work is done for the day, a crane truck, a cement mixer, and other pieces of construction equipment make their way to their resting places and go to sleep. RL 2.0

Robinson, Barbara. The Best Christmas Pageant Ever, illustrated by Laura Cornell. Harper, 2011. ISBN: 9780060890742 The six horrible Herdmans, the worst children in the history of the world, take over the annual Christmas pageant. RL 3.6

Robinson, Sharon. Jackie's Gift, illustrated by E.B. Lewis. Viking, 2010. ISBN: 9780670011629

When young Steve, who is Jewish, tells his new neighbor, Jackie Robinson, that his family does not have a Christmas tree, Jackie brings one to his neighbors, not knowing that they celebrate Hanukkah instead of Christmas. Based on a true story. RL 4.1

Rocco, John. Blackout. Disney/Hyperion Books, 2011. ISBN: 9781423121909

When a busy family's activities come to a halt because of a blackout, they find they enjoy spending time together and not being too busy for once. RL 1.4

Rodriguez, Béatrice. Fox and Hen Together. Enchanted Lions Books, 2011. ISBN: 9781592701094

In this sequel to *The chicken thief*, the chicken goes on an adventure when the refrigerator is empty and finds a surprise when returning home. A story without words.

Rohmann, Eric. Bone Dog. Roaring Brook Press, 2011. ISBN: 9781596431508

Although devastated when his pet dog dies, a young boy goes trick-or-treating and receives a timely visit from an old friend during a scary encounter with graveyard skeletons. RL 2.2

Rosenthal, Amy Krouse. This Plus That: Life's Little Equations, illustrated by Jen Corace. HarperCollins Children's Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780061726552

Simple arithmetical equations show how big and small moments add up in life.

Roth, Susan L. The Mangrove Tree: Planting Trees to Feed Families. Lee & Low Books, 2011. ISBN: 9781600604591

A cumulative verse, alternating with additional narrative, describes the ecological and social transformation resulting from the work of Dr. Gordon Sato, a Japanese American cell biologist who made saltwater and desert land productive through the planting of mangrove trees in the tiny African country of Eritrea. Includes afterword, photographs, glossary, and author's sources. RL 4.3

Rubin, Adam. Those Darn Squirrels and the Cat Next Door, illustrated by Daniel Salmieri. Clarion Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780547429229

Grumpy Old Man Fookwire's new neighbor has a cat that threatens his beloved birds, but the pesky squirrels figure out a way to solve the problem. RL 4.1

Rubin, Susan Goldman. Irena Sendler and the Children of the Warsaw Ghetto, illustrated by Bill Farnsworth. Holiday House, 2011. ISBN: 780823422517

Using toolboxes, ambulances, and other ingenious measures, Irena Sendler defied the Nazis and risked her own life by saving and then hiding Jewish children. Her secret list of the children's real identities was kept safe, buried in two jars under a tree in war-torn Warsaw. An inspiring story of courage and compassion, this biography includes a list of resources, source notes, and an index. RL 5.7

Rubbino, Salvatore. A Walk in London. Candlewick Press, 2011. ISBN: 9780763652722

A child's-eye view of London top attractions blends lively artwork with fascinating facts, and features a sweeping gatefold of the city skyline. RL 3.4

Runton, Andy. Owly & Wormy, Friends All Aflutter. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2011. ISBN: 9781416957744

Good friends Owly and Wormy are disappointed when their new plant attracts fat, green, bug-like things, instead of butterflies, until a metamorphosis occurs. Wordless book

Rusch, Elizabeth. For the Love of Music: The Remarkable Story of Maria Anna Mozart, illustrated by Steve Johnson and Lou Fancher. Tricycle Press, 2011. ISBN: 9781582463261
Maria Mozart, like her famous brother Wolfgang, was a musical prodigy. The talented siblings toured Europe, playing before kings and empresses, were showered with gifts and favors, and lived in a whirlwind life of music and travel. As they grew older, Wolfgang was encouraged to pursue his musical ambitions, while Maria was told she must stop performing and, ultimately, marry. But she was determined to continue playing the piano every day, for the love of music. RL 4.2

Russo, Marisabina. I Will Come Back for You: A Family in Hiding During World War II. Schwartz & Wade, 2011. ISBN: 9780375866951
A grandmother tells her granddaughter the story of the charm bracelet that represent her own childhood experiences while she and her family tried to evade the Nazis in Italy during World War II. RL 2.9

Sattler, Jennifer. Pig Kahuna. Bloomsbury, 2011. ISBN: 9781599906355
Fergus is afraid to go in the water, but he and his baby brother Dink find a surfboard while collecting treasures along the seashore. RL 3.5

Savage, Stephen. Where's Walrus? Scholastic Press, 2011. ISBN: 9780439700498
In this wordless picture book, follow Walrus on a happy-go-lucky spree through the big city, as he tries on different hats to disguise himself from the chasing zookeeper.

Say, Allen. Drawing from Memory. Scholastic Press, 2011. ISBN: 9780545176866
Caldecott medalist Allen Say chronicles his experiences as an artist during World War II, and describes his relationship with his mentor Noro Shinpei, Japan's leading cartoonist. RL 5.1

Sayre, April Pulley. Rah, Rah, Radishes!: A Vegetable Chant. Beach Lane Books, 2011. ISBN: 9781442421417
Photographs of vegetables and rhyming text celebrate vegetables in all their colorful and tasty variety. RL 2.9

Schmid, Paul. A Pet for Petunia. Harper, 2011. ISBN: 9780061963315
Petunia so desperately wants a pet skunk that she refuses to believe her parents when they say skunks stink. RL 1.6

Scotton, Rob. Scaredy-Cat, Splat! Harper, 2010. ISBN: 9780061177606
Splat the cat accidentally succeeds in being the scariest cat in the class for Halloween. RL 2.1

Scotton, Rob. Splish, Splash, Splat! HarperCollins, 2011. ISBN: 9780061978692
Splat does not want to have a playdate with Spike and both are afraid to learn how to swim. When the rest of their classmates rush straight into the pool, Splat and Spike find that they may have more in common than they thought. RL 2.1

Seder, Rufus Butler. The Wizard of Oz: A Scanimation Book. Workman Publishing, 2011. ISBN: 9780761163732
We're off to see the wizard! The magic of Scanimation meets the wonderful Wizard of Oz, bringing to life 10 memorable scenes from the movie that's enchanted generations of viewers. RL 3.1

Sendak, Maurice. Bumble-ardy. HarperCollins, 2011. ISBN: 9780062051981
Bumble-ardy the pig has missed eight birthdays in a row. So for his ninth birthday he has a party without telling his aunt. What will happen when she comes home? RL 2.4

Seuss, Dr. The Bippolo Seed and Other Lost Stories. Random House, 2011.

ISBN: 9780375864353

Presents seven Dr. Seuss stories first published in magazines between 1950 and 1951, with an introduction and commentary on each. RL 3.1

Shannon, David. It's Christmas, David! Blue Sky Press, 2010. ISBN: 9780545143110

Christmas has arrived with so many rules to follow that David fears his mistakes will cause Santa to pass him by. RL 0.9

Shaw, Hannah. School for Bandits. Alfred A. Knopf, 2011. ISBN: 9780375867682

Ralph Raccoon is too polite so his parents send him to Bandit School to learn to behave like a properly bad raccoon. RL 2.9

Shields, Gillian. Library Lily, illustrated by Francesca Chessa. William B. Eerdmans, 2011.

ISBN: 9780802854018

From the day her mother introduces her to the library, Lily wants to spend all of her time reading until she meets Milly, who hates reading but loves adventure. RL 3.5

Sidman, Joyce. Dark Emperor & Other Poems of the Night, illustrated by Rick Allen.

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2010. ISBN: 9780547152288

A collection of poems that celebrate the wonder, mystery, and danger of the night and describes the many things that hide in the dark. RL 4.0 *Boston Globe-Horn Book Honor*

Sidman, Joyce. Swirl by Swirl: Spirals in Nature, illustrated by Beth Krommes. Houghton

Mifflin Harcourt, 2011. ISBN: 9780547315836

Celebrates the shape of a spiral in nature, from rushing rivers to flower buds and even the shape of an ear. RL 2.5

Sido, Barbi. 12 Days of Christmas. St. Martin's Press, 2011. ISBN: 9780312510961

A board book with accordion-style fold-out pages presents an illustrated version of the traditional Christmas carol "Twelve Days of Christmas." RL 1.8

Sierra, Judy. ZooZical, illustrated by Marc Brown. Alfred A. Knopf, 2011. ISBN:

9780375868474

When the winter doldrums arrive at the zoo, a very small hippo and a young kangaroo decide to stage a "ZooZical," a show to display their singing, dancing, acrobatic, and other talents to the people of Springfield. RL 3.2

Silverstein, Shel. Every Thing On It. Harper, 2011. ISBN: 9780061998164

The second original book to be published since Silverstein's passing in 1999, this poetry collection includes more than one hundred and thirty never-before-seen poems and drawings completed by the cherished American artist and selected by his family from his archives. RL 3.4

Simon, Seymour. Butterflies. Collins, 2011. ISBN: 9780061914935

Provides information about the physical characteristics and behaviors of butterflies. RL 5.4

Smith, Lane. Grandpa Green. New York : Roaring Brook Press, 2011.

ISBN: 9781596436077

A child explores the ordinary life of his extraordinary great-grandfather, as expressed in his topiary garden. RL 3.4

Sneve, Virginia Driving Hawk. The Christmas Coat: Memories of my Sioux Childhood, illustrated by Ellen Beier. Holiday House, 2011. ISBN: 9780823421343
Virginia and her brother are never allowed to pick first from the donation boxes at church because their father is the priest, and she is heartbroken when another girl gets the beautiful coat that she covets. Based on the author's memories of life on the Rosebud Reservation in South Dakota. RL 3.7

Soetoro-Ng, Maya. Ladder to the Moon, illustrated by Yuyi Morales. Candlewick, 2011. ISBN: 9780763645700
Suhaila's wish to know her deceased grandmother is granted when a golden ladder appears at her window and Grandma Annie invites her on a journey to the moon, where they welcome people who are facing tragedy. Includes facts about the painting and woman who inspired the story. RL 4.1

Spinelli, Eileen. Now It Is Summer, illustrated by Mary Newell DePalma. Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 2011. ISBN: 9780802853400
A young mouse is encouraged by his mother to enjoy summer while waiting for autumn to come. RL 2.5

Spinelli, Eileen. The Perfect Christmas, illustrated by JoAnn Adinolfi. Henry Holt, 2011. ISBN: 9780805087024
Two families--one that is calm, dignified, elegant, and one that is goofy, fun, silly,--celebrate Christmas in their own loving ways and enjoy the wonder of the season. RL 4.0

Staake, Bob. Look! A Book!: A Zany Seek-and-Find Adventure. Little, Brown, 2011. ISBN: 9780316118620
Easy-to-read, rhyming text invites the reader to search for items on a different theme on each page, while celebrating the wonder of a picture book. RL 2.4

Stead, Philip C. Jonathan and the Big Blue Boat. Roaring Brook Press, 2011. ISBN: 9781596435629
When Jonathan's parents decide that he has gotten too old to have a stuffed animal, they trade his favorite bear, Frederick, for a toaster, so he sets off aboard a boat, looking for Frederick. RL 2.9

Stead, Philip C. A Sick Day for Amos McGee, illustrated by Erin E. Stead. Roaring Brook, 2010. ISBN: 9781596434028
Amos McGee, a friendly zookeeper, always made time to visit his good friends: the elephant, the tortoise, the penguin, the rhinoceros, and the owl. But one day--'Ah-choo!--he woke with the sniffles and the sneezes. Though he didn't make it into the zoo that day, he did receive some unexpected guests. RL 3.1 *Caldecott Medal, Charlotte Zolotow Honor*

Stevens, April. Edwin Speaks Up, illustrated by Sophie Blackall. Schwartz & Wade Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780375853371
Before his family leaves the grocery store, Baby Edwin makes sure their grocery cart contains the last ingredient needed to make his birthday celebration complete. RL 2.8

Stevens, Janet. The Little Red Pen. Harcourt Children's Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780152064327
When a little red pen accidentally falls into the waste basket while trying to correct papers all by herself, the other classroom supplies must cooperate to rescue her. RL 1.6

Sweet, Melissa. Balloons Over Broadway: The True Story of the Puppeteer of Macy's Parade. Houghton Mifflin Books for Children, 2011. ISBN: 9780547199450

Award-winning artist Sweet tells the story of the puppeteer Tony Sarg, capturing his genius, his dedication, his zest for play, and his long-lasting gift to America--the inspired helium balloons that would become the trademark of Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. RL 5.2

Tafolla, Carmen. Fiesta Babies, illustrated by Amy Córdova. Tricycle Press, 2010. ISBN: 9781582463193

Babies enjoy the colorful fiesta with singing, dancing, hugs, and kisses. RL 2.2 *Pura Belpre Illustrator Award Honor*

Taylor, Jane. Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star, illustrated by Jerry Pinkney. Little, Brown, 2011. ISBN: 9780316056960

As a curious little chipmunk leaves his nest to greet the twilight, he gazes at the glittering sky above him. He can't help but also notice the sparkling dewdrops on a spider's web, the lights of the fireflies, and the shimmers of moonlight on the water. 'How I wonder what you are!' marvels the tiny creature, launching a dreamlike quest to reach for the stars. RL 2.9

Teague, Mark. LaRue Across America: Postcards from the Vacation. Blue Sky Press, 2011. ISBN: 9780439915021

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. RL 3.5

Tegen, Katherine. The Story of the Leprechaun, illustrated by Sally Anne Lambert. HarperCollins Children's Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780061430862

A clever leprechaun who has amassed a pot of gold by making beautiful shoes for people decides to hide his money at the end of a rainbow, knowing that no one will find it there. RL 3.4

Thompson, Lauren. Leap Back Home to Me, illustrated by Matthew Cordell. Margaret K. McElderry Books, 2011. ISBN: 9781416906643

A little frog makes increasingly bold leaps out into the world, and then comes back to his mother after each excursion. RL 1.7

Thompson, Lauren. One Starry Night, illustrated by Jonathan Bean. Margaret K. McElderry Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780689828515

One starry night, as all sorts of animals watch over their young, Mary and Joseph watch over their baby boy, Jesus, in Bethlehem. RL 1.4

Thomson, Bill. Chalk. Marshall Cavendish Children, 2010. ISBN: 9780761455264

A wordless picture book about three children who go to a park on a rainy day, find some chalk, and draw pictures that come to life.

Tonatiuh, Duncan. Dear Primo: A Letter to My Cousin. Abrams Books for Young Readers, 2010. ISBN: 9780810938724

Two cousins, one in Mexico and one in New York City, write to each other and learn that even though their daily lives differ, at heart the boys are very similar. RL 2.2 *Pura Belpre Illustrator Award Honor*

Tullet, Hervé. The Game of Mix-Up Art. Phaidon Press, 2011. ISBN: 9780714861883
Turn the flaps to make the colorful paintings into new works of art. Wordless book

Tullet, Hervé. Press Here. Chronicle Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780811879545

Instructs the reader on how to interact with the illustrations to create imaginative images. RL 1.5

Uhlberg, Myron. A Storm Called Katrina, illustrated by Colin Bootman. Peachtree, 2011. ISBN: 9781561455911

When flood waters from broken levees submerge their New Orleans neighborhood in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, a young cornet player and his parents evacuate their home and struggle to survive and stay together. RL 3.0

Underwood, Deborah. The Loud Book, illustrated by Renata Liwska. Houghton Mifflin Books for Children, 2011. ISBN: 9780547390086

From the blare of an alarm clock in the morning to snores and crickets in the evening, simple text explores the many loud noises one might hear during the course of a day. RL 3.7

Vaginsky, Ido. Spin. Price, Stern, Sloan, 2011. ISBN: 9780843199246

Presents a series of animals, in a text which contains a pop-up illustration, pull-tabs, and a spinning wheel on each page which can be turned to change the initial image of each animal into that of a different animal. RL 1.7

Vamos, Samantha R. The Cazuela That the Farm Maiden Stirred, illustrated by Rafael López. Charlesbridge, 2011. ISBN: 9781580892421

A cumulative tale of a farm maiden who, aided by a group of animals, prepares "Arroz con Leche," or rice pudding. Includes recipe and glossary of the Spanish words that are woven throughout the text. RL 2.4

Van Allsburg, Chris. The Chronicles of Harris Burdick: 14 Amazing Authors Tell the Tales. Houghton Mifflin Books for Children, 2011. ISBN: 9780547548104

A collection of stories based on illustrations in Chris Van Allsburg's *The Mysteries of Harris Burdick*. RL 5.9

Van Nol, Sine. Meena, illustrated by Carianne Wijffels. Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 2011. ISBN: 9780802853943

The children of Fly Street fear and taunt their neighbor Meena, thinking she is a witch, but when they meet her granddaughter and taste her red currant pie, they learn the truth. RL 1.7

Velaquez, Eric. Grandma's Gift. Walker, 2010. ISBN: 9780802720825

The author describes Christmas at his grandmother's apartment in Spanish Harlem the year she introduced him to the Metropolitan Museum of Art and Diego Velazquez's portrait of Juan de Pareja, which has had a profound and lasting effect on him. RL 3.7 *Pura Belpre Illustrator Award*

Wadham, Tim. The Queen of France, illustrated by Kady MacDonald Denton. Candlewick Press, 2011. ISBN: 9780763641023

Rose wakes up one morning feeling royal and, donning jewels and a crown, she seeks her parents who behave as her royal subjects, causing Rose to wonder what they would think if the queen traded places with their daughter. RL 2.3

Wardlaw, Lee. Won Ton: A Cat Tale Told in Haiku, illustrated by Eugene Yelchin. Henry Holt, 2011. ISBN: 9780805089950

A cat arrives at a shelter, arranges to go home with a good family, and settles in with them, all the while letting them know who is boss and, finally, sharing his real name. RL 3.0

Wick, Walter. Can You See What I See? Toyland Express. Scholastic, 2011. ISBN: 9780545244831

In this search-and-find story, children read the simple text and use the picture clues to search twelve photos for 100 hidden objects!. RL 1.8

Wild, Margaret. Harry & Hopper, illustrated by Feya Blackwood. Feiwel and Friends, 2011. ISBN: 9780312642617

One day when Harry comes home from school, his faithful companion Hopper isn't there to greet him, in a touching story about the process of healing after losing a beloved pet.

RL 3.0 *Kate Greenaway Medal*

Willems, Mo. Hooray for Amanda & Her Alligator! Balzer + Bray, 2011.

ISBN: 9780062004000

Amanda and her alligator have lots of fun together, but when Amanda's grandfather buys her a panda, Alligator must learn to make new friends. RL 2.6

Willems, Mo. I Broke My Trunk! Hyperion Books for Children, 2011.

ISBN: 9781423133094

Gerald the elephant tells his best friend Piggie a long, crazy story about how he broke his trunk. RL 1.4

Willems, Mo. We Are in a Book! Hyperion, 2010. ISBN: 9781423133087

Gerald and Piggie discover the joy of being read. But what will happen when the book ends?

RL 1.3 *Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor*

Williams, Sophy, illus. The First Christmas: A Changing-Picture Book. Templar Books, 2010. ISBN: 9780763650131

Retells the story of the birth of Jesus, with lift-the-flap illustrations that gradually reveal the unfolding events. RL ?

Winter, Jeanette. The Watcher: Jane Goodall's Life with the Chimps. Schwartz & Wade Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780375867743

An illustrated biography of British primatologist Jane Goodall, describing her childhood, the years she spent in the African forests to observe chimpanzees, and her efforts to protect and preserve primates and their habitats. RL 3.2

Woodson, Jacqueline. Pecan Pie Baby, illustrated by Sophie Blackall. G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2010. ISBN: 9780399239878

When Mama's pregnancy draws attention away from Gia, she worries that the special bond they share will disappear forever once the baby is born. RL 2.8 *Boston Globe-Horn Book Honor*

Woop Studios. A Zeal of Zebras. Chronicle Books, 2011. ISBN: 9781452104928

An alphabet book featuring the imaginative use of collective nouns to identify the individual letters and describe different groups of animals. RL 3.8

Yaccarino, Dan. All the Way to America: The Story of a Big Italian Family and a Little Shovel. Alfred A. Knopf, 2011. ISBN: 9780375866425

Dan Yaccarino tells the story of his family's experiences in the United States since his great-grandfather came to America from Italy through Ellis Island. RL 4.2

Yee, Wong Herbert. Mouse and Mole: A Perfect Halloween. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2011. ISBN: 9780547551524

As Halloween approaches, Mouse helps her friend Mole get over his fear and enjoy the holiday. RL 1.7

Yezerki, Thomas F. Meadowlands: A Wetland Survival Story. Farrar, Straus, Giroux, 2011. ISBN: 9780374349134

Presents the history of the Meadowland, from its pristine state, to its gradual transformation by European settlers, to the pollution caused by industrialization, and the changes brought by environmental organizations striving to protect it. RL 5.3

Young, Ed. The House Baba Built: An Artist's Childhood in China. Little, Brown, 2011. ISBN: 9780316076289

In Ed Young's childhood home in Shanghai, all was not as it seemed: a rocking chair became a horse; a roof became a roller rink; an empty swimming pool became a place for riding scooters and bikes. The house his father built transformed as needed into a place to play hide-and-seek, to eat bamboo shoots, and to be safe. For outside the home's walls, China was at war. Soon the house held not only Ed and his four siblings but also friends, relatives, and even strangers who became family. The war grew closer, and Ed watched as planes flew overhead and friends joined the Chinese air force. But through it all, Ed's childhood remained full of joy and imagination. RL 5.5

Yum, Hyewon. The Twins' Blanket. Farrar Straus Giroux, 2011. ISBN: 9780374379728

Two twin girls, who have always shared everything, sleep in separate beds with their own blankets for the first time. RL 1.6

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