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# Children's Book Update for 2007-2008

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Children's Book Update for 2007-2008  
Xenia Community Schools  
August 25, 2008

**Bean, Jonathan.** At Night. Farrar Straus Giroux, 2007. ISBN: 9780374304461  
A sleepless city girl imagines what it would be like to get away from snoring family members and curl up alone with one's thoughts in the cool night air under wide-open skies. RL 4.5

**Billingsley, Franny.** Big Bad Bunny, illustrated by G. Brian Karas. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2008. ISBN: 9781416906018  
When Baby Boo-Boo, a mouse dressed in a bunny suit, becomes lost in the forest, his mother follows the sound of his cries to locate him. RL 1.6

**Bishop, Nic.** Frogs. Scholastic Nonfiction, 2008. ISBN: 9780439877558  
Nic Bishop's photographs show all different kinds of frogs, big ones, very tiny ones, frogs with beautiful colors of skin, and one frog you can see inside of. RL 3.7

**Bishop, Nic.** Spiders. Scholastic Nonfiction, 2007. ISBN: 9780439877565  
Text and photographs introduce readers to different types of spiders and their behavior. RL 3.3 *Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Medal Honor book; Orbis Pictus Award for Outstanding Nonfiction for Children Honor book.*

**Bolden, Tonya.** George Washington Carver. Abrams Books for Young Readers, 2008. ISBN: 9780810993662  
Illustrated with historical artifacts and photographs, a fresh look at a pioneering American innovator traces Carver's life, discoveries, and legacy as the first African-American to attend Iowa State College and as an inspirational conservationist. RL 6.1

**Bourguignon, Laurence.** Heart in the Pocket, illustrated by Valerie d'Heur. Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 2008. ISBN: 9780802853431  
A baby kangaroo is reluctant to leave the comfort of his mother's pocket, where he is safe and warm and can always hear her heartbeat, until he finds out that her heart is not actually in her pocket. RL 2.6

**Bowen, Carl.** Jules Verne's 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea. Stone Arch Books, 2008. ISBN: 9781434204479  
Scientist Pierre Aronnax and his trusty servant set sail to hunt a monster. With help from Ned Land, the world's greatest harpooner, the men soon discover that the creature is really a high-tech submarine. To keep this secret from being revealed, the sub's leader, Captain Nemo, takes the men hostage. RL 3.0

**Breen, Steve.** Stick. Dial Books for Young Readers, 2007. ISBN: 9780803731240  
An independent young frog goes on a wild adventure when he accidentally gets carried away by a dragonfly. RL 2.2

**Brown, Don.** Dolley Madison Saves George Washington. Houghton Mifflin, 2007. ISBN: 9780618411993  
Describes the significant contribution Dolley Madison made to the United States when she saved a picture of George Washington. RL 5.7

**Bush, Laura and Jenna Bush.** Read All About It!, illustrated by Denise Brunkus. HarperCollins, 2008. ISBN: 9780061560750 RL 2.0

Tyrone and his friends rule the school except for the library, which he thinks is boring until strange happenings during story hour change his mind.

**Bryant, Jen.** River of Words, A: The Story of William Carlos Williams, illustrated by Melissa Sweet. Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 2008. ISBN: 9780802853028

This picture book biography of William Carlos Williams traces childhood events that lead him to become a doctor and a poet. RL 5.0

**Caldecott, Randolph.** Randolph Caldecott's Picture Books. Huntington Library, 2008. ISBN: 9780873282239

Presents nine of the illustrator's books of nursery rhymes and other classic rhymes for children, including "The House that Jack Built," "The Queen of Hearts," and "Baby Bunting."

**Cammerly-Hoggatt, Jerry.** When Mother Was Eleven-Foot-Four: A Christmas Memory, illustrated by Mark Elliott. Fleming H. Revell, 2007. ISBN: 9780800718367

Story about two boy's commitment to restore the Christmas spirit to their larger than life mother. RL 2.4

**Cate, Annette LeBlanc.** The Magic Rabbit. Candlewick Press, 2007. ISBN: 9780763626723

When Bunny becomes separated from Ray, a magician who is his business partner and friend, he follows a crowd to a park where he has a lovely afternoon, and after the people leave and darkness falls, the lonely and frightened Bunny finds a glittering trail of hope. RL 3.6

**Cohan, George M.** You're a Grand Old Flag, illustrated by Norman Rockwell. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2008. ISBN: 9781416917700

Norman Rockwell images accompany this patriotic song written for a Broadway musical by George M. Cohan. RL 2.3

**Cole, Henry.** On Meadowview Street. Greenwillow Books, 2007. ISBN: 9780060564810

Upon moving to a new house, young Caroline and her parents encourage wildflowers to grow and birds and animals to stay in their yard, which soon has the whole suburban street living up to its name. RL 2.3

**Crow, Kristyn.** Cool Daddy Rat. G. P. Putnam's Sons, 2008. ISBN: 9780399243752

A young rat hides in his father's bass case and tags along as he plays and scats around the big city. RL 1.1

**Crowe, Ellie.** Surfer of the Century, illustrated by Richard Waldrep. Lee & Low Books, 2007. ISBN: 9781584302766

A brief biography of Hawaiian Duke Kahanamoku, five-time Olympic swimming champion from the early 1900s who is also considered worldwide as the 'father of modern surfing'. *Asian/Pacific American Award* RL 6.0

**Crowther, Robert.** Flight: A Pop-up Book of Aircraft. Candlewick Press, 2007. ISBN: 9780763634599

This pop-up book of aircraft will take you up, up, and away with tons of facts all about flight! Lift the flaps and pull the tabs to trace the history of flying; check out the newest passenger planes in the pop-up airport; and step into the cockpit of a 747. RL 7.7

**DiCamillo, Kate.** Great Joy, illustrated by Bagram Ibatoulline. Candlewick Press, 2007. ISBN: 9780763629205

Just before Christmas, when Frances sees a sad-eyed organ grinder and his monkey performing near her apartment, she cannot stop thinking about them, wondering where they go at night, and wishing she could do something to help. RL 4.0

**DiCamillo, Kate.** Mercy Watson Thinks Like a Pig. Candlewick Press, 2008.

ISBN: 9780763632656

After Mercy Watson follows the delightful scent and delicious taste of the pansies her thoughtful neighbors plant to beautify their yard, animal control officer Francine Poulet is called out to handle the case, which brings unexpected results. RL 2.6

**Elliott, David.** On the Farm, illustrated by Holly Meade. Candlewick Press, 2008.

ISBN: 9780763633226

Describes all the animals of the farmyard, including a goat, a cow, a rooster, bees, and bunnies, presented in verse and accompanied by woodcut and watercolor illustrations. RL 2.0

**Falconer, Ian.** Olivia Helps with Christmas. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2007.

ISBN: 9781416907862

As she impatiently waits for Santa's arrival, Olivia the pig tries to help with family preparations on the day before Christmas. RL 2.3

**Farmer, Jacqueline.** Apples, illustrated by Phyllis Limbacher Tildes. Charlesbridge, 2007.

ISBN: 9781570916946

Describes the cultivation and uses of apples. RL 4.9

**Fellowes, Julian.** The Curious Adventures of the Abandoned Toys, illustrated by S.D.

Schindler. Henry Holt, 2007. ISBN: 9780805075267

When Doc the bear arrives at the dump from his former home, he isn't sure about what awaits him but his new friends are determined to make his new home a welcoming one. RL 5.2

**Fischer, Chuck.** Christmas Around the World: A Pop-up Book. Bulfinch Books, 2007.

ISBN: 9780316117951

A Christmas market in a snowy German village, an intimate French street lined with holiday lights, the crèche in St. Peter's Square in Rome, a photo tour of Christmas across America - all of this and more comes to life in fourteen pages of pop-ups, pullouts and booklets about celebrations around the world. RL 7.0

**Fitzgerald, Dawn.** Vinnie and Abraham, illustrated by Catherine Stock. Charlesbridge,

2007. ISBN: 9781570916588

The true story of Vinnie Ream's courage and persistence in the service of art, and in the service of a friend. RL 5.3

**Fleischman, Paul.** Glass Slipper. Gold Sandal: A Worldwide Cinderella, illustrated by Julie

Paschkis. H. Holt, 2007. ISBN: 9780805079531

The author draws from a variety of folk traditions to put together this version of Cinderella, including elements from Mexico, Iran, Korea, Russia, Appalachia, and more. RL 3.0

**Floca, Brian.** Lightship. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2007.

ISBN: 9781416924364

Lightships once served where lighthouses could not be built. They helped to guide sailors safely through the fog. RL 2.3 *Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Medal Honor book*

**Frank, John.** How to Catch a Fish, illustrated by Peter Sylvada. Roaring Brook Press, 2007. ISBN: 9781596431638  
Rhyming text and illustrations describe the ways fish are caught in various locations around the world. RL 5.4

**Frazer, Marla.** A Couple of Boys Have the Best Week Ever. Harcourt, 2008. ISBN: 9780152060206  
Friends James and Eamon enjoy a wonderful week at the home of Eamon's grandparents during summer vacation. RL 2.7

**Frost, Helen.** Monarch and Milkweed. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2008. ISBN: 9781416900856  
Every spring the monarch butterfly migrates thousands of miles in search of the ideal milkweed plant. When she finds it, she lays her eggs on the plant, so when each egg hatches, the baby caterpillar can feed on the milkweed leaves. The milkweed plant then provides the perfect protection as the caterpillar turns into one of nature's wonders, a chrysalis, before transforming into an even greater wonder: a monarch butterfly. And once the newborn butterfly soars away, the milkweed seeds fly away on the wind and start this cycle over again. RL 3.1

**Giblin, James Cross.** The Many Rides of Paul Revere. Scholastic Press, 2007. ISBN: 9780439572903  
Chronicles Paul Revere's life, describing his childhood as the son of a French immigrant, his work as a silversmith, and his roles in the American Revolution. RL 6.4

**Gravett, Emily.** Monkey and Me. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2008. ISBN: 9781416954576  
Excited about their trip to the zoo, a young girl and her stuffed monkey delight in mimicking all the animals they see, such as a hopping kangaroo and stomping elephant, during their wonderful outing together. RL 1.2

**Harper, Charise Mericle.** When Randolph Turned Rotten. Alfred A. Knopf, 2007. ISBN: 9780375940712  
Best friends Randolph, a beaver, and Ivy, a goose, do everything together until Ivy is invited to a girls-only birthday sleepover party and Randolph, full of bad feelings, tries to spoil her fun. RL 3.7

**Harris, Robie H.** Maybe a Bear Ate It, illustrated by Michael Emberley. Orchard Books, 2008. ISBN: 9780439929615  
At bedtime, a young boy who cannot find his favorite book imagines the various creatures that might have taken it from him. RL 1.5

**High, Linda Oatman.** Tenth Avenue Cowboy, illustrated by Bill Farnsworth. Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 2008. ISBN: 9780802853301  
In 1910, when his family moves to New York City from their ranch out West, Ben misses the cowboys and the prairies that they left behind, but after he learns that there are cowboys in the city who race along the railroad tracks and warn people of approaching trains, he begins to feel more at home. RL 4.9

**Hillenbrand, Will.** Cock-a-Doodle Christmas! Marshall Cavendish, 2007. ISBN: 9780761453543  
Long ago in Bethlehem, young Harold the rooster keeps failing to wake the other farm animals in the morning, but when a young woman gives birth to a very special baby in the stable, Harold is finally able to crow loudly and help spread the good news. RL 2.2

**Hillman, Ben.** How Big Is It? Scholastic, 2007. ISBN: 9780439918084  
Shows just how big several big things truly are by setting them next to other items in illustrations. RL 6.7

**Hobbie, Holly.** Toot & Puddle: Let It Snow. Little, Brown & Co., 2007.  
ISBN: 9780316166867  
Toot and Puddle celebrate Christmas and learn that the best kind of present for the best kind of friend is one that shows just how much you care. RL 2.8

**Hole, Stian.** Garmann's Summer. Grand Rapids, MI : Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 2008. ISBN: 9780802853394  
As the summer ends, six-year-old Garmann's three ancient aunts visit and they all talk about the things that scare them. RL 2.6

**Holtei, Christa.** Nanuk Flies Home, illustrated by Astrid Vohwinkel. Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 2008. ISBN: 9780802853424  
Captured by humans after trying to steal their food, a small, hungry polar bear cub realizes his dream--to fly. End notes provide facts about polar bears and describe how, during the month of October, several hundred polar bears gather in the small Canadian town of Churchill, near the Hudson Bay, to wait for the sea to freeze over. RL 2.3

**Horse, Harry.** Little Rabbit's Christmas. Peachtree, 2007. ISBN: 9781561454198  
When the Christmas Rabbit makes his wish come true and brings him the beautiful red sled from the store window, Little Rabbit wants it all to himself until he learns that even the best gift is better when shared. RL 2.8

**Imai, Ayano.** Chester. Minedition, 2007. ISBN: 9780698400627  
Tired of being ignored by his human family, Chester the dog sets off to find a new home, but when he is turned away by a flock of forest birds and taken in by a wealthy woman who treats him more like a toy than a dog, Chester soon discovers that old homes are not so easily replaced. RL 2.2

**Jay, Alison.** 1 2 3: A Child's First Counting Book. Dutton Children's Books, 2007.  
ISBN: 9780525478362  
A little girl awakens to scenes from fairy tales in which she can count familiar characters or objects from one to ten and back again.

**Jeffers, Susan.** My Chincoteague Pony. Hyperion Books for Children, 2008.  
ISBN: 9781423100232  
Every summer on Chincoteague Island, there is an auction of ponies who have swum across the channel from Assateague, where ponies run free. If Julie works hard and saves her money all year, perhaps she can win the pony of her dreams, her very own Chincoteague pony. RL 3.0

**Jenkins, Emily.** What Happens on Wednesdays, illustrated by Lauren Castillo. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2007. ISBN: 9780374383039  
A preschooler marks the progress of her day, not by the clock but by what happens after lunch, after nap, after swimming, after the library - and after Daddy comes home. She doesn't map her neighborhood by street signs, either. Her morning walk to see dogs in the park takes her past the cat outside the deli, past her friend Errolyn's building and the daycare where she used to go when she was little, and down the block to the bagel store. RL 2.9

**Joy, N.** The Secret Olivia Told Me, illustrated by Nancy DeVard. Just Us Books, 2007. ISBN: 9781933491080

Olivia shares a secret with her best friend who then lets it slip to someone else, and soon everyone knows about Olivia's secret. RL 3.3 2008 Coretta Scott King Illustrator Award Honor Book

**Keats, Ezra Jack.** The Trip. Viking Children's Books, 2007. ISBN: 9780670061952

Louie takes an imagined trip back to his old neighborhood. While there, Louie runs into a group of strange monsters who turn out to be his old friends in imaginative Halloween disguise; and their friendly cries of "Trick or treat," while Louie wafts home in his bright red airplane, blend with the real voices of his new neighbors as, helped by his mother into an ice-cream-cone costume, Louie goes outside to join them. RL 1.8

**Keller, Laurie.** The Scrambled States of America Talent Show. Henry Holt, 2008.

ISBN: 9780805079975

The states decide to get together and put on a show featuring their particular talents. Also includes facts about the history and geography of the states. RL 4.0

**Kerley, Barbara.** What to Do About Alice?, illustrated by Edwin Fotheringham. Scholastic Press, 2008. ISBN: 9780439922319

An illustrated biography of Alice Roosevelt Longworth that focuses on her experiences while her father was president of the United States. RL 2.8

**Kimmel, Eric A.** The Great Texas Hamster Drive, illustrated by Bruce Whatley. Marshall Cavendish, 2007. ISBN: 9780761453574

When Pecos Bill's daughter gets two pet hamsters, they soon multiply into the hundreds, so Bill decides to take them all to Chicago where lots of boys and girls want pet hamsters. RL 2.4

**Kimmelman, Leslie.** Everybody Bonjours!, illustrated by Sarah McMenery. Alfred A. Knopf, 2008. ISBN: 9780375844430

Describes in rhymed text the many ways to use the greeting "Bonjour" when visiting Paris. Includes brief descriptions of Parisian landmarks at the end of the story. RL 0.9

**Knight, Mary-Jane**, consulting editor. Narnia Chronology from the Archives of the Last King. HarperCollins Children's Books, 2008. ISBN: 9780061240058

Chronicles the seven stories of the Narnia chronology; and features foldouts, mini-booklets, and pull-tabs. RL 5.4

**Kulka, Joe.** Wolf's Coming! Carolrhoda Books, 2007. ISBN: 9781575059303

All of the animals in the forest go into hiding because the wolf is coming, but why they are hiding is the big surprise. RL 1.8

**Lee, Suzy.** Wave. Chronicle Books, 2008. ISBN: 9780811859240

A wordless picture book that shows a little girl's first experiences at the beach, as she goes from being afraid of the roaring waves to playing on the shore while gulls soar overhead.

**Lehman, Barbara.** Trainstop. Houghton Mifflin, 2008. ISBN: 9780618756407

In this wordless picture book, a young girl takes a train and makes a stop at a most unusual place where she has an important task to perform.

**Levine, Ellen.** Henry's Freedom Box: A True Story from the Underground Railroad, illustrated by Kadir Nelson. Scholastic Press, 2007. ISBN: 9780439777339  
A fictionalized account of how in 1849 a Virginia slave, Henry "Box" Brown, escapes to freedom by shipping himself in a wooden crate from Richmond to Philadelphia. RL 2.6  
*Caldecott Honor book*

**Lewin, Ted.** At Gleason's Gym. Roaring Brook Press, 2007. ISBN: 9781596432314  
Describes the visitors and activities which go on at Gleason's gym in Brooklyn, where famous boxers such as Muhammed Ali trained. RL 2.9

**Lies, Brian.** Bats in the Library. Houghton Mifflin, 2008. ISBN: 9780618999231  
Bored with another normal, inky evening, bats discover an open library window and fly in to enjoy the photocopier, water fountain, and especially the books and stories found there.  
RL 2.7

**Lloyd-Jones, Sally.** Old MacNoah Had an Ark, illustrated by Jill Newton. Harper Blessings, 2008. ISBN: 9780060557171  
After building his ark and loading it with animals, Old MacNoah must deal with mealtimes and their aftermath on the high seas. RL 1.2

**Lobel, Anita.** Hello, Day! Greenwillow Books, 2008. ISBN: 9780060787653  
Various animals greet the sunrise in their own unique voices, except for the owl who welcomes the night. RL 2.2

**Lunde, Darrin.** Hello, Bumblebee Bat, illustrated by Patricia J. Wynne. Charlesbridge, 2007. ISBN: 9781570913747  
Simple text and illustrations introduce the endangered bumblebee bat of Thailand. RL 1.8  
*Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor book*

**Lyon, George Ella.** My Friend, the Starfinder, illustrated by Stephen Gammell. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2008. ISBN: 9781416927389  
A child relates some of the wondrous tales told by an old man who once found a falling star and stood at the end of a rainbow. RL 2.9

**Madison, Alan and Kevin Hawkes.** Velma Gratch and the Way Cool Butterfly. Schwartz and Wade Books, 2007. ISBN: 9780375835971  
Velma starts first grade in the shadow of her memorable older sisters, and while her newfound interest in butterflies helps her to stand out, it also leads to an interesting complication. RL 3.0

**Malépart, Céline, ill.** When Pigs Fly...!: A Piggy Pup-Up Book! Piggy Toes Press, 2008. ISBN: 9781581176711  
A pop-up book featuring colorful illustrations of everyday sayings. RL 1.4

**Markle, Sandra.** Animals Robert Scott Saw. Chronicle Books, 2008. ISBN: 9780811849180  
Presents the animals Robert Scott saw during his two years of study and exploration of Antarctica in the early 1900s, including penguins, whales, birds, and small, previously undiscovered sea creatures, derived from writings and sketches he left behind. RL 6.2

**Markle, Sandra.** Tough, Toothy Baby Sharks. Walker, 2007. ISBN: 9780802795939  
Photographs and text introduce students to the development of baby sharks, describing how different types of shark pups grow from eggs to mature adults, the ways they avoid predators, and their ascent up the ocean's food chain. RL 3.9



**Martin, Bill, Jr.** Baby Bear, Baby Bear, What Do You See?, illustrated by Eric Carle. Holt, 2007. ISBN: 9780805083361

Illustrations and rhyming text portray a young bear searching for its mother and meeting many North American animals along the way. RL 1.6

**McCourt, Frank.** Angela and the Baby Jesus, illustrated by Loren Long. Scribner, 2007. ISBN: 9781416574705

Six year-old Angela of Limerick, Ireland, worries for the Baby Jesus on the altar of St. Joseph's Church near School House Lane where she lives and on the damp, cold December nights the baby is sure to need her help.

**McCourt, Frank.** Angela and the Baby Jesus, illustrated by Raúl Colón. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2007. ISBN: 9781416937890

Six year-old Angela of Limerick, Ireland, worries for the Baby Jesus on the altar of St. Joseph's Church near School House Lane where she lives and on the damp, cold December nights the baby is sure to need her help.

**McCully, Emily Arnold.** My Heart Glow. Hyperion Books for Young Children, 2008. ISBN: 9781423100287

Describes the history of the American School for the Deaf in Hartford, Connecticut, and the invention of American Sign Language, and includes biographical information on the school's founder, Thomas Gallaudet, and Alice Cogswell, the young girl who inspired the creation. RL 2.8

**McGhee, Alison.** Bye-bye, Crib, illustrated by Ross MacDonald. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2008. ISBN: 9781416916215

A big boy and his best stuffed friend seek the courage to move to a gigantic new bed. RL 1.3

**McKissack, Patricia.** The All-I'll-Ever-Want Christmas Doll, illustrated by Jerry Pinkney. Schwartz & Wade books, 2007. ISBN: 9780375836152

Nella asks Santa for a Baby Betty doll, but she lives during the Depression. When her wish comes true, she must learn to share. RL 4.4

**McMullan, Kate.** I'm Bad! Joanna Cotler Books, 2008. ISBN: 9780061229718

A hungry Tyrannosaurus rex searches for food in the prehistoric forest but is thwarted in its attempts to find something to eat. RL 2.0

**McPhail, David.** Big Brown Bear's Birthday Surprise. Harcourt, 2007. ISBN: 9780152060985

An excited Bear mistakenly believes that Rat has given him a boat for his birthday. RL 1.5

**Michelson, Richard.** Tuttle's Red Barn: The Story of America's Oldest Family Farm. G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2007. ISBN: 9780399243547

In 1632, John Tuttle set sail from England to Dover, New Hampshire and there he set up a farm on seven acres of land. From those humble beginnings the Tuttle family story became America's story. RL 3.9

**Milord, Susan.** Happy School Year, illustrated by Mary Newell DePalma. Scholastic Press, 2008. ISBN: 9780439882804

Children gather for a first day of school celebration that calms their worries about the day. Includes note about the history of such celebrations, and a related website. RL 2.8

**Moore, Clement Clarke.** The Night Before Christmas, illustrated by Niroot Puttapipat. Candlewick, 2007. ISBN: 9780763634698  
Die-cut pages and a pop-up illustration enhance the classic children's poem about the arrival of Santa Claus on Christmas Eve. RL 5.2

**Mora, Pat.** Yum! Mmmm! Que Rico!: America's Sproutings, illustrated by Rafel López. Lee and Low, 2007. ISBN: 9781584302711 RL 2.8  
From blueberries to vanilla, indigenous foods of the Americas are celebrated in this collection of haiku, which also includes information about each food's origins. *Américas Award for Children's and Young Adult Literature*

**Morpurgo, Michael.** On Angel Wings. Candlewick Press, 2007. ISBN: 9780763634667  
When the shepherds are invited to follow the star to visit the Christ child, one young boy is left behind to mind the flock. But the angel Gabriel returns for him, taking the boy on a magical, memorable flight to be the first to witness the Christmas miracle. RL 3.6

**Nivola, Claire A.** Planting the Trees of Kenya: The Story of Wangari Maathai. Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 2008. ISBN: 9780374399184  
Wangari Maathai, winner of the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize and founder of the Green Belt Movement, grew up in the highlands of Kenya, where fig trees cloaked the hills, fish filled the streams, and the people tended their bountiful gardens. But over many years, as more and more land was cleared, Kenya was transformed. When Wangari returned home from college in America, she found the village gardens dry, the people malnourished, and the trees gone. How could she alone bring back the trees and restore the gardens and the people? RL 3.3

**O'Connor, Jane.** Fancy Nancy: Bonjour Butterfly, illustrated by Robin Preiss Glasser, HarperCollins Children's Books, 2008. ISBN: 9780061235894  
Nancy is furious when she cannot go to her friend Bree's butterfly-themed birthday party, but her family's outing might just be extraordinary enough to make her feel better. Includes facts about butterflies. RL 2.1

**O'Connor, Jane.** Fancy Nancy's Favorite Fancy Words from Accessories to Zany, illustrated by Robin Preiss Glasser. HarperCollins, 2008. ISBN: 9780061549236  
Fancy Nancy provides one or more of her favorite fancy words for each letter of the alphabet, defines them, and uses some in sentences that show what they mean to her, such as that she yearns--wants really badly--to visit Paris someday. RL 2.7

**O'Malley, Kevin.** Captain Raptor and the Space Pirates, illustrated by Patrick O'Brien. Walker & Co., 2007. ISBN: 9780802795717  
Captain Raptor and the crew of the Megatooth are called back into action to save the planet Jurassica from rogue space pirates. RL 3.2

**O'Malley, Kevin.** Gimme Cracked Corn and I Will Share. Walker and Co., 2007. ISBN: 9780802796844  
Chicken dreams about a treasure and sets off on a dangerous journey to find it. RL 2.3

**Orgill, Roxanne.** Footwork: The Story of Fred and Adele Astaire, illustrated by Stéphanie Jorisch. Candlewick Press, 2007. ISBN: 9780763621216  
Illustrations and easy-to-follow text describe Fred Astaire's humble dancing beginnings and the years he spent dancing with his sister, Adele. RL 5.1

**Parker, Robert Andrew.** Piano Starts Here: The Young Art Tatum. Schwartz & Wade Books, 2008. ISBN: 9780375839658  
The story of the young Art Tatum, who became one of the all-time greats of jazz piano. RL 2.2

**Paterson, Katherine.** Light of the World, The: The Life of Jesus for Children, illustrated by François Roca. Arthur A. Levine Books, |cc2008 ISBN: 9780545011723  
Tells the story of Jesus' life from his birth in Bethlehem to his crucifixion and resurrection, and describes his teachings, explaining why he is called "the light of the world". RL 1.9

**Pinkney, Jerry.** Little Red Riding Hood. Little, Brown, 2007. ISBN: 9780316013550  
A sweet little girl meets a hungry wolf in the forest while on her way to visit her grandmother. RL 4.1

**Pinkwater, Daniel.** Bear's Picture, illustrated by D.B. Johnson. Houghton Mifflin Co., 2008. ISBN: 9780618759231  
A bear continues to paint what he likes despite criticism from two passing gentlemen. RL 2.0

**Platt, Richard.** Pompeii. Kingfisher, 2007. ISBN: 9780753460443  
Traces the rise and fall of the city of Pompeii, describing the daily lives of the city's people, as well as their culture, beliefs, working lives, historical significance, and devastating end. RL 5.0

**Polacco, Patricia.** The Lemonade Club. Philomel Books, 2007. ISBN: 9780399245404  
When Marilyn and her teacher, Miss Wichelman, both get cancer, they encourage each other and, aided by medical treatments and support from friends, they get better. Based on a true story. RL 3.9

**Prelutsky, Jack.** My Dog May Be a Genius, illustrated by James Stevenson. Greenwillow Books, 2008. ISBN: 9780066238623  
Have you ever encountered an underwater marching band, a pig in a bathing suit, a pet orangutan, or a witch in a hardware store? Have you ever sat with a skunk in a courtroom, shopped for a dinosaur, or conversed with a Bupple, a Wosstrus, a Violinnet, or a Celloon? You will have, once you've read this collection of poems. RL 3.2

**Pullen, Zachary.** Friday My Radio Flyer Flew. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2008. ISBN: 9781416939832  
A father and son find an old Radio Flyer wagon when cleaning out the attic and, through the course of a week, turn it back into a wonderful toy. RL 2.0

**Rappaport, Doreen.** Lady Liberty: A Biography, illustrated by Matt Tavares. Candlewick Press, 2008. ISBN: 9780763625306  
A biography of a statue and symbol that captures and reflects the fervor of those who knew the Statue of Liberty best : the sculptor, the engineer, the newspaper publisher, the poet, and many others who understood her significance and foresaw her magnificent destiny. RL 6.2

**Reinhart, Matthew and Robert Sabuda.** Fairies and Magical Creatures. Candlewick Press, 2008. ISBN: 9780763631727  
An illustrated pop-up book of more than thirty entries that explain the origins and magical world of fairies, and includes other magical creatures, such as elves, gnomes, pegasus, and mermaids. RL 8.9

**Rex, Adam.** Frankenstein Takes the Cake. Harcourt, 2008. ISBN: 9780152062354  
Frankenstein wants to marry his undead bride in peace, but his best man, Dracula, is freaking out about the garlic bread, and the Headless Horseman wishes everyone would stop drooling over his pumpkin head. RL 3.2

**Riggs, Shannon.** Not in Room 204, illustrated by Jaime Zollars. Albert Whitman, 2007. ISBN: 9780807557648  
A teacher tells the children in her class to talk to an adult if they are being sexually abused. RL 2.1

**Rockwell, Anne.** Presidents' Day, illustrated by Lizzy Rockwell. HarperCollins, 2008. ISBN: 9780060501952  
Mrs. Madoff's preschool class learns about President's Day and puts on a play about the men who inspired the holiday, particularly those featured on Mount Rushmore. RL 2.7

**Rodriguez, Edel.** Sergio Makes a Splash! Little, Brown and Co., 2008. ISBN: 9780316066167  
Even though he loves water, Sergio the penguin is afraid to swim in the deep water until he learns how. RL 2.8

**Rogers, Gregory.** Midsummer Knight. Roaring Brook Press, 2007. ISBN: 9781596431836  
A bear is rescued by a fairy in an enchanted wood and agrees to return the favor by leading the battle against a usurper who has imprisoned the king and queen, along with their loyal subjects, in the dungeon of their castle. Wordless book.

**Rohmann, Eric.** A Kitten Tale. Alfred A. Knopf, 2008. ISBN: 9780517709153  
As four kittens who have never seen winter watch the seasons pass, three of them declare the reasons they will dislike snow when it arrives, while the fourth cannot wait to experience it for himself. RL 2.7

**Rosenthal, Amy Krause.** Little Hoot. Chronicle Books, 2008. ISBN: 9780811860239  
Little Hoot wants to go to bed early, like all of his friends do, and he is hopping mad when Mama and Papa Owl insist that he stay up late and play. RL 1.9

**Rosoff, Meg.** Jumpy Jack and Googily. Henry Holt, 2008. ISBN: 9780805080667  
Jumpy Jack the snail is terrified that there are monsters around every corner despite the reassurances of his best friend, Googily. RL 2.0

**Rubin, Susan Goldman.** Haym Salomon: American Patriot. Abrams Books for Young Readers, 2007. ISBN: 9780810910874  
The story of the "Financier of the American Revolution," Haym Solomon. RL 5.7

**Sabuda, Robert.** The Chronicles of Narnia. HarperCollins Children's Books, 2007. ISBN: 9780061176128  
Each of the seven Chronicles of Narnia books has its own pop-up spread with detail and special effects. RL 4.9

**St. George, Judith.** Stand Tall, Abe Lincoln, illustrated by Matt Faulkner. Philomel Books, 2008. ISBN: 9780399241741  
Growing up poor in the backwoods of Kentucky and Indiana, Abraham Lincoln lost his mother before he was ten. But Sally Johnston, who married Abe's father a year later, brought a library of books to their log cabin home and turned young Abe's life around. RL 3.4

**Sayre, April Pulley.** Vulture View, illustrated by Steve Jenkins. Henry Holt, 2007. ISBN: 9780805075571

Turkey vultures soar on the balmy air, looking for their next stinky feast. These birds don't hunt--they like their food to be already dead. Vultures are part of nature's cleanup crew. RL 1.6 *Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor book*

**Schertle, Alice.** Little Blue Truck, illustrated by Jill McElmurry. Harcourt, 2008. ISBN: 9780152056612

A small blue truck finds his way out of a jam, with a little help from his friends. RL 1.5

**Schulman, Janet.** Pale Male: Citizen Hawk of New York City, illustrated by Meilo So. Alfred A. Knopf, 2008. ISBN: 9780375845581

A red tail hawk and his mate build their nest near the top of a Fifth Avenue apartment building and bird watchers gather hoping to see the chicks in the nest. RL 5.2

**Scotton, Rob.** Russell's Christmas Magic. HarperCollins, 2007. ISBN: 9780060598549  
Russell the sheep tries to help Santa fix his broken sleigh. RL 3.2

**Scotton, Rob.** Splat the Cat. HarperCollins, 2008. ISBN: 9780060831547

A nervous Splat finds his first day at Cat School much better than he expected. RL 2.0

**Seder, Rufus Butler.** Gallop! A Scanimation Picture Book. Workman Publishing, 2007. ISBN: 9780761147633

Rhyming text asks if the reader can move like a variety of animals. Striped acetate overlays on board pages give illustrations the illusion of movement. RL 2.4

**Seeger, Laura Vaccaro.** Dog and Bear: Two's Company. Roaring Brook Press, 2008. ISBN: 9781596432734

Three more easy-to-read stories reveal the close friendship between a dachshund named Dog and a stuffed bear. RL 1.6

**Seeger, Laura Vaccaro.** First the Egg. Roaring Brook Press, 2007. ISBN: 9781596432727

A picture book about transformations. RL 2.0 *Caldecott Honor book*

**Seuss, Dr.** Horton Hears a Who Pop-Up! Robin Corey Books, 2008. ISBN: 9780375841941

Horton finds an entire city of Whos on a speck of dust, but, since no one else can see them, no one believes they exist. RL 1.6

**Shefelman, Janice.** I, Vivaldi, illustrated by Tom Shefelman. William B. Eerdmans Pub. Co., 2007. ISBN: 9780802853189

A picture book biography, told as if by Vivaldi himself, shows the famous musician's energetic personality and steadfast dedication to music. RL 2.4

**Sherry, Kevin.** I'm the Best Artist in the Ocean. Dial Books for Young Readers, 2008. ISBN: 9780803732551

A giant squid brags about being the best artist in the entire ocean. RL 0.9

**Shulevitz, Uri.** How I Learned Geography. Farrar Straus Giroux, 2008. ISBN: 9780374334994

As he spends hours studying his father's world map, a young boy escapes the hunger and misery of refugee life. Based on the author's childhood in Kazakhstan, where he lived as a Polish refugee during World War II. RL 2.7

**Simon, Seymour.** Penguins. Smithsonian/Collins, 2007. ISBN: 9780060283957  
A photo-illustrated exploration of penguins that covers their physical traits, behavior, reproduction, diet, and predators and the unique characteristics of various species. RL 6.9

**Siy, Alexandra.** Sneeze! Charlesbridge, 2007. ISBN: 9781570916533  
Explains some of the reasons why people sneeze, featuring color micrographs of the air-pollen, dust mites, mold spores, dust, goose down, and other allergens that provoke sneezing. RL 6.9

**Smith, Chris.** One City, Two Brothers. Barefoot Books, 2007. ISBN: 9781846860423  
To settle an inheritance dispute between two brothers, King Solomon tells a tale of how Jerusalem came to be founded. RL 4.0

**Smith, Lane.** Madam President. Hyperion Books for Children, 2008.  
ISBN: 9781423108467  
A little girl imagines what her day would be like if she were President of the United States. RL 3.6

**Spinelli, Eileen.** Heat Wave, illustrated by Betsy Lewin. Harcourt, 2007.  
ISBN: 9780152167790  
Abigail, Ralphie, and the other citizens of Lumberville struggle to endure a week-long heat wave. RL 2.2

**Spirin, Gennady.** Creation. ZonderKidz, 2008. ISBN: 9780310710844  
The story of creation from the NIV. RL 3.2

**Spirin, Gennady.** The Lord Is My Shepherd: The Twnty-Third Psalm. Philomel Books, 2008. ISBN: 9780399245275  
Illustrates each line of the Twenty-Third Psalm and features a foldout painting that combines all the previous pictures. RL 6.4

**Spirin, Gennady.** We Three Kings. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2007.  
ISBN: 9780689821141  
An illustrated edition of the traditional Christmas song. RL 4.9

**Stauffacher, Sue.** Nothing but Trouble: The Story of Althea Gibson, illustrated by Greg Couch. Alfred A. Knopf, 2007. ISBN: 9780375934087  
A biography of Althea Gibson, the first black tennis player to ever compete in what is now known as the U.S. Open, and in the Lawn Tennis Championships in Wimbledon, England. RL 3.9

**Steele, Philip.** A Knight's City. Little Simon, 2008. ISBN: 9781416961246  
Discover a world from long ago through the eyes of Sir Hugo, a brave and noble knight. Life as it really was within the walls of medieval city is shown through artwork and pop-ups.

**Stoeke, Janet Morgan.** Minerva Louise on Christmas Eve. Dutton Children's Books, 2007.  
ISBN: 9780525478577  
Minerva Louise follows a farmer in a red hat from a snowy rooftop, down a "well," and into the house with the red curtains, where she finds a tree decorated with sparkling eggs. RL 1.4

**Swanson, Susan Marie.** The House in the Night, illustrated by Beth Krommes. Houghton Mifflin, 2008. ISBN: 9780618862443  
Illustrations and easy-to-read text explore the light that makes a house in the night a home filled with light. RL 1.7

**Talbott, Hudson.** The United Tweets of America: 50 State Birds. G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2008. ISBN: 9780399245206  
Written as a competition between every state bird, readers learn about United States history, geography, and wildlife. RL 6.6

**Teague, Mark.** Larue for Mayor: Letters from the Campaign Trail. Blue Sky Press, 2008. ISBN: 9780439783156  
With Mrs. LaRue injured and in the hospital, Ike decides to uphold justice and take the laws of Snort City into his own paws. RL 3.0

**Thomas, Jan.** A Birthday for Cow! Harcourt, 2008. ISBN: 9780152060725  
Despite the objections of Pig and Mouse, Duck insists on adding a special ingredient to the cake they are making to celebrate Cow's birthday. RL 1.6

**Thomas, Peggy.** Farmer George Plants a Nation, illustrated by Layne Johnson. Calkins Creek, 2008. ISBN: 9781590784600  
Besides being a general and the first president of the United States, George Washington was also a farmer. His efforts to create a self-sufficient farm at Mount Vernon, Virginia, mirrored his struggle to form a new nation. Excerpts from Washington's writings are featured throughout the book, which also includes a timeline, resource section, as well as essays on Washington at Mount Vernon and his thoughts on slavery. RL 6.3

**Thompson, Lauren.** The Apple Pie That Papa Baked. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2007. ISBN: 9781416912408  
These are the apples, juicy and red, that went in the pie, warm and sweet, that Papa baked... for guess who! RL 2.9

**Thompson, Lauren.** Ballerina Dreams, photographs by James Estrin. Feiwel and Friends, 2007. ISBN: 9780312370299  
True story of five little girls with cerebral palsy or other physical disabilities who were determined to become ballerinas. RL 2.7

**Walker, Sally M.** The Vowel Family: A Tale of Lost Letters, illustrated by Kevin Luthardt. Carolrhoda Books, 2008. ISBN: 9780822579823  
The members of the Vowel family have a hard time talking until their children, Alan, Ellen, Iris, Otto, and Ursula, are born, and when one of them gets lost one day, it takes their Aunt Cyndy to fix the problem. RL 4.3

**Watt, Melanie.** Chester. Kids Can Press, 2007. ISBN: 9781554531400  
As the author/illustrator attempts to create a picture book about a mouse in a house, her rotund feline Chester sends the mouse packing and attempts to rewrite the story with his handy red marker. RL 1.8

**Weatherford, Carole Boston.** J. Matthew Henson: Polar Explorer, illustrated by Eric Velasquez. Walker, 2008. ISBN: 9780802796882  
The life of Matthew Henson from the port of Baltimore to North Pole. RL 6.5

**Wells, Rosemary.** Otto Runs for President. Scholastic Press, 2008.  
ISBN: 9780545037228

While the popular Tiffany and athletic Charles make increasingly outrageous promises in their campaigns for President of Canine Country Day School, Otto quietly enters the race, vowing only to try to do what students really want. RL 2.4

**Wheeler, Lisa.** Jazz Baby, illustrated by R. Gregory Christie. Harcourt, 2007.  
ISBN: 9780152025229

Baby and his family make some jazzy music. RL 2.3 *Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor book*

**Willems, Mo.** I Love My New Toy! Hyperion Books for Children, 2008.  
ISBN: 9781423109617

When Elephant accidentally breaks Piggie's new toy, they both experience intense feelings before coming to realize how important their friendship is. RL 0.6

**Willems, Mo.** I Will Surprise My Friend!. Hyperion Books for Children, 2008.  
ISBN: 9781423109624

Best friends Elephant and Piggie decide that they will try to surprise each other, with unexpected results. RL 1.2

**Willems, Mo.** Knuffle Bunny Too: A Case of Mistaken Identity. Hyperion Books for Children, 2007. ISBN: 9781423102991

Her daddy in tow, Trixie hurries to school to show off her one-of-a-kind Knuffle Bunny. But an awful surprise awaits her: someone else has the exact same bunny! RL 2.9

**Willems, Mo.** The Pigeon Wants a Puppy! Hyperion Books for Children, 2008.  
ISBN: 9781423109600

The pigeon really, really wants a puppy, but when a puppy arrives the pigeon changes its mind. RL 1.2

**Willems, Mo.** There Is a Bird on Your Head! Hyperion, 2007. ISBN: 9781423106869

Gerald the elephant discovers that there is something worse than a bird on your head-- two birds on your head! Piggie will try to help her best friend. RL 0.8 *Theodor Seuss Geisel Award book*

**Williams, Marcia.** Chaucer's Canterbury Tales. Candlewick Press, 2007.  
ISBN: 9780763631970

A retelling in comic strip form of Geoffrey Chaucer's famous work in which a group of pilgrims in fourteenth-century England tell each other stories as they travel on a pilgrimage to the cathedral at Canterbury. RL 5.3

**Willis, Jeanne.** Cottonball Colin. Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 2008.  
ISBN: 9780802853318

Afraid that her smallest child, Colin, will be hurt if he goes outside or plays, a mother mouse insists that he sit quietly indoors until his grandmother suggests wrapping him in cotton wool, which proves to be effective, but in a most unexpected way. RL 2.2

**Yee, Wong Herbert.** Abracadabra! Magic with Mouse and Mole. Houghton Mifflin, 2007.  
ISBN: 9780618759262

Mole is mad about magic until he takes his friend Mouse to a show that turns out to be all tricks, but then Mouse conjures up a special night program to show him the enchantment found in nature. RL 2.0



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