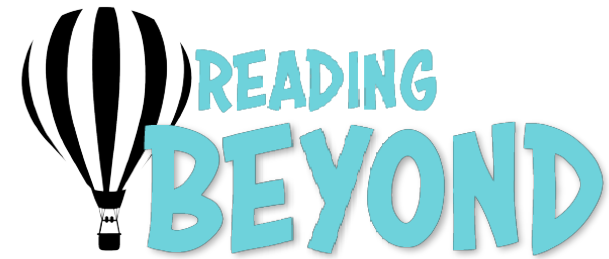


*"The READING BEYOND list celebrates the power of books to lift and expand children's minds, providing reading experiences beyond levels and limits."*

- Susan Polos and Janet Wong, co-chairs of the ALA-CBC Joint Committee



## for Children in Grades 2-3 reading at a 5th Grade level

*Here are 25 books chosen by the American Library Association & Children's Book Council Joint Committee to provide guidance to parents, caregivers, teachers, librarians, and others interested in discovering books for children who read at an advanced level and are seeking more challenging, but still age-appropriate, books.*



*These books were chosen from over 600 submitted for evaluation by the ALA member librarians of the committee and were chosen for their content, quality, and variety of genre and format.*

**We suggest the following sites for more book titles:**

[www.cbcbooks.org](http://www.cbcbooks.org) / [www.ala.org](http://www.ala.org)

**Questions?** [cbc.info@cbcbooks.org](mailto:cbc.info@cbcbooks.org)



**Amelia Lost: The Life and Disappearance of Amelia Earhart**

by Candace Fleming  
Schwartz & Wade / Random House, 2011  
A riveting look at the life, disappearance, and search for legendary aviatrix Amelia Earhart.

**A Black Hole Is Not a Hole**

by Carolyn Cinami DeCristofano  
Illustrated by Michael Carroll  
Charlesbridge, 2012  
What is a black hole? Where are they? How do you find one? A complicated concept is broken down for young readers.

**Cars on Mars: Roving the Red Planet**

by Alexandra Siy  
Charlesbridge, 2009  
Readers follow the course of NASA's Mars Exploration Rover mission as twin rovers, Spirit and Opportunity, explore the Red Planet.

**Dash**

by Kirby Larson  
Scholastic, 2014  
Dash tells the moving story of a Japanese-American girl who is separated from her dog upon being sent to an incarceration camp during WWII.

**The Dreamer**  
by Pam Muñoz Ryan

Illustrated by Peter Sis  
Scholastic, 2010  
A fictional biography of young poet Pablo Neruda, by Newbery Honor winner Pam Muñoz Ryan, and featuring illustrations by three-time Caldecott Honoree, Peter Sis.

**\*Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library**

by Chris Grabenstein  
Yearling Books / Random House, 2014  
Kyle gets to stay overnight in the new town library designed by famous gamemaker Luigi Lemoncello. However, he must work with friends to solve puzzles in order to escape.

**Flashback Four #1: The Lincoln Project**

by Dan Gutman  
HarperCollins, 2016  
Mysterious Miss Z sends four recruits back in time on a mission to capture, for the first time, one of the most important moments in American history -- Abraham Lincoln giving his famous Gettysburg address.

**Genius!: The Most Astonishing Inventions of All Time**

by Deborah Kespert  
Thames and Hudson, 2015  
*Genius!* tells the stories behind the amazing inventions that helped shape our modern world.

**The Hero Two Doors Down: Based on the True Story of Friendship Between a Boy and a Baseball Legend**

by Sharon Robinson  
Scholastic, 2016  
Based on the true story of a young Jewish boy in Brooklyn whose hero, Jackie Robinson, moves in next door and becomes friends with him and his family, despite their differences.

**Mountain Dog**  
by Margarita Engle  
Illustrated by Aleksey and Olga Ivanov

Henry Holt Books for Young Readers / Macmillan, 2013  
A novel in verse is told from two points of view: troubled Tony and Gabe, a search-and-rescue dog who helps Tony learn about life in the wilderness.

**National Geographic Book of Nature Poetry: More than 200 Poems With Photographs That Float, Zoom, and Bloom!**

by J. Patrick Lewis  
Photographs by National Geographic  
National Geographic Society, 2015  
Poems based on a wide variety of nature topics, usually with a social studies or science connection.

**Ophelia and the Marvelous Boy**

by Karen Foxlee  
Random House Children's Books, 2014  
A modern-day fairy tale set in a mysterious museum that is perfect for readers of Roald Dahl and Blue Balliett.

**\*The Penderwicks: A Summer Tale of Four Sisters, Two Rabbits, and a Very Interesting Boy**

by Jeanne Birdsall  
Knopf Books for Young Readers / Random House, 2005  
This first novel by Jeanne Birdsall tells the story of four very modern sisters, spunky heroines and their summer holiday misadventures.

**Random Body Parts: Gross Anatomy Riddles in Verse**

by Leslie Bulion  
Illustrated by Mike Lowery  
Peachtree, 2015  
Anatomy riddles with high-level vocabulary and a Shakespeare theme.

**Raymie Nightingale**

by Kate DiCamillo  
Candlewick Press, 2016  
Two-time Newbery Medalist Kate DiCamillo returns to her roots with a moving, masterful story of an unforgettable summer friendship.

**The Right Word: Roget and His Thesaurus**

by Jen Bryant  
Illustrated by Melissa Sweet  
Eerdmans, 2014  
The award-winning, illustrated story of Peter Roget, creator of the Thesaurus and lover of words and lists.

**Save Me a Seat**  
by Sarah Weeks and Gita Varadarajan

Random House Children's Books, 2016  
Two boys, one white, one Indian, gain strength from each other from afar as they struggle to navigate middle school, family, and friendships

**\*Secret Coders**  
by Gene Luen Yang

Illustrated by Mike Holmes  
First Second / Macmillan, 2015  
In this graphic novel, Hopper is a new student at the secretive Stately Academy. She and new friend Eni use the magic of coding to figure out what's been hidden and why.

**Sisters Grimm**  
by Michael Buckley

Illustrated by Peter Ferguson  
Abrams, 2007  
Orphans Sabrina and Daphne Grimm are sent to live with an eccentric grandmother that they have always believed to be dead.

**\*A Snicker of Magic**

by Natalie Lloyd  
Scholastic, 2014  
To stay in Midnight Gulch, Felicity must figure out how to bring back the magic, breaking the spell that's been cast over the town and her mother's broken heart.

**Some Writer!: The Story of E.B. White**

by Melissa Sweet  
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2016  
A fascinating biography explores the life and world of the writer of *Charlotte's Web* mixing pieces of his manuscripts with new illustrations.

**The Way Things Work Now**

by David Macaulay  
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2016  
Clever illustrations and text explain how the technological wonders of the past and present work.

**What Elephants Know**

by Eric Dinerstein  
Disney-Hyperion, 2016  
Author and renowned scientist Dr. Eric Dinerstein crafts an immersive, realistic world depicting the complexities of life in the Nepalese Borderlands during the 1970s and the delicate relationship between man and nature.

**The Wild Robot**

by Peter Brown  
Little, Brown and Co. Books for Young Readers, 2016  
Robot Roz is marooned on a desert island and becomes part of the wildlife family, but her new life is threatened when her creator discovers her new home.

**Wonderstruck**

by Brian Selznick  
Scholastic, 2011  
Set fifty years apart in the 20s and 70s, two independent stories—Ben's told in words, Rose's in pictures—weave back and forth with mesmerizing symmetry. How they unfold and ultimately intertwine will surprise you, challenge you, and leave you breathless with wonder.