"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



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 / www.ala.org

Questions? cbc.info@cbcbooks.org

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# 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.



New for 2017-2018

#### 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 Siv

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 Sís

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 Sís.

#### \*Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library by Chris Grabenstein

Yearling Books / Random House, 2014 Kyle gets to stay

ryle 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

Scholastic, 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 had 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 This 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

#### 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.

Annotations written by librarians