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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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.

The Dreamer
by Pam Munoz 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 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.

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 Alexey 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
by J. Patrick Lewis
Photographs by 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
Scholastic, 2014
This fascinating biography explores the life and world of the writer of Charlotte’s Web, mixing pieces of his manuscripts with new illustrations.

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
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—Bon’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.