



for Children in Grades K-1 reading at a 3rd Grade level

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.



2020-2021

***Ada Twist, Scientist**

by Andrea Beaty. Illus by David Roberts

Abrams Books for Young Readers, 2016

A wonderful story told in rhyme, Ada asks questions and performs experiments to understand the world around her. Just like a scientist! ▲ *Spanish*.

***Anna Hibiscus**

by Atinuke. Illus by Lauren Tobia

Kane Miller Books, 2010

The charming, fascinating stories about the spunky Anna detailing her urban, middle-class life in contemporary Africa, joyfully celebrate family and everyday life while gently exploring social justice issues in such a way as to captivate young readers.

Chef Roy Choi and the Street Food Remix

by Jacqueline Briggs Martin and June Jo Lee. Illus by Man One

Readers to Eaters, 2017

A successful food truck cook's life story and how he decided what he wanted to do with his life.

The Day the Universe Exploded My Head: Poems to Take You into Space and Back Again

by Allan Wolf. Illus. by Anna Raff

Candlewick Press, 2019

Blast off into space with a wide variety of space poems, from silly pun-filled verses to serious poems; notes on the poems and a glossary of space terms are included.

***Detective Gordon: The First Case**

by Ulf Nilsson. Illus. by Gitte Spee

Gecko Press, 2016

A chapter book mystery starring Detective Gordon, a toad searching for the thieves behind a stolen stash of nuts in a woodland setting. ▲ *Spanish*.

Do Not Lick This Book

by Idan Ben-Barak. Illus. by Julian Frost

Macmillan Children's Publishing Group / Roaring Brook Press, 2018

Told from the point of view of Min the microbe, this is a perfect introduction to the microscopic world around us.

Echo Echo: Reverso Poems about Greek Myths

by Marilyn Singer. Illus. by Josée Masse

Random House Children's Books / Dial, 2016

Mirror poems that are meant to be read backwards and forwards present two sides of classic Greek Myths.

Firebird

by Misty Copeland. Illus. by Christopher Myers

Penguin Young Readers / G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2014

Written by the American Ballet Theater dancer Misty Copeland, this beautifully illustrated story encourages a young ballet dancer to not let her low self-image and lack of confidence get in her way.

Flora and Ulysses: The Illuminated Adventures

by Kate DiCamillo. Illus. by K. G. Campbell

Candlewick Press, 2013

Flora rescues Ulysses from a vacuum cleaner and discovers he has incredible magical powers. He's also a squirrel.

I Dissent: Ruth Bader Ginsburg Makes Her Mark

by Debbie Levy. Illus. by Elizabeth Baddeley

Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, 2016

The first Jewish woman to sit on the United States Supreme Court, Ginsburg's life story and fight for equal rights for all is the subject of this biographical picture book.

Insect Superpowers

by Kate Messner. Illus. by Jillian Nickell

Chronicle Books, 2019

Using a comic-book style, this book cleverly introduces 18 various insects and their "superpowers" in action.

***Mr. Wolf's Class**

by Aron Steinke

Scholastic / Graphix, 2018

A 4th grade first time teacher is anxious to have the first day of school go smoothly in this graphic novel.

National Geographic Book of Nature Poetry

by J. Patrick Lewis

National Geographic Kids, 2015

A broad variety of nature poetry paired with breathtaking photographs that celebrate how inspiring nature can be.

One Proud Penny

by Randy Siegel. Illus. by Serge Bloch

Macmillan Children's Publishing Group / Roaring Brook Press, 2017

An interesting anthropomorphic penny travels from his birthplace in Philadelphia around the country, recounting his adventures.

***The Princess in Black**

by Shannon and Dean Hale. Illus. by LeUyen Pham

Candlewick Press, 2014

The prim and perfect princess has an alter ego who dresses all in black and saves the kingdom from various threats. ▲ *Spanish.*

***Pugs of the Frozen North**

by Philip Reeve. Illus. by Sarah McIntyre

Random House Children's Books / Yearling, 2016

A lively step up from early chapter books, Not-So-Impossible Tales are packed with big adventure, quirky misfits, and two-color art on almost every page.

The Roots of Rap: 16 Bars on the 4 Pillars of Hip-Hop

by Carole Boston Weatherford.

Illus. by Frank Morrison

Little Bee Books, 2019

The history of hip-hop, including its roots in folktales, spirituals and poetry, and the art and dance that co-evolved with it.

***Sam Wu is Not Afraid of Ghosts**

by Katie Tsang and Kevin Tsang. Illus. by Nathan Reed

Sterling Children's Books, 2018

A zany boy has one problem after another trying to convince his classmates that he isn't a scaredy-cat.

Snowman - Cold = Puddle

by Laura Purdie Salas. Illus by Micha Archer

Charlesbridge, 2019

A collection of seasonal poems that creatively incorporate math language and concepts.

The Stuff of Stars

by Marion Dane Bauer. Illus. by Ekua Holmes

Candlewick Press, 2018

Gorgeously illustrated, this book explores nothing less than the formation of the universe.

The Thing about Bees

by Shabazz Larkin

Readers to Eaters, 2019

A love letter to the author/illustrator's two sons that describes how important bees are.

Trombone Shorty

by Troy Andrews. Illus. by Bryan Collier

Abrams Books for Young Readers, 2015

The true story of a musician who bucked the odds to achieve his dreams.

***Weekends with Max and His Dad**

by Linda Urban. Illus. by Katie Kath

HMH Books for Young Readers, 2018

Third-grader Max pursues neighborhood adventures with his dad as they both adjust to recent changes in their family.

Wet Cement: A Mix of Concrete Poems

by Bob Raczka. Illus. by Theodore Taylor III

Macmillan Children's Publishing Group / Roaring Brook Press, 2016

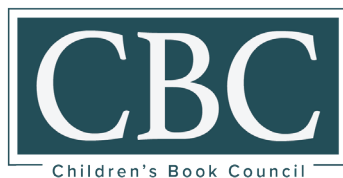
Concrete poetry is always popular because it is so visually pleasing. This book won't disappoint.

Whoosh!: Lonnie Johnson's Super-Soaking Stream of Inventions

by Chris Barton. Illus. by Don Tate

Charlesbridge, 2016

This biography of the NASA engineer who accidentally invented one of the best toys of all time is inspiring and engaging. ▲ *Spanish.*



We suggest the following sites for more book titles:

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Questions?

American Library Association
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The Children's Book Council
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