

❖ 2nd & 3rd Grade ❖

Best Books of 2022



We aim to provide high quality lists featuring books of different genres, interests, maturity levels, and content for children & teens. You and your parents/guardians are the best judge of what's appropriate for you.

Best Books lists from previous years may be obtained by request at the Youth Services desk.

**Additional formats available from other libraries and/or downloadable from Libby.*

Angleberger, Tom – *Two-Headed Chicken*

+Angleberger, Graphic Novels*

Anything is possible in the multiverse, including a madcap adventure starring a plucky two-headed chicken. But look out, because there's a chicken-hungry moose in pursuit!

Bates, Janet Costa – *Rica Baptista: Llamas, Iguanas, and My Very Best Friend*

+Bates, Fiction*

With her best friend moving away, Rica Baptista needs a pet so she won't get lonely, but her parents are against it until an act of kindness and courage proves she is ready for the pet of her dreams.

Blackwood, Remi – *Future Hero: Race to Fire Mountain*

+Blackwood, Fiction*

The only place Jarell feels truly at ease is his local barbershop where the owner hangs his art up on the walls. When Jarell discovers a hidden portal in the barbershop, he's transported to a magical world that's unlike anything he's seen.

Brew-Hammond, Nana Ekua – *Blue*

+535.6 Bre, Non-Fiction*

This picture book follows one color's journey throughout history, from ancient Afghan painters to 1905, when a chemical blue dye was created, and around the world, as it becomes the blue we know today.

Brimmer, Larry Dane – *Racing Ace: Drive It! Fix It!*

++Brimmer, Early Readers

Ace built a go-kart, but when she's ready for a test run it won't start, and she has to figure out what part is missing.

Cooper, Brittney C. – *Stand Up! 10 Mighty Women Who Made a Change*

+920 Co, Non-Fiction

Chronicles both famous and unsung Black women who took a stand and made the world a better place for future generations. Each heroic figure is interconnected by a united quest for equity, and offers young readers a call to action.

Cordell, Matthew – *Cornbread & Poppy*

++Cordell, Early Readers

Two mice, Cornbread and Poppy, are the best of friends. When Poppy is left without any food for the long winter, Cornbread volunteers to help her out.

Costa, Dela – *Isla of Adventure: Welcome to the Island*

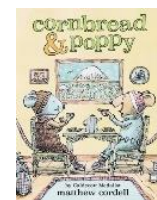
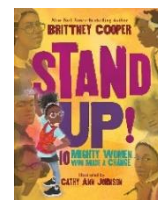
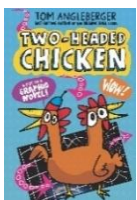
+Costa, Fiction

Isla loves living on the ever-adventurous island of Sol with her best friend, a gecko named Fitz, but when a new girl moves next door, Isla has a hard time keeping her big secret. She can talk to animals!

Davey, Owen – *Passionate About Penguins*

+598.47 Dav, Non-Fiction

Did you know that penguins can hold their breath for over half an hour? Or that they can swim four times faster than an Olympic swimmer? Dive into this illustrated guide to our feathered friends, full of facts on penguins.

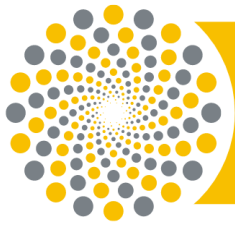


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Deedy, Carmen Agra – *Wombat Said Come In*

++Deedy, Picture Books*

Safe in his burrow deep below the ground, Wombat opens his home to five animal friends seeking shelter as Australian bushfires rage above.

Deen, Natasha – *Spooky Sleuths: The Ghost Tree*

+Deen, Fiction

When Asim moves to a new town, he must save his teacher when an evil spirit from Guyanese folklore begins to wreak havoc. Is the ghost tree the culprit or can everything be explained by science?

Eszterhas, Suzi – *A Leopard Diary*

+599.755 Esz, Non-Fiction

Leopards are known for being shy and elusive, and leopard mothers are even more so. Through this collection of informative diary entries and stunning photos, readers are able to share a rare glimpse into a growing leopard family.

Fan Brothers – *Lizzy and the Cloud*

++Fan Brothers, Picture Books

Lizzy loves watching her pet cloud grow. She takes Milo out on walks with her family and waters Milo right on schedule. But what happens when her pet cloud gets too big for Lizzy to handle?

George, K. – *Crimson Twill: Witch in the City*

++George, Early Readers

A little witch with a penchant for bright colors and bows has a surprising big-city shopping adventure in the first book of an illustrated series filled with offbeat charm. Crimson Twill is a little witch, but you might not know it.

Gibbs, Stuart – *Once Upon a Tim: The Labyrinth of Doom*

+Gibbs, Fiction*

Prince Ruprecht is upset that knights-in-training have thwarted his plans, so he has kidnapped Princess Grace and trapped her in a complicated maze. Now it's up to the knights to find their way through the labyrinth and rescue her.

Grant, Shauna J. – *Mimi and the Cutie Catastrophe*

+Grant, Graphic Novels

Meet Mimi. She's charming! She's cheerful! She's cute! But that's not all! She's also a loyal friend and fun playmate, who has the best adventures with Penelope, her magical toy dog.

Guojing – *The Flamingo*

+Guojing, Graphic Novels

An imaginative little girl and her grandmother search for shells, chase crabs, and play in the sea, but when the girl finds an exquisite flamingo feather in her grandmother's living room, her vacation turns into something fantastical.

Harrison, Hannah E. – *Poopsie Gets Lost*

++Harrison, Picture Books

Pampered kitty Poopsie makes her way through a jungle after a pushy narrator pressures her toward adventure. Feline fun with an adorable protagonist.

Hay, Sam – *Agents of H.E.A.R.T. Happily Ever After Rescue Team*

+Hay, Fiction

A young girl's wish to help out in her family's seaside café gets out of hand when she accidentally summons a rescue squad of fairytale princesses.



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Hurst, Elise – *The Storyteller’s Handbook*

++Hurst, Picture Books

Stories are doorways, and there are no limits to where they may lead. This is a wordless picture book for you to create countless stories. Its fantastical illustrations are the beginnings of magical new adventures.

Juarez, Estela – *Until Someone Listens*

+305.8 Jua, Non-Fiction

The true story of Estela Juarez, a young American girl who writes letters to her local newspaper, to Congress, and even to the president, pleading for someone to listen and reunite her family after her mother's deportation.

Keating, Jess – *Big as a Giant Snail*

+591.4 Kea, Non-Fiction

Meet the biggest weirdos on Earth in this colossally cool collection that covers a wide variety of species, while subtly delving into misconceptions and stereotypes associated with size. Best of all? These tall tales are totally true!

Keller, Tae – *Mihi Ever After*

+Keller, Fiction*

When she and her new friends discover a portal to a fairy tale realm, Mihi Whan Park finally gets her shot at being a princess, but she must decide where her loyalties lie when her friends want to go home.

Kerascoët – *I Forgive Alex: A Simple Story About Understanding*

++Kerascoët, Picture Books

When an energetic child inadvertently upsets one of his classmates, everyone is reminded that it is important to take responsibility for a mistake, and it is equally important to be ready to forgive.

Kline, Logan S. – *Finding Fire*

++Kline, Picture Books

After a hard rain douses the family fire, a brave young boy sets out to search for more fire to bring home before the cold season sets in. Along the way, he'll face many perilous challenges and find something wholly unexpected: a friend.

Kuo, Julia – *Luminous: Living Things That Light Up the Night*

+572.4 Kuo, Non-Fiction*

When it's dark out, we need light to see. But what if your body could make its own light? A remarkable book about bioluminescence and its many forms: fireflies and foxfire, fungi and glow-worms, deep-sea fish and vampire squids.

Kurilla, Renée – *The Flower Garden*

+Kurilla, Graphic Novels

After planting a seed packet in the backyard, things don't go as expected for best friends Anna and Tess. They fall asleep in the sun and wake up to blooms as tall as buildings! Did the seeds really grow that fast or is a garden gnome involved?

Lai, Remy – *Surviving the Wild: Sunny the Shark*

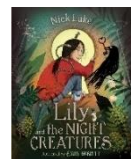
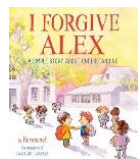
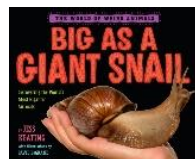
+Lai, Graphic Novels

When she accidentally mistakes a plastic ring for prey and it gets caught around her fin, Sunny the Shark must find a way to free herself to find food before winter sets in.

Lake, Nick – *Lily and the Night Creatures*

+Lake, Fiction*

When alternate versions of her parents invade her home, a young English girl must find the strength to vanquish the demons. An appealing tale of fortitude with just the right amounts of spookiness, playfulness, and heart.



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Lukoff, Kyle – *Mermaid Days: The Sunken Ship*

++Lukoff, Early Readers

Vera the mermaid and her half-octopus friend Beaker go on playful adventures in the underwater town of Tidal Grove.

Lyons, Kelly Starling – *Miles Lewis: King of the Ice*

+Lyons, Fiction*

When his friend RJ bets that Miles will wipe out at the ice rink, he is determined to prove him wrong.

Mack, Jeff – *Marcel’s Masterpiece: How a Toilet Shaped the History of Art*

+709.04 Mac, Non-Fiction

From drawing a moustache on the Mona Lisa to attaching a bicycle wheel to a stool, Duchamp's work challenged notions of art and how it should be made. People were amused, confused, and sometimes offended, just the way Marcel liked it.

Magaziner, Lauren – *The Mythics: Marina and the Kraken*

+Magaziner, Fiction

On Pairing Day, ten-year-olds like Marina discover their familiars and begin the rest of their lives with their animal companions. Strangely, Marina doesn't connect with an animal and discovers there is a good reason and she's not alone.

Maguire, Gregory – *Cress Watercress*

+Maguire, Fiction*

A young bunny copes with the death of her father and the move to a new home. Warmhearted and utterly charming.

Matas, Carol – *Who’s Looking? How Animals See the World*

+573.8 Mat, Non-Fiction

A young girl and her baby sister explore the land around them while various animals and insects look on. The art reflects the world as viewed by the animals along with the text explaining some science behind the animal's unique vision.

Morpurgo, Michael – *The Puffin Keeper*

+Morpurgo, Fiction

This is a story of a life-changing friendship, a lost puffin, and a lonely artist. It's the story of an entire lifetime, and how one event can change a life forever.

Moyle, Sabrina – *The Cosmic Adventures of Astrid and Stella*

+Moyle, Graphic Novels*

Meet Astrid and Stella! These best friends are ready to fire up the turbo pumps and blast off into the stratosphere! At each stop, they'll meet new pals, solve friendship conundrums, have dance breaks, and stop an evil tyrant.

Mlynowski, Sarah – *Best Wishes*

+Mlynowski, Fiction*

After her friend ditches her, Becca, feeling devastated, yearns for people to like her, so when a magical bracelet grants her wish to have loads of friends, she soon discovers having a dream come true is not as simple as it seems.

Perkins, Lynne Rae – *Violet & Jobie in the Wild*

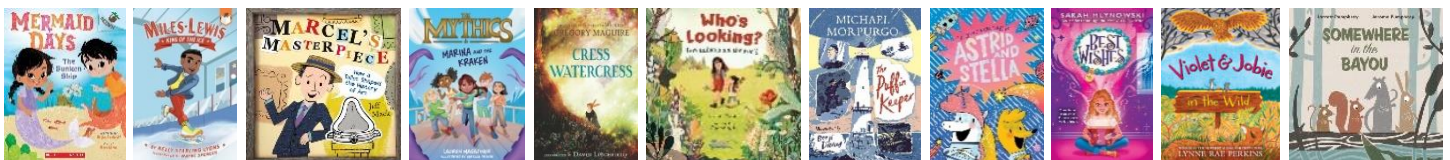
+Perkins, Fiction*

Violet and Jobie, sibling mice accustomed to living comfortably in a human home, find themselves uprooted and must quickly adapt to an unfamiliar world.

Pumphrey, Jarrett – *Somewhere in the Bayou*

++Pumphrey, Picture Books

Animals want to cross the bayou, but next to the log they are considering as a bridge is a sneaky tail, which may be attached to someone dangerous. Each of the four approach the problem with a different strategy, with varying results.



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Reynolds, Aaron – *Creepy Crayon!*

++Reynolds, Picture Books +Readalongs*

When a young rabbit who's struggling in school finds a helpful crayon, everything is suddenly perfect—until it isn't.

Ruzzier, Sergio – *Fox + Chick: Up and Down and Other Stories*

++Ruzzier, Early Readers

In three brief episodes about two unlikely friends, Fox talks Chick down from the tree he has climbed, the two go sledding (once they have enough snowflakes), and Chick builds a bookcase.

Sayre, April Pulley – *Happy Sloth Day!*

+599.3 Say, Non-Fiction

See where sloths live, what they eat, how they hide from predators, and much more. You'll learn about the creatures that interact with and depend on sloths in the interconnected and fragile tropical forest ecosystem.

Schmidt, Gary D. – *One Smart Sheep*

+Schmidt, Fiction*

Wilson is a curious sheep, and after he climbs into the back of a piano movers' truck, he ends up alone in the big city, far from the farm. But Wilson is also one smart sheep, and soon enough he's finding his way home to his worried owner.

Scieszka, Jon – *The Real Dada Mother Goose*

++Mother Goose, Picture Books

The classic nursery rhymes we know and love upside-down, backward, in gibberish, and fresh out of bounds as only Jon Scieszka could stage them. Mother knows best, but sometimes a little nonsense wins the day.

Shaw, Hannah René – *Adventures in Fosterland: Emmett and Jez*

+Shaw, Fiction

When the piglet Emmett arrives in Fosterland, he relies on a three-legged kitten named Jez to show him the ropes.

Smith, Emma Bland – *How Science Saved the Eiffel Tower*

+725 Smi*

The city of Paris said it must come down! But Eiffel loved his tower. He crafted a clever plan to make the tower too useful to tear down by turning it into a laboratory such as science has never had at its disposal.

Snyder, Laurel – *Endlessly Ever After*

+You Choose, Series*

In this rhyming mash-up of many fairy tales, the reader is invited to follow Rosie on her adventures. With some luck, and smart choices, Rosie may save herself and her fellow fairy tale characters.

Tan, Susan – *Pets Rule! My Kingdom of Darkness*

++Tan, Early Readers*

For Ember, a rescue Chihuahua and the newest pet in the Chin family, the first step in fulfilling his destiny to rule the world is to defeat the evil neighborhood squirrel, Masher.

Tarnowska, Wafa' – *Nour's Secret Library*

++Tarnowska, Picture Books*

Forced to take shelter when their Syrian city is plagued with bombings, young Nour and her cousin begin to bravely build a secret underground library.

Taylor, Barbara – *DK Eyewitness: Arctic & Antarctic*

+577 Tay, Non-Fiction

Journey to the icy lands at the ends of the Earth and learn all about life at the poles. Explore Earth's polar regions, from amazing wildlife to the heroic explorers who ventured there.

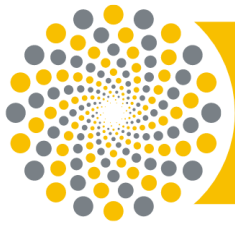


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Tokuda-Hall, Maggie – *Love in the Library*

++Tokuda-Hall, Picture Books*

In a World War II incarceration camp for Japanese Americans, two young people find respite in one another. Inspired by the author’s grandparents, this story celebrates love blooming in the desert during a time of extreme duress.

Trinh, Linda – *The Nguyen Kids: The Secret of the Jade Bangle*

+Trinh, Fiction

When Vietnamese Canadian Anne inherits her grandma’s jade bangle, she begins a journey of cultural exploration.

Whipple, Annette – *Ribbit! The Truth About Frogs*

+597.89 Whi, Non-Fiction

Where do frogs live? What sounds do frogs make? How do frogs eat? These and other questions are answered by the author, along with some extra information provided by the frogs themselves.

Winston, Sherri – *Wednesday & Woof: Catastrophe*

++Winston, Early Readers*

Wednesday and her service dog, Woof, are the best detectives in the whole world (or at least their neighborhood). Can they find Mrs. Winters's missing cat before her big trip?

Woollvin, Bethan – *Three Little Vikings*

++Woollvin, Picture Books

A mysterious creature is running wild and terrorizing a village of Vikings. Can three little girls uncover the source and put an end to the mayhem?

Yaccarino, Dan – *City Under the City*

++Yaccarino, Picture Books

Bix lives in a city where people rarely talk or play together, and no longer read books. Instead, they stare at small portable screens, monitored by giant eyeballs. The Eyes are here to help! But Bix would like to do things for herself.

