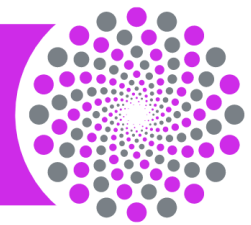


❖ 4th & 5th Grade ❖

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.*

Adam, Jennifer – *Lark and the Wild Hunt*

+Adam, Fiction*

When her brother disappears into the Fae realm, twelve-year-old Lark must try to save him by solving riddles, fixing an ancient clock, and trusting her new Fae friend, Rook.

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!

Barnett, Mac – *The First Cat in Space Ate Pizza*

+Barnett, Graphic Novels*

Accompanied by the imperious Moon Queen and LOZ 4000, a toenail clipping robot, the First Cat in Space journeys across a fantastic lunar landscape in a quest to save the world. Will these unlikely heroes save the moon in time?

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.

Buxbaum, Julie – *The Area 51 Files*

+Buxbaum, Fiction*

When Sky is sent to live with her mysterious uncle, she never imagines she'll end up in Area 51, a top-secret military base with a bajillion rules. Sky feels like she's landed in a whole new world because Area 51 is full of aliens!

Callender, Kacen – *Moonflower*

+Callender, Fiction*

Moon's only escape from their overwhelming depression is traveling to the spirit realms every night. That's where their only friend, Wolf, is and where they're excited to experience an infinite number of adventures.

Christmas, Johnnie – *Swim Team*

+Christmas, Graphic Novels*

Bree can't wait for the first day at her new middle school, until she's stuck with the only elective that fits her schedule, Swim 101. The thought of swimming makes Bree more than a little queasy, yet she's forced to dive into her fear.

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

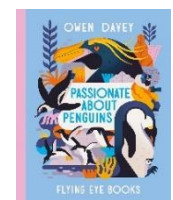
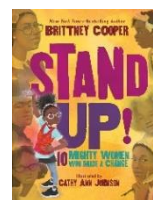
+920 Coo, Non-Fiction

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.

Davey, Owen – *Passionate About Penguins*

+598.47 Day, 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.

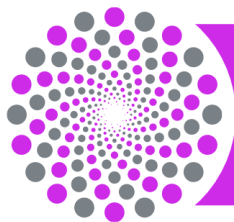


Youth Services
Stevens Point Branch



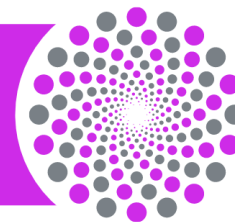
PORTAGE
COUNTY
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

715-346-1549
www.pocolibrary.org



❖ 4th & 5th Grade ❖

Best Books of 2022



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?

Eagle, Judith – *The Pear Affair*

+Eagle, Fiction*

While accompanying her parents to Paris, twelve-year-old Nell sets off to investigate the disappearance of her beloved, former au pair, affectionately known as Pear.

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.

Getten, Kereen – *If You Read This*

+Getten, Fiction

Brie's mama used to surprise her with treasure hunts. After she died, these were Brie's favorite memories. Now, her mama has another surprise: a series of letters leading Brie on a treasure hunt that will change life as she knows 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.

Gratz, Alan – *Two Degrees*

+Gratz, Fiction*

In parallel narratives, four young people simultaneously experience the harrowing effects of climate change.

Haddix, Margaret Peterson – *Mysteries of Trash and Treasure: The Secret Letters*

+Haddix, Fiction; +Haddix, Digital Audio Players*

Two sets of friends, separated by 50 years, are at the heart of this engrossing historical fiction and mystery tale. Woven within is a complex tapestry of different genres, timelines, and generations of characters in a can't-put-it-down novel.

Howell, Destiny – *High Score*

+Howell, Fiction*

Oceans 11 goes to the arcade in this wildly entertaining heist adventure. A twelve-year-old mastermind concocts a multifaceted plan to thwart the school's underground kingpin.

Keller, Tae – *Mihi Ever After*

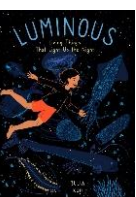
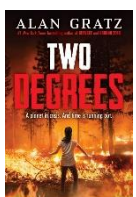
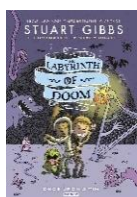
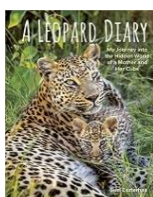
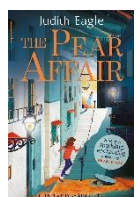
+Keller, Fiction*

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.

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.

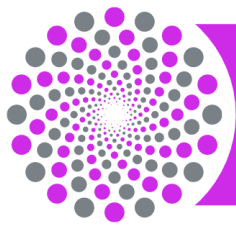


Youth Services
Stevens Point Branch



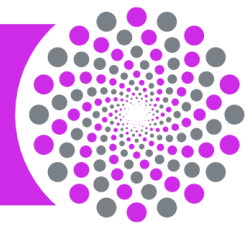
PORTAGE
COUNTY
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

715-346-1549
www.pocolibrary.org



❖ 4th & 5th Grade ❖

Best Books of 2022



Kwame, Alexander – *The Door of No Return*

YA Kwame, Fiction*

A boy's life is turned upside down following a wrestling match in West Africa. This novel in verse places readers alongside Kofi, thriving as a young boy surrounded by family love and legacy before being abruptly kidnapped.

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.

Levi, Lia – *Just a Girl: A True Story of World War II*

+940.53 Lev*

In this award-winning memoir translated from Italian to English, a Jewish girl grows up during a difficult time of racial discrimination and war, and discovers light in unexpected places. A classic, powerful story adapted for young readers.

Levine, Gail Carson – *Sparrows in the Wind*

+Levine, Fiction*

Trojan princess Cassandra is cursed by Apollo with the gift of prophecy, and must try to find her place in a world that she knows to be perilous. Years later, will her friendship with a young Amazon princess named Rin help her to avert a war?

Lloyd, Natalie – *Hummingbird*

+Lloyd, Fiction*

When Olive, who suffers from brittle bone disease, finally attends school in person she discovers fitting in is hard, but if she can find the magical wish-granting hummingbird, and prove herself worthy, maybe her deepest wish will be granted.

Lukoff, Kyle – *Different Kinds of Fruit*

+Lukoff, Fiction*

When Annabelle learns that her father shares something big and surprising in common with her new nonbinary friend, she begins to see herself, and her family, in a whole new light.

Luqman-Dawson, Amina – *Freewater*

+Luqman-Dawson, Fiction*

After fleeing the plantation where they were enslaved, siblings Ada and Homer discover the secret community of Freewater, and work with freeborn Sanzi to protect their new home from the encroaching dangers of the outside world.

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.

Magoon, Kekla – *Chester Keene Cracks the Code*

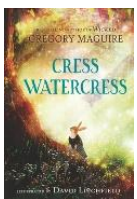
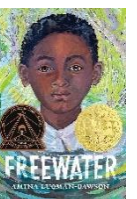
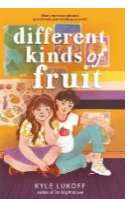
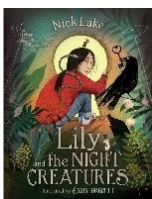
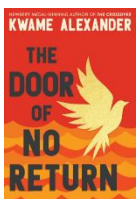
+Magoon, Fiction*

Eleven-year-old Chester and his classmate Skye, tasked with a complex puzzle-solving mission, discover the key to their spy assignment is to stop a heist, but cracking the code could mean finding out things are not always what they seem.

Maguire, Gregory – *Cress Watercress*

+Maguire, Fiction*

When Papa doesn't return from a nocturnal honey-gathering expedition, Cress holds out hope, but her mother assumes the worst. It's a dangerous world for rabbits, after all. Warmhearted and utterly charming.

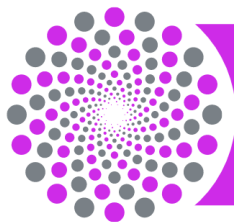


Youth Services
Stevens Point Branch



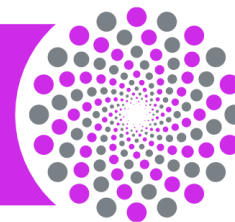
PORTAGE
COUNTY
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

715-346-1549
www.pocolibrary.org



❖ 4th & 5th Grade ❖

Best Books of 2022



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.

Moore, David Barclay – *Holler of the Fireflies*

+Moore, Fiction*

Javari knew that West Virginia would be different from his home in Bushwick, Brooklyn. But his first day at STEM Camp in Appalachia is still a shock. Javari will learn a lot about science, as well as rich people, racism, and hidden agendas.

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.

Ormsbee, Kathryn – *Growing Pangs*

+Ormsbee, Graphic Novels*

Homeschooled Katie experiences the ups and downs of growing up and 6th grade, from bad haircuts and friendship breakups to new experiences, new friends, and a new understanding of her OCD.

Ortega, Claribel A. – *Witchlings*

+Ortega, Fiction*

It's the night of the Black Moon Ceremony, when Witchlings in Ravenskill are assigned to their covens, and the one thing Seven hopes to avoid is being made a Spare Witch. Energetic and intelligent; invites readers to question the status quo.

Partridge, Elizabeth – *Seen and Unseen*

+940.53 Par, Non-Fiction*

Through the work of three prominent photographers, this nonfiction picture book for middle grade readers examines the Japanese-American incarceration and the complexity of documenting it.

Pasternack, Sofiya – *Black Bird, Blue Road*

+Pasternack, Fiction*

Pesah has lived with leprosy for years before he has a vision: The Angel of Death will come for him on Rosh Hashanah. So Ziva runs away with her brother to find doctors who can cure him. A story about the unshakable love of brave siblings.

Pérez, Celia C. – *Tumble*

+Pérez, Fiction*

Before she decides whether she wants her stepfather to adopt her, Adela reaches out to her estranged biological father and the extended family of wrestlers she has never met, bringing Adela closer to understanding the definition of family.

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.

Rogers, Alexandria – *The Witch, the Sword, and the Cursed Knights*

+Rogers, Fiction*

Much to their dismay, a twelve-year-old boy and girl discover they are destined to become knights of King Arthur's Round Table, but first they must find and reforge Excalibur, breaking a curse that's weakened the magic of the Realms.

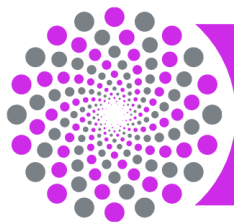


Youth Services
Stevens Point Branch



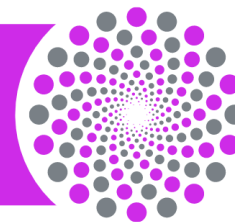
PORTAGE
COUNTY
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

715-346-1549
www.pocolibrary.org



❖ 4th & 5th Grade ❖

Best Books of 2022



Santat, Dan – *Aquanaut*

+Santat, Graphic Novels*

A crew of intrepid marine creatures rig up an antique diving suit to explore space, the final frontier—AKA San Diego.

Sass, A. J. – *Ellen Outside the Lines*

+Sass, Fiction

Ellen, an autistic thirteen-year-old, navigates a new city, shifting friendships, a growing crush, and her queer and Jewish identities while on a class trip to Barcelona, Spain.

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.

Shiga, Jason – *Adventuregame Comics Vol. 1: Leviathan*

+Shiga, Graphic Novels

A "choose your own story" graphic novel. In a small medieval coastal town, the residents live in fear of a giant sea creature, the Leviathan, who attacks anyone who lies. Your mission: discover the secrets and defeat the creature.

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.

Sorosiak, Carlie – *Always, Clementine*

+Sorosiak, Fiction*

Clementine is a lab mouse and a genius, but she's lonely. Only with Rosie, a chimpanzee who visits late at night, does she find friendship. When a lab technician frees Clementine, she discovers the world and goes in search of a real home.

Spaaij, Marlyn – *Sisters of the Mist*

+Spaaij, Graphic Novels

When Margot is enticed into the woods by the mysterious figures in the mist, Kyra resolves to do everything in her power to save her sister from danger, even if that means facing the spooky forces within Frygea Forest.

Stevenson, Robin – *Kid Trailblazers*

+920 Ste, Non-Fiction*

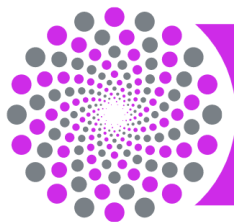
Childhood biographies of sixteen changemakers in government, social activism, environmental justice, and the arts. Inspiring examples for younger would-be world-changers.

Swift, India – *The Girl and the Glim*

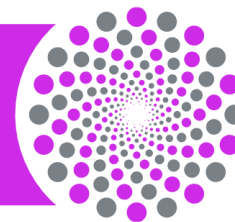
+Swift, Graphic Novels

An original graphic novel about being the new kid in a different school, getting picked on by the class bullies, and what happens when a magical presence takes notice. Like, can things get any worse? Ugh, all these nervous feelings!





❖ 4th & 5th Grade ❖ Best Books of 2022



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.

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.

Zhao, Xiran Jay – *Zachary Ying and the Dragon Emperor*

+Zhao, Fiction*

After his augmented reality gaming headset is possessed by the spirit of the First Emperor of China, Zack is compelled to fight figures from Chinese history and myth and seal a portal to prevent spirits from destroying the human realm.

