

❖ K & 1st Grade ❖ Best Books of 2019

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 OverDrive.

Agell, Charlotte - *Maybe Tomorrow?*

Elba carries the black block of sadness wherever she goes--until Norris arrives and helps her let go and enjoy life again.

++Agell, Picture Books

Amato, Max - *Perfect*

A fussy eraser tries to keep the pages perfectly clean despite the scribbles of a mischievous pencil.

++Amato, Picture Books

Bell, Cece - *Chick and Brain: Smell My Foot!*

Shares the interactions of the rule-following Chick and the absent-minded Brain, whose friendship is tested by miscommunications and misunderstandings about good manners.

+Bell, Graphic Novels

Biebow, Natascha - *The Crayon Man*

Celebrating the inventor of the Crayola crayon, this gloriously illustrated picture book biography tells the inspiring story of Edwin Binney, the inventor of one of the world's most beloved toys.

+741.23 Bie, Non-Fiction

Birdsong, Bea - *I will be Fierce!*

It's a brand-new day, and a girl decides to take on the world like a brave explorer heading off on an epic fairytale quest.

++Birdsong, Picture Books

Cha, Hanna - *Tiny Feet Between the Mountains*

In a Korean village where being strong and loud is valued, tiny Soe-in is ridiculed, but when the sun disappears, Soe-in dares to find the spirit tiger and set things right. Includes note about the position of tigers in Korean culture.

++Cha, Picture Books

Choi, Susan - *Camp Tiger*

A talking tiger approaches a camping family and is befriended by a boy who does not feel ready for first grade.

++Choi, Picture Books*

Cooper, Elisha - *River*

A woman in a canoe takes the reader on a journey down the Hudson River, from a lake in the Adirondack Mountains, to the point where it flows into the Atlantic Ocean at New York City. Includes a note on the history of the Hudson River.

++Cooper, Picture Books

Cordell, Matthew - *Explorers*

When a family goes to a local museum, a boy convinces his dad to buy an origami bird a homeless man makes just for him. Once inside the museum, his little sister launches the bird into the air. Is it lost? Soon another boy helps him look, and the paper bird brings two families--and two new friends—together. (wordless story)

++ Cordell, Picture Books

Daywalt, Drew - *My Tooth is Lost*

Monkey is upset because he has lost a tooth, so Cake tries to make him feel better by telling him about the Tooth Fairy--but Monkey just wants his tooth named Kevin.

++ER Daywalt, Early Readers

Detlefsen, Lisl H. - *Right This Very Minute*

What's that you say? You're hungry? Right this very minute? Then you need a farmer. This delicious celebration of food and farming is sure to inspire readers of all ages to learn more about where their food comes from.

++Detlefsen, Picture Books

Eland, Eva - *When Sadness is at Your Door*


A young child experiences sadness as if it were a visitor, acknowledging the emotion and suggesting activities for it.

++Eland, Picture Books

Ferry, Beth - *The Scarecrow*


All the animals know not to mess with old Scarecrow. But when a small, scared crow falls from midair, Scarecrow does the strangest thing. He saves the tiny baby crow. Soon a loving bond grows between the two unlikely friends.

++Ferry, Picture Books



❖ K & 1st Grade ❖

Best Books of 2019



Florence, Debbi Michiko - *My Furry Foster Family*

Kaita Takano has one dog, a miniature dachshund named Ollie. But there's never just one animal in the Takano house. Kaita and her family foster animals rescued by a local animal rescue group and help them find new homes.

++ER Florence, Early Readers

Flowers, Luke - *Surf's Up!*

In rhyming text, Moby Shinobi and his dog Toby head to the beach for a day of fun, where Moby tries to put his ninja skills to work helping his friends build a sandcastle, and when a sailboat springs a leak, it's Moby Shinobi to the rescue!

++ER Flowers, Early Readers

Franklin, Ashley - *Not Quite Snow White*

Tameika is excited to audition for the school's Snow White musical, but when she overhears her classmates say she is too tall, chubby, and brown to play Snow White, she questions whether she is right for the part.

++Franklin, Picture Books

Gale, Heather - *Ho'onani*

An empowering celebration of identity, acceptance and Hawaiian culture based on the true story of a young girl in Hawai'i who dreams of leading the boys-only hula troupe at her school.

++Gale, Picture Books*

Haack, Daniel - *Maiden and Princess*

When a maiden reluctantly attends a ball for her friend, the prince, everyone considers her his perfect match until she surprises them--and herself--by finding true love with his sister.

++Haack, Picture Books

Healy, Christopher - *This is Not That Kind of Book*

This delightful mash-up features every kind of character found in the picture-book universe--all in one book. Just when the reader is convinced the story is going in one direction, it spins off in another!

++Healy, Picture Books

Heder, Thyra - *How Do You Dance?*

There are so many ways to dance! You can jiggle or wiggle or stomp. You can bop or bounce or go completely nuts. But what's the best way to dance? Exactly how you want to!

++Heder, Picture Books

Higgins, Ryan T. - *Bruce's Big Fun Day*

Nibbs the mouse wants to give Bruce the bear a Big Fun Day, but unfortunately grumpy Bruce does not like fun.

++ER Higgins, Early Readers

John, Jory - *The Cool Bean*

Everyone knows the cool beans. They're sooooo cool. Always on the sidelines, one bean unsuccessfully tries everything he can to fit in with the crowd--until one day the cool beans show him how it's done.

++John, Picture Books

John, Jory - *The Good Egg*

When the other eggs in his carton behave badly, the good egg feels like he needs to be perfect.

++John, Picture Books*

Latham, Irene - *Meet Miss Fancy*

Ten-year-old African American boy wants to welcome the circus elephant named Miss Fancy to her new home in a nearby park, but he is disappointed to see a sign: "No Colored Allowed."

++Latham, Picture Books

Litchfield, D. - *The Bear, the Piano, the Dog, & the Fiddle*


Hugo the dog becomes the star of an all-animal band after learning to play his best friend Hector's fiddle, and despite Hector's jealousy, remains grateful to the man who gave him his start.

++Litchfield, Picture Books

Lukoff, Kyle - *When Aidan Became a Brother*


Aidan, a transgender boy, experiences complicated emotions as he and his parents prepare for the arrival of a new baby.

++Lukoff, Picture Books



❖ K & 1st Grade ❖

Best Books of 2019



Madden, Kerry - *Ernestine's Milky Way*

In Maggie Valley, North Carolina, in the 1940s, Ernestine, who is five years old and a big girl, carries fresh milk to needy neighbors through thickets, down paths, and over a barbed-wire fence, despite her fears.

++Madden, Picture Books

Maillard, Kevin Noble - *Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story*

Tells the story of a post-colonial food that is a shared tradition for Native American families all across the North American continent. Includes a recipe and an extensive author note about America's 573 recognized tribes.

++Maillard, Picture Books*

Medina, Juana - *Juana & Lucas: Big Problemas*

Juana's life is just about perfect. She lives in the beautiful city of Bogotá with her two most favorite people in the world: her mami and her dog, Lucas. Lately, though, things have become a little less perfect.

+Medina, Fiction*

Mora, Oge - *Saturday*

When their special Saturday plans go awry, Ava and her mother still find a way to appreciate their time together.

++Mora, Picture Books

Morris, Richard T. - *Bear Came Along*

An assortment of animals discover they need each other when they have a chance encounter on a river.

++Morris, Picture Books*

Muhammad, Ibtihaj - *The Proudest Blue*

Faizah relates how she feels on the first day her sister, sixth grader Asiya, wears a hijab to school.

++Muhammad, Picture Books

Newson, Karl - *I Am a Tiger*

Despite the evidence Mouse insists that he is a tiger--or maybe a crocodile.

++Newson, Picture Books

Nyong'o, Lupita - *Sulwe*

When five-year-old Sulwe's classmates make fun of her dark skin, she tries lightening herself to no avail, but her encounter with a shooting star helps her understand there is beauty in every shade.

++Nyong'o, Picture Books

Park, Linda Sue - *Nya's Long Walk*

When her little sister, Akeer, becomes sick when they are returning home from the water hole, Nya must carry her and the water back to their village, one step at a time.

++Park, Picture Books

Patrick, C. P. - *Ana & Andrew series*

Ana & Andrew are always on an adventure! They live in Washington, DC with their parents, but with family in Savannah, Georgia and Trinidad, there's always something exciting and new to learn about African American history and culture.

++ER Patrick, Early Readers

Perkins, Mitali - *Between Us and Abuela*

When Maria, Juan, and their mother go to the border between California and Mexico to visit their grandmother at Christmas, Maria must devise a way to get Juan's gift over the fence.

++Perkins, Picture Books

Pizzoli, Tamara - *Tallulah and the Tooth Fairy CEO*

Tallulah the Tooth Fairy, a black businesswoman who runs one of the most successful tooth collecting organizations in the world, finds herself stumped when six-year-old Ballard Burchell leaves a note instead of his tooth under his pillow.

++Pizzoli, Picture Books

Portis, Antoinette - *Hey, Water!*

Splashy illustrations and simple text explore water in its many shapes and forms.

+553.7 Por, Non-Fiction

Quintero, Isabel - *My Papi Has a Motorcycle*

When Daisy Ramona zooms around her neighborhood with her papi on his motorcycle, she sees the people and places she's always known. She also sees a community that is rapidly changing around her.

++Quintero, Picture Books*



❖ K & 1st Grade ❖

Best Books of 2019

Reidy, Jean - Truman

He may be slow but Truman the turtle is determined to find his girl, who has boarded a city bus on her way to preschool.

++Reidy, Picture Books

Ruzzier, Sergio - *Quiet Boat Ride and Other Stories*

Fox enjoys quiet boat rides and watching the sunrise, but Chick is noisy and hyperactive and frequently disrupts their adventures--nevertheless they remain friends and enjoy their time together.

++ER Ruzzier, Early Readers

Rylant, Cynthia - *Motor Mouse*

Follows a busy mouse as he drives a delivery car, enjoys Cake Day with friends, goes for a cab ride around town, and shares popcorn with his brother at the movies.

++Rylant, Picture Books

Sarcone-Roach, Julia - *There Are No Bears in This Bakery*

When Muffin, a cat, hears a suspicious noise at the Little Bear Bakery, his investigation reveals a hungry bear cub.

++Sarcone, Picture Books

Schachner, Judith Byron - *Stretchy McHandsome*

When Stretchy, a good looking street cat with an unusual personality, takes a break from his large, rambunctious family, he meets Beanie, a girl who is similarly unique.

++Schachner, Picture Books

Sierra, Judy - *Everyone Counts*

Diverse animals work together to transform a mall into a zoo--including the bugs the rhinos said were too small to count.

++Sierra, Picture Books

Sima, Jessie - *Spencer's New Pet*

Spencer takes his pet to the park, the vet, and a birthday party, but for a pet balloon, those places are full of danger.

++Sima, Picture Books

Stevens, Janet - *The Donkey Egg*

After fast-talking Fox leaves him with a large, green "egg," Bear spends weeks lovingly caring for it.

++Stevens, Picture Books

Stutzman, Jonathan - *Tiny T. Rex and the Impossible Hug*

Tiny T. Rex wants to cheer up his friend, Pointy, with a hug, but he is frustrated because even as he gets bigger, his arms remain too small for proper hugging--but he is determined to practice, even when he gets into trouble.

++Stutzman, Picture Books

Surnaite, Margarita - *The Lost Book*

All rabbits love books, except for Henry - he prefers games and adventures. But then he finds one very special book, and when he reads it, someone very special finds him.

++Surnaite, Picture Books

Tanco, Miguel - *Count on Me*

A young girl explains why she loves math and how she finds it in her everyday life.

++Tanco, Picture Books

Tsurumi, Andrea - *Crab Cake*

Under the sea, a crab follows its heart and its calling, bringing everyone together in the wake of a disaster.

++Tsurumi, Picture Books

Walsh, Liam Francis - *Make a Wish, Henry Bear*

Henry Bear's unusual parents encourage him to stay up all night, eat chocolate cake at every meal, and get into trouble with his teacher. But what happens when Henry Bear grows tired of indulging in childish things?

++Walsh, Picture Books

Wenzel, Brendan - *A Stone Sat Still*

Told in rhyming verse, a stone is considered from a variety of environmental and emotional perspectives, as it sits where it is, surrounded by grass, dirt, and water, an unchanging certainty in the world.

++Wenzel, Picture Books

Yoshitake, Shinsuke - *The Boring Book*

A child, bored by his toys, contemplates boredom, and whether or not it is boring to be an adult or a child.

++Yoshitake, Picture Books