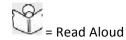
Five to Nine

*= Outstanding Merit



(5-8) = Suggested Age Range



FICTION

Adventure and Mystery

*Don't Feed the Geckos! (The Carver Chronicles series) by Karen English, illustrated by Laura Freeman (Clarion Books/HMH, \$14.99) 978-0-544-5729-5 Carlos worries about his pets and his soccer playing and about sharing Papi's affection when his cousin comes to stay with them. Line drawings. (6–9)

*Lost in NYC:

A Subway Adventure

written and illustrated by Nadja Spiegelman and Sergio García Sánchez

(Toon Books, \$16.95) 978-1-935179-81-8 Pablo boards the wrong train but reunites with his class at the Empire State Building. Colorful panels and informative back matter showcase the subway system. Also in a Spanish language edition. (7–10)

• Puppy Pirates series

Stowaway! (978-0-553-51167-3)

X Marks the Spot (978-0-553-51170-3)
by Erin Soderberg, illustrated by Russ Cox
(Stepping Stone/Random House, P \$4.99 each)
Wally sniffs out a band of puppy pirates and wants to
join in the adventure and fun. Detailed sketches. (6–9)

Shark Detective!

written and illustrated by Jessica Olien (Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-235714-4

A lonely shark fulfills his dream of becoming a detective like Sherlock Holmes when he spots a "Missing Kitty" poster. Bold, colorful illustrations. (5–8)

Willy's Stories

written and illustrated by Anthony Browne (Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-7761-9 Readers are invited to join Willy on his adventures and to guess where he's gone. Intriguing mixed-media illustrations show the world of many classic children's books. (6–10)

Animals (Fiction)

Groundhog's Dilemma

by Kristen Remenar, illustrated by Matt Faulkner (Charlesbridge, \$16.95) 978-1-58089-600-9 Can the anointed predictor of the arrival of spring be bribed to alter his findings to please the wishes of his friends? Detailed gouache and watercolor illustrations. (5–8)

Ketzel, the Cat Who Composed

by Lesléa Newman, illustrated by Amy June Bates (Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-6555-5 A young pianist's kitten helps him write an almost award-winning composition. Based on a true story. Pencil and watercolor illustrations. (6–8)

Stay!

written and illustrated by Alex Latimer (Peachtree, \$16.95) 978-1-56145-884-4 When Ben's family goes on vacation, leaving his dog, Buster, behind, Ben lists all the things Grampa needs to know to take care Buster. Mixed-media illustrations. (5–8)

The Tale of Rescue

by Michael J. Rosen, illustrated by Stan Fellows (Candlewick Press, \$14.99) 978-0-7636-7167-9 In this lyrical, gentle story, a cattle dog saves a family stranded in a blizzard. Watercolor illustrations. (6–9)

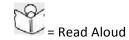
Who Wants Broccoli?

written and illustrated by Val Jones (Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-230351-6 Left on the doorstep of an animal shelter, a dog with attention-getting antics and a loud bark finally finds a new home. Animated, humorous illustrations. (5–8)

Five to Nine

2016 Edition

*= Outstanding Merit



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Beginning Readers

Elephant Joe, Brave Firefighter!

written and illustrated by David Wojtowycz (Random House Children's Books, P \$3.99) 978-0-385-37406-4

How do you rescue a dragon caught in a tree? Vivid, humorous illustrations. (5–6)

I Really Like Slop! (Elephant & Piggie series)

written and illustrated by Mo Willems (Hyperion Books for Children/Disney, \$9.99) 978-1-4847-2262-6

Piggie really wants Gerald to try some slop, but it smells awful. Will Gerald do it for Piggie's sake? Soft, colorful line drawings. (5–8)

*Look!

written and illustrated by Jeff Mack (Philomel Books/Penguin, \$16.99) 978-0-399-16205-3 A determined, attention-grabbing gorilla and a TV-watching boy develop a friendship over books. Told with just two words and colorful full-page mixed-media illustrations. (5–8)

Misty (Stanley & Me series)

by Christine Dencer, illustrated by Jessica Meserve (Simply Read Books, \$12.95) 978-1-927018-59-0 Will Sophie succeed in conquering her fear of her friend's dog? Lively, colorful illustrations. (6–8)

*Nic Bishop Frogs

written and photographed by Nic Bishop (Scholastic Press, P \$3.99) 978-0-545-60570-0 Simple text and extraordinary photographs provide clear, accessible information about more than 5,000 different kinds of amphibians. (6–8)

Coming of Age

An A from Miss Keller

written and illustrated by Patricia Polacco (G.P. Putnam's Sons/Penguin , \$17.99) 978-0-399-16691-4

A demanding but dedicated teacher inspires young Trisha to be the best writer she can be. Colored pencil and marker illustrations. (5–8)

The Best Friend Battle (Sylvie Scruggs series)

by Lindsay Eyre, illustrated by Charles Santoso (Arthur A. Levine Books/Scholastic, \$16.99) 978-0-545-62027-7

Sylvie Scruggs hatches one crazy plan after another to keep her best friend Miranda from slipping away. Amusing sketches. (6–9)

Felix Stands Tall

written and illustrated by Rosemary Wells (Candlewick Press, \$14.99) 978-0-7636-6111-3 After Fiona and Felix win the talent contest, Felix is bullied by his friends until Fiona shows him how to stand up for himself. Watercolor and pencil drawings. (5–7)

Freedom's School

by Lesa Cline-Ransome, illustrated by James E. Ransome (Jump at the Sun/Disney-Hyperion, \$17.99) 978-1-4231-6103-5

After the Civil War, with their parents' support, two black children attend school despite facing racism. Evocative watercolors. (6–10)

*Mama Seeton's Whistle

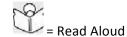
by Jerry Spinelli, illustrated by LeUyen Pham (Little, Brown and Company/Hachette, \$17.00) 978-0-316-12217-7

As the family changes over decades, the signal to come home for dinner stays the same. Detailed period ink and watercolor illustrations. (5–8)

Five to Nine

2016 Edition

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Sonya's Chickens

written and illustrated by Phoebe Wahl (Tundra Books, \$19.99) 978-1-77049-789-4 When a farm girl loses one of her chickens to a fox, her father consoles her by explaining the interdependence of life in nature. Vibrant painterly illustrations. (6–8)

Fantasy

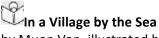


written and illustrated by Douglas Florian (Beach Lane Books/Simon & Schuster, \$17.99) 978-1-4424-7399-7

With humor and an observant eye, a poet invites young artists to imagine their own fanciful creatures. Bold, colorful full-page art. (5–8)

If I Had a Triceratops

written and illustrated by George O'Connor (Candlewick Press, \$15.99) 978-0-7636-6013-0 A boy muses about how he would take care of a triceratops and how great the experience would be. Bright cartoon-like illustrations. (4–7)



by Muon Van, illustrated by April Chu (Creston, \$16.95) 978-1-939547-15-6
In a remote village, a woman waits with her baby for her fisherman husband to return safely after a storm.
Detailed digitally colored pencil illustrations. (5–7)

*The Only Child

written and illustrated by Guojing (Schwartz & Wade Books/Random House, \$19.99) 978-0-553-49704-5

In this wordless book, a young girl gets lost on the way to her grandmother's and befriends a magical creature to find her way back home. Softly rendered black-and-white pencil illustrations. (6–8)

Wherever You Go

by Pat Zietlow Miller, illustrated by Eliza Wheeler (Little, Brown and Company/Hachette, \$17.00) 978-0-316-40002-2

Rabbit and animal friends journey over mountain peaks, cities, and winding roads to discover the magical worlds that await. Rich ink and watercolor illustrations. (5–8)

The Whisper

written and illustrated by Pamela Zagarenski (HMH, \$17.99) 978-0-544-41686-4

A young girl imagines stories for each lavish picture in a magical book that is missing its words. Dramatic, painterly full-page illustrations. (5–8)

Folk and Fairy Tales

Elephant in the Dark: Based on a Poem by Rumi

retold by Mina Javaherbin, illustrated by Eugene Yelchin (Scholastic Press, \$17.99) 978-0-545-63670-4 Is it a snake? A tree? A fan? This tale is a reminder to

look at the whole picture. Brilliantly colored illustrations

evoking Persian miniatures. (5–8)

*The Grasshopper & the Ants

written and illustrated by Jerry Pinkney (Little, Brown and Company/Hachette, \$18.00) 978-0-316-40081-7

In this lovely retelling of Aesop's fable, a grasshopper frolics and plays music while industrious ants prepare for winter. Beautiful watercolor paintings depict the changing seasons. (5–8)

Jackrabbit McCabe & the Electric Telegraph

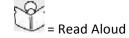
by Lucy Margaret Rozier, illustrated by Leo Espinosa (Schwartz & Wade Books/Random House, \$17.99) 978-0-385-37843-7

Can the fastest man in the West outrun the telegraph signal? A tall tale with notes about Samuel Morse and the code he created. Exaggerated nostalgic images. (5–8)

Five to Nine

2016 Edition

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= Graphic Format



Maya's Blanket/La manta de Maya

by Monica Brown, illustrated by David Diaz, Spanish translation by Adriana Domínguez (Children's Book Press/Lee & Low, \$17.95) 978-0-89239-292-6

When Maya's blanket becomes frayed, it is transformed into a skirt and then. . . A Latino version of a Yiddish folk song, told in English and Spanish. Vivid, exuberant illustrations. (6–9)

Historical Fiction

Finding Winnie: The True Story of the World's Most **Famous Bear**

by Lindsay Mattick, illustrated by Sophie Blackall (Little, Brown and Company/Hachette, \$18.00) 978-0-316-32490-8

A young boy listens to the story of the bear his greatgreat-grandfather placed in the London Zoo during World War I. Gentle watercolors and archival photographs. (5-7)



Juneteenth for Mazie

written and illustrated by Floyd Cooper (Capstone Young Readers/Capstone, \$15.95) 978-1-62370-170-3

Mazie is frustrated by her lack of freedom until Dad teaches her about her ancestors. Large oil wash illustrations. (5-8)



Mummy Cat

by Marcus Ewert, illustrated by Lisa Brown (Clarion Books/HMH, \$16.99) 978-0-544-34082-4 A mummy cat awakes in an Egyptian tomb and searches it for his friend, the queen. Hidden hieroglyphics and mixed-media illustrations. Back matter. (7-9)

New Shoes

by Susan Lynn Meyer, illustrated by Eric Velasquez (Holiday House, \$16.95) 978-0-8234-2528-0 When Ella Mae is not allowed to try on shoes at the store because she is African American, she and her cousin come up with a plan to improve things. Realistic oil paintings. (7-10)

Tales From Maple Ridge series

Logan Pryce Makes a Mess (978-1-4814-2625-1;

978-1-4814-2624-4 [pbk])

The Lucky Wheel (978-1-4814-2628-2;

978-1-4814-2627-5 [pbk])

by Grace Gilmore, illustrated by Petra Brown (Little Simon/Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$16.99; P \$5.99) The family's farm is failing and Logan's father is looking for work. With his talent for fixing and inventing things, can Logan help? Black-and-white pen and ink drawings. (7-9)

Winnie: The True Story of the Bear Who Inspired Winnie-the-Pooh

by Sally M. Walker, illustrated by Jonathan D. Voss (Henry Holt and Co. BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-0-8050-9715-3

While her owner goes to war, a bear named Winnie stays in the London Zoo where she plays with a boy named Christopher Robin. Watercolor and pen and ink illustrations. (5-7)

Holidays

Jingle Bells: A Magical Cut-Paper Edition

by James Lord Pierpont, illustrated by Niroot Puttapipat (Candlewick Press, \$19.99) 978-0-7636-7821-0 Delicate cut-out shapes with black-and-white silhouettes celebrate this popular 19th-century song celebrating an old-fashioned winter pastime. Culminates in an elaborate pop-up surprise. (5-8)

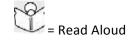


by Reem Farugi, illustrated by Lea Lyon (Tilbury House, \$16.95) 978-0-88448-431-8 Lailah is finally old enough to fast for Ramadan, but how can she explain to her teacher and classmates why she isn't eating lunch? Watercolor illustrations in a muted palette. (6–9)

Five to Nine

2016 Edition

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(5-8) = Suggested Age Range





Miracle on 133rd Street

by Sonia Manzano, illustrated by Marjorie Priceman (Atheneum BFYR/ Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, \$17.99) 978-0-689-87887-9 It's Christmas Eve. Everyone is grumpy and the roast won't fit in the oven. Will José's solution be the Christmas miracle everyone needs? Colorful gouache illustrations. (5-8)

Oskar and the Eight Blessings

by Richard Simon and Tanya Simon, illustrated by Mark Siegel

(Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-1-59643-949-8

Sent to America for his safety after Kristallnacht, a boy walks up Broadway on Hanukkah to his aunt's apartment and encounters caring strangers. Soft watercolor and pencil illustrations. (5–8)

Over the River & Through the Wood: A Holiday **Adventure**

by Linda Ashman, illustrated by Kim Smith (Sterling Children's Books/Sterling Publishing, \$14.95) 978-1-4549-1024-4

Four diverse families make their way to grandma's house by various means of transportation, but they all end up getting there the old-fashioned way. A contemporary take on the classic song. Colorful digital art. (6-8)

The Parakeet Named Dreidel

by Isaac Bashevis Singer, illustrated by Suzanne Raphael Berkson

(Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-0-374-30094-4

The rescue, on a cold, snowy Hanukkah, of a Yiddishspeaking parakeet results in an unexpected, happy match. Gentle cartoon watercolor illustrations. (5-8)

Humor

*Buddy and Earl

by Maureen Fergus, illustrated by Carey Sookocheff (Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, \$16.95) 978-1-55498-712-2

A dog and a hedgehog forge a joyous friendship and banish boredom using their imaginations. Exuberant watercolors. (5-7)

I Don't Want to Be a Frog

by Dev Petty, illustrated by Mike Boldt (Doubleday BFYR/Random House, \$16.99) 978-0-385-37866-6

A humorous dialogue between a young dissatisfied frog and a bespectacled adult frog comes delightfully to life with mixed-media illustrations. (4-8)

*It's Only Stanley

written and illustrated by Jon Agee (Dial BFYR/Penguin, \$17.99) 978-0-8037-3907-9 It's very late, and the Wimbledon family keeps being awakened by strange sounds. It's only their dog, Stanley, but what is Stanley really doing? Humorous watercolors. (5-8)



written and illustrated by Ryan T. Higgins (Disney-Hyperion Books, \$17.99) 978-1-4847-3088-1 When eggs produce goslings, Bruce, the bear, has a problem. Humorous illustrations. (5-8)

My Family Adventure (Sofia Martinez series)

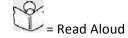
by Jacqueline Jules, illustrated by Kim Smith (Picture Window Books/Capstone, P \$4.95) 978-1-4795-5790-5

Sofia, an outgoing seven-year-old, makes every day memorable. Three stories recount her adventures with simple Spanish words interwoven into the text. Colorful, cheerful illustrations. (5-7)

Five to Nine

2016 Edition

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(5-8) = Suggested Age Range



The Nonsense Show

written and illustrated by Eric Carle (Philomel Books/Penguin, \$18.99) 978-0-399-17687-6 Colorful tissue paper collage illustrations heighten engaging rhymes that capture preposterous situations. (5-8)



One Word from Sophia

by Jim Averbeck, illustrated by Yasmeen Ismail (Atheneum BFYR/ Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-0514-0 Clever Sophia learns the importance of choosing the best word in order to make a compelling argument for what she wants. Watercolor and colored pencil illustrations. (6-9)



Ragweed's Farm Dog Handbook

written and illustrated by Anne Vitur Kennedy (Candlewick Press, \$15.99) 978-0-7636-7417-5 Ragweed gives advice on how to behave—and get biscuits. Colorful acrylics. (5-7)



The Skunk

by Mac Barnett, illustrated by Patrick McDonnell (Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-1-59643-966-5

No matter where he goes, a man is pursued by a skunk. Will he ever be rid of the obsessive creature? Muted, sketch-like illustrations. (4-7)



*The Story of Diva and Flea

by Mo Willems, illustrated by Tony DiTerlizzi (Hyperion Books for Children/Disney, \$14.99) 978-1-4847-2284-8

When a cosseted, timid dog meets an intrepid stray cat, both their lives change for the better. Colorful, expressive pen and ink illustrations. (7-9)

*What the Dinosaurs Did Last Night: A Very Messy

Adventure

written and photographed by Refe Tuma and Susan Tuma

(Little, Brown and Company/Hachette, \$17.00) 978-0-316-33562-1

An unexplainable mess in your house could mean an invasion of plastic dinosaurs. Bold colorful photographs of hilarious tableaux. (6–10)

Sports (Fiction)

My New Team (Little Rhino series)

by Ryan Howard and Krystle Howard, illustrated by Erwin Madrid

(Scholastic Press, P \$4.99) 978-0-545-67490-4 Playing baseball helps stop bullying when you have a good coach. Black-and-white illustrations. (7-8)

Today



by Bernard Waber, illustrated by Suzy Lee (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt BFYR, \$16.99) 978-0-547-73394-4

A father and daughter walk through the neighborhood, exploring and asking each other questions as they go. Pencil illustrations in bold autumn colors. (5–8)

Friends of a Feather (The Life of Ty series)

by Lauren Myracle, illustrated by Jed Henry (Dutton BFYR/Penguin, \$12.99) 978-0-525-42288-4 Seven-year-old Ty's best friend, Joseph, is out of the hospital and back in school. Now Ty has to reestablish their friendship. Simple black-and-white illustrations. (7-9)

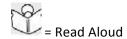
I'm New Here

written and illustrated by Anne Sibley O'Brien (Charlesbridge, \$16.95) 978-1-58089-612-2 Three children, immigrants from different lands, face the challenge of adjusting to school in America. Digitally enhanced watercolor illustrations. (6-8)

Five to Nine

2016 Edition

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= Graphic Format



by Alma Fullerton, illustrated by Brian Deines (Pajama Press, \$17.95) 978-1-927485-62-2 In a Tanzanian village, a bicycle library improves the lives of Anna and other children who have to travel far to get to school. Gentle, warm illustrations. (6-8)

Love Is My Favorite Thing

written and illustrated by Emma Chichester Clark (Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin, \$16.99) 978-0-399-17503-9

Plum, the dog, loves many things, her family but most of all. Will they stop loving her because of her naughtiness? Hand-drawn and computer-generated illustrations. (5-9)

Mama's Nightingale: A Story of Immigration and Separation

by Edwidge Danticat, illustrated by Leslie Staub (Dial BFYR/Penguin, \$17.99) 978-0-525-42809-1 Jailed as an undocumented immigrant, Saya's mother sends her daughter stories of her native Haiti, while Saya writes the story of her own life. Bright oil paintings. (7-9)

Mango, Abuela, and Me

by Meg Medina, illustrated by Angela Dominguez (Candlewick Press, \$15.99) 978-0-7636-6900-3 Mia's grandmother comes to live with her, and although the two of them speak different languages, they find new ways to communicate, with the help of a parrot. Ink, gouache and marker illustrations. Also in a Spanish language edition. (5–8)

Marvelous Cornelius: Hurricane Katrina and the Spirit of New Orleans

by Phil Bildner, illustrated by John Parra (Chronicle Books, \$16.99) 978-1-4521-2578-7 When Hurricane Katrina floods the city they love, Cornelius and the people of New Orleans rally to revive their battered hometown. Colorful, naïve-style paintings. (6-8)

*My Three Best Friends and Me, Zulay

by Cari Best, illustrated by Vanessa Brantley-Newton (Margaret Ferguson Books/Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-0-374-38819-5 Zulay, who is blind, loves her classroom and her friends—but not using her cane. She decides to run in a race to prove her mettle. Bright, cheerful illustrations. (5-8)

*The Night World

written and illustrated by Mordicai Gerstein (Little, Brown and Company/Hachette, \$18.00) 978-0-316-18822-7

When his cat wakes him up before dawn, a young boy discovers that his familiar house and garden look very different in the dark. Extraordinary mixed-media illustrations. (5-7)

*A Poem in Your Pocket (Mr. Tiffany's Classroom

by Margaret McNamara, illustrated by G. Brian Karas (Schwartz & Wade Books/Random House, \$16.99) 978-0-307-97947-6

Will Elinor ever find her poet's war? Colorful gouache, pencil, and acrylic illustrations. (5–8)

Pool

written and illustrated by JiHyeon Lee (Chronicle Books, \$16.99) 978-1-4521-4294-4 In this wordless story, two shy swimmers meet underwater in a crowded pool, become friends, and let their imaginations fly. Colored pencil and oil pastel illustrations. (5-7)

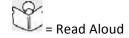
See You Next Year

by Andrew Larsen, illustrated by Todd Stewart (Owlkids Books, \$16.95) 978-1-926973-99-9 A young girl loves the comforting routine of her family's annual vacation at the beach, and this year she makes a new friend there. Illustrations in hazy summer tones. (5-8)

Five to Nine

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Sona and the Wedding Game

by Kashmira Sheth, illustrated by Yoshiko Jaeggi (Peachtree, \$16.95) 978-1-56145-735-9
Sona is excited about her role in her sister's traditional Indian wedding. She is to steal the groom's shoes!
Muted watercolors. (5–8)

Stella Brings the Family

by Miriam B. Schiffer, illustrated by Holly Clifton-Brown (Chronicle Books, \$16.99) 978-1-4521-1190-2 Stella decides to bring her two fathers as well as other family members to a Mother's Day celebration at school. Whimsical watercolors. (5–8)

Strictly No Elephants

by Lisa Mantchev, illustrated by Taeeun Yoo (Paula Wiseman Books/Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-1647-4

Excluded from the pet club, a boy and his tiny elephant start their own inclusive club for unusual friends. Digitally rendered linoleum block print and pencil illustrations. (5–8)

Sunday Shopping

by Sally Derby, illustrated by Shadra Strickland (Lee & Low Books, \$17.95) 978-1-60060-438-6 Every Sunday night Evie and Grandma read ads in the paper and go on an imaginary shopping spree. Bold mixed-media illustrations. (5–8)

*Two White Rabbits

by Jairo Buitrago, translated from the Spanish by Elisa Amado, illustrated by Rafael Yockteng (Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, \$18.95) 978-1-55498-741-2

Migrating with her father to the United States, a young girl shares the ways she occupies herself during the harrowing journey. Expressive digital illustrations. End note. (5–8)

Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt

by Kate Messner, illustrated by Christopher Silas Neal (Chronicle Books, \$16.99) 978-1-4521-1936-6
The flourishing plants and animals above the earth and the roots and animals in the soil below are described as grandmother and child tend a garden. Colorful, detailed illustrations. (6–9)

*A Wave Came through Our Window

by Zetta Elliott, illustrated by Charity Russell (Rosetta Press, P \$10.00) 978-1-51503352-3
Benny and her big sister cannot sleep on a hot night, so they enjoy the neighborhood sounds and smells. Soft, colored illustrations. (6–8)

What James Said

by Liz Rosenberg, illustrated by Matt Myers (Neal Porter Books/Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$16.99) 978-1-59643-908-5

It hurts to lose your best friend, especially through a misunderstanding. Appealing pen and watercolor illustrations. (5–7)

When Otis Courted Mama

by Kathi Appelt, illustrated by Jill McElmurry (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt BFYR, \$16.99) 978-0-15-216688-5

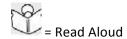
A young coyote in New Mexico learns to accept his divorced mother's suitor. Gouache illustrations portray the southwestern desert. (4–8)

When Sophie's Feelings Are Really, Really Hurt

written and illustrated by Molly Bang (Scholastic Press, \$17.99) 978-0-545-78831-1 When Sophie's painting of her favorite tree is criticized, her feelings get hurt. A caring teacher helps. Vivid, bold illustrations. (5–8)

Five to Nine

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POETRY



selected by Lee Bennett Hopkins, illustrated by Chris Soentpiet and Christy Hale (Lee & Low Books, \$18.95) 978-1-60060-653-3 An exquisite anthology of historic places and people represents diverse voices and fresh viewpoints of a group of notable poets. Pencil and digital illustrations. (7–10)

Boats Float!

by George Ella Lyon, and Benn Lyon, illustrated by Mick Wiggins

(Atheneum BFYR/ Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-0380-1 Rhyming text and colorful, digitally rendered illustrations depict many different types of boats. (4–7)

Flutter & Hum: Animal Poems/Aleteo y zumbido: poemas de animales

written and illustrated by Julie Paschkis (Henry Holt and Co. BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-1-62779-103-8 Colorful gouache illustrations and eloquent verses in Spanish and English convey the essence of snakes, herons, whales, moths, and a variety of other creatures. (7–10)

*Goodnight Songs: A Celebration of the Seasons

by Margaret Wise Brown, illustrated by Peter Brown and others

(Sterling Children's Books/Sterling Publishing, \$17.95) 978-1-4549-0447-2

Twelve bedtime poems, set to music and illustrated by a variety of artists, glorify the wonders of nature throughout the year. Extensive end notes. CD. (5–8)

My Village: Rhymes from around the World collected by Danielle Wright, illustrated by Mique Moriuchi, introduction by Michael Rosen (Frances Lincoln Children's Books, \$17.99) 978-1-84780-627-7 Colorful collages illustrate traditional poems from 50

Colorful collages illustrate traditional poems from 50 countries. (6–8)

National Geographic Book of Nature Poetry: More than 200 Poems With Photographs That Float, Zoom, and Bloom!

edited by J. Patrick Lewis (National Geographic, \$24.99) 978-1-4263-2094-1 From sky to sea, in splendor and distress, nature is depicted by a wide variety of poets. Full-color photographs. (7–10)

*Neighbors: The Water Critters

by George Held, illustrated by Joung Un Kim (Filsinger & Co., \$25.00) 978-0-916754-31-0 Thirteen varied short poems combine facts and linguistic whimsy in portraying aquatic creatures. Simple collage illustrations capture their natural environments. Questions stimulate discussion. (6–9)

One Today

by Richard Blanco, illustrated by Dav Pilkey (Little, Brown and Company/Hachette, \$18.00) 978-0-316-37144-5

A lush and lyrical patriotic commemoration of America is enhanced by vivid acrylic and india ink illustrations. (5–8)

Orangutanka: A Story in Poems

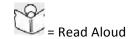
by Margarita Engle, illustrated by Renée Kurilla (Henry Holt and Co. BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-0-8050-9839-6

Follow a lively young orangutan as she dances in a wildlife preserve. Written in the Japanese tanka style. Colorful, energetic illustrations. Back matter. (5–8)

Five to Nine

2016 Edition

*= Outstanding Merit



(5-8) = Suggested Age Range



*The Popcorn Astronauts: And Other Biteable Rhymes

by Deborah Ruddell, illustrated by Joan Rankin (Margaret K. McElderry Books/Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-1-4424-6555-8

Food-based rhymed poems centered around the seasons create an imaginary world of delectable treats. Whimsical, detailed watercolors. (6–9)

*Sail Away: Poems by Langston Hughes

illustrated by Ashley Bryan (Atheneum BFYR/ Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-3085-2 Bold vivid paper-cut collages are paired with 15 child-friendly poems, each expressing the renowned poet's personal connection with water. Look for the surprise in the endpapers. (6–9)

*Salsa: Un poema para cocinar/ A Cooking Poem

by Jorge Argueta, translated from the Spanish by Elisa Amado, illustrated by Duncan Tonatiuh (Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, \$18.95) 978-1-55498-442-8

A young girl and her family make red salsa musically to celebrate their culture and ancestry. Flat, stylistic illustrations. Spanish and English text. (5–10)

The Sky Painter: Louis Fuertes, Bird Artist

by Margarita Engle, illustrated by Aliona Bereghici (Two Lions/Amazon Publishing, \$17.99) 978-1-4778-2633-1

The artist and naturalist known as the father of modern bird art is described through free verse and rhyme. Watercolor illustrations. Historical note. (6–9)

INFORMATION BOOKS

Animals (Nonfiction)

*An Ambush of Tigers: A Wild Gathering of Collective Nouns

by Betsy R. Rosenthal, illustrated by Jago (Millbrook Press/Lerner, \$19.99) 978-1-4677-1464-8 The collective nouns for assemblages of animals are presented humorously and poetically with equally clever illustrations. Includes a glossary. (4–8)

Big Red Kangaroo

by Claire Saxby, illustrated by Graham Byrne (Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-7075-7 In the wilds of Australia, a male kangaroo daily feeds his mob and meets the challenges to his leadership. Arresting illustrations. (5–8)

A Chicken Followed Me Home!: Questions and Answers about a Familiar Fowl

written and illustrated by Robin Page (Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-1028-1 Fascinating facts about chickens and their eggs will make you want a chicken of your own. Colorful, realistic digital illustrations. Back matter includes a brief bibliography. (5–8)

Could a Penguin Ride a Bike?: ... And Other Questions

by Camilla de la Bédoyère, illustrated by Aleksei Bitskoff (QEB Publishing/Hachette, \$15.95) 978-1-60992-734-9 Discover the facts about these popular birds by observing how they would function in everyday human activities. Humorous colorful illustrations. (5–7)

Daylight Starlight Wildlife

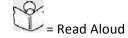
written and illustrated by Wendell Minor (Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin, \$17.99) 978-0-399-24662-3

Lifelike luminous paintings reveal the variety of wild life that surrounds us while we are sleeping and when we are awake. Back matter. (5–8)

Five to Nine

2016 Edition

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(5-8) = Suggested Age Range



= Graphic Format

Egg: Nature's Perfect Package

by Steve Jenkins and Robin Page, illustrated by Steve Jenkins

(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt BFYR, \$16.99) 978-0-547-95909-2

Different animals lay eggs in different sizes and in different places and store them in different ways. Drawings and accurate collages. (7–10)

*High Tide for Horseshoe Crabs

by Lisa Kahn Schnell, illustrated by Alan Marks (Charlesbridge, \$16.95) 978-1-58089-604-7 Birds, people, and horseshoe crabs meet up each spring on the shores of Delaware Bay where the crabs come to spawn. Ink and watercolor illustrations. (6–9)

I (Don't) Like Snakes

by Nicola Davies, illustrated by Luciano Lozano (Candlewick Press, \$15.99) 978-0-7636-7831-9 Will a young girl overcome her aversion to snakes when she learns more about them? Well-explained facts and detailed color illustrations. (6–9)

Moon Bears

written and photographed by Mark Newman (Henry Holt and Co. BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-0-8050-9344-5

Learn how some of Asia's rescued indigenous moon bears live, what they eat, and why their ears are round and far apart. Detailed photographs. (6–9)

The Most Amazing Creature in the Sea

by Brenda Z. Guiberson, illustrated by Gennady Spirin (Henry Holt and Co. BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-0-8050-9961-4

In beautifully illustrated two-page spreads, 12 marine animals tell why they deserve to be considered the most amazing creature in the sea. Bibliography and online resources. (7–10)

A Nest Is Noisy

by Dianna Hutts Aston, illustrated by Sylvia Long (Chronicle Books, \$16.99) 978-1-4521-2713-2 An amazing variety of nests of diverse animals—hornets, flamingos, lampreys and more—are meticulously illustrated. (7–9)

Primate School

by Jennifer Keats Curtis (Arbordale, \$17.95) 978-1-62855-555-4 Informative text and color photographs show primates in captivity and the kinds of adaptive behavior they learn from using technology and interacting with people. (6–9)

Salamander Season

by Jennifer Keats Curtis and J. Adam Frederick, illustrated by Shennen Bersani (Arbordale, \$17.95) 978-1-62855-5561-1 Father and daughter scientists discover the habitat of salamanders throughout their life cycle. Photographs and lively, detailed drawings. (6–9)

Secrets of Winter: A Shine-a-Light Book

by Carron Brown, illustrated by Georgina Tee (Kane Miller/EDC, \$12.99) 978-1-61067-369-3
Shine a light behind the page to uncover hidden animals in their habitats during winter. Written in a Q and A format. Color and black-and-white illustrations. (5–7)

Trapped!: A Whale's Rescue

by Robert Burleigh, illustrated by Wendell Minor (Charlesbridge, \$17.95) 978-1-58089-558-3
A humpback whale, caught in fishing nets, is freed by divers. Based on a true story. Vivid gouache illustrations. (5–8)

Weird & Wild Animal Facts

by Jessica Loy, photographed by Jessica Loy and others (Christy Ottaviano Books/Henry Holt BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-0-8050-7945-6

Some fairly common animals have some very unusual characteristics used for defense, feeding, cleansing, and camouflage. Photographs. (5–8)

Five to Nine

2016 Edition

*= Outstanding Merit



(5-8) = Suggested Age Range



= Graphic Format

Arts

Bird & Diz

by Gary Golio, illustrated by Ed Young (Candlewick Press, \$19.99) 978-0-7636-6660-6 When jazz greats Charlie "Bird" Parker and John Birks "Dizzy" Gillespie played together, they created a new musical style called bebop. Pastel, gouache, and ink illustrations. (5–8)



Drum Dream Girl:

How One Girl's Courage Changed Music

by Margarita Engle, illustrated by Rafael López (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt BFYR, \$16.99) 978-0-544-10229-3

Though she is continually reminded that only boys play drums, a young girl in Cuba strives to become a drummer. Poetic text. Illustrated in vibrant, tropical colors. (6–9)

Ira's Shakespeare Dream

by Glenda Armand, illustrated by Floyd Cooper (Lee & Low Books, \$18.95) 978-1-62014-155-7 African American Ira Aldridge left segregated America in the 1800s and achieved success on the stage in England. Softly hued oil wash illustrations. (7–10)

My Pen

written and illustrated by Christopher Myers (Disney-Hyperion Books, \$16.99) 978-1-4231-0371-4 The acclaimed illustrator shares his pen and ink sketchbook and invites kids to pick up a pen and create imaginary worlds. (7–10)

Biography and Memoir

*Ada Byron Lovelace and the Thinking Machine

by Laurie Wallmark, illustrated by April Chu (Creston Books, \$17.99) 978-1-939547-20-0 Interested in science and math, young Ada wrote what is considered to be the first computer program. Victorian style illustrations, pencil on paper then colored. (7–9)

*The Amazing Age of John Roy Lynch

by Chris Barton, illustrated by Don Tate (Eerdmans BFYR, \$17.00) 978-0-8028-5379-0 Born a slave, Lynch became a congressman during Reconstruction in the South, experiencing its twists and hardships. Vivid language, watercolor illustrations, timeline, and bibliography. (6–10)

Earmuffs for Everyone!: How Chester Greenwood Became Known as the Inventor of Earmuffs

written and illustrated by Meghan McCarthy (Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-0637-6 A boy from Maine with cold ears improves upon and patents his design for earmuffs. Colorful, comical illustrations. Notes and bibliography. (6–10)

Elvis: The Story of the Rock and Roll King

written and illustrated by Bonnie Christensen (Christy Ottaviano Books/Henry Holt BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-0-8050-9447-3

Elvis's shyness and upbringing in a poor white community as well as the mix of black and white music that moved him are narrated in simple verse. Lovely photo collages painted with oil. (6–9)

Emmanuel's Dream: The True Story of Emmanuel Ofosu Yeboah

by Laurie Ann Thompson, illustrated by Sean Qualls (Schwartz & Wade Books/Random House, \$17.99) 978-0-449-81744-5

Born with a deformed leg, Emmanuel rides his bike 400 miles across Ghana, gaining support and proving that disabled doesn't mean unabled. Mixed-media illustrations. (5–9)

Fab Four Friends: The Boys Who Became the Beatles

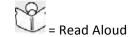
by Susanna Reich, illustrated by Adam Gustavson (Christy Ottaviano Books/Henry Holt BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-0-8050-9458-9

John, Paul, George, and Ringo worked tirelessly and coped with pain and trauma to fulfill their dream of being rock-and-roll musicians. Warm oil illustrations. (7–10)

Five to Nine

2016 Edition

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(5-8) = Suggested Age Range



*Frederick's Journey: The Life of Frederick Douglass (Big Words series)

by Doreen Rappaport, illustrated by London Ladd (Jump at the Sun/Disney-Hyperion, \$17.99) 978-1-4231-1438-3

Taken from his mother as an infant and forced to work as a slave at age six, Frederick Douglass was determined to educate himself and become a free man. Powerful illustrations. (7-10)

Henry Aaron's Dream

written and illustrated by Mart Tavares (Candlewick Press, \$14.99) 978-0-7636-7653-7 After Jackie Robinson integrated baseball, great African American athlete Henry Aaron's dream of becoming a major-league player came true. Expressive, realistic mixed-media illustrations. (7–9)

*Jake Makes a World: Jacob Lawrence, a Young Artist in Harlem

by Sharifa Rhodes-Pitts, illustrated by Christopher Myers

(The Museum of Modern Art, \$18.95) 978-0-87070-965-4

The colors and music of his Harlem neighborhood inspire a young boy to paint, create masks, and recreate his world. Brilliantly illustrated. Backmatter with biographical details and reproductions of seven Jacob Lawrence paintings. (6–10)

Love Will See You Through: Martin Luther King Jr.'s Six Guiding Beliefs (as Told by his Niece)

by Angela Farris Watkins, illustrated by Sally Wern Comport

(Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$17.99) 978-1-4169-8693-5 A simple explanation provides an understanding of the complexity of history's civil rights movement. Charcoal and acrylic drawings. (6–9)

Mahalia Jackson: Walking with Kings and Queens

by Nina Nolan, illustrated by John Holyfield (Amistad Press/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-087944-0

Born in poverty, Mahalia Jackson became a great gospel singer whose powerful voice rang out from Carnegie Hall to the March on Washington. Lush acrylic illustrations. (7–9)

My Name Is Truth: The Life of Sojourner Truth

by Ann Turner, illustrated by James Ransome (Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-075898-1 Transforming herself after a harsh life as a slave, this legendary orator and preacher vigorously advocated abolition and women's rights in the 1800s. Lyrical watercolor illustrations. Well referenced. (6–10)

One Plastic Bag: Isatou Ceesay and the Recycling Women of the Gambia

by Miranda Paul, illustrated by Elizabeth Zunon (Millbrook Press/Lerner, \$19.99) 978-1-4677-1608-6 When plastic bags threaten the health of her Gambian neighborhood, one woman with a crochet hook takes action. Colorful collage illustrations. Map and author's notes. (6–9)

* Poet: The Remarkable Story of George Moses Horton written and illustrated by Don Tate (Peachtree, \$16.95) 978-1-56145-825-7 The long and difficult journey from being enslaved and illiterate to becoming a free man and a published author reveals a poet's resilience. Yellow-toned

Queen of the Diamond: The Lizzie Murphy Story

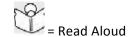
illustrations. Sources and notes. (7–9)

written and illustrated by Emily Arnold McCully (Margaret Ferguson Books/Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-0-374-30007-4 In the early 20th century, Lizzie Murphy proved that baseball wasn't just for men. This fictionalized account celebrates her rise to a major league career. Colorful, animated illustrations. (7–10)

Five to Nine

2016 Edition

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(5-8) = Suggested Age Range



Swan: The Life and Dance of Anna Pavlova

by Laurel Snyder, illustrated by Julie Morstad (Chronicle Books, \$17.99) 978-1-4521-1890-1 In Russia before World War I, a young girl who sees her first ballet knows right then what her future will be and becomes a world-famous ballerina. Mixed-media illustrations. (6–9)

Talkin' Guitar: A Story of Young Doc Watson

written and illustrated by Robbin Gourley (Clarion Books/HMH, \$16.99) 978-0-544-12988-7 The songs and soundscape of rural Appalachia inspired young, blind Arthel Watson to become a great folk singer and bluegrass musician. Gentle watercolors. (7–9)

History

Aaron and Alexander: The Most Famous Duel in American History

written and illustrated by Don Brown (Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-1-59643-998-6

Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr, two powerful figures of early American history, come to blows with fatal results. Dramatic watercolors. Notes and bibliography. (6–9)

*The Case for Loving: The Fight for Interracial Marriage by Selina Alko, illustrated by Sean Qualls and Selina Alko

(Arthur A. Levine Books/Scholastic, \$18.99) 978-0-545-47853-3

In the 1960s the Lovings successfully challenged the Virginia law that made their interracial marriage a crime. Subdued mixed-media illustrations. (6–9)

The Founding Fathers!: Those Horse-Ridin', Fiddle-Playin', Book-Readin', Gun-Totin' Gentlemen Who Started America

by Jonah Winter, illustrated by Barry Blitt (Atheneum BFYR/ Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, \$17.99) 978-1-4424-4274-0 Witty, evocative ink and watercolor illustrations enhance this lively, whimsical history of America's early leaders. Notes and sources. (6–10)

*Game Changer: John McLendon and the Secret Game by John Coy, illustrated by Randy DuBurke (Carolrhoda Books/Lerner, \$17.99) 978-1-4677-2604-7 In 1944 in segregated North Carolina, white players and black players broke the law to play basketball together. Muted color illustrations. (7–10)

*Seeds of Freedom: The Peaceful Integration of Huntsville, Alabama

by Hester Bass, illustrated by E. B. Lewis (Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-6919-5 As civil rights violence rocks the nation, Huntsville, Alabama, chooses to peacefully integrate its restaurants, its movie theaters, and, finally, its schools. Warm, rich watercolors. Author's note and bibliography. (7–10)

Whale Trails: Before and Now

by Lesa Cline-Ransome, illustrated by G. Brian Karas (Christy Ottaviano Books/Henry Holt BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-0-8050-9642-2

A whale-watching trip in Cape Cod today is juxtaposed with the lucrative whaling expeditions of the 18th and 19th centuries. Gouache, acrylic, and pencil illustrations. Back matter. (6–9)

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)

Boy, Were We Wrong about the Human Body by Kathleen V. Kudlinski, illustrated by Debbie Tilley (Dial BFYR/Penguin, \$16.99) 978-0-8037-3792-1 What will we find out in 20 years that will disprove what we know today? A delightful romp through medical history. Humorous watercolors. Timeline. (7–9)

Boy, Were We Wrong about the Weather!

by Kathleen V. Kudlinski, illustrated by Sebastià Serra (Dial BFYR/Penguin, \$16.99) 978-0-8037-3793-8 Throughout recorded history, people had myriad theories about weather—all wrong! Artwork created with pencil and computer graphics. Timeline. (7–9)

Five to Nine

2016 Edition

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(5-8) = Suggested Age Range



= Graphic Format

If You Love Honey: Nature's Connections

by Martha Sullivan, illustrated by Cathy Morrison (Dawn Publications, P \$8.95) 978-1-58469-534-9
Bees make honey—but they don't do it alone. They are part of an interactive cycle that includes dandelions, ladybugs, and many other plants and animals. Colorful, detailed illustrations. (7–9)

On the Construction Site: A Shine-a-Light Book

by Carron Brown, illustrated by Bee Johnson (Kane Miller/EDC, \$12.99) 978-1-61067-370-9
Shine a light behind the page to uncover hidden features of a building site. Presented in a Q and A format. Color and black-and-white illustrations. (5–8)

Raindrops Roll

written and photographed by April Pulley Sayre (Beach Lane Books/Simon & Schuster, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-2064-8

Outstanding photographs and clear text reveal the science of raindrops as they land. Back matter adds details about the water cycle. (5–8)

*Simple Machines (Let's Read-and-Find-Out Science series)

by D. J. Ward, illustrated by Mike Lowery (Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-232148-0 Learn about the six basic simple machines—levers, wheels and axels, pulleys, ramps, wedges, and screws. Humorous explanations. Pen, ink, and digital illustrations. (5–8)

Simple Machines: Wheels, Levers, and Pulleys

by David A. Adler, illustrated by Anna Raff (Holiday House, \$17.95) 978-0-8234-3309-4 Did you know your teeth are simple machines? Find out how many simple machines there are in our everyday life. Useful, clear illustrations. (6–8)

So You Want to Grow a Pizza? (Grow Your Food series)

by Bridget Heos, illustrated by Daniele Fabbri (Amicus, \$19.95) 978-1-60753-740-3
A humorous how-to on how to grow the ingredients for pizza sauce. Warm, colorful illustrations of the process. Recipe and resource list. (5–8)

Sounds of the Savanna

by Terry Catasús Jennings, illustrated by Phyllis Saroff (Arbordale, \$17.95) 978-1-62855-632-2 From elephants trumpeting and rumbling to baboons shrieking and grunting, the animals of the savanna communicate through many different sounds. Detailed digital and oil illustrations. (7–9)

Water Is Water:

A Book about the Water Cycle

by Miranda Paul, illustrated by Jason Chin (Neal Porter Books/Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-1-59643-984-9

Siblings explore the many different forms that water takes during each season. Lyrical text with realistic watercolor and gouache illustrations. Back matter provides scientific facts and bibliography. (6–9)

What in the World?: Numbers in Nature

by Nancy Raines Day, illustrated by Kurt Cyrus (Beach Lane Books/Simon & Schuster, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-0060-2

Large-scale colorful illustrations and simple rhyming text describe birds two by two, three by three, and in other sets in nature. (6–8)

When the Wind Blows

by Stacy Clark, illustrated by Brad Sneed (Holiday House, \$16.95) 978-0-8243-3069-7 From filling sails to turning windmills to produce power, wind can do many things. Poetically told with appealing illustrations. (5–7)

World

The Way to School

by Rosemary McCarney, with Plan International (Second Story Press, \$18.95) 978-1-927583-78-4 Children around the world share their different and sometimes dangerous experiences going to school. Full-color photographs, (5–8)