

# BOOKLISTS

## PRESCHOOL-GRADE 3



- ★ **Movie Books**
- ★ **Television Books**
- ★ **Theatre (Drama) Books**
- ★ **Magic Books**
- ★ **Music & Band Books**
- ★ **Dance Books**
- ★ **Ballet Books**
- ★ **Sports Books**
- ★ **Art Books**
- ★ **Pottery & Sculpture Books**
- ★ **Invention Books**
- ★ **Dinosaur & Paleontology Books**
- ★ **Space Exploration Books**
- ★ **Stars & Constellations Books**
- ★ **Bedtime Books**
- ★ **Dress-Up Books**
- ★ **Self-Esteem Books**
- ★ **Bully Books**
- ★ **Superhero Books**
- ★ **Community Helper Books**
  - ★ Firefighters
  - ★ Police
  - ★ Detectives & Crime Fighters
  - ★ Garbage Collecting & Recycling
  - ★ Dentists (Plus a Few Tooth Fairies)
  - ★ Doctors & Hospitals
  - ★ Librarians
  - ★ Teachers
  - ★ Principals
- ★ **Books About Books & Writing**

## MOVIE BOOKS GRADES K-3

**Albert Goes Hollywood** by Henry Schwartz. Illustrated by Amy Schwartz. Orchard, 1992. Liz gets to keep her pet dinosaur, Albert, when she finds him a job in the movies.

**Bean's Big Day** by Karen Ackerman. Illustrated by Paul Mombourquette. Kids Can Press, 2004. A man from "the moving pictures" comes to a small town to select someone to be in a show. The story is long, but the illustrations are comical.

**Clifford Goes to Hollywood** by Norman Bridwell. Although Clifford has a successful Hollywood career, he gets homesick and returns to his master.

**Curious George Goes to a Movie** by Margaret and H.A. Rey. Houghton Mifflin, 1998. When his curiosity leads him to investigate how the movie gets onto the screen, George disrupts the show.

**If You Take a Mouse to the Movies** by Laura Numeroff. Illustrated by Felicia Bond. Laura Geringer Books, 2000. Taking a mouse to the movies can lead to letting him do other things, such as making a snowman, listening to Christmas carols, and decorating the Christmas tree.

**Kay Thompson's Eloise in Hollywood** by David Stem and David Weiss. Illustrations by Ted Enik (in the style of Hilary Knight). Simon & Schuster, 2005. Eloise in her own inimitable style takes Hollywood by storm.

**Lights! Action! California!** by Christina Wilsdon. Illustrated by Dennis Hockerman. Reader's Digest, 2006. While visiting California, Henry the city mouse and Emma the country mouse get to star in a movie that is being shot in Hollywood, in San Francisco, and among the redwood trees.

**Lights, Camera...Liftoff!** by Dan Greenburg. Illustrated by Macky Pamintuan. Random House, 2007. Aliens along with their human friends travel to Hollywood, where the aliens become extras on a science fiction television show while waiting for the spaceship that will take them home.

**Sassafras Goes to Hollywood** by Lynn Hirshfield and Dena Fishbein. Penguin, 2007. When Mr. Norton takes Sassafras to Hollywood, she is certain that she will win the "It Dog" contest and be a movie star, but he shows her what already makes her special.

**Sock Monkey Goes to Hollywood: A Star is Bathed** by Cece Bell. Candlewick, 2003. When Sock Money is nominated for an Oswald Award as Best Supporting Toy in a motion picture, his friends help make him clean enough to attend the ceremony.

**Sock Monkey Rides Again** by Cece Bell. Candlewick, 2006. Famous toy actor Sock Monkey finds it almost impossible to kiss his co-star while filming a singing cowboy movie.

## TELEVISION BOOKS GRADES K-3

**Arthur's TV Trouble** by Marc Brown. Little, Brown, 1997. When Arthur sees advertisements for the amazing doggy Treat Timer, he decides to earn enough money to buy it for his dog Pal.

**The Bionic Bunny Show** by Marc Brown. Illustrated by Laurie Krasny Brown. Little, Brown, 1984. An ordinary rabbit in real life becomes a bionic superhero on his television series. The book shows the details of the television production procedures that provide that illusion.

**Fix-It** by David McPhail. Dutton, 1984. When the fix-it man is trying to repair the television and her parents are trying to entertain her, Emma becomes so interested in reading that she no longer cares about television.

**Library Lil** by Suzanne Williams. Illustrated by Steven Kellogg. Dial, 1997. In this funny tall tale, a librarian turns a community full of television watchers into avid readers. She even has a tough-talking motorcycle gang fighting over who gets to read *The Mouse and the Motorcycle*.

**Mouse TV** by Matt Novak. Orchard, 1994. Each member of the Mouse family wants to watch something different on television, but they discover a solution to their problem one night when the television does not work.

**The Mummy Family Finds Fame** by Tony Bradman. Illustrated by Martin Chatterton. Crabtree, 2006. Dead broke, the Mummy family decides to compete for fame and fortune as contestants on the reality television show *Fabulous Families*, but to win they must pretend that they get along.

**TV Rex** by John Nickle. Scholastic, 2001. Missing his grandfather, Rex watches too much television and soon finds himself in a fantastical adventure where he stars in all his favorite shows.

## THEATRE (DRAMA) BOOKS PRESCHOOL-GRADE 3

**Amazing Grace** by Mary Hoffman. Illustrated by Caroline Binch. Dial, 1991. Although a classmate says that she cannot play Peter Pan in the school play because she is an African American girl, Grace discovers that she can do anything that she sets her mind to.

**Beverly Billingsly Takes a Bow** by Alexander Stadler. Harcourt, 2003. Beverly wants to be in the school musical, but when she freezes up during her audition, she is given the roll of a rock and a shrub. Nevertheless, she saves the play by helping the star.

**Evie and Margie** by Bernard Waber. Houghton Mifflin, 2003. Best friend hippos are surprised to experience jealousy when they try out for the same part in the school play.

**Letters From a Desperate Dog** by Eileen Christelow. Clarion, 2006. Feeling misunderstood and unappreciated by her owner, Emma the dog asks for advice from the local canine advice columnist and runs off to join an acting troop. The story is told in comic book style panels.

**Maestro Von Haughty Presents, One Dark and Dreadful Night** by Randy Cecil. Henry Holt, 2004. Maestro Von Haughty wants to present three thrilling tales of terror and misfortune, but the members of the Wayward Orphans Theatre make some very silly changes to the costumes and scripts.

**Pigmalion** by Glenda Leznoff. Illustrated by Rachel Berman. Tradewind, 2001. Although Juliet the pig dreams of a life on the stage, she is too shy to audition for parts, until the day the famous director, Monsieur Le Cochon, arrives in town to cast a production of "Pigmalion."

**A Play's the Thing** by Aliki. HarperCollins, 2005. Miss Brilliant's class puts on a performance of "Mary Had a Little Lamb."

**Rosie's Walk** by Pat Hutchins. Simon & Schuster, 1971. Rosie the hen walks around the barnyard, oblivious to the fox who is trying to catch her.

**Stagestruck** by Tomie de Paola. Putnam, 2005. Although Tommy fails to get the part of Peter Rabbit in the school play, he still finds a way to be the center of attention on stage.

**Shrinking Violet** by Cari Best. Illustrated by Giselle Potter. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2001. Violet, who is very shy and hates for anyone to look at her in school, finally comes out of her shell when she is cast as Lady Space in a play about the solar system and saves the production from disaster.

**The Three Little Pigs** by Paul Galdone. Houghton Mifflin, 1979. All three little pigs set out to seek their fortune, but two of them come to a sorry end.

**What Shall We Play?** by Sue Heap. Candlewick, 2002. Lily Mae and her friends have fun pretending to be trees, cars, cats, Jell-o, and fairies. Use this book as an introduction to an acting activity in which the children pretend to be different things.

## MAGIC BOOKS PRESCHOOL-GRADE 3

**Alice the Fairy** by David Shannon. Blue Sky Press, 2004. Alice believes she is a fairy-in-training. She wears wings, waves a magic wand, and does silly “magic” tricks like turning her father’s cookies into hers (by eating them), changing oatmeal into cake (by adding fairy dust sugar), and disappearing (by hiding under the covers). The charm of the story is that Alice believes in her magic.

**The Garden of Abdul Gasazi** by Chris Van Allsburg. Houghton, 1979. The dog that Alan is caring for runs into the forbidden garden of a retired dog-hating magician.

**Jumanji** by Chris Van Allsburg. Houghton Mifflin, 1981. When Judy and Peter find a board game in the park, they take it home. To their surprise and dismay, the jungle animals in the game magically come alive.

**The Magic Hat** by Mem Fox. Harcourt, 2002. In this rhyming story a wizard’s hat blows into town, landing on people’s heads and changing them into different animals. This oversized book with double page spreads of detailed, humorous illustrations is great for storytime.

**The Magic Rabbit** by Richard Jesse Watson. Blue Sky Press, 2005. The rabbit, who jumps out of a top hat, can perform amazing tricks, but he is lonely. All of the animals that he conjures up run away. Finally, he finds another hat; and when another rabbit pops out, he knows he has found a friend.

**Milo’s Hat Trick** by Jon Agee. Hyperion, 2001. Milo the Magnificent’s magic tricks never turn out right. When he goes in search of a rabbit for his show, Milo meets a bear, who, amazingly, dives into Milo’s hat and offers to be in his act.

**My Little Sister Ate One Hare** by Bill Grossman. Illustrated by Kevin Hawkes. Crown, 1996. Little sister has no problem eating one hare, two snakes, and three ants; but when she gets to ten peas, she throws up quite a mess.

**Probuditi** by Chris Van Allsburg. Houghton Mifflin, 2006. Calvin and his friend Rodney attend the magic show of Lomax the Magnificent, who uses a rotating spiral to make a lady think that she is a hen. Inspired by this feat, Calvin makes his own rotating spiral and turns his sister into a dog, but he forgets how to change her back.

**Strega Nona** by Tomie De Paola. Big Anthony makes Strega Nona’s pot cook pasta, but he forgets the magic words to make it stop. Soon pasta pours out of the house, flows down the lane, and fills the village.

**Strega Nona’s Magic Lessons** by Tomi DePaola. Harcourt, 1982. Big Anthony takes magic lessons from Strega Nona with disastrous results.

**Sylvester and the Magic Pebble** by William Steig. Simon & Schuster, 1969. This book, which won the 1970 Caldecott Medal, is about a donkey who finds a magic pebble. When a lion frightens the donkey, he wishes to be a rock, but then he cannot hold the magic pebble.

**The Wizard, the Fairy and the Magic Chicken** by Helen Lester. Illustrated by Lynn M. Munsinger. Paperback. Houghton Mifflin, 1988. This is a very funny story about a wizard, a fairy, and a chicken with a magic pickle wand, who all want to do magic tricks.

**Zathura** by Chris Van Allsburg. Houghton Mifflin, 2002. In this sequel, of sorts, to *Jumanji*, the two brothers, who picked up the board game that Peter and Judy throw away, open the box and discover another game inside. Walter and Danny Budwing play this outer space game and find themselves magically whisked off to the planet Zathura.

## MUSIC & BAND BOOKS PRESCHOOL-GRADE 3

### MUSIC PICTURE BOOKS

**Chicken Joy on Redbean Road: A Bayou Country Romp** by Jacqueline Briggs Martin. Illustrated by Melissa Sweet. Houghton Mifflin, 2007. This joyous story set in the Louisiana bayou pays homage to the late zydeco musician Boozoo Chavez. When the rooster loses his ability to crow, the hen two-steps down the road to get help from Mr. Joe Beebee. His musician friends gather and have a rollicking party that inspires the rooster to crow and saves him from the stew pot.

**Banjo Granny** by Sarah Martin Busse and Jacqueline Briggs Martin. Illustrated by Barry Root. Houghton Mifflin, 2006. Barry Owen's grandmother learns that he is wiggly, jiggly, and all-around giggly for bluegrass music, so with her banjo, she travels by curious means to visit and play for him.

**Mama Don't Allow** by Thacher Hurd. Harper Collins, 1984. Saxophone-playing Miles and his Swamp Band find a bevy of sharp-toothed, long-tailed alligators that love to listen to their music.

**Music, Music for Everyone** by Vera B. Williams. HarperCollins, 1984. Rosa plays her accordion with her friends in the Oak Street Band and earns money to help her mother with expenses while her grandmother is sick.

**My Family Plays Music** by Judy Cox. Illustrated by Elbrite Brown. Holiday House, 2003. A multi-racial musical family plays 10 different types of music and enjoys getting together to celebrate.

**Violet's Music** by Angela Johnson. Illustrated by Laura Huliska-Beith. Penguin, 2004. From the days she banged her rattle in the crib, Violet has been looking for friends to share her love of music.

### MARCHING BAND PICTURE BOOKS

**Bats on Parade** by Kathi Appelt. Illustrated by Melissa Sweet. Morrow Junior Books, 1999. On a midsummer's night, the Marching Bat Band makes a rare appearance and its members are grouped into formations that demonstrate multiplication from two times two up to ten times ten.

**Froggy Plays in the Band** by Jonathan London. Illustrated by Frank Remkiewicz. Viking, 2002. Froggy's marching band practices for a debut at the Apple Blossom Parade and hopes to win the big prize.

**Meet the Marching Smithereens** by Ann Hayes. Illustrated by Karmen Thompson. Harcourt, 1995. The animal musicians of the Marching Smithereens introduce the instruments and sounds of the marching band.

**Olivia Forms a Band** by Ian Falconer. Simon and Schuster, 2006. When Olivia learns that there will be no band at the evening's fireworks display, she decides to form one of her own, with herself as the only musician and some rather unusual instruments. This book includes a fold-out that starts with Olivia as the sole majorette and reveals Olivia's full-size band.

**Our Marching Band** by Lloyd Moss. Illustrated by Diana Cain Bluthenthal. Putnam, 2001. When all the girls and boys in the neighborhood first take up musical instruments, they produce awful tones. However, after much practice, they are able to become a marching band that brings brassy, classy fun.

**Thump, Thump, Rat-a-tat-tat** by Gene Baer. Illustrated by Lois Ehlert. Harper and Row, 1989. A distant marching band grows larger and louder as it nears, and then softer and smaller as it goes away again.

### **ROCK 'N' ROLL MUSIC PICTURE BOOKS**

**Arthur, It's Only Rock 'n' Roll** by Marc Brown. Little, Brown, 2002. Francine starts a rock band, hoping that the band members will focus on music rather than on money and fame.

**Baby Brains Superstar: The Smartest Baby in the Whole World** by Simon James. Candlewick, 2005. A musically gifted baby is invited to play the guitar at a star-studded rock concert.

**Punk Farm** by Jarrett J. Krosoczka. Alfred A. Knopf, 2005. At the end of the day, while Farmer Joe gets ready for bed, his animals tune their instruments to perform in a big concert as a rock band called Punk Farm.

**Punk Farm on Tour** by Jarrett J. Krosoczka. Alfred A. Knopf, 2007. Farmer Joe's animals plan to rock across the U.S.A. while he's out of town.

**Rock 'N' Roll Dogs** by David Davis. Illustrated by Chuck Galey. Pelican Press, 2006. The Rock 'N' Roll Memphis Blues Dogs entertain the crowds with their music at a club on Beale Street in Memphis, Tennessee.

### **ORCHESTRA (CLASSICAL MUSIC) PICTURE BOOKS**

**Meet the Orchestra** by Ann Hayes. Illustrated by Karmen Thompson. Voyager Books, 1995. Nonfiction. This book describes the features, sounds, and role of each musical instrument in the orchestra.

**Moses Goes to a Concert** by Isaac Millman. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1998. This book about a deaf boy who goes to a concert is written in English and in American Sign Language.

**The Philharmonic Gets Dressed** by Karla Kuskin. Illustrated by Marc Simont. HarperCollins, 1982. The 105 members of the Philharmonic Orchestra get ready for a performance.

**Zin! Zin! Zin! A Violin** by Lloyd Moss. Illustrated by Marjorie Priceman. Simon & Schuster, 1995. This Caldecott Honor Book is a counting book with sounds of ten instruments as they take their parts in an orchestra.



## **NONFICTION BOOKS ABOUT MUSIC**

**Ah, Music** by Aliko. HarperCollins, 2003. This overview of all types of music is a wonderful book for independent browsing by children in grades 1-4. Aliko's multi-ethnic children and cute animals explore a vast array of musical topics. Information is provided in large print, in smaller italics, and in handwritten word balloons.

**M is for Music** by Kathleen Krull. Illustrated by Stacy Innerst. Harcourt, 2003. This alphabet book introduces musical terms, from allegro to zarzuela.

## **BOOKS WITH CDs**

**Philadelphia Chickens: A Too-Illogical Zoological Music Review** by Sandra Boynton. Workman, 2002. This zany book and CD set includes lively, original songs written by Boynton and sung by a variety of well-known musicians.

**Rhinoceros Tap** by Sandra Boynton. Workman, 2004. This book and CD set has been updated from the 1999 book/cassette with a new look and a re-mastered CD. The music is a toe-tapping variety including big band sounds, calypso, and square dance.

## DANCE BOOKS PRESCHOOL-GRADE 3

**Barnyard Dance!** by Sandra Boynton. Board Book. Workman, 1999. A bespectacled fiddle-playing cow and pig twirling a sheep are featured in a barnyard dance.

**Big Bear Ball** by Joanne Ryder. Illustrated by Steven Kellogg. HarperCollins, 2002. Bears are gathered together for a ball under the stars.

**Chicken Joy on Redbean Road: A Bayou Country Romp** by Jacqueline Briggs Martin. Illustrated by Melissa Sweet. Houghton Mifflin, 2007. This joyous story set in the Louisiana bayou pays homage to the late zydeco musician Boozoo Chavez. When the rooster loses his ability to crow, the hen two-steps down the road to get help from Mr. Joe Beebee. His musician friends gather and have a rollicking party that inspires the rooster to crow and saves him from the stew pot.

**Dance!** by Elisha Cooper. Greenwillow, 2001. This book describes the process of preparing for a dance production as the dancers rehearse and perfect their moves.

**Dancing Matilda** by Sarah Hager. Illustrated by Kelly Murphy. HarperCollins, 2005. Matilda dances through every part of her day.

**Dinosaurumpus!** by Tony Mitton. Illustrated by Guy Parker-Rees. Orchard, 2003. This is a rhyming tale of Triceratops, Brontosaurus, and even Tyrannosaurus gathering at the swamp to dance.

**Dooby Dooby Moo** by Doreen Cronin. Illustrated by Betsy Lewin. Atheneum, 2006. The barnyard animals sing and dance at the county fair talent show. Duck saves the day with his version of “Born to be Wild.”

**Dumpy La Rue** by Elizabeth Winthrop. Illustrated by Betsy Lewin. Henry Holt, 2001. This is a rhyming story about a pig whose passion for dancing becomes contagious.

**Giraffes Can't Dance** by Giles Andreae. Illustrated by Guy Parker-Rees. Orchard, 2001. Gerald the giraffe is too clumsy to dance with all the other animals at the Jungle Dance, until he finds the right music.

**Gobble, Quack, Moon** by Matthew Gollub. Illustrated by Julie Love. Tortuga Press, 2002. A host of barn animals cheers up Katie the cow by staging a ballet party on the moon.

**Got to Dance** by M.C. Helldorfer. Illustrated by Hiroe Nakata. Doubleday, 2004. A young city girl dances away the summertime blues with her grandfather.

**How Can You Dance?** by Rick Walton. Illustrated by Ana Lopez-Escriva. Putnam, 2001. Rhyming text explores the many ways one can dance, like the leader of a marching band, like a crab on a sunny day, and like a tree as it waves in the breeze.

**Mirandy and Brother Wind** by Patricia McKissack. Illustrated by Jerry Pinkney. Random House, 1988. This story, set at the turn of the century, is based on a dance that was first introduced in America by slaves. Mirandy is determined to win the cakewalk jubilee, a festive dance contest, so she sets out to capture the wind.

**Moondance** by Frank Asch. Scholastic, 1994. Bear fulfills his dream of dancing with the moon.

**Prancing Dancing Lily** by Marsha Diane Arnold. Illustrated by John Manders. Dial, 2004. When her prancing and dancing disrupts her herd, Lily the cow travels the world looking for the right place and the right dance for her.

**Rap A Tap Tap: Here's Bojangles—Think of That!** by Leo and Diane Dillon. Scholastic, 2002. Illustrations and rhyme describe the dancing of Bill "Bojangles" Robinson, one of the most famous tap dancers of all time.

**Saturday Night at the Dinosaur Stomp** by Carol Diggory Shields. Illustrated by Scott Nash. Candlewick, 2002. Rock, roll, and stomp along with the dinosaurs when they get ready to have some fun.

**Song and Dance Man** by Karen Ackerman. Illustrated by Stephen Gammell. Random House, 2003 (1988). Grandpa entertains his grandchildren with some of the songs, dances and jokes that he did when he was a vaudeville performer. Caldecott Medal 1989.

**Stompin' at the Savoy** by Bebe Moore Campbell. Illustrated by Richard Yarde. Philomel, 2006. On the night of her jazz dance recital, Mindy feels too nervous to go until a magical drum whisks her away to the Savoy Ballroom in Harlem where she finds her "happy feet."

## **BALLET BOOKS PRESCHOOL-GRADE 3**

### **PICTURE BOOKS**

**Angelina Ballerina** by Katherine Holabird. Illustrated by Helen Craig. Viking, 2006. Angelina loves to dance and wants to be a ballerina more than anything else in the world.

**Ballerina** by Peter Sis. HarperCollins, 2001. A young girl puts on costumes of various colors and imagines herself dancing on stage.

**Ballerino Nate** by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley. Illustrated by R.W. Alley. Dial, 2006. After seeing a ballet performance, Nate decides he wants to learn ballet; but he has doubts when his brother Ben tells him that only girls can become ballerinas.

**Belinda, the Ballerina** by Amy Young. Viking, 2003. When Belinda tries out for the Spring Ballet Recital, the judges tell her that she cannot be a ballerina because her feet are too big.

**Dancing in the Wings** by Debbie Allen. Illustrated by Kadir A. Nelson. Penguin, 2000. The other girls tease Sassy because she is tall and lanky, but Debbie is chosen for the summer dance festival.

**Dancing Larry** by Daniel Pinkwater. Illustrated by Jill Pinkwater. Marshall Cavendish, 2006. Larry the polar bear joins a ballet class to overcome the admonition that "bears have no place in ballet."

**Hen Lake** by Mary Jane Auch. Holiday House, 1995. Tired of the bragging of Percival the peacock, Poulette convinces the other hens in the barnyard that they can outperform the boastful bird in a ballet she creates.

**Not Just Tutus** by Rachel Isadora. Putnam, 2003. This book describes the struggles and triumphs of a young girl learning and performing ballet.

**Peeping Beauty** by Mary Jane Auch. Holiday House, 1993. A hen-ballerina aspires to stardom and foils a fox-agent.

**Time For Ballet** by Adele Geras. Illustrated by Shelagh McNicholas. Dial, 2004. Tilly, who loves the ballet, plays the part of a cat in her class recital.

### **NONFICTION BOOKS**

**Ballet School** by Naia Bra-Moffat and David Handley. Dorling Kindersley, 2003. Text and photographs present the activities at a ballet studio where young children warm up, practice the five basic positions, exercise at the barre, and watch teenage ballet dancers perform.

**On Your Toes: A Ballet ABC** by Rachel Isadora. Greenwillow, 2003. Each letter of the alphabet is represented by an illustration of a ballet-related word. Invite the children to act out the ballet steps pictured. The illustrations are lovely.

## SPORTS BOOKS PRESCHOOL-GRADE 3

### PICTURE BOOKS

**Angelina and Alice** by Katherine Holabird. Illustrated by Helen Craig. Viking, 2006. Angelina and her best friend Alice discover the importance of teamwork when their acrobatics are the hit of the gymnastics show at the village fair. GYMNASTICS

**Arthur's Birthday Party** by Lillian Hoban. HarperCollins, 1999. Arthur the chimpanzee is determined to be the best all-around gymnast at his gymnastics birthday party. GYMNASTICS

**Baseball Saved Us** by Ken Mochizuki. Illustrated by Dom Lee. Lee & Low, 1993. A Japanese American boy learns to play baseball when he and his family are forced to live in an internment camp during World War II. His ability to play helps him after the war is over. BASEBALL

**Berenstain Bears Go Out for the Team** by Stan and Jan Berenstain. Random House, 1987. Brother and Sister Bear try out for the Bear Country Club League. BASEBALL

**Casey at the Bat** by Ernest L. Thayer. Illustrated by C.F. Payne. Simon and Schuster, 2003. This popular narrative poem is about a celebrated baseball player who strikes out at the crucial moment of the game. BASEBALL

**Clifford's Sports Day** by Norman Bridwell. Scholastic, 1996. When Clifford joins Emily Elizabeth's class for a day of outdoor games and races, the result is big fun! TRACK & FIELD

**Field Day Friday** by Judith Caseley. Greenwillow, 2000. On field day, Casey is upset when he loses a race to his best friend Longjohn. TRACK & FIELD

**Franklin Plays the Game** by Paulette Bourgeois. Illustrated by Brenda Clark. Kids Can Press, 1997. Franklin loves to play soccer, and with practice, he and his teammates learn how to have fun even if they do not win. SOCCER

**Froggy Plays Soccer** by Jonathan London. Illustrated by Frank Remkiewicz. Viking, 1999. Although Froggy is very excited when his team plays for the city soccer championship, he makes a mistake that could cost his team the game. SOCCER

**Home Run: The Story of Babe Ruth** by Robert Burleigh. Illustrated by Mike Wimmer. Silver Whistle, 1998. This is a poetic account of the legendary Babe Ruth as he prepares to make a home run. BASEBALL

**Hoops** by Robert Burleigh. Illustrated by Stephen T. Johnson. Silver Whistle, 1997. Illustrations and poetic text describe the movement and the feel of the game of basketball. BASKETBALL

**JoJo's Flying Side Kick** by Brian Pinkney. Simon & Schuster, 1995. Everyone gives JoJo advice on how to perform in order to earn her yellow belt in the tae kwon do class. In the end, she figures it out for herself. MARTIAL ARTS

**Jungle Baseball Game** by Tom Paxton. Illustrated by Karen Lee Schmidt. HarperCollins, 1999. The jungle animals enjoy a rousing game of baseball. **BASEBALL**

**Karate Hour** by Carol Nevius. Illustrated by Bill Thomson. Marshall Cavendish, 2004. Rhyming text portrays the exuberance of an hour of karate class. **MARTIAL ARTS**

**Kick the Football, Charlie Brown!** by Charles Schulz and Judy Katschke. Simon & Schuster, 2001. Charlie Brown continues to kick the football and Lucy continues to pull it away to make him fall down. **FOOTBALL**

**Louanne Pig in Making the Team** by Nancy Carlson. Carolrhoda, 1985. Though she wants to be a cheerleader, Louanne helps her friend try out for football. **FOOTBALL**

**Miss Nelson Has a Field Day** by Harry G. Allard. Illustrated by James Marshall. Houghton Mifflin, 1985. The notorious Miss Swamp reappears at the Horace B. Smedley School, this time to shape up the football team and help them to win at least one game. **FOOTBALL**

**Mouse Practice** by Emily Arnold McCully. Scholastic, 1999. Little Monk learns from his parents that practice is the way to succeed – whether it is in playing baseball or in playing music. **BASEBALL**

**Rhinos Who Play Soccer** by Julie Mammano. Chronicle, 2001. Rhinoceroses play a game of soccer as Team Rhino meets the All Stars. **SOCCER**

**Salt in His Shoes: Michael Jordan in Pursuit of a Dream** by Deloris and Roslyn Jordan. Illustrated by Kadir A. Nelson. Simon and Schuster, 2000. Young Michael Jordan, who is smaller than the other players, learns that determination and hard work are more important than size when playing basketball. **BASKETBALL**

**The Tortoise and the Hare: An Aesop's Fable** by Janet Stevens. Holiday House, 1994. In this comic adaptation of the classic tale, the slow and steady hare wins the race. **TRACK & FIELD**

**Tumble Bunnies** by Kathryn Lasky. Illustrated by Marilyn Hafner. Candlewick, 2005. Feeling untalented in the team sports scheduled for his school's Sports Spectacular, Clyde the rabbit develops his own event, a freestyle tumbling routine with a dazzling move called the "twirly burly." **GYMNASTICS**

**Winners Never Quit!** by Mia Hamm. Illustrated by Carol Thompson. HarperCollins, 2004. Little Mia learns that being part of her soccer team means more than winning or losing. **SOCCER**

**Ziggy's Blue-Day Ribbon** by Claudia Mills. Illustrated by R.W. Alley. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2005. Ziggy does not do well on the school's track and field day events, but he feels much better after his classmates recognize his drawing talent. **TRACK & FIELD**

## **NONFICTION BOOKS**

**Baseball Jokes and Riddles** by Matt Christopher. Illustrated by Dan Vasconcellos. Little, Brown, 1996. This is a collection of jokes, riddles, and humorous anecdotes about the game of baseball.

**My Basketball Book** by Gail Gibbons. HarperCollins, 2000. This book introduces the game of basketball, describing the players, court, techniques, and rules of play.

**My Baseball Book** by Gail Gibbons. HarperCollins, 2000. This book serves as an introduction to baseball, describing the equipment, playing field, rules, players, and the game.

**My Soccer Book** by Gail Gibbons. HarperCollins, 2000. This book briefly describes the equipment, rules, terminology, positions, and plays of one of the world's most popular games.

## **POETRY BOOKS**

**Good Sports: Rhymes About Running, Jumping, Throwing and More** by Jack Prelutsky. Illustrated by Chris Raschka. Knopf, 2007. Seventeen brief poems about athletes are illustrated with Raschka's humorous illustrations.

**Sports! Sports! Sports! A Poetry Collection** compiled by Lee Bennett Hopkins. Illustrated by Brian Floca. HarperCollins, 1994. This is a collection of poems celebrating the joy and the anguish of baseball, basketball, football, ice hockey, soccer, skating, swimming, and running races.

## ART BOOKS PRESCHOOL-GRADE 3

### BOOKS ABOUT ART

**Art Dog** by Thacher Hurd. HarperCollins, 1996. When Mona Woofa is stolen from the Dogopolis Museum of Art, a mysterious character, who calls himself Art Dog, tracks down and captures the thieves by using his super-skills as a painter. The humor of this parody will be most appreciated by children who are familiar with the art and artists that are alluded to in the story.

**The Art Lesson** by Tomie de Paola. Putnam, 1989. When Tommy starts art class at school, he is disappointed when his teacher wants him to copy her drawing instead of creating his own.

**Bread and Honey** by Frank Asch. Parent's Magazine, 1982. Ben's picture of his mother is modified by all his animal friends until it has the features of a variety of animals, but his mother likes it anyway. A similar story is in the out of print book *Monkey Face* by Frank Asch. If your library has a copy, use it. The kids love this hilarious story.

**Cherries and Cherry Pits** by Vera B. Williams. HarperCollins, 1986. Bidemmi draws pictures and tells stories about cherries.

**The Class Artist** by G. Brian Karas. Greenwillow, 2001. Despite the trouble he has at first working on art projects at school, Fred develops into the class artist.

**David's Drawings** by Cathryn Falwell. Lee & Low, 2001. A shy African American boy makes friends with his classmates by drawing a picture of a tree.

**Emily's Art** by Peter Catalanotto. Atheneum, 2001. Emily paints four pictures and enters one in the first-grade art contest, but the judge interprets Emily's entry as a rabbit instead of a dog.

**Lily Brown's Paintings** by Angela Johnson. Illustrated by E.B. Lewis. Orchard, 2007. When Lily Brown paints, she imagines all sorts of fantastic things in the scenes that she sees everyday.

**Micawber** by John Lithgow. Illustrated by C.F. Payne. Simon & Schuster, 2002. Micawber, a squirrel fascinated by art, leaves a museum with an art student and secretly uses her supplies to make his own painting.

**Ziggy's Blue-Ribbon Day** by Claudia Mills. Illustrated by Robert W. Alley. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2005. Ziggy does not perform well in the school track and field day events, but he feels much better after his classmates recognize his drawing talent.

### BOOKS ABOUT COLOR

**Color Dance** by Ann Jonas. HarperCollins, 1989. Three dancers show how colors combine to create different colors.

**The Color Kittens** by Margaret Wise Brown. Illustrated by Alice and Martin Provensen. Random House, 2003. This charming, rhyming book shows the children what happens when they pour different colors of paint together.



**Harold and the Purple Crayon** by Crockett Johnson. HarperCollins, 1955. A little boy draws all the things necessary for him to go on a walk.

**I Ain't Gonna Paint No More** by Karen Beaumont. Illustrated by David Catrow. Harcourt, 2005. In the rhythm of a familiar folk song, a child cannot resist adding one more dab of paint in surprising places.

**Mouse Paint** by Ellen Stoll Walsh. Harcourt, 1989. Three white mice get into some primary hued paint pots and help with a lesson on color and camouflage.

**My World of Color** by Margaret Wise Brown. Illustrated by Loretta Krupinski. Hyperion, 2002. Rhyming verses describe things that are various colors.

**Planting a Rainbow** by Lois Ehlert. Harcourt, 1988. A mother and child plant a rainbow of flowers in the family garden.

### **BOOKS WITH SAMPLES OF COLLAGE ART**

**Apt. 3** by Ezra Jack Keats. Viking, 1999. On a rainy day, two brothers try to discover who is playing the harmonica that they hear in their apartment building.

**Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?** by Bill Martin, Jr. Illustrated by Eric Carle. Henry Holt, 1983. Colorful images and favorite animals introduce color.

**David's Drawings** by Cathryn Falwell. Lee & Low, 2001. A shy African American boy makes friends with his classmates by drawing a picture of a tree.

**Frederick** by Leo Lionni. Random House, 1967. Fredrick, the poet mouse, stores up something special for the long, cold winter.

**Jennie's Hat** by Ezra Jack Keats. Viking, 2003. When the hat Jennie receives from her aunt is not as fancy as she had hoped, her bird friends decorate it for her.

**The Jones Family Express** by Javata Steptoe. Lee & Low, 2003. Steven tries to find just the right present for Aunt Carolyn in time for the annual block party.

**Knuffle Bunny: A Cautionary Tale** by Mo Willems. Hyperion, 2004. A trip to the laundromat leads to a momentous occasion.

**Pie in the Sky** by Lois Ehlert. Harcourt, 2004. A father and child watch the cherry tree in their backyard, waiting until there are ripe cherries to bake in a pie.

**Smoky Night** by Eve Bunting. Illustrated by David Diaz. Harcourt, 1994. Caldecott Medal 1995. In a night of rioting in Los Angeles, two families reach out to one another.

**Uptown** by Bryan Collier. Henry Holt, 2000. Discover the vibrant world of Harlem, New York, as seen through the eyes of one of the little boys who lives there.

**Whistle for Willie** by Ezra Jack Keats. Viking, 1964. A young boy roams happily through the city one warm summer day practicing his whistle.

## **POTTERY & SCULPTURE BOOKS PRESCHOOL-GRADE 3**

### **PICTURE BOOKS ABOUT POTS & POTTERY**

**Clay Boy** by Mirra Ginsburg. Illustrated by Jos. A. Smith. Greenwillow, 1997. Wanting a son, an old man and woman make a clay boy who comes to life and begins eating everything in sight until he meets a clever goat.

**The Magic Porridge Pot** by Paul Galdone. Clarion, 1979. The porridge pot always produces food for the little girl, but it runs amuck when her mother tries to use it.

**The Pot That Juan Built** by Nancy Andrews-Goebel. Illustrated by David Diaz. Lee & Low, 2002. A cumulative rhyme summarizes the life's work of renowned Mexican potter, Juan Quezada.

**Pottery Place** by Gail Gibbons. Harcourt, 1987. This book describes the history and the process of making pottery by following a potter through a day of work.

### **PICTURE BOOKS ABOUT SCULPTURE**

**3-D ABC: A Sculptural Alphabet** by Bob Raczka. Millbrook Press, 2006. This museum without walls combines the perfect introductions to modern art and the alphabet.

**The Copper Lady** by Alice and Kent Ross. Illustrated by Leslie Bowman. Lerner, 1995. After helping Monsieur Bartholdi build the Statue of Liberty, a Parisian orphan stows away on the ship carrying the statue to America.

**Marie in the Fourth Position: The Story of Degas' "The Little Dancer"** by Amy Littlesugar. Illustrated by Ian Schoenherr. Philomel, 1996. After she models for the artist and sculptor Edgar Degas, Marie feels transformed into a butterfly and become known all over the world as "The Little Dancer."

**Sand Castle** by Brenda S. Yee. Illustrated by Thea Kilros. Greenwillow, 1999. Jen starts to build a sand castle at the beach, and other people come along to help make the moat, path, wall, and road around it.

### **NONFICTION BOOK**

**Clay** by Terry Jennings. Chrysalis Education, 2003. This colorful and informative book introduces readers to the importance of clay.

## INVENTION BOOKS GRADES K-3

### PICTURE BOOKS

**Baby Brains and RoboMom** by Simon James. Candlewick, 2008. Baby Brains (the loveable genius kid in *Baby Brains* and in *Baby Brains Superstar*) invents a mother to do all the household chores and to give his tired parents a rest.

**Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs** by Judi Barrett. Illustrated by Ron Barrett. Aladdin, 1982. If food dropped like rain from the sky, wouldn't it be marvelous? Or would it?

**Hazel Nutt, Mad Scientist** by David Elliot. Illustrated by True Kelley. Holiday House, 2003. When the mad scientist Dr. Hazel Nutt begins creating monsters again, the angry villagers of Hamburg-with-Ketchup storm her laboratory but are in for a pleasant surprise.

**Henry's Amazing Machine** by Dayle Ann Dodds. Illustrated by Kyrsten Brooker. Melanie Kroupa Books, 2004. Henry's machine takes over his family's house. But when Mr. Barnaby's carnival closes, Henry finally finds a purpose for the "Incredible Amazing Machine" that he built.

**June 29, 1999** by David Weisner. Clarion Books, 1992. This imaginative book about what happens when Holly launches vegetable seedlings into the sky will get the kids thinking.

**Pickles to Pittsburg** by Judi Barrett. Atheneum, 1997. In this sequel to *Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs*, the Falling Food Company has been created to provide food to those who need it all over the world.

**Weslandia** by Paul Fleischman. Illustrated by Kevin Hawkes. Candlewick Press, 1999. Wesley spends his summer vacation planning and creating a self-sufficient civilization with its own staple food crop.

### POETRY BOOKS

**Here's What You Do When You Can't Find Your Shoe** by Andrea J. Perry. Illustrated by Alan Snow. Atheneum, 2003. Short poems describe crazy inventions, like footsie floss, an upside-down lens for bats, and a super spider spotter for Miss Muffet.

**Imaginative Inventions: The Who, What, Where, When, and Why of Roller Skates, Potato Chips, Marbles, and Pie** by Charise Mericle Harper. Little, Brown, 2001. Written in verse and filled with full-color illustrations drawn by the author, this book invites young readers inside the minds of great inventors, encouraging them to think imaginatively. It describes the origins of items such as roller skates, potato chips, eyeglasses, the vacuum cleaner, and more.

## **DINOSAUR & PALEONTOLOGY BOOKS PRESCHOOL-GRADE 2**

### **PICTURE BOOKS**

**Bones, Bones, Dinosaur Bones** by Byron Barton. HarperCollins, 1990. Six paleontologists search for bones. The final page shows nine labeled dinosaurs.

**Digging for Dinosaurs** by Judy Waite. Illustrated by Garry Parsons. Crabtree, 2004. Dan would rather dig for dinosaur bones in his backyard than go to a "musty, smelly and dusty" museum with his mother. However, all he uncovers is some trash and an odd looking stone, which he keeps throwing to his dog to chase.

**Harry and the Dinosaurs at the Museum** by Ian Whybrow and Adrian Reynolds. Random House, 2005. Harry goes to the natural museum with his toy dinosaurs, who get to meet their ancestors.

**If the Dinosaurs Came Back** by Bernard Most. Voyages, 1984. A little boy, who wishes for the return of the dinosaurs, imagines how useful they would be.

**A Trip to Dinosaur Time** by Michael Foreman. Candlewick, 2003. Tom finds himself transported back to the dinosaur era when he plays with his mother's kitchen timer.

### **READERS & BEGINNING CHAPTER BOOKS**

**Cam Jansen and the Mystery of the Dinosaur Bones** by David A. Adler. Illustrated by Susanna Natti. Viking, 1981. Cam tries to discover why bones are missing from a dinosaur skeleton exhibited in the museum.

**Danny and the Dinosaur** by Syd Hoff. HarperCollins, 1999. A little boy is surprised and pleased when one of the dinosaurs from the museum agrees to play with him.

**Dinosaur Hunter (An I Can Read Book)** by Elaine Marie Alphen. Illustrated by Don Bolognese. HarperCollins, 2002. A boy in Wyoming in the 1880s fulfills his dream of finding a dinosaur skeleton.

**The Enormous Egg** by Oliver Butterworth. Illustrated by Louis Darling. Houghton Mifflin, 1995. Nate discovers a gigantic egg laid by one of the family's hens. However, Nate is unprepared for what hatches out—a triceratops! This is one of the funniest books ever! Read this aloud.

### **NONFICTION BOOKS**

**Archaeologists Dig for Clues** by Kate Duke. HarperCollins, 1997. Archaeologist Sophie describes how her colleagues collect information and analyze their findings.

**Barnum Brown: Dinosaur Hunter** by David Sheldon. Walker & Co., 2006. This picture book biography of Barnum Brown introduces children to the paleontologist who found the first nearly complete Tyrannosaurus Rex skeleton in 1902.

**Digging Up Dinosaurs** by Alike. HarperCollins, 1988. This book briefly introduces various types of dinosaurs, explaining how scientists find, preserve, and reassemble the giant dinosaur skeletons seen in museums.

**Dinosaur Bones** by Bob Barner. Chronicle Books, 2001. This rhyming introduction to dinosaurs focuses on their bones and provides additional information.

**Dinosaur Hunters (Step into Reading)** by Kate McMullen. Illustrated by John Randolph Jones. Random House, 2005. This early chapter book provides a basic survey of the history of paleontology designed for children in grades 2-4 to read independently.

**The Dinosaurs of Waterhouse Hawkins** by Barbara Kerley. Illustrated by Brian Selznick. Arthur A. Levine, 2001. This is the true story of Victorian artist Benjamin Waterhouse Hawkins, who built life-size models of dinosaurs in the hope of educating the world about what these awe-inspiring ancient animals were like.

**Gigantic! How Big Were the Dinosaurs?** by Patrick O'Brien. Henry Holt, 2002. To show the massive scale of prehistoric creatures, O'Brien's illustrations place dinosaurs side by side with modern day animals, vehicles, and people.

**What Did Dinosaurs Eat?: And Other Things You Want to Know About Dinosaurs** by Elizabeth MacLeod. Illustrated by Gordon Sauve. Kids Can Press, 2001. With a simple question-and-answer format and realistic illustrations, here is a book that answers some of the most common questions kids ask about their favorite prehistoric creatures.

## SPACE EXPLORATION BOOKS PRESCHOOL-GRADE 3

### PICTURE BOOKS

**Baby Brains: The Smartest Baby in the Whole World** by Simon James. Candlewick, 2004. Even though the new baby of Mr. and Mrs. Brains is very intelligent, they realize that he is still just a baby.

**Earth to Stella** by Simon Puttock. Illustrated by Philip Hopman. Clarion, 2006. Before Stella's father comes to tell her a bedtime story, Stella takes a little trip in space.

**Harold's Trip to the Sky** by Crockett Johnson. Paperback. HarperCollins, 1981. With his magic purple crayon, Harold draws himself into a rocket voyage to Mars, and then travels safely back to earth just in time for breakfast. Use a purple marker to tell *Harold's Trip to the Sky*.

**Hazel Nutt, Alien Hunter** by David Elliott. Illustrated by True Kelley. Holiday House, 2005. Captain Hazel Nutt tries to make amends to the Wutties of planet Wutt when her starship lands on their leader.

**Hedgie Blasts Off** by Jan Brett. Putnam, 2006. When the spectacular, sparkling explosions at a popular tourist sight slow down, Hedgie the hedgehog is the only one capable of flying to tiny planet Mikkop to see what is wrong.

**If You Decide to Go to the Moon** by Faith McNulty. Illustrated by Steven Kellogg. Scholastic, 2005. This book takes the reader on every aspect of a journey to the moon, from packing to liftoff to traveling through space.

**Jimmy Zangwow's Out-Of-This-World Moon Pie Adventure** by Tony DiTerlizzi. Simon & Schuster, 2000. Jimmy goes off to the moon in a flying junk jalopy when his mother will not give him Moon Pies for a snack. Zany escapades include encounters with Mars Men and the dreaded Grimble Grinder.

**Mickey Moonbeam** by Mike Brownlow. Bloomsbury, 2006. Young Mickey, who lives on a faraway moon, receives a distress call from his pen pal, Quiggle, whose space scooter has crashed on a nearby asteroid. They both get a big surprise when they meet face-to-face.

**Stanley in Space** by Jeff Brown. Illustrated by Scott Nash. Harper Trophy, 2003. When the residents of a far-distant planet send a message to Earth asking for someone to meet with them, the President of the U.S. asks Stanley Lambchop to be his ambassador.

**Star Seeker** by Theresa Heine. Illustrated by Victor Tavares. Barefoot Books, 2005. This book describes an imaginary journey through the night sky, from joining Orion on a hunt to hitching up the North Star for a ride. It includes facts about astronomy, the solar system, and constellations.

**Zoom! Zoom! Zoom! I'm Off to the Moon** by Dan Yaccarino. Scholastic, 1997. A boy gets in a spaceship and takes a dangerous but exciting trip to the moon.

## **POETRY BOOKS**

**Blast off!: Poems About Space (An I Can Read Book)** by Lee Bennett Hopkins. Illustrated by Melissa Sweet. HarperCollins, 1995. This is a collection of poems about the sun, moon, stars and planets.

**Comets, Stars, the Moon, and Mars: Space Poems and Paintings** by Douglas Florian. Harcourt, 2007. These short, accessible poems with beautiful double-page spreads focus on outer space.

## STARS & CONSTELLATIONS BOOKS PRESCHOOL-GRADE 3

### PICTURE BOOKS

**Draw Me a Star** by Eric Carle. Philomel, 1992. An artist's drawing of a star begins the creation of an entire universe around him as each successive pictured object requests that he draw more.

**How Many Stars In The Sky?** by Lenny Hort. Illustrated by James E. Ransome. Tambourine, 1991. One night, when Mama is away, Daddy and child seek a good place to count the stars in the night sky.

**How to Catch a Star** by Oliver Jeffers. Philomel, 2004. Eager to have a star of his own, a boy devises imaginative ways of catching one.

**I Like Stars** by Margaret Wise Brown. Illustrated by Joan Paley. Random House, 2004. A simple poem describes all kinds of stars that appear in the night sky.

**Little Bear, You're a Star!: A Greek Myth About the Constellations** by Jean Marzollo. Little, Brown, 2005. A Greek myth about the love of a mother and child introduces two constellations.

**Star Climbing** by Lou Fancher. Illustrated by Steve Johnson and Lou Fancher. Laura Geringer, 2006. When he cannot sleep, a little boy imagines himself on a nighttime journey across the sky where he can run and dance with star constellations.

**Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star** by Iza Trapani. Charlesbridge, 1994. This is an expanded version of the nineteenth-century poem in which a small girl accompanies a star on a journey through the night sky.

### FOLKTALES

**The Heavenly Zoo: Legends and Tales of the Stars** by Alison Lurie. Illustrated by Monica Beisner. Farrar Straus and Giroux, 1996. This book includes sixteen legends of the constellations and how they got their names, taken from the Bible, Ancient Greece, Babylon, Egypt, Sumeria, Norway, the Balkans, Indonesia, and Native Americans.

### NONFICTION BOOKS

**Constellations: A Glow-in-the-Dark Guide to the Night Sky** by Chris Sasaki. Illustrated by Alan Flinn. Sterling, 2006. The stories, legends, and myths behind each constellation are explained. The author also explains what the constellations look like and how to find them in the night sky.

**Constellations for Every Kid** by Janice Pratt VanCleave. Wiley, 1997. This book describes twenty of the most prominent constellations, including the Big Dipper, Orion, and Cancer. It includes how to locate them, and it provides instructions for related activities.



**Find the Constellations** by H.A. Rey. Houghton Mifflin, 1976. This is a delightfully illustrated, informative beginner's guide to locating and identifying constellations in the northern hemisphere, with an extensive index, glossary, and time table for sky viewing.

**The Sky is Full of Stars (Let's Read-and-Find-Out Science Book)** by Franklyn Branley. Illustrated by Felicia Bond. HarperCollins, 1981. This book explains how to view stars and ways to locate constellations throughout the year.

**Stars** by Steve Tomecek. Illustrated by Lisa C. Guida. National Geographic, 2003. This book introduces stars, what they are made of, how they shine, their positions with relation to earth, and more.

**The Stars: A New Way to See Them** by H.A. Rey. Houghton Mifflin, 1973. This is clear, vivid text with charts and maps showing the positions of the constellations during the year.

**A Walk Through the Heavens: A Guide to Stars and Constellations and Their Legends** by Milton D. Heifetz and Wil Tirion. Cambridge, 2004. This is an easy-to-use reference guide to the constellations of the night sky and their myths and legends.

**The Zoo in the Sky: A Book of Animal Constellations** by Jacqueline Mitton. National Geographic Society, 1998. This colorful picture book illustrates the animal constellations with striking full-page spread painting.

## POETRY BOOKS

**Comets, Stars, the Moon, and Mars: Space Poems and Paintings** by Douglas Florian. Harcourt, 2007. These short, accessible poems with beautiful double-page spreads focus on outer space.

**The Sun, the Moon, and the Stars** compiled and illustrated by Nancy Elizabeth Wallace. Houghton Mifflin, 2003. This is a heartfelt and lovely collection of over 30 poems about the sun, moon and stars written by well-known children's poets. The short, simple poems are perfect for reading aloud at preschool storytime.

## **BEDTIME BOOKS PRESCHOOL-GRADE 2**

**Baby Beebee Bird** by Diane Redfield Massie. Illustrated by Steven Kellogg. HarperCollins, 2000. The zoo animals find a way to keep the baby beebee bird awake during the day so that they can get some sleep at night.

**Bayou Lullaby** by Kathi Appelt. Illustrated by Neil Waldman. HarperCollins, 1995. This is a Cajun bedtime tale of a land ruled over by the king of the bullfrogs.

**Goodnight Moon** by Margaret Wise Brown. A little rabbit child says good night to the objects in his room in this rhythmic classic bedtime story.

**How Do Dinosaurs Say Good Night?** by Jane Yolen. Illustrated by Mark Teague. Scholastic, Inc., 2000. This humorous book explores the various ways dinosaurs might go to bed.

**Hush! A Thai Lullaby** by Minfong Ho. Illustrated by Holly Meade. Scholastic, Inc., 1996. In this Thai lullaby, a mother silences some animals, one by one, so that her baby can sleep.

**Kiss Good Night** by Amy Hest. Illustrated by Anita Jeram. Candlewick Press, 2001. A big, loving mother bear goes through numerous bedtime rituals until she realizes that she forgot the most important one—a kiss!

**So Sleepy Story** by Uri Shulevitz. Farrar, Strauss & Giroux, 2006. In this rhythmic, repetitive story, reminiscent of *Goodnight Moon*, the world is transformed at night.

**Ten, Nine, Eight** by Molly Bang. Paperback. HarperTrophy, 1991. A father and daughter count the items in the little girl's room in this bedtime ritual.

**Time for Bed** by Mem Fox. Illustrated by Jane Dyer. Harcourt, 2003. Lovely paintings of baby animals illustrate this soothing rhyme about bedtime.

### **POETRY COLLECTION**

**The Sun, the Moon, and the Stars** compiled and illustrated by Nancy Elizabeth Wallace. Houghton Mifflin, 2003. This is a heartfelt and lovely collection of over 30 poems about the sun, moon, and stars written by well-known children's poets. The short, simple poems are perfect for reading aloud at preschool storytime.

## DRESS-UP BOOKS PRESCHOOL-GRADE 3

### PICTURE BOOKS

**Animals Should Definitely Not Wear Clothing** by Judi Barrett. Illustrated by Ron Barrett. Atheneum, 1970. This book of animals wearing clothes, shows why this would be a ridiculous thing for them to do.

**Ants in My Pants** by Wendy Mould. Houghton Mifflin, 2001. Mother wants Jacob to put on his clothes to go shopping, but he wants to stay home and play. He describes all kinds of imaginary animals that are keeping him from getting dressed.

**The Costume Party** by Victoria Chess. Kane/Miller, 2005. Madame Coco and her family have a costume party on a rainy day.

**Curious George Goes to a Costume Party** by Margret and H.A. Rey. Houghton Mifflin, 2001. Curious George inadvertently causes a sensation at his first Halloween costume party.

**The Emperor's New Clothes** by Hans Christian Andersen. Illustrated by John Alfred Rowe. Penguin, 2004. The emperor loves shopping for new clothes, but he is tricked by two rascals.

**Jamela's Dress** by Niki Daly. Sunburst, 2004. Jamela gets in trouble when she takes the fabric intended for a new dress for Mama, parades it in the street, and allows it to become dirty and torn. But there is a happy ending for "Kwela Jamela African Queen," in this joyful story set in Cape Town, South Africa.

**The Kettles Get New Clothes** by Dayle Ann Dodds. Illustrated by Jill McElmurry. Candlewick, 2002. When the small town store where they usually buy their clothes changes hands, the Kettles are in for a surprise on their annual shopping trip.

**Mary Wore Her Red Dress and Henry Wore His Green Sneakers** by Merle Peek. Clarion, 1998. Each of Katy Bear's animal friends wears a different color of clothing to her birthday party.

**My Dress-Up Party** by Sarah Willson. Illustrated by Jennifer Oxley. Simon & Schuster, 2003. Blue has a dress-up party but only finds a costume for herself at the last minute.

**The Principal's New Clothes** by Stephanie Calmenson. Illustrated by Denise Brunkus. Scholastic, 1989. A vain principal is persuaded by two tailors that they will make him an amazing, one-of-a-kind, suit that will be visible only to intelligent people who are good at their jobs.

**Sylvia Jean, Drama Queen** by Lisa Campbell Ernst. Dutton, 2005. Sylvia Jean has an amazing costume for every occasion, but when a party is announced with a prize for the best costume, she cannot think of what to wear.

## SELF-ESTEEM BOOKS PRESCHOOL-GRADE 3

### PRESCHOOL-K PICTURE BOOKS

**All By Myself** by Mercer Mayer. Random House, 2001. Little Critter shows all the things that he can do by himself, from tying his shoes to pouring juice.

**Good Job, Little Bear** by Martin Waddell. Illustrated by Barbara Firth. Candlewick, 2002. While exploring in the forest with Big Bear, Little Bear sets out all by himself to find a rock to climb and an old bendy tree to bounce on.

**Guess How Much I Love You** by Sam McBratney. Illustrated by Anita Jeram. Candlewick, 1995. During a bedtime game, every time Little Nutbrown Hare demonstrates how much he loves his father, Big Nutbrown Hare gently shows him that the love is returned even more.

**Here Are My Hands** by Bill Martin, Jr. and John Archambault. Illustrated by Ted Rand. Henry Holt, 1997. Children celebrate their physiology by pointing to various body parts and mentioning their functions, from "hands for catching and throwing," to "skin that bundles me in."

**I Like Me!** by Nancy L. Carlson. Viking, 1988. By admiring her finer points and showing that she can take care of herself and have fun even when there's no one around, a charming pig proves the best friend you can have is yourself.

**Incredible Me!** by Kathi Appelt. Illustrated by G. Brian Karas. HarperCollins, 2003. A girl celebrates her own individuality, from her freckles to her wiggles.

**Little One Step** by Simon James. Candlewick, 2003. As three ducking brothers cross a forest and a field to return to their mother, the older ones encourage the youngest by teaching him a game that earns him the name of Little One Step.

**Leo the Late Bloomer** by Robert Kraus. Illustrated by Jose Aruego. HarperCollins, 1971. Leo, a young tiger, finally blooms under the anxious eyes of his parents.

**Runaway Bunny** by Margaret Wise Brown. Illustrated by Clement Hurd. HarperCollins, 1942. A little rabbit who wants to run away tells his mother how he will escape, but she is always right behind him.

### GRADES K-3 PICTURE BOOKS

**Boy, You're Amazing!** by Virginia Kroll. Illustrated by Sachiko Yoshikawa. Whitman, 2004. Rhyming text celebrates the many things that boys can achieve.

**Girl, You're Amazing!** by Virginia Kroll. Illustrated by Melisande Potter. Whitman, 2001. Rhyming text celebrates the many things that girls can achieve.

**The Hello, Good-bye Window** by Norton Juster. Illustrated by Chris Raschka. Scholastic, 2005. Caldecott Medal 2006. A kitchen window becomes a girl's magical gateway, taking her on a voyage of discovery and celebration of the wonders of childhood.

**Hooray for Me** by Remy Charlip and Lilian Moore. Illustrated by Vera B. Williams. Tricycle Press, 2007. This book explores an individual's relationship to family, friends, and pets.

**I Like Myself!** by Karen Beaumont. Illustrated by David Catrow. Harcourt, 2004. In rhyming text, a little African American girl expresses confidence and joy in her uniqueness.

**I'm Gonna Like Me: Letting Off a Little Self-Esteem** by Jamie Lee Curtis. Illustrated by Laura Cornell. Joanna Cotler, 2002. By alternating between a young girl's point of view and a young boy's point of view, children learn to be themselves every single day.

**Me I Am!** by Jack Prelutsky. Illustrated by Christine Davenier. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2007. Three very different children reveal their individual personalities in a series of visual mini-adventures.

**Milli, Jack and the Dancing Cat** by Stephen Michael King. Philomel, 2004. Two wandering minstrels, Jack and the Dancing Cat, help Milli the shoemaker gain the self-confidence she needs to express her creative talents.

## **POETRY**

**Bronzeville Boys and Girls** by Gwendolyn Brooks. Illustrated by Faith Ringgold. HarperCollins, 2007. This book of poetry by Pulitzer Prize winning Brooks was first published in 1956. It has now been newly illustrated with Ringgold's exuberant, vibrant paintings that capture the feelings of each child. Each poem is about one child living in Bronzeville, an African American neighborhood in Chicago. Written in 1956, the poems still ring true and will be enjoyed by children ages 5-10.

## **BULLY BOOKS GRADES K-3**

**Arthur's April Fools** by Marc Brown. Little, Brown, 1985. Arthur worries about remembering his magic tricks for the April Fool's Day assembly and Binky's threat to pulverize him.

**Berenstain Bears and the Bully** by Stan and Jan Berenstain. Random House, 1993. When Sister Bear takes a beating from Tuffy, the new cub in town, she learns a valuable lesson in self-defense—and forgiveness.

**Big Bad Bruce** by Bill Peet. Houghton Mifflin, 1977. Bruce, a bear bully, never picks on anyone his own size until he is diminished in more ways than one by a small but very independent witch.

**The Bully Blockers Club** by Teresa Bateman. Illustrated by Jackie Urbanovic. Albert Whitman, 2004. When Lotty is bothered by a bully at school, she helps start a club where everyone is welcome.

**Chrysanthemum** by Kevin Henkes. Greenwillow Books, 1991. Chrysanthemum loved her name until she goes to school and the other children make fun of it.

**Hooway for Wodney Wat** by Helen Lester. Illustrated by Lynn Munsinger. Walter Lorraine, 1999. Wodney surprises himself and his classmates by single-handedly saving the whole class from the big bad bully.

**King of the Playground** by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor. Atheneum, 1991. With his dad's help, Kevin overcomes his fear of the "King of the Playground" who has threatened to tie him to the slide, put him in a deep hole, or put him in a cage with bears.

**Mr. Lincoln's Way** by Patricia Polacco. Philomel, 2001. When Mr. Lincoln, "the coolest principal in the whole world," discovers that Eugene, the school bully, knows a lot about birds, he uses this interest to help Eugene overcome his intolerance.

**Nobody Knew What To Do: A Story About Bullying** by Becky Ray McCain. Illustrated by Leonardo Todd. Albert Whitman, 2001. When bullies pick on a boy at school, a classmate is afraid, but decides that he must do something.

**The Rat and the Tiger** by Keiko Kasza. Puffin, 2007. This classic tale by Kasza delivers a valuable lesson about friendship in a heartwarming story about natural enemies who are best friends.

**Recess Queen** by Alexis O'Neill. Illustrated by Laura Huliska-Beith. Scholastic, 2002. Mean Jean is the biggest bully on the school playground until a new girl arrives and challenges Jean's status as the Recess Queen.

**Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon** by Patty Lovell. Illustrated by David Catrow. Putnam, 2001. Even when the class bully at her new school makes fun of her, Molly remembers what her grandmother told her and feels good about herself.

## SUPERHERO BOOKS GRADES K-3

### PICTURE BOOKS

**The Adventures of Sparrow Boy** by Brian Pinkney. Simon & Schuster, 1997. After an encounter with a sparrow, Henry discovers that he is able to fly, just like his favorite comic book hero Falcon Man.

**The Amazing Adventures of Bathman** by Andrew Pelletier. Illustrated by Peter Elwell. Dutton, 2005. When a little boy takes his bath, he becomes the superhero "Bathman" and saves rubber Ducky from the evil Cap'n Squeegee.

**Another Perfect Day** by Ross MacDonald. Roaring Book Press, 2002. The exciting day of the superhero is really a dream. This humorous story is illustrated like a 1930s retro-style comic book.

**Art Dog** by Thatcher Hurd. HarperCollins, 1996. When Mona Woofa is stolen from the Dogopolis Museum of Art, Art Dog is accused of the theft and is put in jail. He uses his super-painting power to paint a window to escape and track down the thieves.

**Atomic Ace and the Robot Rampage** by Jeff Weigel. Albert Whitman, 2006. The son of the superhero, Atomic Ace, is eager for adventures of his own until a horde of robots descends upon his school. He learns that his powers are not yet enough to save even himself.

**Atomic Ace: (He's Just My Dad)** by Jeff Weigel. Albert Whitman, 2004. In this rhyming story told in comic book format, a boy considers his family normal, though his superhero father, Atomic Ace, does amazing feats, even battling the evil Insect King.

**KAPOW!** by George O'Connor. Simon & Schuster, 2004. Three children pretend to be superheroes: American Eagle, Bug Lady and Rubber Bandit. This comic-style story shifts from fantasy to reality.

**Noodle Man: The Pasta Superhero** by April Pulley Sayre. Illustrated by Stephen Costanza. Orchard, 2002. Al Dente's invention of a portable pasta machine turns him into a superhero and helps to save the family's fresh pasta business.

**Super H** by Olivier Douzou and Philippe Derrien. Illustrated by Olivier Douzou. Milet Publishing, 2002. When Henry receives a "Super H" costume, he thinks that he has become the ultimate superhero.

**Superdog: The Heart of a Hero** by Carolyn Buehner. Illustrated by Mark Buehner. HarperCollins, 2004. Tired of being overlooked because he is so small, Dexter, a big-hearted dog with big dreams, transforms himself into a superhero.

**Superhero** by Marc Tauss. Scholastic Press, 2005. Maleek, an African American boy inventor, and his robot Marvyn travel to the past to find trees and plants to restore the city that has been taken over by tall buildings.

**Superhero ABC** by Bob McLeod. HarperCollins, 2006. Humorous superheroes, such as

"Goo Girl" and the "Volcano," represent the letters of the alphabet from A to Z. Have the kids make up their own superhero names for the letters of the alphabet.

**Supersnouts!** by Steve Bjorkman. Holiday House, 2004. Hamlet the piglet joins Snoutbuster and Kernel Hog in a flying confrontation with two burglars on Farmer Frank's farm.

**Traction Man is Here!** by Mini Grey. Knopf, 2005. Traction Man, a boy's courageous action figure, has a variety of adventures with Scrubbing Brush and other objects in the house.

### **BEGINNING CHAPTER BOOKS**

**The Adventures of Captain Underpants Series** by Dav Pilkey. This is an incredibly popular series. The books are too long to read in storytime, but some primary age children are reading them on their own.



## COMMUNITY HELPER BOOKS PRESCHOOL-GRADE 3

### FIREFIGHTERS

#### PICTURE BOOKS

**Clifford the Firehouse Dog** by Norman Bridwell. Cartwheel, 1994. While learning about fire safety from his fire rescue brother Nero, Clifford unexpectedly becomes a hero.

**Firebears, the Rescue Team** by Rhonda Gowler Greene. Illustrated by Dan Andreasen. Henry Holt, 2005. Always ready to fight fires, the Firebears of Fire Station Number Eight slide down poles, rescue cats, and save people from burning houses.

**Firefighters A to Z** by Chris Demarest. Simon & Schuster, 2000. This book takes an alphabetic look at a fire fighter's day.

**"Fire! Fire!" Said Mrs. McGuire** by Bill Martin, Jr. Illustrated by Vladimir Radunsky. Gulliver, 2006. In this version of the old rhyme, the fire turns out to be smoke from the candles of a birthday cake.

**Fire Truck** by Peter Sis. HarperCollins, 1998. Matt, who loves fire trucks, wakes up one morning to find that he has become a fire truck with one driver, two ladders, three hoses and ten boots.

**Fireman Small** by Wong Herbert Yee. Houghton Mifflin, 1994. This rhyming story about the adventures of Fireman Small and his faithful Dalmatian dog is charming and humorous.

**Fireman Small: Fire Down Below** by Wong Herbert Yee. Houghton Mifflin, 2001. Fireman Small spends the night in the Pink Hotel and saves the guests when the hotel catches on fire.

**New York's Bravest** by Mary Pope Osborne. Illustrated by Steve Johnson and Lou Fancher. This picture book biography tells the heroic deeds of the legendary New York fire fighter, Mose Humphreys.

**Poinsettia and the Firefighters** by Felicia Bond. HarperCollins, 2003. Lonely and afraid of the dark in her new room, Poinsettia Pig is comforted when, after a fire breaks out in her neighborhood, she discovers that the fire fighters keep watch during the night.

**Stop, Drop, and Roll** by Margery Cuyler. Illustrated by Arthur Howard. Simon & Schuster, 2001. Jessica, who worries about everything from her spelling homework to remembering to fill her dog's water dish, learns that fire safety begins with extinguishing her fears.

#### NONFICTION BOOKS

**Crawl Low Under Smoke** by Lucia Raatma. Capstone Press, 1999. This book explains how to leave a building safely during a fire, emphasizing staying low to avoid smoke and using alternate ways out.

**Fire Fighters (Community Helpers Series)** by Dee Ready. Capstone Press, 1997. This book explains clothing, tools, schooling, and work of fire fighters.

**Stop, Drop, and Roll** by Lucia Raatma. Capstone Press, 1999. This book describes how to react safely if your clothes are on fire, by stopping, dropping to the ground or floor, and rolling to put out the fire.

**We Work at the Fire Station** by Angela Aylmore. Raintree, 2006. This book explores the special skills, tools, and uniforms needed to be a fire fighter.

## **POLICE, DETECTIVES & CRIME FIGHTERS**

### **PICTURE BOOKS**

**Art Dog** by Thatcher Hurd. HarperCollins, 1996. When Mona Woofa is stolen from the Dogopolis Museum of Art, Art Dog is accused of the theft and is put in jail. He uses his super-painting power to paint a window to escape and track down the thieves.

**Bad Bear Detectives: An Irving and Muktuk Story** by Daniel Pinkwater. Illustrated by Jill Pinkwater. Houghton Mifflin, 2006. Irving and Muktuk, polar bears at the zoo in Bayone, New Jersey, are the natural suspects when someone steals a shipment of imported muffins. They decide to prove that they are not bad bears by finding the real thief.

**Bertie Was a Watchdog** by Rick Walton. Illustrated by Arthur Robins. Candlewick Press, 2002. Bertie, a dog as small as a watch, outsmarts an overconfident robber.

**CriCTOR** by Tomi Ungerer. HarperCollins, 1958. A boa constrictor becomes the hero of a small French town after he captures a burglar.

**Detective LaRue: Letters from the Investigation** by Mark Teague. Scholastic, 2004. While on vacation, Mrs. LaRue receives letters from her dog Ike who has been falsely accused of harming the neighbor's cats and is trying to clear his name.

**Detective Small in the Amazing Banana Caper** by Wong Herbert Yee. Houghton Mifflin, 2007. When shop owners call on Detective Small to track down a banana thief, he follows the clues to a likely suspect and learns that the real culprit is on the loose.

**Officer Buckle and Gloria** by Peggy Rathmann. Penguin, 1995. The children at Napville Elementary School ignore Officer Buckle's safety tips until a police dog named Gloria accompanies him when he gives his safety speeches.

**Police Cat** by Enid Hinkes. Illustrated by Wendy Rasmussen. Whitman, 2005. Noodles the cat takes his responsibilities very seriously, keeping the police station and neighborhood safe and free from rats, but he is not an official member of the police department until he performs a heroic rescue.

**Sherman Crunchley** by Laura Numeroff and Nate Evans. Illustrated by Tim Bowers. Penguin, 2003. Following the tradition of the Crunchley dog family, Sherman is expected to succeed his father as Biscuit's City's Chief of Police, but the only thing he likes about being a police officer is the hat he wears.

**Tuff Fluff: The Case of the Duckie's Missing Brain** by Scott Nash. Candlewick, 2004. When Duckie, a terry cloth duck, loses his brain and can no longer tell stories to the other toys, Tuff Fluff the private investigator must solve the case.

### **NONFICTION BOOK**

**Aero and Officer Mike: Police Partners** by Joan Plummer Russell. Photographs by Kris Turner Sinnenburg. Boyds Mills Press, 2001. This book is a photo essay about a police dog and his human partner at work and at play.

## **EARLY READERS ABOUT DETECTIVES**

**Ace Lacewing, Bug Detective** by David Biedrzycki. Charlesbridge, 2005. Aided by his friends, Ace Lacewing, Bug Detective, sets out on the trail of kidnappers who took Queenie Bee.

**Bones Series (Viking Easy-To-Read)** by David Adler. Viking. Recent titles include *Bones and the Big Yellow Mystery*; *Bones and the Dog Gone Mystery*; and *Bones and the Cupcake Mystery*. These beginning to read books are easier than Adler's Cam Jansen books.

**The High-Rise Private Eyes Series** by Cynthia Rylant. HarperCollins. Bunny Brown and Jack Jones solve mysteries.

**Nate the Great Series** by Marjorie Sharmat. Illustrated by Marc Simont. Random House. These classic early readers offer solid stories about a young boy solving mysteries.

## GARBAGE COLLECTING & RECYCLING

### PICTURE BOOKS

**Diary of a Worm** by Doreen Cronin. Illustrated by Harry Bliss. HarperCollins, 2003. A young worm discovers, day by day, that there are some very good and some not so good things about being a worm in this great big world.

**I Stink** by Kate and Jim McMullan. HarperCollins, 2002. A big city garbage truck makes its rounds, consuming everything from apple cores and banana peels to leftover ziti and zucchini.

**Recycle Every Day!** by Nancy Elizabeth Wallace. Marshall Cavendish, 2003. When Minna has a school assignment to make a poster about recycling, her entire rabbit family spends the week practicing various kinds of recycling and suggesting ideas for her poster.

**Smash! Mash! Crash! There Goes the Trash** by Barbara Olanaka. Illustrated by Will Hillenbrand. Simon & Schuster, 2006. This book presents rhyming imitation of all the sights and sounds of the neighborhood on trash day.

**Trashy Town** by Andrea Griffing Zimmerman and David Clemesha. Illustrated by Dan Yaccarino. HarperCollins, 1999. This book shows how Mr. Gilly, the trash man, cleans up the town.

### NONFICTION BOOKS

**Garbage** by Robert Maass. Henry Holt, 2000. This is an introduction to the problems of waste management and the various ways we dispose of garbage.

**Let's Reduce Garbage!** by Sara E. Nelson. Capstone Press, 2007. This book describes how children can reduce their garbage and why it's so important.

**Let's Reuse!** by Sara E. Nelson. Capstone Press, 2007. This book describes easy ways to reuse items and why it's so important.

## **DENTISTS (PLUS A FEW TOOTH FAIRIES!)**

### **PICTURE BOOKS**

**Arthur's Tooth** by Marc Brown. Little, Brown, 1986. Arthur is the only one in his class who hasn't lost a baby tooth. He tries all sorts of things to get his tooth to come out, but it is mean Francine who does the job.

**Dear Tooth Fairy** by Pamela Duncan Edwards. Illustrated by Marie-Louise Fitzpatrick. HarperCollins, 2003. Six-year old Claire is worried that she has not lost a tooth yet, so she begins writing letters to the Tooth Fairy. The Tooth Fairy writes back, giving her good advice, "be patient and keep brushing." Children will identify with Claire and will enjoy the letters.

**Doctor De Soto** by William Steig. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1982. A mouse dentist faces a dilemma when a fox needs dental work.

**Harry and the Dinosaurs Say "Raahh!"** by Ian Whybrow. Illustrated by Adrian Reynolds. Random House, 2004. A young boy takes his toy dinosaurs with him to help him calm his fears on his first visit to the dentist.

**Little Rabbit's Loose Tooth** by Lucy Bate. Illustrated by Diane De Groat. Random House, 2006 (originally published 1975). This warm, comfortable book is about a little girl rabbit who has her first loose tooth. When it finally comes out, she is not sure the tooth fairy will come and wonders what to do with her tooth. This story captures the excitement and anticipation that young children feel.

**Maisy, Charley, and the Wobbly Tooth** by Lucy Cousins. Candlewick, 2006. Maisy the mouse and her animal friends accompany nervous Charley on his first visit to the dentist.

**Open Wide: Tooth School Inside** by Laurie Keller. Henry Holt, 2000. Through a classroom setting in which teeth are students, this book presents information about the structure and care of teeth and the services provided by dentists.

**Show Me Your Smile!: A Visit to the Dentist** by Christine Ricci. Illustrated by Robert Roper. Simon & Schuster, 2005. Dora the Explorer has a check-up at the dentist and learns a lot while exploring the office.

**Sweet Tooth** by Margie Palatini. Illustrated by Jack E. Davis. Simon & Schuster, 2004. Stewart is a six-year old boy who is dealing with a demanding sweet tooth that insists that he get chocolate and other sugary concoctions. Stewart finally gets rid of the trouble-making tooth by extracting the molar with a carrot. Text and illustrations are hilarious.

**Vera Goes to the Dentist** by Vera Rosenberry. Henry Holt, 2002. On Vera's first visit to the dentist, she has an unexpected reaction when he tries to polish her teeth.

**What to Expect When You Go to the Dentist** by Heidi Murkoff. Illustrated by Laura Rader. HarperCollins, 2002. This is an introductory look at going to the dentist's office, including the equipment used, what might happen during a dental visit, and dental care in general.

## DOCTORS & HOSPITALS

### PICTURE BOOKS

**Curious George Goes to the Hospital** by Margret and H.A. Rey. Houghton Mifflin, 1973. George goes to the hospital for an operation to remove a puzzle piece he has eaten.

**Felix Feels Better** by Rosemary Wells. Candlewick Press, 2000. Felix feels bad and does not want to eat or play, so his mother takes him to Doctor Duck, who makes everything better.

**Franklin Goes to the Hospital** by Paulette Bourgeois. Illustrated by Brenda Clark. Kids Can Press, 2000. Franklin goes to the hospital and must have an operation after his shell is cracked during a soccer game.

**Froggy Goes to the Doctor** by Jonathan London. Illustrated by Frank Remkiewicz. Viking, 2002. Froggy isn't looking forward to his visit to the doctor for a check-up because he might get a shot. However, when it's over, the doctor is the one who dreads Froggy's next visit.

**The Lady With the Alligator Purse** by Nadine Bernart Wescott. Little, Brown, 1988. This is a wonderfully illustrated version of the nonsense rhyme about Tiny Tim, who eats the soap and tries to eat the bathtub. The doctor, the nurse and the lady all give their diagnoses.

**Mother, Mother I Feel Sick, Send for the Doctor, Quick, Quick, Quick** by Remy Charlip and Burton Supree. Illustrated by Remy Charlip. Tricycle Press, 2004. An extraordinary stomachache is cured when a doctor removes a large number of strange objects from the victim's stomach.

### NONFICTION BOOK

**Going to the Hospital** by Fred Rogers. Paperback. Putnam, 1997. Mr. Rogers' comforting book about what it is like to go to the hospital is helpful and reassuring for a child preparing to go to the hospital.

## LIBRARIANS

### PICTURE BOOKS

**Beatrice Doesn't Want To** by Laura Joffe Numeroff. Illustrated by Lynn Munsinger. Candlewick Press, 2004. Beatrice, a cute little girl dog, doesn't like to read and she does not want to go to the library. However, when she attends her first storytime, she enjoys it. Kids will enjoy repeating the refrain, "I don't want to."

**Beverly Billingsly Borrows a Book** by Alexander Stadler. Harcourt, 2002. Beverly is thrilled to finally check out a book with her own library card, but when she accidentally keeps the book too long, she worries that she will have to pay a huge fine or go to jail.

**The Boy Who Was Raised by Librarians** by Carla Morris. Illustrated by Brad Sneed. Peachtree, 2007. Melvin discovers that the public library is the place where he can find just about anything. Three librarians help in his quest for knowledge.

**But Excuse Me That is My Book** by Lauren Child. Dial, 2006. When Lola's favorite book is not on the library's shelf, her older brother Charlie, tries to find another book she will enjoy.

**Carlo and the Really Nice Librarian** by Jessica Sanyol. Candlewick, 2004. When Carlo the giraffe and Crackers the cat visit the new library, they meet Mrs. Chinca, a very friendly and helpful librarian.

**I Took My Frog to the Library** by Eric Kimmel. Illustrated by Blanche Sims. Paperback. Penguin, 1992. A young girl brings her pets to the library with disastrous results.

**I.Q. Goes to the Library** by Mary Ann Fraser. Walker, 2003. After going to the library with Mrs. Furber's class every day, I.Q., the class pet rodent, hopes to take out a funny book with his own library card.

**The Librarian From the Black Lagoon** by Mike Thaler. Illustrated by Jared Lee. Paperback. Scholastic, 1997. The students are afraid to go to the library, because they hear that the librarian Mrs. Beamster is mean: she bolts the books to the shelves and glues the children to the chairs. But when the kids go to the library, they learn that the rumors were not true. Thaler and Lee have created a series of "Black Lagoon" books about teachers, custodians, school bus drivers and more. Lots of kids love the series; some adults think that they are too scary and misleading.

**The Library Dragon** by Carmen Agra Deedy. Illustrated by Michael P. White. Peachtree, 1994. At the beginning, the new librarian at school is the fire-breathing dragon Miss Lotta Scales—guarding over the books. However, when a child comes into the library and starts reading aloud, the dragon turns into Miss Lotty, a smiling, kind librarian.

**Library Lil** by Suzanne Williams. Illustrated by Steven Kellogg. Dial, 1997. In this funny tall tale, a librarian turns a community full of television watchers into avid readers. She even has a tough-talking motorcycle gang fighting over who gets to read *The Mouse and the Motorcycle*.

**Library Lion** by Michelle Knudsen. Illustrated by Kevin Hawkes. Candlewick, 2006. A lion starts visiting the local library but runs into trouble as he tries to both obey the rules and help his librarian friend.



**Library Mouse** by Daniel Kirk. Abrams, 2007. Sam, a shy but creative mouse who lives in the library, decides to write and illustrate his own stories, which he places on the shelves with the other library books. When the children find the tales, they all want to meet the author.

**Maisy Goes to the Library** by Lucy Cousins. Candlewick Press, 2005. When Maisy goes to the library to get a book, she discovers that the library also has computers, music, and storytime.

**Quiet! There's a Canary in the Library** by Don Freeman. Viking, 2007. Cary imagines a special day at the library when she invites only animals and birds to browse.

**Richard Wright and the Library Card** by William Miller. Illustrated by Gregory Christie. Lee & Low, 1997. Based on a scene from Wright's autobiography, a seventeen-year-old African American borrows a white man's library card and devours every book as a ticket to freedom.

**Stella Louella's Runaway Book** by Lisa Campbell Ernst. Simon & Schuster, 1998. As she searches for the book that she must return to the library that day, Stella gathers a growing group of people who have all enjoyed reading the book.

**Tomas and the Library Lady** by Pat Mora. Illustrated by Raul Colon. Knopf, 1997. While helping his family in their work as migrant laborers far from home, Tomas finds an entire world to explore in the books at the local public library.

**Wild About Books** by Judy Sierra. Illustrated by Marc Brown. Knopf, 2004. A librarian named Mavis McGrew introduces the animals in the zoo to the joy of reading when she drives her bookmobile to the zoo by mistake.

## **BOOK FOR GRADES 2-5**

**The Librarian From Basra: A True Story from Iraq** by Jeannette Winter. Harcourt, 2005. This book tells the true story of how the librarian saved the books in the Basra Central Library. As war approached the city in 2003 she moved all 30,000 books from the library to safety in people's homes. The text does not dwell on the devastation of war, but the illustrations convey a sense of its harshness. This book is most appropriate for children in at least 2<sup>nd</sup> grade.

## TEACHERS

### PICTURE BOOKS

**Attack of the 50-Foot Teacher** by Lisa Passen. Henry Holt, 2000. On Halloween, a spaceship turns Miss Irma Birnbaum, the cruelest teacher in the world, into a fifty-foot monster, inspiring terror in her students.

**Don't Be Silly Mrs. Millie!** by Judy Cox. Illustrated by Joe Mathieu. Marshall Cavendish, 2005. Mrs. Millie teaches the class by using the wrong word for things, but it always rhymes with the correct word. Do this word game with the kids by calling things by a rhyming word. Have the kids "misname" things.

**Hooray for Diffendoofer Day** by Dr. Seuss and Jack Prelutsky. Illustrated by Lane Smith. Knopf, 1998. The students of Diffendoofer School celebrate their unusual teachers and curriculum.

**The Incredible Shrinking Teacher** by Lisa Passen. Henry Holt, 2002. While preparing food for the last-day-of-school party, Miss Birnbaum, the toughest teacher in town, has a strange accident which makes her shrink.

**Jamaica and the Substitute Teacher** by Juanita Havill. Illustrated by Anne Sibley O'Brien. Houghton Mifflin, 1999. Jamaica copies from a friend during a spelling test because she wants a perfect paper, but her substitute teacher Mrs. Duval helps her understand that she does not have to be perfect to be special.

**Miss Bindergarten Celebrates the Last Day of Kindergarten** by Joseph Slate. Illustrated by Ashley Wolff. Dutton, 2006. In this story the kindergarten teacher, who is a border collie, is back again with her 26 alphabetical students to celebrate the end of the school year with clean-up chores and fun. Children and teachers enjoy this series of books about animal kids in school.

**Miss Malarkey Leaves No Reader Behind** by Judy Finchler. Illustrated by Kevin O'Malley. Walker Books, 2006. Principal Wiggin promises to die his hair purple and sleep on the school roof, if the students read 1,000 books. Miss Malarkey vows to find each of her students a book to love by the end of the school year, but one video game loving boy proves to be a challenge.

**Miss Nelson Has a Field Day** by Harry G. Allard. Illustrated by James Marshall. Houghton Mifflin, 1985. The notorious Miss Swamp shapes up the football team and help them win at least one game.

**Miss Nelson is Back** by Harry G. Allard. Illustrated by James Marshall. Houghton Mifflin, 1982. When Miss Nelson is sick the kids in Room 207 worry that Viola Swamp will be the substitute; but instead they get Principal Blandsworth, who bores them.

**Miss Nelson is Missing** by Harry G. Allard. Illustrated by James Marshall. Houghton Mifflin, 1977. The kids in Room 207 take advantage of their teacher's good nature until she disappears and they are faced with a substitute: Viola Swamp.

**Miss Smith Reads Again!** by Michael Garland. Dutton, 2006. When Miss Smith, the second-grade teacher, reads Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's *Adventures of the Lost World*, the class is transported to the Amazon jungle and confronted by a ferocious Tyrannosaurus Rex. This exciting adventure will be even more popular than the first Miss Smith book.

**Miss Smith's Incredible Storybook** by Michael Garland. Dutton, 2003. When the new teacher Miss Smith reads to her class, Zack and his classmates are amazed to find that the storybook characters from traditional tales and nursery rhymes come to life.

**Mrs. Watson Wants Your Teeth** by Alison McGhee. Illustrated by Harry Bliss. Harcourt, 2004. A first-grader is frightened on her first day of school after she hears a rumor that her teacher is a 300-year-old alien with a purple tongue, who steals baby teeth from her students.

**My Teacher Can Teach—Anyone** by W. Nikola-Lisa. Illustrated by Felipe Galindo. Lee & Low, 2004. This is an alphabet story in verse about a Latino boy and his remarkable teacher who can teach an astronaut how to float in space and instruct a ballet dancer how to land with grace.

**No More Pencils, No More Books, No More Teacher's Dirty Looks** by Diane deGroat. HarperCollins, 2006. Gilbert and his first-grade classmates are nervous about their performance on the last day of school, curious about the awards they will receive, sad to be leaving their teacher, and excited about a summer vacation.

**Substitute Teacher Plans** by Doug Johnson. Illustrated by Tammy Smith. Henry Holt, 2002. Miss Huff prepares an unusual list of activities for the substitute teacher who is covering her class when she takes a much-needed day off.

**Thank You, Mr. Falker** by Patricia Polacco. Philomel, 1998. At first, Trisha loves school, but her difficulty with learning to read makes her feel dumb until a new teacher helps her understand and overcome her problem.

**Totally Wonderful Miss Plumberry** by Michael Rosen. Illustrated by Chinlun Lee. Candlewick Press, 2006. Molly's day turns from totally wonderful to totally horrible when her classmates are not interested in the special crystal she has brought to school until Miss Plumberry steps in.

## PRINCIPALS

### PICTURE BOOKS

**A Fine, Fine School** by Sharon Creech. Illustrated by Harry Bliss. HarperCollins, 2001. When a principal loves his school so much that he wants his students to attend classes everyday of the year, it is up to the students to show him that free time is a good thing, too.

**Mr. Lincoln's Way** by Patricia Polacco. Philomel, 2001. When Mr. Lincoln, "the coolest principal in the whole world," discovers that Eugene, the school bully, knows a lot about birds, he uses this interest to help Eugene overcome his intolerance.

**Mr. Tanen's Tie Trouble** by Maryann Cocca-Leffler. Albert Whitman, 2003. Mr. Tanen loves his ties, but when his school runs out of money to build a playground, he decides to sell his ties in order to raise the needed money.

**Mr. Tanen's Ties** by Maryann Cocca-Leffler. Albert Whitman, 1999. Mr. Tanen, the school principal, is well known for his colorful and unusual ties, but he and his students are saddened when his boss orders him to stop wearing them.

**Mr. Tanen's Ties Rule!** by Maryann Cocca-Leffler. Albert Whitman, 2005. On Career Day, Principal Tanen distributes "job" ties to the students who will run Lynnhurst School for the day while he and the teachers become students, but important surprise visitors arise in the midst of the ensuing chaos.

**The Principal's New Clothes** by Stephanie Calmenson. Illustrated by Denise Brukus. Scholastic, 1989. Mr. Bundy, the principal of P.S. 88 is the snappiest dresser in town. But he is tricked by two devious tailors into wearing only his underwear to a school assembly.

## BOOKS ABOUT BOOKS & WRITING GRADES K-3

**The Boy Who Loved Words** by Roni Schotter. Illustrated by Giselle Potter. Schwartz & Wade, 2006. Selig, who loves words and copies them onto pieces of paper that he carries with him, goes on a trip to discover his purpose. See Random House site for activity ideas and handouts: <http://www.randomhouse.com/teachers/catalog/display.pperl?isbn=9780375836015&view=tg>

**Do Not Open This Book** by Michaela Muntean. Illustrated by Pascal Lemaitre. Scholastic, 2006. As Pig tries to write a book, he chastises the reader, who keeps interrupting him by turning the pages.

**Don't Make Me Laugh** by James Stevenson. Paperback. Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 2003. Mr. Frimdimpny, a crocodile-like creature, lays down the law to the readers that they must NOT laugh—of course, they do. Preschoolers and primary grade children will love this.

**Library Mouse** by Daniel Kirk. Abrams, 2007. Sam, a shy but creative mouse who lives in the library, decides to write and illustrate his own stories. He then places them on the shelves with the other library books. When the children find the tales, they all want to meet the author.

**Miss Smith's Incredible Storybook** by Michael Garland. Children's Books, 2003. When the new teacher, Miss Smith, reads to her class, Zack and his classmates are amazed to find that the storybook characters come to life.

**Mr. Putter and Tabby Write the Book** by Cynthia Rylant. Harcourt, 2005. In this early reader, Mr. Putter decides to write a mystery novel, but he keeps getting distracted.

**No Laughing, No Smiling, No Giggling** by James Stevenson. Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 2004. This sequel to *Don't Make Me Laugh* continues the (forbidden) hilarity with five short stories sure to delight young readers.

**Patches Lost and Found** by Steven Kroll. Illustrated by Barry Gott. Winslow Press, 2001. Jenny draws and writes a story about losing and finding her pet guinea pig.

**The Three Pigs** by David Wiesner. Clarion Books, 2001. In this clever version of the familiar story the pigs escape the wolf by crossing the border of the book, folding a page and turning it into an airplane, and flying off to have adventures in other storybooks.



# TWEEN BOOKLISTS

- ★ Tween Art Books
- ★ Tween Fiction About Books & Writing
- ★ Tween Bully Books
- ★ Tween Comedy Books
- ★ Tween Dance Books
- ★ Tween Detective Books
- ★ Harry Potter Read-Alikes
- ★ Tween Hero Books
- ★ Tween Invention & Science Books
- ★ Lemony Snicket Read-Alikes
- ★ Tween Magic Books
- ★ Tween Movie & Television Books
- ★ Tween Music Books
- ★ Tween Photography Books
- ★ Tween Puppet Show Books
- ★ Tween Space & Star Books
- ★ Tween Sports Books
- ★ Tween Olympic Books
- ★ Tween Storytelling Books
- ★ Tween Superhero Books
- ★ Tween Talent Show Books
- ★ Tween Theatre Books



## TWEEN ART BOOKS

### PICTURE BOOK FOR GRADES 2-5

**Seen Art?** by Jon Scieszka and Lane Smith. Viking, 2005. Gr. 2-5. While looking for his friend Art, a boy wanders through the Museum of Modern Art and is amazed by what he discovers there.

### FICTION BOOKS FOR GRADES 3-8

**The Artsy Smartsy Club** by Daniel Pinkwater. Illustrated by Jill Pinkwater. HarperCollins, 2005. Gr. 3-6. Three Hoboken children and their giant chicken Henrietta begin to appreciate beautiful sidewalk art. They are so inspired that they decide to take an art class and visit Manhattan.

**Chasing Vermeer** by Blue Balliett. Illustrated by Brett Helquist. Scholastic 2004. Gr. 5-8. When a Vermeer painting disappears, eleven-year-olds Petra and Calder combine their talents to solve an international art scandal.

**The Great Googlestein Museum Mystery** by Jean Van Leeuwen. Illustrated by R.W. Alley. Dial, 2003. Gr. 3-5. Three adventurous mice escape from their home at Macy's department store and spend an exciting week in the Guggenheim Museum, creating a sensation in the art world.

**Sammy Keyes and the Art of Deception** by Wendelin Van Draanen. Knopf, 2003. Gr. 5-8. Seventh-grade sleuth Sammy Keyes investigates mysterious happenings at a local art gallery.

**The Yellow House: Vincent Van Gogh and Paul Gauguin Side by Side** by Susan Goldman Rubin. Illustrated by Joseph A. Smith. Harry N. Abrams, 2001. Gr. 2-5. This is the thought-provoking story of the two months in 1888 when Van Gogh and Gauguin lived and painted side by side. With reproductions of their paintings, the book highlights the differing styles of the two artists.

### NONFICTION BOOKS

**Can You Find It? Search and Discover: More Than 150 Details in 19 Works of Art** by Judith Cressey. Harry N. Abrams, 2002. This book includes paintings from the Metropolitan Museum of Art's collection. A list of items to find is included with each painting, encouraging the readers to look carefully at each work of art.

**Can You Find It, Too? Search and Discover: More Than 150 Details in 20 Works of Art** by Judith Cressey. Harry N. Abrams, 2004. This book includes paintings from art museums around the world. A list of items to find is included with each painting, encouraging the readers to look carefully at each work of art.

**Henri Matisse: Drawing With Scissors (Smart About Art)** by Jane O'Connor. Illustrated by Jessie Hartland. Grosset & Dunlap, 2002. This book introduces readers to the life and work of Matisse including his shift from painting to cut-paper collage.



**Jackson Pollock (Life and Work Series)** by Leoni Bennett. Heinemann, 2005. This is a brief introduction to Pollock for young children.

**Jackson Pollock (Getting to Know the World's Great Artists)** by Mike Venezia. Children's Press, 2005. This is an entertaining and interesting introduction to the artist.

**Pablo Picasso: Breaking All the Rules (Smart About Art)** by True Kelly. Grosset & Dunlap, 2002. This is a brief introduction to Picasso's various styles.

**Vincent Van Gogh: Sunflowers and Swirly Stars (Smart About Art)** by Joan Holab. Grosset & Dunlap, 2001. This book provides basic information about Van Gogh's life and art.

**Vincent's Colors** by Vincent Van Gogh. Chronicle Books, 2005. Poetic text is from Van Gogh's letters describes the colors of his paintings including: Sunflowers, The Bedroom, and The Starry Night. Full-color reproductions are included.

## TWEEN FICTION ABOUT BOOKS & WRITING

### PICTURE BOOKS FOR GRADES 2-5

**The Day Eddie Met the Author** by Louise Borden. Illustrated by Adam Gustavson. Margaret K. McElderry, 2001. Gr. 2-4. Third-grader Eddie is very excited when a real author comes to his school because he has a very important question to ask her.

**Max's Words** by Kate Banks. Illustrated by Boris Kulikov. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2006. Gr. 2-5. Max's brothers collect stamps and coins, so Max decides to collect words by cutting them out of magazines and newspapers. His brothers join him in exploring the possibilities of words, sentences and storytelling.

**Nothing Ever Happens on 90<sup>th</sup> Street** by Roni Schotter. Illustrated by Krystin Brooker. Scholastic, 1999. Eva has been given a school assignment to write about her neighborhood. As she sits on her stoop, trying to think of something to write about, various eccentric people come and give her advice. A madcap series of events is set off when she feeds some of her Danish to the birds.

**Once Upon a Cool Motorcycle Dude** by Kevin O'Malley. Illustrated by Kevin O'Malley, Carol Heyer and Scott Goto. Walker & Co., 2005. Gr. 3-5. Cooperatively writing a fairy tale for school, a girl and boy have very different ideas of how the story should go. The girl imagines a beautiful princess, whose beloved ponies are being stolen by a giant. The boy conjures up a muscular biker, who will guard the last pony in exchange for gold. The contrasting styles of the three illustrators add to the fun of this fantastic escapade.

**Simon's Book** by Henrik Drescher. MacAdam/Cage Publishing, 2006. Gr. 2-4. A young boy is writing a book, but when he stops drawing to go to bed, he leaves the main character Simon stranded on the page with a huge monster. Older kids will relish the twisted humor and unique illustrations of this book.

**That's Not Right!** by Alan Durant. Illustrated by Katherine McEwen. Crabtree, 2004. Gr. 2-5. Ellie's simple story about a bug takes on new dimensions when she meets all of the characters from her story, each insisting Ellie's story is "not right."

### FICTION FOR GRADES 3-7

**4 Kids in 5E and 1 Crazy Year** by Virginia Frances Schwartz. Holiday House, 2006. Gr. 3-6. Family, school, and life in general are seen through the writings of four fifth-graders who have been taken out of an overcrowded New York City classroom and placed with a teacher who shows them how to write and how to believe in themselves.

**Brave Max** by Sally Grindley. Illustrated by Tony Ross. Simon & Schuster, 2007. Gr. 2-4. This sequel to *Dear Max* takes place a year later with the correspondence between Max and the author continuing and their friendship growing.

**Dear Max** by Sally Grindley. Illustrated by Tony Ross. Simon & Schuster, 2006. Gr. 2-4. As Max, who is almost ten, and his favorite author, D.J. Lucas, exchange letters, the two writers help each other with their new books and develop a special friendship.

**Dear Mrs. Ryan, You're Ruining My Life** by Jennifer B. Jones. Walker & Co., 2004. Gr. 3-6. In an effort to get his mother to stop writing about him in her books, fifth-grader Harvey and his best friend decide to try to make a romantic connection between her and their school principal.

**Dexter the Tough** by Margaret Peterson Haddix. Simon & Schuster, 2007. Gr. 3-6. A sympathetic teacher and her writing assignment help fourth-grader Dexter deal with being the new kid in school after he punches a kid on the first day.

**Fur-ever Yours, Booker Jones** by Betsy Duffey. Viking, 2001. Gr. 4-6. Twelve-year old Booker Jones turns to his writing once again to deal with the stress of his seemingly insensitive parents' decision to vacation together, leaving family and laundry behind.

**It Came from Beneath the Bed!** by James Howe. Atheneum, 2002. Gr. 3-6. With help from his Uncle Harold, who wrote books about Bunnacula, Howie the wire-haired dachshund, writes a story in which he saves the world from a science experiment gone awry.

**Jennifer's Diary** by Anne Fine. Illustrated by Kate Aldous. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2007. When Jennifer receives a diary as a gift, her friend Iola has lots of ideas about what to put in the diary and wants it for herself.

**Love That Dog** by Sharon Creech. HarperCollins, 2001. Gr. 4-6. A young student, who comes to love poetry through a personal understanding of what different famous poems mean to him, surprises himself by writing his own inspired poem.

**Lucy Rose** series by Katy Kelly. Illustrated by Adam Rex. Delacorte Books. Gr. 3-5. Lucy Rose, who records her thoughts and feelings in her diary, is the most likeable girl character to come along since Ramona. Children will enjoy the funny, frank, and sometimes poignant things that Lucy Rose has to say as she deals with family and friends.

**Lunch Money** by Andrew Clements. Illustrated by Brian Selznick. Simon & Schuster, 2005. Gr. 3-6. Twelve-year-old Greg, who has always been good at money making projects, is surprised to find himself teaming up with his lifelong rival, Maura, to create a series of comic books to sell at school.

**Please Write in This Book** by Mary Amato. Illustrated by Eric Brace. Holiday House, 2006. Gr. 3-6. When Ms. Wurtz leaves a blank book in the Writer's Corner with a note encouraging those who find it to "talk to each other" in its pages, the students' entries spark a classroom battle.

**Rosy Cole's Memoir Explosion: A Heartbreaking Story About Losing Friends, Annoying Family, and Ruining Romance** by Shelia Greenwald. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2006. Gr. 3-5. When Rosy writes a memoir about herself and her friends for a school assignment, she is surprised when they are not thrilled with the result.

**Ruby Electric** by Theresa Nelson. Atheneum, 2003. Gr. 5-8. Twelve-year-old Ruby Miller, movie buff and aspiring screen writer, tries to resolve the mysteries surrounding her little brother's stuffed woolly mammoth and their father's five year absence.

**Sahara Special** by Esmé Raji Codell. Hyperion, 2003. Gr. 4-6. Struggling with school and her feelings since her father left, Sahara gets a fresh start with a new and unique teacher who supports her writing talents and the individuality of each of her classmates.

**The School Story** by Andrew Clements. Illustrated by Brian Selznick. Simon & Schuster, 2001. Gr. 4-6. After twelve-year-old Natalie writes a wonderful novel, her friend Zoë helps her devise a scheme to get it accepted at the publishing house where Natalie's mother works as an editor.

**The Sloppy Copy Slipup** by Dyanne DiSalvo. Holiday House, 2005. Gr. 2-4. Fourth-grader Brian Higman worries about how his teacher will react when he fails to hand in a writing assignment, but he ends up being able to tell his story, after all.

**The S.O.S. File** by Betsy Byars, Betsy Duffey and Laurie Myers. Illustrated by Arthur Howard. Henry Holt, 2004. Gr. 4-6. The students in Mr. Mango's class submit stories for the S.O.S. file about their biggest emergencies and read them aloud for extra credit.

**Tank Talbott's Guide to Girls** by Dori Hillestad Butler. Albert Whitman, 2006. Gr. 4-6. Having agreed to get math tutoring and to practice writing over the summer to avoid flunking fifth grade, Tank learns some important lessons about both family and fighting while writing a boy's guide to understanding girls.

**Utterly Yours, Booker Jones** by Betsy Duffey. Viking, 1995. Gr. 4-7. Middle School student and aspiring author Booker Jones is evicted from his bedroom when his grandfather moves in, creating problems both at home and at school.

**The Worry Web Site** by Jacqueline Wilson. Yearling, 2005. Gr. 4-6. Mr. Speed creates a website on which his students can anonymously type their worries and get feedback from their classmates, which helps them sort out everything from pimples to step-family problems.

## TWEEN BULLY BOOKS

### PICTURE BOOK FOR GRADES 2-4

**Mr. Lincoln's Way** by Patricia Polacco. Philomel, 2001. Gr. 2-4. When Mr. Lincoln, "the coolest principal in the whole world," discovers that Eugene, the school bully, knows a lot about birds, he uses this interest to help Eugene overcome his intolerance.

### FICTION FOR GRADES 3-7

**Alien Brain Fryout: A Wild Willie Mystery** by Barbara M. Joosse. Illustrated by Sue Truesdell. Clarion, 2000. Gr. 2-5. When the neighborhood bully starts following Willy, Lucy, and Kyle around and acting goofy, they suspect that aliens have abducted him until Scarface the parrot presents another possibility.

**Agnes Parker...Girl in Progress** by Kathleen O'Dell. Illustrated by Clarise Mericle Harper. Dial, 2003. Gr. 4-6. As she starts sixth-grade, Agnes faces challenges with her old best friend, a longtime bully, a wonderful new classmate and neighbor, and herself.

**Beany and the Meany** by Susan Wojciechowski. Illustrated by Susanna Natti. Candlewick Press, 2005. Gr. 3-5. When Beany's best friend Carol Ann pairs-up with the new girl at school to create a science project, Beany must work with Kevin the bully.

**Cowboy Boy** by James Proimos. Scholastic, 2003. Gr. 3-6. Ricky Smootz is very afraid of everything, especially Keanu Dungston, the bully who terrorizes their middle school. But with the advice from his grandmother, Ricky transforms himself into Cowboy Boy and stands up to Keanu and his henchmen.

**Dexter the Tough** by Margaret Peterson Haddix. Simon & Schuster, 2007. Gr. 3-6. A sympathetic teacher and her writing assignment help fourth-grader Dexter deal with being the new kid in school after he punches a kid on the first day.

**Indigo's Star** by Hilary McKay. Margaret K. McElderry, 2004. Gr. 4-7. Spurred on by his youngest sister, Rose, twelve-year-old Indigo sticks up for himself and a boy who has replaced him as the primary target of the school bullies.

**Jake Drake, Bully Buster** by Andrew Clements. Illustrated by Amanda Harvey. Simon & Schuster, 2001. Gr. 3-5. Fourth-grader Jake Drake relates how he comes to terms with SuperBully Link Baxter, especially after they are assigned to be partners on a class project.

**Mean, Mean Maureen Green** by Judy Cox. Illustrated by Cynthia Fisher. Holiday House, 1999. Gr. 2-5. With the help from Adam, a boy in her third-grade class, Lilley gains enough confidence to stand up to the school bus bully, Mean Maureen Green.

**My Dog's a Scaredy-Cat (Hank Zipzer Series)** by Henry Winkler and Lin Oliver. Grosset & Dunlap, 2006. Gr. 3-6. Teased by the school bully because of his Halloween costume, underachieving Hank, with the help of his friends, exacts revenge by creating the scariest and grossest haunted house ever and inviting the bully to visit.

**My Dog Cat** by Marty Crisp. Illustrated by True Kelley. Holiday House, 2000. Gr. 3-6. Ten-year-old Abbie, bullied at school for being small, wants to get a big black dog, but two months of living with a little Yorkshire terrier changes his mind.

**The Revealers** by Doug Wilhelm. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2003. Gr. 4-7. Tired of being bullied and picked on, three seventh grade outcasts use scientific methods and the power of the Internet to create a new atmosphere at Parkland Middle School.

**Roxie and the Hooligans** by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor. Illustrated by Alexandra Boiger. Atheneum, 2006. Gr. 3-6. Roxie Warbler, the niece of a famous explorer, follows Uncle Dangerfoot's advice on how to survive any crisis when she becomes stranded on an island with a gang of school bullies and a pair of murderous bank robbers.

**Secret Identity (Shredderman # 1)** by Wendelin Van Draanen. Illustrated by Brian Biggs. Knopf, 2004. Gr. 3-5. This is the first title in a hilarious series told by nerdy fifth-grader Nolan Byrd. Nolan builds a web site using the secret identity of Shredderman in order to expose the bully Bubba Bixby.

**Super Emma** by Sally Warner. Illustrated by Jamie Harper. Viking Books, 2006. Gr. 2-5. Third-grader Emma becomes a reluctant heroine when she defend a friend from the class bully.

**Surviving Brick Johnson** by Laurie Myers. Illustrated by Dan Yaccarino. Clarion, 2000. Gr. 3-5. Afraid of getting maimed for making fun of the new boy Brick, fifth-grader Nick signs up for karate class, despite his little brother's reassurances that Brick is not a bully.

**Trading Places with Tank Talbott** by Dori Hillestad Butler. Albert Whitman, 2003. Gr. 3-6. Jason, who would rather work on his horror movie screenplay than learn to swim, finds an unlikely ally in Tank, the class bully, who is being forced to take ballroom dance lessons.

**Winchell Mink: The Misadventure Begins** by Steve Young. HarperCollins, 2004. Gr. 3-6. When a bullied eleven-year-old boy is transformed into his pet turtle, he finds himself catapulted on a series of bizarre adventures.

## TWEEN COMEDY BOOKS

### FICTION BOOKS FOR GRADES 3-6

**Maxx Comedy: The Funniest Kid in America** by Gordon Korman. Hyperion, 2003. Gr. 4-6. Eleven-year-old Max Carmody has wanted to be a stand-up comedian since he was five, so when a contest is held to find the "world's funniest kid," he goes through all kinds of craziness to win.

**My Life as a Fifth-Grade Comedian** by Elizabeth Levy. HarperCollins, 1997. Gr. 4-6. Although Bobby's father thinks that he might be expelled just like his older brother, with the encouragement of a new fifth-grade teacher, Bobby tries to channel his penchant for humor into a learning experience.

### NONFICTION BOOKS FOR GRADES 2-6

**The Everything Kids' Joke Book: Side-Splitting, Rib-Tickling Fun (Everything Kids Series)** by Michael Dahl. Adams Media, 2002. This book has lots of good clean jokes, plus tips on how to tell jokes and deliver punch lines.

**Funny Bones: Comedy Games and Activities for Kids** by Lisa Bany-Winters. Chicago Review Press, 2002. This book provides information about how to be funny, including ideas for comedic styles and routines, how to use props, developing a distinctive character, using music, improvisational techniques, as well as the history of comedy and biographical information about famous comedians.

**How to Be the Funniest Kid in the Whole Wide World (Or Just in Your Class)** by Jay Leno. Illustrated by S.B. Whitehead. Simon & Schuster, 2005. Leno, of the *Tonight Show*, offers good advice on how to become a comedian.

**Riddles and More Riddles (Beginner Books)** by Bennett Cerf. Illustrated by Debbie Palen. Random House, 1999. This is a classic collection of tried and true riddles.

**Why Did the Chicken Cross the Road?** by Joanna Cole and Stephanie Calmenson. Illustrated by Alan Tiegreen. HarperTrophy, 1994. This book presents a wide variety of over 200 riddles arranged by topic.

**The Zaniest Riddle Book in the World** by Joseph Rosenbloom. Illustrated by Sandy Hoffman. Sterling, 1984. This collection of riddles offers over 900 jokes to keep readers entertained.

## TWEEN DANCE BOOKS

### PICTURE BOOKS FOR GRADES 2-4

**Rotten Richie and the Ultimate Dare** by Patricia Polacco. Philomel, 2006. When Richie mocks his sister's ballet dancing they agree to switch places. Trish will play in a hockey match and Richie will dance in a recital.

**Stompin' at the Savoy** by Bebe Moore Campbell. Illustrated by Richard Yarde. Philomel, 2006. Gr. 2-5. On the night of the jazz recital Mindy feels too nervous to go until a magical drum whisks her away to the Savoy Ballroom in Harlem. Set in the 1920s, this book gives children an exuberant view of the legendary ballroom during the jazz era.

### FICTION FOR GRADES 2-6

**Dance with Rosie** by Patricia Reilly Giff. Illustrated by Julie Durrell. Viking, 1996. Gr. 2-5. Rosie tries to make up with her former best friend and get into ballet class after the sign-up deadline.

**The Quail Club** by Carolyn Marsden. Candlewick, 2006. Gr. 3-5. Now in fifth-grade, Oy wants to do a Thai dance at the school talent show until Liliandra threatens to kick her out of their club if they do not perform an American-style skit together.

**Robert and the Practical Jokes** by Barbara Seuling. Illustrated by Paul Brewer. Cricket Books, 2006. Gr. 2-4. As a boys-versus-girls war of practical jokes escalates in this third-grade classroom, Robert finds it difficult to ask a girl's help in learning to dance in time for a family's wedding reception.

**Starring Prima!: The Mouse of the Ballet Jolie** by Jacquelyn Mitchard. Illustrated by Tricia Tusa. HarperCollins, 2004. Gr. 3-5. A mouse, who lives in the grand piano at the Ballet Jolie in New York City, intends to be a dancer.



## TWEEN DETECTIVE BOOKS

### PICTURE BOOKS FOR GRADES 2-4

**Jake Gander, Storyville Detective: The Case of the Greedy Granny** by George McClements. Hyperion, 2002. This fractured fairy-tale mystery parodies the Little Red Riding Hood story. A series of clues help Jake Gander prove Red R. Hood's suspicions about her grandmother's new look. The clever wordplay and jokes will appeal to fans of Jon Scieszka.

**Mystery at the Club Sandwich** by Doug Cushman. Houghton Mifflin, 2004. When Lola, a famous singer at the Club Sandwich, loses her lucky marbles, elephant detective Nick Trunk, lover of peanut butter, takes the case.

**Tough Cookie** by Davis Wisniewski. HarperCollins, 1999. This spoof on hard-boiled detective stories is set in a cookie jar. The narrator is a chocolate chip cookie, who resembles Humphrey Bogart. His glamorous girlfriend Pecan Sandy tells him that his friend Chips has been snatched by their arch-enemy Fingers. Will Tough Cookie be able to save Chips and reunite with Pecan Sandy? The movie references may not be understood by children, but they will enjoy the humor of humanized cookies.

**The Web Files** by Margie Palatini. Illustrated by Richard Egielski. Hyperion, 2001. Ducktective Web and his partner try to quack the case of the pilfered peck of perfectly pickled peppers.

### BEGINNING CHAPTER BOOKS FOR GRADES 2-4

**It Came From Beneath** by James Howe. Aladdin, 2003. In this spin-off from the Bunnica series, Howie the dachshund writes the story of how he saves the world from a science experiment that has gone wrong.

**Mercy Watson Fights Crime** by Kate DiCamillo. Illustrated by Chris Van Dusen. Candlewick, 2006. Mercy the pig's love of buttered toast leads to the capture of a small thief who would rather be a cowboy.

### MYSTERY SERIES

**A to Z Mysteries** by Ron Roy.

**Boxcar Children Series** by Gertrude Chandler Warner.

**Cam Jansen Series** by David Adler.

**Carmen Sandiego Mysteries** by Melissa Peterson.

**Chet Gecko Mystery Series** by Bruce Hale.

**Chinatown Mysteries** by Lawrence Yep.

**Encyclopedia Brown Series** by Donald J. Sobol.

**Hank the Cowdog Series** by John R. Erickson.

**Hardy Boys Series** by Franklin W. Dixon.

**Herculeah Jones Mystery Series** by Betsy Byars.

**Jigsaw Jones Mystery Series** by James Preller.

**Joe Sherlock, Kid Detective Series** by David Keane.

**Meg Mackintosh Series** by Lucinda Landon.

**Nancy Drew Series** by Carolyn Keane.

**Sugar Creek Gang Mystery Series** by Paul Hutchins.  
**Wishbone Mysteries** by Anne Capeci.

### NONFICTION BOOKS

**Crime Scene Investigations: Real-Life Science Activities for the Elementary Grades** by Pam Walker and Elaine Wood. Jossey-Bass, 1999. This book has 60 lesson plans and activity sheets related to observation and critical thinking.

**Detective Science: 40 Crime-Solving, Case-Breaking, Crook-Catching Activities for Kids** by Jim Wiese. Jossey-Bass, 1996. This book includes 40 projects and experiments to help kids development their skills of observation and creative thinking.

**The Master Spy Handbook: Help Our Intrepid Hero Use Gadgets, Codes, and Top-Secret Tactics to Save the World from Evildoers** by Rain Newcomb. Illustrated by Jason Chin. Lark Books, 2005. This book includes over 50 spy techniques, including coded messages, disguises, and gadgets.

**Top Secret: A Handbook of Codes, Ciphers and Secret Writing** by Paul B. Janeczko. Candlewick, 2004. This terrific guide to secret writing explains how to decipher codes and provides information about different types of codes. It includes numerous codes and ciphers, plus invisible ink recipes and other concealment techniques.

## HARRY POTTER READ-ALIKES

### If You Like Harry Potter, You Might Like:

**The Amulet of Samarkand** by Johnathan Stroud. Nathaniel, a magician's apprentice, summons up the djinni Bartimaeus, and instructs him to steal the Amulet of Samarkand from the powerful magician Simon Lovelace.

**Artemis Fowl** by Eoin Colfer. When a twelve-year-old genius tries to restore his family fortune by capturing a fairy and demanding a ransom in gold, the fairies fight back with magic, technology, and a particularly nasty troll. First book in the *Artemis Fowl* series.

**The Blue Sword** by Robin McKinley. Harry, bored with her sheltered life in the remote colony of Daria, discovers magic in herself when a native king with mysterious powers kidnaps her. Prequel to *The Hero and the Crown*.

**The Book of Three** by Lloyd Alexander. Taran, Assistant Pig-Keeper to a famous oracular sow, sets out on a hazardous mission to save Prydain from the forces of evil. The first book in *The Prydain Chronicles*.

**Charmed Life** by Diana Wynne Jones. Gwendolyn Chant and her brother Cat find the Chrestomanci Castle family's magic powers difficult to counter with the inferior magic powers of the Coven Street witches. First book in the *Chrestomanci* series.

**The Dark Green Tunnel** by Allan W. Eckert. Three children in Florida experience both danger and great joy when they find an entrance to another world peopled with centaurs, gnomes, a wizard, and a wicked King.

**Dealing With Dragons** by Patricia A. Wrede. Bored with traditional life, a princess goes off to live with a group of dragons and soon becomes involved fighting against some wizards who want to steal away the dragon kingdom. First book in the *The Enchanted Forest Chronicles*.

**The Dragonslayers** by Bruce Coville. A brave squire, an earnest page, and a strong-willed princess set out to slay the dragon created to carry out a witch's revenge.

**Dragonsong** by Anne McCaffrey. Forbidden by her father to indulge in music in any way, a girl on the planet Pern runs away. First book in the *Harper Hall Trilogy*.

**Ella Enchanted** by Gail Carson Levine. Ella struggles against the childhood curse that forces her to obey any order given to her.

**Eragon** by Christopher Paolini. In Alagaesia, a fifteen-year-old boy of unknown lineage finds a mysterious stone that weaves his life into an intricate tapestry of destiny, magic, and power. First book in the *Inheritance* series.

**The Everyday Witch** by Sandra Forrester. On the eve of her twelfth birthday, Beatrice Bailey is surprised to find that the decision about her classification as a witch has not yet been made, and that she must first perform a task involving the evil Daily Rump. First book in the *Beatrice Bailey* series.

**Five Children and It** by E. Nesbit. When four brothers and sisters discover a sand fairy near their house, they have no way of knowing all the adventures Its wish-granting will bring them.

**The Golden Compass** by Philip Pullman. Lyra and her daemon set out to prevent her best friend and other kidnapped children from becoming the subjects of experiments in the Far North. First book in the *His Dark Materials* series.

**Half Magic** by Edward Eager. Faced with a dull summer in the city, four children find themselves involved in a series of extraordinary adventures after one of them finds a coin that seems to grant wishes. First book in the *Magical* series.

**The Hero and the Crown** by Robin McKinley. With the guidance of the wizard, Luthe, and the help of the Blue Sword, Aerin wins the birthright due her as the daughter of the Damarian King and a witch of the demon-hunted North. Sequel to *The Blue Sword*.

**Howl's Moving Castle** by Diana Wynne Jones. Eldest of the three sisters, Sophie is resigned to her fate as a hat shop apprentice until a witch turns her into an old woman and she finds herself in the castle of the greatly feared wizard Howl.

**The Invitation** by Carla Jablonski. Thirteen-year-old Tim discovers he may be the greatest wizard of his time when four strangers introduce him to the world of magic. He embarks on a journey through the past, present, future, and Faerie realms – where danger threatens at every turn. First book in *The Book of Magic* series.

**The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe** by C.S. Lewis. Lucy, Peter, Susan, and Edmund find their way into the magic land of Narnia to help fight the White Witch, who has cursed the land with eternal winter. First book in *The Chronicles of Narnia* series.

**Matilda** by Roald Dahl. Matilda applies her untapped mental powers to rid the school of the evil, child-hating, headmistress, Miss Trunchbull, and restores her nice teachers, Miss Honey, to financial security.

**Midnight for Charlie Bone** by Jenny Nimmo. Charlie Bone's life with his widowed mother and two grandmothers undergoes a dramatic change when he discovers that he can hear people in photographs talking. First book in *The Children of the Red King* series.

**Over Sea, Under Stone** by Stone Cooper. Three children on vacation in Cornwall find an ancient manuscript, which sends them on a dangerous quest for a grail that will reveal the true story of King Arthur. First book in *The Dark Is Rising* series.

**Passenger** by Jane Yolen. Abandoned in the woods of Medieval England, an eight-year-old boy begins a journey of hardship, danger, and magic that will one day make him the most famous wizard of all time. First in *The Young Merlin Trilogy*.

**Phantom Tollbooth** by Norton Juster. Milo takes a journey through a land where he learns the importance of words and numbers, and finds a cure for his boredom.

**The Perilous Gard** by Elizabeth Marie Pope. While imprisoned in a remote castle in 1588, a young girl becomes involved in a series of events that leads to an underground labyrinth peopled by the last practitioners of druid magic.

**Redwall** by Brian Jacques. When peace is shattered in the ancient Redwall Abbey by the arrival of the evil rat Cluny and his villainous hordes, Mattias, a young mouse, determines to find the legendary sword of Martin the Warrior that he is convinced will help Redwall destroy the enemy. First in the *Redwall* series.

**Mister Monday** by Garth Nix. Arthur Penhaligon has an asthma attack on the first day of school and wakes up with a mysterious key in his hand, which the sinister Mister Monday will do anything to get back. Arthur, normally an unadventurous boy, finds himself battling for possession of the key in a fantastical surreal world. First in *The Keys to the Kingdom* series.

**The Secret of Platform 13** by Eva Ibbotson. A young hag, Odge Gribble, accompanies an old wizard, a gentle fey, and a giant ogre on their mission through a magical tunnel from their island to London to rescue their King and Queen's son, stolen as an infant.

**Shadowmancer** by G.P. Taylor. When Obadiah Demurral, the power-hungry Vicar of Thorpe, attempts to become a god by dabbling in magic, Raphah – who has come from Africa to get back an artifact stolen from his Temple – joins forces with Kate and Thomas to stop him.

**So You Want To Be A Wizard** by Diane Duane. Nita, tormented by a gang of bullies because she won't fight back, finds the help she needs in a library book on wizardry, which guides her into another dimension. The first book in *The Wizard* series.

**Sword of the Rightful King** by Jane Yolen. Merlinnus the magician devises a way for King Arthur to prove himself the rightful king of England by pulling a sword from a stone – but trouble arises when someone else removes the sword first.

**The Wee Free Men** by Terry Pratchett. A young witch-to-be named Tiffany teams up with the Wee Free Men – a clan of six-inch-high blue men – to rescue her baby brother and ward off a sinister invasion from Fairyland.

**Which Witch?** by Eva Ibbotson. The Great Wizard of Arriaman announces a competition among witches of Todcaster to see who will be his bride.

**Witch Week** by Diana Wynne Jones. When a teacher at an English boarding school finds a note on his desk accusing someone in the class of being a witch, magical things begin to happen and an Inquisitor is summoned.

**The Witches** by Roald Dahl. A young boy and his grandmother, who is an expert on witches, foil a group of witches' plot to destroy the world's children.

**A Wizard of Earthsea** by Ursula K. LeGuin. A boy grows to manhood while attempting to subdue the evil he unleashed on the world as an apprentice to the Master Wizard. First book in *The Earthsea Trilogy*.

**Wizard's Hall** by Jane Yolen. A young apprentice wizard saves the wizard's training hall by trusting and believing in himself.

**A Wrinkle in Time** by Madeline L'Engle. Meg Murry, Charles Wallace, and Calvin embark on a perilous quest through space to find Meg and Charles's physicist father who has disappeared. First book in the *Time Quartet*.

## TWEEN HERO BOOKS

### PICTURE BOOK FOR GRADES 2-5

**Johnny on the Spot** by Edward Sorel. Margaret K. McElderry, 1998. Gr. 2-5. When Johnny's radio begins to broadcast the news from tomorrow, he begins a series of heroic and lucrative adventures.

**Radio Rescue** by Lynne Barasch. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2000. Gr. 3-5. After learning Morse code, a twelve-year-old boy sends a message that saves a family stranded by a hurricane. This story is based on events in the life of the author's father in 1923.

**Stanley, Flat Again** by Jeff Brown. Illustrated by Scott Nash. HarperCollins, 2003. Gr. 2-4. After Stanley Lambchop goes flat once again, he uses his flatness to help win a sailboat race and to rescue a classmate from a collapsed building.

### FICTION BOOKS FOR GRADES 2-5

**Cliff Hanger** by Jean Craighead George. Illustrated by Wendell Minor. HarperCollins, 2002. Despite the dangers of a thunderstorm, Axel and his father make a difficult climb to rescue Axel's stranded dog.

**The Hero of Third Grade** by Alice DeLaCroix. Illustrated by Cynthia Fisher. Holiday House, 2002. Gr. 2-5. When Randall changes to a new school, he pretends to be an anonymous hero; but when his third grade class plans a fundraiser, he finds that being himself is good enough.

**Judy Moody Saves the World** by Megan McDonald. Illustrated by Peter Reynolds. Candlewick, 2002. Gr. 2-5. When Judy Moody gets serious about protecting the environment, she manages to inspire her third-grade class to undertake an award-winning, environment-saving project.

**Secret Identity (Shredderman # 1)** by Wendelin Van Draanen. Illustrated by Brian Biggs. Knopf, 2004. Gr. 3-5. This is the first title in a hilarious series told by nerdy fifth-grader Nolan Byrd. Nolan builds a web site using the secret identity of Shredderman in order to expose the bully Bubba Bixby.

**When Pigs Fly (Fitch & Chip Series – Ready to Read)** by Lisa Wheeler. Illustrated by Frank Ansley. Atheneum, 2003. Gr. 1-3. Fitch and Chip learn that you do not have to wear a cape to be a hero.

## TWEEN INVENTION & SCIENCE BOOKS

### PICTURE BOOK FOR GRADES 2-5

**The Great Show and Tell Disaster** by Mike Reiss. Illustrated by Mike Cressy. Penguin, 2001. Desperate to bring something exciting to show and tell at school, Ned invents a "Mix-Up Ray" that changes things into anagrams: Kathy become a yacht, the school bus becomes a sub, and his teacher becomes a monster.

**Johnny on the Spot** by Edward Sorel. Margaret K. McElderry, 1998. Gr. 2-5. When Johnny's radio begins to broadcast the news from tomorrow, he begins a series of heroic and lucrative adventures.

**Weslandia** by Paul Fleischman. Illustrated by Kevin Hawkes. Candlewick Press, 1999. Gr. 2-4. Wesley spends his summer vacation planning and creating a self-sufficient civilization with its own staple food crop.

### FICTION BOOKS FOR GRADES 3-7

**101 Ways to Bug Your Parents** by Lee Wardlaw. Dial, 1996. Gr. 4-7. When his parents call off the family vacation to the Invention Convention and enroll their son in a creative writing class, twelve-year-old Steve comes up with a wacky moneymaking project.

**101 Ways to Bug Your Teacher** by Lee Wardlaw. Dial, 2004. Gr. 4-7. In this sequel to *101 Ways to Bug Your Parents*, Steve "Sneeze" Wyatt attempts to thwart his parents' plan to have him skip eighth grade, but he has bigger problems when his friends disapprove of his new list and Mrs. "Fierce" Pearce threatens to keep him from the Invention Convention.

**The Adventures of Archie Featherspoon (Ready-for-Chapters Series)** by Cathy Stefanec Ogren. Illustrated by Jack E. Davis. Aladdin, 2002. Gr. 2-4. A young boy with a knack for creating unusual inventions when he should be helping his mother on the farm, finds a use for them when he is made sheriff of a town in Kansas and must get rid of a gang of no-good bullies.

**Ben and Me: An Astonishing Life of Benjamin by his Good Mouse Amos** by Robert Lawson. Little, Brown, 1999. Gr. 3-6. This is the true story of Ben Franklin, as told by his closest friend Amos. According to Amos, it was really he who is responsible for Ben's inventions and discoveries.

**Cal and the Amazing Anti-Gravity Machine** by Richard Hamilton. Illustrated by Sam Hearn. Bloomsbury, 2006. Gr. 3-5. With his talking dog, Frankie, as a constant companion, ten-year-old Cal Barraclough investigates his wacky neighbor's unusual experiments.

**Captain Underpants and the Attack of the Talking Toilets** by Dav Pilkey. Blue Sky Press, 1999. Gr. 2-5. After using a copy machine from the annual invention contest that turns pictures into real-life objects, George and Harold accidentally create evil talking toilets. Principal Krupp once again turns into the superhero Captain Underpants in order to save the world and the school from the evil talking toilets and the Turbo Toilet 2000.

**Fries Alive!** by David Baldacci. Little, Brown, 2005. Gr. 3-5. While competing with a rival restaurant for the winning float in the Founder's Day parade, nine-year-old Freddy Funkhouser constructs a batch of animated French fries in his secret laboratory that come to life after receiving an enormous jolt of electricity.

**Frindle** by Andrew Clements. Illustrated by Brian Selznick. Simon & Schuster, 1996. Gr. 3-6. Fifth-grader Nick Allen is constantly trying to outsmart everyone, including his teacher, but amazing things start to happen when he invents *frindle*, a new word for a pen, in an attempt to outwit her.

**The Gadget War** by Betty Duffey. Illustrated by Janet Wilson. Puffin, 2000. Gr. 3-5. Two third-graders compete for which one is the best inventor.

**The Homework Machine** by Dan Gutam. Aladdin, 2007. Gr. 4-7. Fifth-grader Brenton is a computer genius, but when he invents a machine that does homework his classmates don't believe him, until he proves it.

**I Was a Third Grade Science Project** by Mary Jane Auch. Illustrated by Herm Auch. Holiday House, 1980. Gr. 3-5. While trying to hypnotize his dog for the third-grade science fair, Brian accidentally makes his best friend Josh think he's a cat.

**The Marvelous Inventions of Alvin Fernald** by Clifford B. Hicks. Illustrated by Charles Geer. Purple House Press, 2006. Gr. 4-6. Despite the help of the Pest, some amazing inventions, and his best friend, Shoie, Alvin still wonders whether even he can solve the Huntley mystery.

**My Chimp Friday: The Nana Banana Chronicles** by Hester Mundis. Simon & Schuster, 2002. Gr. 4-6. When an unusual friend of her father drops off an unusually intelligent chimpanzee at their apartment in the middle of the night with strict orders to keep the chimp a secret, twelve-year-old Rachel wants to know what the big mystery is all about.

**No More Nasty** by Amy MacDonald. Illustrated by Cat Bowman Smith. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2001. Gr. 3-5. When Simon's Great Aunt Matilda becomes the substitute teacher for his unruly fifth-grade class, her unique way of looking at things gives the students a new perspective on learning.

**Owen Foote, Mighty Scientist** by Stephanie Greene. Illustrated by Catherine Bowman Smith. Houghton Mifflin, 2004. Gr. 2-4. Third-grade best friends Owen and Joseph struggle to come up with a great science fair project that they will both enjoy doing, and when something goes wrong, they have to change their plans two days before the fair.

**Phineas L. MacGuire...Erupts! The First Experiment** by Frances O'Roark Dowell. Illustrated by Preston McDaniels. Simon & Schuster, 2006. Gr. 2-4. Fourth-grade science whiz Phineas MacGuire is forced to team up with the new boy in class on a science fair project, but the boy's quirky personality causes Phineas to wonder if they have any chance of winning.

**Qwerty Stevens, Stuck in Time with Benjamin Franklin** by Dan Gutman. Simon & Schuster, 2002. Gr. 4-6. This is the sequel to *The Edison Mystery* (not in print). After accidentally sucking Benjamin Franklin into twenty-first century New Jersey with his "Anytime Anywhere" machine, thirteen-year-old Qwerty Stevens and his best friend almost wind up stuck in Philadelphia on July 4, 1776 when they try to send him back.



**Secret Identity (Shredderman # 1)** by Wendelin Van Draanen. Illustrated by Brian Biggs. Knopf, 2004. Gr. 3-5. This is the first title in a hilarious new series told by nerdy fifth-grader Nolan Byrd. Nolan builds a web site using the secret identity of Shredderman in order to expose the bully Bubba Bixby.

**That Crazy Eddie and the Science Project of Doom** by Judy Cox. Illustrated by Blanche Simms. Holiday House, 2005. Gr. 2-4. Best friends Eddie and Matt have a disagreement that threatens to ruin their science fair project.

**There's a Kangaroo in My Soup!** by Joan Lennon. Illustrated by Wendy Rasmussen. Cricket, 2000. Gr. 3-5. When Cynthia the boisterous kangaroo runs away from the circus, she hides out at quiet Kevin's house and helps him solve the mystery surrounding his parents' inventions.

**TJ and the Rockets** by Hazel J. Hutchins. Orca, 2004. Gr. 2-5. TJ must overcome his fear of failure and build a rocket for the upcoming science fair, but it does not go as planned.

**Winchell Mink: The Misadventure Begins** by Steve Young. HarperCollins, 2004. Gr. 3-6. When a bullied eleven-year-old boy is transformed into his pet turtle, he finds himself catapulted on a series of bizarre adventures.

#### **NONFICTION BOOKS FOR GRADES 3-7**

**Accidents May Happen: 50 Inventions Discovered by Mistake** by Charlotte Foltz Jones. Delacorte, 1998. Gr. 3-6. From Wheaties to telephones, microwave ovens to yo-yos, here are the inspiring and often funny stories of 50 mistakes and misunderstandings that helped bring about life as we know it.

**Archaeology for Kids: Uncovering the Mysteries of Our Past, 25 Activities** by Richard Panchyk. Chicago Review Press, 2001. This book includes twenty-five activities for children related to archaeology.

**Brainstorm!: The Stories of Twenty American Kid Inventors** by Tom Tucker. Illustrated by Richard Loehle. Sunburst, 1998. Gr. 4-7. The stories of twenty ingenious young Americans are presented, telling the stories of the creation of earmuffs, water skis, car wax, and more.

**Gizmos and Gadgets: Creating Science Contraptions That Work (And Knowing Why)** by Jill Frankel Hauser. Illustrated by Michael Kline. Ideals, 1999. Gr. 4-7. This book provides instructions for making 75 contraptions that demonstrate friction, energy, motion, and other physics concepts.

**Guglielmo Marconi and Radio** by Steve Parker. Facts on File, 1995. This is a short introduction the Italian inventor of the radio, which changed how people communicated.

**Hands-On Archaeology: Real Life Activities for Kids** by John R. White. Prufrock Press, 2005. This book describes archaeological activities and real life digs that teachers can do with their students.

**How Ben Franklin Stole Lightning** by Rosalyn Schanzer. HarperCollins, 2003. Gr. 2-4. This book focuses on Ben's role as an inventor of whimsical gadgets and practical contraptions, with an emphasis on his experiment of flying a kite during a rainstorm.

**Imaginative Inventions: The Who, What, Where, When, and Why of Roller Skates, Potato Chips, Marbles, and Pie** by Charise Mericle Harper. Little, Brown, 2001. Gr. 2-5. Written in verse and filled with full-color illustrations drawn by the author, this book invites young readers inside the minds of great inventors, encouraging them to think imaginatively as it offers the origins of items such as roller skates, potato chips, eyeglasses, the vacuum cleaner, and more.

**Inventions** by Valerie Wyatt. Illustrated by Matthew Fernandes. Kids Can Press, 2004. Gr. 3-5. In the Frequently Asked Questions format, this book answers young readers' questions about inventions and provides all the inspiration they need to come up with ideas of their own.

**Listen Up! Alexander Graham Bell's Talking Machine** by Monica Kulling. Illustrated by Richar Walz. Random House, 2007. This is a short biography about the man who invented the telephone.

**Marconi's Battle for Radio** by Beverly Birch. Forest House, 1996. This brief, illustrated book explains that Marconi really did brave a winter storm to prove that his ideas about radio signals were correct.

**The New Way Things Work** by David McCauley. Houghton Mifflin, 1998. This volume is not so "new" anymore, but it does include digital things as well as other types of machines. The book is fascinating, including numerous illustrations in a very inviting design that kids will love.

**Samuel F.B. Morse: Inventor and Code Creator** by Judy Alter. The Child's World, 2004. This short, illustrated biography has a lot of information about the man who created Morse Code.

**Samuel Morse** by M.C. Hall. Heinemann Library, 2004. This is a brief, illustrated biography of Samuel Morse, who invented a machine that could carry an electric message along a wire and revolutionized communications for all time.

**So You Want to Be an Inventor?** by Judith St. George. Illustrated by David Small. Philomel, 2002. Gr. 3-6. This book presents some of the characteristics of inventors by describing the inventions of people such as Alexander Graham Bell, Thomas Edison, and Eli Whitney.

**The Teen Who Invented Television: Philo T. Farnsworth and His Awesome Invention** by Edwin Britt Wyckoff. Enslow, 2007. Farnsworth invented the first television and went on to develop 100 other patents.

**Toys!: Amazing Stories Behind Some Great Inventions** by Don Wulffson. Illustrated by Laurie Keller. Henry Holt, 2000. Gr. 4-8. This book describes the creation of a variety of toys and games, such as seesaws, Silly Putty, toy soldiers, and Trivial Pursuit.

**The Way Things Work: The Complete Illustrated Guide to the Amazing World of Technology** by Chris Oxlade. Lorenz Books, 2005. This fact-filled encyclopedia about things that kids are interested in is illustrated with photographs, drawings, diagrams, and cutaways.

## POETRY BOOKS

**Eureka!: Poems About Inventors** by Joyce Sidman. Illustrated by K. Bennett Chavez. Millbrook Press, 2002. Gr. 4-6. Sixteen free-verse poems celebrate the accomplishments of ancient and modern inventors.

**Here's What You Do When You Can't Find Your Shoe** by Andrea J. Perry. Illustrated by Alan Snow. Atheneum, 2003. Gr. K-5. Short poems describe crazy inventions, like footsie floss, an upside-down lens for bats, and a super spider spotter for Miss Muffet.

**Science Verse** by Jon Scieszka. Illustrated by Lane Smith. Penguin, 2004. When the teacher tells his class that they can hear the poetry of science in everything, a student is struck with a curse and begins hearing nothing but science verses that sound very much like some well-known poems.

## LEMONY SNICKET READ-ALIKES

### If You Liked *The Series of Unfortunate Events* You Might Like:

**Count Karlstein** by Philip Pullman. In the mountains of Switzerland, the wicked Count Karlstein plots to abandon his two orphaned nieces in a hunting lodge to be prey for the Demon Huntsman and his ghostly hounds.

**Everything on a Waffle** by Polly Horvath. Eleven-year-old Primrose, who lives in a small fishing village in British Columbia, recounts her experiences and all that she learns about human nature and the unpredictability of life in the months after her parents are lost at sea.

**The Field Guide** by Tony DiTelizzi and Holly Black. After moving to a creepy old mansion, the Grace siblings come to believe that an old book with hand-drawn pictures holds the key to all the weird things that have been going on. First book in the *Spiderwick Chronicles*.

**The Hidden Stairs and the Magic Carpet** by Tony Abbot. It all starts when three friends, Julie, Eric and Neal, find a secret room under the basement stairs and discover that it's a magical doorway to the land of Droon. First book in the *Secrets of Droon* series.

**A House Called Awful End** by Philip Ardagh. When Eddie Dickens' ill parents become "a bit crinkly round the edges," he is taken in by a mad aunt and uncle, and embarks on adventures that involve strolling actors, St. Horrid's Home for Grateful Orphans, and a carnival float shaped like a giant cow. First book in the *Eddie Dickens Trilogy*.

**The House with a Clock in its Walls** by John Bellairs. Lewis goes to live with his magician uncle in a mansion that has a hidden clock ticking off the minutes until doomsday. If you enjoy this book, there are many other adventure stories by John Bellairs.

**Island of the Aunts** by Eva Ibbotson. As they get older, several sisters decide that they must kidnap children and bring them to their secluded island home to help with the work of caring for an assortment of unusual sea creatures.

**Matilda** by Roald Dahl. In this sardonically humorous story, Matilda uses her extraordinary mental powers to rid the school of the evil, child-hating, headmistress, Miss Trunchbull, and restore her nice teacher, Miss Honey, to financial security.

**Midnight for Charlie Bone** by Jenny Nimmo. Charlie Bone suddenly discovers that he can hear the thoughts of people in photographs, a talent that gets him sent to Bloor's academy with its sinister headmaster. First book in *The Children of the Red King* series.

**Molly Moon's Incredible Book of Hypnotism** by Georgia Byng. Molly Moon escapes from an evil orphanage with the help of a book about the hypnotism she found at the local library. But can she survive as a star in the big city without anyone finding out her secret?

**Monsieur Eek** by David Ives. When a chimpanzee arrives in MacOongafoonsen, he is put on trial for being a thief and a French spy, resulting in some changes to the tiny town. These delight Emmaline Perth, the chimp's thirteen-year-old defender.

**Pure Dead Magic** by Debi Gliori. When their father is kidnapped and danger looms, the Strega-Borgia children, their mysterious new nanny, and a giant tarantula use magic and actual trips through the internet to bring peace to their Scottish castle.

**Wolves of Willoughby Chase** by Joan Aiken. When Bonnie's parents leave Willoughby Chase for a sea voyage, she and cousin Sylvia go from the care of cruel Miss Slighcarp to a prison-like school for orphans.

## TWEEN MAGIC BOOKS

### PICTURE BOOK FOR OLDER KIDS

**Probuditi!** by Chris Van Allsburg. Houghton Mifflin, 2006. Gr. 3-5. On his birthday, Calvin and his friend Rodney see a magician perform, then copy him by hypnotizing Calvin's little sister, but the joke is on them when they are unable to snap her out of it.

### FICTION BOOKS FOR GRADES 3-7

**Danger in the Dark: A Houdini and Nate Mystery** by Tom Lalicki. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2006. Gr. 4-7. Thirteen-year-old Nathaniel, aided by the famous magician Harry Houdini, plots to unmask a phony spirit advisor attempting to relieve the boy's great-aunt of her fortune.

**Magic by the Book** by Nina Bernstein. Illustrated by Boris Kulikov. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2005. Gr. 4-6. After returning from a trip to the library, eleven-year old Anne and her younger brother and sister discover a magic book which sends them on adventures in which they meet Robin Hood, giant bugs, and a dark, sinister man with a wolfish face.

**The Magician's Boy** by Susan Cooper. Illustrated by Serena Riglietti. Margaret K. McElderry, 2005. Gr. 3-5. A boy who works for a magician meets familiar fairy tale characters when he is transported to the Land of Story in search of a missing puppet.

**Niagara Falls, or Does It?** by Henry Winkler and Lin Oliver. Grosset & Dunlap, 2003. Gr. 3-5. Fourth-graders Hank, Ashley and Frankie are excitedly preparing for a magic show at the Rock 'N Bowl when Hank's creative alternative to an English essay lands him in detention and grounded the week of the show.

## TWEEN MOVIE & TELEVISION BOOKS

### FICTION FOR GRADES 3-7

**Almost Starry Skinnybones** by Barbara Park. Paperback. Yearling, 1989. Gr. 3-6. Twelve year-old Skinnybones gets to be in a television commercial, and dreams of stardom. However, his friends are not impressed when he plays a six-year old running away from home. This story, like Park's other books, is laugh-out-loud funny.

**Backstage Pass** by Mary Wilcox. Delacorte Press, 2006. Gr. 5-8. Having moved from Anaheim to Hollywood so that her sister can star in a television sitcom, shy and lonely Jessica tries to discover who is selling unflattering stories about her sibling to the tabloids. This is the Hollywood drama of a star told by a sister who is not the star. This is the first novel in the "Hollywood Sisters" series.

**Lights, Camera, Amalee** by Dar Williams. Scholastic, 2006. Gr. 5-8. When seventh-grader Amalee uses an inheritance to make a movie about endangered species, she discovers a link with the mother she never knew.

**Max the Movie Director** by Trina Wiebe. Illustrated by Helen Flook. Lobster Press, 2003. Gr. 3-5. Max borrows his father's video equipment to make a movie and become rich, but things do not go according to his plans.

**Molly Moon's Incredible Book of Hypnotism** by Georgia Byng. HarperCollins, 2003. Gr. 5-8. Unlucky and unloved, Molly Moon, living in a dreary orphanage in a small English town, discovers a hidden talent for hypnotism and hypnotizes her way to stardom in New York City.

**Molly Moon Stops the World** by Georgia Byng. HarperCollins, 2004. Gr. 5-8. In this sequel to *Molly Moon's Incredible Book of Hypnotism*, Molly hypnotizes her way to the Academy Awards and soon finds herself in the middle of a dangerous investigation.

**Tyler On Prime Time** by Steve Atinsky. Delacorte, 2002. Gr. 4-7. While visiting his uncle, a writer on the most popular show on television, twelve-year-old Tyler auditions for a part on the show.

## TWEEN MUSIC BOOKS

### FICTION BOOKS FOR GRADES 2-7

**Bud, Not Buddy** by Christopher Paul Curtis. Delacorte, 1999. Gr. 4-6. Ten-year-old Bud, a motherless boy living in Flint, Michigan, during the Great Depression, escapes a bad foster home and sets out in search of the man he believe to be his father – the renowned bandleader, H.E. Calloway of Grand Rapids.

**Fiddle Fever** by Sharon Arms Doucet. Clarion, 2000. Gr. 4-7. In 1914, fourteen-year-old Felix LeBlanc feels stifled by life on his family's farm in Louisiana. After hearing his wayward uncle play the fiddle, Felix decides that he wants to be a fiddler too, even if it means making his own fiddle and going against his parent's wishes.

**Junie B., First Grader: One Man Band** by Barbara Park. Illustrated by Denise Brunkus. Random House, 2003. Gr. 2-4. When Junie B. cannot play in the school kickball tournament because of a sore toe, she brings her unique talents to the halftime show.

**The Last Holiday Concert** by Andrew Clements. Simon & Schuster, 2004. Gr. 4-6. Life is usually easy for popular fifth-grader Hart Evans, but when his music teacher puts him in charge of the holiday concert, Hart must use all of his leadership skills to unite the other students.

**Libby Bloom** by Susan Rowan Masters. Illustrated by Beata Szpura. Henry Holt, 1995. Gr. 2-4. When Libby, a fourth-grader who envies the accomplishments of her older sister, begins tuba lessons with a perceptive band teacher, she discovers that she has hidden talents of her own.

**Lucky Stars** by Lucy Frank. Atheneum, 2005. Gr. 4-7. Music entwines three kids: Kira, a thirteen-year-old singer who hates that her father makes her perform for money on New York City Subway platforms; Eugene, the class clown; and Jake, who longs to sing and to approach Kira, but feels held back by his stuttering.

**Mr. Cool (I Am Reading Series)** by Jacqueline Wilson. Illustrated by Stephen Lewis. Kingfisher, 2004. Gr. 2-4. Four boys form a rock band called "Mr. Cool" that is very successful despite the fact that one of the boys is not really all that cool.

**Mr. Hynde is Out of His Mind!** by Dan Gutman. Illustrated by Jim Paillot. HarperCollins, 2005. Gr. 2-5. When Mr. Loring retires, A.J.'s class gets a new music teacher who raps, break-dances, and thinks he has what it takes to become a famous musician.

**Never Mind!: A Twin Novel** by Avi and Rachel Vail. HarperCollins, 2004. Gr. 5-8. Twelve-year-old New York City twins, smart Meg and slacker musician Edward, have nothing in common. Nevertheless, Meg's hopes for popularity and Edward's mischievous schemes for success and revenge collide in a hilarious showdown.

**Playing Dad's Song** by D. Dina Friedman. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2006. Gr. 3-6. Eleven-year-old Gus is struggling with memories of his father, who died when the Twin Towers fell on September 11, 2001. He starts taking oboe lessons, begins to compose music, and joins his sister in auditioning for a school musical.



**Yolonda's Genius** by Carol Fenner. Margaret K. McElderry Books, 1995. Gr. 4-6. After moving from Chicago to Michigan, fifth-grader Yolonda is determined to prove that her younger brother is not a slow learner but a true musical genius.

## TWEEN PHOTOGRAPHY BOOKS

### FICTION BOOKS FOR GRADES 2-7

**Get the Picture, Jenny Archer?** by Ellen Conford. Illustrated by Diane Palmisciano. Little, Brown, 1994. Gr. 2-4. Jenny lets her imagination run away with her when she decides to enter a photography contest and starts taking "candied," that is candid, pictures around her neighborhood.

**Hold Fast to Dreams** by Andrea Davis Pinkney. HarperCollins, 1995. Gr. 4-7. Twelve-year-old Deirdre, whose passion for photography has earned her the nickname "Camera Dee," feels uncomfortable being the only African American student at her new school.

**Seeing Sugar** by Cynthia L. Brinson. Viking, 2003. Gr. 3-5. When she starts fourth grade, Kate loves school until a new girl is given her front-row seat in class, and Kate discovers that she needs glasses. When she gets glasses, she is so excited to be able to see that she photographs everything and in the process, learns to understand the new girl, Sugar.

**Smile!** by Geraldine McCaughrean. Illustrated by Ian McCaughrean. Random House, 2006. Gr. 4-6. After surviving a plane crash in the jungle, Flash, a photographer, is taken to a remote village where his instant camera works magic for those who have never seen a photograph.

## TWEEN PUPPET SHOW BOOKS

### FICTION BOOKS

**Boolar's Big Day Out (Tales From the Box Series)** by Sally Gardner. Bloomsbury, 2003. Gr. 2-4. After Boolar is asked to join a puppet theater, he forgets about the dolls and mice who have been his family until a crisis helps him regain perspective.

**Puppet Pandemonium** by Diane Roberts. Delacorte, 2006. Gr. 4-6. Baker is unhappy about leaving Seattle and his job as director of his grandmother's puppet shows. He dread starting fifth grade in a new school in Texas, but a local festival provides an opportunity to overcome his shyness and to prove himself.

**The Puppeteer's Apprentice** by D. Anne Love. Margaret K. McElderry, 2003. Gr. 3-6. A medieval orphan girl called Mouse gains the courage she needs to follow her dreams of becoming a puppeteer's apprentice.

## TWEEN SPACE & STAR BOOKS

### PICTURE BOOK FOR GRADES 2-5

**Space Station Mars** by Daniel San Souci. The boys in the neighborhood find what they think is a meteorite from Mars. They convert their clubhouse to “Space Station Mars” and try to make contact with the Martians. Comic illustrations accompany this fun-filled story based on the author’s childhood.

**Stanley in Space** by Jeff Brown. Illustrated by Scott Nash. HarperCollins, 2003. Gr. 2-5. The President of the United States asks Stanley (of Flat Stanley fame) and his family to be the first to fly in Star Scout, a new top-secret space ship.

### BEGINNING CHAPTER BOOKS FOR GRADES 2-4

**Gloria Rising** by Ann Cameron. Illustrated by Lis Toft. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2002. Gr. 2-4. A chance meeting with a woman astronaut encourages Gloria to try to be her best self, even with her difficult fourth-grade teacher, Mrs. Yardley.

### FICTION BOOKS

**Countdown** by Ben Mikaelson. Disney Press, 1997. Gr. 4-7. Fourteen-year-old Elliot is chosen by NASA to be the first junior astronaut. An unexpected event puts Elliot in touch with a Masai boy in Africa.

**Shanghaied to the Moon** by Michael Daley. Penguin, 2007. Gr. 4-7. Thirteen-year-old Stewart sneaks off on a mission to Mars despite the fact that his father has forbidden him to go.

**Space Dogs** by Justin Ball. Random House, 2006. Gr. 4-7. Amy and Lucy discover that the two stray dogs in their neighborhood are really dog-shaped space vehicles occupied by tiny extraterrestrials. This quirky story will be enjoyed by kids who like the absurd.

**Space Mission Adventure (Ziggy and the Black Dinosaurs Series)** by Sharon M. Draper. Simon & Schuster, 2006. Gr. 3-6. Ziggy and the other African American kids who are members of the Black Dinosaurs go to Space Camp in this story that combines fiction with facts.

**Space Station Rat** by Michael J. Daley. Holiday House, 2005. Gr. 3-5. A lavender rat, who has escaped from a laboratory, and a lonely boy, whose parents are scientists, meet on an orbiting space station, communicate by email, and ultimately find themselves in need of each other's help and friendship.

**Wishes, Kisses, and Pigs** by Betsy Hearne. Margaret K. McElderry, 2001. Gr. 4-7. After eleven-year-old Louise makes a wish on the first evening star and her brother turns into a pig, she uses wishes, kisses, and spells to try to put things right again.

## TWEEN SPORTS BOOKS

### SPORTS FICTION SERIES

**Winning Season Series** by Rich Wallace. Children’s Literature calls this series “fast-moving sports stories with soul.” Titles include *Southpaw*, *Dunk Under Pressure*, *Emergency Quarterback*, *Double Fake*, and *Fast Company*. Various sports are featured in the books: baseball, basketball, football, soccer, and track. Protagonists are middle school boys.

### BASEBALL

#### BASEBALL PICTURE BIOGRAPHIES GRADES 2-4

**Girl Wonder: A Baseball Story in Nine Innings** by Deborah Hopkinson. This book was inspired by the life of baseball pioneer Alta Weiss, who in 1907, at the age of 17, pitched for a semipro all-male team, the Vermilion Independents.

**Lou Gehrig: The Luckiest Man** by David Adler. Illustrated by Terry Widener. This book emphasizes the courageous, yet humble character of this record-making baseball player, who died of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, which became known as “Lou Gehrig’s disease.”

**Mighty Jackie: The Strike-Out Queen** by Marissa Moss. Illustrated by C.F. Payne. This is the true story of the 17-year-old girl who pitched against baseball greats Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig in 1931.

**Satchel Paige** by Lesa Leil-Ransome. This legendary baseball player was the first black pitcher to play in the major leagues and to be inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame.

**Teammates** by Peter Golenbock. Racial prejudice still existed when Jackie Robinson started playing second base for the New York Dodgers. To quiet the people in the crowd who were heckling Jackie, Pee Wee Reese walked from the pitcher’s mound to Jackie on second base and put his hand on his shoulder. It was a significant moment in baseball history.

#### BASEBALL BEGINNING CHAPTER BOOKS GRADES 2-4

**Baseball Fever** by Johanna Hurwitz. Nine-year old Ezra likes baseball and is a big fan of the New York Mets, but his father does not understand.

**Coaching Ms. Parker** by Carla Heymsfeld. Mike and his fourth-grade class offer to coach their teacher so she can play in the “teachers v sixth-grade” tournament. But Ms. Parker insists that Mike give reading and writing a try.

**Herbie Jones and the Monster Ball** by Suzy Kline. Herbie’s uncle is coaching Little League, so Herbie must spend his summer playing baseball, even though he’d rather go fishing.

**Skinnybones** by Barbara Park. Alex “Skinnybones” Frankovich is the smallest boy on his baseball team, but he has the biggest mouth! His boasting gets him into a competition with the best hitter around. This humorous book is a favorite.

**Thank You, Jackie Robinson** by Barbara Cohen. Ten-year-old Sam and an old man named Davy become close friends because of their mutual interest in the Brooklyn Dodgers. When Davy has a heart attack and is dying in the hospital Jackie Robinson gives Sam an autographed baseball for Davy.

#### **BASEBALL FICTION SERIES GRADES 4-7**

**Baseball Card Adventure Series** by Dan Gutman. Thirteen year old Joe travels through time to meet famous baseball players. The series provides baseball legends, history, and adventure. For example, in *Satch and Me* Joe travels back to 1942 to meet the African American pitcher Satchel Paige. Joe sees the effects of the Jim Crow laws and what it was like in the Negro League.

#### **BASEBALL FICTION GRADES 4-7**

**Baseball Turnaround** by Matt Christopher. Sandy, who loves baseball, must do community service for a misdemeanor. When he learns that he will be assistant coach for the police baseball team, he is worried that his friends will find out that he got in trouble.

**Bobby Baseball** by Robert Kimmel Smith. Ten-year-old Bobby wants to be a pitcher, but his coach (who is also his father) wants him to play second base.

**The Fox Steals Home** by Matt Christopher. Already troubled by his parents' divorce, Bobby is further distressed when he learns that his father, who has coached him, intends to move away.

**Free Baseball** by Sue Corbett. Eleven-year-old Felix, who immigrated to Florida from Cuba with his mother, longs to be a baseball player like his champion father who did not come with them.

**Haunting at Home Plate** by David Patneau. A ghost seems to be leaving messages in the dirt at home plate and around the baseball diamond. They don't know who it is, but the messages are helping sixth-grader Nelson and the team play better.

**Heat** by Mike Lupica. Two Cuban brothers play baseball in the Bronx and try to avoid being sent to foster care after their father dies.

**The Hit-Away Kid** by Matt Christopher. Barry, who is the hit-away batter for the Peach Street Mudders, likes winning so much that he sometimes bends the truth.

**MadCat** by Kathy Mackel. In this story about girls' fast-pitch softball, 12-year-old MadCat is catcher on a team that is determined to make Nationals.

**Me, Mop, and the Moondance Kid** by Walter Dean Myers. T.J. and Moondance have just been happily adopted by the couple who coach their team and they want Mop (Miss Olivia Parrish) to be adopted also.

**Mop, Moondance, and the Nagasaki Knights** by Walter Dean Myers. T.J. tells the story about his New Jersey team's participation in an international tournament. Hilarious incidents occur as T.J., Moondance, and Mop deal with language and cultural differences.

**Prime-Time Pitcher** by Matt Christopher. When Koby, who is pitcher for his middle school baseball team, becomes the star of a TV documentary, he must deal with the problems of being a celebrity.

**Roots in the Outfield** by Jane Zirpoli. Josh, who plays outfield, is afraid of the ball until he meets Slug Smith, an African American baseball great, who helps him.

**Safe at Home** by Sharon Robinson. When Jumper's father dies he and his mother move from the suburbs to Harlem. Jumper has to play baseball in the neighborhood instead of going to basketball camp.

**Scrappers Series** by Dean Hughes. This baseball series has a breezy writing style and believable characters. Some titles are *Grand Slam*, *No Fear*, *Play Ball!*, and *Take Your Base*.

**A Season of Comebacks** by Kathy Machel. Ten-year-old Molly competes with her older sister in this fast-paced, gritty, realistic sports story about fast-pitch softball.

**Some Kind of Pride** by Maria Testa. Eleven-year-old Ruth dreams of becoming a major league baseball player.

**Stealing Home** by Mary Stolz. When Aunt Linzy moves in, the cozy routine life of Thomas and his grandfather is disrupted.

**Stumptown Kid** by Carol Gorman. Charlie meets Luther an African American baseball player who agrees to coach the rag-tag team. However, it is revealed that Luther has come to Iowa from another state because he accidentally killed someone. This story, set in small town mid-America in 1952 is about sports, growing up, and the effects of racism.

**The Toilet Paper Tigers** by Gordon Korman. This is a humorous story about how a girl from New York shapes up a boys' Little League team in Texas.

**Two Hot Dogs with Everything** by Paul Haven. The Sluggers rely on superstitious rituals in the quirky story about dedication to baseball.

## **BASKETBALL**

### **BASKETBALL PICTURE BIOGRAPHY GRADES 2-4**

**Salt in His Shoes** by Deloris Jordan and Roslyn M. Jordan. Illustrated by Kadir A. Nelson. This heartwarming, inspirational story is about Michael Jordan as a child. When he was worried about being too short to play basketball, his mother told him to put salt in his shoes, be patient, and pray. Michael learned that practice and determination are more important than height.

### **BASKETBALL FICTION GRADES 4-7**

**Airball: My Life in Briefs** by Lisa Harkrader. Seventh-grader Kirby joins the basketball team hopes to meet NBA basketball hero Brett McGrew, who he suspects might be his father. The unconventional coach puts the boys on the team through their paces, including fooling them into playing in their underwear.

**Basketball (or Something Like It)** by Nora Raleigh Baskin. This story of a sixth grade traveling basketball team is told from the points of view of four boy players and a girl who outplays them all.

**Hoop Girlz** by Lucy Jane Bledsoe. Sixth-grader River makes the B team instead of the A team.

**The Million Dollar Shot** by Dan Gutman. Eleven-year-old Eddie Ball has the chance of a lifetime: to win a million dollars by sinking a foul shot during halftime at the NBA finals.

**The Moves Make the Man** by Bruce Brooks. Jerome is an African American boy who understands the tricks of the game of basketball and the game of life. He tries to teach them to his white friend.

**Stanford Wong Flunks Big-Time** by Lisa Yee. Stanford, who loves only basketball, is tutored by brilliant Millicent Min to help get his grades up. This story is told from Stanford's point of view. For Millicent's version of the same situation see the companion novel *Millicent Min, Girl Genius*.

**Travel Team** by Mike Lupica. Danny doesn't make the seventh grade travel basketball team because he is too short, so his father puts together a second travel team.

## FOOTBALL

### FOOTBALL BEGINNING CHAPTER BOOKS GRADES 2-4

**The Dog That Stole Football Plays** by Matt Christopher. Mike's football team is really put to the test when Harry, his telepathic dog, has to stay home.

### FOOTBALL FICTION GRADES 4-7

**The Day Joanie Frankenhauser Became a Boy** by Frances Lin Lantz. Fifth-grade tomboy Joanie loves sports, so when the teacher misreads her name as John, Joanie decides to pretend to be a boy.

**Eddie and the Jets** by John Attanas. Sixth-grader Eddie's life falls apart when his football team breaks up and his father moves out.

**Football Nightmare** by Matt Christopher. Having dropped a pass and made his football team miss having an undefeated season, thirteen-year-old Keith fears that he will continue to make bad mistakes and wonders if he should continue playing football.

**The Great Quarterback Switch** by Matt Christopher. Twelve-year-old Michael, who is confined to a wheelchair after an accident, uses mental telepathy to communicate plays to his twin brother Tom, who is quarterback. Suddenly Michael finds himself on the field in Tom's place.

**Tackling Dad** by Elizabeth Levy. Seventh-grader Cassie decides she's through with football when her dad, a former football star, spends more time with his new wife than watching Cassie play.



**The Zucchini Warriors** by Gordon Korman. A well-to-do alum (who made his money selling zucchini sticks) promises to build the boarding school a recreation hall if the team has a winning season in this wacky comedy. The boys, who are very poor players, hire a girl to secretly be their quarterback, end up with the Minister of Education for a coach, and spend much of their time burying uneaten zucchini sticks around the school grounds.

## **SOCCER**

### **SOCCER BEGINNING CHAPTER BOOKS GRADES 2-4**

**Angel and Me and the Bayside Bombers** by Mary Jane Auch. Brian is not a good soccer player, so he bribes his way onto the team.

**Owen Foote, Soccer Star** by Stephanie Green. Eight-year-old Owen is excited that he is old enough to join the soccer team, but he and his friend Joe must face challenges of learning the game and dealing with the other team members.

**Venus and the Comets** by Erika Tamar. Nine-year-old Venus Macguire wants to trade modeling for soccer.

### **SOCCER FICTION GRADES 4-7**

**The Million Dollar Kick** by Dan Gutman. Whisper does not care about soccer, but she is picked to kick a goal past a professional soccer player for a million dollars.

**S.O.R. Losers** by Avi. Each member of the South Orange River seventh grade soccer team has qualities of excellence, but not on the soccer field.

**Top Wing** by Matt Christopher. When a house burns down the victims accuse Dana's father of installing faulty wiring. Dana tries to solve the mystery to clear his father's name and get himself back into the good graces of the soccer team.

## **TRACK & FIELD**

### **TRACK & FIELD PICTURE BIOGRAPHIES GRADES 2-4**

**Jim Thorpe's Bright Path** by Joseph Bruchac. Illustrated by S.D. Nelson. This biography about the extraordinary Native American athlete Jim Thorpe focuses on the hardships and losses he endured in his youth and how he overcame them. Thorpe's Olympic victories are relegated to timeline in the back of the book.

**Wilma Unlimited: How Wilma Rudolph Became the Fastest World's Woman** by Kathleen Krull. Illustrated by David Diaz. Wilma Rudolph, an African American woman, won three Olympic Medals, despite suffering from polio.

### **TRACK & FIELD FICTION GRADES 4-7**

**Moon Runner** by Carolyn Marsden. When Mina discovers that she can run faster than her athlete friend, Ruth, she thinks she must choose between running and friendship.

**Run for It** by Matt Christopher. Theo loves to play video games. But when his aunt is diagnosed with cancer, he decides to run in a 5K race for cancer.

### **SPORTS POETRY**

**Good Sports: Rhymes About Running, Jumping, Throwing and More** by Jack Prelutsky. Illustrated by Chris Raschka. Knopf, 2007. Seventeen brief poems about athletes are illustrated with Raschka's humorous illustrations.

**Opening Days: Sports Poems** compiled by Lee Bennett Hopkins. Illustrated by Scott Medlock. Harcourt, 1996. The 18 poems in this collection deal with a variety of sports and are illustrated with a full-page painting.

**Sports! Sports! Sports! A Poetry Collection** compiled by Lee Bennett Hopkins. Illustrated by Brian Floca. HarperCollins, 1994. This is a collection of poems celebrating the joy and the anguish of baseball, basketball, football, ice hockey, soccer, skating, swimming, and running races.

## TWEEN OLYMPIC BOOKS

(This list was compiled in 2007. New fiction and nonfiction titles will undoubtedly be published to meet the demand created by the 2008 Olympics.)

### FICTION FOR GRADES 2-5

**The First Olympic Games** by Jean Richards. Illustrated by Kat Thacker. Millbrook, 2000. After Pelops, son of Tantulus and grandson of Zeus, wins the hand of Hippodamia in a chariot race, he decrees that Olympic games are to be held every four years.

**Hour of the Olympics (Magic Tree House Series)** by Mary Pope Osborne. Illustrated by Sal Murdocca. Random House, 1998. The Magic Tree House takes Jack and Annie back in time to witness the original Olympic games in ancient Greece.

**Spider Storch, Rotten Runner** by Gina Willner-Pardo. Illustrated by Nick Sharratt. Albert Whitman, 2001. Gr. 2-4. Although he knows just about everything about spiders, Spider Storch is a terrible runner and he's afraid he'll ruin the Third Grade Olympics for his teammates.

**Toad Rage** by Morris Gleitzman. Random House, 2004. Gr. 3-6. Determined to understand why humans hate cane toads and to improve relations between the species, Limpy embarks on a dangerous trek from his swamp to the Summer Olympics in Sydney, Australia.

**Tomorrow's Olympian** by Alison Peters. Illustrated by Coralie Islip. Picture Window Books, 2006. Gr. 2-4. To have any hope of reaching her goal of competing in the Olympics, Kelly must not only learn to do a back handspring on the beam but also conquer her fear.

### NONFICTION FOR GRADES 2-5

**The Olympic Glow** by Barbara Birenbaum. Illustrated by Pat Sapp. Peartree, 1994. Gr. 3-6. Kindl learns about the history of the Olympic torch and the games that it represents from runners who are to be the torchbearers for the Olympic games.

**Wilma Unlimited: How Wilma Rudolph Became the World's Fastest Woman** by Kathleen Krull. Illustrated by David Diaz. Harcourt, 1996. This is a biography of the African American woman who overcame crippling polio as a child to become the first woman to win three gold medals in track in a single Olympics.

**You Wouldn't Want to Be a Greek Athlete: Races You'd Rather Not Run** by Michael Ford and David Salariya. Illustrated by David Antram. Franklin Watts, 2004. Funny, gross, but totally accurate facts about being a Greek Olympian are seen through the eyes of a young boy in training.

## TWEEN STORYTELLING BOOKS

### FICTION BOOKS FOR GRADES 2-6

**Gooney Bird Greene** by Lois Lowry. Illustrated by Middy Thomas. Walter Lorraine Books, 2002. Gr. 2-5. A most unusual new student who loves to be the center of attention entertains her teacher and fellow second-graders by telling absolutely true stories about herself, including how she got her name.

**Porch Lies: Tales of Slicksters, Tricksters, and Other Wily Characters** by Patricia C. McKissack. Illustrated by André Carillho. Schwartz & Wade, 2006. Gr. 3-5. Nine original stories draw on African American oral traditions to relate stories based on stories the author heard on her front porch as a child in Tennessee.

**The Seven Wonders of Sassafras Creek** by Betty Birney. Simon & Schuster, 2005. Gr. 3-6. Eban McAllister longs to escape from his small farming community, especially after he learns about the seven wonders of the world. His father tells him that if he can find seven wonders in Sassafras Creek, then he'll get a trip out west. Eban collects astounding stories of amazing wonders from very unlikely places in this charming, warm, funny book that would be great for reading aloud.

**Sugarcane House: And Other Stories About Mr. Fat** by Adrienne Bond. Illustrated by LeUyen Pham. Harcourt, 1997. Gr. 4-6. Ma Minnie tells her great-grandson, a first-grader, many stories about the antics of a trickster named Mr. Fat, a southerner who may or may not be real.

**The Terrible, Wonderful Tellin' at Hog Hammock** by Kim L. Siegelson. Illustrated by Eric Velasquez. HarperCollins, 1996. Gr. 3-5. Jonas wants to keep the memory of his beloved Gullah grandfather alive by representing his family at the traditional storytelling contest, even though he feels like a nervous child trying to do a man's job.

## TWEEN SUPERHERO BOOKS

### FICTION BOOKS GRADES 2-6

**The Adventures of Captain Underpants (Captain Underpants Series)** by Dav Pilkey. Scholastic, 1997. Gr. 2-5. When George and Harold hypnotize their principal into thinking that he is the superhero Captain Underpants, he leads them to the lair of the nefarious Dr. Diaper, where they must defeat his evil robot henchmen.

**The Curse of the Bologna Sandwich (Melvin Beederman Superhero Series)** by Greg Trine. Illustrated by Rhode Montijo. Henry Holt, 2006. Gr. 2-5. After graduating from the superhero academy, Melvin Beederman heads for Los Angeles, where he unexpectedly teams up with Candace Brinkwater, the school play actress, to nab the evil McNasty Brothers.

**The Great Cape Rescue (The Society of Super Secret Heroes, Book 1)** by Phyllis Shalant. Dutton, 2007. Gr. 3-5. Fourth-grader Finch and his pals form a club and take an oath to solve problems by thinking. The “Thinking Cape,” that Finch puts on looks like a secondhand towel, but it has magical powers and a mind of its own. This is the first book in a promising series is funny and warm-hearted.

**Happy Birthday, Hero! (The Caped Sixth-Grader Series)** by Zoë Quinn. Illustrated by Brie Spangler. Yearling, 2006. Gr. 4-6. Just after her twelfth birthday, Zoë Richards, daughter of a police officer and a social activist, learns that her grandfather is a superhero and that she has inherited superpowers.

**The Hero Revealed (Extraordinary Adventures of Ordinary Boy Series)** by William Boniface. Illustrated by Stephen Gilpin. HarperCollins, 2006. Gr. 3-6. Ordinary Boy, the only resident of Superopolis without a superpower, uncovers and foils a sinister plot to destroy the town.

**Marvelous Adventures of Gus Beezer Series** by Gail Simone. Spotlight. Gr. 3-5. Gus is a big comic book fan. His story is told in the top portion of the page and the comic book story is told in the bottom part. These stories, in which Gus replaces real people with fantasy characters, are silly and fun. Titles include *Gus Beezer with the Hulk*, *Gus Beezer with Spider-Man*, and *Gus Beezer with the X-Men*.

**Revenge of the McNasty Brothers (Melvin Beederman Superhero Series)** by Greg Trine. Illustrated by Rhode Montijo. Henry Holt, 2006. Gr. 2-4. The McNasty Brothers have escaped from prison and the superheroes must capture them.

**Ricky Ricotta’s Might Robot Series** by Dav Pilkey. Illustrated by Martin Ontiveros. Blue Sky. Gr. 1-3. These early readers are about a smart young mouse and his robot, who do heroic deeds throughout the solar system.

**That Stinking Feeling (Super Goofballs Series)** by Peter Hannan. HarperCollins, 2007. Gr. 2-4. When superhero, Amazing Techno Dude, and his grandmother, Bodacious Backward Woman, take in several zany roommates, it is the zanies who come to the rescue when Fabian, the Fabulous Flatulent Fiend, threatens to unleash his superpowers on the city.

**The Wonder Kid** by George Harrar. Illustrated by Anthony Winiarski. Houghton Mifflin, 2006. Gr. 3-6. In the summer of 1954, eleven-year-old Jesse James MacLean contracts polio, but with a friend's help and despite his unsympathetic father, he finds ways to prove that his spirit is still strong, including creating a comic-book character based on himself.

## TWEEN TALENT SHOW BOOKS

### FICTION BOOKS FOR GRADES 3-6

**I Was a Third Grade Spy** by Mary Jane Auch. Illustrated by Herm Auch. Holiday House, 2001. Gr. 3-5. When Brian's dog Artful suddenly begins talking, Brian and his two friends send the dog to find out what their classmates are planning for the school talent show.

**The Quail Club** by Carolyn Marsden. Candlewick, 2006. Gr. 3-5. Now in fifth-grade, Oy wants to do a Thai dance at the school talent show until Liliandra threatens to kick her out of their club if they do not perform an American-style skit together.

**The Talent Show From the Black Lagoon** by Mike Thaler. Illustrated by Jared D. Lee. Scholastic, 2004. Gr. 3-5. Mrs. Green's class performs a talent show in exactly one minute and realizes how much fun they are having and how talented they really are.

**The Talented Clementine** by Sara Pennypacker. Illustrated by Marla Frazee. Hyperion, 2007. Gr. 3-5. Eight-year-old Clementine, convinced that she has no talents, tries to find a way to avoid participating in the class talent show.

**Spotlight on Cody** by Betsy Duffey. Illustrated by Ellen Thompson. Viking, 1998. Gr. 3-5. Nine-year-old Cody Michaels is bound for stardom in the third grade talent show just as soon as he figures out his talent.

**Summer School!: What Genius Thought That Up?** by Henry Winkler and Lin Oliver. Grosset & Dunlap, 2005. Gr. 4-6. Stuck in summer school while his friends enjoy a "Passport to Hawaii," nearly-eleven-year-old Hank needs to earn an A on an oral report about Einstein in order to participate in Magik 3's talent show act at the luau extravaganza.

## TWEEN THEATRE BOOKS ACTING & PLAYS

### PICTURE BOOKS FOR GRADES 2-5

**A Play's the Thing** by Aliko. HarperCollins, 2005. Gr. 2-4. This story is told in comic-strip style features Miss Brilliant's class performing "Mary had a Little Lamb."

**Seadogs: An Epic Ocean Operetta** by Lisa Wheeler. Illustrated by Mark Siegel. Atheneum, 2004. Gr. 2-5. Illustrated as if it were a stage play, this rhyming tale is about the seagoing adventure of a motley crew of dogs. Most of the pages are wordless except the lyrics of the songs and brief cartoon-bubble dialogue. Older children who have some knowledge of the opera "The Pirates of Penzance" will appreciate the literary allusions, the dual stories, and the sophisticated humor.

### BEGINNING CHAPTER BOOKS GRADES 2-5

**Annabel the Actress Series** by Ellen Conford. Gr. 2-4. This series focuses on the adventures of Annabel, a young, aspiring actress. Titles in the series include *Annabel the Actress Starring in Camping It Up*; *Annabel the Actress Starring in Gorilla My Dreams*; *Annabel the Actress Starring in Just a Little Extra*; and *Annabel the Actress Starring in Hound of the Bakervilles*.

**Clarice Bean Spells Trouble** by Lauren Child. Candlewick, 2005. Gr. 3-5. Clarice Bean, aspiring actress and author, unsuccessfully tries to avoid getting into trouble as she attempts to help a friend in need by following the rules of the fictional spy, Ruby Redford.

**How to (Almost) Ruin Your School Play** by Valerie Wilson Wesley. Illustrated by Maryn Roos. Hyperion, 2005. Gr. 2-5. When Willie's big sister, Tina gets to cast and direct the next school play, Willie assumes that she will get the lead.

**Junie B., First Grader: Shipwrecked** by Barbara Park. Illustrated by Denise Brunkus. Random House, 2004. Gr. 2-4. Junie B. gets the part of the *Pinta*, the fastest ship in the class Columbus Day play.

**Mary Margaret, Center Stage** by Christine Kole MacLean. Dutton, 2006. Gr. 3-5. Mary Margaret hoped to be Cinderella in the community play. However, Ellie, the new girl in class who seems to do everything right, gets the lead.

**Me Tarzan** by Betsy Byars. Illustrated by Bill Cigliano. HarperCollins, 2000. Gr. 3-5. When Dorothy gets the part of Tarzan in the class play, her tremendous yell attracts the attention of increasingly larger and wilder animals.

### FICTION FOR GRADES 4-7

**Act I, Act II, Act Normal** by Martha Weston. Roaring Brook Press, 2003. Gr. 4-7. Topher Blakely's life is in turmoil. He gets the lead in the eighth-grade play "Rumpelstiltskin," the class bully picks on him relentlessly, and his beloved cat dies. All these events help teach him about compassion, friendship, and life.



**The Curtain Went Up, My Pants Fell Down** by Henry Winkler and Lin Oliver. Grosset & Dunlap, 2007. Gr. 4-6. Failing fifth-grade math, Hank must depend on Heather, the class brain, to help him get a "B" on the next test in order for him to be eligible to play the lead in the school play, "The King and I."

**Dustin Grubbs: One-Man Show** by John J. Bonk. Little, Brown, 2005. Gr. 4-6. A sixth-grader, who longs to see his name in lights, recounts life at Buttermilk Falls Elementary in preparation for the school drama production.

**Dustin Grubbs: Take Two!** by John J. Bonk. Little, Brown, 2006. Gr. 4-6. Now in seventh-grade, inveterate performer Dustin Grubbs is hoping to star in the school production of "Oliver," but his father's continuing absence, his aunt's upcoming wedding, a possible role in a national television commercial, and some changes in his long-time friends make this an especially confusing time for Dustin.

**Give My Regrets to Broadway: A Chet Gecko Mystery** by Bruce Hale. Harcourt, 2004. Gr. 4-7. Chet and his partner, Natalie Attired, take on a case involving an actor gone missing from the school musical.

**The Great American Mousical** by Julie Andrews Edwards and Emma Walton Hamilton. Illustrated by Tony Walton. HarperCollins, 2006. Gr. 4-6. This book presents the adventures of theatrical mice that live and work in a miniature world beneath Broadway.

**King of Shadows** by Susan Cooper. Margaret K. McElderry Books, 1999. Gr. 5-8. While in London as part of an all-boy acting company preparing to perform in a replica of the famous Globe Theatre, Nat Field is transported back to 1599 where he performs in the original theater under the tutelage of Shakespeare.

**No More Dead Dogs** by Gordon Korman. Hyperion, 2000. Gr. 5-8. Eighth-grade football hero Wallace is sentenced to detention, in which he must attend rehearsals of the school play. He becomes wrapped up in the production and begins to suggest changes that improve not only the play but life as well.

**Replay** by Sharon Creech. Joanna Cotler Books, 2005. Gr. 4-7. While preparing for a role in the school play, twelve-year-old Leo finds an autobiography that his father wrote as a teenager. The book includes the text for the school play, "Rumpopo's Porch."