**Louisiana Young Readers’ Choice 2017**

**3-5th Grade**

**Annotated Title List**

1. **Almost Super** by Marion Jensen, 251 pgs.

Everyone in the Bailey family is a superhero; it is in their genes. The exciting day has finally come for Rafter and Benny to earn their amazing super powers! When the powers are bestowed, however, they turn out to be not-so-super. How are Rafter and Benny supposed to help their family fight the supervillain Johnson family with useless powers?

AR Quiz No. 164069, IL:MG – BL:4.2 – AR Pts:7.0. [Heroes, action, humor, fantasy, family]

Hardcover. HarperCollins, 2014. 9780062209610. $14.99

Paperback. HarperCollins, 2015. 9780062209627. $6.99

Audio and Ebook available.

1. **The Blossoming Universe of Violet Diamond** by Brenda Woods, 222 pgs.

Violet is like most of her friends: smart and funny, but her biracial heritage sets her apart at her mostly white school. People who don’t know her ask if she’s adopted, which makes her outspoken and now curious about her family. Though her deceased father’s family has never sought her out, she sets out on a quest to meet them. Will they accept her?

AR Quiz No. 163322, IL:MG – BL:4.3 – AR Pts:6.0. [African American interest, search for heritage, family relationships, realistic fiction]

Hardcover. Penguin, 2014. 9780399257148. $16.99

Paperback. Penguin, 2015. 9780147514301. $7.99

Audio and Ebook available.

1. **Eddie Red Undercover #1: Mystery on Museum Mile** by Marcia Wells, illustrated by Marcos Calo, 248 pgs.

Edmund Xavier Lonnrot is an extraordinary sixth-grader with a photographic memory. When Edmund's ability to recall and sketch details is revealed after an encounter with the NYPD, he learns that his talent just might be what the detectives need to break a case. Given the codename "Eddie Red", Edmund attempts to help the NYPD catch the Picasso Gang and solve the art mysteries of the Museum Mile.

AR Quiz No. 165284, IL:MG – BL:4.9 – AR Pts:6.0. [African American interest, mystery, realistic fiction, art, crime, humor]

Hardcover. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2014. 9780544238336. $16.99

Paperback. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2015. 9780544439405. $6.99

Ebook available.

1. **I Survived True Stories: Five Epic Disasters** by Lauren Tarshis, 143 pgs.

The Children’s Blizzard of 1888, the Titanic’s voyage in 1912, The Great Boston Molasses Flood of 1919, the 2011 Japanese tsunami, and the Henryville tornado in 2012 – all were disasters on an epic scale. This work of nonfiction features not only these intense events but also the experiences of real kids who lived through them.

AR Quiz No. 169884, IL:MG – BL:6.3 – AR Pts:2.0. [Nonfiction, survival, natural disasters, short stories]

Hardcover. Scholastic, 2014. 9780545782241. $12.99

1. **Ivan: The Remarkable True Story of the Shopping Mall Gorilla** by Katherine Applegate, illus. G. Brian Karas, 40 pgs.

Katherine Applegate tells the story of Ivan, a baby gorilla who is captured by poachers and sold to the owners of a mall in Tacoma, Washington. He is raised like a human child until he is too big and then lives in a cage in the mall for 27 years. After public opinion persuades the owner to free Ivan, he spends his final years at Zoo Atlanta, where he shares a natural habitat with other gorillas.

AR Quiz No. 169750, IL:LG – BL:3.7 – AR Pts:0.5. [Nonfiction, animals, treatment of animals in captivity]

Hardcover. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2014. 9780544252301. $17.99

Ebook available.

1. **Kung Pow Chicken #1: Let’s Get Cracking** by Cyndi Marko, 72 pgs.

After an incident in his Uncle Quack’s laboratory, second grader Gordon Blue becomes a superhero and goes by the name Kung Pow Chicken. When evil Granny Goosebumps causes havoc at the Fowl Festival, Gordon must use his superpowers to save the day in this hilarious and heavily illustrated story.

AR Quiz No. 16516, 7IL:LG – BL:3.0 – AR Pts:0.5. [Fantasy, action, animals, humor, heroes, graphic novel elements]

Hardcover. Scholastic, 2014. 9780545610629. $15.99

Paperback. Scholastic, 2014. 9780545610612. $4.99

Ebook available.

1. **Lend a Hand: Poems About Giving** by John Frank, illustrated by London Ladd, 32 pgs.

*Lend A Hand* is a collection of poems celebrating young people who give of themselves through acts of kindness. From donating hair to provide a wig for a chemo patient to raising a puppy to assist a blind or deaf person, they are making a difference in the lives of others.

AR Quiz No. 169457, IL:LG – BL:4.4 – AR Pts:0.5. [Nonfiction, picture book, told in verse]

Hardcover. Lee & Low, 2014. 9781600609701. $17.95

1. **Lindbergh: The Tale of a Flying Mouse** by Torben Kuhlmann, illustrated by Suzanne Levesque, 96 pgs.

How can one small mouse escape a new and terrifying invention, the mousetrap, and get across an ocean to America? Why, he must learn to fly! In this beautifully illustrated book inspired by Charles Lindbergh’s solo transatlantic flight, the lone mouse left in Europe does just that.

AR Quiz No. 17387, 1IL:LG – BL:4.6 – AR Pts:0.5. [Animals, historical fiction, STEM, adventure]

Hardcover. NorthSouth Books, 2014. 9780735841673. $19.95

Also: Bulgarian, Czech, German, Hungarian, Japanese, Polish, Russian, Spanish

1. **Little Melba and Her Big Trombone** by Katheryn Russell-Brown, illus. Frank Morrison, 40 pgs.

Young Melba Liston, born in the 1920s, loved music: blues, jazz, and gospel. She talked and breathed the beats, lyrics, and tunes. When she was seven years old she began playing trombone, and from there she became one of the most famous trombone players of all time, known around the world.

AR Quiz No. 171228, IL:LG – BL:4.7 – AR Pts:0.5. [African American interest, biography: Melba Liston, music]

Hardcover. Lee & Low, 2014. 9781600608988. $18.95

1. **Mr. Ferris and His Wheel** by Kathryn Gibbs Davis, illustrator Gilbert Ford, 40 pgs.

A challenge is delivered to American engineers: who can create a monument for the upcoming 1893 Chicago World’s Fair that will outshine the Eiffel Tower? It takes a creative engineer with a dream to build the sensational structure that amazes and inspires people from around the world. This is the true story of how the first Ferris Wheel was created.

AR Quiz No. 168154, IL:LG – BL:5.1 – AR Pts:0.5. [Nonfiction, STEM, art, world fairs]

Hardcover. Houghton, Mifflin, Harcourt, 2014. 9780547959221. $17.99

Ebook available.

1. **The Noisy Paint Box: The Colors and Sounds of Kandinsky’s Abstract Art** by Barb Rosenstock, illustrated by Marie GrandPré, 40 pgs.

When he opens his paint box, a young boy is captivated not only by the look of the paints’ colors but by their sounds, an experience he soon learns is unique. Synesthesia shapes Vasya Kandinsky’s artistic style and eventually leads him to follow his heart and share his love of abstract art with the world.

AR Quiz No. 164284, IL:LG – BL:4.4 – AR Pts: 0.5. [Biography: Vasya Kandinsky, art, synesthesia]

Hardcover. Random House, 2014. 9780307978486. $17.99

Ebook available.

1. **Odd, Weird & Little** by Patrick Jennings, 149 pgs.

Toulouse Hulot is the new kid at Woodrow’s school, but his newness doesn’t draw attention as much as his unusual wardrobe, looks, and vocabulary. Nonetheless, he and Woodrow become fast friends in this story of humor and acceptance, and they eventually stand up to the bullies who target them.

AR Quiz No. 164215, IL:LG – BL:3.9 – AR Pts:3.0. [Friendship, bullying, animals]

Hardcover. Lerner/Egmont USA, 2014. 9781606843741. $15.99

Paperback. Lerner/Egmont USA,2015. 9781606845684. $6.99

Ebook available.

1. **Pack of Dorks** by Beth Vrabel, 216 pgs.

Lucy starts out as one of the coolest kids in school, and overnight, due to one unfortunate event, becomes one of the lamest. In coping with her younger sister’s special needs and being forced to find new friends, she learns that choosing between popularity and being herself, no matter how dorky, might not be such a challenge after all.

AR Quiz No. 173909, IL:MG – BL:4.5 – AR Pts:6.0. [Realistic fiction, bullying, Down Syndrome]

Hardcover. Skyhorse, 2014. 9781629146232. $15.95

Paperback. Skyhorse, 2015. 9781510701793. $7.99

Ebook available.

1. **Shooting at the Stars: The Christmas Truce of 1914** by John Hendrix, 40 pgs.

Some called it “The Great War.” History calls it World War I. This book tells the true story of the events of The Christmas Truce of 1914, the day the war paused, through the eyes of a soldier writing a letter to his mom. December 25, 1914 was a small space in an ugly time when soldiers were just people serving their countries. Ordinary people exchanged smiles, pictures, uniform buttons, and handshakes, celebrating the magic that is Christmas for one day before the war began again and loyalty to duty and country resumed.

AR Quiz No. 167107 IL:LG – BL:5.8 – AR Pts:0.5. [Nonfiction, World War I, friendship, primary source documents]

Hardcover. Abrams, 2014. 9781419711756. $18.95

Ebook available.

1. **Wind Dancer** by Chris Platt, 176 pgs.

Ali’s passion was horses, until the accident. Her life changed in a flash, leaving her hesitant around the animals she once loved. Since then, Ali’s brother Danny has come home from Afghanistan feeling damaged, an amputee with PTSD. Can a rescued Appaloosa horse help them both start to rebuild their lives?

AR Quiz No. 165714, IL:MG – BL:4.6 – AR Pts:5.0. [Animals, realistic fiction, PTSD, emotional healing]

Hardcover. Peachtree, 2014. 9781561457366. $15.95

Ebook available.