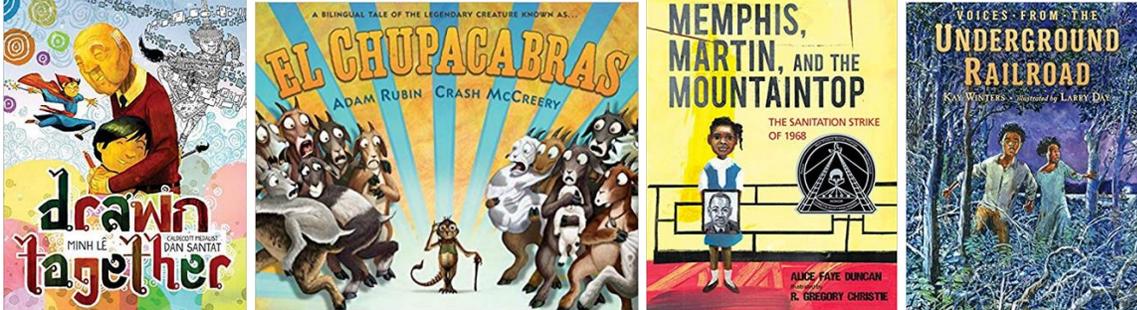


2020-2021 3-5 LYRC Narrowed Consideration List

****Note:** The following titles were strongly considered but were not included on the final list of 15 nominated titles.

Picture Book Fiction



1. Drawn Together by Minh Lê, illustrated by Dan Santat, 40 pp., 2 starred reviews

Asian Americans, art, storytelling, grandfathers, imagination, language barrier, communication, creativity, imagination, **male protagonist**

Summary: A boy and his grandfather cross a language and cultural barrier using their shared love of art, storytelling, and fantasy. (LOC)

IL: LG - BL: 2.1 - AR Pts: 0.5

AR Quiz No. 195323

2. El Chupacabras by Adam Rubin, illustrated by Crash McCreery, 48 pp., 0 starred reviews

goats, farm life, Spanish language, folktale, problem solving, humor, **female protagonist**, **Latinx**

Summary: Farmer Hector and his daughter Carla seek help from the monstrous chupacabra when their goats become giants and threaten the town. (LOC)

Awards: A New York Public Library Best Book For Kids

AR: N/A

3. Memphis, Martin, and the Mountaintop: The Sanitation Strike of 1968 by Alice Faye Duncan, illustrated by Frank Morrison, 40 pp., 5 starred reviews

MLK, Sanitation Workers Strike, 1968, Tennessee, **African Americans**, Labor movement, **female protagonist**, **historical fiction**

Summary: This historical fiction picture book presents the story of nine-year-old Lorraine Jackson, who in 1968 witnessed the Memphis sanitation strike--Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s final stand for justice before his assassination--when her father, a sanitation worker, participated in the protest. (LOC)

Awards: A 2019 Coretta Scott King Illustrator Honor Book, A School Library Journal Best Book of the Year, A Booklist Editors' Choice, A Kirkus Reviews Best Children's Book, Booklist Top 10 Diverse Books for Middle Grade or Older Readers, A Chicago Public Library Best of the Best Books

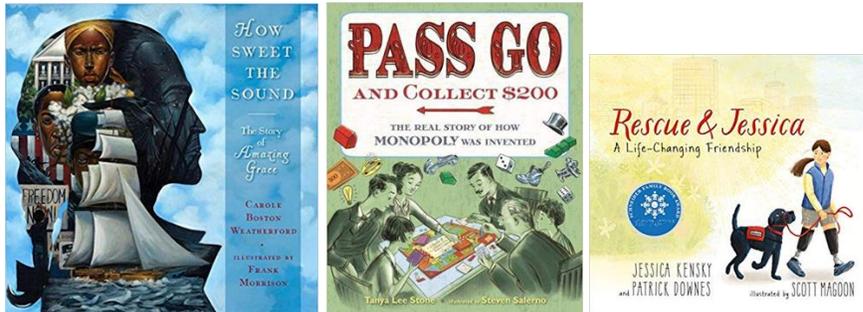
IL: MG - BL: 4.9 - AR Pts: 0.5

AR Quiz No. 197315

4. Voices from the Underground Railroad by Kay Winters, illustrated by Larry Day, 48 pp., Underground Railroad, Fugitive slaves, Antislavery movements, **historical fiction, verse, African Americans**

Summary: Siblings Mattie and Jeb escape slavery via the Underground Railroad, meeting helpful conductors and dodging slave catchers as they travel from Maryland to Massachusetts. (LOC)
AR: N/A

Picture Book Nonfiction



3. How Sweet the Sound: The Story of Amazing Grace by Carole Boston Weatherford, illustrated by Frank Morrison; 48 pp,

John Newton, hymns, England, **African American**, music, black **history**

Summary: This book provides an illustrated look at the spiritual journey of eighteenth-century English minister and hymn writer John Newton. (AR)

IL: LG - BL: 3.3 - AR Pts: 0.5

AR Quiz No. 195142

4. Pass Go and Collect \$200: The Real Story of How Monopoly Was Invented by Tanya Lee Stone, illustrated by Steven Salerno, 40 pp., 2 starred reviews

board games, invention, intellectual property, women's interest, **history**, toys, economics, patents, fairness

Summary: A nonfiction picture book history of Monopoly, one of the world's most famous games. (Publisher)

Award: A Kirkus Best Book of the Year, An ALSC Notable Book, An NCTE Orbis Pictus Honor Book, An NCSS Notable Social Studies Trade Book for Young People, A Chicago Public Library Best Book of the Year, An Amazon Best Book of the Month, A CCBC Choice Title, An ALSC Notable Title

IL: LG - BL: 5.3 - AR Pts: 0.5

AR Quiz No. 196864

5. Rescue and Jessica: A Life-Changing Friendship by Jessica Kensky & Patrick Downes, illustrated by Scott Magoon, 40 pp., 1 starred review

special needs, service dogs, Boston Marathon

Summary: Based on a real-life partnership, the heartening story of the love and teamwork between a girl and her service dog will illuminate and inspire. (AR)

Awards: A 2019 Schneider Family Book Award Winner

IL: LG - BL: 3.3 - AR Pts: 0.5

AR Quiz No. 194338

Picture Book Biography - Women



1. **Alabama Spitfire: The Story of Harper Lee and To Kill a Mockingbird** by Bethany Hegedus, illustrated by Erin McGuire, 40 pp., 0 starred reviews

Harper Lee, Alabama, women writers, 20th century, American South, segregation, poverty

Summary: The inspiring true story of Nelle Harper Lee, the girl who grew up to write *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Growing up in Monroeville, Alabama she wore overalls, went to the courtroom to watch her daddy try cases, and with her best friend Tru read books and wrote stories of their own. When she moved to New York City she wrote a novel that made her one of the most beloved writers in the twentieth century. (LOC)

IL: LG - BL: 4.7 - AR Pts: 0.5

AR Quiz No. 193893

3. **Game Changers: The Story of Venus and Serena Williams** by Lesa Cline-Ransome, illustrated by James E. Ransome, 48 pp., 3 starred reviews

African American women tennis players, sports, racism

Summary: Venus and Serena Williams are two of the greatest tennis players of all time. Some say they're two of the greatest athletes of all time. Before they were world famous, they were little girls with big dreams. (AR)

Awards: An ALA Notable Book

IL: LG - BL: 6.0 - AR Pts: 0.5

AR Quiz No. 195759

4. **Grandma Gatewood Hikes the Appalachian Trail** by Jennifer Thermes, 48 pp., 0 starred reviews
hikers, women conservationists, Appalachian Trail, senior citizens, goals, determination

Summary: Emma Gatewood's life was far from easy. In rural Ohio, she managed a household of 11 kids alongside a less-than-supportive husband. One day, at age 67, she decided to go for a nice long walk. and ended up completing the Appalachian Trail. With just the clothes on her back and a pair of thin canvas sneakers on her feet, Grandma Gatewood hiked up ridges and down ravines. She braved angry storms and witnessed breathtaking sunrises. When things got particularly tough, she relied on the kindness of strangers or sheer luck to get her through the night. When the newspapers got wind of her amazing adventure, the whole country cheered her on to the end of her trek, which came just a few months after she set out. A story of true grit and girl power at any age, Grandma Gatewood proves that no peak is insurmountable.

(Publisher)

AR: N/A

5. **Hidden Figures: The True Story of Four Black Women and the Space Race** by Margot Lee Shetterly, illustrated by Laura Freeman, 40 pp., 0 starred reviews

Aeronautics & Space, science, technology, African American, math, space race, civil rights, NASA

Summary: This picture book shares the incredibly inspiring true story of four black women who helped NASA launch men into space. (AR)

IL: LG - BL: 5.8 - AR Pts: 0.5

AR Quiz No. 193339

6. **Joan Procter, Dragon Doctor: The Woman Who Loved** Reptiles by Patricia Valdez, illustrated by Felicity Sala, 40 pp., 3 starred reviews

London Zoo, zoo keepers, reptiles, science, komodo dragon, zoology, science

Summary: Back in the days of long skirts and afternoon teas, young Joan Procter entertained the most unusual party guests: slithery and scaly ones, who turned over teacups and crawled past the crumpets.

Awards: A Chicago Public Library Best Book of the Year selection

IL: LG - BL: 4.5 - AR Pts: 0.5

AR Quiz No. 197453

7. **Midnight Teacher: Lilly Ann Granderson and Her Secret School** by Janet Halfmann, illustrated by London Ladd, 40 pp., 1 starred review

African Americans, educators, history, Civil War, American South

Summary: The life of Lilly Ann Granderson, an enslaved teacher who strongly believed in the power of education and risked her life to teach others during slavery. (Publisher)

Awards: 2019 Carter G. Woodson Honor Award: the National Council of the Social Studies, 2019 Storytelling World Resource Honor Award, Chicago Public Library Best of the Best Books 2018

New York Public Library Best Books of 2018, 2018 Eureka! Honor Award for Excellence in Nonfiction, 2018 Honor Award from Skipping Stones Multicultural Magazine, 2018 Parents' Choice Silver Award, Featured in National Education Association Calendar for February 2019
AR: N/A

8. **Sisters and Champions: The True Story of Venus and Serena Williams** by Howard Bryant, illustrated by Floyd Cooper, 32 pp., 0 starred reviews

Tennis, sports, **African American**

Summary: This inspiring picture book is a sports biography about two of the greatest female tennis players of all-time, outsiders who just happen to be sisters.

Awards: A 2019 ILA Teacher's Choices Reading List Selection!

IL: LG - BL: 4.1 - AR Pts: 0.5

AR Quiz No. 199853

9. **So Tall Within: Sojourner Truth's Long Walk Toward Freedom** by Gary D. Schmidt, illustrated by Daniel Minter, 48 pp., 2 starred reviews

civil rights, racism, **African American**, **history**, abolition, slavery

Summary: Sojourner Truth was born into slavery but possessed a mind and a vision that knew no bounds. This book traces her life from her painful childhood through her remarkable emancipation to her incredible leadership in the movement for rights. (LOC)

Awards: 2018 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best Informational Books for Young Readers, 2019 NCSS and CBC's Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People, Kindergarten to Second Grade readers, 2019 ALSC's Notable Children's Books for Middle Readers

IL: LG - BL: 4.7 - AR Pts: 0.5

AR Quiz No. 196457

10. **Spring After Spring: How Rachel Carson Inspired the Environmental Movement** by Stephanie Roth Sisson, 40 pp., 0 starred reviews

science, environment, nature, activist, Earth Day, STEM, EPA, conservation, DDT

Summary: As a child, Rachel Carson lived by the rhythms of the natural world. Spring after spring, year after year, she observed how all living things are connected. (LOC)

Awards: An NSTA 2019 Outstanding Science Trade Books selection, An NSTA 2019 Best STEM Books selection, An NCSS and CBC 2019 Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People selection for Kindergarten to Second Grade readers

IL: LG - BL: 4.3 - AR Pts: 0.5

AR Quiz No. 196944

11. **What Do You Do with a Voice Like That?: The Story of Extraordinary Congresswoman Barbara Jordan** by Chris Barton, illustrated by Ekoa Holmes, 48 pp., 3 starred reviews

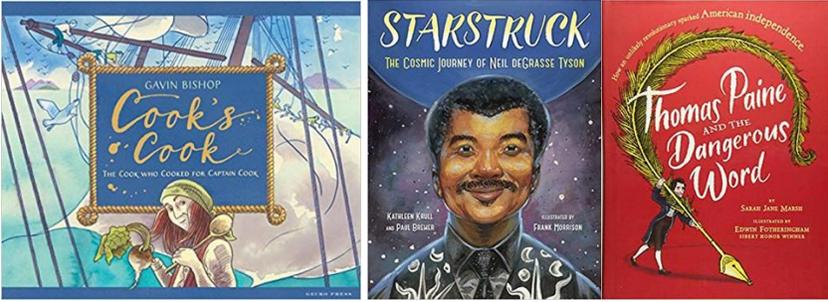
Texas, US Congress, 1950s, **African American** woman legislators, Senators, **LGBT+**

Summary: Even as a child growing up in the Fifth Ward of Houston, Texas, Barbara Jordan stood out for her big, bold, booming, crisp, clear, confident voice. It was a voice that made people sit up, stand up, and take notice. (AR)

IL: LG - BL: 4.6 - AR Pts: 0.5

AR Quiz No. 500044

Picture Book Biography - Men



3. **Cook's Cook: The Cook Who Cooked for Captain Cook** by Gavin Bishop, 40 pp., 0 starred reviews
recipes, ships, voyages, 1768, captains, exploration, British, Pacific Islands, food, history

Summary: N/A

AR: N/A

5. **Starstruck: The Cosmic Journey of Neil deGrasse Tyson** by Kathleen Krull and Paul Brewer, illustrated by Frank Morrison, 48 pp., 1 starred review

Astrophysicists, [science](#), [African American](#), NYC, space, STEM

Summary: A picture-book biography on science superstar Neil deGrasse Tyson, the groundbreaking American astrophysicist whose work has inspired a generation of young scientists and astronomers to reach for the stars. (Publisher)

Awards: An Amazon Best Children's Book of the Year selection

IL: LG - BL: 5.2 - AR Pts: 0.5

AR Quiz No. 198343

6. **Thomas Paine and the Dangerous Word** by Sarah Jane Marsh, illustrated by Edwin Fotheringham, 80 pp., 1 starred review

Thomas Paine, American revolution, independence, US government, [history](#)

Summary: Thomas Paine, an English corset-maker's son, was expected to spend his life sewing women's underwear. He dared to change his destiny, enduring years of struggle until a meeting with Benjamin Franklin led Thomas to America in 1774. (AR)

IL: LG - BL: 5.4 - AR Pts: 0.5

AR Quiz No. 194716

Chapter Books – 44

Action & Adventure



1. **Big Foot and Little Foot (Book #1)** by Ellen Potter, illustrated by Felicita Sala, 144 pp., 1 starred review
 Male protag, Humor, sasquatch, friendship

Summary: Hugo is a young Sasquatch who longs for adventure. Boone is young boy who longs to see a Sasquatch. When their worlds collide, they become the unlikely pair of best friend.
 (LOC)

IL: LG - BL: 4.4 - AR Pts: 1.0

AR Quiz No. 194664

2. **Mad Wolf's Daughter, The** by Diane Magras, 288 pp., 1 starred review
 Female protag, Historical, Scotland, 1507-1603, knights, heros, family, war

Summary: In 1210 Scotland, when invading knights capture 12-year-old Drest's father, the Mad Wolf of the North, and her beloved brothers who make up his fearsome war-band, she sets off to rescue them from the castle prison, taking along a wounded knight as her captive to trade for her family's freedom. (LOC)

Award: A New York Times Editors' Choice

IL: MG - BL: 4.7 - AR Pts: 8.0

AR Quiz No. 195439

4. **Season of Styx Malone, The** by Kekla Magoon, 304 pp., 5 starred reviews

11 y/o male protag, adventure, family life, Indiana, foster children, African Americans, siblings, humor

Summary: Caleb Franklin and his younger brother, Bobby Gene, spend an extraordinary summer their new, older neighbor, Styx Malone, a foster boy from the city. (LOC)

One of the more mature titles on the list.

Awards: An Amazon Best Children's Book of the Year selection, Coretta Scott King honor

IL: MG - BL: 3.8 - AR Pts: 7.0

AR Quiz No. 197536

Contemporary



1. **Annie's Life in Lists** by Kristin Mahoney, 272 pp., 5th grader, 10 y/o **female protag**, family, moving, friendship, school, New York, small town, epistolary, introvert, siblings

Summary: Fifth-grader Annie writes lists to keep track of changes in her life when her family moves from Brooklyn to the small town of Clover Gap. (LOC)

IL: MG - BL: 5.1 - AR Pts: 6.0

AR Quiz No. 196505

2. **Blended** by Sharon Draper, 320 pp., 2 starred reviews ****also on 6-8 list****

11 y/o, **female protag**, **biracial**, **African American**, divorce, family life, Ohio, piano

Summary: Piano-prodigy Isabella, eleven, whose black father and white mother struggle to share custody, never feels whole, especially as racial tensions affect her school, her parents both become engaged, and she and her stepbrother are stopped by police (LOC)

One of the more mature titles on the list.

IL: MG - BL: 4.0 - AR Pts: 7.0

AR Quiz No. 198319

3. **Ellie, Engineer** by Jackson Pearce, 192 pp., 0 starred reviews

3rd grader, **female protag**, invention, STEM, pets

Summary: When Ellie, who loves to invent and build things, decides to build a doghouse as a gift, she needs to get past the boys-against-the-girls neighborhood feud and ask for help.

IL: LG - BL: 4.5 - AR Pts: 3.0

AR Quiz No. 194494

4. **Front Desk** by Kelly Yang, 304 pp., 4 starred reviews

10 y/o 5th grade **female protag**, immigrant families, Southern California, **Chinese-Americans**, self-confidence, socio-economic, racism, motel

Summary: Recent immigrants from China and desperate for work and money, ten-year-old Mia Tang's parents take a job managing a rundown motel in Southern California, even though the owner, Mr. Yao is a nasty skinflint who exploits them; while her mother (who was an engineer in China) does the cleaning, Mia works the front desk and tries to cope with demanding customers and other recent immigrants--not to mention being only one of two Chinese in her fifth grade class, the other being Mr. Yao's son, Jason. (LOC)

Awards: Asian / Pacific American Award for Children's Literature, Parents' Choice Gold Medal Fiction Award Winner, NPR Best Books of the Year, Kirkus Reviews Best Books of the Year, Publishers Weekly Best Books of the Year, Washington Post Best Books of the Year Amazon Best Books of the Year, School Library Journal Best Books of the Year Bookpage Best Books of the Year, New York Public Library Best Books of the Year, Chicago Public Library Best Books of the Year, Top Ten Debut Novels 2018 - ALA Booklist

IL: MG - BL: 4.5 - AR Pts: 9.0

AR Quiz No. 196541

5. **If This Were a Story** by Beth Turley, 256 pp., 0 starred reviews

10 y/o 5th grader **female protag**, imagination, bullying, family problems

Summary: Ten-year-old Hannah copes with the bullies at school and trouble at home through the power of her imagination. (LOC)

IL: MG - BL: 4.4 - AR Pts: 5.0

AR Quiz No. 198765

6. **Love Like Sky** by Leslie C. Youngblood, 304 pp., 1 starred review ****also on 6-8****
 11 y/o female protag, African American, sisters, step-families, sick, African American, family life, Georgia, Louisiana, Bogalusa
Summary: Eleven-year-old Georgie is still adjusting to leaving Atlanta for a small town, having a stepfather, and being unable to get close to her stepsister when her six-year-old sister, Peaches, suddenly becomes very ill. (LOC)
Awards: Winter 2018 Kids' Indie Next List, SIBA 2018 Fall Okra Pick, Kirkus Reviews' Best Middle Grade Family Stories of 2018, Bookish: Brilliant Book Covers: The Best Covers of November 2018, Atlanta Parent: Best Books of 2018, PennGSE Newsroom: The Best Books of 2018 for Young Readers, BNKids: Our Favorite Contemporary Middle Grade of 2018, BookRiot: Black Kids on Book Covers: Middle Grade Edition, selection (2019)
 IL: MG - BL: 4.1 - AR Pts: 10.0
 AR Quiz No. 199163
8. **Power Forward (Zayd Saleem, Chasing the Dream: Book 1)** by Hena Khan illustrated by Sally Wern Comport, 144 pp., 0 starred reviews
 4th grade male protagonist, basketball, Pakistani Americans, family life, honesty, middle school, Muslim
Summary: Fourth-grader Zayd yearns to play basketball on the Gold Team, but when he skips orchestra rehearsal to practice, his parents forbid anything basketball-related, and tryouts are coming soon. (LOC)
 IL: MG - BL: 3.8 - AR Pts: 2.0
 AR Quiz No. 195119
9. **Saving Winslow** by Sharon Creech, 176 pp., 3 starred reviews
 10 y/o male protagonist, uplifting, mini-donkey, friendship, military family, hope
Summary: Louie doesn't have the best luck when it comes to nurturing small creatures. When his father brings home a sickly newborn mini donkey, he's determined to save him. Taking care of Winslow helps Louie feel closer to his brother, Gus. (AR)
Awards: Indie Next List Pick , ALA Notable Children's Book, Texas Bluebonnet Award Winner
 IL: MG - BL: 4.2 - AR Pts: 2.0
 AR Quiz No. 196916
10. **Spectacular Spelling Bee, The (Book 1)** by Deborah Abela, 224 pp., 0 starred reviews
 Female protagonist, spelling bee, self-confidence, Australia, family, friendship, small town, shyness, courage
Summary: Terribly shy, India Wimple is brilliant at spelling and her loving family will do whatever it takes to help her compete in a televised national spelling bee in Sydney, Australia. (LOC)
 IL: LG - BL: 4.3 - AR Pts: 0.5
 AR Quiz No. 196944
11. **Wonderland** by Barbara O'Connor, 288 pp., 0 starred reviews
 10 y/o female protag, best friends, moving, dogs, Alabama
Summary: When her mother uproots them again to another home and takes a job as housekeeper, ten-year-old Mavis is determined to find a best friend in Landry, Alabama, where the summer also holds the promise of friendship and change for a sad man, a stray dog, and a timid girl. (LOC)
 IL: MG - BL: 4.9 - AR Pts: 6.0

Fantasy



1. **Aru Shah and the End of Time (A Pandava Novel: Book #1)** by Roshani Chokshi, 368 pp., 2 starred reviews

12 y/o 7th grade **female protag**, Supernatural, demonology, blessings and curses, mythology, antiquities, museums, honesty, India, Hindu

Summary: Twelve-year-old Aru stretches the truth to fit in at her private school, but when she is dared to prove an ancient lamp is cursed, she inadvertently frees an ancient demon. (LOC)

IL: MG - BL: 4.7 - AR Pts: 12.0

AR Quiz No. 194232

2. **Bob** by Wendy Mass and Rebecca Stead, illustrated by Nicholas Gannon, 208 pp., 3 starred reviews
10 y/o **female protag**, **mystery**, friendship, imaginary creatures, lost children, grandmothers, Australia, **humor**

Summary: Visiting her grandmother in Australia, Livy, ten, is reminded of the promise she made five years before to Bob, a strange, green creature who cannot recall who or what he is. (LOC)

Awards: A Chicago Tribute Best Children's Book of the Year, 2018 Booklist Youth Editors' Choice, New York City Public Library Notable 100 Best Books for Kids

3. 1. **Charlie Hernández & the League of Shadows** by Ryan Calejo, 336 pp., 2 starred reviews ****also on 6-8 list****

Male protag, Shapeshifting, secret societies, folklore, **Mexican Americans**, missing persons, **adventure**

Summary: Steeped in Hispanic folklore since childhood, middle schooler Charlie Hernández learns the stories are true when, shortly after his parents disappearance, he grows horns and feathers and finds himself at the heart of a battle to save the world. (LOC)

AR: N/A

4. **Creature of the Pines, The (The Unicorn Rescue Society: Book 1)** by Adam Gidwitz, illustrated by Hatem Aly, 192 pp., 0 starred reviews

male protag, female protag, myths, animals, friendship, historical, adventure, Nigerian, monsters

Summary: After encountering a Jersey Devil while on a field trip to the Pine Barrens, Elliot and his new friend Uchenna help their weird teacher Professor Fauna rescue the mythological creature from a pair of greedy billionaire brothers. (LOC)

Awards: A 2019 E.B. White Read-Aloud Award (Middle Reader) Finalist!, A Bank Street College Best Children's Book of the Year

IL: MG - BL: 4.2 - AR Pts: 2.0

AR Quiz No. 194055

5. **Dragons in a Bag (Book #1)** by Zetta Elliott, illustrated by Geneva B, 160 pp., 2 starred reviews

9 y/o male protag, African Americans, magic, dragons, urban settings, family, gentrification

Summary: In Brooklyn, nine-year-old Jax joins Ma, a curmudgeonly witch who lives in his building, on a quest to deliver three baby dragons to a magical world, and along the way discovers his true calling. (LOC)

Awards: An Amazon Best Children's Book of the Year selection

IL: MG - BL: 4.7 - AR Pts: 4.0

AR Quiz No. 500193

6. **Eternity Elixir, The (Potion Masters Book #1)** by Frank L. Cole, 272 pp., 0 starred reviews

12 y/o male protag, adventure, scary, magic, humor

Summary: Aspiring Potion Master Gordy Stitser must prevent the Eternity Elixir from falling into the hands of the rebel Elixirists who are working to release the most powerful potion master of all time and take over the world (Publisher)

IL: MG - BL: 5.0 - AR Pts: 9.0

AR Quiz No. 194667

8. **Serpent's Secret, The (Kiranmala and the Kingdom Beyond: Book 1)** by Sayantani DasGupta, 368 pp., 2 starred reviews ****also on 6-8 list****

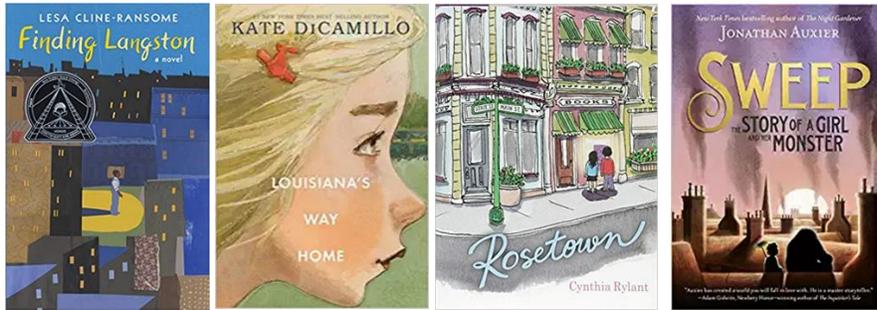
12 y/o female protagonist, 6th grade, interdimensional demon slayer, Indian-American, missing persons, princesses, magic, quests, adventure, humor

Summary: Up until her twelfth birthday, Kiranmala considered herself an ordinary sixth-grader in Parsippany, New Jersey, but then her parents disappear and a drooling rakkhosh demon shows up in her kitchen, and soon she is swept into another dimension, full of magic, winged horses, talking birds (very annoying), and cute princes--and somehow Kiranmala needs to sort it all out, find her parents, and basically save the world. (LOC)

IL: MG - BL: 5.2 - AR Pts: 10.0

AR Quiz No. 193776

Historical



- 1. Finding Langston** by Lesa Cline-Ransome, 112 pp., 5 starred review
11 y/o **male protag**, **African American**, books and reading, poetry, moving, single parent families, Chicago, 20th century, Great Migration, bullying, libraries, moving, Langston Hughes
Summary: Discovering a book of Langston Hughes' poetry in the library helps Langston cope with the loss of his mother, relocating from Alabama to Chicago as part of the Great Migration, and being bullied. (LOC)
Awards: A Coretta Scott King Honor Book, A Kirkus Reviews Best Book of the Year, a School Library Journal Best Book of 2018
IL: MG - BL: 4.5 - AR Pts: 3.0
AR Quiz No. 195865
- 2. Louisiana's Way Home** by Kate DiCamillo, 240 pp., 7 starred reviews
12 y/o **female protag**, Georgia, orphans, Florida, road trip, grandmothers, 1970s
Summary: When Louisiana's granny wakes her up in the middle of the night to tell her that the day of reckoning has arrived and they have to leave immediately, Louisiana isn't overly worried. Granny has many middle-of-the-night ideas, but this time is different.
IL: MG - BL: 4.5 - AR Pts: 5.0
AR Quiz No. 198417
- 3. Rosetown** by Cynthia Rylant, 160 pp., 2 starred reviews
9 y/o **female protag**, family, friendship, small town life, death of pet, parent separation, Indiana, 1970s
Summary: In 1972, Flora Smallwood, nine, copes with her parents' separation with the help of her friends, Yury and Nessie, a new pet, and the familiar routines of life in Rosetown, Indiana. (LOC)
IL: LG - BL: 5.9 - AR Pts: 3.0
AR Quiz No. 195058
- 5. Sweep: The Story of a Girl and Her Monster** by Jonathan Auxier, 368 pp., 6 starred reviews
10 y/o **female protag**, **fantasy**, golem, chimney sweeps, homeless persons, orphans, Great Britain, 19th century, **Jewish** folklore, child labor, London
Summary: In nineteenth-century England, after her father's disappearance Nan Sparrow, ten, works as a "climbing boy," aiding chimney sweeps, but when her most treasured possessions end up in a fireplace, she unwittingly creates a golem. (LOC)
Awards: A 2019 Sydney Taylor Book Award Winner
IL: MG - BL: 4.5 - AR Pts: 10.0
AR Quiz No. 196899

Humor



1. **Astrid the Unstoppable** by Maria Parr, 320 pp., 3 starred reviews

10 y/o **female protag**, physical distance between friends, estrangement, Scandinavian, for fans of Pippi Longstocking, books in translation, intergenerational

Summary: Astrid's world is turned upside down when she learns her best friend Gunnuald's big secret. (AR)

IL: MG - BL: 5.1 - AR Pts: 7.0

AR Quiz No. 198035

3. **Doughnut Fix, The (Book 1)** by Jessie Janowitz, 304 pp., 1 starred review

11 y/o **male protag**, Jewish, family life, community life, doughnuts, moving, New York, relocation

Summary: When his family moves to tiny Petersville, eleven-year-old Tris stops focusing on his perfect sister, Jeanine, by using his cooking expertise to revive a town tradition of chocolate cream doughnuts. (LOC)

Awards: An Amazon Best Book of the Month

IL: MG - BL: 4.4 - AR Pts: 8.0

AR Quiz No. 194157

5. **Grilled Cheese and Dragons (Princess Pulverizer Book 1)** by Nancy Krulik, illustrated by Ben Balistreri, 144 pp., 2 starred reviews

Female protag, **fantasy**, dragons, quests, knights

Summary: A princess who would rather be a knight accepts her skeptical king father's challenge to perform good deeds in order to prove her worthiness to attend knight school, an endeavor that is supported by a friendly dragon and a perpetually terrified knight-in-training. (LOC)

IL: LG - BL: 4.2 - AR Pts: 2.0

AR Quiz No. 194665

6. **Grump: The (Fairly) True Tale of Snow White and the Seven Dwarves** by Liesl Shurtliff, 304 pp., 0 starred reviews

Male protag, fairy tale retelling, being different, Snow White

Summary: Ever since he was a dwarfling, Borlen (nicknamed "Grump") has dreamed of visiting The Surface, so when opportunity knocks, he leaves his cavern home behind. (AR)

IL: MG - BL: 4.6 - AR Pts: 10.0

AR Quiz No. 195950

7. **How to Sell Your Family to the Aliens** by Paul Noth, 224 pp., 0 starred reviews

10 y/o male protag, science fiction, tyrannical grandmother

Summary: Ten-year-old Hap's grandmother has experimented on his family and confined them to the basement of a mansion paid for by his father's inventions, but his plan to sell her to aliens goes awry. (LOC)

8. **Inkling** by Kenneth Oppel, illustrated by Sydney Smith, 272 pp., 0 starred reviews ****also on 6-8 list****

Middle schooler, male protagonist, family life, art, adventure, grief, media diet, depression, magic realism, comics, Vancouver, drawing, plagiarism

Summary: A brilliantly funny story about how a little ink splot changes a family forever. Perfect for those who love Hoot, Holes, or Frindle and sure to be a hit with kids everywhere! (Publisher)

Awards: A New York Times Notable Book, A New York Public Library Best Book of the Year, An Amazon Best Children's Book of the Year selection

IL: MG - BL: 4.6 - AR Pts: 7.0

AR Quiz No. 198303

9. **Lions & Liars** by Kate Beasley, illustrated by Dan Santat, 304 pp., 1 starred review

5th grade male protag, camps, friendship, hurricanes, survival, bullies, runaways

Summary: Fifth-grader Frederick is sent to a disciplinary camp where he and his terrifying troop mates have just started forging a friendship when they learn a Category 5 hurricane is headed their way. (LOC)

IL: MG - BL: 4.8 - AR Pts: 7.0

AR Quiz No. 195433

10. **Mac Undercover (Mac B., Kid Spy #1)** by Mac Barnett, illustrated by Mike Lowery, 160 pp., 1 starred review

Male protag, undercover operations, crown jewels, theft, adventure, spies, stealing, mystery, Queen of England, Russia, historical, 1980s, graphic

Summary: One day, Mac (smartest boy in his class in a small town in California) receives a telephone call from the Queen of England, recruiting him to find the crown jewels (well, actually just the Coronation Spoon) and so Mac embarks on his first adventure as a secret agent--with the assurance that the Queen will give him a note excusing him from school. (LOC)

IL: MG - BL: 3.7 - AR Pts: 1.0

AR Quiz No. 197677

Mystery



3. **Frederik Sandwich and the Earthquake that Couldn't Possibly Be (Book #1)** by Kevin John Scott, 320 pp., 1 starred review

11 y/o [male protag](#), underground areas, earthquakes, [humor](#)

Summary: A completely implausible earthquake sets Frederik Sandwich and Pernille, a mysterious stranger, on an adventure through secret and forbidden places in their small town. (LOC)

AR: N/A

4. **Me, Frida, and the Secret of the Peacock Ring** by Angela Cervantes, 240 pp., 0 starred reviews

[Female protag](#), tween, [Mexican Americans](#), Frida Kahlo

Summary: Paloma Marquez is traveling to Mexico City, birthplace of her deceased father, for the very first time. She's hoping that spending time in Mexico will help her unlock memories of the too-brief time they spent together. (AR)

IL: MG - BL: 4.7 - AR Pts: 7.0

AR Quiz No. 193865

5. **Ra the Mighty: Cat Detective** by A. B. Greenfield, illustrated by Sarah Horne, 216 pp., 0 starred reviews

cats, scarabs, animals, stealing, Egyptian [history](#), [graphic](#)

Summary: In ancient Egypt, the Pharaoh's pampered cat Ra and his scarab-beetle sidekick question the royal palace's animal inhabitants, solve a crime, and exonerate a servant girl falsely accused of theft. (LOC)

Awards: Nominated for an Edgar Award

AR: N/A

6. **Winterhouse (Book 1)** by Ben Guterson, illustrated by Chloe Bristol, 384 pp., 0 starred reviews

11 y/o female protag, [fantasy](#), magic, puzzles, urban, orphans, secrets

Summary: Elizabeth, eleven, spends Christmas break at Winterhouse hotel under strange circumstances, where she discovers that she has magic, and her love of puzzles helps her solve a mystery. (LOC)

IL: MG - BL: 5.9 - AR Pts: 12.0

AR Quiz No. 193943