

* = Outstanding Merit



= Read Aloud

(5-8) = Suggested Age Range



= Graphic Format

Adventure and Mystery**The Boy and the Whale**

written and illustrated by Mordicai Gerstein
(Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$17.99)
978-1-62672-505-8

Can a small boy possibly rescue a huge whale that is trapped in a net? Expressive, painterly illustrations. (6-8)

**On a Magical Do-Nothing Day**

written and illustrated by Beatrice Alemagna, translated from the French by Jill Davis
(Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-265760-2
When she can no longer play her video game, a girl discovers the wonders of nature. Her bright orange coat glows against the backdrop of the dark, mystical forest. Mixed-media illustrations. (6-9)

***Robinson**

written and illustrated by Peter Sís
(Scholastic Press, \$17.99) 978-0-545-73166-9
A young boy who loves Robinson Crusoe embarks on an imaginative and wondrous journey to a remote island. Detailed, lush watercolors. (5-8)

***Victor and Hugo**

written and illustrated by Robert J. Blake
(Philomel Books/Penguin Random House, \$16.99)
978-0-399-24324-0
Maestro plays his accordion while two dogs dance along the Seine in Paris. The accordion falls into the water, the dogs follow, and an adventure begins. Oil on canvas illustrations. (5-8)

**Wallace and Grace Take the Case (Wallace and Grace series)**

by Heather Alexander, illustrated by Laura Zarrin
(Bloomsbury Children's Books, \$9.99)
978-1-61963-988-1

Two owls are good friends and good detectives. Lots of clues, humor, and illustrations created with Blackwing pencils and Photoshop help young readers figure things out. First in a series. (6-8)

Yours Sincerely, Giraffe

by Megumi Iwasa, illustrated by Jun Takabatake
(Gecko Press, \$16.99) 978-1-927271-88-9
Giraffe is bored and searches for a best friend. With Pelican as mail messenger, he begins a pen pal relationship. Black-and-white drawings. (6-8)

**Zog and the Flying Doctors**

by Julia Donaldson, illustrated by Axel Scheffler
(Arthur A. Levine Books/Scholastic, \$17.99)
978-1-338-13417-9
Zog the dragon carries two doctors, Princess Pearl and Sir Gadabout, on their rounds. The king thinks medicine isn't maidenly—until he gets sick, and Pearl saves the day. Amusing action-filled illustrations. (6-8)

Animals**Adrift: An Odd Couple of Polar Bears**

written and illustrated by Jessica Olien
(Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-245177-4
Karl and Hazel have different personalities, but they must help each other when they get stranded on an ice floe. Colorful bold-line illustrations. (5-8)

***Alfie: The Turtle That Disappeared**

written and illustrated by Thyra Heder
(Abrams BFYR, \$17.95) 978-1-4197-2529-6
Alfie, Nia's pet turtle, doesn't do much . . . until he embarks on a quest to find the perfect birthday present for her. Warm, detailed watercolors. (6-8)

* = Outstanding Merit



= Read Aloud

(5-8) = Suggested Age Range



= Graphic Format

Animals, continued**A Cat Named Swan**

written and illustrated by Holly Hobbie
(Random House Children's Books/PRH, \$17.99)
978-0-553-53744-4

After barely surviving life on the streets, a stray kitten is taken to a rescue center and then adopted by a loving family. Realistic pencil and watercolor illustrations. (5-8)

Our Very Own Dog

by Amanda McCardie, illustrated by Salvatore Rubbino
(Candlewick Press, \$15.99) 978-0-7636-8948-3
Sophie finally has a forever home, and her new owners have lots of helpful hints about how to take care of her. Whimsical mixed-media illustrations. Back matter. (5-8)

The Unexpected Love Story of Alfred Fiddleduckling

written and illustrated by Timothy Basil Ering
(Candlewick Press, \$15.99) 978-0-7636-6432-9
A duckling is lost at sea and then on land, but a musical friend helps him find his way home. Acrylic, ink, charcoal, and graphite illustrations. (6-8)

William's Winter Nap

by Linda Ashman, illustrated by Chuck Groenink
(Disney-Hyperion Books, \$17.99) 978-1-4847-2282-4
Through rhymed text along with digital colored pencil drawing, we see how William opens his home and his heart. (5-7)

Wolf in the Snow

written and illustrated by Matthew Cordell
(Feiwel and Friends/Macmillan, \$17.99)
978-1-250-07636-6
Gentle watercolors and a few onomatopoeic words tell the story of how a lost girl and a wolf pup help each other during a storm. (5-7)

Anthologies and Collections**Brave Red, Smart Frog: A New Book of Old Tales**

by Emily Jenkins, illustrated by Rohan Daniel Eason
(Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-0-7636-6558-6
These retellings add inventive twists and recurring elements to seven much-loved tales. Finely detailed watercolor and ink illustrations. (8-10)

**Once There Was a Story: Tales from around the World, Perfect for Sharing**

retold by Jane Yolen, illustrated by Jane Dyer
(A Paula Wiseman Book/Simon & Schuster, \$19.99)
978-1-4169-7172-6
Elegant, accessible prose enhances more than 30 stories and will keep young listeners and readers rapt. Delicate gouache and colored pencil illustrations. (5-9)

Beginning Readers**Block Party**

by Gwendolyn Hooks, illustrated by Shirley Ng-Benitez
(Lee & Low Books, \$14.95) 978-1-62014-341-4
Padma is excited about an invitation to a block party until she learns that her mother is bringing Indian lentil soup. Animated illustrations. Recipe included. (5-7)

Chicken in Mittens

by Adam Lehrhaupt, illustrated by Shahar Kober
(Harper/HarperCollins, \$16.99) 978-0-06-236415-9
A chicken and a pig go out for an adventure to find the North Pole and are not disappointed. Colorful watercolors. (5-6)

Fergus and Zeke

by Kate Messner, illustrated by Heather Ross
(Candlewick Press, \$14.99) 978-0-7636-7846-3
When the elementary class takes a trip to a museum, the class's pet mouse finds a way to join the fun. Humorous illustrations. (5-7)

* = Outstanding Merit



= Read Aloud

(5-8) = Suggested Age Range



= Graphic Format

Beginning Readers, continued**George Washington: The First President**

by Sarah Albee, illustrated by Chin Ko
(Harper/HarperCollins, \$16.99) 978-0-06-243267-4
Learn about the early history of the United States, including the milestones of Washington's life as general and president. Colorful illustrations. Maps, timeline, and other back matter. (6-8)

King & Kayla and the Case of the Secret Code (King & Kayla series)

by Dori Hillestad Butler, illustrated by Nancy Meyers
(Peachtree, \$14.95) 978-1-56145-878-3
Can Kayla decode the mysterious letter that she receives? Amusing pencil and digitally colored illustrations. First in a series. (5-7)

Coming of Age**Beatrice Zinker, Upside Down Thinker**

written and illustrated by Shelley Johannes
(Disney-Hyperion Books, \$14.99) 978-1-4847-6738-2
To the chagrin of her teacher, Beatrice does things her own way, but her quirkiness helps re-cement a friendship. Humorously told with lively pencil drawings. (7-10)

Bertolt

written and illustrated by Jacques Goldstyn, translated from the French by Claudia Zoe Bedrick
(Enchanted Lion Books, \$15.95) 978-1-59270-229-9
Engaging pastel illustrations capture a boy, who is a loner, and his best friend, a tree. (5-8)

**Chester Raccoon and the Almost Perfect Sleepover**

by Audrey Penn, illustrated by Barbara L. Gibson
(Tanglewood Pub. Co., \$16.95) 978-1-939100-11-5
Chester Raccoon misses his mother during his first "overday" sleepover. She reassures him that he was missed too. Expressive color illustrations. (5-8)

The Curse of Einstein's Pencil (Bea Garcia series)

written and illustrated by Deborah Zemke
(Dial BFYR/Penguin YR/PRH, \$15.99) 978-0-8037-4155-3
Bea Garcia longs for smart Judith Einstein's pencil. What will happen when she gets it? Humorous black-and-white drawings. (6-9)

***Pandora**

written and illustrated by Victoria Turnbull
(Clarion Books/HMH, \$16.99) 978-0-544-94733-7
Elegant pencil and watercolor illustrations capture Pandora's heartfelt journey to find a friend. Spare language expresses complex feelings. (5-8)

**Raisin, the Littlest Cow**

by Miriam Busch, illustrated by Larry Day
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$17.99)
978-0-06-242763-2
Little Raisin's role as the baby of the family is upstaged by the birth of a brother. She learns to do things on her own. Pencil, ink, gouache, and watercolor illustrations. (5-7)

The Thing Lou Couldn't Do

written and illustrated by Ashley Spires
(Kids Can Press, \$17.95) 978-1-77138-727-9
When her friends all climb a tree, Lou makes excuses to hide her fear. A humorous story about trying new things. Expressive digital art. (5-7)

***Town Is by the Sea**

by Joanne Schwartz, illustrated by Sydney Smith
(Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, \$21.95)
978-1-55498-871-6
As he goes about his daily activities, a boy muses about his father, an undersea coal miner, and is resigned to a similar future. Lyrical refrains. Evocative and muted color illustrations. (6-9)

* = Outstanding Merit



= Read Aloud

(5-8) = Suggested Age Range



= Graphic Format

Concept Books***Lines**

written and illustrated by Suzy Lee
(Chronicle Books, \$17.99) 978-1-4521-5665-1
Evocative pencil drawings create a wordless celebration of self-expression and the joyful surprises that perseverance can bring. (5-8)

Little i

written and illustrated by Michael Hall
(Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99)
978-0-06-238300-6
Lower case i loses its dot and embarks on a journey to find it, while other letters and punctuation marks provide encouragement. Colorful dramatic illustrations. (5-6)

**Wordplay**

written and illustrated by Ivan Brunetti
(Toon Books, \$12.95) 978-1-943145-17-1
Through the context of comics, kids use their imaginations as they visualize compound words, like housefly, grasshopper, and strawberry literally, with amusing results. Digitally colored cartoon illustrations (5-8)

Fantasy***After the Fall: How Humpty Dumpty Got Back Up Again**

written and illustrated by Dan Santat
(Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$17.99)
978-1-250-14977-0
All the king's men put Humpty Dumpty back together again, but can he now overcome his fear of heights? Watercolor, colored pencil, and digital illustrations. (5-7)

**Cinnamon**

by Neil Gaiman, illustrated by Divya Srinivasan
(Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-239961-8
A fierce but wise tiger appears in an imaginary Indian kingdom to help a blind princess regain her speech. Bold, detailed digital illustrations. (6-9)

***Dragons: Father and Son**

by Alexandre Lacroix, illustrated by Ronan Badel,
translated from the French by Vanessa Miéville
(Words & Pictures/Quarto, \$17.95) 978-1-91027-725-6
To prove to his father he's a real dragon, Drake goes to the village to start a fire, but returns with a lesson for dad. Colorful, dramatic illustrations. (5-8)

**Garcia & Colette Go Exploring**

by Hannah Barnaby, illustrated by Andrew Joyner
(G.P. Putnam's Sons/PRH, \$16.99) 978-0-399-17675-3
Exploring outer space and the deep sea is exciting, but what if you left something very important at home? Expressive, humorous illustrations. (5-7)

Ghost Attack (Monster Itch series)

by David Lubar, illustrated by Kari West
(Scholastic Press, P \$4.99) 978-0-545-87348-2
Alex has allergies to many things, but he never expected that an allergy to ghosts might help him solve a small-town mystery. A humorous story with black-and-white illustrations. First in a series. (6-9)

***Good Night, Planet**

written and illustrated by Liniers
(Toon Books, \$12.95) 978-1-943145-20-1
What are a toy and a dog doing at night while their child owner is sleeping? Finely drawn pen and ink and watercolor illustrations. Also available in Spanish. (6-8)

Isadora Moon Goes to School (Isadora Moon series)

written and illustrated by Harriet Muncaster
(Stepping Stone/Random House/PRH, \$14.99)
978-0-399-55821-4
A young girl, half fairy and half vampire, doesn't like learning to be either one, but finds a comfortable spot in a human school. Pink-and-black illustrations. First in a series. (5-8)

* = Outstanding Merit



= Read Aloud

(5-8) = Suggested Age Range



= Graphic Format

Fantasy, continued***Little Fox in the Forest**

written and illustrated by Stephanie Graegin
(Schwartz & Wade Books/Random House/PRH, \$17.99)
978-0-553-53789-5

In this wordless picture book, a girl and her friend chase a toy thief and find themselves in a magical village. Mixed-media illustrations. (5-8)

Mae and June and the Wonder Wheel

by Charise Mericle Harper, illustrated by Ashley Spires
(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$15.99) 978-0-544-63063-5
A girl and her talking dog seek out a new friend. Expressive illustrations add to the whimsical humor. (6-8)

Princess Cora and the Crocodile

by Laura Amy Schlitz, illustrated by Brian Floca
(Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-4822-0
With the help of her fairy godmother and a friendly crocodile, Princess Cora becomes her own person. Fanciful watercolor and gouache illustrations. (5-8)

Renato and the Lion

written and illustrated by Barbara DiLorenzo
(Viking/Penguin YR/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-451-47641-8
A stone lion magically saves a young boy who emigrates to the United States during World War II. Gentle watercolor illustrations. (6-8)

Thunder Horse

by Eve Bunting, illustrated by Dennis Nolan
(A Neal Porter Book/Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-1-62672-443-3
A young girl receives a magical horse from her special aunt. Can he be the winged horse of Greek mythology? Dreamy, acrylic paintings. (5-7)

Folklore and Fairy Tales***Emmet Otter's Jug-Band Christmas**

by Russell Hoban, illustrated by Lillian Hoban
(Doubleday BFYR/Random House/PRH, \$14.99)
978-1-5247-1457-4

An impoverished widow and her son each try secretly to earn enough to buy the other a Christmas present. Rustic crayon and pastel illustrations. (7-9)

**The Glassmaker's Daughter**

by Dianne Hofmeyr, illustrated by Jane Ray
(Frances Lincoln Children's Books/Quarto Pub., \$19.99)
978-1-84780-676-5

Who can make the glassmaker's daughter smile? Set in early Venice and told in folkloric style with vivid expressive illustrations. (6-9)

**Pattan's Pumpkin: A Traditional Flood Story from Southern India**

by Chitra Soundar, illustrated by Frané Lessac
(Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-0-7636-9274-2
A giant pumpkin serves as an ark for Pattan, his wife, and the regional plants and animals. Colorful gouache folk-style art. (5-8)

***The Three Billy Goats Gruff**

written and illustrated by Jerry Pinkney
(Little, Brown and Company/Hachette, \$17.99)
978-0-316-34157-8

A gentle version of the classic tale changes the bullying troll's fate to coexistence rather than banishment. Animated, richly textured pencil and watercolor illustrations. (5-7)

Yaffa and Fatima: Shalom, Salaam

adapted by Fawzia Gilani-Williams, illustrated by Chiara Fedele
(Kar-Ben/Lerner, P \$7.99) 978-1-4677-9423-7
Although they dress and pray differently, neighbors Yaffa and Fatima share an understanding of what it means to be friends. Line drawings with soft colors. (4-6)

* = Outstanding Merit



= Read Aloud

(5-8) = Suggested Age Range



= Graphic Format

Historical Fiction**The Hawk of the Castle: A Story of Medieval Falconry**

by Danna Smith, illustrated by Bagram Ibatoulline (Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-7992-7
With a lyrical voice, the daughter of the castle's falconer details every step as a goshawk hunts prey. Gouache paintings. Back matter. (7-10)

Independence Cake: A Revolutionary Confection Inspired by Amelia Simmons, Whose True History Is Unfortunately Unknown

by Deborah Hopkinson, illustrated by Giselle Potter (Schwartz & Wade Books/Random House/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-385-39017-0

Amelia Simmons, who wrote the first American cookbook in 1796, bakes a special surprise. Watercolor and ink illustrations. Recipe included. (6-9)

**Mr. Crum's Potato Predicament**

by Anne Renaud, illustrated by Felicita Sala (Kids Can Press, \$17.99) 978-1-77138-619-7
In upstate New York in the 1850s, a clever multiracial chef invents the first potato chip. Period illustrations in pencil and watercolor. (6-8)

***Remembering Vera**

written and illustrated by Patricia Polacco (A Paula Wiseman Book/Simon & Schuster, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-4227-5

The author tells the story of the stray dog she met in 1962 who performed heroic rescues with the coast guard. Emotion-filled pencil and acetone marker drawings. (7-9)

Humor**7 Ate 9: The Untold Story**

by Tara Lazar, illustrated by Ross MacDonald (Disney-Hyperion Books, \$17.99) 978-1-4847-1779-0
Numeral 6 seeks the services of Private I, an investigator, to protect him from numeral 7, who is after him. Comic noir-style mixed-media illustrations. (6-8)

**The Chupacabra Ate the Candelabra**

by Marc Tyler Nobleman, illustrated by Ana Aranda (Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin YR/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-399-17443-8

Three goats fend off a goat-eating chupacabra by offering alternate delicacies. Colorful, lively watercolor, ink, and gouache illustrations. (5-8)

Come Home Already!

by Jory John, illustrated by Benji Davies (Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-237097-6
Duck wants to hang out with Bear, but Bear wants to go camping alone. Colorful humorous illustrations. (5-8)

Fizz and the Police Dog Tryouts (Fizz series)

by Lesley Gibbes, illustrated by Stephen Michael King (Kane Miller/EDC, P \$4.99) 978-1-61067-612-0
Engaging pen and ink drawings dot this transitional reader about a lap dog who longs to be a rough, tough police dog. First in a series. (7-9)

**The Giant of Jum**

by Elli Woollard, illustrated by Benji Davies (Henry Holt and Co. BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-1-62779-515-9

Energetic, colorful illustrations enliven this rhyming tale of a grumpy, hungry giant whose wise young prey teaches him the value of kindness and generosity. (5-7)

Hattie & Hudson

written and illustrated by Chris Van Dusen (Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-6545-6
When Hattie befriends a lake water monster, they convince the townspeople that differences don't matter. Colorful gouache illustrations. (5-7)

***The Legend of Rock Paper Scissors**

by Drew Daywalt, illustrated by Adam Rex (Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 98-0-06-243889-8
Objects in an ancient game are morphed into three champion warriors from their own kingdoms, who then challenge each other. Hilarious explosive text and illustrations. (5-8)

* = Outstanding Merit



= Read Aloud

(5-8) = Suggested Age Range



= Graphic Format

Humor, continued***Life on Mars**

written and illustrated by Jon Agee
(Dial BFYR/Penguin YR/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-399-53852-0
Determined to discover extraterrestrial life, a young astronaut finds a yellow flower but overlooks the Martian who follows him. Bold illustrations add a humorous twist. (5-8)

Love, Triangle

by Marcie Colleen, illustrated by Bob Shea
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$17.99)
978-0-06-241084-9
Best friends Circle and Square must make room for a new buddy, Triangle. A geometric romp full of word play and colorful pop art cartooning. (4-6)

Sam the Man & the Rutabaga Plan

by Frances O'Roark Dowell, illustrated by Amy June Bates
(A Caitlyn Dlouhy Book/Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster, \$16.99) 978-1-4814-4069-1
Second grader Sam's project is a rutabaga, and with the help of family and neighbors, he learns about the root vegetable—and much more. Line drawings. (7-9)

Short Stories for Little Monsters

written and illustrated by Marie-Louise Gay
(Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, \$19.95)
978-1-55498-896-9
Eighteen hilarious narratives with diverse characters tap the mind-set of children. Comic-strip, colorful mixed-media illustrations with bubble text. (5-8)

***Sleep Tight, Charlie**

by Michael Escoffier, illustrated by Kris Di Giacomo
(Princeton Architectural Press, \$17.95)
978-1-61689-599-0
Will Charlie finally stop the outdoor noises that prevent him from sleeping? Subdued color illustrations. (5-8)

Today***All the Way to Havana**

by Margarita Engle, illustrated by Mike Curato
(Henry Holt and Co. BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99)
978-1-62779-646-2
A boy and his father must use real ingenuity to get their ancient car running again so they can visit family in Havana. Realistic mixed-media illustrations. (5-7)

Away

by Emil Sher, illustrated by Qin Leng
(Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, \$18.95)
978-1-55498-483-1
Animated sketchy watercolors capture nuanced sticky note exchanges between a reassuring mother and her daughter, anxious about going to sleep-away camp. (5-7)

The Banana-Leaf Ball: How Play Can Change the World (CitizenKid series)

by Katie Smith Milway, illustrated by Shane W. Evans
(Kids Can Press, \$18.95) 978-1-77138-331-8
In a refugee camp in Tanzania, Deo is bullied by a gang leader until the boys play soccer and make their own balls together. Expressive textured illustrations. (8-10)

Charlie & Mouse

by Laurel Snyder, illustrated by Emily Hughes
(Chronicle, \$14.99) 978-1-4521-3153-5
Two brothers enjoy adventures, some imaginary, resulting in unexpected humor. Joyous illustrations. First in a series. (6-8)

***Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut**

by Derrick Barnes, illustrated by Gordon C. James
(A Denene Millner Book/Bolden/Agate Imprint, \$17.95)
978-1-57284-224-3
Boldly painted illustrations and lyrical language capture the exhilarating experience of a fresh haircut at the barbershop that can make a young African American boy feel like royalty. (5-8)

* = Outstanding Merit



= Read Aloud

(5-8) = Suggested Age Range



= Graphic Format

Today, continued**A Different Pond**

by Bao Phi, illustrated by Thi Bui
(Capstone Young Readers/Capstone, \$15.95)
978-1-62370-803-0

In Minneapolis, a boy shares his experience of fishing with his Vietnamese father for the dinner meal. Evocative animated illustrations. (6-9)

Feather

written and illustrated by Rémi Courgeon, translated from the French by Claudia Zoe Bedrick
(Enchanted Lion Books, \$17.95) 978-1-592709210-7
A motherless girl transforms her male-dominated Russian immigrant family by mastering boxing skills. Now her brothers do their share of the housework. Stylized bold color poster-like illustrations. (6-9)

From the Stars in the Sky to the Fish in the Sea

by Kai Cheng Thom, illustrated by Wai-Yant Li and Kai Yun Ching
(Arsenal Pulp Press, \$18.95) 978-1-55152-709-3
This enchanting story of Miu Lan, whose identity resists boundaries, is a call to challenge stereotypes and to build an inclusive environment. Saturated watercolors. (4-7)

It Takes a Village

by Hillary Rodham Clinton, illustrated by Marla Frazee
(Simon & Schuster BFYR, \$19.99) 978-1-4814-3087-6
What does it take to change the world? It starts with the members of a village—adults and children. Ideas are captured in soft pencil and watercolor illustrations. (5-7)

Jasmine Toguchi, Mochi Queen (Jasmine Toguchi series)

by Debbi Michiko Florence, illustrated by Elizabet Vukovic
(Farrar Straus Giroux BFYR/Macmillan, \$15.99)
978-0-374-30410-2
Jasmine hatches a plan to be the first girl to pound mochi, a task traditionally done by men. Lively black-and-white illustrations. First in a series. (7-9)

King of the Sky

by Nicola Davies, illustrated by Laura Carlin
(Candlewick Press, \$17.99) 978-0-7636-9568-2
A newly immigrated boy feels he's not where he belongs until he bonds with an old man racing pigeons. Impressionistic mixed-media illustrations and hand lettering. (5-7)

Niko Draws a Feeling

by Bob Raczka, illustrated by Simone Shin
(Carolrhoda Books/Lerner, \$17.99) 978-1-4677-9843-3
Niko loves to draw, but no one understands his abstract creations except Iris, his new neighbor. Mixed-media digital and acrylic paint illustrations. (5-8)

The One Day House

by Julia Durango, illustrated by Bianca Diaz
(Charlesbridge, \$16.99) 978-1-58089-709-9
The whole community helps Wilson create a better home for Gigi, an older woman living in a ramshackle house. Expressive colorful collages. (5-8)

Sparkle Boy

by Lesléa Newman, illustrated by Maria Mola
(Lee & Low Books, \$17.95) 978-1-62014-285-1
When Jessie's little brother wants to wear her skirt, bracelet, and nail polish, love triumphs over embarrassment. Pencil illustrations with digital coloring. (5-8)

The Way Downtown: Adventures in Public Transit

by Inna Gertsberg, illustrated by Mike Lowery
(Kids Can Press, \$17.99) 978-1-77138-552-7
The citizens of the city Zoom travel on every type of transportation and discover many facts about city life. Pencil, pen, and ink illustrations. (5-8)

***The Way Home in the Night**

written and illustrated by Akiko Miyakoshi
(Kids Can Press, \$16.95) 978-1-77138-663-0
A young bunny observes the activities of different neighbors as his mother carries him home through the darkened streets. Soft pencil, charcoal, and gouache illustrations. (5-7)

* = Outstanding Merit



= Read Aloud

(5-8) = Suggested Age Range



= Graphic Format

Today, continued**Where's Rodney?**

by Carmen Bogan, illustrated by Floyd Cooper (Yosemite Conservancy, \$16.99) 978-1-930238-73-2
Rodney longs to be outdoors, but spending time in the run-down neighborhood park doesn't count. A class trip to a national park is just what he needs. Warm, softly lit paintings. (5-7)

The Wooden Camel

by Wanuri Kahiu, illustrated by Manuela Adreani (Lantana Publishing, \$17.99) 978-1-911373-12-4
Will his sister, Akiru, manage to fulfill Etabo's dream of owning a racing camel? Delicate, stylized illustrations. (5-8)

POETRY***Blue Sky White Stars**

by Sarvinder Naberhaus, illustrated by Kadir Nelson (Dial BFYR/Penguin YR/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-8037-3700-6
Lyrical verse and luminous oil paintings pay tribute to an America of beauty, promise, and inclusion, and to its flag of freedom. (7-10)

Cricket in the Thicket: Poems about Bugs

by Carol Murray, illustrated by Melissa Sweet (Christy Ottaviano Books/Henry Holt BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-0-8050-9818-1
Spiders, bees, butterflies, bugs, and cockroaches are celebrated in brief, humorous verse. Lively eye-catching watercolor and mixed-media illustrations. Back matter. (5-9)

***Family Poems for Every Day of the Week/Poemas familiares para cada día de la semana**

by Francisco X. Alarcón, illustrated by Maya Christina Gonzalez (Children's Book Press/Lee & Low, \$18.95) 978-0-89239-275-9
Bilingual poems celebrate the days of the week (explaining the origins of both the Spanish English words for them) and everyday experiences. Vibrant, stylized illustrations with folkloric touches. (5-9)

Feel the Beat: Dance Poems that Zing from Salsa to Swing

by Marilyn Singer, illustrated by Kristi Valiant (Dial BFYR/Penguin YR/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-8037-4021-1
From hip-hop to polka, each poem expresses the essence of a particular dance. Informative back matter and lively, colorful digital illustrations. CD included. (6-10)

***Fresh-Picked Poetry: A Day at the Farmers' Market**

by Michelle Schaub, illustrated by Amy Huntington (Charlesbridge, \$16.99) 978-1-58089-547-7
Two friends and their dogs relish a day in the world of fruit and vegetable stands. Animated mixed-media illustrations. (6-9)

***Hey Black Child**

by Useni Eugene Perkins, illustrated by Bryan Collier (Little, Brown and Company/Hachette, \$17.99) 978-0-316-36030-2
Dream big and go far. Written in 1975, this ode to black children is still powerful today. Evocative illustrations. Author's note. (5-9)

My Daddy Rules the World: Poems about Dads

written and illustrated by Hope Anita Smith (Christy Ottaviano Books/Henry Holt BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-0-8050-9189-2
Children share loving times with their fathers—from breakfast to ball playing and from reading to being best friends. Diverse torn paper illustrations. (6-10)

***A New School Year: Stories in Six Voices**

by Sally Derby, illustrated by Mika Song (Charlesbridge, \$16.99) 978-1-58089-730-3
Before, during, and after the first day of school, six kids start school with their own fears, hopes, and worries about it. Watercolor and ink illustrations. (5-8)

* = Outstanding Merit



= Read Aloud

(5-8) = Suggested Age Range



= Graphic Format

Poetry, continued**The Road Home**

by Katie Cotton, illustrated by Sarah Jacoby (Abrams BFYR, \$15.95) 978-1-4197-2374-2
Lyrical text and soft watercolor illustrations with muted, distancing perspective follow four different animals sharing the harsh realities of survival in the wild as they journey to find a safe home. (6-9)

**That Is My Dream!**

by Langston Hughes, illustrated by Daniel Miyares (Schwartz & Wade Books/Random House/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-399-55017-1
Appealing soft gouache paintings interpret Hughes's "Dream Variations" through the eyes of a child experiencing joy and dreaming of inclusion during the era of segregation. (6-9)

We Are Shining

by Gwendolyn Brooks, illustrated by Jan Spivey Gilchrist (Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-257066-6
Honoring the renowned African American poet on her 100th anniversary, this inspiring, life-affirming poem celebrates diversity. Sweeping lyrical and vibrant illustrations. (5-8)

INFORMATION BOOKS**Activities****The Art Lesson: A Shavuot Story**

by Allison Marks and Wayne Marks, illustrated by Annie Wilkinson (Kar-Ben/Lerner, P \$7.99) 978-1-4677-8173-2
In Shoshanna's art classes, the love of art, Jewish culture, and artists is passed down from one generation to the next. Colorful digital illustrations. (6-9)

**Meditate with Me: A Step-by-Step Mindfulness Journey**

by Mariam Gates, illustrated by Margarita Surnaite (Dial BFYR/Penguin YR/PRH, \$17.99) 978-0-399-18661-5
Learn how you can notice and negotiate your own emotions by focusing on your breath and the sensations of the body. Helpful, colorful digital illustrations. (5-7)

Arts***Balderdash!: John Newbery and the Boisterous Birth of Children's Books**

by Michelle Markel, illustrated by Nancy Carpenter (Chronicle Books, \$17.99) 978-0-8118-7922-4
In 1700s London, a publisher combines his love of reading and children into a new industry: books for children. Back matter. Digitized pen and ink illustrations. (7-10)

Becoming Bach

written and illustrated by Tom Leonard (A Neal Porter Book/Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-1-62672-286-6
Johann Sebastian hears beautiful patterns in musical notes and creates a rich bounty of instrumental and vocal music. Ornate, colorful illustrations. Back matter. (6-9)

***Fallingwater: The Building of Frank Lloyd Wright's Masterpiece**

by Marc Harshman and Anna Egan Smucker, illustrated by LeUyen Pham (Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$18.99) 978-1-59643-718-0
Incorporating the rocks and water of its surroundings, a unique home arises in Pennsylvania. Beautiful, detailed illustrations follow the long, meticulous architectural process. (6-9)

Fantastic Flowers

written and illustrated by Susan Stockdale (Peachtree, \$16.95) 978-1-56145-952-0
Rhyming text and big, bright illustrations invite readers to visualize flowers as ballerinas, bats, or bumblebees. Back matter includes photographs. (5-8)

* = Outstanding Merit



= Read Aloud

(5-8) = Suggested Age Range



= Graphic Format

Arts, continued**Frida Kahlo and Her Animalitos**

by Monica Brown, illustrated by John Parra
(NorthSouth Books, \$17.95) 978-0-7358-4269-4
Kahlo's art was always influenced by her relationship with her beloved pets. Acrylic illustrations evoke her style. (6-9)

Keith Haring: The Boy Who Just Kept Drawing

by Kay A. Haring, illustrated by Robert Neubecker
(Dial BFYR/Penguin YR/PRH, \$16.99) 978-0-525-42819-0
Digitized art captures the iconic creations of a young artist who drew on vinyl, streets, buildings, and subway walls—all inspired by break dancing. Back matter. (7-10)

Masterpiece Mix

written and illustrated by Roxie Munro
(Holiday House, \$16.95) 978-0-8234-3912-6
An artist describes her materials and her sources of inspiration: paintings from throughout the centuries. Mixed-media illustrations incorporate famous works of art. Notes on the paintings. (6-10)

**The Nutcracker in Harlem**

by T. E. McMorrow, illustrated by James Ransome
(Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-117598-5
In 1920s Harlem, a prominent African American family celebrates Christmas, and Marie finds herself in a dream of the Nutcracker ballet. Handsome watercolor paintings. (5-8)

**What Is Hip-Hop?**

by Eric Morse, illustrated by Anny Yi
(Black Sheep/Akashic, \$15.95) 978-1-61775-584-2
Rhyming verse and clay figure illustrations tell the story of hip-hop from its DJ beginnings to the work of artists of today, including female rappers. (7-9)

What's Your Favorite Color?

written and illustrated by Eric Carle and others
(Godwin Books/Henry Holt/Macmillan, \$17.99)
978-0-8050-9614-9
With fascinating variety and creativity, 15 illustrators of children's books present their favorite colors and styles. Includes biographies of the artists. (6-8)

Biography and Memoir***Alexander Graham Bell Answers the Call**

written and illustrated by Mary Ann Fraser
(Charlesbridge, \$16.99) 978-1-58089-721-1
Aleck's mother was deaf and his father was a speech therapist. Insatiably curious, Aleck experimented with sound, leading to many inventions—most famously, the telephone. Photographs and mixed-media illustrations. (6-9)

Before She Was Harriet

by Lesa Cline-Ransome, illustrated by James E. Ransome
(Holiday House, \$17.95) 978-0-8234-2047-6
Harriet Tubman's diverse roles as suffragist, general, union spy, Aunt Harriet, Minty, and Araminta are described in lyrical poems. Emotive, painterly, full-color illustrations. (5-7)

***A Boy, a Mouse, and a Spider: The Story of E. B. White**

by Barbara Herkert, illustrated by Lauren Castillo
(Christy Ottaviano Books/Henry Holt BFYR/Macmillan, \$18.99) 978-1-62779-245-5
A boy's love of animals, especially mice and spiders, leads to writing beloved children's stories. Expressive ink, watercolor, and foam press illustrations. Back matter. (6-9)

***Chef Roy Choi and the Street Food Remix**

by Jacqueline Briggs Martin and June Jo Lee, illustrated by Man One
(Readers to Eaters, \$18.95) 978-0-9836615-9-7
A naturalized American brings wholesome, flavorful food to low-income Los Angeles neighborhoods. Layered, graffiti-style artwork. Back matter. (6-9)

* = Outstanding Merit



= Read Aloud

(5-8) = Suggested Age Range



= Graphic Format

Biography and Memoir, continued***Danza!: Amalia Hernández and El Ballet Folklórico de México**

written and illustrated by Duncan Tonatiuh (Abrams BFYR, \$18.95) 978-1-4197-2532-6
Adapting her country's folkloric dance traditions for the stage, a classically trained ballerina created a modern institution. Mixtec-inspired illustrations. (6-9)

***Grace Hopper: Queen of Computer Code**

by Laurie Wallmark, illustrated by Katy Wu (Sterling Children's Books/Sterling Publishing, \$16.95) 978-1-4549-2000-7

With wit, grit, and brilliance, a Navy admiral and pioneer of computer programming earned the title "Amazing Grace." Humorous illustrations. Timeline, bibliography, and list of Hopper's honors. (6-9)

John Deere, That's Who

by Tracy Nelson Maurer, illustrated by Tim Zeltner (Henry Holt and Co. BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-1-62779-129-8

John Deere, a blacksmith, invented a new plow in the 1830s that revolutionized farming on the prairies. Illustrated with acrylic paint on plywood. (7-9)

Lighter than Air: Sophie Blanchard, the First Woman Pilot

by Matthew Clark Smith, illustrated by Matt Tavares (Candlewick Press, \$16.99) 978-0-7636-7732-9
In the early 19th century, Blanchard became the first woman to pilot a hot air balloon alone. Ink and watercolor illustrations. Notes and bibliography. (7-9)

Listen: How Pete Seeger Got America Singing

by Leda Schubert, illustrated by Raúl Colón (A Neal Porter Book/Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-1-62672-250-7
The inspiring singer-songwriter and activist created music to support the causes he championed and brought people together with song. Expressive color illustrations. Timeline, source notes, and bibliography. (6-9)

Malala's Magic Pencil

by Malala Yousafzai, illustrated by Kerascoët (Little, Brown and Company/Hachette, \$17.99) 978-0-316-31957-7

Learn how the young Pakistani winner of the Nobel Peace Prize is fulfilling her childhood dream of changing the world through the power of the pencil. Evocative ink and watercolor illustrations. (5-8)

***Martí's Song for Freedom/Martí y sus versos por la libertad**

by Emma Otheguy, with excerpts from *Versos sencillos* by José Martí, illustrated by Beatriz Vidal, Spanish translation by Adriano Dominguez, English translation of excerpts from *Versos sencillos* by Emma Otheguy (Children's Book Press/Lee & Low, \$17.95) 978-0-89239-375-6

The life of the Cuban poet and crusader for justice is recounted in this sensitive bilingual portrayal in verse. Detailed folk-style gouache illustrations. (7-10)

Maya Lin: Artist-Architect of Light and Lines

by Jeanne Walker Harvey, illustrated by Dow Phumiruk (Christy Ottaviano Books/Henry Holt BFYR/Macmillan, \$17.99) 978-1-250-11249-2
The daughter of Chinese immigrants, Lin became a creator of celebrated art and architecture, including the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Watercolor and Photoshop illustrations. Author's note. (7-9)

The Music of Life: Bartolomeo Cristofori & the Invention of the Piano

by Elizabeth Rusch, illustrated by Marjorie Priceman (Atheneum BFYR/ Simon & Schuster, \$17.99) 978-1-4814-4484-2
Dissatisfied with the limitations of 17th-century keyboard instruments, an Italian craftsman created the more nuanced pianoforte. Colorful, expressive period-style illustrations. Extensive back matter. (6-9)

* = Outstanding Merit



= Read Aloud

(5-8) = Suggested Age Range



= Graphic Format

Biography and Memoir, continued**Pocket Full of Colors: The Magical World of Mary Blair, Disney Artist Extraordinaire**

by Amy Guglielmo and Jacqueline Tourville, illustrated by Brigitte Barrager

(Atheneum BFYR/ Simon & Schuster, \$17.99)

978-1-4814-6131-3

Mary Blair saw the world in vivid colors and was ultimately able to bring them to Disney Studios. Digitally rendered illustrations in bold hues. (5-8)

Ruth Bader Ginsburg: The Case of R. B. G. vs. Inequality

by Jonah Winter, illustrated by Stacy Innerst

(Abrams BFYR, \$18.95) 978-1-4197-2559-3

As a Jewish woman and a mother, Ruth Bader Ginsburg faced many hurdles before becoming the second woman to serve on the US Supreme Court. Muted gouache, ink, and Photoshop illustrations. (7-9)

**The Shape of the World: A Portrait of Frank Lloyd Wright**

by K. L. Going, illustrated by Lauren Stringer

(Beach Lane Books/Simon & Schuster, \$17.99)

978-1-4424-7821-3

Long before becoming a famous architect, a boy saw beauty in shapes and nature. Mixed-media illustrations based on Wright's designs. (6-9)

**She Persisted: 13 American Women Who Changed the World**

by Chelsea Clinton, illustrated by Alexandra Boiger

(Philomel Books/Penguin Random House, \$17.99)

978-1-5247-4172-3

Meet labor activist Clara Lemlich, dancer Maria Tallchief, and 11 other women who never took "no" for an answer. Vibrant mixed-media illustrations. (7-9)

**Strong as Sandow: How Eugen Sandow Became the Strongest Man on Earth**

written and illustrated by Don Tate

(Charlesbridge, \$17.99) 978-1-58089-628-3

Through exercise and healthy living, a sickly boy, born in the 19th century, builds himself up to be a man of steel. Digitally drawn illustrations. (6-9)

Take a Picture of Me, James VanDerZee!

by Andrea J. Loney, illustrated by Keith Mallett

(Lee & Low Books, \$19.95) 978-1-62014-260-8

Taking photos of Harlem for 80 years, VanDerZee created a history of the famous African American neighborhood and a new view of its residents. Painterly illustrations and photographs. Afterword and other back matter. (7-9)

***The World Is Not a Rectangle: A Portrait of Architect Zaha Hadid**

written and illustrated by Jeanette Winter

(Beach Lane Books/Simon & Schuster, \$17.99) 978-1-

4814-4669-3

An award-winning Muslim Iraqi female architect incorporated her loving view of nature in her unique buildings. Colorful, evocative illustrations capture Hadid's creations. (7-10)

Ecology**The Water Walker**

written and illustrated by Joanne Robertson

(Second Story Press, \$16.95) 978-1-77260-038-4

Nokomis loves water but learns that it is in danger. Along with the Mother Earth water walkers, she walks to raise awareness that we must protect our environment. Folk-style illustrations. (7-9)

History**The Founding Fathers Were Spies!: Revolutionary War (Secrets of American History series)**

by Patricia Lakin, illustrated by Valerio Fabbretti

(Simon Spotlight/Simon & Schuster, P \$3.99) 978-1-

4814-9969-9

This lively chapter book presents the founding fathers of the United States and their spying activities.

Appealing, humorous illustrations. Activities and quiz. (6-8)

* = Outstanding Merit



= Read Aloud

(5-8) = Suggested Age Range



= Graphic Format

History, continued**Heroes Who Risked Everything for Freedom: Civil War (Secrets of American History series)**

by Patricia Lakin, illustrated by Valerio Fabbretti
(Simon Spotlight/Simon & Schuster, HC \$16.99, P \$3.99
(HC 978-1-4814-9973-6; P 978-1-4814-9972-9)

Spies—especially women and people of color—played an important role in the Civil War. Learn about their methods and their bravery. Appealing, cartoon-like illustrations. (7-9)

How the Cookie Crumbled: The True (and Not-So-True) Stories of the Invention of the Chocolate Chip Cookie

written and illustrated by Gilbert Ford
(Atheneum BFYR/ Simon & Schuster, \$17.99)
978-1-4814-5067-6

When were chocolate chip cookies first baked, and how was the recipe created? Bold, colorful digital illustrations. (7-9)

Revolutionary Rogues: John André and Benedict Arnold

by Selene Castrovilla, illustrated by John O'Brien
(Calkins Creek/Highlights, \$17.95) 978-1-62979-341-2
During the Revolutionary War, an American soldier, seeking glory, fooled a British soldier into undermining George Washington's army. Pen-and-ink and watercolor illustrations. Back matter. (7-9)

Secret Agents! Sharks! Ghost Armies!: World War II (Secrets of American History series)

by Laurie Calkhoven, illustrated by Valerio Fabretti
(Simon Spotlight/Simon & Schuster, P \$3.99) 978-1-4814-9948-4

Learn about the tricks and tactics Americans used to fool the enemy during World War II. Amusing illustrations. Back matter. (6-8)

***The Secret Project**

by Jonah Winter, illustrated by Jeannette Winter
(Beach Lane Books/Simon & Schuster, \$17.99)
978-4814-6913-5

During World War II, scientists gathered in a secret spot in the New Mexico desert to develop the atomic bomb before the Nazis did. Folk-art style illustrations. (7-10)

Sergeant Reckless: The True Story of the Little Horse Who Became a Hero

by Patricia McCormick, illustrated by Iacopo Bruno
(Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, \$17.99)
978-0-06-229259-9

During the Korean War, American Marines adopt an always-hungry horse who lived with them, transported munitions, and helped save lives. Realistic colored pencil illustrations. Back matter. (7-9)

***The Youngest Marcher: The Story of Audrey Faye Hendricks, a Young Civil Rights Activist**

by Cynthia Levinson, illustrated by Vanessa Brantley Newton
(Atheneum BFYR/ Simon & Schuster, \$17.99)
978-1-4814-0070-1

Nine-year-old Audrey joined the 1963 Birmingham Children's March to protest segregation and spent a week in jail afterward. Lively, retro-style digital collage illustrations. Back matter. (5-8)

Holidays and Religion**A Different Kind of Passover**

by Linda Leopold-Strauss, illustrated by Jeremy Tugeau
(Kar-Ben/Lerner, P \$7.99) 978-1-5124-0102-8
Grandfather is too ill to lead the seder. The family is distraught until Jessica finds a solution that preserves tradition, with a few changes. Color illustrations. (6-9)

Jingle Bells

by James Pierpont, illustrated by Susan Jeffers
(Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-236020-5
Lively watercolor and ink illustrations accompany the lyrics to this popular wintertime song. (5-8)

* = Outstanding Merit



= Read Aloud

(5-8) = Suggested Age Range



= Graphic Format

Holidays and Religion, continued**Yo Soy Muslim: A Father's Letter to His Daughter**

by Mark Gonzales, illustrated by Mehrdokht Amini (Salaam Reads/Simon & Schuster, \$17.99)

978-1-4814-8936-2

With poetic visions rendered in vibrant, dynamic digital illustrations, a father teaches his child pride in her Muslim and Latin heritage. (5-8)

Parenting**Ready, Set . . . Baby!**

by Elizabeth Rusch, illustrated by Qin Leng (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$17.99) 978-0-544-47272-3

Two siblings share their personal experiences and offer detailed, informative, comical insights about adjusting to a new baby. Includes tips for parents. Animated, cartoonlike watercolor illustrations. (5-8)

***Who Are You?: The Kid's Guide to Gender****Identity**

by Brook Pessin-Whedbee, illustrated by Naomi Bardoff (Jessica Kingsley Publishers, \$18.95) 978-1-78592-728-7

In this accessible guide, the concept of gender is broken down into categories of body, identity, and expression. Back matter and bold illustrations support further discussion. (6-8)

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics)**Animals Do, Too!: How They Behave Just Like You**

by Etta Kaner, illustrated by Marilyn Faucher (Kids Can Press, \$16.95) 978-1-77138-569-5

Animals dance, play leapfrog, tag, and piggyback, grow food, and even blow bubbles, with important purposes. Humorous watercolor illustrations. (6-8)

Book of Bones: 10 Record-Breaking Animals

by Gabrielle Balkan, illustrated by Sam Brewster (Phaidon, \$19.95) 978-0-7148-7512-5

Which animal has the biggest bone? The smallest? The heaviest? Black-and-white and color illustrations. Back matter. (5-8)

Caroline's Comets: A True Story

written and illustrated by Emily Arnold McCully (Holiday House, \$16.95) 978-0-8234-3664-4

In the 18th century, Caroline Herschel worked with her brother, an astronomer. Studying the heavens through telescopes, she discovered comets. Pen, ink, and watercolor illustrations. Back matter. (6-9)

Curious about Worms

by Kate Waters

(Grosset & Dunlap/PRH, \$3.99) 978-0-451-53369-2

Learn about diverse types of worms, their habitats, and their important roles in their ecosystems. Colorful photographs. Glossary. (6-8)

Droughts (Let's-Read-and-Find-Out Science series)

by Melissa Stewart, illustrated by André Ceolin

(Harper/HarperCollins, \$17.99) 978-0-06-238666-3

What causes a drought? How can we conserve water? Colorful illustrations accompany clear, simple text. Includes experiment activities. (6-8)

- **Extreme Animals series**

Deadliest!: 20 Dangerous Animals (978-1-328-84170-4)**Trickiest!: 19 Sneaky Animals** (978-1-328-84195-7)

written and illustrated by Steve Jenkins

(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, P \$5.99 each)

Fascinating presentations of extreme animals who use poison, speed, camouflage, and other methods to trick or attack. Detailed cut-paper collage illustrations. (7-10)

Give Bees a Chance

written and illustrated by Bethany Barton

(Viking/Penguin YR/PRH, \$16.99) 978-0-670-01694-5

Can exuberant watercolors, comic-style cartoons, and poster-style text buzzing with facts convince Edgar to respect an endangered species? (5-8)

* = Outstanding Merit



= Read Aloud

(5-8) = Suggested Age Range



= Graphic Format

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics), continued***Hawk Mother: The Story of a Red-Tailed Hawk Who Hatched Chickens**

written and photographed by Kara Hagedorn
(Web of Life Children's Books, \$16.95)
978-0-9883303-7-5

A zoologist establishes a longtime relationship with a wounded raptor, even enabling her to experience her maternal instincts. Emotionally evocative full-page photographs. (7-10)

***The Hidden Life of a Toad**

written and photographed by Doug Wechsler
(Charlesbridge, \$17.99) 978-1-58089-738-9
Discover the day-to-day life cycle of toads, from embryo to adult. Brightly colored, detailed photographs. Glossary, bibliography. (7-10)

How to Be an Elephant: Growing Up in the African Wild

written and illustrated by Katherine Roy
(David Macaulay Studio/Macmillan, \$18.99)
978-1-62672-178-4
Bold, well-labeled illustrations and engaging, informative text give a clear picture of the life of an African elephant. Well resourced. (5-9)

I Know Numbers!

written and illustrated by Taro Gomi
(Chronicle Books, \$15.99) 978-1-4521-5918-8
Vibrant illustrations show readers the many uses of numbers. (5-7)

Lines, Bars and Circles: How William Playfair Invented Graphs

by Helaine Becker, illustrated by Marie-Ève Tremblay
(Kids Can Press, \$17.95) 978-1-77138-570-1
The 18th-century Scottish mathematician was considered a failure in his time but created revolutionary systems for organizing information. Clever, useful illustrations. (6-9)

Magnets Push, Magnets Pull

by David A. Adler, illustrated by Anna Raff
(Holiday House, \$16.95) 978-0-8234-3669-9
Follow this very clear and accessible explanation of magnetism, and then grab some magnets and have fun doing tricks! Illustrated with ink washes assembled and colored digitally. (5-8)

***Over and Under the Pond**

by Kate Messner, illustrated by Christopher Silas Neal
(Chronicle Books, \$16.99) 978-1-4521-4542-6
Simple, clear text and mixed-media illustrations show life on the surface of the water and beneath it as a mother and son explore pond life from their rowboat. (5-8)

***Rivers of Sunlight: How the Sun Moves Water around the Earth**

by Molly Bang and Penny Chisholm, illustrated by Molly Bang
(Blue Sky Press/Scholastic, \$18.99) 978-0-545-80541-4
The sun's energy cycles water all over the earth, keeping it in balance. Now that balance is changing. What can people do to help restore it? Bold, colorful illustrations. Detailed back matter. (6-9)

***Robins!: How They Grow Up**

written and illustrated by Eileen Christelow
(Clarion Books/HMH, \$16.99) 978-0-544-44289-4
Two robins provide highlights of their young lives while the text narrates the main story. Comic-book panels with painterly illustrations. Back matter. (7-10)

***The Search for Olinguito: Discovering a New Species**

by Sandra Markle
(Millbrook Press/Lerner, \$30.65) 978-1-5124-1015-0
Follow the trail from museum collections to cloud forests in Ecuador as young scientists trace, research, and present a new species to the world. Photographs, maps, back matter. (7-10)

* = Outstanding Merit



= Read Aloud

(5-8) = Suggested Age Range



= Graphic Format

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics), continued**The Secret Life of the Red Fox**by Laurence Pringle, illustrated by Kate Garchinsky
(Boyd's Mills Press/Highlights, \$16.95)

978-1-62979-260-6

Haunting, realistic illustrations dramatize a year in the life of the red fox, Vixen, as she hunts, avoids danger, finds a mate, and raises her kits to maturity. (5-8)

***Shell, Beak, Tusk: Shared Traits and the Wonders of Adaptation**

by Bridget Heos

(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$16.99) 978-0-544-81166-9

Animals with seemingly nothing in common share traits that allow them to eat rather than be eaten.

Illuminating photographs. Index, bibliography. (6-8)

***Spiders!: Strange and Wonderful**by Laurence Pringle, illustrated by Meryl Henderson
(Boyd's Mills Press/Highlights, \$17.95)

978-1-62979-321-4

Learn how spiders eat, mate, protect themselves, spin their webs, and more. Precise and detailed full-color drawings. (7-10)

**The Story of Space: A First Book about the Universe**

by Catherine Barr and Steve Williams, illustrated by Amy Husband

(Frances Lincoln Children's Books/Quarto Pub., \$18.99)

978-1-78603-003-0

Learn about our universe and how we explore it. Vivid full-page illustrations. (7-9)

Thirsty, Thirsty Elephantsby Sandra Markle, illustrated by Fabricio VandenBroeck
(Charlesbridge, \$16.99) 978-1-58089-634-4

A herd of elephants, led by a wise grandmother, finds a lost watering hole, enabling the family to drink.

Expressive watercolors and acrylics. (5-8)

What Makes a Monster?: Discovering the World's Scariest Creatures (The World of Weird Animals series)by Jess Keating, illustrated by David DeGrand
(Alfred A. Knopf BFYR/Random House/PRH, \$17.99)

978-0-553-51230-4

Organisms with surprising traits and extreme adaptations are featured with photographs and humorous illustrations. Includes glossary. (6-9)

World**Around the World in a Bathtub: Bathing All over the Globe**by Wade Bradford, illustrated by Micha Archer
(Charlesbridge, \$16.99) 978-1-58089-544-6

Vivid mixed-media collages enrich the descriptions of children's bathing customs in several cultures. (5-7)

Birthdays around the Worldby Margriet Ruurs, illustrated by Ashley Barron
(Kids Can Press, \$18.99) 978-1-77138-624-1

Discover the different ways birthdays are celebrated in various cultures. Cut-paper collage and Photoshop illustrations. Glossary and back matter. (5-8)

This is How We Do It: One Day in the Lives of Seven Kids from around the Worldwritten and illustrated by Matt Lamothe
(Chronicle Books, \$17.99) 978-1-4521-5018-5

Experience a typical day for a child in India, Iran, Italy, Japan, Peru, Uganda, and Russia. Finely detailed illustrations. (6-8)

Where Will I Live?

by Rosemary McCarney

(Second Story Press, \$19.95) 978-1-77260-028-5

Through simple questions and moving photographs, this book describes the plight of refugee children. A useful discussion starter. (5-8)