Fiction for Older Teens

Godbersen, Anna  \textit{THE LUXE}

Elizabeth Holland (18) is one of the beautiful social elite in New York, 1899. She knows her social rules and follows them always. Her best friend, Penelope Hayes, is more daring and disdainful of propriety. Elizabeth and her younger sister, Diana, learn their family is on the brink of bankruptcy, since her father's death. The only thing to be done is for Elizabeth to marry Henry Schoonmaker, one of the most eligible (and wealthy) bachelors. Descriptions of dresses and hairstyles are scattered among this story of the social elite and those who serve them.

Godbersen, Anna  \textit{RUMORS}

Times are hard for the Hollands. Mrs. Holland is sending Diana out on dates to find a beau, even though Elizabeth has only been gone for 2 months. Another title in the series, \textit{Envy}, will be out in January.

Pfeffer, Susan Beth  \textit{THE DEAD & THE GONE}

A companion book to Life As We Knew It. Alex Morales (17) and his younger sisters, Briana and Julie, must find a way to survive in New York City after an asteroid hits the moon, bringing natural disasters, and neither of their parents ever came home. Grim – some hard decisions are made by Alex; and yet it is still hopeful.
Nonfiction for Teens

Finkelstein, Norman H. *THREE ACROSS: The Great Transatlantic Air Race of 1927*

The 1927 Orteig Prize, $25,000 was promised to the first person to fly nonstop across the Atlantic. Tells of Charles Lindbergh, Charles A. Levine (a shyster) and Arctic explorer Richard E. Byrd each attempting to win the prize.

Krull, Kathleen *MARIE CURIE* (Giants of Science series)

Another title in her Giants of Science series, Krull again does an excellent job of chronicling Marie Curie’s life, with both her triumphs and her not-so-pleasant sides.

Marrin, Albert *THE GREAT ADVENTURE: Theodore Roosevelt & the Rise of Modern America*

A grand look at Theodore Roosevelt and our nation’s history during his time.

Fiction for Younger Teens

Abrahams, Peter *INTO THE DARK AN ECHO FALLS MYSTERY*

(Echo Falls Mystery, #3) Grampy is hiding something, and when the conservation agent, Harris Thatcher, is found murdered on his property, Grampy is under arrest. His granddaughter, Ingrid Levin-Hill (13) is determined to clear him.

Carey, Mike *RE-GIFTERS*

Jen Dik Seong - Dixie - lives in Los Angeles and studies hapkido, a martial art. She has fallen for Adam, and gives him an expensive gift. He does not return her feelings. She had spent the money for her entry fee into the hapkido tournament on his gift, and now must try to win a contest for the free entry prize. A graphic novel.

Clements, Andrew *THINGS THAT ARE*
The 3rd book is the series is told from Alicia’s viewpoint. Robert, or Bobby, has just returned from New York and William has followed him. Does William really just want to return to normal – no longer be invisible – or is he a real threat to them both?

Delaney, Joseph  **WRATH OF THE BLOODEYE**  

(The Last Apprentice, Bk 5) The spook sends Tom Ward to apprentice with Bill Arkwright, skilled in dealing with water witches but a most demanding master. The devil is now after Tom and has sent his most dreadful water witch to capture and defeat him.

Ferris, Jean  **TWICE UPON A MARIGOLD**  

(Sequel to Once Upon a Marigold) A year after Queen Olympia fell into the river and Christian and Marigold were married -- Queen Olympia reappears. Her greatest desire is to rule the kingdom again and her selfish, evil ways are infecting others. Christian and Marigold try to find a way to overcome Olympia, they hire a wizard who is quite nice but really can't do anything to help. Then King Swithbert, Christian and his adopted troll father Ed are thrown in the dungeon.

Gaiman, Neil  **THE GRAVEYARD BOOK**  

A toddler escapes the house where his parents and older sister have been murdered and makes his way to the nearby graveyard. The inhabitants decide to grant him safety and protect him until he is grown. They name him Nobody Owens and call him Bod. He learns his lessons from the spirits (or ghosts) including learning to Fade. The graveyard residents know the murderer is still after him, and ask him to stay in the protection of the graveyard. Follows his life from age 18 months or so to 15. Great!

Gordon, Roderich & Brian Williams  **TUNNELS**  

Life is not typical for Will Burrows (14), who enjoys archeological digging (in London) as much as his father. They sometimes explore together and sometimes separately. Will has a hole he's working on alone, until he brings a friend along to help. After his father disappears, Nick and Chester follow him to discover a separate society living deep underground...and they do NOT like "topsoilers." As reviewers have said, the fist underground society they encounter is somewhat Victorian/Dickensian; also it has a slow start but becomes quite engaging. The first book of a new series.

Hobbs, Will  **GO BIG OR GO HOME**  
Extreme sports enthusiasts, Brady Steele (14) and his cousin Quinn get together often to bike ride in the South Dakota badlands. One night when he is home alone a meteorite falls through Brady's roof. In the next few days Brady realizes he can out-bike and out-dunk Quinn (never could before) and he has lightning quick reactions. Is it the results of microbes in the meteorite? And are they doing good, or harm?

Landy, Derek  *PLAYING WITH FIRE*  (Skulduggery Pleasant, #2)  

Stephanie Edgely, 12, has changed her name to Valkyrie Cain since becoming an apprentice to Skulduggery Pleasant in his fight against evil. Baron Vengeous is going to try to raise a legendary unkillable monster. Humor, adventure and danger are wrapped up together in this supernatural tale.

Mazer, Norma Fox  *THE MISSING GIRL*  

Five sisters: Beauty, Mim, Stevie, Fancy and Autumn go about their lives, hurrying to school and home again. Never noticing the man who is fascinated by them, and is carefully choosing his favorite. A parent’s nightmare when one girl goes missing. Tense drama in this psychological thriller – it is sure to be popular with teens.

Murdock, Catherine Gilbert  *PRINCESS BEN*  

An original fairy tale, borrowing parts from many others, tells of Princess Ben (Benevolence), orphaned at age 15. Her carefree life is replaced with small meals, lessons in embroidery, and "conversation" which she detests. She and Queen Sophia (her aunt) have one clash too many and Ben ends up locked in a tower. Here she finds a secret passageway and a wizard's book of spells. Her real education begins. The neighboring country is planning to take over her beloved Montagne, and Ben is determined to find a way to defeat them.

Myers, Walter Dean  *GAME*  

Drew Lawson is determined to get to college, and basketball is his ticket. He is without doubt Harlem High School’s best player. Then the coach brings in a new – white - player who could take the scouts’ interest. Drew is challenged to listen better to the coach, be a team player, and keep his cool for the rest of the season. In English class they are studying Othello, and savvy readers may note some similarities between the play and the basketball situation.

Sanderson, Brandon  *ALCATRAZ VERSUS THE EVIL LIBRARIANS*  
Alcatraz Smedry has a talent for breaking things. He learns he is an Oculator, and helps his grandfather retrieve the Sands of ? from the downtown library, the lair of the evil librarians. Hilarious, quirky, silly, adventure story - with more to come.

Springer, Nancy  *THE CASE OF THE PECULIAR PINK FAN: An Enola Holmes Mystery*  

(Bk 4) Enola is still avoiding her brothers (Mycroft & Sherlock) and solving small mysteries when she coincidently encounters Lady Cecily (from bk 2) who is unable to talk with her, but desperately needs her help to escape an arranged marriage. Another well-plotted addition to the series, and Enola continues to be an intelligent, independent young lady of 14.

Trueman, Terry  *HURRICANE: A Novel*  

The March 1998 Hurricane (Mitch) hit Central America with terrible devastation. Trueman writes of a small town in Honduras and the aftermath of that powerful storm. José (age 13) and his family live on the edge of their small town. When he steps outside, everything is gone, swept away and/or covered in mud. His family's nightmare has just begun -- there are a few survivors, but José's father, sister, and older brother had driven to San Pedro Sula, 17 miles away. Will they come home?

**Fiction for Grades 2-5 (or so)**

Barrows, Annie  *IVY & BEAN TAKE CARE OF THE BABYSITTER*  

(Ivy & Bean, Bk 4) Bean is discouraged to learn her older sister, Nancy, is going to babysit her for the afternoon as a trial for the future. When Ivy comes over, they both end up showing Nancy that babysitting really is a lot of work.

Belton, Sandra  *THE TALLEST TREE*  

Little Catfish (Douglass) is 8, and learns about Paul Robeson from an elderly neighbor. He is fascinated by tales of the man, and little by little small positive changes begin to take place in their dying neighborhood.

Buckingham, Royce  *GOBLINS!: An UnderEarth Adventure*  
PJ, 17, the somewhat delinquent son of the sheriff of the small town, and Sam Hill (12), borrow the police car and soon find themselves underground. Sam has been captured by goblins and PJ has been shanghaied by two guardians, whose responsibility it is to keep the goblins from finding the surface. Great adventure for boys, goblin names such as Eww-Yuk and Bargle are only the beginning. This is likely the start of a series.

Cabot, Meg *MOVING DAY* (Allie Finkle’s Rules For Girls, Bk 1)

Allie (9) has strong opinions. She does NOT want to move from their suburban home to a potentially haunted need-work older home. So she tries to sabotage the process. Allie slowly finds the move is going to happen, and it may not be as bad as she thinks. She will appeal to readers fond of Junie B and Ramona, also assertive young girls.

Colfer, Eoin & Andrew Donkin *ARTEMIS FOWL: The Graphic Novel*

The first book of the series retold in graphic novel format. Occasional dossiers on characters and types of equipment add to the fun. Sure to be popular. Full color throughout.

Creech, Sharon *HATE THAT CAT*

A follow-up to *Love That Dog*, Jack is now in 5th grade and his teacher has followed him there from 4th grade. Jack’s experience with cats (a mean neighborhood fat black cat) sets his opinion – they’re no good. His poetry through the school year again shows him learning and growing. Equal to the first book. Excellent.

DiTerlizzi, Tony & Holly Black *THE NIXIE’S SONG* (Beyond the Spiderwick Chronicles, Bk 1)

(Beyond the Spiderwick Chronicles, Bk 1 – of 3) Nick Vargas has a brother, Jules, and now his dad has remarried and he has a new stepsister, Laurie. Trouble begins when Laurie shares the Field Guide and the “sight” with Nick – who wants nothing to do with fairies and other creatures. There is something happening, though; Nick and Laurie may need help to deal with it. Certain to appeal to fans of the first series.

DiTerlizzi, Tony & Holly Black *A GIANT PROBLEM* (Beyond the Spiderwick Chronicles, Bk 2)

(Beyond the Spiderwick Chronicles, Bk 2 – of 3 – 3 not out yet) Giants are awakening, fighting and burning the land. Nick, Jules and Laurie work out a way to deal with them. Only to learn the giants will be needed to deal with something horrible in book 3.
Fontes, Justine & Ron  *CAPTURED BY PIRATES*  (Twisted Journeys, #1)  

(Twisted Journeys, #1) (there are at least 5 titles available now)  
Part graphic novel, part "Choose Your Own Adventure" type story, this will definitely appeal to reluctant readers. Not BB, but something to know about, and likely to be popular.

Forester, Victoria  *THE GIRL WHO COULD FLY*  
Piper McCloud lives on a farm with her parents, and one day she discovers she can fly. After a sensation play in baseball at the town picnic, the media arrives en mass and their home is besieged. A military helicopter takes Piper away to a safe place where she will be protected along with other children with special abilities. But Dr. Letitia Hellion may not be the benevolent person she presents to the children.

Gaiman, Neil  *CORALINE*  (the graphic novel)  

Graphic novel version of the story with color illustrations throughout.

Harper, Charles Mericle  *STILL JUST GRACE*  
Grace misses school for three days while she & her parents help her grandmother move to an apartment. When she returns, it looks like her best friend, Mimi is going to be best friends with Max and Sammy. To make things worse, Grace has to be project partners with Grace W. and Grace F. (the Big Meanie)! Things couldn't be worse. Numerous cartoon-type drawings add to the story.

Hurwitz, Johanna  *SQUIRREL WORLD*  

(Park Pals Adventure, Bk. 4) Lexi is thrilled that spring has arrived, and so have her pals Peewee, Plush & their new litter. Lexi's cousin, Lenox, talks her into visiting the street she was named after. Their adventures are fun until they are captured and put in a store display window.

Jacques, Brian  *REDWALL*  (The graphic novel)  
The story now told in graphic novel format. The abbey is threatened by Cluny (evil rat) and his gang, one mouse goes in search of the sword of Martin the Warrior, sure that it will lead them all to victory. (I haven’t read the text version so I can’t compare them.) Black-and-white art.

Kerrin, Jessica Scott  
**MARTIN BRIDGE THE SKY’S THE LIMIT!**  

(Bk 7) The quality continues with Book 7 in this series. Contains two stories. The first focuses on Martin's Junior Badgers troop, invited to watch the fireworks from the harbor master’s trawler. But Martin’s best friend Alex is home with the chicken pox and won’t be able to go. With an illustration on almost every two-page spread, young readers will feel comfortable with Martin.

Kibuishi, Kazu  
**THE STONEKEEPER** (The Amulet, Bk. 1)  

(Bk 1 of this graphic novel series – “The Amulet”) Emily and Navin must rescue their mother, taken by a tentacled beast to a secret land found by traveling passageways under the old family house. Full-color artwork and lots of adventure will appeal to young readers.

King-Smith, Dick  
**DINOSAUR TROUBLE**  

A young pterodactyl and a young Apatosaurus strike up a friendship despite their parents opinions of the others – “They only have 2 legs;” and “they can’t fly!” Nosy and Banty become friends, and soon both families are thick in the middle of a scheme to thwart the monstrous Gargantua, a huge T. Rex!

Korman, Gordon  
**SWINDLE**  

Griffin Bing (6th grader) is "The Man with the Plan" -- he finds an old baseball card in the old Rockford house the night before it is demolished. He is swindled by the local collectible dealer and now is determined to get the card back. With the help of his best friend, Ben, and a carefully selected group of 6th graders, they put the plan into action. Entertaining, contains a strong theme of "kids don't get no respect" tempered with a healthy dose of "what was I thinking?" The humor, the close calls, a proactive group of kids -- all will appeal to readers.

LaFevers, R L.  
**THEODOSIA AND THE SERPENTS OF CHAOS**  

The early 1900s, London, Theodosia (11) helps her father with the work at his Museum of Legends and Antiquities, on the ancient artifacts her mother brings back from Egypt. (Of course, he has no idea of the value of her help.) Theodosia has a gift, she is "very good at ferreting out secrets. And
curses. You'd be surprised at how many things come into the museum loaded with curses--bad ones. Ancient, dark Egyptian-magic ones." (p. 4)

Lisle, Janet Taylor  **HIGHWAY CATS**  

Three kittens are abandoned on the highway, and they surprise the local feral cats by surviving. Slowly the cats come together in support of the kittens, and eventually fight a battle with town hall and bulldozers to try to save their strip of wilderness from development.

McDonald, Megan  **STINK AND THE GREAT GUINEA PIG EXPRESS**  

(Bk. 4) Stink (Judy Moody's younger brother) and his friends, Webster & Sophie, find 3 guinea pigs in Webster's back yard. They learn from Mrs. Birdwhistle, owner of Fur & Fangs pet store, that the 3 are part of a group of 101 guinea pigs rescued from an unheathly situation (a products testing lab). Now to find them all homes, the kids travel with Mrs. Birdwhistle and the guinea pigs to a Virginia Beach guinea pig rescue organization, stopping a few times to give away some guinea pigs. Lots of laughs, the kids take on responsibility, and readers will learn a little about rescuing animals and finding them safe homes. Each chapter has a one-page “Stink’s Furry Facts” giving guinea pig facts.

Morse, Scott  **MAGIC PICKLE**  

(graphic novel for kids, grade school) Jojo Wigman has quite a surprise when a "superpowered pickle" breaks up through the floor of her room. It turns out a secret lab was hidden below her room, and the pickle was in a frozen state of sleep until he was awakened to deal with "the Brotherhood of Evil Produce" -- the Phantom Carrot, Chili Chili Bang Bang, Squish Squash, and the Romaine Gladiator (among others). Lots of fun, especially when Jojo insists on helping.

Prineas, Sarah  **THE MAGIC THIEF**  

(Vol. 1 of a proposed trilogy) Conn-waer choose the wrong victim, he picks the pocket of the powerful wizard, Nevery, taking his locus magicalicus for only a moment or two. Next thing he knows he is apprenticed to the wizard, helping to learn why the magic is draining away from their town of Wellmet. Excellent fantasy that reads quickly.

Riddell, Chris  **OTTOLINE AND THE YELLOW CAT**  
Ottoline lives an unusual life in this farfetched but quite fun tale of cat burglary and missing pets. Ottoline's parents are explorers so she lives in a roomy apartment with Mr. Monroe, a silent body of hair (Cousin Itt) from the bog in Norway. She and Mr. Monroe work together to solve the mystery. More illustration than text, young readers should feel able to handle it.

Riordan, Rick  *THE MAZE OF BONES*  (The 39 Clues, Book 1)  

(The 39 Clues, Book 1)丹（11）和艾米（14）是孤儿和他们亲爱的姑妈格蕾丝·凯希尔的最爱。他们学习找到39个线索来解决他们已故亲爱的姑妈格蕾丝留下的谜团。坏亲戚，谜题来解决，大量的危险和冒险为这个10本书系列定下了一个良好的节奏。第1集是轰动！第2集，《One False Note》由戈登·科曼将于12月出版。

Soo, Kean  *JELLABY*  

A graphic novel for elementary age readers; Portia Bennett is awakened by a bad dream, looks out the window and sees a purple monster with small red wings and few red stripes walking on past her house & into the woods. She follows and ends up bringing the lost guy home. He follows her to school and soon ends up friends with Jason, as well. They decide to go into the city (on Halloween) go the the Halloween Fair and try to find where Jellaby belongs. The panel of Jason first seeing Jellaby, and the panels of Jellaby's reaction to the movie Godzilla, are particularly fun. Cliff hanger ending!

Yee, Wong Herbert  *ABRACADABRA! MAGIC WITH MOUSE AND MOLE*  

（Bk 2）Mole can't wait for Minkus the Magnificent to come to town and perform his magic. He is disappointed when the table collapses and he realizes the "magic" is only trickery. Mouse must find a way to cheer him up, so she plans a wonderful evening with "magic" in nature: fireflies, a plant whose leaves close when touched, and the moon. A wonderful story of friendship and caring.

**Nonfiction for Grades 2-5 (or so)**

Bishop, Nic  *FROGS*  

Amazing color photographs are the highlight of this title. Text gives solid, basic information about frogs and toads, and how they live in their habitat. One section folds out to four pages showing a frog in the stages of a leap into a pond. In the final 2-page spread the author talks about getting the photos for this book.
Bourgeois, Paulette  *THE DIRT ON DIRT*  

Excellent information on dirt, divided into manageable sections. Gross items are included early on. Features experiments children can try with suitable cautions included. Photographs and cartoon-like illustrations. Sure to be popular.

Faucald, Nick  *HOLY GUACAMOLE!: AND OTHER SCRUMPTIOUS SNACKS*  

14 recipes, from easy to advanced, are provided in this upbeat cookbook. Cautions are given both at the beginning of the book and with each recipe. The author noted he wanted children to have recipes for healthy snacks.

Halfmann, Janet  *SEVEN MILES TO FREEDOM: The Robert Smalls Story*  

A picture book for somewhat older readers, this tells of Robert Smalls’ childhood as a slave, and how, as an adult, he impersonated the captain and sailed off with a Confederate ship. He guided his family and others to freedom through danger, past 3 forts. His knowledge of navigation and the steam-whistle signals got them through.

Jenkins, Steve & Robin Page  *SISTERS & BROTHERS*  

Interesting tidbits about animal siblings, how they are quite similar to humans, OR quite different. For example: “nine-banded armadillos are always born as identical quadruplets – four brothers or four sisters.” Cut and torn paper illustrations by the master, Steve Jenkins. This is a great book for animal fans.

Kerley, Barbara  *WHAT TO DO ABOUT ALICE?*  

A humorous look at Teddy Roosevelt’s daughter, Alice. She was irrepressible and Teddy knew it. This picture book biography notes some of her accomplishments: visiting Cuba and Puerto Rico as goodwill ambassador. It also mentions some things she did that could be embarrassing to the President, such as (at age 17) joining her younger brothers and sisters in sledding on trays down the formal curving stairs of the White House. Readers will get of sense of her appeal, and her love for life.

Krensky, Stephen  *A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS: The Life of George Washington Carver*  
Hitting the highlights of his career, this biography provides a welcome introduction to the childhood and life of the famous agriculturalist. Includes a one-page timeline of his life.

Lewin, Ted and Betsy  **HORSE SONG: The Naadam of Mongolia**  

A visit to the land of Mongolia to see the Naadam, an annual day of horse races. The authors tell of their visit and what they have learned about the Mongolian people. Readers get a personal touch by following Tamir (9) and his family in their preparations and during the day of the races. A good introduction to another culture, with an exciting horse race to capture the reader. Excellent title.

Pringle, Laurence  **IMAGINE A DRAGON**  

Colorful illustrations accompany this overview of dragons. Pringle explores how people first began to believe in them, and the differences between Western and Eastern dragons.

Rapport, Doreen  **LADY LIBERTY: A Biography**  

20 poems tell of the Statue of Liberty’s history and facts such as her dimensions. Include a timeline and author’s note.

Rex, Adam  **FRANKENSTEIN TAKES THE CAKE**  

Sequel to Frankenstein Makes a Sandwich, this collection of 20 poems and humorous illustrations are sure to appeal to all who enjoyed the first book, and could win over some who missed the first book.

Rosen Michael J.  **OUR FARM: Four Seasons With Five Kids on One Family’s Farm**  

A look at farm life for one farm family. excellent photos – good sense of farm life for one family – emphasizes this is one family’s experiences, not universal for all farm families.

Ross, Kathy  **CRAFTS FOR KIDS WHO ARE LEARNING ABOUT DINOSAURS**  

22 crafts ranging from the simple “Quick Cup Dinosaur” to more complicated crafts such as “Hatching Baby Dinosaur” or “Spinosaurus Magnet.” Clear instructions with an illustration for
each step make each project possible. Each craft starts with an inset that lists all ingredients and tools needed.

Scieszka, Jon  **KNUCKLEHEAD: Tall Tales & Mostly True Stories of Growing Up Scieszka**  

Hilarious, informative autobiography of the popular author. Chapters are 2-3 pages long. Illustrated with family photos, clip art and photos of products of the time. The front & back cover are designed like a comic book of the time. Includes a couple of warnings to readers NOT to try the same things themselves.

Shaskan, Kathy  **HOW UNDERWEAR GOT UNDER THERE**  

A history of underwear, at least what is know about it, since people felt it impolite to talk about. This book will appeal to anyone with a little curiosity, and to boys who enjoy sniggering over bathroom humor. Body parts covered by underwear are referred to by name.

Simon, Seymour  **PENGUINS**  

Once again, excellent color photographs with Simon’s concise, language give an outstanding introduction to the topic.

Yep, Laurence  **THE DRAGON’S CHILD: A Story of Angel Island**  

1922, Gim Lew Yep learns he will be leaving China to travel to the U.S. with his father – and he will be tested on many aspects of their lives when he tries to enter the U.S. His fear and struggle to memorize all he needs to know is compellingly told by Yep. Angel Island was the Ellis Island of the west. The Chinese were tested closely as the officials believed they often tried to sneak others in as their family members. Photos included. Excellent.

**Picture Books**

Baker, Keith  **POTATO JOE**  

Potato Joe starts things off with the counting rhyme “One Potato, Two Potato” with some other things thrown into the mix. Good fun! Look for the ant on almost every 2-page spread.
Barnwell, Ysaye M. **WE ARE ONE**  

A celebration of ourselves as individuals and as a gathering of people. Emphasizes love and peace with art that includes different races, adults and children. The copy I received includes 2 versions of the song and a voice reading of the book on CD.

Becker, Bonny **A VISITOR FOR BEAR**  

Bear’s sign on his front door states “No Visitors Allowed.” Mouse, however, does not let the sign stop him. Each time the bear finds him somewhere in the house, the mouse quietly asks for tea, a bit of cheese, a crackling fire. Bear shouts for him to leave, which it seems he has done until he reappears somewhere. Finally the bear agrees to let the mouse stay for tea, and then he must leave! After conversation the mouse tries to leave, as promised, and the bear begs him to stay! A peaceful winning over of a previously unfriendly fellow.

Bell, Babs **SPUTTER, SPUTTER, SPUT!**  

Great for toddler story time! Simple story with rhyming text and bright illustrations about a boy’s car that runs out of gas, with a “sputter, sputter, sput!”

Bowen, Anne **I KNOW AN OLD TEACHER**  

A variation of *I Know an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly*, in this title several kids window peak at the teacher at home in time to see her swallow a flea, spider, fish, etc. working her way up to the class pets! Then she spies the children…would she??? - “Swallow a child?’ The old teacher smiled…”

Bruchac, Joseph **BUFFALO SONG**  

A partially fictionalized telling of the true story of Walking Coyote (Salish), who helped to save the buffalo from extinction. Walking Coyote, his wife Mary, and son Blanket Hawk, walked nine buffalo calves across the mountains to a safe place for them to live and grow. Respect for the land and its animals is carried throughout the book. An excellent title to introduce the idea of conservation and protection of the natural world.

Carle, Eric **ANIMALS / ANIMALES**  
(board book w/ sliding inset card) One sentence about the animal in English and Spanish. The card slides revealing the English word on one side and the Spanish on the other.

Cutbill, Andy  **THE COW THAT LAID AN EGG**  

Marjorie the cow is unhappy, she can’t ride bikes and do handstands like the other cows. The sympathetic chickens hatch a plan, and the next day, Marjorie has laid an egg! The other cows are suspicious, and take turns watching the egg to see what will hatch. What will it be?

Cyrus, Kurt  **TADPOLE REX**  

Rex may be a tadpole during the age of dinosaurs, but he has the fire of a tyrannosaur, especially after he changes into a frog. “Lumbering duckbills were taken aback, to see an amphibian on the attack.” A half-page author’s note at the back states frogs really did live back in the days of dinosaurs, but they are now threatened, with climate changes and habitat loss.

Dorros, Arthur  **PAPÁ AND ME**  

A Hispanic father and son have a wonderful day together, doing everyday things, ending with a visit to the grandparents. Sprinkled with Spanish language words, the meaning is clear from the text and the illustrations.

Ehlert, Lois  **OODLES OF ANIMALS**  

Short poems accompany each cut paper illustration of a wide variety of animals. Each 2-page spread contains 1 – 15 animals. A treasure trove of shapes and animals!

Elya, Susan Middleton  **BEBÉ GOES TO THE BEACH**  

Sequel to *Bebé Goes Shopping*, a mother and child spend the day enjoying all there is to do at the beach. Also sprinkled with Spanish language words, the meaning is clear from the text or the illustrations.

Evans, Freddi Williams  **HUSH HARBOR: Praying in Secret**  
Simmy, a young slave, watches for trouble one night when the slaves hold a prayer gathering – so they can pray in their own way. The danger turns out to be a runaway slave, and all the plantation slaves return to their shacks, after telling him about a place to hide. A well-told story about what may be little known gatherings during slavery.

Fox, Mem  
*TEN LITTLE FINGERS AND TEN LITTLE TOES*  

Celebration of the world of people through this simple picture book of 20 things we all have in common. Great for toddler story time!

Grimes, Nikki  
*OH, BROTHER!*  

20 poems tell of a newly combined family. Xavier resents his new brother, Chris, and thinks Chris is trying to get in good with his mother. An occasional Spanish word tells us Xavier and his mom are Latino and Chris and his father are African American. Over the course of a year they become brothers.

Helakoski, Leslie  
*WOOLBUR*  

Woolbur is irrepressible, he does not act like all the other sheep. He runs with the dogs, he dyes himself instead of the wool, and replies to his parents concerns, “I know, isn’t it great?” Finally his parents tell him he MUST act like all the other sheep. Woolbur ponders all night, then comes up with a solution. He teaches the other sheep to run with the dogs…

Hines, Anna Grossnickle  
*I, 2, BUCKLE MY SHOE*  

Beautiful quilted illustrations enhance this counting nursery rhyme. Be prepared for children to chime in with you. Also a good story time choice.

Isadora, Rachel  
*THE PRINCESS AND THE PEA*  

A retelling of the Hans Christian Andersen fairy tale, with an African setting. Includes "Three ways to say hello in Africa" identified on the final page.

Isadora, Rachel  
*UH-OH!*  
A toddler’s day includes lots of mistakes. Each page introduces an item, such as a diaper or breakfast. Turn the page and something has gone wrong – with a big “uh-oh!” on the page. Lots of fun for parents and children to share together.

Jackson, Barry E.  **DANNY DIAMONDBACK**  

Danny is left on his own after his parents are captured and put in a zoo. He looks for a friend, but everyone runs away when he comes near. Until a prairie dog lost his glasses and invites him home. -- Finding your place and your talents; and accepting others who are different.--

Jarman, Julia  **CLASS THREE AT SEA**  

(sequel to Class 2 at the Zoo) Class Three embarks on a sea tour, enjoys the scenery, not seeing the pirate ship closing in on them. Once captured, they have some friends to come to their aid. Silly adventure, good read aloud.

Keller, John G.  **THE RUBBER-LEGGED DUCKY**  

Mama Duck ate a rubber band and when her next eggs hatched one of her ducklings, Five, has a funny, rubber-like leg. He bounces, and his mama tells him he is different, but he “can do special, wonderful things.” When the fox comes around, Five has a plan…

Lehman, Barbara  **TRAINSTOP**  

A whimsical story of a girl riding the train with her parents. The train stops and the girl realizes she is the only one awake. Out of the car she goes to find a land of tiny people, one of whom is caught high in a tree when his plane crashed there. With some help, the girl is able to rescue the man and his plane. Off she goes back to the train, and home with her parents. There is a little surprise at the end of this endearing wordless picture book.

Lobel, Anita  **HELLO, DAY!**  

Each animal on the farm greets the sun in their own way: rooster, cow, horse, and more. Then the sun set and the moon rose, the owl says “Good night.” Brief text and colorful illustrations make this a terrific going-to-bed book.
McMullen, Kate & Jim  *I'm Bad!*  

A tyrannosaurus-looking dinosaur demonstrates how bad (and hungry) he is! But he just can't quite catch his supper. (Maybe he needs some help?) From the team that created *I Stink, I'm Mighty* and *I'm Dirty* -- we go from machines to dinosaurs. Another excellent title kids will gobble up.

Milway, Datie Smith  *One Hen: How One Small Loan Made A Big Difference*  

Based on a true story, this fictionalized account of a young Ghanan boy using a bit of his mother’s borrowed money from the community fund to buy one hen, explains how that one hen grows into a large poultry farm; and the many benefits to the community. Brief text on one side of each two-page spread tells a very simple version. The longer text on the opposite page give much more detail. Excellent addition to the collection for a school or public library.

Mora, Pat  *Let's Eat / ¡A Comer!*  

The first book in a new bilingual series. A simple story of an Hispanic family gathering for supper, and their appreciation for all they have. One sentence per page, told in English and Spanish.

Mora, Pat  *Sweet Dreams / Dulces Sueños*  

A rhythmic story of the same family: Grandma is tucking the children into bed. "shh, shh, the birds are sleeping. She says, 'Shh, shh, the kitten is sleeping." Appealing illustrations complement the text. Told in English and Spanish.

Muth, Jon J.  *Zen Ties*  

Stillwater, the panda, greets his visiting nephew, Koo, and they soon meet up with the children Addy, Michael and Karl. When Stillwater encourages them to visit a grumpy neighbor with him, they are reluctant, but comply. Soon, they find Miss Whitaker is not so ?, when they all get to know each other on a personal level. They have a new friend or friends. The author notes at the end of the book that he wanted to remind people that we are all connected. A quiet, beautiful book.

Nødset, Joan L.  *Come Back, Cat*  
Re-issue, with enlarged full color illustrations (instead of the original 2-color illus.) A girl lures a cat to sit with her, then is startled when it bites at her sweater. They work through getting to know each other. A simple, universal story.

O’Connor, Jane *NANCY, LA ELEGANTE*  

Fancy Nancy completely in Spanish. If you have a Spanish speaking population and Fancy Nancy is popular in your community, consider adding the Spanish-language version to your collection.

Pinkney, Andrea Davis *BOYCOTT BLUES: How Rosa Parks Inspired a Nation*  

A fictionalized account of the day Rosa Parks said “no” and the following almost year of the Montgomery Bus Boycott. The text and illustrations radiate the determination and the weariness of the people – and their joy when the boycott succeeded. Definitely a mood piece.

Portis, Antoinette *NOT A STICK*  

(Sequel to Not a Box) A dialog between probable parent and child. The child finds numerous ways to enjoy a stick. It is his or her fishing pole, paintbrush, pony, etc. It is not a stick. Celebration of imagination and of childhood delights.

Ramos, Jorge *I’M JUST LIKE MY MOM / ME PAREZCO TANTO A MI MAMÁ* (flip book)  
*I’M JUST LIKE MY DAD / ME PAREZCO TANTO A MI PAPÁ*  

This flip book tells a simple story about a girl and another similar story about a boy who each have similarities with their parent. Complete in English and in Spanish.

Rockwell, Anne *PRESIDENT’S DAY*  

A classroom prepares for and presents a play about our nation’s presidents, and in doing so, fills the reader in on some basic facts.

Rotner, Shelley *SENSES ON THE FARM*  

Color photographs emphasize the farm life, and the item or animal the reader is asked to imagine touching, tasting, hearing, seeing, or smelling (including manure!) A good first look at the farm.
Rylant Cynthia  *PUPPIES AND PIGGIES*

A fun time in summer in the farmyard. Each animal has a four line poem. “Puppy loves the farmyard, Puppy loves the rain. Puppy loves to press his nose against the windowpane.” The next animal is lurking somewhere in the previous animal’s scene. Closing with the baby boy tucked in his crib. Lots of fun!

Schertle, Alice  *LITTLE BLUE TRUCK*

Little Blue Truck beeps hello to all the animals along the way. The big dump truck scatters all as he makes his way up the road – until he is stuck in the mud. Little Blue Truck and the animals work hard to get him out. Cooperation and caring for others are the major themes.

Schwarz, Viviane  *TIMOTHY AND THE STRONG PAJAMAS*

Timothy’s newly repaired pajamas give him super strength! He catches an elephant who fell off a cliff; helps an old lady with her groceries, and much more! And when he needs help, those who he helped are there for him. An entertaining story of helping others whenever we can. And…What small child has not wished for such strength?

Scotton, Rob  *SPLAT THE CAT*

The creator of *Russell the Sheep* brings us a new character, Splat. Splat is worried about his first day of school, so he brings his pet mouse, Seymour, along in his lunchbox; and creating quite a stir at lunch! Mrs. Wimpydimple can handle it. Reassuring and humorous!

Seder, Rufus Butler  *GALLOP!*

This unique book will enchant babies and toddlers. Large text on the left, and a black-and-white moving illustration on the right. As you open the book, it appears an animal is running or flying or swinging. This book will be opened again and again until it falls apart.

Sutton, Sally  *ROADWORK*
The steps and machinery to build a road are highlighted here; with onomatopoeia on almost every page. “Move the earth. Move the earth. Dig and cut and push. Clear a pathway for the road. Screech! Boom! Whoosh!”

Urbanovic, Jackie  **DUCK SOUP**  

Max the duck has created his first soup dish, but it needs a little something so he steps outside into the garden. In comes the dog, cat, and bird who fly into a panic when they see a duck feather in the soup. Did Max fall in? Silly fun.

Watt, Melanie  **SCAREDY SQUIRREL AT THE BEACH**  

Scaredy maps out his plans to have an enjoyable day at the beach (one set up in his own -- safe -- yard). But the sound of the beach is missing, so he must go to the actual beach to select a seashell (for the sound). His plans are (almost) flawless.

**Beginning Readers**

Chaconas, Dori  **CORK AND FUZZ: Good Sports**  

Cork and Fuzz (a short muskrat and a tall opossum) are great friends! But when they race down the hill, play stickball, or tackle ball Fuzz always wins -- and doesn't understand why Cork is unhappy. One day Cork challenges Fuzz to a swimming race - Cork wins! But thinks his friend has drowned. Once Cork finds him hiding behind a bush (he doesn't know how to swim) they are both happy and find another race that they can both win. Great friendship stories.

Edward, Roberta  **POLAR BEARS IN DANGER**  

Basic information about the polar bear life cycle, including information on global warming and the effect it has on them.

Hopkins, Lee Bennett  **HAMSTERS, SHELLS, AND SPELLING BEES: School Poems**  

20 poems about school, each with its own two-page spread. Colorful, active illustrations add to the fun in this Level 2 I Can Read book.
Rylant, Cynthia  *MR. PUTTER & TABBY RUN THE RACE*  

Mr. Putter agrees to join Mrs. Teaberry in running the senior marathon (he wants the model train prize). But all his training involves is a few toe touches (he gets distracted). Does he have a chance for the prize?

Schaefer, Lola M.  *WHAT'S THAT, MITTENS?*  

Mittens hears a noise on the other side of the fence, and when she investigates she finds a dog! Very simple sentences for the very early reader.

Silverman, Erica  *COWGIRL KATE AND COCOA: RAIN OR SHINE*  

(Bk 4) Four more stories of the two characters. In the first, Cocoa wants to race the wind rather than do their chores. In another Cocoa pretends to be sick so he won’t have to go out in the rain. Still great fun!

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