

The 2010-2011

BUILDING  READERS

Book List

Recommended Books for Elementary School Children

Superhero School by Aaron Reynolds (Bloomsbury). At Superhero School, Leonard is excited to learn about leaping tall buildings and stopping speeding trains. Too bad he's stuck learning about fractions and multiplication instead. When will he ever use *those*? Find out just how handy math can be—even when you're a superhero!

Animal Crackers Fly the Coop by Kevin O'Malley (Walker & Company). Hen was tired of laying eggs. She wanted to be a *comedi-hen*. One night, Hen leaves the farm to pursue her dream and meets fellow aspiring comedians Dog, Cat and Cow along the way. Look forward to lots of animal-related puns in this fun tale.

Survival at 40 Below by Debbie S. Miller (Walker & Company). Visit the Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve to learn how animals survive the arctic winter. From caribou to frogs, ptarmigans to musk oxen, you'll discover how each animal has adapted to the eight-month-long frigid winter. A glossary at the back defines the terms used throughout this book.

Princesses Are Not Perfect by Kate Lum (Bloomsbury). Princess Allie is a fantastic baker. Princess Libby is a skilled builder. And Princess Mellie is a gifted gardener. But just before the annual Summer Party, the princesses decide to switch roles. It shouldn't be a problem—the cupcakes will still get baked, the chairs will still get built, and the blueberries will still get picked. After all, princesses are good at everything, right?

Off Like the Wind! The First Ride of the Pony Express by Michael P. Spradlin (Walker & Company). Today's children might be surprised to learn that it once took *months* to send a letter across the United States—the mail was shipped by boat around South America! The Pony Express was the first overland mail service—and was quite a dangerous ride.

Homework by Arthur Yorinks (Walker & Company). Every night, Tony's mom tells him to do his homework. And every night, Tony ... reads comic books until he falls asleep. Bad Tony! But tonight, Tony's homework is getting done—with or without his help. What will happen when Tony's school supplies band together to write a story?

Road to Revolution by Stan Mack & Susan Champlin (Bloomsbury). Head to Boston and follow fictional characters Nick and Penny as they become involved with real-life Patriots at the beginning of the Revolutionary War. The bright illustrations of this graphic novel breathe new life into history. Check out the epilogue to discover what's fiction—and what's fact.

1001 Children's Books You Must Read Before You Grow Up edited by Julia Eccleshare (Universe). Children's books from across the globe are separated into five age categories in this invaluable resource. Whether your child is an avid reader or just starting out, use this book as a road map to the greatest gems in your local library.



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The Sixty-Eight Rooms by Marianne Malone (Random House). Sixth-graders Jack and Ruthie take a field trip to the Art Institute of Chicago. They find a magic key that allows them to shrink down to five inches tall—the perfect size to explore the Thorne Rooms, 68 miniature rooms. Add in a missing photo album, and you’ve got the recipe for a magical mystery!

The Bored Book by David Michael Slater (Simply Read Books). A brother and a sister are bored at their grandfather’s house—until they find a dusty book in a hidden attic and their adventures begin. This wordless picture book shows children (and reminds parents) of the endless adventures found between the covers of books.

The Humblebee Hunter by Deborah Hopkinson (Hyperion). Etty is overjoyed to be called out of the kitchen to observe “humblebees” (bumblebees) with her dad. This well-illustrated introduction to the scientific method may be just the thing to convince your child to head outside on a beautiful day!

Robert Crowther’s Amazing Pop-Up House of Inventions by Robert Crowther (Candlewick Press). Prowl through a brightly-colored house to learn tons of facts about hundreds of inventions you can find in your own home. Where did chewing gum originate? (Mexico.) When was the modern calendar produced? (1582.) Your child will come back to this book again and again.

Red Sings from Treetops: A Year in Colors by Joyce Sidman (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt). An illustrated poem describes the seasons in this 2010 Caldecott Honor winner. Colors are brought to life through not just sight, but also sound, smell and taste. Children will enjoy looking at the detailed illustrations for smaller “stories” within the text.

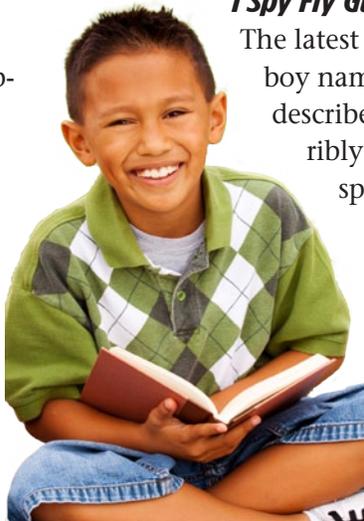
Buying, Training and Caring for Your Dinosaur by Laura Joy Rennert (Random House). Ever think about which dinosaur would be the best pet for your family? Wonder no longer—this guide will help you weigh the pros and cons of five different dinosaurs through funny facts and illustrations.

Happy Birthday, Bad Kitty by Nick Bruel (Feiwel & Friends). Aardvark bagels, clam doughnuts and eel fritters are just some of the offerings on the menu for Bad Kitty’s alphabetical birthday breakfast. Bad Kitty’s birthday continues with the arrival of some bizzare buddies. But when the gifts start disappearing, who is to blame?

I Spy Fly Guy! by Tedd Arnold (Scholastic Inc.). The latest installment in this series about a boy named Buzz and his pet fly, Fly Guy, describes a hide-and-seek game gone horribly wrong. Fly Guy hides in his favorite spot—the garbage can—but the garbageman picks it up before Buzz has found him! Will Buzz be able to find Fly Guy among the zillions of flies at the dump?

Lost and Found by Andrew Clements (Simon & Schuster). The Grayson twins, Ray and Jay, are starting at a new school—again. And they’re ready to be mistaken for each other—again. But when Ray stays home sick on the first day and Jay discovers that an error means his brother isn’t technically enrolled at the school, the boys take turns seeing what it’s like to be “one” instead of “half” of a set of twins.

Lunch Lady and the Cyborg Substitute by Jarrett J. Krosoczka (Random House). Meet Lunch Lady—lunch lady by day, righter of wrongs by night. Follow Lunch Lady and her sidekick, Betty, through this graphic novel as they take on Mr. Pasteur, the cyborg substitute—and see if the students ever find out what Lunch Lady does outside of school.



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