



1, 2, 3 ... By the Sea

by Dianne Moritz, illustrated by Hazel Mitchell

Jen Robinson's Book Page

If you have a child who loves beaches (and what child doesn't), and is learning to count, *1, 2, 3 ... By the Sea* would be an excellent choice.

The Topeka Capital-Journal

Bright illustrations depict fun at the beach, in the dunes and on the dock, making readers long for a day by the sea.

Margo Dill's Read These Books and Use Them!

If you are doing a unit on the beach/ocean, this is a must for your library ... a great book for developing early reading skills.

East Hampton Star

...a picture book charmingly illustrating all manner of sandy fun to be had down by the water.

Publishers Weekly

The paperback format is just right to slip inside a beach bag for a day at the shore.

NC Teacher Stuff

If you are tired of gray winter weather, count to three and head to the beach with *1, 2, 3 ... By the Sea*.

Always Jack

by Susanne Gervay, illustrated by Cathy Wilcox

Booklist

...this book makes it easier for independent readers to understand their feelings and know that it is acceptable to have fun and enjoy life while a parent recovers.

Animally

by Lynn Parrish Sutton, illustrated by Hazel Mitchell

NC Teacher Stuff

...a delightful book that can be used as a bedtime story for toddlers or for a grammar lesson with older students. You will love this book ferociously like a grizzly bear!

School Library Journal

A warm read-aloud with potential for teaching an English class.



Anna Hibiscus series

Anna Hibiscus

Hooray for Anna Hibiscus!

Good Luck, Anna Hibiscus!

Have Fun, Anna Hibiscus!

by Atinuke, illustrated by Lauren Tobia

The Horn Book, Starred Review

Tobia's detailed illustrations add depth and energy to the stories—showing Anna in all her emotional states and giving new readers the visual support they need. Readers ready for chapter books will love Anna and her sprawling family.

The Horn Book Fanfare

Anna and her sprawling, contemporary family are relatable, while Atinuke's focus on the everyday and her spot-on dialogue mesh flawlessly with Tobia's lively illustrations.

School Library Journal

Anna Hibiscus is a lovely, rare bird of a series, providing a modern view of another culture in warm, approachable language.

Kirkus Reviews, Starred Review

A welcome window into an unfamiliar world.

Kirkus Reviews, Julie Danielson

...near to dripping with charm and warmth and child appeal.... what makes these books work is the universality of Anna's inner world, one full of exclamation marks and joy ... These are funny, delightfully child-centered stories.

Booklist

This is a rare little gem of a book ... Warm, funny and a completely unique beginning reader.... Anna's passion, imagination, enthusiasm, naiveté and fears are infectious ... Don't miss this outstanding and unique series.

Cooperative Children's Book Center Choices

...these books are a treat for newly independent readers, as well as children lucky enough to hear them read aloud.

A Fuse 8 Production

There's not a kid in this country that won't identify with Anna right off the bat, even if her life is entirely different from their own.... These are very careful little stories, but they really reinforce the message of being grateful for what you already have.... Memorable and enchanting!

The Washington Post

...each chapter is a self-contained story. Good to read aloud by age 5, but children up to 10 will be enchanted by Anna.



Library Media Connection

This easy reader series will make a nice addition to any collection. Recommended.

Seven Impossible Things Before Breakfast

The series is top-notch reading for children...

James Patterson's ReadKiddoRead.com

Perfect for emergent readers to read on their own, this book and the rest of the series (*Hooray for Anna Hibiscus!*, *Good Luck Anna Hibiscus!*, and *Have Fun Anna Hibiscus!*) are also great read-alouds.

IRA Reading Today Online

Readers will love this spunky, independent girl...

Smithsonian Book Dragon

Atinuke's "Amazing Africa" becomes a vibrant celebration of family and home with "amazing" Anna Hibiscus as an adorable multicultural guide.

Africa Access Review (Hooray for Anna Hibiscus!)

...a simple and appealing style that renders Anna's world in fascinating detail ... the strength of the book lies in its positive and realistic depiction of an urban, middle-class African family.

Africa Access Review (Good Luck, Anna Hibiscus!)

...Atinuke continually reminds readers that Anna Hibiscus's experiences are common to children across the world ... uses poetic repetition to place characters within a global setting...

Jean Little Library (Anna Hibiscus, Hooray for Anna Hibiscus!)

...intriguing, different, and completely delightful.... Beginning readers will be charmed by this glimpse into a fascinating, warm, exciting, lively world, very different from their own lives.

Kids Lit

Beautifully written and wonderfully simple and straight forward, these books are something very special. Highly recommended, these books belong in all public and school libraries.

Biblio Reads (Anna Hibiscus)

Refreshing and appealing, filled with honesty, humor, charm and warmth, I found Anna Hibiscus to be outstanding and a world absolutely worth venturing into.

Biblio Reads (Good Luck, Anna Hibiscus!)

...fascinating, well-told and fun.

Bookmarkable

There's so much to love about this book. I love the strong sense of family, the interconnectedness of the extended family.

Rutgers University Project on Economics and Children

Many of the stories include some sort of an economics theme, including the role of markets,



.....
the contrast between abject poverty and wealth, and the gender division of labor within the home...

Waking Brain Cells (**Good Luck, Anna Hibiscus!, Have Fun, Anna Hibiscus!**)

The illustrations weave throughout the book, creating a window into the cultures shown in the stories. They make the book welcoming for newer readers who will find a great friend in Anna Hibiscus.

The Classroom Bookshelf (**Good Luck, Anna Hibiscus!, Have Fun, Anna Hibiscus!**)

Anna continues to explore issues of privilege, prejudice, and social class, learning a new life lesson at the end of each chapter. However, the set-up is entirely buoyant and engrossing—and Atinuke's voice so nuanced and captivating—that the books deftly avoid sounding didactic. If you or your students haven't yet made friends with Anna Hibiscus, get ready to be instantly charmed.

Meridian Magazine

The stories are rich and enriching as you begin to understand a different culture far away.

Growing Up Santa Cruz

Each chapter is a gem—autonomous—just enough for a bedtime read.... This charming, approachable, gentle series, with its warm, expressive language, is a welcome window into an unfamiliar, wholly-familiar world.

East Lansing Public Library

By getting to know Anna, readers take a look at our own American culture through her eyes, and see that there are many ways to live in our world.

BrownGirl BookSpeak

Anna Hibiscus is a fun, sweet character to fall in love with and one I certainly wish I could have gotten to know in my own childhood. Her Africa is one that Nigerian born author, Atinuke, gives permission to be beautiful, sweet, picturesque, lovely.

NC Teacher Stuff

Rich characters and settings abound...

In the Pages...

Don't miss any in this series!!

A Book and a Hug

...a joyful collage of tradition, wonder, and gratitude ... told with such insight into the universal hearts and minds of children and the messages are warm, wise and reassuring us that the world is truly a wonderful place to be. Heartwarming and not to be missed.

A Child's Bookshelf

My own family has fallen in love with the curiosity and effervescent energy of Anna Hibiscus.



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Book Notes

Atinuke's love for "amazing Africa" and the people who live there shine through the pages and in the character of Anna.

Flowering Minds

...something for everyone.

The News Star

...a delightful way to introduce children to engaging stories and an adorable heroine while broadening their horizons at the same time.

Brentwood Public Library

...well-written and engaging...

Paper Tigers

Readers will take away not only a better understanding of the world, but also a better sense of what it means to live in an increasingly diverse world.

B Is for Bedtime

by Margaret Hamilton, Illustrated by Anna Pignataro

NC Teacher Stuff

If you want to win the baby shower, buy this book. Imagine the oohs and aahs and jealous looks that you will receive when your gift is opened. It will be passed around and fawned over as opposed to the pack of onesies or the diaper changer.

School Library Journal

This book is suitable for one-on-one sharing and is a solid choice for bedtime-themed storytimes.

Meridian Magazine

...has thicker pages enabling tiny hands to help turn pages. But the true magic in the book is the placement of the adorable paintings against the white pages. This helps each letter of the bedtime alphabet jump out for youngsters to grasp.

Bears Don't Read

by Emma Chichester Clark

Kirkus Reviews

Inherent to the story is the subtle message that there's a difference between not being able to read and not wanting to read. A combination of farce and fun, this will tickle pre-readers.

Booklist

Smoothly written and packed with dialogue, this disarming story will speak to kids who are learning to read, as well as those looking forward to gaining the skill.

School Library Journal

A delightful tale that cleverly demonstrates the joy of reading.



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The Horn Book Guide

...features a strong central character and a gentle but pointed exploration of the value of thinking differently. The warm illustrations are filled with personality.

NC Teacher Stuff

...has a powerful message.

Midwest Book Reviews

... a wonderful teaching story with a positive empowerment message at its core

Big and Little

by Ana Maria Larranaga

Washington Parent

Friendly parent-and-child critters accompany cheerful rhymes ... rollicking and reassuring, each romp ends with a cozy hug under a night-time sky.

Billie B. Brown The Extra-special Helper

by Sally Rippin, illustrated by Aki Fukuoka

Kiss the Book

With its large font, bold-faced words, and relatable topics, this beginning chapter book is good for new readers...

Billy the Goat's Big Breakfast

by Jez Alborough

Midwest Reviews

The lilting verse and charming large nursery portraits of Billy the Goat, Hugo the Hare, and Nat the Cat are sweet and memorable, like a silky bun hot out of the oven.

Blue Whale Blues

by Peter Carnavas

NC Teacher Stuff

...a good text to use for problem/solution lessons and for school counselors looking for a picture book to accompany a lesson on happiness.

Kid Lit Reviews

Young children will adore *Blue Whale Blues* for its creativity, whimsy, and pure silliness. The repetitive song will get children singing along in no time, enjoying Whale's problems, as silly as they may be... Kids will love the sequence of events and the sheer delightfulness of the wacky situations making Whale sing the *Blue Whale Blues*.

Midwest Book Review

...the enduring message is empowering: Each of us can decide to be happy, or sad, no



.....
matter what our misperceptions, especially when we are grateful for the support of loyal friends.

Mom Read It

This is an adorable story about something kids (and adults) will recognize right away – letting the little things get to you, and the importance of having a friend there to help you shake off the blues.

Bob Is a Unicorn

by Michelle Nelson-Schmidt

Oneota Reading Journal

The readers will recognize Bob's confidence and hopefully connect with his power of imagination.

The Midwest Book Review

Bob is a Unicorn is a fabulous story to share with small and large children, for no one is too old to be immune to the magic of Let's Pretend.

Busy Trucks on the Go

by Eric Ode, illustrated by Kent Culotta

Kirkus Reviews

...Ode's rhyming couplets will have readers bouncing right along with them...

Booklist

A playful, informative story with a quiet ending that's just right for bedtime.

Butterflies

by Susanne Gervay

Booklist

Katherine's journey—learning where contentment lies, and the truths she discovers—applies to us all.

School Library Journal (Starred Review)

This hopeful, heartfelt novel will give teens an understanding of what it means to have a reason to be self-conscious. Librarians won't be able to keep it on the shelf.

SWON Libraries

Kudos to Gervay for painting the reader a picture of a self-reliant teen girl who does not depend on a boy to make herself feel valuable. Highly recommended for libraries – school, public and personal – who want to add to their girl power collections.

Children's Literature

This book will help readers develop real empathy for those facing tough challenges, such as disfiguring scars or disabilities.



Library Media Connection

The emotions that are shown by Katherine and her family are universal and her strength of character will pull in readers.

Cats, Cats!

by Michelle Nelson-Schmidt

Picture Book Reviews

Simple, vibrant drawings attract the attention of young readers.

School Library Journal

Text set against plenty of white space, with a few sophisticated words to challenge youngsters, make these good choices for emerging readers. The bright, crisp illustrations are cheerful and attractive and will call out to children who want to look at playful pictures of cats and dogs. These books are also useful as introductions to adjectives, with the art adroitly reinforcing the texts. All in all, these are versatile titles that should find a home in most collections.

The Children Who Loved Books

By Peter Carnavas

School Library Journal

This celebration of books and libraries is ideal for storytime or individual sharing.

Publishers Weekly

Without being overly sentimental, Carnavas pays tribute to the way books unite people...

Kirkus Reviews

The catchy cover of this Australian import nicely sets up the warm and loving story within.

Book Dragon

Take a break from our over-wired, over-committed lives of constant accumulation, reconnect with those who matter most (who probably happen to be under the same roof with you, ahem), and enjoy together the unlimited adventures offered in books.

NC Teacher Stuff

This book is a superb metaphor for how books can bring us together.

Reading to Know

My kids love this book.

Waking Brain Cells

Warm and cheerful, this Australian import will have book lovers smiling.

Through the Looking Glass Book Reviews

With a simple and timeless message and wonderful illustrations throughout, this is a picture book that readers of all ages will appreciate.



Conspiracy 365 series

by Gabrielle Lord

Oneota Reading Journal

Readers will be drawn into this series' suspenseful plot and want to keep reading to discover along with Cal what his father had learned before his death.

Book Trends

This series could easily take a reluctant reader, and by the end of the twelfth book, turn him into an avid reader.

Kirkus Reviews

Several factors make this book a top choice for reluctant readers, including the nonstop action, the small trim, the short length and the amount of white space on the pages.

Publishers Weekly

Lord creates a tense environment ... the villains are suitably vile and entertaining, and Cal makes for an affable hero.

Manga Maniac Café

...proves that venturing outside of your usual reading zone can be a good thing. I am looking forward to reading February!

Green Bean Teen Queen

...it will be a hit with tweens and they'll be racing to get to the end to see what's next for Cal and his family ... I would hand this over to reluctant readers in a heartbeat.

A Patchwork of Books

...great for a reluctant reader. Recommended for school and library shelves. I think you'll have a hard time keeping these in.

Kids Bookshelf

An edge of your seat thriller you won't be able to put down and will anxiously await the next book in the series!

Reading Reviews

What an awesome idea this is! So, bring it on Gabrielle Lord. I am definitely ready to find out what happens next...

FlamingNet Reviews

...it sure keeps you on the edge of your seat. I definitely think this book is a best seller series in the making, and anyone who likes books with tons of action and a mysterious twist to it will really enjoy Conspiracy 365.

The Joys of Reading

This is a perfect series to give to an older tween or early teen. It is filled with action and mystery and will keep young readers turning the pages.



The Page Flipper

...the plot is so addicting that it's almost hard to put down.

Embracing the Child

Conspiracy 365 is about to grab middle-grade readers' attention by taking them day by day into a fast-moving world of mystery, intrigue and danger.

Parent-Wise: Austin

...teens will love this new series.

BlogCritics

...incredibly fast-paced, so even reluctant readers and boys who'd generally rather play video games will probably get sucked up into the story.

Book Trends

Hats off to Gabrielle Lord for developing such an interesting plot that she's able to stretch it out over 12 books in 12 months – never once sacrificing character development, plot or style.

Library Media Connection

This is a good choice for reluctant readers craving action and suspense. Recommended.

VOYA

...its rapid-fire pace and action unfolding in real time will appeal to young thriller fans as well as reluctant readers.

Conspiracy 365: Black Ops, Hunted

By Gabrielle Lord

Reading Reviews

...entertainment at full throttle!

Cuddle Bear

by Claire Freedman, illustrated by Gavin Scott

Sweet Silly Sara

I like that the story is simple and sweet and has a sing song feel to it. I would recommend this book to parents of preschool age children.

Dan, The Taxi Man

by Eric Ode, illustrated by Kent Culotta

Kirkus Reviews

Written as a cumulative rhyme, the narrative barrels along just like the classic yellow cab in Culotta's high-energy cartoon illustrations.... Noisy fun, with a strong beat and a narrative pattern that even younger audiences will have no trouble catching.



Unleashing Readers

Dan, The Taxi Man celebrates music by bringing a band together and putting focus on each musician and their instrument. The onomatopoeias, the rhythm, and the repetition throughout makes this a book that kids will want to read over and over again...

Read These Books and Use Them!

...begs to be read out loud!

IRA Reading Today

...a great read aloud in primary classrooms because children will easily catch onto the pattern and begin to make the sounds and read along.

Kids Book Review at SanFranciscoBookReview.com, reviewed by Grant, Age 5

The words and rhymes in the book make me want to tap my foot and sing along.

Booklist Online

...a rockin' good time.

The Bookworm Sez

For little musicians, future drivers, or any 2-to-5-year-old who loves fun books...

Arlington ISD Librarian's Book Review

...a great read aloud with props and an easy way to introduce onomatopoeia.

Michigan Reading Journal

The vibrant illustrations in this book will catch the reader's attention ... Filled with onomatopoeia, this story is great for chorale reading and dramatic interpretations.... a fantastic book to use with early grade students

The Crimson Review of Children's and YA Literature

A nice, subtle tale about inclusion, with vibrant images illustrating the lyrically-styled text...

Kirkus Reviews

As rhyming stories go, this one finds its rhythm early on and keeps on rockin' till the upbeat end. (iPad storybook app. 4-8)

The Debt, Installment One: Catch the Zolt

by Phillip Gwynne

Kirkus Reviews

...there's something undeniably intriguing about the storyline, and Dom is a likable protagonist.

Reading Review

...a great story that I didn't want to put down.



Kiss the Book

This book was an easy but enjoyable read. There was plenty of action. Well written. It was not hard to be drawn into the story... Great characters and personalities.

Do Nice Be Kind Spread Happy

by Bernadette Russell

Kirkus Reviews

Small gestures have large rewards—everyone could do with a little inspiration of how to spread some happy.

Publishers Weekly

With bright juxtapositions of people, objects, and fonts, the energetic, posterlike presentation bolters the message about how much fun being kind can be...

Dog and Mouse

by Michelle Nelson-Schmidt

NC Teacher Stuff

...a celebration of friendship.... This is the kind of book that you want to read at the beginning of the year as you try to build a positive culture in your classroom.

The Midwest Book Review

The lilting verse and spare, bright illustrations allow the warm core truth in this story to shine.

Publishers Weekly

Nelson-Schmidt's bold, blocky images, a mix of large single frames and panel sequences, quietly convey the gentle togetherness of a friendship that doesn't know it is one.

Double Trouble for Anna Hibiscus!

by Atinuke, Illustrated by Lauren Tobia

Kirkus Reviews, STARRED

A double pleasure for old friends and new readers alike.

School Library Journal

Believably portraying the emotional highs and lows of childhood, this gentle story about adjusting to the "new normal" of a growing family is a first purchase for libraries everywhere.

Horn Book Magazine

While there's no shortage of new-baby books, it's refreshing to see one about the arrival of twins, not to mention one featuring an interracial, extended family...

Shelf Awareness for Readers

Lauren Tobia's joyful, thoroughly charming illustrations, with their soft, textured lines and rich, festive colors--often with lively African prints on clothes and blankets--reflect the warmth of a close-knit extended family in the face of "double trouble."



CCBC Choices

Lauren Tobia's lovely illustrations incorporated occasional, eye-catching patterns into wonderfully designed scenes full of warmth.

Publishers Weekly (June 22, 2015)

...what shines through most is the warmth and closeness of her large extended family...

Everyone Poops

by Taro Gomi

The Expositor

...part biology textbook, part sociological treatise and all a celebration of a very natural process.

Extreme Adventures series

by Justin D'Ath

Crocodile Attack

Book Trends

Action, suspense and hair-raising... (Review written by 6th grade student)

Read Along with Biblio

...a cliff hanger all the way through.

San Francisco Book Review

...sure to capture audiences and not disappoint.

Reading Reviews

...stuffed full of adventure and dangerous situations. Anyone out there that is an adrenaline junkie will love this book.

Shark Bait

Children's Literature

Heart-pounding action characterizes the "Extreme Adventures" series of books ... with immense detail that allow the reader to envision every move and decision Sam makes.

Reading Review

This is action to the maximum!

Scorpion Sting

Children's Literature

...fast paced and contains some humor...

The Lorgnette - Heart of Texas Reviews

Readers will love to see what happens to Sam next.



Spider Bite

Reading Review

...packed with adrenaline-pumping events that will leave the reader breathless as the action unfolds before their eyes.

Jean Little Library

...a nice length for intermediate readers and a perfect way to relax on a hot summer afternoon..... I'll continue to add to the series and booktalk them to kids who like their adventure without angst and their survival stories snappy!

Man-Eater

Book Trends

...a fantastic book that anyone would enjoy reading.

Children's Literature

...highly recommended for reluctant readers

Reading Review

...starts off with a bang and never lets up.

Flippy Floppy Ocean Animals

by Anton Poitier, Illustrated by Sophia Touliatou

Midwest Book Review (June 2015)

...a delightful activity for the very young.

Fox

by Margaret Wild, illustrated by Ron Brooks

Publishers Weekly Starred Review

...haunting look at friendship and cruelty, geared to older readers.... ends on a tenuously hopeful note, and the images from this unsettling, provocative story will resonate long after the book has been closed.

School Library Journal

The simplicity of presentation belies the sophistication of this allegorical tale that demonstrates the tremendous power of caring and friendship. ... Use the book with younger children to prompt discussions of both friendship and loss; use it with older students as a fine example of allegory and outstanding artistic presentation.

Booklist

...this haunting, beautifully illustrated book will be a good starting point for a discussion on ethical issues.

Hornbook Guide to Children

...will provoke a disquieting response among those willing to tackle it.



The Gas We Pass

by Shinta Cho

School Library Journal

...adequately tells how gas is formed and its characteristics...

Publishers Weekly

Both informative and blunt, the book provides young readers with solid facts...

The Gobble Gobble Moooooo Tractor Book

by Jez Alborough

Jean Little Library

Guaranteed toddler grins! ... The growing cacophony of animal sounds will delight small listeners and encourage them to join in with their own animal - or tractor - sounds.

Kirkus Reviews

Young children are sure to be drawn to the genial animals and vibrant farmland...

Biblio Reads

...both fun and funny.

Parent Wise, Austin

...perfect for group reading or a bedtime story for preschool children.

Kids Lit

...text is simple and fast moving, taking readers directly to the humor and the action. His bright colored illustrations are zippy and jolly.

Young Readers

I loved this one. I just LOVED it!

YA Books Central

The illustrations are adorable and very kid-appealing. ... I think this book shows imagination and creativity at its best.

Reading Rockets, 2010 Buying Guide, Books as Gifts

Colorful, comic illustration and onomatopoeia encourage participation.

The Children's Bookwatch, Reviewer's Bookshelf

...going to give more than enough enjoyment for young elementary readers, highly recommended.

The Children's Bookwatch, The Preschool Shelf

Children will love the colorful foldout illustrations and the wildly funny sounds from all the different animals. *The Gobble Gobble Mooooooo Tractor Book* is a delightful experience for preschool children to read and love.



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The Horn Book Guide

The littlest listeners and readers will be in hog heaven with the abundant imitable animal sounds and the mischief-spiked barnyard-set illustrations.

5 Minutes for Books

...a hands down winner in our household.

Here in the Garden

by Briony Stewart

School Library Journal

A gentle story about the cycle of nature and dealing with loss.

The Midwest Book Review

Heartfelt color illustrations add a poignant touch to the gentle storybook, especially recommended for parents to share with children who are learning to accept the loss of a treasured animal companion.

Waking Brain Cells

...the art remains resolutely lovely and cheery. Even the one in the dark of night is filled with a light that illuminates. A quiet story of grief, loss and the healing power of nature...

A Book and a Hug

The wonder of the natural world, the joy of a truly good friend, the deep love for a pet are all celebrated exquisitely in this delightful, poignant, heartrending story... For any child who is grieving for a loved one whether it be a pet, a family member, a very good friend, this is the book that will say, "I understand what you're going through and it matters."

Hey Jack! series

by Sally Rippin, illustrated by Stephanie Spartel

Oneota Reading Journal

While the books about Jack may appeal more to boys, and Billie's books may appeal more to girls, the two have remained best friends since they were babies and readers may enjoy all of the titles because they will recognize the long-lasting friendship of Billie and Jack.

Hey Jack! The Scary Solo

Kiss the Book

This early reader is a good introduction to overcoming jealousy and working as a team. Jack is a very sympathetic character, and his actions at the end will likely have some kids cheering.

Hey Jack! The Winning Goal

Kiss the Book

This early reader is a nice introduction to teamwork and being a good sport.



I Am Jack

by Susanne Gervay, illustrated by Cathy Wilcox

School Library Journal

While the message comes through clearly, it's lightened by Jack's antics and jokes. A welcome addition to books on the topic.

Arlington Independent School District

A good book for upper grades to read about bullying. Recommended.

I'm a Dirty Dinosaur

by Janeen Brian, illustrated by Ann James

Kirkus Reviews, Starred Review

...cries out for toddler participation, with parts for everyone.... It is nearly impossible to look at without reading aloud, chanting aloud and even tapping and stamping and sliding: extreme joyousness.

School Library Journal

This book will entertain kids in storytime as well as young independent readers. A solid general purchase for most libraries.

Publishers Weekly

Brian's narrative lends itself to reading aloud, and it invites both chiming in and imitating the dinosaur's movements (preferably sans mud). Better still, the sturdy pages are sufficiently coated for easy wiping off if muddy fingers do happen to turn them.

Meridian Magazine

The rhyming text is fun to read out loud with onomatopoeia found throughout.

Jen Robinson's Book Page

Toddlers will get a real kick out of the dirty dinosaur, and especially the energetic and colorful refrains.

Washington Parent

This book is as much fun to read aloud as it is to hear.

Oneota Reading Journal

Children can join the dinosaur in sniffing, shaking, stamping, sliding, and washing – because even dinosaurs know when it is time to bathe.

Jack Russell Dog Detective series

by Darrel and Sally Odgers

Dog Den Mystery

KidsBookshelf.com

A fun story that young readers will enjoy while trying to solve the mystery with Jack.



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Jen Robinson's Book Page

Jack is a solid character for early grade school kids to enjoy, determined and resourceful...

Jelly Mom

...avid younger readers who read above level will also enjoy this book.

Becky's Book Review

I've found a new love. I have... sure to charm dog-lovers and mystery-lovers of all ages.

The Phantom Mudder

KidsBookshelf.com:

An exciting and fast paced chapter book young readers will enjoy!

Suite 101

...a true pleasure to read and children love the characters and plot.

Jessica's Box

by Peter Carnavas

Kirkus Reviews

Carnavas' Bob Graham-esque cartoons use color and humor in equal measure to create a winning protagonist. The message is clear: Just be yourself, and friends will come.

Horn Book Magazine

The solidly straightforward story arc, simple mixed-media illustration, effective use of color, and ample white space are all strengths. Jessica's wheel chair is neither hidden in the background nor made star of the show: it is what it is, and Jessica finds – as do all children – that she can make friends just by being herself.

School Library Journal

A charming book that speaks to the desire of all children to be liked for who they are.

Publishers Weekly

Carnavas's loosely drafted and warmly painted images easily capture the story's emotional ups and downs ... [T]he story is valuable for its portrait of a believably nervous child whose physical disability is entirely incidental to the challenges she faces.

The Horn Book Guide

A straightforward story and simple mixed-media illustrations are strengths of this Australian import. Rating: Superior

NC Teacher Stuff

Do yourself a favor and ask your librarian for books by Peter Carnavas. It will be worth the effort.

Waking Brain Cells

A very inclusive book about school jitters and making friends, this will be a nice read aloud to share with kids about to enter school.



Jonathan James and the Whatif Monster

by Michelle Nelson-Schmidt

Picture Book Reviews

A brilliant message for all ages.

The Piggy Toes.com

This lesson in this book is just the best!

Reading Today Online

All of the "whatif" scenarios are ones that are present in the lives of all children and they will certainly identify with some of the fears presented here.

Just Imagine

by Pippa Goodhart, illustrated by Nick Sharratt

Kirkus Reviews

...there's a delightfully mirthful creativity at work ... Good fun for a broad range of ages.

Publishers Weekly

Sharratt's signature brand of simple, bright cartooning and Goodhart's reader-directed prompts and tidbits of information offer diversions aplenty.

Kiss the Book

My boys laughed and enjoyed this fun engaging book.

Oneota Reading Journal

The possibilities of responses to the commands or questions in each section are nearly unlimited. All fifty pictures will certainly prompt unusual and unique answers among readers. The final challenge in this book is to dream, something adults should encourage children to do.

Unleashing Readers

This book is everything the title promises. It will spark children's imaginations... The illustrations are absolutely stunning. It is a book that is made for both a child and the parent/teacher reading it.

The Last Thirteen: 13

by James Phelan

VOYA Magazine

...may appeal to those looking for a quick, action-packed read.



Mini Machines

by James Croft

Washington Parent

Croft imbues his text with a Seussian energy that makes these books especially delightful to listen to and learn from.

Mythical 9th Division Operation Robot Storm

by Alex Milway

Kirkus Reviews

...a lickety-split set of chases, battles, captures and escapes...

Olga da Polga

by Michael Bond, illustrated by Catherine Rayner

School Library Journal

This lush gift edition of the beloved classic by the creator of Paddington Bear ... will create new Olga fans and win back longtime friends. Peppered with charming critters and mischievous adventures, the narrative will move young readers to laugh out loud and root for the wayward pet.... perfect for one-on-one sharing and classroom read-alouds.

The Horn Book Guide

Olga's limited understanding of the human world and sweet temperament make for a pleasant story; Rayner's lovely watercolor and screen-printed illustrations add warmth and charm.

Kid Lit Reviews

Bond's wonderful voice and whimsical flow make reading Olga da Polga fun. The best word for this/these stories really is fun. They are fun to read, fun to hear, fun to see, and fun to imagine ... *Olga da Polga* should, dare I say, be one "must have" book in your child's bookshelf ... a timeless gem.

The Storyteller

Turning scrapes into triumphs, Olga da Polga will enchant and entertain all who read and listen to her tall tales and boisterous adventures. Catherine Rayner's marvelous illustrations are delightful and greatly add to the story's enchantment.

Mom Read It

Greenaway Medal winner Catherine Rayner adds beautiful watercolor artwork to this collection of stories that new readers and their parents will love and want on their shelves.... The short chapters/stories provide for great read-aloud opportunities.



On the Construction Site, A Shine-a-light Book

by Carron Brown, illustrated by Bee Johnson

Unleashing Readers

...a wonderful text to start conversations about shadows; construction of a skyscraper; and construction vehicles, planning, and careers.

The Horn Book Guide

Recommended

Massachusetts Librarians Youth Services Book Review

This is a fascinating book! ... Kids will be mesmerized. Recommend this to the entire young crowd who like trucks and bulldozers and construction.

On the Space Station, A Shine-a-Light Book

By Carron Brown, Illustrated by Bee Johnson

Mom Read It

A great next step for little ones who love the excitement of lift-the-flap books but are ready for something more, Shine-A-Light books continue working with the concept of object permanence for younger readers while adding a new dimension of interactivity to older readers.

School Library Journal

...will make excellent additions to public library collections.

Pet Vet series

by Darrel and Sally Odgers

Daily Record

...not only tell charming animal stories, but also convey some valuable lessons about pets and the responsibilities that come with owning them.... Short sentences and manageable chapters make the books young reader friendly.

Motorbike Bob

Curled Up With a Kids Book

...works fine on its own.

The Python Problem

BookViews by Alan Caruba

There's a lot of fun to be had...

The Kitten's Tale

Biblio Reads

The quirks of each animal (and human) are pitch-perfect, the story carries along and is a page-turner.



The Phoenix Files Arrival

by Chris Morphew

VOYA

Science fiction fans looking for stories that center on teenage protagonists should enjoy this series.

Arlington ISD Librarian's Book Review

An interesting and gripping story of newcomers... I highly recommend this book and all in the series.

Kirkus Reviews

Compulsively readable commercial-grade series fiction that provides solid thrills...

Reading Review

...very exciting and moves along at a swift pace.

Charlotte's Library.com

...younger readers ... should find it thrilling.

Secrets of the Apple Tree, A Shine-a-light Book

by Carron Brown, Illustrated by Alyssa Nassner

"How Does This Translate?" *Bridges*, USBBY

...provides an interesting perspective to the representation of nature with its beauty and complexity.

Booklist Online

Readers will delight in discovering the wide variety of hidden life within this apple tree. In addition to mammals, birds, and reptiles, invertebrates, plants, and fungi are examined in the clever nature book for the inquisitive preschool audience.

Secrets of the Seashore, A Shine-a-light Book

by Carron Brown, illustrated by Alyssa Nassner

Publishers Weekly

A diverting interactive introduction to several coastal species, from otters to oystercatchers.

Oneota Reading Journal

Habitats of ocean life are cleverly illuminated in this unique picture book ...

Secrets of the Rain Forest, A Shine-a-light Book

by Carron Brown, illustrated by Alyssa Nassner

Horn Book Magazine

In Nassner's eye-catching illustrations, the lush foliage of the tropical rainforest, filled with



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abstract, bright-green leaves and brown branches and trunks, hides a host of living organisms ... [T]he book succeeds at providing an overall sense of a rainforest teeming with life.

Secrets of Winter, A Shine-a-light Book

by Carron Brown, illustrated by Alyssa Georgina Tee

Booklist Online

An inventive, behind-the-scenes look at nature during wintertime.

Singing to the Sun

by Vivian French, illustrated by Jackie Norris

Kiss the Book

...a great opener to a discussion about gender roles in fairy tales and the modern world and the effect they have on our self-esteem or world view.

The Midwest Book Review

...deserves high praise for its original twist on classic storytelling.

Supercars

Unleashing Readers

...readers of all levels will enjoy it.... This would be a great book to spark research projects.

A Tale of Two Beasts

by Fiona Robertson

Kirkus Reviews, STARRED

Robertson's premise is as sublime as it is simple, with a subtle message. Brilliantly, the illustrations vary just slightly from one version of the story to the next; it's their juxtaposition with the radically different textual perspective that generates the laughs. Totally delightful.

Publishers Weekly

It's a smart and not-too-serious introduction to the idea of empathy—and boundaries.

School Library Journal

This fun walk on the wild side will be a solid addition to most collections.

School Library Journal, "Outstanding International Books: Presenting the 2016 USBBY Selections"

This funny, thought-provoking British story exquisitely demonstrates the importance of understanding multiple perspectives.

The Children's Book Review

The illustrations are beautiful and colorful, and the book is of a sturdy construction that won't rip easily. The wording is perfectly executed, balancing cuteness with easy-to-read prose.... Highly recommended.



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NC Teacher Stuff

With the Common Core emphasis on comparing two texts, how great is it that you can get this in one book?

Waking Brain Cells

Roberton could have kept this book solely about perspectives and had it be full-on humor, but instead she manages to imbue the book with a real heart.... Cleverly crafted and told...

Through the Looking Glass Children's Book Review

Both the stories are funny, and together they will help children to see that there are always at least two sides to every story.

The Horn Book Guide

...this amusing lesson on perspective is illustrated with equally amusing cartoony illustrations...

This Is Not a Math Book

by Anna Weltman

Good Reads with Ronna

Kudos to Weltman for coming up with this unique, hands-on math/drawing activity book that is sure to be a hit with children and parents alike.

Waiting for Winter

by Sebastian Meschenmoser

A Fuse #8 Production, School Library Journal

...smart, clever, beautifully illustrated, and downright funny. Touching and funny by turns, this turns out to be not only an [ideal] winter tale, but also a perfect bedtime story too. For any kid who has ever tried to stay awake for an important event, this tale rings true. Each season there is one good "snow" book that comes out for kids. This book should be considered the good snow book of this and any other year. Read it! ... A must purchase. Can't talk it up enough.

Seven Impossible Things Before Breakfast

...winning in every way, and it is hysterical.

Curled Up With a Good Kids Book

This book is perfect.

School Library Journal

The illustrations are deftly drawn in colored pencils, complete with sketching lines that give the renderings depth and maturity. The addition of broadly stroked hues of azure paint when the snow arrives will startle and delight young readers as it makes the white space of the page really come to life. This is a beautiful title to share with children on a lap or with a small group.



Publishers Weekly Starred Review

Giggles and guffaws will abound ... The moment when the snow really does begin to fall is worth waiting for, too. A quiet, atmospheric and offbeat treasure.

Kirkus Reviews Starred Review

Readers will howl at the animals' mistaken notions of snow, and they'll sigh with satisfaction at the just-cozy-enough end. A perfect marriage of words and pictures.

The New York Times Book Review

...the brilliant pencil work of the author and artist Sebastian Meschenmoser brings to sketchy, scratchy life a charming, idiosyncratic character. Squirrel is as unkempt and uncombed as a parent on Sunday morning, but as innocently impulsive as a child bouncing on the bed.

Planet Esme

This book captures a feeling of surprise that I have seen only in the faces of children who have moved from the south to the north and experience snow for the first time. With imagination, humor and beauty, this book is a subtle wonder.

Kate's Bookery, Raising Kids with Books

Rating: 5 surprisingly wonderful and funny stars ... This is one of my favorites.

Words to Treasure

The final pages capture their wonder in the first snowfall.

Booklist

A great story hour choice...

Suffolk Cooperative Library System - Youth Services

Brimming with gentle humor and expressive illustrations, this book is the perfect introduction to winter.

The Midwest Book Review

...a charming children's picture book

Through the Looking Glass Children's Book Reviews

This hilarious picture book will have readers of all ages laughing out loud. The wonderful pencil illustrations are vibrant and beautifully expressive, and the mistakes the animals make as they try to find snow are deliciously silly and funny. This is a book that cannot fail to entertain and delight.

Bookends

This is one of those wonderful books that offers fun at multiple levels. Children will giggle at the silly mistakes the animals make as they look for snow and adults will love the energetic detail and humor in the drawings. The accompanying text in a bold black font is perfect for reading aloud. This would work well for a winter story time but is perfect for sharing and snuggling under a cozy blanket. Bring on the hot chocolate!



Kid Lit

...wonderfully evocative illustrations.... The voice of the book is also right on the mark. Told with great excitement and delight, the tone conveys their wonder at being able to see snow even before they have caught a single glimpse of it.

Children's Literature

The book's illustrations are remarkable and brilliant; the wordless pages will prove to be a favorite amongst readers. A must-have for any child's library.

A Chair, a Fireplace and a Tea Cozy

The illustrations are exquisite. ... A beautiful, detailed study.

Oneota Reading Journal

The illustrator does an intricate job of using pencil to show a barren land that has yet to be covered by snow.

Where's Will? Find Shakespeare Hidden in His Plays

by Anna Claybourne, illustrated by Tilly

Publishers Weekly

British illustrator Tilly ably shifts tone to match the mood and location for each play: readers can look for Puck, Bottom, and other characters from *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in a dusky forest under a moonlit sky, while Prospero's island teems with animal life—and fairies—looking every bit as magical as it needs to be. The visual focus provides a leisurely introduction to the varied worlds of Shakespeare's plays.

Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge

by Mem Fox, illustrated by Julie Vivas

School Library Journal

The illustrations splashy, slightly hazy watercolors in rosy pastels contrast the boy's fidgety energy with his friends' slow, careful movements and capture the story's warmth and sentiment.

The Boston Sunday Globe

A wonderful tale that celebrates both the exuberance of childhood and the dignity of old age.

KidLit

...a tremendous story of empowerment.... Setting the story in an old folks' home does much to dispel the view of these homes in a negative light.... Watercolor illustrations are softly and beautifully done.

Our Alzheimer's

Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge is everything a children's book should be. It was a classic the day it was first published, and will be a classic decades from now.... The physical



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attractiveness, the tasty words, the rhythm and the message all make this a book every child - and adult - should read.

Reading Rockets

There's a special kind of magic in the story of friendship between a young boy (with a big name) and his 96-year old friend in *Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge* (Kane Miller).

If the book fits...Read it

...a fine example of the best of what Children's Literature has to offer us. Originally published in 1989, it has withstood the test of time, and will remain to delight and teach children for generations to come.

Lehigh Valley Express-Times

Tender, heartwarming and perfectly wrought in every way, it's no wonder librarians have been recommending this wonderful book for more than two decades.

The Los Angeles Times

For a topic often spoken of in euphemism, the author has displayed warmth, wit and dignity without being sappy. The spongeable cover and dreamy watercolors complement this uplifting tale.

Kristi's Book Corner

...heart warming...a beautiful story of love and respect for your elder.

scrumdilly-do!

...a tear-worthy tale of joy, wisdom and loss.

Proper Noun

...a sweet intergenerational story that you don't want to miss.

You Choose

by Pippa Goodhart, Illustrated by Nick Sharratt

Booklist

Part Where's Waldo?, part Choose Your Own Adventure, this ingenious British import offers hours of self-made, sky's-the-limit storytelling.

Education Resource Center

...a great way to introduce children to storytelling and to let their imaginations go wild.... This whimsically illustrated book will provide endless hours of story-telling, and no two stories will ever be the same!

School Library Journal

This highly entertaining book would work best for small groups or one-on-one sharing. Kids will love to return to it again and again.



Kane Miller
EDC PUBLISHING

Review Praise

Titles published before 2016

Meridian Magazine

This clever book encourages speech and language development, independent thinking and decision making.