ABC BEST BOOKS FOR CHILDREN

Because books make everything better.

Reading is Roaring Fun
Not only is Olivia our fabulous cover model but she's got a brand new book!

Olivia Helps with Christmas
By Ian Falconer

Everyone's favorite porcine heroine and #1 Kris Kringle enthusiast is helping to make the season brighter than ever. Christmas is coming, and Olivia is incredibly busy. She has to wait for Santa, make sure Dad sets up the tree, win the SANTA, watch Mom make the Christmas dinner, wait for Santa, oversee the care with which the stockings are hung, and, of course, open her presents! Do you see how hard it is to be so helpful during the holidays? The perfect gift for any young Christmas helper, and just right for stocking stuffers! (3-7)

Simon & Schuster (HC) $18.99

Check out these other rollicking adventures from our favorite pig!

Olivia Saves the Circus
Olivia has had a very busy summer vacation!

(HC) $17.95

Olivia Forms a Band
What would the 4th of July be like without a band?

(HC) $17.99

Olivia...and the Missing Toy
Can Olivia get to the bottom of the mystery?

(HC) $17.99

Olivia Counts Olivia's Opposites
Two board books for the youngest fans!

(BB) $6.99

Dear Parents, Teachers, and Lovers of Children's Books,

There is an old Russian proverb that says “Don’t buy the house; buy the neighborhood.”

Here at ABC we believe in the corollary “Don’t buy the book; buy the store.” At a time when the global economy isn’t thinking much about our children’s well-being, local businesses are, and the best can often be found right under our noses.

Independent booksellers are worth their weight in gold. They are your neighbors, your friends, and they care about each child that walks through their door. Who else knows your child and can pluck the perfect new book from the shell? Who else will carry not just the blockbusters, but the small and lovely books waiting to be discovered?

Your local independent children’s bookseller—that’s who!

In that spirit we offer you our picks for the best books of the past year. Each one is an adventure to explore. We hope you enjoy them, and the benefits of buying local. We love having you as our customer, and together we can build a great community for all of our children.

Best wishes to you and yours for a happy year full of great reading!

Kristen McLean
Executive Director, ABC, www.abfc.com

The Association of Booksellers for Children (ABC) is a national non-profit trade association dedicated to supporting the business of independent children’s bookselling, and quality children’s books. The membership includes booksellers, publisher members, author and illustrators, and other industry professionals. For more information about ABC programs, visit us on the web at www.abfc.com

Prices are subject to change without notice. Paperback (PA), audio (AUD) and board book (BB) editions are listed when available. Suggested ages are indicated in parentheses following book descriptions. If books are out of stock, ask your local independent bookstore to order them for you.

Abbreviations:
- PW Publisher’s Weekly
- SLJ School Library Journal
- ALA American Library Association
- Starred Review

Published by the Association of Booksellers for Children
Volume XV, October 2007
Catalog editor: Kristen McLean
Catalog design and layout: Lorraine Ortner-Blake/Artfax
123: A Child's First Counting Book
Allison Jay

A clever twist on counting. One little girl wakes up to a wondrous fairy-tale world. She spies two dancing feet from the Golden Goose tale, three hungry bears just visited by Goldilocks, and four royal matresses between the Princess and the Pea... From 1 to 10, this beautifully illustrated book is a visual wonderland full of surprises! (2-5) PW

Dutton (HC) $15.99

A Good Day
Kevin Henkes

From the Caldecott winning author of Kitten's First Full Moon comes this delightful tale of two animals that are having a very bad day. Of course, what starts badly can end in triumph and become a good day after all. With bold illustration and simple language, this book is a hopeful masterpiece for young readers. (2-5) SLJ

Greenwillow (HC) $16.99

Baby Bear, Baby Bear, What Do You See?
Bill Martin, Jr.; Illustrated by Eric Carle

From the team behind Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? comes this sweet celebration of the bond between mother and child. As baby bear searches for his mother, young readers will delight in Eric Carle’s illustration of the animals baby bear comes across. The familiar call and response structure will win a new group of reading fans. (3-8)

Henry Holt (HC) $16.95

Be a Baby
Sarah Withrow; Illustrated by Manuel Monroy

In this delightful book, little ones find an enchanting child with whom they can identify in all their moods—happy, sad, and sleepy. The irresistible text and tender illustrations are a perfect depiction of an adorable, cuddly baby who is eventually lulled to sleep by his mother’s sweet lullaby. (2-5)

Groundwood Books (HC) $17.95

Fabian Escapes
Peter McCarty

Hondo and Fabian are back in this new adventure. Hondo is content to stay at home with the baby while Fabian has a grand adventure out on the town. With characteristic soft, sleepy illustration and spare text, Peter McCarty evokes both the joy of being independent and of coming home. (2-5)

Henry Holt (HC) $16.95

Not a Box
Antoinette Portis

A box is just a box... unless it's not a box. From mountain to rocket ship, a small rabbit shows that a box will go as far as the imagination allows. A celebration of the imagination and the delight to be found in a simple object. (2-5)

Theodore Seuss Geisel Honor

HarperCollins (HC) $12.99

On the Move! Rain or Shine!
Emma Dodd

Two new titles in the popular Amazing Baby series are sure to delight the youngest readers. On the Move is filled with bouncing, joyful rhymes and colorful pictures of things that go, while Rain or Shine introduces the wonderful variety of nature’s moods. Both books feature lift-the-flap covers that are sure to be a hit! (0-3)

Silver Dolphin (BB) $6.95

Llama Llama, Mad at Mama
Anna Dewdney

Does any child like to go shopping? Not Llama Llama! But Mama can’t leave Llama Llama at home; so off they go to Shop-O-Rama. Lots of aisles, lots of dolls! Llama Llama is too busy to notice that Mama Llama is getting m-a-d! Parents and children are sure to recognize themselves in this fun-to-read follow-up to the popular Llama Llama Red Pajama. (2-4)

Farrar, Straus & Giroux (HC) $16.00

Orange Pear Apple Bear
Emily Gravett

This book is proof that sometimes there is perfection in the simplest things. Using only five words, Kate Greenaway Medalist Emily Gravett presents a delightful picture book that is a masterpiece in elegant design and minimalist storytelling. An instant classic for the youngest set! (0-3)

Simon & Schuster (HC) $12.99

Mama Goose's Little Treasures
Iona Opie; Illustrated by Rosemary Wells

Everyone knows the most popular of Mother Goose’s rhymes, but there were many more and now they are collected here in this delightful collection. The world’s most respected Mother Goose folklorist reunites with one of the great illustrators of our time to present a rare selection of rhymes to share and treasure. (0-3)

Candlewick (HC) $17.99

Skippyjon Jones Color Crazy
Skippyjon Jones Up & Down
Judy Schachner

Everyone’s favorite cat is back in this pair of board books that feature the concepts of color, and ups and downs. Featuring Skippyjon’s characteristic gatto style, these books are sure to charm the pants off young readers. Mew! (0-3)

Dutton (BB) $6.99
17 Things I'm Not Allowed to Do Anymore
Jenny Offill, illustrated by Nancy Carpenter

They seemed like good ideas. Like giving her brother's bunny slippers to the floor, or showing Joey Whipple her underpants—they're only underpants, right? It's just too bad her parents don't think so. A laugh-out-loud ode to impossible free-thinkers everywhere. (4–8) ● PW, SLJ

Schwartz & Wade (HC) $15.99

A Bear and His Boy
Sean Bryan, illustrated by Tom Murphy

When a bear named Mack wakes up with a baby, Zach, on his back, he has no time to deal with the unexpected problem. But after a rhyme-filled tour through Mack's busy schedule, Zach teaches the bear to slow down and enjoy life. Playful and fun! (4–8)

Arcade (HC) $14.99

A Seed Is Sleepy
Dianna Hutts Aston, illustrated by Sylvia Long

Poetic in voice and elegant in design, this book introduces children to a fascinating array of seed and plant facts, making it a guide that is equally at home being read on a parent's lap or in a classroom reading circle. Gorgeous and informative! (4–8) ● SLJ

Chronicle (HC) $16.95

A Splendid Friend, Indeed
Suzanne Bloom

Polar Bear is frustrated. No matter what he is doing, Goose takes it over. But when Bear finds out Goose has called him a "splendid friend," Polar Bear realizes that Goose is a splendid friend too. (2–5) ● Theodore Seuss Geisel Honor

Boyds Mills Press (BB) $10.95

Animal Poems
Valerie Worth, illustrated by Steve Jenkins

This book of 23 poems by beloved children's poet Valerie Worth is a celebration of the wonderful singularity of each animal—from wasp to snake to wren. The precise and elegant text is perfectly complemented by Steve Jenkins' cut-paper illustrations. (4+) ● PW, ALA, SLJ

Farrar, Straus & Giroux (HC) $17.00

Fancy Nancy and the Posh Puppy
Jane O'Connor, illustrated by Robin Preiss Glasser

Fancy Nancy is back! When her family decides to get a dog, she's certain she can be fancier than ever. After all, a papillon—a small, delicate, fluffy dog—is the ultimate accessory. But her family wants a large, plain dog. What's a fancy girl to do? (4–7) ● PW

HarperCollins (HC) $16.99

First the Egg
Laura Vaccaro Seeger

This is a book about transformations...both literal and creative. Egg becomes chicken, word becomes story, and commonplace becomes extraordinary. Young readers will love flipping the pages back and forth to see the changes. A beautiful concept book. (2–6)

Roaring Brook (HC) $14.95

Five Little Monkeys Go Shopping
Eileen Christelow

Those silly little monkeys are back and it's the day before school. When Mama takes her five little monkeys shopping for clothes, typical hilarity ensues. Will Mama ever have her five little monkeys together again? Fun for monkey lovers everywhere! (4–8)

Clarion Books (HC) $16.00

Gimme Cracked Corn & I Will Share
Kevin O'Malley

Full of jokes that never lay an egg, this funny picture book based on a traditional folk tale takes readers on a scrambled search for buried treasure. Hysterical slapstick, perfect for tickling the funnybones. (4–8) ● PW

Walker Books for Young Readers (HC) $16.95

Grumpy Bird
Jeremy Tankard

When Bird wakes up grumpy, there's nothing he wants to do—not even fly. When one by one, his friends offer to keep him company on a walk, he finds his mood has changed. A winsome ode to the power of company! (3–5)

Scholastic (HC) $12.99
How to be a Baby... By Me, the Big Sister
Sally Lloyd-Jones, illustrated by Sue Heap
The narrator of this book has a lot of advice. Like babies don’t read books, they eat them. And babies don’t know if they’re a boy or a girl. And someday they will grow up to be clever (like the narrator!). Charming and fun, this book is a great update on the new baby genre. (4-8) ● ALA
Schwartz & Wade (HC) $15.99

I Miss You Every Day
Simms Taback
What do you do when you miss someone every day? In this magical story, you wrap yourself in paper, close yourself up in a box (don’t forget the air holes) and mail yourself to the one you love. Vibrant artwork is the perfect complement to the sweet text. (4-8) ● PW
Viking (HC) $16.99

I’m the Biggest Thing in the Ocean
Kevin Sherry
When a giant squid takes inventory of all of the creatures in the ocean, he realizes that he’s way bigger than most of them! Of course, there are bigger things lurking around... but maybe this giant squid with a giant touch of humor doesn’t really care? Very funny with bold, delightful art. (2-5) ● SLJ
Dial (HC) $16.99

Jazz on a Saturday Night
Lea & Diane Dillon
This homage to the jazz greats uses bright colors and musical patterns to tell the stories of everyone from Miles Davis and Charlie Parker to Ella Fitzgerald. After reading the biographies, readers can listen to the instruments on the CD, as well as a special version of “Jazz on a Saturday Night.” (4-8) ● PW
Blue Sky (HC w/CD) $16.99

Kid Tea
Elizabeth Florencell, Illustrated by Glyn Dibuley
What do you get when you dunk two muddy kids in a bathtub full of clean water? Kid Tea! In this playful concept book, the bathtub water changes color every day depending on what the kids do. Young readers will never look at bathtime the same way again! (4-8)
Marshall Cavendish (HC) $14.99

Leaves
David Ezra Stein
It’s a young bear’s first autumn, and the falling leaves surprise and thrill him. At first he tries to put the leaves back on, but by spring he’s learned about the tree’s wondrous cycle. This bear’s-eye view at the changing seasons will charm readers with its whimsical illustrations and sweet language. (All ages) ● PW, ALA
Penguin Putnam (HC) $15.99

Little Red Riding Hood
Jerry Pinkney
Illustrated by a five-time Caldecott Honor winning artist, this beautiful edition of the famous fairy tale about the shy, scary wolf and the sweet, little girl in her famous red hood is sure to win new fans. The charming illustrations are warm and inviting. (4-8)
Little, Brown (HC) $16.99

Mind Your Manners, B.B. Wolf
Judy Sierra, illustrated by Liotto Seibold
In this wry retelling of fairy tale, The Big Bad Wolf (B.B.) is refined and living in the Senior Center when he is invited to tea at the local library. B.B. warns him that he will have to mind his manners, but he gets a little confused when he’s hungry. Full of fun visual jokes. (4-8) ● PW
Knopf (HC) $16.99

My Big Rig
Jonathan London, illustrated by Viviana Garofoli
Zoom! While playing with his toy truck, a little boy imagines himself driving an 18-wheeler through a city, across a bridge, and into the countryside. Finally, he reaches the coast where he unloads his cargo. His imagination would keep growing... but it’s time for dinner! (3-8)
Marshall Cavendish (HC) $14.99

My Cat Copies Me
Yoon-duck Kwun
A shy little girl and her very independent cat play hide and seek, and comfort one another. Children and adults will appreciate how the cat soothes the little girl and silently encourages her to explore the world and experience new things. (2-6)
Kane/Miller (HC) $15.95

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Kane/Miller (HC) $15.95

Schwartz & Wade (HC) $15.99

Sleeping Bear Press (HC) $15.95

Sally Lloyd-Jones, illustrated by Sue Heap
The narrator of this book has a lot of advice. Like babies don’t read books, they eat them. And babies don’t know if they’re a boy or a girl. And someday they will grow up to be clever (like the narrator!). Charming and fun, this book is a great update on the new baby genre. (4-8) ● ALA

Judy Young, illustrated by Kathy O’Malley
While some pastimes have come and gone, some favorites never go out of style. This book celebrates a dozen familiar games of childhood and invites young readers to come play. Colorful artwork lends a joyous spirit, reminding kids to drop those gameboys and get outside. (4-8)

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Kane/Miller (HC) $15.95
**New Clothes for New Year's Day**
Hyun-Joo Baek

Follow a young Korean girl as she dresses and prepares to celebrate the Lunar New Year. "A new year, a new day, a new morning, new clothes. We start the year with new things. New things, for the year older me." (4–8)

Kane/Miller (HC) $15.95

**Pink**
Nam Gregory, Illustrated by Luc Melanson

A sensitive story about a girl who adores pink. Her loving parents try to point her in a different direction, but what she really wants is the pink bride doll in the toy store window. Will she get her heart's desire? A touching story about what's really important. (4–8)

Groundwood Books (HC) $17.95

**Puff, the Magic Dragon**
Peter Yarrow and Lenny Utpton, Illustrated by Eric Paythar

The first picture book adaptation of the beloved children's song. Puff, Jackie Paper, and the Land of Honalee finally live on the page. Young readers can also enjoy the original song on the accompanying CD sung by Peter Yarrow, Peter Paul and Mary. (4–8)

Sterling (HC w/CD) $16.95

**Never Tease a Weasel**
Jean Conder Soule, Illustrated by George Booth

A new edition of a wonderful book with some very good advice: never tease a weasel, because teasing isn't nice! Rather, kids should do nice things for animals, such as bake a cake for their home, or give a mule a pool, and much more. With art by the great New Yorker cartoonist George Booth. (4–7)

Random House (HC) $15.99

**Rainstorm**
Barbara Lehman

It can be lonely on a rainy day in a big house with no one else around and only the quiet to keep you company—unless you find a mysterious key that leads you to an unexpected place. This wordless picture book retells old-fashioned Edwardian adventure stories, with a touch of rainy day magic. (4–6) • PW, SLJ

Houghton Mifflin (HC) $16.00

**Penguins, Penguins, Everywhere!**
Bob Barner

Penguins sliding on their tummies and swimming in the sea. Penguins cuddling for warmth and hiding in the shade! Bob Barner combines colorful collage images, solid facts, and whimsical verse to make this a funny, bouncy, informative introduction to the world of penguins. (4–8)

Chronicle (HC) $14.95

**Samsara Dog**
Helen Manova, Illustrated by Julie Vivas

Based on Buddhist concepts, this moving story about love and life, death and dying, will touch everyone. A sensitive and poetic treatment of the concept of reincarnation for the youngest readers. (4–8)

Kane/Miller (HC) $17.95

**New Socks**
Bob Shea

Something new can change the way you look; it can change the way you feel and, in the case of new socks, it can change the way you walk—especially if you're a chicken. Packed with quirky humor, retro style, and hip attitude. (3–6)

Little, Brown (HC) $12.99

**Sleepover Larry**
Daniel Pinkwater, Illustrated by Jill Pinkwater

Larry has invited all his zoo friends back to the Hotel Larry for an inaugural slumber party. Instead of the usual zoo mayhem, they act like a bunch of kids, watching a scary movie and staying up way too late. Charming and funny. (3–8)

Marshall Cavendish (HC) $16.99

**Old Mother Bear**
Victoria Miles, Illustrated by Moly Bang

A lyrical and beautifully drawn portrait of an old mother grizzly's last litter of cubs. An amazing combination of scientific information and a sensitive life-cycle story. This is a very special book for nature lovers of all ages. (4–8) • PW

Chronicle (HC) $16.95

**Please, Louise!**
Frieda Wishinsky, Illustrated by Marie-Louise Gay

Louise will not leave Jake alone. In desperation, he wishes Louise were a dog, but now he's terrified. Louise is gone, and a little dog seems to have taken her place. Now what? A wonderful and witty read-aloud story for siblings. (2–5)

Groundwood Books (HC) $17.95

**Pssst!**
Adam Rex

What happens when the zoo animals get bored? Laughs, jokes, and surprises abound in this graphic picture book about a feisty, all-too-helpful little girl and her role in aiding and abetting zoo animal shenanigans. (5–8) • PW

Harcourt (HC) $16

**Scribble**
Deborah Freedman

Emma likes to draw princesses. Her little sister Lucie prefers kittens. Emma and Lucie might not always get along, but can their drawings? A fun story that shows the importance of drawing outside the proverbial lines. (3–6)

Knopf (HC) $15.99

**Santa's Eleven Months Off**
Mike Reiss, Illustrated by Michael Montgomery

Ever wonder what Santa does with the rest of the year? Here he returns from his hectic December by embarking on a hilarious campaign of adventure and self-improvement—from sumo wrestling to international espionage to continuing education. (4–8)

Peachtree Publishers (HC) $16.95

**Sleep pictures**

RAISE READERS THE INDEPENDENT WAY
The Boy
Who Cried
Fabulous
Leslie Newman, illustrated by Peter Ferguson
Roger loves to describe the world around him. But when his parents ban the word “fabulous,” he must find a new word to express himself. Children will rejoice at all the “fabulous”—no manicured “No, dazzling!” things that await Roger when he steps outside. (4-8)
Tricycle Press (PA) $7.95

The Boy
Who Was Raised by
Librarians
Carlo Morris, illustrated by Brad Snead
This humorous tale of a curious young boy and his single-minded quest for knowledge is a heartfelt and affectionate tribute to librarians everywhere. Get ye to a library! (4-8)
Peachtree Publishers (HC) $16.95

The Incredible Book Eating
Boy
Oliver Jeffers
Henry loves books. To eat that is. Big books, picture books, reference books... red ones are his favorite. And the more he eats, the smarter he gets—until he gets sick. Can Henry find a way to enjoy books without using his teeth? (4-8) ● SLJ
Philomel (HC) $16.99

The Jewel
Box Ballerinas
Monique De Varennes, illustrated by Ana Juan
Bibi Branchflower has two of everything—except friends. When she comes across a beautiful jewel box, there’s only one, but inside two dancers spin. Perfect! But their sad faces make her wonder, and in the end her love and concern transform them all. (4-8)
Schwartz & Wade (HC) $16.99

The Luck of
the Loch Ness Monster:
A Tale of Picky Eating
A.W. Flower, illustrated by Scott Magoon
When a little girl who is a picky eater tosses her oatmeal overboard in Loch Ness, a little worm finds her discard a tasty treat. Of course, that worm grows, and a legend is born. Wonderfully illustrated. A treat for picky eaters everywhere. (4-8)
Houghton Mifflin (HC) $16.00

The Red Thread: An Adoption Fairy Tale
Grace Lin
A king and queen rule a beautiful and peaceful land, but they both feel a strange pain that worsens every day. When a pedlar’s magic spectacles reveal a red thread pulling at each of their hearts, the king and queen know they must follow the thread—wherever it may lead. (4-8)
Albert Whitman (HC) $16.95

The Short and
Incredibly Happy Life of Riley
Colin Thompson & Amy Liskit
Why is it that humans live for such a long time and are often unhappy with their lot, while rats live short lives that are mostly happy? This laugh-out-loud picture book about an important life lesson will appeal to people—and rats—of all ages. (4-8)
Kane/Miller (HC) $15.95

The Snow Leopard
Jackie Morris
Since the beginning, Snow Leopard has sung the stars to life, the sun to rise, and the moon to war and wane. But now he must find a caring singer who will follow him... With poetic text and incredible artwork, here’s a new myth with a timely environmental message. (4-8)
Frances Lincoln (HC) $16.95

The Surprise
Sylvia van Ommen
In this wordless story, sheep set out on a series of covert actions that result in a very sweet surprise for one of her friends. Young readers will love unraveling the mystery. Full of humor and wonderful illustration, this book will be appreciated by the whole family. (4-8)
Boyd’s Mills Press (HC) $15.95

Create Local Jobs
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SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL INDEPENDENT BOOKSTORE
**The Wall:**
Growing Up Behind the Iron Curtain
Peter Sis

Through annotated illustrations, journals, maps, and dreamscapes, Peter Sis shows in pictures what life was like for a child growing up behind the Iron Curtain. As a child he believed the party line, but as adolescence brought exposure to violence and troubling questions. By joining memory and history, Sis takes us on an extraordinary journey: from infant with paintbrush in hand to young man borne aloft by the wings of his art. (9–12)

Farrar, Straus & Giroux (HC) $18.00

**The Wicked Big Toddleah**
Kevin Hawkes

When a giant baby is born in Maine, Uncle Bert exclaims, "That’s one wicked big toddleah you got there!" And so begins this funny story about the first year in the life of the biggest baby ever. And how the small town copes with taking care of him. Kids will love all the giant solutions. (4–8)

Knopf (HC) $16.99

**Tim and Ginger**
Edward Ardizzone

In this beautiful new edition of a classic, Ginger pays no heed to the advice of the old boater about dangerous lanes when he goes shrimping. Tim bravely rows a small boat out to sea to find his friend, but danger looms ahead! (7–10)

Frances Lincoln (HC) $16.95

**Today and Today**
Kohayashi Issa, illustrated by G. Brian Karas

Told through 22 haiku poems, this book tells the story of a year in the life of a family—a year where they experience the loss of their grandfather and the renewal that comes from healing after loss. A lyrical look at life's many cycles—and the small miracles that occur each day. (4–8)

Scholastic (HC) $16.99

**Toy Boat**
Randall de Seve, illustrated by Loren Long

A little boy has a toy boat made out of a can, a cork, a yellow pencil, and some white cloth. The boy and his boat are inseparable until one day when the wind pushes the toy boat out into the wide lake. The little boat must survive the elements all alone. A gentle allegory for independence. (2+) PW, ALA

Philomel (HC) $16.99

**Treasure**
Suzanne Bloom

Bear and Goose are back. This time Goose believes that the paper in Bear's hand could only be a treasure map. And X marks the spot—but for what? Soon Bear and Goose are on a wild goose chase for hidden treasure. (4–8)

Boyd Mill Press (HC) $15.95

**This is the Day!**
Phyllis Gershator, illustrated by Marjorie Priceman

Babies: adorable, irresistible, lovable babies. And they are waiting for you to kiss their toes, sing them lullabies, and rock them to sleep. All you have to do is make room on your bike, or your ship, or your hot-air balloon! A lively and joyous celebration of wee ones. (4–8)

Houghton Mifflin (HC) $16.00

**Velma Gratch & the Way Cool Butterfly**
Alan Madison, illustrated by Kevin Hawkes

Velma's older sisters were perfect first graders. But when it's her turn, no one even notices her. That is, until the class trip to the butterfly conservatory. Young readers will enjoy all of the butterfly facts and Velma's amazing metamorphosis. (4–8)

Schwartz & Wade (HC) $16.99

**When Dinosaurs Came With Everything**
Elise Broach, illustrated by David Small

Get what? A free tree? Just when a little boy thinks he's going to die of boredom, the most remarkable thing happens. On this day, stores everywhere are giving away a very special treat: a tree. Not just any tree. A very big tree. Much bigger. (4–8)

Atheneum (HC) $16.99

**When Gorilla Goes Walking**
Nikki Grimes, illustrated by Shane Evans

Told through interlocking poems, this is the story of Gorilla, a loveable cat with a "tailless hump and her very proud air." A lyrical and vibrant book, this book will make readers wish they could bring Gorilla to their house! (4–8) PW, ALA

Orchard Books (HC) $16.99

**Who’s Hiding?**
Satoru Onishii


Kane/Miller (HC) $14.95

**Words are Like Faces**
Edith Baer, illustrated by Kyra Teis

Through the affectionate rhyme, young readers explore the many meanings and uses of words, and learn to embrace them and treat them carefully. A delightful look at the power of language. (4–8)

Starbright Books (HC) $15.95

**You’ll be Sorry**
Josh Schneider

"Don’t hit your brother or you’ll be sorry," says Samantha’s parents. But Samantha does not think she will be sorry. She’s wrong of course, as the consequences of her actions grow more and more outlandish with each turn. A great sibling lesson! (4–8)

Clarion Books (HC) $15.00
Abracadabra!
Magic with Mouse and Mole
Wong Herbert Yee

Minkus the Magnificent is in town for a show and Mouse and Mole can’t wait to see it. After the abracadabra, though, Mole is very disappointed to discover that magic is sometimes not exactly what it seems. How will Mouse help her friend discover the magic happening right in front of their eyes? Innovative frames within the illustrations will hook emerging readers. (4–8)

Houghton Mifflin (HC) $15.00

Go Girl!
Illustrated by Ash Oswald

Fly away, Fairies! Push off, Princesses! Hello, Real Girls! Check out this excellent new series about real girls and their daily lives at home, in school, with friends, and family. This is a series that both girls and their parents will love. (6–9)

#1: The Secret Club
Chrisissie Perry
Tasmin is new at school, and she misses her old friends. And now her new classmates have a secret club with mysterious anklets. What’s up with that?

#2: The Worst Gymnast
Thalia Kalkipsakis
Gemma loves gymnastics, but she’s just had the worst class ever and she’s not sure the coach will keep her on the team. Will her clever plan save the day?

Feiwel & Friends (PA) $3.99

Snarf Attack:
Underfoolde, and the Secret of Life:
The Riot Brothers
Tell All
Mary Amato, Illustrated by Ethan Long

Move over, Captain Underpants, a couple of new pranksters are in town. Meet 10-year-old Wibor, and his younger brother Cvilie, two guys who make even the most basic tricks into enmiable adventures—like foiling a bank robbery while walking home from school. This collection of three short stories is sure to make the duo plenty of new fans. (7–10)

Holiday House (PA) $6.95

Choose Your Own Adventure®:
R.A. Montgomery

Imagine what would happen if you could control the outcome of your book: make decisions, exercise your options, choose your path? Welcome to Choose Your Own Adventure®, the children’s book phenomenon that has been thrilling readers for more than 30 years. Now for the first time, CYOA is available in a series for early readers. (5–8)

The Haunted House
Your dog Homer escapes while you are out walking together. He runs into a house known to be haunted. Can you save him? YOU choose what happens next! (18 endings)

Chooseco (PA) $5.99

Caravan
You are traveling in a caravan from Tibet to India with your friends and family. Be careful not to get separated—the Abominable Snowman is looking for YOU! (9 endings)

Dodsworth in New York
Tim Egan

Dodsworth wanted adventure. He wanted to see the world. He especially wanted to visit New York City. What he didn’t want was to be joined by a duck. A crazy duck. A duck that misbehaves. Young readers will laugh out loud at the duck’s silly antics as Dodsworth has the unexpected adventure of his life. (7+) Houghton Mifflin (HC) $15.00

Just Grace
Charise Mericle Harper

Meet Grace Stewart, third grader. She loves cats, drawing, helping others, and making lists. In this charming introduction, Grace decides to cheer up her neighbor by sending him postcards from his cat. When the cat disappears, her plan goes astray. Full of quirky illustrations and lots of lists, this book is a humorous snapshot of third grade life in all its messy glory! (7–10) ALA

Houghton Mifflin (HC) $15.00

Tashi
Anna & Barbara Fienberg, illustrated by Kim Gamble

In this delightful series from Australia, Jack’s extraordinary imaginary friend, Tashi, is a gnomelike character who comes from a place far away. In this first book, the magical Tashi tells of being sold to a warlord and escaping with the help of a swan. With generous black and white illustration, this is a great title for new readers. (4–8)

Allen & Unwin (PA) $5.95

The Cat on the Mat Is Flat
Andy Griffiths, Illustrated by Terry Denton

In this collection of nine wacky stories, animals find themselves in silly situations and young readers will find themselves laughing all the way to the finish. From a frog on a leg chasing a dog, to a yak named Jack with a fondness for snacks, these hilarious stories will entice even the most hard-to-hook reader! (4–8)

Feiwel & Friends (PA) $9.95

Still Just Grace
Charise Mericle Harper

When Max, a fun new boy, moves in next door to Grace’s best friend Mimi, she is terrified that Mimi would rather be best friends with Max instead! Not only does it seem that her fear has come true, but Mimi is even friends with the disgusting Sammy. Now who will grace team up with? (7–10)

Houghton Mifflin (HC) $15.00

Polar Bear Alert
Deborah Pearson

Young readers take a virtual visit to Churchill, Manitoba, the polar bear capital of the world. In this frozen land where bears rule, even these magnificent creatures are under threat by climate change. A great title for reluctant readers. (5–8)

DK (PA) $3.99

Wiggle and Waggle
Caroline Arnold, illustrated by Mary Peterson

We wiggle and waggle, squiggle and squirm. Digging in the dirt is the life of a worm. Follow Wiggle and Waggle, two wormy best friends, through five charming chapters as they dig in the dirt, work hard, and have fun swimming and singing. Friends who dig together stay together, especially if you’re a worm! (5–8)

Charlesbridge (HC) $12.95
An Inconvenient Truth: The Crisis of Global Warming
Al Gore

Adapted for the audience who will ultimately have to deal with it, this best-selling book is a daring call to action, exposing the shocking reality of how humankind has aided in the destruction of our planet, and the future we face if we do not stop global warming. With clear explanations, full-color photos, illustrations, and graphs, this book will inspire a new generation to get involved and make change. (8-14) ALA, SLJ

Viking Juvenile (HC) $23.00

Atherton: The House of Power
Patrick Carman

Atherton is an extraordinary satellite world created as a refuge from a dying Earth. Then it begins to collapse and forever change the lives of its inhabitants. Edgar, a gifted climber, is a lonely boy scaling the perilous cliffs that separate the three realms of Atherton. When Edgar discovers a book which contains the history of Atherton's origins and its ultimate apocalypse, he decides to turn inside out. (9-12)

Little Brown (HC) $16.99

Barnstormers: Game 1
Phil Bildner, illustrated by Loren Long

It's 1899. The lives of Griffith, Graham, and Ruby are filled with mystery. Why do they have to travel with their dead father's baseball team, and why is their mother called Guy? Most of all, why do strange things happen when they hold their father's old ball? An atmospheric start to a series sure to appeal to a wide range of readers. (9-12)

Simon & Schuster (HC) $9.99

Candyfloss
Jacqueline Wilson

Floss's parents split up and she is now divided between her father who has a new family and her mother who has a new girlfriend. When their simple arrangement is thrown into disarray by her mum's decision to move to Australia for six months, Floss has to choose between them. A slice of family life from an internationally best-selling author. (9-13)

Roaring Brook (HC) $14.95

Diamonds in the Shadow
Caroline B. Cooney

When the Finch family is taken in by a church-sponsored refugee family from war-torn Sierra Leone, little do they know that the refugees are not what they seem. This taut thriller which unfolds through the alternating narratives of the teenagers, demonstrates that when it comes to the political and economic situation in Africa, little is black and white. (9-12)

Delacorte (HC) $15.00

Diary of a Wimpy Kid
Jeff Kinney

This diary in words and pictures does a masterful job of finding the hilarity in the everyday life of an ordinary boy on the brink of adolescence. Greg Heffley is thrust into middle school where underseized weaklings share the hallways with kids who are taller, meaner, and already shaving. He chronicles every nuance in the diary his mother makes him write. (9-12) PW

Abrams (HC) $12.95

Edward's Eyes
Patricia MacLachlan

This novel, full of deceptively spare prose, tells the story of Jake and his younger brother Edward. Jake knows Edward is "destined for something." It's a story of love between siblings set in the crispness of a perfect summer, as well as a story of letting go of that which is most precious. Lyrical and evocative with an important message about life. (9-12)

Atheneum (HC) $15.99

Emmy and the Incredible Shrinking Rat
Lynne Jonell, illustrated by Jonathan Bean

Emmy was a good girl. She did her homework without being told. She ate all her vegetables, even the slimy ones. And she never talked back to her nanny, Miss Barny, although it was almost impossible. She really was a little too good. This is why she liked to sit by the Rat. The Rat was not good at all...

Henry Holt (HC) $17.95

The Fairy Chronicles
Firefly and the Quest of the Black Squirrel
MariGold and the Feather of Hope, the Journey Begins
J.H. Sweet, illustrated by Tara Larsen Chang

Far from being soft and airy, the fairies of this great series come off more like superheroes. It seems that Mother Nature has blessed some ordinary girls with an extraordinary gift: they have been granted a fairy spirit, each as wild and powerful as their counterparts in nature. Their job? Defend Mother Nature and the humans too. An awesome twist on girl power! (9-12)

Jabberwocky (PA) $6.99

Good Masters! Sweet Ladies! Voices from a Medieval Village
Laura Amy Schlitz, illustrated by Robert Byrd

Step back to an English village in 1256 where life plays out in dramatic vignettes that illuminate 22 unforgettable characters. Maidens, monks, and miller's sons—readers will meet them all. A critically-acclaimed account that is witty, historically accurate, and utterly human. (10-1)

PW, ALA, SLJ

Candlewick (HC) $15.99
Hana's Suitcase
Karen Levine
A moving biography of a Czech girl who died in the Holocaust. Chapters alternate with an account of how the curator of a Japanese Holocaust center learned about Hana's life after Hana's suitcase was sent to her. Based initially on a CBC television documentary, this book shows how an awareness of the past can heal the future. (9–12)
Albert Whitman (PA) $9.95

Piper Reed, Navy Brat
Kimberly Willis Holt, illustrated by Christine Davenier
It's not easy being the middle child, especially when your dad is a Navy Chief. Meet Piper Reed, a spunky nine-year-old who has moved more times than she can count on one hand. From Texas to Guam, wherever Piper goes, adventure follows, inspired by an active imagination, a free-wheeling spirit, and a bit of sister magic. (9–12)
Henry Holt (HC) $14.95
Listening Library Audio $22.00

Pippi Longstocking
Astrid Lindgren, illustrated by Lauren Child
First published in 1945, this is the story of an irrepressible red-haired, freckle-faced girl. She lives with a monkey and a horse, sleeps with her feet on the pillow, and has found her way into the hearts of children all over the world. It has been given a sparkling new look with translation by the award-winning Tina Nunnally. A delightful full-color illustrations of the critically acclaimed Lauren Child. (9–12)
Viking (HC) $29.00
Listening Library Audio $14.99

Ranger's Apprentice: The Icebound Land
John Flanagan
Kidnapped and taken to a frozen land after the fierce battle with Lord Morgarath, Will and Evanlyn are bound for Skandia as captives. Aboard a fearsome warship, Will has sworn to their rescue and will do anything to keep his promise—even defy his King. The third book in the popular Ranger's Apprentice series does not disappoint. (9–12)
Philomel (HC) $16.99

Rickshaw Girl
Mitali Perkins
Naina paints traditional Bangladeshi ampara patterns, but she wishes she could help her father earn money like her best friend who helps his family by driving his father's Rickshaw. In the end, her own talent provides the solution. A beautiful novel that includes a glossary of Bangla words. (9–12)
Charlesbridge (HC) $13.95

Skulduggery Pleasant
Derek Landy
Meet Skulduggery Pleasant, ace detective, snappy dresser, razor-tongued wit, crackjack sorcerer, and a walking, talking, fire-throwing skeleton—as well as sly, protector, and mentor of the unusual and darkly talented 12-year-old Stephanie Edgley. A quick-paced noir adventure full of mystery and smarts. (9–12)
HarperCollins (HC) $17.99

The Strictest School in the World:
Being the Tale of a Clever Girl, a Rubber Boy and a Collection of Flying Machines, Mostly Broken
Howard Whitehouse, illustrated by Bill Slavin
Emmaline Cayley, a 14-year-old pioneering aviatrix, is afraid of one thing: plummeting to her doom. Fortunately, twelve-year-old Robert Burns, an indestructible village boy, is not. Abandoned unattached to body harm, "Rubberbones" is the ideal pilot for Emmaline's experimental flights. Great golly fun. (10–13)
Kids Can Press (HC) $16.95

The Faceless Fiend:
Being the Tale of a Criminal Mastermind, His Masked Minions and a Princess with a Butter Knife, Involving Explosives and a Certain Amount of Pushing and Shoving
Howard Whitehouse, illustrated by Bill Slavin
Having (barely) survived their last adventure, Emmaline and Rubberbones are back. They are not allowed outdoors, and they are not allowed to talk to each other. (10–13)
Kids Can Press (PA) $7.95

I Am Not Joey Pigza
Jack Gantos
Just when Joey Pigza's world finally seems to be under control, his good-for-nothing dad pops back into his life. This time, though, Carter Pigza is a new man after a lucky lottery win. He has even changed his name. He wants Joey to change his name too, but Joey is afraid he might never be himself again. The critically acclaimed fourth book in the Joey Pigza series. (9–12) ALA, SLJ, PW
Farrar, Straus & Giroux (HC) $16.00
Listening Library Audio $30.00

Little Klein
Anne Ylivieska
Little Klein can't seem to measure up to the "Bigs." His older brothers are a boisterous gang held together by the bustling, big-hearted Mother Klein. Try as he might to stand tall, Harold often feels little and left out—until one day when a stray named LeRoy answers his whistle and the two become inseparable. (8–12)
Candlewick (HC) $15.99

Paint the Wind
Pamen Muñoz Ryan
In Grandmother's house in California, every word and action is strictly monitored. Even Maya's memories of her mother have been erased—except within the imaginary world of a horse called Artemesia who embodies the spirit of the wild. She holds the key to Maya's memories. A richly drawn adventure about captivity and freedom, about holding on, and letting go. (9–12)
Scholastic (HC) $16.99

The Aurora County All-Stars
Deborah Wiles
Twelve-year-old House Jackson has been sidelined for a whole sorry year with a broken elbow. He's finally ready to play, but he's got problems. The team's only game of the year has been scheduled for the exact same time as the town's 200th-anniversary pageant, his best friend isn't speaking to him, and his little sister needs his help. A lyrical novel about one boy's transformative summer in a small southern town. (9–12)
Harcourt (HC) $16.00
Listening Library Audio $22.00

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Howard Whitehouse, illustrated by Bill Slavin
Emmaline Cayley, a 14-year-old pioneering aviatrix, is afraid of one thing: plummeting to her doom. Fortunately, twelve-year-old Robert Burns, an indestructible village boy, is not. Audibly unhurt by body harm, "Rubberbones" is the ideal pilot for Emmaline's experimental flights. Great golly fun. (10–13)
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Howard Whitehouse, illustrated by Bill Slavin
Having (barely) survived their last adventure, Emmaline and Rubberbones are back. They are not allowed outdoors, and they are not allowed to talk to each other. (10–13)
Kids Can Press (PA) $7.95

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and fairy tales anymore—if fairy tales were real, her mother would still be alive. But bad things happen in Beaumont. (8–12)

Harcourt (HC) $17.00
Listening Library Audio $28.00

The Garden of Eve
K. L. Going

Eve reluctantly moves with her widowed father to Beaumont, New York, where he has bought an apple orchard, despite rumors that the town is cursed and the trees haven’t borne fruit in decades. Eve doesn’t believe in things like curses, messages, incredible danger, and two ex-villagers hot on their heels, will they succeed? This book is packed with old-fashioned adventure! (8–12)

Little Brown (HC) $16.99

The Invention of Hugo Cabret
Brian Selznick

Orphan, clock-keeper, and thief. Hugo lives in the walls of a busy Paris train station where his survival depends on anonymity. When his world suddenly intersects with a bookish girl and a bitter old toy seller, Hugo’s undercover life and his most precious secret are put in jeopardy. An intricate, spellbinding mystery that alternates between text and luminous graphic sequences. (9–12) • Quill Award

Scholastic (HC) $22.99

The Lemonade War
Jacqueline Davies

Even Treksi is people-smart. He is good at talking with people, even grownups. His younger sister, Jesse, is math-smart. Feelings are her weakest subject. So when their lemonade war begins, there really is no telling who will win—and even more important, if their tight will ever end. A humorous exploration of what happens when an argument gets out of control. (9–12)

Houghton Mifflin (HC) $16.00

The Mysterious Benedict Society
Trenton Lee Stuard

Are you a gifted child looking for special opportunities? Dozens of children respond to this peculiar ad in the newspaper, and take the mysterious test. Only four children—Ray, Lin, Sticky, and Constance—succeed. When they are sent on a secret undercover mission to the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened, it will take all of their wit, intelligence, and special abilities to keep the meager plot rolling. (9–12) • SLJ, ALA

Little Brown (HC) $16.99
Listening Library Audio $51.00

The Name of This Book Is Secret
Pseudonymous Bosch

A story about Cass and Max-Ernest, two friends 11-year-olds who come together to solve the mystery surrounding a dead magician and the clues he left behind. With a mysterious case containing vials of liquid, encoded messages, incredible danger, and two ex-villagers hot on their heels, will they succeed? (8–12)

Little Brown (HC) $16.99

What-the-Dickens
Gregory Maguire

A terrible storm is raging. Ten-year-old Dinah is huddled by candlelight with her brother, sister, and cousin Gage, who is telling a very unusual tale. It’s the story of What-the-Dickens, a newly hatched orphan creature who finds he has an attraction to teeth and a penchant for getting into trouble. A transporting tale within a tale about the strange world of kids—bees—aka tooth fairies—and the universal need to believe. (9–12)

Candlewick (HC) $19.99

The Owl and the Pussy Cat
Edward Lear, illustrated by Stephanie Jorisch

The sixth book in the Visions in Poetry series reinterprets Lear’s well-known poem and turns it into an anthem for tolerance. Jorisch’s playful interpretation is a celebration of love and an exhilarating journey that takes us beyond the quirky charm of this favorite poem. (9–12)

Kids Can Press (HC) $9.95

Moxy Maxwell Does Not Love Stuart Little
Peggy Gifford

It wasn’t as if Moxy Maxwell hadn’t tried. She and Stuart Little had been inseparable all summer. If Stuart Little wasn’t in her backpack, it was in her lap or getting splashed when Moxy was swimming. But now it’s the end of August—the day before school. If she doesn’t get it read, there will be “consequences.” A wonderful story about belated falling in love with a book. (9–12)

Schwartz & Wade (HC) $12.99

The Seems: The Glitch in Sleep
Michael Wexler

Behind our world, past the stream of consciousness, and through the in-between, lies The Seems . . . and 12-year-old Becker Drake’s next mission. Becker will go anywhere in order to save the world from one endless, sleepless night. Would you? Great for fans of Eoin Colfer. (10–14)

Bloomsbury (HC) $15.95

The Seemstress
E.L. Konigsburg

When Amadeo moved to town, he seemed like every other kid, but he had a dream: to make a famous discovery. Also, he wanted a friend to share it with. When he and another boy find themselves working together on a house sale for Amadeo’s eccentric neighbor, Amadeo has an inkling that both his wishes may come true. A magnificent tale of art, discovery, friendship, history, and truth. (9–12)

Ginee Seo Books (HC) $16.99

The Mysterious Edge of the Heroic World
E.L. Konigsburg

Choose Your Own Adventure*: The Abominable Snowman
R.A. Montgomery

Choose Your Own Adventure: The Abominable Snowman
R.A. Montgomery

The classic interactive series is back in print for a whole new generation! The reader and Carlos are on an expedition to the world’s highest mountains in the remote kingdom of Nepal to search for the Yeti, otherwise known as the Abominable Snowman. Carlos arrives a few days early and goes missing from the Everest base camp. With danger at every turn, the reader must make decisions that change the outcome of the story. (7–10)

Chooseco (PA) $5.99
365 Activities
You and Your Baby Will Love
Dee's, Wendy Misl and Roni Leideman

Covering four age ranges—12 to 18 months, 18 to 24 months, 24 to 30 months, and 30 to 36 months—this book is packed with kid-tested activities, catchy tunes, and interactive games that channel a toddler's natural curiosity and energy into play that builds developmental skills, such as balance, problem solving, and language. Play and learn! (Family)

Firefly (PA) $19.95

A to Z Activities for Babies
Diane Benson Harrington

A series of alphabet flash cards packed with creative ideas for interacting with your baby and introducing your little one to the world of language at the same time. Each card features a letter, a word beginning with that letter, and a related activity that is bound to engage and excite your baby. Great for building family relationships. (Family)

Key Porter (Novelty) $12.95

Let's Start Art!
Drawing
Painting
Todd and Wayne South

Every great artist has to start somewhere. We love these kits for their materials and for the great 32 page project book included in each set that teaches kids the basics of drawing or painting. Drawing includes pencils, crayons, and stencils. Painting has watercolors, brushes, and stencils, and more. With the reusable take-along kit, little artists can take it on the road. A great package and total fun! (4+)

Silver Dolphin (Kit) $16.95

Look-Alikes Around the World
Joan Steiner

Take an eye-opening trip around the world! Using everyday objects in ingenious ways, artist Joan Steiner has created three-dimensional scenes of more than 40 famous landmarks and familiar vacation locales—from the spheres of Cape Cod to European chateaux, the Egyptian pyramids, and the Indian Taj Mahal. Great for lovers of Where's Waldo, as well as puzzlers of all ages. A must on car trips! (4–8)

Little Brown (HC) $15.99

You Can, Toucan, Math
David Adler, Illustrated by Edward Miller

Nineteen kinds of birds are featured in this collection of beginning word problems in verse. Introduces kids to addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division in a fun and unthreatening fashion. Math riddles encourage young readers to think about math problems as they study both the amusing verse and pictures. Solutions and tables are provided. (4–8)

Holiday House (PA) $6.95

Cool Stuff Science Kit
The Editors at DK

A hands-on extravaganza for budding engineers, this kit is packed with wires, lights, tubes, chemicals, and more than 20 cool experiments that give kids an up-close look at the forces that power our world. Great for visual learners and curious kids! (8+)

DK (Kit) $19.99

Pirate Ship
Jean Coppendale

Medieval Castle
Ben Hubbard

With these remarkable kits, young readers can take history into three dimensions. Part book and part model, the clever outer cases of these titles open to reveal a realistic 3-D castle or pirate ship. These fun kits come with everything needed to build models and stage scenes. Includes instructions, two-colour figures, over 50 press-out pieces, and an illustrated 24-page book with captivating historical narrative. (8+)

Silver Dolphin (Kit) $18.95

Would You Rather? For Kids
David Gomberg

Would you rather... burp the sound of a machine gun or cough the sound of bagpipes? Kids will stretch their imaginations and tickle their funny bones with hundreds of other wacky propositions. Enjoyable silliness for the whole family and great for getting everyone talking! (8–12)

Falls Media (PA) $9.95

Backwords
David Fuhrer

Kids can confound their friends with this fun and interactive book and DVD. Learn the tongue-turning talent of taking backwards along with other amazing word tricks and trivia. With games, cartoons, and demonstrations from the world's fastest backwards-taller, kids will become expert at talking backwards! (9–12)

Falls Media (PA) $12.95

Great Projects
You Can Build Yourself
Ancient Egypt
Camilla Van Vleet
Colonial America
Kits Bordessa

No matter if it's for a school project or just for fun, these books are packed with great hands-on projects for kids to explore. With extensive background information and accessible text, these projects can be made from everyday household materials and require little supervision. The featured projects go way beyond the obvious and are creative and fun! (9–12)

Nomad Press (PA) $14.95

How to be the Best at Everything
The Boys' Book
Dominique Enright

The Girls' Book
Juliana Foster

At last, the perfect guides for boys and girls who want to know how to do everything! Whether you want to light a crocodile, speak in code, read someone’s mind, or just tie a good knot, these books tell you exactly how to do anything and everything better than the rest. (8–12)

Scholastic (HC) $9.99

Bobbi Corner

In today's fast paced plugged-in world, sometimes all kids need to do is play. This wonderful guide offers hundreds of ideas for battery-free, screen-free, chimp-and-beep-free games and fun, with variations that stretch the imagination, spark creativity, build strong bodies, and forge deep friendships. A great family reference. (All ages)

Workman Publishing Company (PA) $16.95

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The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian
Sherman Alexie

Heartbreaking, funny, and beautifully written, this story as a "part-time Indian," which is based on the author's own experiences. Coupled with poignant drawings by acclaimed artist Ellen Forney, it chronicles the contemporary adolescence of one Native American boy as he attempts to break away from the life he seems destined to live. (15+.)

Little Brown (HC) $16.99

Eclipse
Stephanie Meyer

 Readers captivated by Twilight and New Moon will eagerly devour Eclipse, the third book in Stephanie Meyer's riveting vampire love saga. In the midst of great danger, Bella is forced to choose between her love for Edward and her friendship with Jacob. But with her graduation approaching, Bella has one more decision to make: life or death. (14+.)

Little Brown (HC) $18.99

Listening Library Audio $57.00

Memoirs of a Teenage Amnesiac
Gabrielle Zevin

If only Naomi had picked tails, she would have won the coin toss. She wouldn't have had to go back for the yearbook camera, and she wouldn't have hit her head on the steps. She wouldn't have woken up in an ambulance with amnesia. But Naomi picked heads. Gabrielle Zevin has crafted an imaginative novel about love and second chances. (14+.)

Farrar, Straus & Giroux (HC) $17.00

Off Season
Catherine Gilbert Murdock

Life is looking up after a rocky summer: D.J. is reconnecting with her best friend, and she has a thing going with Brian Nelson. She's starting for the football team—probably the first girl linebacker in northern Wisconsin. This hilarious, heartbreaking, and triumphant sequel to Dairy Queen takes D.J. from Labor Day to a Thanksgiving football game that you will never forget. (12+) 

Houghton Mifflin (HC) $16.00

Deadline
Chris Crutcher

Ben Wolf has some very bad news, and one year left to make his mark on the world and do something significant in northwestville, Trout, Idaho. But living with a secret isn't easy, and Ben's resolve begins to crumble—especially when he realizes that he isn't the only person with secrets. (14+) 

Greenwillow (HC) $16.99

Saving Francesca
Melina Marchetta

Francesca constantly battles her mother, Mia. Francesca wants her old school, but Mia sends her to St. Sebastian's, a boys' school that's just become co-ed. Now Francesca is surrounded by boys, with only weird girls for company. One day, Mia is too depressed to get out of bed and Francesca's family begins to fall apart. Can Francesca save her family, and especially—herself? (14+) 

Knopf (PA) $8.95

Shark Girl
Kelly Blingham

On a sunny day in June, 15-year-old Jane goes for a swim at the beach. And then everything—absolutely everything—changes. In Kelly Blingham's stunning first novel, she takes an unflinching look at what it's like to lose part of yourself—and to summon the courage it takes to find yourself again. (14+) 

Candlewick (HC) $16.99

Elsewhere
Gabrielle Zevin

Elsewhere is where 15-year-old Liz Hall ends up after she has died. It's a place so like Earth, yet completely different. Here Liz will age backward from the day of her death until she becomes a baby and returns to Earth. Is it possible that a life lived in reverse is no different than a life lived forward? (14+) 

Square Fish (PA) $6.95

Harmless
Dana Reinhardt

It was a harmless lie. Anna, Emma, and Mariah concoct a story about why they're late getting home one night—a story that turns their parents' anger to concern. The girls just have to stand by it. But suddenly the police are involved and the town demands that someone be punished. And then there is the man who is arrested and accused of a crime that never happened. (14+) 

Wendy Lamb Books (HC) $15.99

Listening Library Audio $14.99

Love, Stargirl
Jerry Spinelli

This sequel to Stargirl takes the form of "the world's longest letter," in diary form, going from date to date through a little more than a year's time. Stargirl mixes memories of her bittersweet time in Mica, Arizona with new people in her life. She reflects on the passage of time, life, love, and—of course—love. (14+)

Knopf (HC) $16.99

Listening Library Audio $25.00

Does My Head Look Big in This?
Randa Abdel-Fattah

Sixteen-year-old Amal makes the decision to start wearing the hijab full-time and everyone has a reaction: her parents, her teachers, her friends, people on the street. But she stands by her decision. Can she handle the prejudice of her classmates and still attract the cutest guy in school? Brilliantly funny and poignant. (14+) • ALA

Orchard Books (HC) $16.99

Happy Reading!
Slam
Walter Dean Myers
Seventeen-year-old Greg "Slam" Harris can do it all on the basketball court. He's seen as a player some go and go, but he knows he could be one of the lucky ones. But his grades aren't that hot, and when his teachers jam his troubles in his face, he blows up. Is he going one-on-one with his own future? (14+)

Penguin (HC) $19.99

Tamar
Mat Peet
When her grandfather dies, Tamar inherits a box containing a series of clues and coded messages. Out of the past, her namesake emerges—a man involved in the terrifying world of resistance fighters in Nazi-occupied Holland half-a-century before. His story is one of passionate love, jealousy, and tragedy set against the daily fear and horror of WWII. Unraveling the mystery will transform Tamar's life forever. (16+) ● SLJ, ALA

Candlewick (HC) $17.99

Tell Me Another Morning
Zdena Berger
The author captures the horrifying realities of the Holocaust, while also illuminating the small moments that enabled hope and survival. With spare, breathtaking prose, this book offers a vision that is indelible in its poignancy, its warning, its beauty. "[A] rediscovered masterpiece..."—The San Diego Union-Tribune (14+)

Paris Press (HC) $15.95

The Thirteenth Tale
Diane Setterfield
Reclusive author Vida Winter, famous for her collection of 12 enshrining stories, has spent the past six decades penning a series of alternate lives for herself. Now old and ailing, she is ready to reveal the truth about her extraordinary existence. She calls on Margaret, a young biographer who is troubled by her own painful history. Together, Margaret and Vida confront the ghosts that have haunted them and are transformed by the truth. (14+) ● Alex Award

Atria (PA) $15.00

What My Girlfriend Doesn't Know
Sonya Sones
Written in verse, this sequel to What My Mother Doesn't Know is a fast-moving portrait of a young man named Robin who is caught in the blush of first love, but also trying to deal with his artistic place in the high school food chain. Witty, poignant, and totally honest, this book takes a look at the tricky boundary between adolescence and emerging adulthood. (14+) ● ALA

Simon & Schuster (HC) $16.99

The Wednesday Wars
Gary D. Schmidt
Meet Holling Hoodhid, a seventh-grader at Camillo Junior High. He must spend Wednesday afternoons with his teacher, Mrs. Baker, while the rest of the class has religious instruction. Mrs. Baker doesn't like Holling—he's sure of it. Why else would she make him read the plays of William Shakespeare? As fate sneaks up on him again and again, Holling finds motivation in the most unexpected places. (12+) ● PM, ALA

Clarion (HC) $16.00

Wicked Lovely
Melissa Marr
Aislinn has always seen faeries. Powerful and dangerous, they walk hidden in a mortal world. Aislinn fears their cruelty—especially if they learn of her Sight—and wishes she were as blind to their presence as other teens. Now faeries are stalking her. One of them, Keenan, who is equal parts terrifying and alluring, is trying to talk to her, asking questions Aislinn is afraid to answer. (14+)

Harper Teen (HC) $16.99

The Dead Fathers Club
Matt Haig
Eleven-year-old Philip Noble has a big problem. His dad, who was killed in a car accident, appears as a bloodstained ghost at his own funeral and introduces Philip to the Dead Fathers Club. Philip’s father tells him that Uncle Alan killed him and that Philip must avenge his death. A riveting, imaginative, and quirky update of Shakespeare’s Hamlet. (14+)

● PM, ALA

Viking (HC) $23.95

Twisted
Laurie Halse Anderson
High school senior Tyler Miller used to be the kind of guy who faded into the background. But since he got busted for doing graffiti on the school, he’s stood out like you wouldn’t believe. He attracts the attention of queen bee Bethany Miller, who just so happens to be his secret crush. And that sets off a string of events and changes that have Tyler questioning his place in the school, in his family, and in the world. (14+)

Viking Juvenile (HC) $16.99

Listening Library Audio $35.00

Wildwood Dancing
Juliet Marilier
High in the Transylvanian woods at the castle Piscou Draculi, five young women and their duties are called. It’s an idyllic life for Jenna, the second eldest, who spends her time exploring the mysterious forest with her constant companion, a most unusual flog. The family’s peaceful life is shattered when their father falls ill and their cousin Cesar arrives. Suddenly everything they love is on the line. (14+)

Knopf (HC) $16.99

Zen and the Art of Faking It
Jordan Sonnenblick
When eighth-grader Sam Lee moves to a new town for the umpteenth time, he doesn’t try to make new friends, or be a loner, or play cool. Instead, he devises a plan to be totally different—pretending he’s a Zen Master. And just when he thinks everyone is onto him, everyone believes him... in a major Zen way. Funny and honest. (12+)

Scholastic (HC) $16.99
A Day in the Salt Marsh
Kevin Kurtz, Illustrated by Connie Powell
Beginning at sunrise, young readers are treated to an hour-by-hour look at the dynamic environment of the salt marsh. Through rhyming text, they explore the adaptations of animals and plants, as well as the ebb and flow of the tides. A great appendix includes games and information to take the knowledge further. (3–7)
Sylvan Dell (PA) $8.95

Revolution is Not a Dinner Party
Yu Ying Chang Compeseke
Nine-year-old Ling is very comfortable in her life. But when Comrade Li, one of Mao’s political officers, moves into a room in their apartment, Ling begins to witness the gradual disintegration of her world. In an atmosphere of increasing mistrust, Ling fears for the safety of her neighbors and soon, for herself and family. An amazing tale of survival during the Cultural Revolution. (10 +) ●PW
Henry Holt (HC) $16.95

Living Color
Steve Jenkins
A stunningly beautiful way to introduce young readers to how animals use their colors. Red, blue, yellow, green, orange, purple, and pink animals can be startlingly colorful. Why are they found in so many shades, tints, and hues? How do the brilliant feathers, scales, shells, and skin of these animals help them survive? Award-winning author/illustrator Steve Jenkins depicts a whole world of colorful animals in his signature style. (9–12) ●PW, SLJ
Houghton Mifflin (HC) $17.00

The Rainforest Grew All Around
Susan K. Mitchell, illustrated by Connie McMullen
An engaging look at all of the layers of the rainforest set to the tune of “The Green Grass Grew All Around.” From the dark forest floor, all the way to the top canopy, young readers can learn about the variety of life and enjoy additional information in sidebars throughout the book. (3–7)
Sylvan Dell (HC) $15.95

Where in the Wild?
David Schwartz, illustrated by Yael Schy
This gorgeous nonfiction book features 10 camouflaged creatures and playful poems to offer readers clues about where they’re hiding. Think you’ve spotted one? Lift one of ten gatefolds to find out if you were right. Detailed naturalist notes included. (4–8)
Tricycle Press (HC) $15.95

Buzz
The Editors at DK
This vivid book not only teaches the basics about insects and other invertebrates, it brings the amazing world of bees, butterflies, snails, millipedes, and spiders close up and personal. Three bug sounds are included in the cover to capture the interest of budding entomologists. Buzz, buzz! (8–12)
DK (HC) $19.99

Face to Face with Grizzlies
Joel Sartore
Ever been face-to-face with a grizzly bear? Joel Sartore has—and he lived to tell the tale. Through stunning photography and engaging storytelling, young readers witness a mother bear charge a human intruder, a battle of male bears, and find out the grizzly’s idea of fast-food take-out. (9–12)
National Geographic (HC) $16.95

Twelve Rounds to Glory: The Story of Muhammad Ali
Charles R. Smith Jr., illustrated by Bryan Collier
From the moment a fired-up teenager from Kuwait won 1960 Olympic gold to the day in 1996 when a retired legend, hands shaking from Parkinson’s, returned to raise the Olympic torch, the boxer known as “The Greatest” waged many a fight. The rap-inspired verse weaves and bobs and jabs with irresistible energy, while the bold collage artwork matches every move—capturing the “Louisville loudmouth with the great gift of rhyme.” (9–12)
Candlewick (HC) $19.99

Yeah! Yeah! Yeah!
Bob Spitz
It starts in the housing projects and school playgrounds of Liverpool, where four boys would discover themselves—and a new form of music called rock ’n’ roll. It takes us from the famous first meeting between John and Paul, down Penny Lane and Strawberry Fields, to America and the height of the Beatles’ success—all when they were still teenagers. It’s a book about teens that changed the world. (9–12)
Little Brown (HC) $18.99

Young Gardener
Stefan Buczacki
The perfect introduction for children to this rewarding and satisfying pastime, full of simple projects for a range of spaces, designed to capture children’s imaginations and fill them with enthusiasm for the natural world. Let’s get out and dig! (9–12)
Frances Lincoln (HC) $19.95
Polo: The Runaway Book
Regis Faller
Here's a new volume as charming as its predecessor, The Adventures of Polo. When the resourceful dog sets aside his book and drifts off to sleep, a curious creature makes off with it. Polo follows in her pursuit, setting the stage for a new adventure with seamless picture storytelling that evokes the worlds of classic animated film, comics, and books. (4–6)
Roaring Brook (HC) $16.95

Korgi, Book 1
Christian Slade
A gorgeously illustrated woodland fantasy about a young girl Ivy, her dog Sprout, and their amazing adventures in Korgi Hollow. In this first volume in the series, Ivy and Sprout discover some interesting things about themselves as they stray from their village and face danger for the first time. Wonderful wordless storytelling. Perfect for fans of J.R.R. Tolkien’s The Hobbit or J.K. Rowling’s The Harry Potter series. (4–8)
Top Shelf (PA) $10.00

Mouse Guard
David Petersen
In the vibrant world of Mouse Guard, mice struggle to live safely and prosper amongst harsh conditions and a host of predators. The Mouse Guard is the rodent guides and protectors of this engaging forest fantasy. Check out the amazing visuals that made this series such an underground hit! (8–+)
Archaia Studio Press (HC) $24.95

Mouse Guard: Fall 1152
David Petersen
(8–+)

Robot Dreams
Sara Varon
This moving graphic novel shows us the poignant and fragile relationships that are a part of the story. The first of the series, Robot Dreams tells the story of a robot who is trying to fit in with his human friends. But the memory of his own past friendship lingers. For the robot, the only relief from loneliness is in dreams. (8–+)

The Arrival
Sean Tan
In a heartbreaking paring, a man gives his wife and daughter a last kiss and boards a steamship to cross the ocean. He's embarking on the most painful, yet important, journey of his life—leaving to build a better future for his family. Shaun Tan evokes universal aspects of an immigrant's experience through a singular work of the imagination. (10–+)
Scholastic (HC) $19.99

Houdini: The Handcuff King
Jason Lutes, illustrated by Nick Bertozzi
This fresh, original graphic "snapshot" of Houdini’s life centers on his most famous escape, the jump into the icy Charles River in Boston. Biographer Jason Lutes and artist Nick Bertozzi reveal Houdini’s transformation from embarrassed jeweler to world-renowned illusionist. The book is packed with life and influence—from anti-Semitism to adulation, from egoism to insecurity—from his public persona to the secret behind his most amazing trick! (12–+)

The Plain Janes
Cecil Castellucci and Jim Rugg
When transfer student Jane is forced to move from Meto City to Suburbia, she thinks her life is over. But in the lunch room at the reject table she finds her tribe: three other girls named Jane. Main Jane encourages them to form their own secret art gang, but can art attacks really save them from the hell that is high school? (14–+)
DC Comics (PA) $9.99

American Born Chinese
Gene Luen Yang
In this critically-acclaimed graphic novel, three apparently unrelated tales come together with an unexpected twist, creating a modern fable that is hilarious, poignant, and action-packed. American Born Chinese is an amazing ride all the way to the astonishing climax. This is the first graphic novel ever nominated for a National Book Award. It's that good! (14–+)
○ Printz Award

01: First Second (HC) $16.95

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Move Over, Rover!  
Karen Beaumont, illustrated by Jane Dyer

Rover is snug in his house during the rainstorm until, one by one, his soggy animal neighbors join him. What’s a mutt to do? (2–5)  •  Theodore Seuss Geisel Honor

Harcourt (HC) $16.00

So Sleepy Story  
Liri Shulevitz

Everything is quiet in the sleepy house until music drifts through the window. What happens when the boy awakes to find everything in the house dancing? (2–5)  •  NYT Best Illustrated Book

Farrar, Straus & Giroux (HC) $16.00

Flotsam  
David Wiesner

A boy goes to the beach equipped to collect Flotsam—but there’s no way he could have prepared for one magical discovery. A wondrous, wordless picture book! (4–8)  •  Caldecott Medal, Quill Award

Clarion Books (HC) $17.00

Library Lion  
Michelle Knudsen, illustrated by Kevin Hawkes

When a lion shows up at the library, no one can think of any rule against it. Soon enough he proves his worth. A charming and timeless story. (4–6)  •  SLJ

Candlewick (HC) $16.99

The Little Red Hen  
Jerry Pinkney

The classic folk tale of help and consequences, updated by a living hero winning illustrator. Luminous and beautiful! (4–8)  •  NYT Best Illustrated Book

Dial (HC) $16.99

The Little, Little House  
Jessica Souhami

A wonderful adaptation of a classic folktale about a man who follows his neighbor’s advice to make his crowded house even more crowded, with hilarious results. (4–8)  •  Jewish Libraries Notable Book

Frances Lincoln (HC) $15.95

The Red Lemon  
Bob Staake

Farmer McPhee throws away a red lemon because it’s the wrong color. Little does he know that one person’s problem is another person’s sweet delight! Great rhyming fun! (4–8)  •  NYT Best Illustrated Book

Golden Books (HC) $14.95

Wolves  
Emily Gravett

When rabbit borrows a book about wolves from the Public Running Library, he becomes so absorbed that he doesn’t recognize the real thing when it comes along.

Silly humorous and delightfully illustrated. (4–8)

Simon & Schuster (HC) $15.95

Penny from Heaven  
Jennifer L. Holm

It’s 1963 and 11-year-old Penny dreams of a normal summer, but nothing’s that easy in Penny’s family. A wonderful story about the everyday and the extraordinary in one girl’s summer. (9–12)  •  Newbery Honor

Random House (HC) $15.95

Rules  
Cynthia Lord

A heartwarming story of a young girl who struggles with her complicated feelings about her brother’s autism. Ultimately, she learns that sometimes rules are less important than acceptance. (9–12)  •  Newbery Honor

Scholastic (HC) $15.99

The Dark is Rising  
Susan Cooper

Long before Harry Potter there was Will Stanton. He learns on his 11th birthday that he is the last of the immortal Old Ones, destined to fight the forces of evil. The first in an award-winning series and perfect for hungry wizard lovers. (9–12)  •  Newbery Honor

Simon & Schuster (PA) $8.99

Listening Library Audio $51.00

The Higher Power of Lucky  
Susan Patron

The award-winning story of one plucky 10-year-old girl’s quest to live, love, family, and the “higher power” that will give her the sense of belonging she craves. Quirky characters and an honest, sensitive heroine. (9–12)  •  Newbery Medal

Athenium/Richard Jackson Books (HC) $16.95
Listening Library Audio $27.00
Vampirates: Demons of the Ocean
Justin Somper
(I pray that as long as I live / That though I sing of Vampirates I never shall see /... the perfect blend of dread on the high seas! Ahoy, ye bloodsuckers! (9–12)
Little Brown (HC) $15.99

Freedom Riders: John Lewis and Jim Zwerg on the Front Lines of the Civil Rights Movement
Ann Bausum
A remarkable and moving account of two men, one white and one black, who were courageous fighters.
National Geographic (HC) $18.95

Stargirl
Jerry Spinelli
When Stargirl arrives at Mica High, the students are enchanted, especially Leo Borelock. At first... an emotional tale about the perils of popularity and the thrill of first love. (12+)
Knopf (PA) $8.95
Listening Library Audio $25.00

A Certain Slant of Light
Laura Whitcomb
For the first time in 130 years Helen feels them: human eyes looking at her. They belong to a boy who has not seemed remarkable until now, and Helen is intrigued. An engrossing supernatural love story with a great big twist. (14+)
Graphia (PA) $8.99

An Abundance of Katherines
John Green
Colin’s been dumped by so many girls named Katherine—19 in fact—that he’s developed a mathematical theory about it. But will it win him the girl? (14+)
Dutton (HC) $16.99

Bloody Jack
L. A. Meyer
Life at a ship’s boy is a dream come true for Jacky Faber. Instead of scavenging for food and fighting on the London streets, Jacky is becoming a skilled sailor. There’s only one problem: Jacky is a girl and she will have to use every bit of her wit and courage to keep her secret. (14+) ALA
Harcourt (PA) $6.95

Sold
Patricia McCormick
Told in poetic vignettes, this novel exposes the plight of a 13-year-old Nepali girl sold into sexual slavery. Heartbreakingly beautiful. A National Book Award Finalist. (14+) Quill Award
Hyperion (HC) $15.99

The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing
Traitor to the Nation
M.T. Anderson
A gothic tale becomes all too shockingly real in this mesmerizing magnum opus by the acclaimed author of Feed. A remarkable exploration of history and power. (14+)
Printz Honor, Horn Book Award, National Book Award
Candlewick (HC) $17.99
Listening Library Audio $45.00

The Book Thief
Markus Zusak
Set in Dresden during WWI, an award-winning story about an orphan named Liesel. Her family’s struggle to survive, and the poignant power of the imagination. Lyrical and unforgettable. (14+)
Printz Honor
Knopf (HC) $16.95

The Golden Compass
Philip Pullman
A landmark epic of fantasy set in a parallel world where the carefree life of orphaned Lyra Belacqua is shattered by the arrival of two powerful visitors. The first book in the critically acclaimed Dark Materials trilogy. (14+)
Random House (PA) $11.95
Listening Library Audio $29.95

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The Best Read Aloud Books of 2007

**Houndsley and Catina**
by James Howe, illustrated by Marie-Louise Gay
Catina wants to be a famous writer. Houndsley is an excellent cook. Catina thinks Houndsley is a wonder. Houndsley thinks Catina is great. In the tradition of beloved storybook friendships, here is a warm and funny story about true companionship, ginger tea, no-bean chili, and firefly watching.
Candlewick $14.99 HC $4.99 PM

**Alabama Moon**
by Watt Key
For as long as ten-year-old Moon can remember, he has lived out in the Alabama forest with his father. When Moon’s father dies, Moon follows his last instructions: to travel to Alaska to find others like them. But Moon is soon caught in a world he doesn’t know and he must adapt his survival skills to survive in the outside world on his own terms.
Farrar, Straus & Giroux $16.00 HC