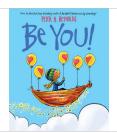


All the Way to the Top: How One Girl's Fight for Americans with Disabilities Changed Everything

By Annette Bay Pimentel This is the story of a little girl who just wanted to go, even when others tried to stop her. Jennifer Keelan was determined to make a change--even if she was just a kid. She never thought her wheelchair could slow her down, but the way the world around her was built made it hard to do even simple things. Like going to school, or eating lunch in the cafeteria. Jennifer knew that everyone deserves a voice! Then the Americans with Disabilities Act, a law that would make public spaces much more accessible to people with disabilities, was proposed to Congress. And to make sureit passed, Jennifer went to the steps of the Capitol building in Washington DC to convince them. And, without her wheelchair, she climbed ALL THE WAY TO THE TOP!



Be You!

by Peter H Reynolds

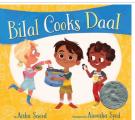
An inspirational picture book offers life advice for readers who want to be themselves. Replete with sparkling, often quirky illustrations of children living their best lives, this book is a gorgeous guidebook for those seeking encouragement while encountering life's challenges. The children featured — a racially diverse group ranging from infants to preschoolers—cheerfully navigate the various injunctions that flow through the text: "Be curious....Be adventurous....Be persistent....Be kind." What is remarkable about the book is that even though the instructions and the brief sentences explaining them are at times vague, the illustrations expand on them in ways readers will find endearing and uplifting. -*Kirkus*



Beautiful Shades of Brown: The Art of Laura Wheeler Waring

by Nancy Churnin

Growing up in the late 19th century, Laura Wheeler Waring didn't see any artists who looked like her. She didn't see any paintings of people who looked like her, either. As a young woman studying art in Paris, she found inspiration in the works of Matisse and Gaugin to paint the people she knew best. Back in Philadelphia, the Harmon Foundation commissioned her to paint portraits of accomplished African-Americans. Her portraits still hang in Washington DC's National Portrait Gallery, where children of all races can admire the beautiful shades of brown she captured.



Bilal Cooks Daal

By Aisha Saeed

When Bilal's father begins to make the South Asian legume stew, Bilal and his friends Morgan and Elias are eager to help, but Abu tells them, "This dish takes patience....This dish takes time." The children choose to make chana daal (with split chickpeas) and line up the spices: turmeric, chili, cumin. But when Morgan and Elias wonder aloud why the daal "looks" and "smells" funny, Bilal becomes concerned that his friends won't like his favorite food at all. The daal simmers all day—as Bilal, Morgan, and Elias play hopscotch, swim, and hike and other friends join them—and once the sun begins to set, Bilal's father calls them all home. They break naan around the table and share the steamy, soupy, garlicky, salty, sweet, creamy daal.

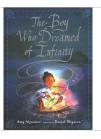




Birdsong

by Julie Flett

When a young girl moves to a new home in the country, her initial loneliness is soothed by a new friendship. It's spring and she is packing up her home in the city by the sea and moving to a new house. Her new home in the country has two trees, snowdrops, creaky stairs, and a older neighbor named Agnes. When summer comes, the girl begins her friendship with Agnes, who shows her the garden and all her clay things, shaped like birds and flowers. She visits Agnes often and they become great friends, and teach each other much as the seasons change. After the winter, Agnes can't get out as much and the little girl finds a way to bring the outside world to her.



The Boy Who Dreamed of Infinity: A Tale of the Genius Ramanujan

By Amy Andrews

In 1887 in India, a boy named Ramanujan is born with a passion for numbers. He sees numbers in the squares of light pricking his thatched roof and in the beasts dancing on the temple tower. He writes mathematics with his finger in the sand, across the pages of his notebooks, and with chalk on the temple floor. "What is small?" he wonders. "What is big?" Head in the clouds, Ramanujan struggles in school -- but his mother knows that her son and his ideas have a purpose. As he grows up, Ramanujan reinvents much of modern mathematics, but where in the world could he find someone to understand what he has conceived?



Charlie & Mouse Outdoors (Charlie & Mouse)

by Laurel Snyder

This gently humorous story captures familiar elements of a family camping trip, starting with the boring car ride, moving on to an eventful hike, followed by playing inside the tent, and a fireside cuddle with Dad and Mom while munching on burned marshmallows. The cast here is reduced to just family members, but the siblings' fantastic imaginations fill the void with creatures both real and make-believe. The strong sibling connection takes center stage in every chapter, with Charlie providing comfort and entertainment for his little brother using his expansive storytelling skills. -*Kirkus*



Chapter Two is Missing!

By Josh Lieb

"Wait!" the story starts, as the unnamed narrator/protagonist—personified as a kid in a bow tie and shorts—explains that someone has stolen the book's Chapter Two. Willing to pay any price to get the chapter back—because the book would not be complete otherwise—the narrator/protagonist enlists readers' help, asking them to contact Detective McGarrigan. Enter Detective McGarrigan, an extremely clueless detective who tends to misunderstand information and miss clues that are right under her nose. Cue the hilarity as the narrator/protagonist and Detective McGarrigan bumble through wordplay and metatextual references as they try to solve the mystery of the missing chapter. -*Kirkus*

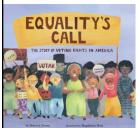




The Colorado Curveball (Ballpark Mysteries, Book 16)

By David A Kelly

If you haven't started this chapter book series, now it the perfect opportunity. Batter up! Mike and Kate arrive in Colorado to a ballpark covered in snow! Luckily, the stadium has a heater that can melt the fluffy flakes in time for next day's game. But when the ballpark engineers get a mysterious note saying that someone may tamper with the scoreboard, the snow becomes the least of the cousins' problems. It's time for Mike and Kate to switch into sleuth mode and solve a mystery that will take them underground, a mile above sea level, and even face to face with a dinosaur!



Equality's Call: The Story of Voting Rights in America

by Deborah Diesen

A poetic narrative charts the history of voting rights in the United States from the founders to the present, emphasizing that "A right isn't right / Till it's granted to all." A black woman at a blackboard instructs a class (and readers) in an inclusive "we" as the voices of democracy swell to affirm the expansion of voting rights. Diesen (in a dramatic departure from her Pout-Pout Fish series) and Mora effectively employ the drama of the turning page as, on each spread when the refrain is resounded, the number of people marching grows from two black women and a black man to a host of the historically disenfranchised. The final refrain is a crescendo, complemented by a double-page spread depicting a crowded, diverse line of marchers. As they march from left to right into the page turn, readers are reminded that "The journey's not over / The work hasn't ended / Democracy's dream / Must be constantly tended."



The Forest Man: The True Story of Jadav Payeng

By Anne Matheson

After years of harsh monsoon seasons, a forest on the river island of Majuli is in danger of being slowly washed away. Jadav, a boy living on the island, is determined to save the forest he loves. This is the true story of how one young boy dedicated his life to creating and cultivating an expansive forest that continues to grow to this day. In a world impacted by climate change, Jadav Payeng's inspirational story shows how one person's contributions can make a difference in helping to save our environment.

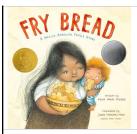


Frog Meets Dog

By Janee Trasler

In this book for emergent readers, Trasler's cartoon illustrations heighten the humor of her spare text, which has ample rhymes and assonance to support new decoders. While the title indicates just one frog, readers see that a trio of frogs (each evidently named Frog) is leery when Dog arrives on the scene, eager to play. Dog tries to befriend them, saying, "Hi. / Hi. / Hi," to each one in turn in speech-balloon text. The illustrations show amphibious rebuffs, and then Dog, defeated, says, "SIGH." The intrepid pup then tries to "Hop / Hop" like the frogs, but the result is a "FLOP."





Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story

by Kevin Noble Maillard A bright picture book invites kids to cook with a Native American grandma. Kids of all races carry flour, salt, baking powder, and other supplies into the kitchen to make dough for fry bread. Flour dusts the counter as oil sizzles on the stove. Veggies, beans, and honey make up the list of toppings, and when the meal is ready, everyone is invited to join the feast. Community love is depicted in this book as its characters gather on Indigenous land across the continent—indoors, outdoors, while making art or gazing at the night sky. This is about more than food, referencing cultural issues such as the history of displacement, starvation, and the struggle to survive, albeit in subtle ways appropriate for young children.



I am Brown

by Ashok Banker

Brown children around the world celebrate their uniqueness and their ordinariness in this inclusive illustrated poem. Together the text and accompanying pictures represent brown children in their diversity. Each spread features a collection of children in various outfits and costumes who collectively or individually state where they come from, what languages they speak (a U.N. of tongues including Russian, Tamil, Chinese, and Arabic), what clothing they wear, what foods they eat, what they like to do, where they pray (or don't), and who they are ("your roommate / ... / your friend / ... / your teacher"). The global outlook is a refreshing corrective to often confining Western understandings. *-Kirkus Review*



The Infamous Ratsos Camp Out (Infamous Ratsos, Book 4)

By Kara LaReau

In this short chapter book, Ralphie and Louie Ratso and the rest of the Big City Scouts are leaving the city to go camping for the first time. And they have a special guide: Grandpa Ratso! He was Scoutmaster when Ralphie and Louie's dad, Big Lou, was a kid. Grandpa teaches everyone the Scouts motto he still remembers, which says that Big City Scouts are always able to solve problems without asking for help. But the Scouts soon find that figuring out how to pitch a tent, make a fire, and find their way through the woods is tough to do by themselves. In fact, not asking for help isn't working at all! Luckily for the Scouts, someone unexpected comes along to set them all straight about what the motto really says: Scouts have the courage to ask for help and work together.



It Began With a Page: How Gyo Fujikawa Drew the Way

By Kyo Maclear

Pencil in hand, faced with an unjust world, Gyo Fujikawa created a new future. At 5, Japanese American Gyo Fujikawa didn't yet know what she wanted to be. She knew a pencil fit well in her hand, and she liked to fill empty pages with pictures of her world. As she grew, Fujikawa used her passion for art and her mother's activism to guide her education and inspiration. Defying gender conventions, Fujikawa attended college in 1926, when few American women did. Studying in Japan, she exchanged restrictive art classes for travel and aesthetic immersion. Back in the U.S., her family was sent to an internment camp on the West Coast while she began an art career at Disney on the East Coast, causing Fujikawa to lose her desire to draw. Eventually, she found a way to wield her craft to fight injustice. -*Kirkus*





Jack Goes West (Jack Book Series)

by Mac Barnett

In this book for emergent readers, that bad bunny Jack is back—and he's gone out West! Jack and the Lady arrive at the dude ranch for a three-day stay. Slim, the gold-toothed ranch hand, immediately takes a liking to the Lady. He calls her "ma'am" and kisses her hand, which makes Jack mad. That night, a bell sounds the alarm at the bank next to the ranch. The Lady goes to investigate only to find that Slim thwarted the theft but was unable to capture the bandit. A wanted poster reveals the bandit's long ears and scowling eyes. Could it really be Jack? The laughout-loud mystery unfolds over six chapters. -*Kirkus Review*



King & Kayla and the Case of the Unhappy Neighbor (King & Kayla)

By Dori Hillestad Butler King and Kayla's newest adventure involves digging into...mistaken identity! Many young readers have begun to grasp the unfortunate truth that sometimes you can show up in the wrong place at the wrong time, like Jillian's puppy, Thor, and be blamed for something you didn't do. It seems Thor likes to dig and wrecked Mr. Gary's yard when he got loose, but Thor tells King he did no such thing. When King puts the clues together with Kayla, they realize that Thor would not have eaten all the fruits and vegetables consumed and is not big enough to knock over a trash can. King decides to investigate with all the animals in the neighborhood while, together, Kayla and Jillian create case details. It's a whodunit mystery that dogs, cats, and owners come together to solve.



Lift

By Minh Lê and Dan Santat Iris loves to push the elevator buttons in her apartment building, but when it's time to share the fun with a new member of the family, she's pretty put out. That is, until the sudden appearance of a mysterious new button opens up entire realms of possibility, places where she can escape and explore on her own. But when she's forced to choose between going at it alone or letting her little brother tag along, Iris finds that sharing a discovery with the people you love can be the most wonderful experience of all.

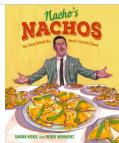


Mario and the Hole in the Sky: How a Chemist Saved Our Planet

by Elizabeth Rusch

This picture book explains the true story of how a scientist saved the planet from environmental disaster. Mexican American Mario Molina is a modern-day hero who helped solve the ozone crisis of the 1980s. Growing up in Mexico City, Mario was a curious boy who studied hidden worlds through a microscope. As a young man in California, he discovered that CFCs, used in millions of refrigerators and spray cans, were tearing a hole in the earth's protective ozone layer. Mario knew the world had to be warned--and quickly.





Nacho's Nachos --The Story Behind the World's Favorite Snack

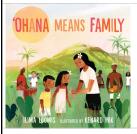
by Sandra Schleapfer

Ignacio Anaya was born in Mexico in 1895, and like a lot of Ignacios, he was nicknamed Nacho. Young Nacho loved to eat and cook, and when he grew up, he found a job in a restaurant. Eventually he became head waiter at the Victory Club, a popular restaurant in Piedras Negras, Mexico, right across the Rio Grande river from Eagle Pass, Texas. One afternoon in 1940, during the Victory Club's quiet hours between lunch and dinner, Mamie Finan, a regular customer from the US, walked in with three friends. They wanted a snack--something new, something different. Nacho rushed to the kitchen and improvised with what was on hand: corn tortillas, cheddar cheese, and jalapeno peppers. In that moment, Nacho's Special, the dish that later became known simply as "nachos," was born!



A New Kind of Wild

By Zara Gonzalez Hoang Ren lives with his mother and grandmother on the fringes of el Yunque, the rainforest in Puerto Rico. There, his days are "filled with green and dirt and rocks and mud." It's an idyllic "place of endless possibility, where anything he imagined became real," and so Ren plays with dragons, unicorns, fairies, and kings, and he goes to sleep to the croaks of the coquís. All this changes when he moves with his mother to the city. Its loud mechanical sounds crowd his head and leave no room for wild, making him feel lonely. Meanwhile, Ava, a girl who lives upstairs, is "never lonely. She loved her building and she loved her city." So when Ren tells her why he's not happy, Ava is determined to make him see the city with different eyes.



Ohana Means Family

by Ilima Loomis

In this read-aloud picture book, Loomis writes a beautiful homage to kalo, a cornerstone of the culture and livelihood of the Hawaiian people such as the land, elders, family, and food. Opening below a single bowl of purple poi, the text begins, "This is the poi for our 'ohana's lū'au." Using a cumulative pattern, it expands on where poi comes from to create a broader picture of the Hawaii countryside with a pair of presumably Native Hawaiian children as focal characters. They watch as the kalo, or taro, is pounded into poi, then, as the cumulative rhyme moves backward, they help in the taro patches of mud and clear water where the plants grow. -*Kirkus Review*



One Boy's Choice --A Tale of the Amazon

by Sueli Menezes

A young boy looks forward to going fishing with his grandfather and to bringing home a big fish that he hopes will put an end to his being laughed at by his friends. Exuberant illustrations that overflow their pages set the stage for the story. Grandad and child—who appear to be Indigenous—navigate their canoe through lush mangroves and past the magnificent Victoria amazonica lily pads as enormous fish swim beneath them. As they set their bait and wait, then wait some more, then move on to another spot and cast their net, Grandad tells the boy stories of the different fish that live under the water lilies. When they eventually catch a big arowana, the boy is dismayed when his grandfather wants to release it.





Our Friend Hedgehog: The Story of Us

By Lauren Castillo

Hedgehog lives on a teeny-tiny island with only her stuffed dog, Mutty, for company. When a great storm carries Mutty away, she embarks on a quest to find her friend. Following the trail of clues Mutty left behind, brave Hedgehog meets a wiggly Mole, a wordy Owl, a curmudgeonly Beaver, a scatterbrained Hen and Chicks, and a girl who's new to the neighborhood, Annika May. With bravery and teamwork, there's nothing that can stop these seven from finding Mutty, but along the way they discover something even more important: each other.



Queen of Physics: How Wu Chien Shiung Helped Unlock the Secrets of the Atom

by Teresa Robeson

When Wu Chien Shiung was born in China 100 years ago, most girls did not attend school; no one considered them as smart as boys. But her parents felt differently. Giving her a name meaning "Courageous Hero," they encouraged her love of learning and science. Along the way, she earned the admiration of famous scientists like Enrico Fermi and Robert Oppenheimer and became the first woman hired as an instructor by Princeton University, the first woman elected President of the American Physical Society, and many other honors.



Sadiq and the Desert Star

by Siman Nuurali

When Sadiq's father leaves on a business trip, he worries he'll miss his baba too much. But Baba has a story for Sadiq: the story of the Desert Star. Learning about Baba's passion for the stars sparks Sadiq's interest in outer space. But can Sadiq find others who are willing to help him start the space club of his dreams?



Swim, Mo, Swim!

By David A Adler

Mo is going swimming in the fifth title of the perennially popular, Geisel Award-winning Level 2 readers series by David A. Adler! It's Field Day at summer camp and Mo's group, the Guppies, is competing for extra ice cream! He and his friends are doing their best at everything from the three-legged race to the potato sack race, and as the day nears its end, each group has won one medal each. It's all on Mo to break the tie in the final event: swimming! Mo swims a lot faster than he knew he could, not because his team might win but because a fish keeps nibbling his toe.



This Way, Charlie

By Charles Santoso Jack, a solitary goat, lives at Open Bud Ranch, where "all kinds" of animals come for space to "heal, rest, and grow." Jack, who likes "keeping his space to himself," is initially irritated when a horse named Charlie arrives, accidentally invading that space. Gradually, Jack realizes Charlie's blind in one eye. He watches Charlie greet everyone, sniff honeysuckles, and follow sunlit patches—but also bump into things and seem lost, scared, even lonely. One day, Jack beckons him: "This way, Charlie," guiding Charlie to his favorite grazing field. Soon Jack leads Charlie everywhere, and they become friends. -*Kirkus*



UNCLE	BOBBY'S DDING	
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Uncle Bobby's Wedding

By Sarah Brannen

Uncle Bobby is getting married — but his niece Chloe doesn't know if that is a good idea. When Uncle Bobby announces at the first picnic of the summer that he and "his friend, Jamie," are getting married, everyone is happy except Chloe. When she expresses her concern to her mother, Mom says she should talk to Uncle Bobby, who reassures Chloe that they will still have plenty of fun together — and then sets out to prove it. They go sailing, and Jamie is the first to jump in when Chloe tumbles out of the boat. Roasting marshmallows over a campfire, Chloe happily says, "I wish both of you were my uncles" — and of course they tell her she will get that wish.



Vote for Our Future!

By Margaret McNamara

Every two years, on the first Tuesday of November, Stanton Elementary School closes for the day. For vacation? Nope! For repairs? No way! Stanton Elementary School closes so that it can transform itself into a polling station. People can come from all over to vote for the people who will make laws for the country. Sure, the Stanton Elementary School students might be too young to vote themselves, but that doesn't mean they can't encourage their parents, friends, and family to vote! After all, voting is how this country sees change--and by voting today, we can inspire tomorrow's voters to change the future.



We Are Water Protectors

by Carole Lindstrom

In this tribute to Native resilience, Indigenous author-and-illustrator team Lindstrom and Goade invite readers to stand up for environmental justice. "Water is the first medicine," a young, unnamed protagonist reflects as she wades into a river with her grandmother. "We come from water." Stunning illustrations, rich in symbolism from the creators' respective Ojibwe and Tlingit/Haida lineages, bring the dark-haired, brown-skinned child's narrative to life as she recounts an Anishinaabe prophecy: One day, a "black snake" will terrorize her community and threaten water, animals, and land.



Yasmin the Gardener (Yasmin)

By Saadia Faruqi

Meet Yasmin! Yasmin is a spirited second-grader who's always on the lookout for those "aha" moments to help her solve life's little problems. Taking inspiration from her surroundings and her big imagination, she boldly faces any situation--assuming her imagination doesn't get too big, of course! A creative thinker and curious explorer, Yasmin and her multi-generational Pakistani American family will delight and inspire readers.



You Matter

By Christian Robinson Using simple, lyrical text and expansive, colorful illustrations, Robinson assures readers that, no matter what difficulties they may encounter or how a person might feel, everyone matters: "The small stuff too small to see. / Those who swim with the tide / and those who don't. / The first to go and the last. / You matter." He points out that pests and those they annoy, those who fall and need to start over, and young and old alike are all important.