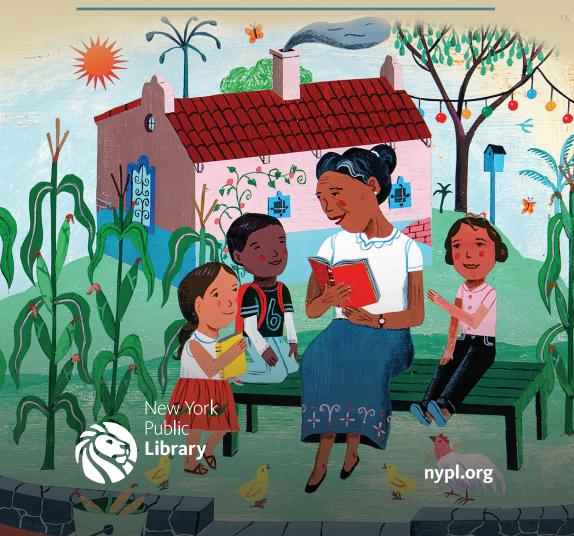
Children's Books

100 Titles for Reading and Sharing 2014





"Green is a chile pepper, spicy and hot. Green is cilantro inside our pot." —GREEN IS A CHILE PEPPER by Roseanne Greenfield Thong

Children's Books: 100 Titles for Reading and Sharing 2014 is published by The New York Public Library's Readers Services and Youth Education Services departments, and the BookOps Youth Selection department.

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Introduction

Welcome to the 2014 edition of The New York Public Library's 100 *Titles for Reading and Sharing*. Among this selection of noteworthy new children's books, readers of all ages are sure to discover stories that will engage their minds, kindle their curiosity, and ignite their imaginations.

This year's list contains books chosen by our librarians from the hundreds published in 2014. More than a century old, this list has always sought to reflect the diversity and beauty of New York City's readership. In these books, you'll go from the streets of Brooklyn to the jungles of Guatemala. You'll dig for mummies in rural China, dance in Harlem, and hide in 1942 Paris. These books will give kids a glimpse into lives both like and unlike their own and, with the help of adults, they'll not only gain a greater understanding of the wider world but become better readers too.

Parents, caregivers, librarians, and teachers all play a critical role in supporting a child's journey from emerging reader to confident reader. A strong foundation combined with regular practice can help foster reading skills and enjoyment that will last a lifetime. Here are a few tips to help raise a reader:

Make reading part of your family's regular routine. Nightly bedtime stories work well for many families, but any time of day is good. It's never too early to start, and never too late to encourage your child to pick up the habit!

1

Talk about what you are reading. Whether your child is reading independently or together with you, discussing and retelling stories helps deepen understanding, improve skills, and build vocabulary.

Let your children catch you reading! Keep books, newspapers, and magazines at home and demonstrate your own love for the written word.

So put visiting your local library at the top of your to-do list this year. Make sure to talk to a librarian to help you find just the right books to keep your family reading all year long!

Committee

Jessica Agudelo, Deborah Allman, Jordan Boaz, Karen Ginman, Ruth Guerrier-Pierre, Rachel Hanig, Louise Lareau, Theresa Panza, Kristy Raffensberger, Sarah Ross, Jesslynn Shafer, Anna Taylor, Lauren Younger. Co-Chairs: Rebecca Gueorguiev and Stephanie Whelan. Advisers: Betsy Bird and Jeanne Lamb.

Picture Books

(FOR CHILDREN AGES 2-6)

2

Abuelo by Arthur Dorros. Illustrated by Raúl Colón. *HarperCollins*. Lessons learned traveling across La Pampa with his grandfather prepare a young boy for his transition to life in a new city.

Anna Carries Water by Olive Senior. Illustrated by Laura James. *Tradewind Books*. Little Anna yearns to carry water on her head just like her six older siblings, but only overcoming her fear of cows will give her the push she needs to succeed.

The Baby Tree by Sophie Blackall. *Nancy Paulsen Books*. Where do babies come from? One boy sets the grown-ups in his life straight.

Bad Bye, Good Bye by Deborah Underwood. Illustrated by Jonathan Bean. *Houghton Mifflin Harcourt*. Moving is bittersweet, but new friends and adventures await.

A Dance Like Starlight by Kristy Dempsey. Illustrated by Floyd Cooper. *Philomel*. Growing up in 1950s Harlem, a young girl is inspired to pursue her dream of dancing by the first African American prima ballerina.

Dragon's Extraordinary Egg by Debi Gliori. *Bloomsbury USA*. A dragon wants a baby. An egg needs a mommy. An unconventional family is formed and proves that love trumps all.



Fox's Garden by Princesse Camcam. *Enchanted Lion Books*. Enchanting cut-paper art illuminates this wintry tale of kindness.

The Girl and the Bicycle by Mark Pett. *Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers*. A child's plan to earn money takes an unexpected turn in this heartfelt wordless tale.

Green Is a Chile Pepper: A Book of Colors by Roseanne Greenfield Thong. Illustrated by John Parra. *Chronicle Books*. Vibrant folk art and rhyming text will delight young readers in this book of many hues.

Have You Seen My Dragon? by Steve Light. *Candlewick*. You would think it would be difficult to misplace a dragon—but you would be wrong.

Henny by Elizabeth Rose Stanton. *Simon & Schuster/Paula Wiseman Books*. Put your hands together for this feathered heroine as she embraces what makes her unique.

Julia's House for Lost Creatures by Ben Hatke. *First Second*. A lonely girl welcomes a mythical menagerie into her home.

Kid Sheriff and the Terrible Toads by Bob Shea. Illustrated by Lane Smith. *Roaring Brook Press*. In this here tall tale of a yarn, our fearless sheriff uses his dino-smarts to outwit the local rapscallions.

Lindbergh: The Tale of a Flying Mouse by Torben Kuhlmann. *NorthSouth*. In his quest to escape to the sky, one little mouse must outwit a pack of animal foes and defy the powerful force of gravity.

Little Elliot, Big City by Mike Curato. *Henry Holt and Company.* A pint-size polka-dotted pachyderm needs the help of an even smaller friend to satisfy his taste for cupcakes.

The Mermaid and the Shoe by K.G. Campbell. *Kids Can Press*. Every one of King Neptune's 50 mermaid daughters has a talent except little Minnow—until a mysterious red object falls from above and she finds her true calling.

The Most Magnificent Thing by Ashley Spires. *Kids Can Press.* Never be afraid to make mistakes! As a girl and her dog set out to create something new, they must battle multiple problems (and a great temper tantrum) in their pursuit of perfection. **Nana in the City** by Lauren Castillo. *Clarion Books*. Who's afraid of the big bad city? When a grandmother knits her grandson a cape of bravery, he sees that sometimes new things can be wonderful.

Once Upon an Alphabet: Short Stories for All the Letters by Oliver Jeffers. *Philomel*. Not your average ABCs! Every letter has its day in this clever compendium.

Princess Sparkle-Heart Gets a Makeover by Josh Schneider. *Clarion Books*. Frankenstein for fans of tea parties. When her beloved doll is torn to shreds by a jealous pup, Amelia sets out to create a princess that is bigger, better, and more amazing than ever before.

Rules of Summer by Shaun Tan. *Arthur A. Levine Books.* "This is what I learned last summer." Thick paint and dreamlike scenes illustrate the often tempestuous relationship between older and younger brothers.

Shoe Dog by Megan McDonald. Illustrated by Katherine Tillotson. *Atheneum/Richard Jackson Books*. A precocious puppy's appetite for footwear leads to banishment from the Land of Upstairs.



"The city was filled with extraordinary things!" —NANA IN THE CITY by Lauren Castillo

Tap Tap Boom Boom

by Elizabeth Bluemle. Illustrated by G. Brian Karas. *Candlewick*. A rumble of thunder has New Yorkers running for the subways to wait out the downpour. Rhythmic text and collage plunge readers into the heart of the storm.

Three Bears in a Boat by David Soman. *Dial Books for Young Readers*. Three cubs encounter ocean creatures, squalls, and deep, dark caves in their hunt to replace their mama's rare blue seashell. Luminous watercolors bring this warm and wonderful bedtime tale vividly to life.

Stories for Younger Readers

(FOR CHILDREN AGES 6-8)

Dory Fantasmagory by Abby Hanlon. *Dial Books for Young Readers*. In her desperate attempt to get her older siblings to play with her, six-year-old Rascal's imagination goes haywire.

Frank Einstein and the Antimatter Motor by Jon Scieszka. Illustrated by Brian Biggs. *Harry N. Abrams*. A kid genius and his two homemade robots must defeat his archrivals, T. Edison and Mr. Chimp, to win the Midville Science Prize.

Leroy Ninker Saddles Up by Kate DiCamillo. Illustrated by Chris Van Dusen. *Candlewick*. Yippie-i-oh! It's love at first sight when an aspiring cowboy meets the horse of his dreams, the nearly toothless, spaghetti-loving Maybelline.

Lulu and the Rabbit Next Door by Hilary McKay. Illustrated by Pricilla Lamont. *Albert Whitman & Company*. Lulu and her cousin Mellie devise a plan to train the bunny-hating boy next door in the proper care of his pet.

5

Mikis and the Donkey by Bibi Dumon Tak. Illustrated by Philip Hopman. *Eerdmans Books for Young Readers*. On the Greek island of Corfu, Mikis's grandfather buys a new donkey to work, not to be a pet. Yet both grandfather and grandson learn vital lessons thanks to Mikis's love for the animal.

Night Sky Dragons by Mal Peet and Elspeth Graham. Illustrated by Patrick Benson. *Candlewick*. Breaking from tradition, a misunderstood boy uses his kite-making skills to save an entire Han when it falls under siege by bandits.

Oliver and the Seawigs by Philip Reeve. Illustrated by Sarah McIntyre. *Random House Children's Books*. A sentient island, a sarcastic seagull, and a myopic mermaid help young Oliver rescue his parents from the evil Stacey d'Lacey and his tribe of malicious sea monkeys. **Tales of Bunjitsu Bunny** by John Himmelman. *Henry Holt and Company*. Isabel's martial-arts training is put to the test in a series of bite-size challenges that combine unexpected adventures with philosophical wisdom.

Stories for Older Readers

(FOR CHILDREN AGES 9-12)

Absolutely Almost by Lisa Graff. *Philomel*. Albie may not be the best at reading. Or writing. Or math. But nobody's better at selecting doughnuts, reading Captain Underpants, and being an all-around great kid.

Audrey (cow) by Dan Bar-el. Illustrated by Tatjana Mai-Wyss. *Tundra Books*. A cow with a dream of freedom escapes a date with the slaughterhouse only to discover that living in the wilderness is an entirely different kind of challenge.



"Looping and leaping, rushing to dive/Circulando y brincando, hasta zambullirse."

---WATER ROLLS, WATER RISES/EL AGUA RUEDA, EL AGUA SUBE by Pat Mora

Boys of Blur by N.D. Wilson. *Random House Children's Books*. "When the sugarcane's burning and the rabbits are running, look for the boys who are quicker than flame." Charlie moves to Florida's Everglades, where he and a cousin discover the secrets of the Taper swamps.

The Cabinet of Curiosities: 36 Tales Brief & Sinister by Stefan Bachmann, Katherine Catmull, Claire Legrand, and Emma Trevayne. Illustrated by Alexander Jansson. *Greenwillow Books*. Prepare to be creeped out! Deliciously eerie short stories lure readers down dark and winding paths from which they may never return.

Caminar by Skila Brown. *Candlewick*. Sometimes running is the only option. It's 1981 Guatemala, and Carlos finds himself caught in a conflict that changes his understanding of what it means to be truly brave.

The Crossover by Kwame Alexander. *Houghton Mifflin Harcourt*. "The court is SIZZLING. My sweat is DRIZZLING. Stop all that quivering. Cuz tonight I'm delivering." Twelve-year-old twins Jordan and Josh have basketball in their blood. Josh tells their story in verse as they face new challenges both on and off the court.

7

Curiosity by Gary Blackwood. *Dial Books for Young Readers*. Hunchbacks, phrenology, prodigies, fire, murder, Edgar Allan Poe, legless Frenchmen, P.T. Barnum, and more fill this tale of a chessplaying automaton and the boy who controls his every move.

The Fourteenth Goldfish by Jennifer L. Holm. *Random House Children's Books*. Ellie didn't much like her grandfather to begin with, but now he's discovered the secret to eternal youth. Find out what happens when science goes too far!

The Great Greene Heist by Varian Johnson. *Arthur A. Levine Books.* Jackson Greene claims he won't pull any more cons—and then he discovers that the upcoming school election is rigged. This middle school heist novel includes a twist you won't see coming.

Hook's Revenge by Heidi Shulz. Illustrated by John Hendrix. *Disney-Hyperion*. Captain Hook's daring daughter Jocelyn vows to avenge herself against the crocodile that took her father's life.

The Jupiter Pirates: Curse of the Iris by Jason Fry. *HarperCollins*. When you're space-traveling privateers, treasure hunting is a family affair!

The Luck Uglies by Paul Durham. Illustrated by Pétur Antonsson. *HarperCollins*. Can the nefarious Luck Uglies save the town of Drowning from an onslaught of nasty monsters?

The Madman of Piney Woods by Christopher Paul Curtis. *Scholastic Press*. Benji and Red, two boys living two very different lives, try to discover the truth behind the mysterious stranger lurking in the forest nearby.

The Night Gardener by Jonathan Auxier. Illustrated by Patrick Arrasmith. *Harry N. Abrams*. Molly and Kip find work in a decrepit mansion populated by pale, haunted people. Will they resist the dreadful temptations they discover there?

Nightingale's Nest by Nikki Loftin. *Razorbill*. In this gritty retelling of Hans Christian Andersen's "The Nightingale," Little John commits a terrible betrayal when he finds the foster girl Gayle singing in a tree.

Operation Bunny by Sally Gardner. Illustrated by David Roberts. *Square Fish*. All it takes is a sweet witch and a man-size house cat to whisk Emily Vole away from her dreadful home into a world of magical detective work.

Ophelia and the Marvelous Boy by Karen Foxlee. Illustrated by Yoko Tanaka. *Alfred A. Knopf*. Ophelia must free a child who is living under a spell and defeat an evil Snow Queen before the Wintertide Clock runs out.

Saving Baby Doe by Danette Vigilante. *G.P. Putnam's Sons*. When Lionel and Anisha find a newborn baby at an abandoned construction site, their lives are turned upside down. This is a tale of one Brooklyn boy's difficult decisions, both good and bad.

The Secrets of Eastcliff-by-the-Sea: The Story of Annaliese Easterling & Throckmorton, Her Simply Remarkable Sock Monkey by Eileen Beha. Illustrated by Sarah Jane Wright. *Beach Lane Books*. Even sock monkeys have dreams. Throckmorton might be just a toy, but when his owner starts to unravel her family's hidden past, he becomes an unlikely participant in her adventures.



Secrets of the Terra-Cotta Soldier by Ying Chang Compestine and Vinson Compestine. *Harry N. Abrams.* Thirteen-year-old Ming and his father live in a rural Chinese village. There he meets a talking statue and must save an immortal clay army from imminent destruction.

Seven Wild Sisters: A Modern Fairy Tale by Charles de Lint. Illustrated by Charles Vess. *Little, Brown and Company*. When Sarah Jane's six feisty sisters are taken hostage by two tribes of warring fairies, it's up to her to save the day. This lushly illustrated story is perfect for bedtime.

A Snicker of Magic by Natalie Lloyd. *Scholastic Press*. In the town of Midnight Gulch, where things magical and amazing still linger, 12-year-old Felicity must find a way to break her family's curse and find a place to call home.

Under the Egg by Laura Marx Fitzgerald. *Dial Books for Young Readers*. Why did Theodora's grandfather paint over a potentially priceless painting? A no-nonsense girl discovers a stunning work of art and must unravel a centuries-old mystery.



"That evening there was a warm fire and toast and tea." —JULIA'S HOUSE FOR LOST CREATURES by Ben Hatke



"There is no sleeping here..." —NANA IN THE CITY by Lauren Castillo

Graphic Books

Bruno & Lulu's Playground Adventures by Patricia Lakin. Illustrated by Kirstie Edmunds. *Dial Books for Young Readers*. A squirrely tale! Even though they don't always see eye to eye, these best friends know how to have a good time. (*Ages 6–8*)

El Deafo by Cece Bell. *Harry N. Abrams*. Mild-mannered Cece envisions herself a superhero and searches for a best friend with the help of her new Phonic Ear. It hears everything. (*Ages* 9–12)

The Dumbest Idea Ever! by Jimmy Gownley. *GRAPHIX*. In this fictionalized memoir, Jimmy, middle school comic-book enthusiast, goes from hero to zero after a bout of chicken pox. (*Ages* 9–12)

Hidden: A Child's Story of the Holocaust by Loïc Dauvillier. Illustrated by Marc Lizano and Greg Salsedo. *First Second*. Elsa's grandmother finds the courage to recount her childhood memories of living as a Jewish girl in 1942 Paris. (*Ages* 9–12)

Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales: Treaties, Trenches, Mud and Blood by Nathan Hale. *Harry N. Abrams*. A cast from the animal kingdom reenacts the bloody events of World War I. (*Ages 10 and up*)

Phoebe and Her Unicorn by Dana Simpson. *Andrews McMeel Publishing*. Phoebe realizes her greatest wish when she meets a sassy, self-absorbed, snarky unicorn by the name of Marigold Heavenly Nostrils. (*Ages* 9–12)

Sisters by Raina Telgemeier. *GRAPHIX*. An escaped snake, a battery-less Walkman, and a broken-down van do not a harmonious family vacation make. (*Ages* 9-12)

The Stratford Zoo Midnight Revue Presents MacBeth by Ian Lendler and Zack Giallongo. *First Second*. Shakespeare in the zoo. A troupe of animal thespians presents the Bard's work as you've never seen it before. Bring your ketchup! (Ages 9-12)

Folktales and Fairy Tales

(FOR ALL AGES)

The Fox and the Crow by Manasi Subramaniam. Illustrated by Culpeo S. Fox. *Karadi Tales*. This is a visually stunning, noirish retelling of the classic Aesop fable.

Issun Bôshi: The One-Inch Boy by Icinori. *Little Gestalten*. A diminutive hero with a big heart defeats an ogre in this beloved Japanese folktale.

The Little Mermaid and Other Fishy Tales by Jane Ray. *Boxer Books*. Dive into this breathtaking collection of aquatic stories and poems set around the world.

My Grandfather's Coat by Jim Aylesworth. Illustrated by Barbara McClintock. *Scholastic Press.* The gradual transformation of a coat connects a family across generations in this heartwarming immigrant story.

The Princess of the Springs: A Story from Brazil by Mary Finch. Illustrated by Martina Peluso. *Barefoot Books*. The rain forests of Brazil are the backdrop for this lesser-known myth of love, loss, and family devotion.

The Princess Who Had No Kingdom by Ursula Jones. Illustrated by Sarah Gibb. *Albert Whitman & Company*. An unconventional heroine finds her place in the world in this new tongue-in-cheek tale, accompanied by richly illustrated cut-paper silhouettes.

Puss & Boots by Ayano Imai. *Minedition*. Readers of all ages will enjoy this re-boot of the classic yarn.

The Six Swans by the Brothers Grimm. Illustrated by Gerda Raidt. *NorthSouth*. When dark enchantments abound, a brave sister must rescue her brothers from dire consequences.

Poetry

(FOR ALL AGES)

12

Food Trucks! by Mark Todd. *Houghton Mifflin Harcourt*. These verses serve up a palette of international cuisine, from tacos and samosas to barbecue and sushi. Don't forget a healthy portion of dessert!

Hi, Koo!: A Year in Seasons by Jon J. Muth. *Scholastic Press.* Explore an ever-changing world with Koo the panda in this poetic tribute to traditional Japanese verse.

Poem-Mobiles: Crazy Car Poems by J. Patrick Lewis and Douglas Florian. Illustrated by Jeremy Holmes. *Schwartz & Wade*. Meet the Dragon Wagon, the Sloppy Floppy Non-Stop Jalopy, the Caterpillar Cab, and others as you zoom through these eye-popping pages.

A Pond Full of Ink by Annie M.G. Schmidt. Illustrated by Sieb Posthuma. *Eerdmans Books for Young Readers*. Ribald art and kooky poems combine in this sly, silly collection of subversive verse.

Water Rolls, Water Rises/El Agua Rueda, El Agua Sube by Pat Mora. Illustrated by Meilo So. *Lee & Low Books*. This bilingual story celebrates excursions to watery landscapes around the world. **Winter Bees and Other Poems of the Cold** by Joyce Sidman. Illustrated by Rick Allen. *Houghton Mifflin Harcourt*. "Dusk fell/and the cold came creeping,/came prickling into our hearts."

Nonfiction

Angel Island: Gateway to Gold Mountain by Russell Freedman. *Clarion Books*. A West Coast park ranger stumbles across an abandoned building filled with poetic graffiti in this fresh look at immigration's lesser-known history. (*Ages 9 and up*)

At Home in Her Tomb: Lady Dai and the Ancient Chinese Treasures of Mawangdui by Christine Liu-Perkins. Illustrated by Sarah S. Brannen. *Charlesbridge.* Who knew that a Han burial site would contain the world's most perfectly preserved ancient corpse. (*Ages 10 and up*)

Ballerina Dreams: From Orphan to Dancer by Michaela DePrince and Elaine DePrince. Illustrated by Frank Morrison. *Random House Children's Books*. From an orphanage in Sierra Leone to the stages of New York City, Michaela overcomes adversity to pursue her love of dance. (*Ages* 4–7)



"Water burbles in springs/El agua burbujea en los manantiales." —WATER ROLLS, WATER RISES/EL AGUA RUEDA, EL AGUA SUBE by Pat Mora

Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson. *Nancy Paulsen Books*. This vivid memoir, told from a child's perspective through narrative poetry, recalls the author's life during the tumultuous 1960s in both the South and the North. (*Ages 9 and up*)

Buried Sunlight: How Fossil Fuels Have Changed the Earth by Molly Bang and Penny Chisholm. *The Blue Sky Press*. Have you ever wondered how fossil fuels were created? Breathtaking paintings and engaging writing help explain the carbon balance of the planet. (*Ages 6–10*)

Chasing Cheetahs: The Race to Save Africa's Fastest Cat by Sy Montgomery. Photos by Nic Bishop. *Houghton Mifflin Harcourt*. The fastest cat in the world needs help. One woman's passion for saving this lightning-quick feline could make a difference. (*Ages 10 and up*)

Everybody Paints! The Lives and Art of the Wyeth Family by Susan Goldman Rubin. *Chronicle Books*. Three generations of the renowned Wyeth family create everything from picture books to presidential portraits. Chock-full of lush reproductions, this book features writing as captivating as its art. (*Ages 10 and up*)

The Girl from the Tar Paper School: Barbara Rose Johns and the Advent of the Civil Rights Movement by Teri Kanefield. *Abrams Books for Young Readers*. In 1951, a little-known heroine inspires fellow students to advocate for equitable conditions in their classrooms. The Civil Rights movement has many unique stories, and this is one of them. (*Ages 9–12*)

Grandfather Gandhi by Arun Gandhi and Bethany Hegedus. Illustrated by Evan Turk. *Atheneum Books for Young Readers*. A grandson learns from his bapu that anger is like lightning. You can use it to destroy or you can use it to light the world. Which will you choose? (*Ages* 6-8)

Greek Mythology by Ken Jennings. Illustrated by Mike Lowery. *Little Simon*. Cartoon illustrations transform this guidebook into an adventurous who's who of ancient deities and heroes. (*Ages* 9–12)

The Griffin and the Dinosaur: How Adrienne Mayor Discovered a Fascinating Link Between Myth and Science by Marc Aronson and Adrienne Mayor. Illustrated by Chris Muller. *National Geographic*. This remarkable historical mystery reveals the unexpected ties between past legends and present facts. (*Ages 10 and up*)



"...and the troll picked out the music."

—JULIA'S HOUSE FOR LOST CREATURES by Ben Hatke

Guys Read: True Stories edited by Jon Scieszka. Illustrated by Brian Floca. *Walden Pond Press*. These real-life accounts of drinking urine, sleeping on a mound of maggots, and deadly dental care will keep you on the edge of your seat. (*Ages 10 and up*)

Handle with Care: An Unusual Butterfly Journey by Loree Griffin Burns. Photos by Ellen Harasimowicz. *Millbrook Press*. Follow a crop of jet-setting chrysalises from their birth in Costa Rica to your local butterfly conservatory. *(Ages 9–12)*

He Has Shot the President! by Don Brown. *Roaring Brook Press.* You may think you know the story of Lincoln's assassination... but do you really? (Ages 9-12)

Josephine: The Dazzling Life of Josephine Baker by Patricia Hruby Powell. Illustrated by Christian Robinson. *Chronicle Books*. Meet Miss Baker, passionate performer and civil rights advocate. (*Ages* 9–12)



"The city was busy. The city was loud."

—NANA IN THE CITY by Lauren Castillo

Mama Built a Little Nest by Jennifer Ward. Illustrated by Steve Jenkins. *Beach Lane Books*. Check out the amazing ways these hardworking mom (and dad) hummingbirds, penguins, and owls make perfect homes for their families. (*Ages* 9-12)

My Country, 'Tis of Thee: How One Song Reveals the History of Civil Rights by Claire Rudolf Murphy. Illustrated by Bryan Collier. *Henry Holt and Company*. Discover the unexpected history behind one of the most familiar national tunes and its ever-evolving lyrics. (*Ages* 9–12)

Neighborhood Sharks: Hunting the Great White Sharks of California's Farallon Islands by Katherine Roy. *David Macaulay Studio*. SNAP! Cleverly detailed diagrams illustrate the perfect killing machine that is your average great white shark. (*Ages* 9–12)

16

Separate Is Never Equal: Sylvia Mendez & Her Family's Fight

for Desegregation by Duncan Tonatiuh. *Abrams Books for Young Readers*. Faced with the deplorable state of the "Mexican school" their children are forced to attend, the Mendez family fights back. This landmark case paved the way for *Brown v. Board of Education*. (*Ages 9–12*)

Star Stuff: Carl Sagan and the Mysteries of the Cosmos

by Stephanie Roth Sisson. *Roaring Brook Press*. Stargazing from a Brooklyn rooftop launches a young boy on a lifelong exploration of the galaxy. (*Ages 6–10*)

Stubby the War Dog: The True Story of World War I's Bravest Dog

by Ann Bausum. *National Geographic*. From stray mutt to war hero, this stump-tailed terrier became a national celebrity and household name. (*Ages 9–12*)

Thomas Jefferson: Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Everything

by Maira Kalman. *Nancy Paulsen Books*. This engaging introduction to one of the country's Founding Fathers reveals a complex character whose life was filled with contradictions. (Ages 6-10)

When Lunch Fights Back: Wickedly Clever Animal Defenses

by Rebecca L. Johnson. *Millbrook Press*. Deliciously creepy! Read how a good defense can be the difference between staying alive and being someone else's tasty snack. (Ages 9-12)

Acknowledgments

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NANA IN THE CITY by Lauren Castillo, published by Clarion Books/Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

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