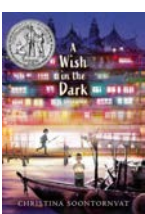


Top Science Fiction & IRIS Books for 6th Grade



A WISH IN THE DARK BY CHRISTINA SOONTORNVAT

A boy on the run. A girl determined to find him. All light in Chattana is created by one man – the Governor, who appeared after the Great Fire to bring peace and order to the city. For Pong, who was born in Namwon Prison, the magical lights represent freedom, and he dreams of the day he will be able to walk among them. But when Pong escapes from prison, he realizes that the world outside is no fairer than the one behind bars. The wealthy dine and dance under bright orb light, while the poor toil away in darkness. Worst of all, Pong’s prison tattoo marks him as a fugitive who can never be truly free. Nok, the prison warden’s perfect daughter, is bent on tracking Pong down and restoring her family’s good name. But as Nok hunts Pong through the alleys and canals of Chattana, she uncovers secrets that make her question the truths she has always held dear.



WINTERBOURNE HOME FOR VENGEANCE AND VALOR BY ALLY CARTER

When 11-year-old April joins a group of kids living at Winterborne Home she doesn’t expect to be there for very long. But she soon learns that this home isn’t like any of the others – especially when she unearths the secret of the missing-and-presumed-dead billionaire, Gabriel Winterborne, who is neither missing nor dead but is actually living in a basement lair, sharpening his swords and looking for vengeance. Now that April knows Gabriel Winterborne is alive, she must turn to the other orphans to keep him that way. As a looming new danger threatens to take Gabriel down once and for all, they must use their individual talents to find a way to make sure this home for misfits isn’t lost to them for ever. Because at the Winterborne Home, nothing is what it seems, no one is who they say they are and nowhere is safe. And now a ragtag group of orphans must unravel the riddle of a missing heir, a supposed phantom and a secret key, all without alerting the adults of Winterborne House that trouble is afoot.



FLIGHT OF THE PUFFIN BY ANN BRADEN

Libby comes from a long line of bullies. She wants to be different, but sometimes that doesn’t work out. Now she’s suspended again. On the opposite side of the country lives Vincent, a kid who loves the mathematician Katherine Johnson and being a non-conformist, who’s trying hard not to get stuffed into lockers at his new school. But that’s not working out too well either. Nearby is T, who couldn’t take living at home anymore and is determined to survive on a rainy sidewalk. And then there’s Jack, a big-hearted kid so engaged in the fight to keep his small rural school open that he’s lost focus on the ones who need him most. Four kids. Four different lives. And then... one card with a message of hope takes flight and starts a chain reaction, helping each kid summon the thing they need, whether it’s bravery, empathy, or understanding. But best of all, it makes each one realize they matter -- and that they’re not flying solo anymore.



WHEN STARS ARE SCATTERED BY VICTORIA JAMIESON

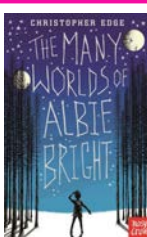
Omar and his younger brother, Hassan, have spent most of their lives in Dadaab, a refugee camp in Kenya. Life is hard there: never enough food, achingly dull, and without access to the medical care Omar knows his nonverbal brother needs. So when Omar has the opportunity to go to school, he knows it might be a chance to change their future . . . but it would also mean leaving his brother, the only family member he has left, every day.

Heartbreak, hope, and gentle humor exist together in this graphic novel about a childhood spent waiting, and a young man who is able to create a sense of family and home in the most difficult of settings.



THE THIRD MUSHROOM (SERIES) BY JENNIFER L HOLM

Ellie’s grandpa Melvin is a world-renowned scientist . . . in the body of a fourteen-year-old boy. His feet stink, and he eats everything in the refrigerator--and Ellie is so happy to have him around. Grandpa may not exactly fit in at middle school, but he certainly keeps things interesting. When he and Ellie team up for the county science fair, no one realizes just how groundbreaking their experiment will be. The formula for eternal youth may be within their reach! And when Ellie’s cat, Jonas Salk, gets sick, the stakes become even higher. But is the key to eternal life really the key to happiness? Sometimes even the most careful experiments yield unexpected--and wonderful--results.



THE MANY WORLDS OF ALBIE BRIGHT BY CHRISTOPHER EDGE

An extraordinary novel for anyone who’s ever been curious.

When Albie’s mum dies, it’s natural he should wonder where she’s gone. His parents are both scientists and they usually have all the answers. Dad mutters something about Albie’s mum being alive and with them in a parallel universe. So Albie finds a box, his mum’s computer and a rotting banana, and sends himself through time and space to find her...



ROBOT DREAMS BY SARAH VARON

Richly endearing and full of surprises, Robot Dreams follows an ill-fated friendship between a dog and robot. After a Labor Day jaunt to the beach leaves Robot rusty and immobilized in the sand, Dog, unsure what to do, abandons him. As the seasons pass, Dog tries to replace his friend, making and losing a series of new ones, from a melting snowman to epicurean anteaters. Meanwhile, Robot passes his time daydreaming, escaping to better places... Through interwoven journeys, the two characters long to recover from their day at the beach.

Although its adorable characters and playful charm will win over young readers, Robot Dreams speaks universally to the fragile nature of friendship, loss, and redemption.

NOTABLE MENTIONS

Eager by Helen Fox, George and the Unbreakable Code by Lucy & Stephen Hawking, The Jamie Drake Equation by Christopher Edge, The Absences of Sparrows by Kurt Kirchmeier.

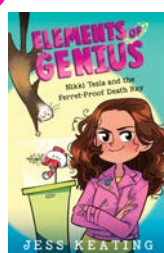
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Top Science Fiction & IRIS Books for 5th Grade



THE REMARKABLE JOURNEY OF COYOTE SUNRISE BY DAN GEMEINHART

Five years. That's how long Coyote and her dad, Rodeo, have lived on the road in an old school bus, crisscrossing the nation. It's also how long ago Coyote lost her mom and two sisters in a car crash. Coyote hasn't been home in all that time, but when she learns the park in her old neighborhood is being demolished - the very same park where she, her mom, and her sisters buried a treasured memory box - she devises an elaborate plan to get her dad to drive 3,600 miles back to Washington state in four days...without him realizing it. Along the way, they'll pick up a strange crew of misfit travelers. Lester has a lady love to meet. Salvador and his mom are looking to start over. Val needs a safe place to be herself. And then there's Gladys.... Over the course of thousands of miles, Coyote will learn that going home can sometimes be the hardest journey of all...but that with friends by her side, she just might be able to turn her "once upon a time" into a "happily ever after".



NIKKI TESLA AND THE FERRET-PROOF DEATH RAY (SERIES) BY JESS KEATING

There are only so many times a kid can invent an instrument of global destruction without getting grounded. So when Nikki's death ray accidentally blows up her bedroom (if you can call a pet ferret with an itchy trigger finger an accident), she's sent to the only place that can handle her. Genius Academy is a school for history's greatest brains. Leo da Vinci? Charlotte Darwin? Bert Einstein? All extraordinary. Yet even among her fellow prodigies, Nikki feels like an outsider thanks to a terrible secret she can't let anyone discover. Ever. But when her death ray is stolen, Nikki must stop worrying about fitting in and learn to play nice with her new classmates. Because it doesn't take a genius to track a thief around the world, outwit the authorities, and keep a French fry fanatic ferret happy. It takes all of them.



GLITCH BY LAURA MARTIN

A whirlwind adventure about a pair of kids who must break all the rules of time travel.

Regan Fitz and Elliot Mason have been enemies since they started training to become Glitchers—people who travel through time to preserve important historical events. But everything changes when they find a letter from Regan's future self, warning them about an impending disaster that threatens them and everyone they know.

Will they be able to set aside their past in order to save the future?



RANDOMS (SERIES) BY DAVID LISS

Zeke Reynolds comes from a long line of proud science fiction geeks. He knows his games, comics, movies, and TV shows like Captain Kirk knows the starship Enterprise. So it's a dream come true when he learns the science fiction he loves so much is based on reality—and that he's been selected to spend a year on a massive space station. To evaluate humanity's worthiness, the Confederation of United Planets has hand picked three of Earth's most talented young people—and then there's Zeke. He's the random.

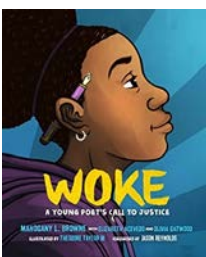
Unfortunately, Zeke finds life in space more challenging than he'd hoped. When he saves his transport ship from a treacherous enemy attack, he's labeled a war criminal. Now despised by the Confederation, rejected by his fellow humans, and pursued by a ruthless enemy, Zeke befriends the alien randoms: rejected by their own species, but loyal to each other. But their presence in the Confederation may not be so random after all, and as the danger increases, Zack's knowledge of science fiction might be the only thing that can save himself, his friends, and Earth itself.



SPACEHEADZ (SERIES) BY JON SCIESZKA

Michael K. just started fifth grade at a new school. As if that wasn't hard enough, the kids he seems to have made friends with apparently aren't kids at all. They are aliens. Real aliens who have invaded our planet in the form of school children and a hamster. They have a mission to complete: to convince 3,140,001 kids to BE SPHDZ.

But with a hamster as their leader, "kids" who talk like walking advertisements, and Michael K as their first convert, will the SPHDZ be able to keep their cover and pull off their assignment?



WOKE: A YOUNG POET'S CALL TO JUSTICE BY MAHOGANY L. BROWNE

Woke: A Young Poet's Guide to Justice is a collection of poems to inspire kids to stay woke and become a new generation of activists.

Historically poets have been on the forefront of social movements. Woke is a collection of poems by women that reflects the joy and passion in the fight for social justice, tackling topics from discrimination to empathy, and acceptance to speaking out.

With Theodore Taylor's bright, emotional art, and writing from Mahogany L. Browne, Elizabeth Acevedo and Olivia Gatwood, kids will be inspired to create their own art and poems to express how they see justice and injustice.



SCARY STORIES FOR YOUNG FOXES BY CHRISTIAN MCKAY HEIDICKER

The haunted season has arrived in the Antler Wood. No fox kit is safe.

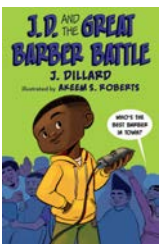
When Mia and Uly are separated from their litters, they discover a dangerous world full of monsters. In order to find a den to call home, they must venture through field and forest, facing unspeakable things that dwell in the darkness: a zombie who hungers for their flesh, a witch who tries to steal their skins, a ghost who hunts them through the snow . . . and other things too scary to mention.

NOTABLE MENTIONS

A Problematic Paradox by Eliot Sappingfield, Friendroid by M M Vaughan, Minrs by Kevin Sylvester, We're Not From Here by Geoff Rodkey, The Fog Diver by Joel Ross.

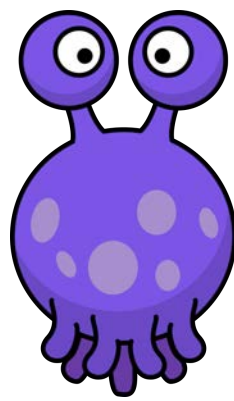
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Top Science Fiction & IRIS Books for 4th Grade



J.D. AND THE GREAT BARBER BATTLE BY J. DILLARD

J.D. has a big problem--it's the night before the start of third grade and his mom has just given him his first and worst home haircut. When the steady stream of insults from the entire student body of Douglass Elementary becomes too much for J.D., he takes matters into his own hands and discovers that, unlike his mom, he's a genius with the clippers. His work makes him the talk of the town and brings him enough hair business to open a barbershop from his bedroom. But when Henry Jr., the owner of the only official local barbershop, realizes he's losing clients to J.D., he tries to shut him down for good. How do you find out who's the best barber in all of Meridian, Mississippi? With a GREAT BARBER BATTLE!



DRAGON'S IN A BAG BY ZETTA ELLIOTT

When Jaxon is sent to spend the day with a mean old lady his mother calls Ma, he finds out she's not his grandmother--but she is a witch! She needs his help delivering baby dragons to a magical world where they'll be safe. There are two rules when it comes to the dragons: don't let them out of the bag, and don't feed them anything sweet. Before he knows it, Jax and his friends Vikram and Kavita have broken both rules! Will Jax get the baby dragons delivered safe and sound? Or will they be lost in Brooklyn forever?



SAL & GABI BREAK THE UNIVERSE (SERIES) BY CARLOS ALBERTO HERNANDEZ

How did a raw chicken get inside Yasmany's locker? When Sal Vidon meets Gabi Real for the first time, it isn't under the best of circumstances. Sal is in the principal's office for the third time in three days, and it's still the first week of school. Gabi, student council president and editor of the school paper, is there to support her friend Yasmany, who just picked a fight with Sal. She is determined to prove that somehow, Sal planted a raw chicken in Yasmany's locker, even though nobody saw him do it and the bloody poultry has since mysteriously disappeared. Sal prides himself on being an excellent magician, but for this sleight of hand, he relied on a talent no one would guess . . . except maybe Gabi, whose sharp eyes never miss a trick. When Gabi learns that he's capable of conjuring things much bigger than a chicken--including his dead mother--and she takes it all in stride, Sal knows that she is someone he can work with. There's only one slight problem: their manipulation of time and space could put the entire universe at risk.



ALIEN SUPERSTAR (SERIES) BY HENRY WINKLER

No one is shocked by the six-eyed alien strolling around the Universal back lot. The tourists just think he's part of the show. It doesn't take long for Buddy to land a role on a popular TV show, playing (of course) an alien. He becomes an overnight heartthrob and is suddenly faced with legions of adoring fans, rides in glamorous limos, and appearances at "all-the-shrimp-you-can-eat" red carpet parties. But can Buddy maintain his secret identity while in the spotlight?



SKUNK AND BADGER (SERIES) BY AMY TIMBERLAKE

No one wants a skunk.

They are unwelcome on front stoops. They should not linger in Important Rock Rooms. Skunks should never, ever be allowed to move in. But Skunk is Badger's new roommate, and there is nothing Badger can do about it.

When Skunk plows into Badger's life, everything Badger knows is upended. Tails are flipped. The wrong animal is sprayed. And why-oh-why are there so many chickens?

"Nooooooooooooooooooooooooooooo!"



SPACE DUMPLINS BY CRAIG THOMPSON

For Violet Marlocke, family is the most important thing in the whole galaxy. So when her father goes missing while on a hazardous job, she can't just sit around and do nothing. To get him back, Violet throws caution to the stars and sets out with a group of misfit friends on a quest to find him. But space is vast and dangerous, and she soon discovers that her dad is in big, BIG trouble. With her father's life on the line, nothing is going to stop Violet from trying to rescue him and keep her family together. Visionary graphic novel creator Craig Thompson brings all of his wit, warmth, and humor to create a brilliantly drawn story for all ages. Set in a distant yet familiar future, Space Dumplins weaves themes of family, friendship, and loyalty into a grand space adventure filled with quirky aliens, awesome spaceships, and sharp commentary on our environmentally challenged world.



MS. FROGBOTTOM'S FIELD TRIPS BY NANCY KRULIK

Learning is an adventure in Ms. Frogbottom's class, because she's got a magic map--one that takes her students all over the world to do battle with mythical monsters no one believes are real. All Ms. Frogbottom has to do is take out the map, tap a country and--SHAZAAM!--off they go to a place somewhere far, far away.

When Ms. Frogbottom's crew lands in Scotland, they come nose to nose with the legendary Loch Ness Monster!

Bestselling and beloved author Nancy Krulik ingeniously approaches geography in a new way, as the kids learn about the places they visit while fighting, fleeing, or in some cases rescuing monsters.

NOTABLE MENTIONS

Astrosaurus by Stephen Cole, Willy Maykit by Greg Trine, The Time Hackers by Gary Paulsen, Space Taxi by Wendy Mass, The Big Dark by Rodman Philbrick.

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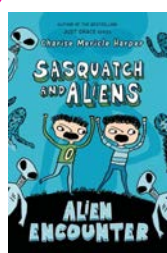
Top Science Fiction & IRIS Books for 3rd Grade



I TALK LIKE A RIVER BY JORDAN SCOTT

What if words got stuck in the back of your mouth whenever you tried to speak? What if they never came out the way you wanted them to? Sometimes it takes a change of perspective to get the words flowing. I wake up each morning with the sounds of words all around me.

And I can't say them all . . . When a boy who stutters feels isolated, alone, and incapable of communicating in the way he'd like, it takes a kindly father and a walk by the river to help him find his voice. Compassionate parents everywhere will instantly recognize a father's ability to reconnect a child with the world around him.



ALIEN ENCOUNTER BY CHARISE MERICLE HARPER

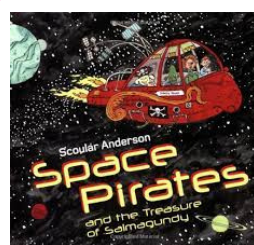
Nine-year-old Morgan is fascinated with aliens. He lives in the Pacific Northwest, land of the sasquatch, and naturally is fascinated with those as well. When he meets new kid Lewis, whose parents own a motel named the Stay On Inn, the adventures begin with slingshots, underpants, annoying older sisters, and neighbors dressed up in bear suits.



MAE AMONG THE STARS BY RODA AHMED

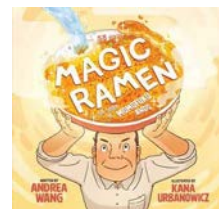
Inspired by the life of the first African American woman to travel in space, Mae Jemison. When Little Mae was a child, she dreamed of dancing in space. She imagined herself surrounded by billions of stars, floating, gliding, and discovering. She wanted to be an astronaut. Her mom told her, "If you believe it, and work hard for it, anything is possible."

Little Mae's curiosity, intelligence, and determination, matched with her parents' encouraging words, paved the way for her success at NASA as the first African American woman to travel in space.



SPACE PIRATES BY SCOLAR ANDERSON

"Help a hapless pirate crew navigate its way to intergalactic treasure." The pirate starship Sleepy Sheep is on the hunt for intergalactic riches. Scattered across an exotic treasure planet are dozens of pirate chests. But only ten contain real booty. Armed with ten maps, our motley crew needs all the help they can get to find the goods before their enemies do. Young readers are invited to join the hunt in Space Pirates by following the clues to find the treasure. Each double-page challenge develops basic map-reading skills, how to follow a compass, using a map key, and tracking a grid reference. Only by solving the map puzzles can readers help the hapless pirates nab the treasure before their nemesis, the evil pirate, "One Hand Hulke," gets his hook into the booty.



MAGIC RAMEN BY ANDREA WANG

Inspiration struck when Momofuku Ando spotted the long lines for a simple bowl of ramen following World War II. Magic Ramen tells the true story behind the creation of one of the world's most popular foods.

Every day, Momofuku Ando would retire to his lab—a little shed in his backyard. For years, he'd dreamed about making a new kind of ramen noodle soup that was quick, convenient, and tasty for the hungry people he'd seen in line for a bowl on the black market following World War II. Peace follows from a full stomach, he believed.

Day after day, Ando experimented. Night after night, he failed. But Ando kept experimenting.

With persistence, creativity, and a little inspiration, Ando succeeded. This is the true story behind one of the world's most popular foods.



LEGENDS OF ZITA THE SPACEGIRL (SERIES) BY BEN HATKE

Fame comes at a price...

Zita must find her way back to earth...but her space adventures have made her a galactic megastar! Who can you trust when your true self is overshadowed by your public image? And to make things worse...Zita's got a robot double making trouble--while wearing her face!



SULWE BY LUPITA NYONG'O

Sulwe has skin the color of midnight. She is darker than everyone in her family. She is darker than anyone in her school. Sulwe just wants to be beautiful and bright, like her mother and sister. Then a magical journey in the night sky opens her eyes and changes everything.

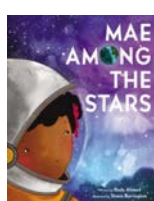
In this stunning debut picture book, actress Lupita Nyong'o creates a whimsical and heartwarming story to inspire children to see their own unique beauty.

NOTABLE MENTIONS

Frank Einstein by Jon Scieszka, Sci-Fi Junior High by Scott Seegert, Guardians of the Galaxy by Brandon T Snider, Masterminds by Gordon Korman.

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Top Science Fiction & IRIS Books for 2nd Grade



MAE AMONG THE STARS BY RODA AHMED

Inspired by the life of the first African American woman to travel in space, Mae Jemison. When Little Mae was a child, she dreamed of dancing in space. She imagined herself surrounded by billions of stars, floating, gliding, and discovering. She wanted to be an astronaut. Her mom told her, "If you believe it, and work hard for it, anything is possible."

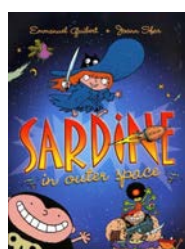
Little Mae's curiosity, intelligence, and determination, matched with her parents' encouraging words, paved the way for her success at NASA as the first African American woman to travel in space.



A NEW DAY BY BRAD MELTZER

Sunday quit, just like that. She said she was tired of being a day. And so the other days of the week had no choice but to advertise: "WANTED: A NEW DAY. Must be relaxing, tranquil, and replenishing. Serious inquires only." Soon lots of hopefuls arrived with their suggestions, such as Funday, Bunday, Acrobaturday, SuperheroDay, and even MonstersWhoResembleJellyfishDay! Things quickly got out of hand . . . until one more candidate showed up: a little girl with a thank-you gift for Sunday. The girl suggested simply a nice day--a day to be kind. And her gratitude made a calendar's worth of difference to Sunday, who decided she didn't need to quit after all.

When we appreciate each other a little bit more, all the days of the week can be brand-new days where everything is possible.



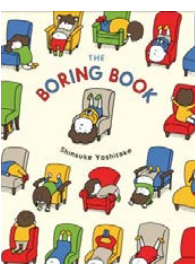
SARDINE IN OUTER SPACE BY EMMANUEL GUIBERT

In the goofy space adventures of a little girl called Sardine, encounters aren't always friendly: weird creatures, cosmic squids, masters of the universe, talking clouds, and evil beings abound. In this volume of twelve stories, Supermuscleman, the chief executive dictator of the universe, is on a mission to make all the galaxy's kids behave. Sardine must enlist the help of her cousin Lou and her pirate uncle, the gruff Captain Yellow Shoulder, to outwit him and his evil plans.



MIA MAYHEM GETS X-RAY SPECS (SERIES) BY KARA WEST

Mia Mayhem is learning to control her x-ray vision! She can't wait to see through walls and crack secret codes. There's only one problem: her glasses are way too big, clunky, and totally not cool! But she knows that if she wants to keep up with her classmates, she'll have to adjust quickly. Will Mia be able to look past her obstacles and see things through?

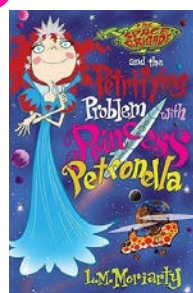


THE SUITCASE BY SHINSUKE YOSHITAKE

The Boring Book is a humorous picture book that follows the story of one particularly bored boy.

As the story progresses, our protagonist discovers there's actually more to boredom than what meets the eye--more questions, more theories, and heaps of humor.

This exploration of boredom from acclaimed author-illustrator Shinsuke Yoshitake playfully--and hilariously--unpacks the ways in which a seemingly stagnant state is actually a portal into a dynamic, life-enriching experience.



THE SPACE BRIGADE AND THE PETRIFYING PROBLEM WITH... BY L. M. MORIARTY

Nicola Berry loves eating All Day Lasagne, is great at writing stories, uses the word 'preposterous' frequently, and longs to escape Mrs Pumpkin's incredibly boring Geography lesson. When Georgio Gorgiosko from Planet Globagaskar visits her class, Nicola gets the opportunity...The King and Queen of Planet Globagaskar have gone on holiday and left their spoilt daughter, Princess Petronella in charge. The sulky princess wants to turn earth into a rubbish dump. Georgio Gorgiosko must find an Earthling Ambassador to convince the princess otherwise and save earth. Nicola is up for the challenge, but what can she do to change the princess' mind? Even with a new outfit from the wardrobewhizonic ladies, it's going to be impossible to do on her own. She'll need the help of her friends in the Space Brigade.



A BIG MOONCAKE FOR LITTLE STAR BY GRACE LIN

Pat, pat, pat...

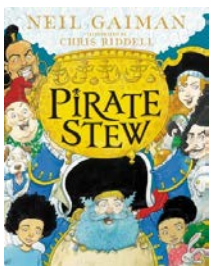
Little Star's soft feet tiptoed to the Big Mooncake. Little Star loves the delicious Mooncake that she bakes with her mama. But she's not supposed to eat any yet! What happens when she can't resist a nibble? A gorgeous picture book that tells a whimsical origin story of the phases of the moon.

NOTABLE MENTIONS

Stories of Robots by Russell Punter, Red's Planet by Eddie Pittman, The Mixed Up Monster by Ximena Hastings, Yasmin the Scientist by Saadia Faruqi.

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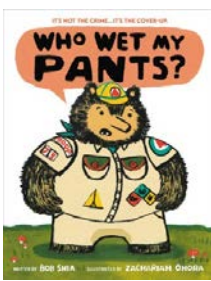
Top Science Fiction & IRIS Books for 1st Grade



PIRATE STEW BY NEIL GAIMAN

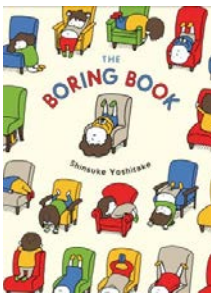
Long John has a whole crew of wild pirates in tow, and – for two intrepid children – he’s about to transform a perfectly ordinary evening into a riotous adventure beneath a pirate moon. It’s time to make some PIRATE STEW.

Marvellously silly and gloriously entertaining, this tale of pirates, flying ships, donut feasts and some rather magical stew is perfect for all pirates, both young and old.



WHO WET MY PANTS BY BOB SHEA

In this hilarious tale of blame, compassion, and forgiveness, a very embarrassed bear is reminded that accidents can happen--but with the support of good friends, life goes on. Reuben the bear’s got donuts for everyone in his scout troop, but his friends are all staring at something else: there’s a wet spot on Reuben’s pants, and it’s in a specific area. “WHO WET MY PANTS?” he shouts, and a blame game starts. His buddies try to reassure him there was no crime. Just an accident. It could happen to anyone! But as all the clues begin to point in Reuben’s own direction as the culprit, Reuben must come to terms with the truth.



THE BORING BOOK BY SHINSUKE YOSHITAKE

The Boring Book is a humorous picture book that follows the story of one particularly bored boy.

As the story progresses, our protagonist discovers there’s actually more to boredom than what meets the eye—more questions, more theories, and heaps of humor.



THE MAGICAL YET BY ANGELA DITERLIZZI

This Yet finds a way, even when you don’t, And, Yet knows you will, when you think you won’t. Each of us, from the day we’re born, is accompanied by a special companion--the Yet. Can’t tie your shoes? Yet! Can’t ride a bike? Yet! Can’t play the bassoon? Don’t worry, Yet is there to help you out. Told in tight rhyme reminiscent of the great Dr. Seuss himself, this rollicking, inspirational picture book is perfect for every kid who is frustrated by what they can’t do . . . YET!



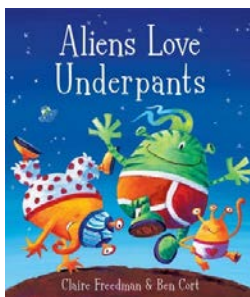
THE THREE LITTLE ALIENS AND THE BIG BAD ROBOT BY MARGARET MCNAMARA

GREEP BOINK MEEP! The three little aliens are happily settling into their new homes when the Big Bad Robot flies in to crack and smack and whack their houses down! A chase across the solar system follows in this out-of-this-world version of the classic Three Little Pigs tale.



SNOWBOTS BY AARON REYNOLDS

How do the robot children of Clackentown spend snow days? They have supersonic snowball fights, make robot angels with wing nuts moving up and down, take hot oil baths to thaw out the joints, and receive kisses on metal noses at bedtime.



ALIENS LOVE UNDERPANTS! BY CLAIRE FREEDMAN

When little aliens fly down to Earth, they’re not visiting because they want to meet the Earthlings. They simply want to steal everybody’s underpants!

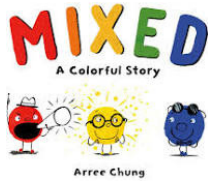
NOTABLE MENTIONS

Bat Count by Anna Forrester, Fix This Mess by Tedd Arnold, Marilyn’s Monster by Michelle Knudsen.

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Top Science Fiction & IRIS Books for Pre-School

MIXED: A COLORFUL STORY BY AREE CHUNG



In the beginning, there were three colors. Reds, Yellows, and Blues.

All special in their own ways, all living in harmony -- until one day, a Red says "Reds are the best" and starts a color kerfuffle. When the colors decide to separate, is there anything that can change their minds?

A Yellow, a Blue, and a never-before-seen color might just save the day in this inspiring book about color, tolerance, and embracing differences.

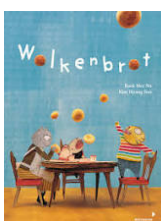


THE WAY BACK HOME BY OLIVER JEFFERS



Julian liebt Meerjungfrauen - er wäre am liebsten selbst eine. Als er auf der Heimfahrt in der U-Bahn drei als Meerjungfrauen verkleidete Frauen mit farbenfroh aufgetürmten Haaren und schillernden Fischechwänzen sieht, ist der Junge völlig hingerissen. Auch zu Hause kann er an nichts anderes denken und verkleidet sich mit einem gelben Vorhang und Farnblättern selbst als Nixe. Und zum Glück hat er eine Großmutter, die ihn genauso akzeptiert, wie er ist!

WOLKENBROT BY BAEK HEE NA



"Wir ahnten, dass heute etwas ganz Besonderes passieren würde." Ein Regentag, eine eingesammelte Wolke, zwei Geschwister und die Gewissheit, dass manchmal in Dingen mehr steckt, als man denkt. Das preisgekrönte Bilderbuch der koreanischen Illustratorin Baek Hee Na erzählt eine poetische Geschichte, die Kinder und Eltern gleichermaßen entzückt. Für die Bilder baute Baek Hee Na Modelle, die dann von Kim Hyang Soo abfotografiert wurden. Die so entstandenen Collagen lassen eine fantastische und dennoch greifbare Welt entstehen, die mit ihrer außergewöhnlichen Bildästhetik die kindliche Fantasie beflügelt.

CURIOUS GEORGE GETS A MEDAL BY H.A REY



Avocado is feeling just fine in the produce section at the supermarket until a young customer asks a difficult question: "Is an avocado a fruit or a vegetable?" Avocado doesn't know the answer either, and the question won't seem to go away! Soon, avocado is in the midst of a full-on identity crisis. Laugh along as Avocado hunts for answers in each aisle of the grocery store, chatting with fish, cans of beans, sausages, and finally a tomato, who confides to Avocado that he doesn't know what HE is either, adding "And. I. Don't. Care."

HOW TO CATCH A STAR BY OLIVER JEFFERS



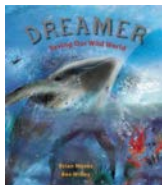
Once there was a boy, and that boy loved stars very much. So much so that he decided to catch one of his very own. But how? Waiting for them to grow tired from being up in the sky all night doesn't work. Climbing to the top of the tallest tree? No, not tall enough. The boy has a rocket ship . . . but it is made of paper and doesn't fly well at all. Finally, just when the boy is ready to give up, he learns that sometimes things aren't where, or what, we expect them to be.

THE SUN IS MY FAVORITE STAR BY FRANK ASCH



Diese Geschichte möchte dir zeigen, wie viele Begabungen in dir schlummern. Lerne dich kennen, träume und lass dich von dir und dem Leben überraschen. Vielleicht, ja vielleicht, wirst du deine kühnsten Träume übertreffen ...

DREAMER BY BRIAN MOSES



Once I had a dream, a special dream, a dream about our world." So begins a young boy's night of dream visits to regions around the world where animals and habitats are threatened or spoiled by human activity. I dreamt I was a whale...and no hunters/chased after me." Sometimes the boy is an animal-a seal, an elephant, a panda. At other times, he dreams of the earth itself. "I dreamt I was a lake.../and no one filled me/with junk."

NOTABLE MENTIONS

I Like Myself by Karen Beaumont, Alex and Lulu by Lorena Siminovic, Here We Are by Oliver Jeffers, The Spiffiest Giant in Town by Julia Donaldson.

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Top Recommendations & IRIS Books for Kindergarten



YOUR NAME IS A SONG BY JAMILAH THOMPCKINS-BIGELOW



To the consternation of the other six days of the week, Sunday quits in protest, tired of being unappreciated for her consistent delivery of a weekly "beautiful free day." Sunday's abrupt decision prompts the others to look for her replacement with an advertisement inviting auditions before the remaining six days. The competition quickly grows increasingly fierce as ideas are broached for DogDay, Big-BurpDay, PieDay, Band-AidDay, and, ridiculously, FirepoleSlidingIntoPoolsOfCottonCandyDay. Amid all this boisterous and frenzied rivalry, a little girl approaches the misunderstood Sunday with a small plant to say thank you and to suggest "simply a nice day."



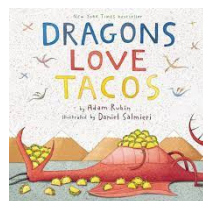
BY SEAN TAYLOR

Superkauz ist kein gewöhnlicher Kauz: Kometengleich saust er durch die kalte, schwarze Nacht, er hat Grips, und vor allem kann er sich - darauf ist er stolz - supergut verkleiden. So ist keine Beute vor ihm sicher! Erspäht er ein leckeres Kaninchen, verkleidet er sich zum Beispiel als Karotte. Klappt nicht, macht ihm aber gar nichts! Denn Superkauz hat schon ein neues Opfer im Visier: eine köstliche Taube. Trotz raffinierter Verkleidung (als, nun ja, Vogeltränke) funktioniert es wieder nicht.



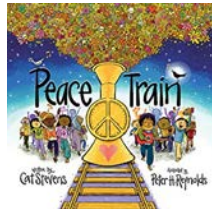
THE MAGICAL YET BY ANGELA DITERLIZZI

Drei schwarze Ameisen finden auf dem Heimweg ein schönes frisches Ei. Gleichzeitig kommen drei rote Ameisen, auch sie möchten es gerne haben. Eine Parabel darüber, dass alles besser geht, wenn man sich verbündet.



DRAGON LOVES TACOS BY ADAM RUBIN

Dragons love tacos. They love chicken tacos, beef tacos, great big tacos, and teeny tiny tacos. So if you want to lure a bunch of dragons to your party, you should definitely serve tacos. Buckets and buckets of tacos. Unfortunately, where there are tacos, there is also salsa. And if a dragon accidentally eats spicy salsa . . . oh, boy. You're in red-hot trouble.



PEACE TRAIN BY CAT STEVENS

Readers are invited to hop on the PEACE TRAIN and join its growing group of passengers who are all ready to unite the world in peace and harmony.

Featuring the timeless lyrics of Cat Stevens's legendary song and illustrations by New York Times bestselling artist Peter H. Reynolds, this hopeful picture book inspires tolerance and love for people of all cultures and identities.



HÄSCHEN TRÖSTET BY CORI DOERRFELD



Charlie baut einen Turm aus Bauklötzen, doch plötzlich stürzt er ein! Oh weh! Ein Freund nach dem anderen probiert das Kind aufzumuntern, doch nichts hilft. Bis ein kleiner Hase auftaucht und sich still dazu setzt - und Charlie all die Gedanken und Gefühle ordnen kann...



SOMEBODY SWALLOWED STANLEY BY SARAH ROBERTS



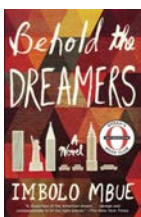
"Plastic bags don't belong in the sea!" Everybody has a taste for Stanley, but he is no ordinary jellyfish. Most jellyfish have dangly-gangly tentacles, but Stanley has two handles... Other jellyfish have a magical glow, but Stanley has stripes... A powerful message about plastic pollution from environmental expert Sarah Roberts.

NOTABLE MENTIONS

The Way Back Home by Oliver Jeffers, Crankenstein by Samantha Berger, Good Night World by Willa Perlman, The Crocodile and the Dentist by Taro Gomi.

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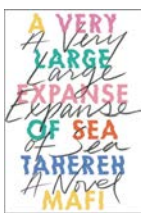


BEHOLD THE DREAMERS BY IMBOLO MBUE

Jende Jonga, a Cameroonian immigrant living in Harlem, has come to the United States to provide a better life for himself, his wife, Neni, and their six-year-old son. In the fall of 2007, Jende can hardly believe his luck when he lands a job as a chauffeur for Clark Edwards, a senior executive at Lehman Brothers. Clark demands punctuality, discretion, and loyalty—and Jende is eager to please. Clark’s wife, Cindy, even offers Neni temporary work at the Edwardses’ summer home in the Hamptons. With these opportunities, Jende and Neni can at last gain a foothold in America and imagine a brighter future.

However, the world of great power and privilege conceals troubling secrets, and soon Jende and Neni notice cracks in their employers’ façades.

When the financial world is rocked by the collapse of Lehman Brothers, the Jongas are desperate to keep Jende’s job—even as their marriage threatens to fall apart. As all four lives are dramatically upended, Jende and Neni are forced to make an impossible choice.



A VERY LARGE EXPANSE OF SEA BY TAHEREH MAFI

It’s 2002, a year after 9/11. It’s an extremely turbulent time politically, but especially so for someone like Shirin, a sixteen-year-old Muslim girl who’s tired of being stereotyped.

Shirin is never surprised by how horrible people can be. She’s tired of the rude stares, the degrading comments – even the physical violence – she endures as a result of her race, her religion, and the hijab she wears every day. So she’s built up protective walls and refuses to let anyone close enough to hurt her. Instead, she drowns her frustrations in music and spends her afternoons break-dancing with her brother.

But then she meets Ocean James. He’s the first person in forever who really seems to want to get to know Shirin. It terrifies her – they seem to come from two irreconcilable worlds – and Shirin has had her guard up for so long that she’s not sure she’ll ever be able to let it down.



THE MIDNIGHT LIBRARY BY MATT HAIG

Between life and death there is a library, and within that library, the shelves go on forever. Every book provides a chance to try another life you could have lived. To see how things would be if you had made other choices . . . Would you have done anything different, if you had the chance to undo your regrets?

A dazzling novel about all the choices that go into a life well lived, from the internationally bestselling author of Reasons to Stay Alive and How To Stop Time.

Somewhere out beyond the edge of the universe there is a library that contains an infinite number of books, each one the story of another reality. One tells the story of your life as it is, along with another book for the other life you could have lived if you had made a different choice at any point in your life. While we all wonder how our lives might have been, what if you had the chance to go to the library and see for yourself? Would any of these other lives truly be better?



KLARA AND THE SUN BY KAZUO ISHIGURO

Klara and the Sun, the first novel by Kazuo Ishiguro since he was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature, tells the story of Klara, an Artificial Friend with outstanding observational qualities, who, from her place in the store, watches carefully the behavior of those who come in to browse, and of those who pass on the street outside. She remains hopeful that a customer will soon choose her.

Klara and the Sun is a thrilling book that offers a look at our changing world through the eyes of an unforgettable narrator, and one that explores the fundamental question: What does it mean to love?



CRYING IN H-MART BY MICHELLE ZAUNER

This is a memoir about growing up Korean American, losing her mother, and forging her own identity. In this story of family, food, grief, and endurance, Michelle Zauner proves herself far more than a singer, songwriter, and guitarist. With humor and heart, she tells of growing up the only Asian American kid at her school in Eugene, Oregon; of struggling with her mother’s particular, high expectations of her; of a painful adolescence; of treasured months spent in her grandmother’s tiny apartment in Seoul, where she and her mother would bond, late at night, over heaping plates of food. As she grew up, moving to the East Coast for college, finding work in the restaurant industry, and performing gigs with her fledgling band--and meeting the man who would become her husband--her Koreanness began to feel ever more distant, even as she found the life she wanted to live. It was her mother’s diagnosis of terminal pancreatic cancer, when Michelle was twenty-five, that forced a reckoning with her identity and brought her to reclaim the gifts of taste, language, and history her mother had given her.

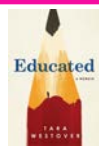


WHEN NO ONE IS WATCHING BY ALYSSA COLE

Sydney Green is Brooklyn born and raised, but her beloved neighborhood seems to change every time she blinks. Condos are sprouting like weeds, FOR SALE signs are popping up overnight, and the neighbors she’s known all her life are disappearing. To hold onto her community’s past and present, Sydney channels her frustration into a walking tour and finds an unlikely and unwanted assistant in one of the new arrivals to the block—her neighbor Theo.

But Sydney and Theo’s deep dive into history quickly becomes a dizzying descent into paranoia and fear. Their neighbors may not have moved to the suburbs after all, and the push to revitalize the community may be more deadly than advertised.

When does coincidence become conspiracy? Where do people go when gentrification pushes them out? Can Sydney and Theo trust each other—or themselves—long enough to find out before they too disappear?



EDUCATED BY TARA WESTOVER

Tara Westover was 17 the first time she set foot in a classroom. Born to survivalists in the mountains of Idaho, she prepared for the end of the world by stockpiling home-canned peaches and sleeping with her "head-for-the-hills bag". In the summer she stewed herbs for her mother, a midwife and healer, and in the winter she salvaged in her father’s junkyard. Her father forbade hospitals, so Tara never saw a doctor or nurse. Gashes and concussions, even burns from explosions, were all treated at home with herbalism. The family was so isolated from mainstream society that there was no one to ensure the children received an education and no one to intervene when one of Tara’s older brothers became violent. Then, lacking any formal education, Tara began to educate herself. She taught herself enough mathematics and grammar to be admitted to Brigham Young University, where she studied history, learning for the first time about important world events like the Holocaust and the civil rights movement. Her quest for knowledge transformed her, taking her over oceans and across continents, to Harvard and to Cambridge. Only then would she wonder if she’d traveled too far, if there was still a way home.

NOTABLE MENTIONS

With The Fire On High by Elizabeth Acevedo, Cultish by Amanda Montell, They Both Die At The End by Adam Silvera, Homegoing by Yaa Gyasi.

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