

KEYSTONE TO READING ELEMENTARY BOOK AWARD LISTS
2018-2019

Annotated Preschool List

A Perfect Day by Lane Smith

It is a perfect day for the animals in Bert's back yard until Bear steps in, then it becomes his perfect day.

Bulldozer Helps Out by Candace Fleming

Bulldozer wants to help at the construction site but the other trucks think he is too small. Finally, he gets the chance to prove how rough and tough he is.

Bumpety, Dunkety, Thumpety-Thump! by K.L. Going

Two young children go through their day collecting berries, baking a pie, cleaning up, and saying good-night. Full of rhythm and rhyme that make this book a fun read aloud.

Claudia and Moth by Jennifer Hansen Rolli

PA Author/Illustrator

Claudia loves to paint butterflies, but in the winter there are no more left to paint...until she finds a moth. A book about creativity, change, and seeing things differently.

Fantastic Flowers by Susan Stockdale (Nonfiction)

The author/illustrator introduces readers to different types of flowers and what they resemble with rhythm and rhyme. Additional information about flowers and pollinators is included in the back.

Feathers and Hair: What Animals Wear by Jennifer Ward (Nonfiction)

This book is a delightful exploration of animal outerwear. It includes additional information about each of the animals in the back.

I Just Want to Say Good Night by Rachel Isadora

Although this story takes place on the African plains, Lala's stalling tactics at bedtime ring true to what we experience in this country.

Shake a Leg, Egg! by Kurt Cyrus

A mother goose encourages one last egg to hatch and meet the world.

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Annotated Primary List

Can an Aardvark Bark? by Melissa Stewart (Nonfiction)

This book provides lots of information on the different sounds animals make.

Chippy Chipmunk Feels Empathy by Kathy M. Miller

PA Author/Photographer

When Chippy Chipmunk meets a unique chipmunk, he learns to feel empathy and show kindness. His friends help him understand that there is diversity in every species. Includes fun facts and suggestions on ways to develop empathy.

Cricket in the Thicket by Carol Murray (Poetry)

Playful poems about the world of insects. Facts about each insect appear on the pages along with additional information in the back matter.

Full Moon Lore by Ellen Wahi (Nonfiction)

This book takes us through the calendar as we learn about the name of each month's moon and the reason for that name. Includes an additional page of facts in the back.

If You Were the Moon by Laura Purdie Salas (Nonfiction)

This book describes all the things the moon does in a very lyrical way ("spin like a twilight ballerina," "tease the earth," etc.) with explanatory information provided.

Philomena's New Glasses by Brenna Maloney

Told from the viewpoint of guinea pig sisters (with actual photographs), this amusing story shows how not everyone needs the same things.

Rolling Thunder by Kate Messner

Told in rhyme, this story honors the Rolling Thunder Ride for Freedom where more than a million veterans and supporters gather in Washington, DC each Memorial Day to pay tribute to fallen American heroes.

The Ring Bearer by Floyd Cooper

PA Author

Jackson is to be the ring bearer in his mama's wedding, but he's worried that something may go wrong. When he helps his new stepsister avoid a fall, Jackson becomes a hero. This story is a celebration of family, change, responsibility, and facing fear.

The Secret Life of the Red Fox by Laurence Pringle (Nonfiction)

This book follows Vixen, a red fox, as she hunts for food, raises her young, and escapes from danger; a nonfiction book told as a story with additional information and a glossary in the back.

Take Your Time: A Tale of Harriet, the Galapagos Tortoise by Eva Furrow and Donna Jo Napoli

PA Author

Harriet does things slowly at her own pace. When her friends tell her she's missing out on a lot, Harriet decides to journey to a neighboring island to see for herself. There she learns how everything goes at its own pace.

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Annotated Intermediate List

All the Way to Havana by Margarita Engle

A boy and his family drive to Havana, Cuba in their old family car. They experience many things along the way, making the book a celebration of the Cuban people and their innovative spirit.

Bat Count: A Citizen Science Story by Anna Forrester

PA Author

This book tells the story of a young girl and her family who count the bats that appear in their yard. They send the numbers to scientists who study bats and look for ways to help the bat population recover from dwindling numbers due to white-nose syndrome.

I Love You, Michael Collins by Lauren Baratz-Longsted (Middle Grade Novel)

The country is gearing up for the 1969 moon landing. Mamie must choose an astronaut to write to, so she chooses Michael Collins, the one who will not get to walk on the moon because he must stay with the ship. Mamie continues to write to him, revealing what is going on in her family. One by one they are all leaving until she is the only one left. A heart-warming story about family and being true to yourself.

If Sharks Disappeared by Lily Williams (Nonfiction)

PA Author

Today many shark species are in danger of extinction. In this book we learn how such a loss would affect animals across the planet; includes a glossary and additional information in the back matter.

Keep a Pocket in Your Poem: Classic Poems and Playful Parodies by J. Patrick Lewis (Poetry)

J. Patrick Lewis honors thirteen classic poems by a variety of poets by writing a parody of his own.

Matylda, Bright and Tender by Holly M. McGhee (Middle Grade Novel)

Sussy and Guy are two fourth-graders who share a special friendship. They decide they need a pet to share and adopt a leopard gecko. An errand to the pet store results in a devastating accident. This is a brave story of grief and love.

Mickey Mantle: The Commerce Comet by Jonah Winter (Nonfiction Biography)

This is the story of Mickey Mantle, a poor country boy from Commerce, Oklahoma, who became one of the greatest baseball players of all time.

Renato and the Lion by Barbara DiLorenzo

Renato loves his home in Florence, especially the stone lion in the piazza. When his family must flee to America to be safe during the war, Renato finds a way to keep his special lion safe. Includes information on how works of art were protected during the war.

She Persisted: 13 American Women Who Changed the World by Chelsea Clinton (Nonfiction)

In this book, Chelsea Clinton celebrates thirteen American women who helped shape our country through their tenacity - speaking out, staying seated, or captivating an audience.

Wishtree by Katherine Applegate (Middle Grade Novel)

This story is told from the viewpoint of Red, an oak tree who watches over a neighborhood with some other animal friends. When a new family moves in, not everyone is welcoming, and Red must call on his experience as a wishtree to make things right.