

## 2023 SUGGESTED READING FOR STUDENTS ENTERING GRADE 4

This recommended reading list provides a wide array of reading choices for students. The books on this list do not indicate reading level or achievement, but will hopefully spark discussion between you and your children and inspire an interest in stories and reading.

Starting on Tuesday, June 20, you can stop by the Youth Desk at Beebe Library and sign up for Summer at the Library 2023. It's FREE to sign up and to participate in all of the summer programs and activities at the library. To learn more, you can inquire at the Youth Desk or visit [www.wakefieldlibrary.org/summer-reading](http://www.wakefieldlibrary.org/summer-reading). Want to get involved? Just visit the Youth Desk and tell a librarian you want to be a part of Summer at the Library!

Happy reading! Your friends in the Youth Room,  
*Casey, Annie, Molly, Heidi, & Holly*

### REALISTIC FICTION

#### ***The Best of Iggy* by Annie Barrows**

Meet 9-year-old Iggy Frangi. He's not a bad kid, he's really not. Okay, so he's done a few (a few is anything up to 100) bad things. And okay, he's not very sorry about most of them. People make a big deal about nothing. What's a little pancake here and there? Is that something to get mad about? Iggy doesn't think so. No one got hurt, so there's no problem. No one got hurt except for that one time, that one time when the Best Idea Ever turned into the Worst Idea of All Time.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Barrows*

#### ***Falling Short* by Ernesto Cisneros**

This year, star basketball player Isaac plans on finally keeping up with his schoolwork. Better grades will surely stop Isaac's parents from arguing all the time. Meanwhile, straight-A Marco vows on finally winning his father's approval by earning a spot on the school's basketball team. But will their friendship and support for each other be enough to keep the two boys from falling short?

*Call #: Children's Fiction Cisneros*

#### ***The Lemonade War* by Jacqueline Davis**

Siblings Evan and Jesse face off at opposing lemonade stands, as each tries to earn \$100 before the other. Includes mathematical calculations and tips for running a successful lemonade stand.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Davis*

#### ***When Life Gives Your Mangos* by Kereen Getten**

A small village on a Jamaican island. A girl who doesn't remember the previous summer. A best friend who is no longer acting like one; a new girl who fills that hole in her heart. A summer of finding fallen mangos, creating made up games and dancing in the rain. Secrets she keeps from others...and herself. The courage to face the truth even in the toughest of storms.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Getten*



***You Don't Know Everything, Jilly P.* by Alex Gino**

When her new baby sister is born deaf, Jilly makes an online connection with a fellow fantasy fan, who is Black and deaf, and begins to learn about the many obstacles that exist in the world for people who are different from her.

Call #: Children's Fiction Gino

***Ahmed Aziz's Epic Year* by Nina Hamza**

Ahmed is having an epic year—epically *bad*. His dad is sick, his family moved from Hawaii to Minnesota, he's one of the only brown kids in school, and he's got bullies to deal with. On the flip side, Ahmed is—for once—actually enjoying reading and he's slowly unraveling his family's history. But will he ever warm to Minnesota?

Call #: Children's Fiction Hamza

***The Losers at the Center of the Galaxy* by Mary Winn Heider**

After their father disappears, Winston throws himself into playing the tuba, and Louise starts secret experiments to find a cure for brain injuries, and they're each *fine*. That is, until the investigation of some eccentric teacher behavior and the discovery of a real live bear paraded as the Horribles' new mascot make it clear that things are very much Not Fine. The siblings may just need each other, after all in this hilarious and moving tale.

Call #: Children's Fiction Heider

***The Boys in the Back Row* by Mike Jung**

Best friends Matt and Eric are hatching a plan for one big final adventure together before Eric moves away: during the marching band competition, they will sneak away to a comics convention and meet their favorite comic creator. Without cell phones. Or transportation. Or permission.

Call #: Children's Fiction Jung

***Stand Up, Yumi Chung!* by Jessica Kim**

When eleven-year-old Yumi Chung stumbles into a kids' comedy camp she is mistaken for another student, so she decides to play the part, but how long can she keep up the act?

Call #: Children's Fiction Kim

***Book Uncle and Me* by Uma Krishnaswami**

Every day, nine-year-old Yasmin borrows a book from Book Uncle, a retired teacher who set up a free, lending library next to her apartment building. So when the mayor orders Book Uncle to shut down his stand, Yasmin rallies her classmates and neighbors to help save Book Uncle's library.

Call #: Children's Fiction Krishnaswami

***Rules* by Cynthia Lord**

Twelve-year-old Catherine shares her experience of growing up with an autistic sibling and wishing for a "normal" life, but two new friendships makes Catherine begin to question what "normal" even is anyway.

Call #: Children's Fiction Lord

***What Lane?* by Torrey Maldonado**

Biracial sixth-grader Stephen questions the limitations society puts on him after he notices the way strangers treat him when he hangs out with his white friends.

Call #: Children's Fiction Maldonado



***Honestly Elliott* by Gillian McDunn**

Elliott's grades aren't great, he's not into sports, and he's always forgetting things. Except when it comes to baking, that is. When he's paired with the super smart and popular Maribel for a school-wide project, Elliott worries they won't see eye to eye. But sometimes the least likely people help you see a new side to things...and sometimes you have to make a few mistakes before you figure out what's right.

*Call #: Children's Fiction McDunn*

***Shiloh* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor**

When he finds a lost beagle in the hills behind his West Virginia home, Marty tries to hide it from his family and the dog's real owner, a mean-spirited man known to shoot deer out of season and to mistreat his dogs.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Naylor*

***The One Thing You'd Save* by Linda Sue Park**

When a teacher asks her class what one thing they would save in an emergency, some students know the answer right away. Others come to their decisions more slowly. And some change their minds when they hear their classmates' responses. A lively dialog ignites as the students discover unexpected facets of one another—and themselves.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Day*

***Liar, Liar* by Gary Paulsen**

Kevin doesn't mean to make trouble when he lies. He's just really good at it, and it makes life so much easier. But as his lies pile up, he finds himself in big—and funny—trouble with his friends, family, and teachers. He's got to find a way to end his lying streak—forever.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Paulsen*

***Simon B. Rhymin'* by Dwayne Reed**

Fifth-grader Simon, an aspiring rapper who lacks self-confidence, discovers ways he can use his rhymes to bring his community together.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Reed*

***Stuntboy, in the Meantime* by Jason Reynolds**

Portico Reeves's secret superpower is making sure all the other superheroes stay super safe. No one in his civilian life knows he's actually...Stuntboy! But Portico has another secret too: his parents are fighting all the time. They're trying to hide it by repeatedly telling Portico to go check on a neighbor "in the meantime." Portico's superhero responsibility is to save them, too—as soon as he figures out how.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Reynolds*

***How to Eat Fried Worms* by Thomas Rockwell**

People are always daring Billy to do zany things. But Billy may have bitten off more than he can chew when he takes his friend Alan's bet that Billy can't eat fifteen worms in fifteen days.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Rockwell*

***Sideways Stories from Wayside School* by Louis Sachar**

Humorous episodes from the classroom on the thirtieth floor of Wayside School, which was accidentally built sideways with one classroom on each story.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Sachar*



***The List of Things That Will Not Change* by Rebecca Stead**

Despite her parents' divorce, her father's coming out as gay, and his plans to marry his boyfriend, ten-year-old Bea is reassured by her parents' unconditional love, excited about getting a stepsister, and haunted by something she did last summer at her father's lake house.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Stead*

***Erik vs. Everything* by Christina Uss**

Each member of Erik Sheepflattener's modern-day Viking-heritage family has a motto to live by. His parents have Family and Pride. His sisters have Conquer and Win. But Erik is developing a motto he can truly believe in: Avoid Stuff. Until his sister, Brunhilde, has an idea: name and conquer all of Erik's fears. Will anyone hear him say no before it's too late? And will Erik end up defined by his fears, or by his fearless family?

*Call #: Children's Fiction Uss*

***Ways to Make Sunshine* by Renée Watson**

The Hart family faces setbacks after Ryan's father loses his job, but, no matter what, Ryan is determined to bring sunshine to her loved ones.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Watson*

***Save Me a Seat* by Sarah Weeks and Gita Varadarajan**

Ravi has just moved to the United States from India and has always been at the top of his class; Joe has lived in the same town his whole life and has learning problems. In the first week of fifth grade, Joe and Ravi are brought together by a common enemy (the biggest bully in their class) and the need to take control of their lives.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Weeks*

***Finally Seen* by Kelly Yang**

Lina Gao has waited five years to move from Beijing to LA where her parents and sister live. But when she arrives in America, Lina is made fun of for mispronouncing English words (while her little sister excels) and her parents are struggling to pay rent on their apartment. School is hard too, but Lina tries to keep all of her feelings inside. But when her teacher faces challenges for her latest book selection, a book that deeply resonates with Lina, it will take all of Lina's courage and resilience to get over her fear in order to choose a future where she's finally seen.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Yang*

**ADVENTURE & MYSTERY**

***Drew Leclair Gets a Clue* by Katryn Bury**

When a cyberbully posts embarrassing rumors about other students at school, Drew, protecting her own secret, puts her sleuthing skills to good use to find the culprit, who just might be one of her closest friends.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Bury*

***The Great Shelby Holmes* by Elizabeth Eulberg**

Shelby Holmes is the best detective her Harlem neighborhood has ever seen. When eleven-year-old John Watson moves downstairs, Shelby finds something that's eluded her up till now: a friend. The easy-going John isn't sure of what to make of Shelby, but he soon finds himself her most-trusted (read: only) partner in a dog-napping case that'll take both of their talents to crack.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Eulberg*



***Harriet the Spy* by Louise Fitzhugh**

Eleven-year-old Harriet keeps notes on her classmates and neighbors in a secret notebook, but when some of the students read her notebook, they seek revenge.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Fitzhugh*

***Space Case* by Stuart Gibbs**

Dashiell Gibson, who lives on Moon Base Alpha, has to solve a murder of one of the moon's most prominent doctors,

*Call #: Children's Fiction Gibbs*

***Dog Squad* by Chris Grabenstein**

Fred, a scrappy and lovable dog, gets cast as a stand-in for the lead role in Dog Squad, a show about crime-fighting dogs, and he soon finds out the action doesn't always stop on screen.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Grabenstein*

***The Genius Files* series by Dan Gutman**

A summer road trip takes a turn for the weird when twins Coke and Pepsi McDonald suddenly find themselves under attack.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Gutman*

***From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* by E.L. Konigsburg**

Seeking answers about a mysterious statue in their new home (the Metropolitan Museum), Claudia and Jamie search for the statue's former owner: the reclusive and mischievous Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Konigsburg*

***Chester Keene Cracks the Code* by Kekla Magoon**

Eleven-year-old Chester and his classmate Skye, tasked with a complex puzzle-solving mission, discover the key to their spy assignment is to stop a heist, but cracking the code could mean finding out things are not always what they seem.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Magoon*

***Framed!* by James Ponti**

So you're only halfway through your homework and the Director of the FBI keeps texting you for help...What do you do? Save your grade? Or save the country? If you're Florian Bates, you figure out a way to do both. With the help of his new friend Margaret, they uncover a mystery that isn't little. In fact, it's HUGE, and it involves the National Gallery, the FBI, and a notorious crime syndicate known as EEL. Can Florian decipher the clues and finish his homework in time to help the FBI solve the case?

*Call #: Children's Fiction Ponti*

***Explorers Academy* series by Trudi Trueit**

Twelve-year-old Cruz Coronado has been invited to become part of an elite group of young explorers in Washington, D.C. Yet even before Cruz can leave his home in Hawaii, an attempt is made on his life. Things only get more dangerous when Cruz arrives in the nation's capital. Join Cruz and his fellow explorers as they travel the globe, following clues to unlock a mystery that could change their world, and ours, forever. Be sure to look for the hidden codes throughout the book!

*Call #: Children's Fiction Trueit*



**The 39 Clues series by various authors**

Before she died, Grace Cahill was the last matriarch of the Cahills, the world's most powerful family. Everyone from Napoleon to Houdini is related to the Cahills, yet the source of the family power has been lost. 39 clues hidden around the world will reveal the family's secret, but no one has been able to assemble them. Now the clues race is on, and young Amy and Dan Cahill must decide what's important: hunting clues or uncovering what really happened to their parents.  
*Call #: Children's Fiction Thirty-Nine*

**Wretched Waterpark: Sinister Summer series by Kiersten White**

Twins Theo and Alexander and their sister Wil are abruptly dropped off at their Aunt Saffronia's house, where they learn they must complete a series of tasks in order to see their parents again—and their first assignment is at a waterpark.  
*Call #: Children's Fiction White*

**FANTASY, SCIENCE FICTION, & HORROR**

**Stowaway by John David Anderson**

When scientists discover a mysterious mineral buried in the Earth's crust, they have no idea that it's the most valuable substance in the entire *universe*. And alien forces are willing to start a war over it. Leo and his father depart Earth, fleeing the war. But when their spaceship is attacked and his father is kidnapped, Leo must stow away on a ship of space pirates and convince them—if he can—to help him find his father.  
*Call #: Children's Fiction Anderson*

**Wishtree by Katherine Applegate**

An old red oak tree and Bongo the crow help their human neighbors get along after a threat against an immigrant family is carved into the tree's trunk.  
*Call #: Children's Fiction Applegate*

**Freddie vs. the Family Curse by Tracy Badua**

While other people may have bad days, Freddie and his family have had bad generations: from bird poop splatting on him to the many tumbles and trips that earned him the nickname Faceplant Freddie. He's learned to lay low and keep himself out of trouble. But trouble finds Freddie when he stumbles across a cursed family heirloom and awakens evil spirits with a vengeance.  
*Call #: Children's Fiction Badua*

**The Jumbies by Tracey Baptiste**

Eleven-year-old Corinne must call on her courage and an ancient magic to stop an evil spirit and save her island home as the spine-tingling Haitian folklore of "the jumbies" comes to life.  
*Call #: Children's Fiction Baptiste*

**The Wild Robot by Peter Brown**

Roz the robot discovers that she is alone on a remote, wild island with no memory of where she is from or why she is there. Her only hope of survival is to try to learn about her new environment from the island's hostile inhabitants.  
*Call #: Children's Fiction Brown*



***The Marvellers by Dhonielle Clayton***

Eleven-year-old Ella Durand is the first Conjuror to attend the Arcanum Training Institute, a magic school in the clouds. When a dangerous criminal escapes prison, supposedly with a Conjuror's aid, tensions grow in the Marvellian world and Ella becomes the target of suspicion. Ella must find a way to clear her family's name before it's too late.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Clayton*

***The Way to Rio Luna by Zoraida Córdova***

When siblings Danny and Pili were placed in separate foster homes, Pili promised that she'd come back for Danny and they'd build a new life together in the enchanted land of Rio Luna. When Danny finds a collection of stories that contain hints about how to reach Rio Luna, nothing will stop him from finding his sister...even if it means standing up to the greatest threat the magical realm has ever known.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Córdova*

***The Mouse and the Motorcycle by Beverly Cleary***

A reckless young mouse named Ralph makes friends with a boy in room 215 of the Mountain View Inn and discovers the joys of motorcycling.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Cleary*

***Dragons in a Bag by Zetta Elliott***

Jaxon's neighbor is a witch and 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. 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?

*Call #: Children's Fiction Elliott*

***The Last Last-Day-of-Summer by Lamar Giles***

When adventurous cousins Otto and Sheed Alston accidentally extend the last day of summer by freezing time, they find the secrets between the unmoving seconds are not as much fun as they expected.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Giles*

***Why I Was Late for School Again by Dan Greenburg***

How would you face zombies, pirates, and trolls on the way to school? Quick thinking and a sense of humor help Danny face one problem after another, but dealing with his teacher is something else entirely!

*Call #: Children's Fiction Greenburg*

***Bunnica by Deborah Howe***

Though scoffed at by Harold the dog, Chester the cat tries to warn his human family that their foundingling baby bunny must be a vampire.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Howe*

***The Twelve by Cindy Lin***

When her sister Uma is captured by the wicked Dragonlord, Usagi must journey to Mount Jade with the fabled Heirs of the Twelve, a mystical group of warriors who once protected the land. As new mysteries unfold, Usagi must decide who she stands with, and who she trusts, as she takes on deadly foes on her path to the elusive, dangerous Dragonlord himself.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Lin*



***Kiki Kallira Breaks a Kingdom* by Sangu Mandanna**

Kiki Kallira worries nonstop. The only thing that stops her from worrying is doodling Indian myths and legends. But when mythological characters leap off the pages of her sketchbook, Kiki falls into the mystical world she's drawn, full of wonderful characters—and some not-so-wonderful ones, like an evil god bent on total destruction. Armed only with her pencil, can Kiki defeat him?

*Call #: Children's Fiction Mandanna*

***Last Gate of the Emperor* by Kwame Mbalia**

Yared is a star player of the underground augmented reality game, The Hunt for Kaleb's Obelisk. But when a change in the game rules prompts Yared to log in with his real name, it triggers an attack that rocks his city. In the chaos, Yared's uncle disappears. Suddenly, all the stories Yared's uncle told him as a young boy are coming to life, of kingdoms in the sky and city-raiding monsters. And somehow Yared is at the center of them.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Mbalia*

***Whatever After* series by Sarah Mlynowski**

Siblings Abby and Jonah have a magic mirror that leads them into different fairy tales, from Snow White to Rapunzel to the Little Mermaid. In each fairy tale, Abby and Jonah accidentally mess up the story — and hilarity and hijinks ensue!

*Call #: Children's Fiction Mlynowski*

***Delphine and the Silver Needle* by Alyssa Moon**

When Delphine, a dressmaker mouse in Cinderella's chateau, learns of her connection to the Threaded, magical tailor mice of legend, she undertakes an epic quest to claim her identity.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Moon*

***Onyeka and the Academy of the Sun* by Tola Okogwu**

When twelve-year-old Onyeka discovers that she has psychokinetic powers, her mother reveals that she is Solari, part of a secret group of Nigerian mutants that trains at the Academy of the Sun.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Okogwu*

***Witchlings* by Claribel A. Ortega**

Seven can't wait to be sorted into a coven in the magical town of Ravenskill, where she'll learn to be a real witch, not just a witchling. But when Seven isn't sorted into *any* coven, she and two other Spares must work together to prove their worth as witches and show that they're more than just Spares.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Ortega*

***The Incredibly Dead Pets of Rex Dexter* by Aaron Reynolds**

Rex Dexter wanted a dog, but he got...a chicken. One hour and fourteen minutes later, the chicken is dead (by a steamroller), Rex is cursed (by the Grim Reaper), and wild animals are haunting Rex's room (hounding him for answers). They need Rex to solve their mysterious deadly departures from the Middling Falls Zoo before it happens again. But how?

*Call #: Children's Fiction Reynolds*

***We're Not From Here* by Geoff Rodkey**

Imagine being forced to move to a new planet where YOU are the alien! Lan is a refugee from Earth, which was devastated by nuclear war. Lan's family is selected to represent humankind on an alien planet that is reluctant to take them in. Can Lan prove that humans and aliens *can* live together in peace?

*Call #: Children's Fiction Rodkey*





***Theo Tan and the Fox Spirit* by Jesse Q. Sutanto**

A twelve-year-old Chinese American boy must learn to embrace his heritage and accept his beloved older brother's spirit companion—a mystical fox named Kai—to solve the mystery of Jamie's death.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Sutanto*

***A Rover's Story* by Jasmine Warga**

Built to explore Mars, Resilience begins to develop human-like feelings as he learns from the NASA scientists who assembled him and, as he blasts off and explores Mars, Resilience must overcome different obstacles as he explores the red planet.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Warga*

## HISTORICAL FICTION

***Bud, Not Buddy* by Christopher Paul Curtis**

In the midst of the Great Depression, ten-year-old Bud escapes a bad foster home and sets out in search of the man he believes to be his father—the renowned bandleader, H.E. Calloway.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Curtis*

***Dear America / My Name is America* series by various authors**

History comes alive in these diaries chronicling the lives of children through a variety of historical events and experiences, including the Civil War, the sinking of the Titanic, the Long Walk of the Navajo, the Salem Witch Trials, the Battle of the Alamo, the fight for women's suffrage, the Great Migration, World Wars I and II, and more.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Dear*

***Louisiana's Way Home* by Kate DiCamillo**

After leaving her Florida home in the middle of the night like eccentric Granny insisted on doing, Louisiana finds herself in a small Georgia town, seeking a way home. As her life becomes entwined with the townsfolk, she starts to worry that she is destined only for good-byes.

*Call #: Children's Fiction DiCamillo*

***What Elephants Know* by Eric Dinnerstein**

Abandoned in the jungle at two years old, Nandu falls into the care of two elephants, Subba-Sahib and Devi Kali. When the government threatens to close the elephant stable, Nandu makes a risky plan to save his unusual family.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Dinnerstein*

***Stella by Starlight* by Sharon Draper**

When a burning cross set by the Klan causes panic and fear in 1932 Bumblebee, North Carolina, fifth-grader Stella must face prejudice and find the strength to demand change.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Draper*

***It Ain't So Awful, Falafel* by Firoozeh Dumas**

Eleven-year-old Zomorod, originally from Iran, tells her story of growing up Iranian in Southern California during the Iranian Revolution and hostage crisis of the late 1970s.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Dumas*



***The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate by Jacqueline Kelly***

In central Texas in 1899, eleven-year-old Callie Vee Tate is instructed to be a lady by her mother, learns about love from the older three of her six brothers, and studies the natural world with her grandfather, the latter of which leads to an important discovery.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Kelly*

***Number the Stars by Lois Lowry***

In 1943, during the German occupation of Denmark, ten-year-old Annemarie learns how to be brave and courageous when she helps shelter her Jewish friend from the Nazis.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Lowry*

***Freewater by Amina Luqman-Dawson***

After fleeing the plantation where they were enslaved, siblings Ada and Homer discover the secret community of Freewater, and work with freeborn Sanzi to protect their new home from the encroaching dangers of the outside world.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Luqman-Dawson*

***Sarah, Plain and Tall by Patricia MacLachlan***

Their mother died the day after Caleb was born. Their house on the prairie is quiet now, and Papa doesn't sing anymore. Then Papa puts an ad in the paper, asking for a wife, and he receives a letter from one Sarah Elisabeth Wheaton, of Maine. Papa, Anna, and Caleb write back. Caleb asks if she sings. Sarah decides to come for a month. Anna and Caleb wait and wonder. Will Sarah be nice? Will she like them? Will she stay?

*Call #: Children's Fiction MacLachlan*

***The Book of Boy by Catherine Gilbert Murdock***

In 1350, a boy with a large hump on his back becomes the servant of a shadowy pilgrim on his way to Rome, who pulls the boy into a dangerous expedition across Europe to gather the seven precious relics of Saint Peter.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Murdock*

***Planet Earth is Blue by Nicole Panteleakos***

Autistic and nearly nonverbal, twelve-year-old Nova is happy in her new foster home and school, but eagerly anticipates the 1986 Challenger launch, for which her sister, Bridget, promised to return.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Panteleakos*

***Prairie Lotus by Linda Sue Park***

In Dakota Territory in the 1880's, half-Chinese Hanna and her white father face racism and resistance to change as they try to make a home for themselves.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Park*

***The Nerviest Girl in the World by Melissa Wiley***

Pearl lives on a ranch where her chores include collecting eggs and feeding ostriches. And she knows a thing or two about horses, too. One day, Pearl's older brothers get jobs doing stunts for this new form of entertainment called "moving pictures." They're the Daredevil Donnelly Brothers, a Death-Defying Cowboy Trio. Before she knows it, Pearl has stumbled into being a stunt girl herself—and dreams of becoming a star. The only problem is, her mother has no idea what she's up to.

*Call #: Children's Fiction Wiley*



## GRAPHIC NOVELS

### ***Big Apple Diaries* by Alyssa Bermudez**

It's the year 2000 in New York City. For twelve-year old Alyssa, this means splitting time between her Puerto Rican dad's apartment in Manhattan and her white mom's new place in Queens, navigating the trials and tribulations of middle school, and an epic crush on a new classmate. The only way to make sense of it all is to capture the highs and lows in doodles and hilarious comics in a diary. Then life abruptly changes on September 11, 2001. Alyssa must find a new sense of self and purpose amidst all of the chaos and find the strength to move forward with hope.

*Call #: Children's Comics Bermudez*

### ***Sanity and Tallulah* by Molly Brooks**

Living inside a beat-up space station, science prodigy Sanity Jones, creates a three-headed cat named Princess Sparkle Destroyer of Worlds, and enlists her friend Tallulah Vega to help hide PSDW from her mom. What could go wrong?

*Call #: Children's Comics Books*

### ***Star Wars Jedi Academy* series by Jeffrey Brown**

Roan ends up in the Jedi Academy as a student of Master Yoda. All the other students have been practicing Jedi skills for years and Roan, who cannot master "Using the Force" questions why he was chosen to attend. Does Master Yoda see more than Roan can see about himself?

*Call #: Children's Comics Star*

### ***Rutabaga the Adventure Chef* by Eric Colossal**

Bored of cooking with ordinary ingredients, Rutabaga sets off to travel the world in search of unusual and magical ingredients to add to his cookbook.

*Call #: Children's Comics Colossal*

### ***The Witches of Brooklyn* by Sophie Escabasse**

Effie moves to Brooklyn to live with her strange aunt and soon discovers that she might be a witch.

*Call #: Children's Comics Escabasse*

### ***Mighty Jack* by Ben Hatke**

Jack dreads summer; his single mom takes a second job and Jack has to watch his non-verbal autistic sister, Maddy. But summer takes a turn when Maddy suddenly speaks up, encouraging Jack to get a mysterious box of beans at the market.

*Call #: Children's Comics Hatke*

### ***Twins* by Varian Johnson**

Twins and best friends Maureen and Francine Carter participate in the same clubs, enjoy the same foods, and are partners on all their school projects. But when the girls start sixth grade, Francine becomes Fran and wants to do things solo. Are sisters really forever? Or will middle school change things for good?

*Call #: Children's Comics Johnson*



***Measuring Up* by Lily LaMotte**

Twelve-year-old Cici has just moved from Taiwan to Seattle, and the only thing she wants more than to fit in at her new school is to celebrate her grandmother, A-má's, seventieth birthday together. Since she can't go to A-má, Cici cooks up a plan to bring A-má to her by winning the grand prize in a kids' cooking contest to pay for A-má's plane ticket! Can Cici find a winning recipe to reunite with A-má, a way to fit in with her new friends, and somehow find herself too?

*Call #: Children's Comics LaMotte*

***Star Scouts* by Mike Lawrence**

Everyone in school thinks new kid Avani is weird, especially the girls in her Flower Scouts troop. Is it so weird to think scouting should be about fun and adventure, not about makeovers and boys, boys, boys? But everything changes when Avani is 'accidentally' abducted by a spunky alien named Mabel. Mabel is a scout too—a Star Scout. Collecting alien specimens (like Avani) goes with the territory, along with teleportation and jetpack racing. Avani might be weird, but, in the Star Scouts, she fits right in. If she can just survive Camp Andromeda, and keep her dad from discovering that she's left planet Earth, she's in for the adventure of a lifetime.

*Call #: Children's Comics Lawrence*

***Squished* by Megan Wagner Lloyd**

Eleven-year-old Avery Lee is tired of feeling squished by her six siblings. They're noisy and chaotic and the younger kids love her a little too much. All Avery wants is her own room — her own space to be alone and make art. So she's furious when Theo, her grumpy older brother, gets his own room instead, and her wild baby brother, Max, moves into the room she already shares with her clinging sister Pearl!

*Call #: Children's Comics Lloyd*

***Anne of Green Gables: A Graphic Novel* by Mariah Marsden**

A graphic novel retelling of L.M. Montgomery's classic tale of smart, imaginative, and very talkative orphan Anne Shirley, as she finds family, friends, plenty of misadventures, and a home at Green Gables.

*Call #: Children's Comics Montgomery*

***Max and the Midknights* by Lincoln Pierce**

Max wants to be a knight! Too bad that dream is about as likely as finding a friendly dragon. But when Max's uncle Budrick is kidnapped by the cruel King Gastley, Max has to act...and fast! Joined by a band of brave adventurers—the Midknights—Max sets out on a thrilling quest: to save Uncle Budrick and restore the realm of Byjovia to its former high spirits!

*Call #: Children's Comics Pierce*

***The Pathfinders Society* by Francesco Sedita**

Summer camp just became a whole lot more interesting when five curious kids accept a mysterious project: uncover a series of strange clues, reveal a secret path--and follow its twists and turns to a legendary treasure!

*Call #: Children's Comics Sedita*



***Cardboard Kingdom* by Chad Sell**

Welcome to a neighborhood of kids who transform ordinary boxes into colorful costumes, and their ordinary block into cardboard kingdom. This is the summer when sixteen kids encounter knights and rogues, robots and monsters—and their own inner demons—on one last quest before school starts again.  
*Call #: Children's Comics Sell*

***The Tryout* by Christina Soontornvat**

As one of the only Asian Americans in her school, Christina confronts both well-meaning ignorance and cruel racism, but, in middle school, fitting in is important, which is why she and her best friend Megan are both excited and nervous to try out for the popular cheerleading squad.  
*Call #: Children's Comics Soontornvat*

***Stargazing* by Jen Wang**

Moon is everything Christine isn't. She's confident, impulsive, artistic . . . and though they both grew up in the same Chinese-American suburb, Moon is somehow unlike anyone Christine has ever known. Moon also has visions, sometimes, of celestial beings who speak to her from the stars. Who reassure her that earth isn't where she really belongs...  
*Call #: Children's Comics Wang*

**BIOGRAPHIES & NONFICTION**

***Stephen Hawking: Breaking the Boundaries of Time and Space* by John Bankston**

Discover the life and work of the brilliant physicist who has overcome the challenges of ALS to become one of the foremost scientists of the twentieth century.  
*Call #: Children's Biography Hawking*

***Through My Eyes* by Ruby Bridges**

Ruby Bridges recounts the story of her involvement as a six-year-old in the integration of her school in New Orleans in 1960.  
*Call #: Children's Biography Bridges*

***Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales* series by Nathan Hale**

Nathan Hale, the author's namesake, was a Revolutionary War hero. In this series, author Nathan Hale channels his namesake to present history's roughest, toughest, and craziest stories.  
*Call #: Children's Comics Hale*

***We Rise, We Resist, We Raise Our Voices* edited by Wade Hudson and Cheryl Willis Hudson**

50 children's authors and illustrators answer the question, "In this divisive world, what shall we tell our children?" Featuring poems, letters, personal essays, art, and more, this anthology empowers the nation's youth to listen, learn, and build a better tomorrow.  
*Call #: Children's 810.803 We*

***Picture This! Human Body* by Margaret Hynes**

This visual guide to the human body uses plenty color and art to teach readers all about the human body. You'll learn about topics like the building blocks of life, water and the body, bone mapping, growth, genes and inheritance, and keeping healthy by looking through tons of amazing infographics.  
*Call #: Children's 612 Hynes*



**Ken Jennings' Junior Genius Guides by Ken Jennings**

In this interactive, trivia series, *Jeopardy* champion Ken Jennings makes you an expert on geography, U.S. presidents, outer space, the human body, Greek mythology, Ancient Egypt, and dinosaurs.

Call #: Children's Nonfiction various (last name: Jennings)

**Commented [1]:** Unsure how to make this more user-friendly... all guides are with their specific topics.

**Explore! The Most Dangerous Journeys of All Time by Deborah Kespert**

History, adventure, and survival combine in this book about the most daring voyages made from the golden age of discovery to recent times. Meet the passionate and headstrong explorers who undertook these dangerous journeys and the challenges they faced.

Call #: Children's 910.4 Kespert

**First People: An Illustrated History of American Indians by David C. King**

*First People* tells the story of Native Americans—from their arrival on the continent 10,000 years ago to their search for identity in the modern world.

Call #: Children's 970.004 King

**The Way Things Work Now by David Macaulay**

This illustrated guide teaches readers all about the different machines and forces in our lives, from levers to lasers, from windmills to WiFi: discover how it all works.

Call #: Children's 600 Macaulay

**History Smashers series by Kate Messner**

With a mix of sidebars, illustrations, photos, and graphic panels, acclaimed author Kate Messner delivers the whole truth about tons of topics, from the Underground Railroad to Pearl Harbor, from the Black Plague to COVID-19. This series smashes everything you thought you knew about history!

Call #: Children's Nonfiction various (last name: Messner)

**Commented [2]:** Unsure how to make this more user-friendly... all guides are with their specific topics.

**Our World Out of Balance: Understanding Climate Change and What We Can Do by Andrea Minoglio**

An encouraging and comprehensive illustrated nonfiction guide introducing children to the important topic of climate change with clear facts and positive solutions. Easy-to-follow "Before" and "After" segments help children understand complex topics like: air pollution, rising seas, plastics and increased waste, wildfires, and more.

Call #: Children's 363.73 Minoglio

**How Did Whales Get So Big? & Other Curious Questions... by MinuteEarth Explains**

Have you ever wondered where Earth's water came from? Or why leaves change color in the fall? Featuring their signature puns and fun illustrations, this first book in the MinuteEarth Explains series explores topics ranging from weird animal facts to extreme weather, making science enjoyable and unforgettable.

Call #: Children's 500 MinuteEarth

**The Manatee Scientists: Saving Vulnerable Species by Peter Lourie**

Meet three scientists working in different parts of the world to save the manatee. Get an eye-opening, close-up view of their far-flung expeditions to Brazil, Senegal, and Florida.

Call #: Children's 599.55 Lourie



***The Creativity Project: An Awesomtastic Story Collection* edited by Colby Sharp**

More than 40 children's authors and illustrators create and respond to creative storytelling prompts to make a collection of words, art, poetry, and more. Readers are invited to get creative and respond to the prompts themselves—great for story lovers and creators alike!

*Call #: Children's 810.8 Creativity*

***The Replay: 25 Greatest Moments in Sports* by Adam Skinner**

This richly illustrated book highlights the achievements and stories of notable athletes—male, female, able-bodied and Paralympians—from the 1800s to today, including trailblazers, Olympians, and record-breakers in more than 20 sports, making it a treasure trove for all the family to share. So sit back and enjoy sport's greatest moments as a read-aloud story from the comfort of your armchair.

*Call #: Children's 796.09 Skinner*

***I Survived True Stories: Five Epic Disasters* by Lauren Tarshis**

From a group of students surviving the 9.0 earthquake that set off a historic tsunami in Japan, to a boy nearly frozen on the prairie in 1888, these kids lived to tell tales of unimaginable destruction and, against all odds, survival.

*Call #: Children's 363.34 Tarshis*

***Science Comics* series by various authors**

In great detail and humor, explore a variety of science topics like plagues, volcanoes, dinosaurs, coral reefs, animals, machinery and robots, the solar system, and the human body.

*Call #: Children's Comics Science*

***Animal Stories: Heartwarming True Tales from the Animal Kingdom* by Jane Yolen**

Discover the Capitoline geese who saved the Roman empire, Balto the Alaskan sled dog, Smokey the Bear, the passenger pigeon of WWI Cher Ami, internet sensation Christian the lion, and many more.

*Call #: Children's 590 Yolen*

***Prehistoric: Dinosaurs, Megalodons, and Other Fascinating Creatures of the Deep Past* by Kathleen Weidner Zoehfeld**

Journey back hundreds of millions of years to prehistoric Earth, where you will discover frozen ice-age landscapes, lush prehistoric rainforests, and vast ancient oceans. Discover the fascinating creatures that used to roam the planet, including awe-inspiring dinosaurs, saber-toothed tigers, and giant insects.

*Call #: Children's 560 Zoehfeld*

