Dr. Christopher Clouet
Superintendent of Schools

June 2019

Dear Students and Parents/Guardians,

Research indicates that the only way children become better readers is by reading. In order to instill a love of reading in our children, we need to encourage our students to read all year long, and summer is an important time for them to read for enjoyment. Reading can fill your child’s days with the love of stories and the fascination of factual reading. That is why students should be given the opportunity to choose the books they would love to read. Therefore, this summer we will offer Shelton’s Summer Reading Program.

The K-4 Summer Reading Program contains a list of suggested books titled “Favorites & Classics” that are appropriate and interesting for children based upon the grade level that they will be entering. This list offers a wide variety of titles and authors to meet children’s varied interests and readiness levels. The complete summer reading list, which can be found on our district website, includes nonfiction and content area selections to extend the science and social studies curricula. In addition, students should feel free to select books that are not on the list with parental guidance. They should choose books they can read independently, as well as books they can read with their parents. Any books read while participating in the Governor’s Summer Reading Challenge should be listed on the attached bookmark and will be counted toward the requirements for our program.

We ask that your child complete and return the bookmark to his/her teacher at the start of school. Please be sure to sign your own name to verify that the reading has been completed. Should you misplace the bookmark, you may download it from the Shelton Public Schools website at www.sheltonpublicschools.org.

Students that complete the below expectations for their given grade level will be invited to attend a school READING CELEBRATION in September.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Level</th>
<th># of Books at Independent Reading Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grades K – 2</td>
<td>15 or more books</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grades 3 – 4</td>
<td>8 or more books</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The success of this program depends heavily upon your support as parents and guardians. Our shared commitment will help your children to become critical readers and thinkers while developing a life-long love of reading.

Sincerely,

Victoria White
Supervisor of Teaching & Learning- Humanities
Name: __________________________

Grade Entering: __________________________

“WOW” your new teacher with all the summer books you’ve read! Please write down all the titles of the books you have read and return this bookmark to your teacher by September 6, 2019.

1. __________________________

2. __________________________

3. __________________________

4. __________________________

5. __________________________

6. __________________________

7. __________________________
8. ________________

9. ________________

10. ________________

11. ________________

12. ________________

13. ________________

14. ________________

15. ________________

Did you read more books?

Let your teacher know!

Visit sheltonpublicschools.org and download another bookmark! You may also write your titles on a separate piece of paper.

Parent signature: ______________________
Summer Reading List
A Universe of Stories! ~ Grades K-2
Suggested space-themed summer reading
compiled for the Connecticut State Department of Education
by Linda Williams, Connecticut State Library

PICTURE BOOKS

Life on Mars by Jon Agee
A young astronaut is trying to find life on Mars, but he's made a very big oversight. | ALA | Lexile: 470

Mae Among the Stars by Roda Ahmed
When young Mae Jemison is asked by her teacher what she wants to be when she grows up, African American Mae tells her mostly white classmates that she wants to be an astronaut, a dream that her parents wholeheartedly support. | NSTA | Lexile: 580

The Moon Over Star by Dianna Hutts Aston
On her family's farm in the town of Star, eight-year-old Mae eagerly follows the progress of the 1969 Apollo 11 flight and moon landing and dreams that she might one day be an astronaut, too. | ALA

Tiny Little Rocket by Richard Collingridge
A little rocket takes its yearly trip through outer space. | Lexile: 620

How to Bicycle to the Moon to Plant Sunflowers by Mordicai Gerstein
Too busy with school, soccer, and other activities, a young boy who wants to cheer up the sad, lonely moon presents the reader with a step-by-step plan for becoming the first human to bicycle to the moon. | Lexile: 690

Kitten's First Full Moon by Kevin Henkes
When Kitten mistakes the full moon for a bowl of milk, she ends up tired, wet, and hungry trying to reach it. | ALA | Lexile: 450

A Big Mooncake for Little Star by Grace Lin
Reimagines the cycles of the moon as a mother bakes a Big Moon Cookie and, despite Mama's request to wait, Little Star begins nibbling at it every night. | ALA

The Moon is Going to Addy's House by Ida Pearle
The moon follows Addy all over the city before finally settling in at her house for bedtime. | ALA | Lexile: 260

EARLY READERS

Best Frints in the Whole Universe by Antoinette Portis
Yelfred and Omek of planet Boborp are best frints, even when they have disagreements. | ALA

Out There by Tom Sullivan
Two children looking up at the night sky wonder what kind of creatures and planets exist in other parts of the universe.

Many Moons by James Thurber
Though many try, only the court jester is able to fulfill Princess Lenore's one wish. | ALA | Lexile: 700

Fly Guy and the Alienzz by Tedd Arnold
Buzz is filming a movie about aliens from Outer Space, who capture Fly Guy and Buzz Boy—and our two heroes must outsmart the aliens, with some help from Dragon Dude and Fly Girl. | Lexile: 530

Go, Otto, Go! by David Milgrim
Otto the robot builds a spaceship to take him home. | ALA | Lexile: 80

GRAPHIC NOVELS

CatStronauts #1: Mission Moon by Drew Brockington
Alerted to a global energy crisis, the President consults with the World's Best Scientist, who suggests sending a special group of astronauts to turn the Moon into a solar power plant. | Lexile: 410

The Glorkian Warrior Delivers a Pizza by James Kochalka
No mission is too small for an inept intergalactic hero and his talking backpack. | ILA | Lexile: 430
**NONFICTION**

**The Stuff of Stars** by Marion Dane Bauer
Describes the void that existed before the Big Bang generated life throughout the galaxy, making it possible for wondrous human children to evolve. | ALA

**One Giant Leap** by Robert Burleigh
Commemorating the 40th anniversary of man's first walk on the moon, this book is a tribute that transports readers to the stars, where they will experience the moon landing just as Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin did. | NCTE, NSTA | Lexile: 470

**A Hundred Billion Trillion Stars** by Seth Fishman
A look at the numbers that surround us, big and small, on earth and in outer space. | NCTM

**Earthrise: Apollo 8 and the Photo That Changed the World** by James Gladstone
Describes the story behind the famous "Earthrise" photograph taken from the Apollo 8 mission in 1968, detailing how the photograph had a galvanizing effect on a world of unrest. | Lexile: 590

**ABCs From Space** by Adam Voiland
An alphabet book of photographs of Earth taken from outer space that look like each letter. | NSTA | Lexile: NP

**Counting on Katherine: How Katherine Johnson Saved Apollo 13** by Helaine Becker
An introduction to the boundary-breaking mathematician, Katherine Johnson, reveals how her love of mathematics started at a young age led her to a job at NASA where she calculated the course of moon landings and helped save the Apollo 13 mission. | ALA, NCTM, NSTA | Lexile: 710

**My Journey to the Stars** by Scott Kelly
A picture book memoir about NASA astronaut Scott Kelly takes readers on a journey through his childhood as an average student to his record-breaking year among the stars. | NSTA | Lexile: 680

**Star Stuff: Carl Sagan and the Mysteries of the Universe** by Stephanie Roth Sisson
A biography of Carl Sagan focusing on his childhood and culminating in the Voyager mission and the Golden Record. | ALA, NCTE, NSTA, Nutmeg 2017 | Lexile: 760

**Caroline's Comets: A True Story** by Emily Arnold McCully
Caroline Herschel was the first woman to discover a comet and the first woman to be paid as a scientist. | NCSS, NSTA | Lexile: 800

**Hidden Figures: The True Story of Four Black Women and the Space Race** by Margot Lee Shetterly
A picture book adaptation of the story of four mathematicians who were pivotal to the success of America's space program. It describes how they overcame the limitations imposed on black women in the segregated 1960s. | ALA, NCSS, NSTA | Lexile: 980

**Margaret and the Moon: How Margaret Hamilton Saved the First Lunar Landing** by Dean Robbins
An introduction to the woman mathematician who saved the first lunar landing describes her childhood love of numbers that led to her education and contributions at NASA. It explains how her handwritten codes proved essential throughout numerous space missions. | NCSS, NSTA | Lexile: 630

**When Sparks Fly: The True Story of Robert Goddard, the Father of US Rocketry** by Kristen Fulton
Presents the life and accomplishments of the American scientist, describing his quest to discover the basic principles of rocketry, his successful invention of the first rockets in the 1920s, and his influence on the American space program. | NSTA | Lexile: 690

---

*Many of the listed books were selected as exemplary books by one or more of the following organizations: the American Library Association (ALA), the International Literacy Association (ILA), the National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS), the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE), the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM), the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA), the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) or the United States Board on Books for Young People (USBBY). Other awards as noted.*
The Wall in the Middle of the Book* by Jon Agee
A knight who feels secure on his side of the wall that divides his book discovers that his side is not as safe as he thought, and the other side is not as threatening. | ALA, NCSS | Lexile: 390

Ten, Nine, Eight by Molly Bang
Numbers from ten to one are part of this lullaby which observes the room of a little girl going to bed. | ALA | Lexile: 450

The Skunk* by Mac Barnett
A man is followed by a skunk all day until the tables turn. | ALA | Lexile: 390

Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs by Judi Barrett
Life is delicious in the town of Chewandswallow where it rains soup and juice, snows mashed potatoes, and blows storms of hamburgers — until the weather takes a turn for the worse. | Lexile: 730

Hello Lighthouse* by Sophie Blackall
Explores the life of one lighthouse as it beam its message out to sea through shifting seasons, changeable weather, and the tenure of its final keeper. | ALA | Lexile: 510

Goodnight Moon by Margaret Wise Brown
Goodnight to each of the objects in the great green room: goodnight chairs, goodnight comb, goodnight air. | Lexile: 360

Mr. Tiger Goes Wild* by Peter Brown
Bored with city life and the proper behavior it requires, Mr. Tiger has a wild idea that leads him to discover his true nature. | ALA | Lexile: 170

Children see a variety of animals, each one a different color, and a teacher looking at them. | Lexile: 200

Gravity* by Jason Chin
Introduces the scientific principles of gravity using researched, simple explanations of its essential role in the universe. | Lexile: 300

Click, Clack, Moo: Cows That Type by Doreen Cronin
When Farmer Brown's cows find a typewriter in the barn they start making demands, and go on strike when the farmer refuses to give them what they want. | ALA | Lexile: 160

Maria Had a Little Llama / Maria Tenia una Llamita by Angela Dominguez
In this bilingual version of the classic rhyme, set in Peru, Maria takes her llama to school one day. | ALA | Lexile: 380

Abuela by Arthur Dorros
While riding on a bus with her grandmother, a little girl imagines that they are carried up into the sky and fly over the sights of New York City. | ALA | Lexile: 510

Millions of Cats by Wanda Gág
How can an old man and his wife select one cat from a choice of millions and trillions? | Lexile: 730

Honey I Love: and Other Love Poems by Eloise Greenfield
Titles include "I Look Pretty,", "Fun," "Riding on the Train," "Harriet Tubman," and "By Myself." | Lexile: NP

All Different Now* by Angela Johnson
In 1865, members of a family start their day as slaves, working in a Texas cotton field, and end it celebrating their freedom on what came to be known as Juneteenth. | NCSS | Lexile: 830

Harold and the Purple Crayon by Crockett Johnson
Harold goes for an adventurous walk in the moonlight with his purple crayon. | Lexile: 490

Drawn Together* by Minh Le
A boy and his grandfather cross a language and cultural barrier using their shared love of art, storytelling, and fantasy. | ALA, NCTE

*New to the list in 2019
**SUMMER READING**

**New Favorites & Classics**

*For Kindergarten to Grade 2*

---

**George and Martha** *by* James Marshall
Relates several episodes in the friendship of two hippopotamuses. | ALA | Lexile: 500

**Chicka Chicka Boom Boom** *by* Bill Martin
An alphabet rhyme/chant that relates what happens when the whole alphabet tries to climb a coconut tree. | ALA | Lexile: 530

**Make Way for Ducklings** *by* Robert McCloskey
Mr. and Mrs. Mallard proudly return to their home in the Boston Public Garden with their eight offspring. | ALA | Lexile: 710

**A Different Pond** *by* Bao Phi
Bao Phi and his father wake up early in the morning to fish for food on the shores of a small pond in Minneapolis and Bao's father tells him about a different pond in their homeland of Vietnam. | ALA, NCSS | Lexile: 620

**The Tortoise & the Hare** *by* Jerry Pinkney
Illustrations and minimal text relate the familiar fable of the race between a slow tortoise and a quick but foolish hare. | ALA, ILA

**Good Night, Gorilla** *by* Peggy Rathmann
An unobservant zookeeper is followed home by all the animals he thinks he has left behind in the zoo. | Lexile: 50

**School's First Day of School** *by* Adam Rex
Everyone's a little nervous on the first day of school, including the school building. | ALA | Lexile: 580

**Henry and Mudge: The First Book of Their Adventures** *by* Cynthia Rylant
Henry, feeling lonely on a street without any other children, finds companionship and love in a big dog named Mudge. | Lexile: 460

---

**After the Fall** *by* Dan Santat
After falling off the wall, Humpty Dumptty is very afraid of climbing up again, but is determined not to let fear stop him from being close to the birds. | Lexile: 550

**The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs** *by* Jon Scieszka
The wolf gives his own outlandish version of what really happened when he tangled with the three little pigs. | ALA | Lexile: 510

**Baby Monkey, Private Eye** *by* Brian Selznick
Baby Monkey, private eye, will investigate stolen jewels, missing pizzas, and other mysteries—if he can manage to figure out how to put his pants on. | ALA, NCTE | Lexile: 210

**Caps for Sale** *by* Esphyr Slobodkina
A band of mischievous monkeys steals every one of a peddler's caps while he takes a nap under a tree. | Lexile: 480

**The Princess and the Warrior** *by* Duncan Tonatiuh
When the warrior Popoca returns to find his love, the princess Izta, deep asleep and unable to be awaken, he stays by her side just as he promised. | ALA | Lexile: 770

**Don't Let theaw the Pigeon Drive the Bus!** *by* Mo Willems
When a bus driver takes a break from his route, a very unlikely volunteer springs up to take his place. | ALA | Lexile: 280

**Lillian's Right to Vote** *by* Jonh Winter & Shane W. Evans
As an elderly woman, Lillian recalls that her great-great-grandparents were sold as slaves in front of a courthouse where only rich white men were allowed to vote, then the long fight that led to her right—and determination—to cast her ballot since the Voting Rights Act gave every American the right to vote. | ALA, NCSS | Lexile: 1030

---

**FAVORITE AUTHORS**

| Byron Barton | P. D. Eastman | Robert McCloskey | David Shannon |
| Margaret Wise Brown | Ed Emberley | Jon Muth | Williams Steig |
| Anthony Browne | Mem Fox | Jerry Pinkney | David Wiesner |
| Eric Carle | Ezra Jack Keats | Peggy Rathmann | Mo Willems |
| Donald Crews | Jon Klassen | Dr. Seuss | Karina Wilson |
| Tomie de Paola | James Marshall | Maurice Sendak | Jacqueline Woodson |
**Summer Reading List**
A Universe of Stories! ~ Grades 3-4
Suggested space-themed summer reading
compiled for the Connecticut State Department of Education
by Linda Williams, Connecticut State Library

**PICTURE BOOKS**

**Armstrong: The Adventurous Journey of a Mouse to the Moon** by Torben Kuhlmann
A mouse decides to fly to the moon. | Lexile: 730

**CHAPTER BOOKS**

**The Boy Who Climbed into the Moon** by David Almond
Helped by a very long ladder, some unusual acquaintances, two rather worried parents, and a great deal of community spirit, a young English boy makes an astonishing discovery when he embarks on a mission to prove that the moon is nothing but a big hole in the sky. | USBBY | Lexile: 470

**I Love You, Michael Collins** by Lauren Baratz-Logsted
In 1969, as her own family is falling apart, ten-year-old Mamie finds comfort in conducting a one-sided correspondence with the least famous astronaut heading toward the moon on Apollo 11. | NCSS | Lexile: 800

**Sputnik's Guide to Life on Earth** by Frank Cotrell Boyce
Separated from his grandfather and placed in a foster home, Prez forges a friendship with an alien who appears as a dog to everyone else and entreats Prez to help compile a list of Earth's redeeming qualities. | Lexile: 530

**Martin Bridge: Ready for Takeoff** by Jessica Scott Kerrin
In three short stories, Martin develops a crush on his new bus driver, takes care of his friend's hamster with tragic results, and participates in a rocket exhibit that threatens a friendship. | ALA | Lexile: 540

**Space Taxi** by Wendy Mass & Michael Brawer
On "Take Your Kid to Work Day," eight-year-old Archie discovers that his father drives a space taxi that shuttles aliens from one area of the universe to another. | Lexile: 460

**Herbert's Wormhole** by Peter Nelson
When almost-sixth-grader Alex, a video game fanatic, is forced on a "playdate" with his neighbor Herbert, an inventor, the two travel to the twenty-second century and face off against aliens, who are not as benevolent as most people think. | Nutmeg 2012 | Lexile: 780

**Planet Earth is Blue** by Nicole Panteleakos
On the autism spectrum 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. | Lexile: 740

**To the Moon!** by Paul A. Reynolds
Twin mice Sydney and Simon compete to create the most interesting project about the Earth's moon for their elementary school, and win the first prize—a chance to meet a real astronaut.

**Cody and the Mysteries of the Universe** by Tricia Springstubb
When Cody's best friend Spencer moves to her street, an excited Cody asks for Spencer's help tackling the mystery of a neighbor who has a skull-and-crossbones sign in his window, while a new school year ushers in "new school jitters" for Spencer, and for Cody, a newly forged bond with a teacher who shares her love for Mozart. | Nutmeg 2019 | Lexile: 460

**GRAPHIC NOVELS**

**Jedi Academy** by Jeffrey Brown
When Roan's application to pilot school is rejected, he finds he has been invited to study under Master Yoda at the Jedi Academy. | ALA, Nutmeg 2016 | Lexile: 650

**Leo Geo and the Cosmic Crisis** by Jon Chad
Armed with his knowledge of science, Leo Geo becomes an astronaut and heads into space, where he encounters pirates and tries to stop a comet that is headed toward his brother's science laboratory on Earth.

April 2019

CT State Library
Preserving the Past. Informing the Future.
**SUMMER READING LIST**

**Zita the Spacegirl:** Far From Home by Ben Hatke
Zita rushes to the rescue after her best friend is abducted by an alien doomsday cult, and, before long, finds herself hailed as an intergalactic hero. | ALA, Nutmeg 2015 | Lexile: 310

**Hilo:** The Boy Who Crashed to Earth by Judd Winick
When a mysterious boy falls from the sky, friends D.J. and Gina must discover the secrets of his identity and help him save the world. | Nutmeg 2017 | Lexile: 460

---

**POETRY**

**The Day the Universe Exploded My Head** by Allan Wolf
With poetry that is equal parts accurate and entertaining, accompanied by lively, whimsical and energetic illustrations, amateur stargazers and budding astrophysicists will be enthralled by the many wonders of the universe as presented in this picture book that includes notes about the poems, a glossary and a list of resources.

---

**NONFICTION**

**Moonshot:** The Flight of Apollo 11 by Brian Floca
Here is the story of the Apollo 11 mission to the Moon -- a story of leaving and returning during the summer of 1969, and a story of home, seen whole, from far away by steady astronauts in their great machines. | ALA, NCTE | Lexile: 830

**Impact!: Asteroids and the Science of Saving the World** by Elizabeth Rusch
Asteroids come in all shapes and sizes--and hit our planet in them, too. But what happens if a catastrophically large one approaches earth? By looking on the ground at historical asteroid craters and present-day falls, and up into space for the big ones yet to come, a wide variety of scientists are trying to figure out how to track asteroids--and how to avoid devastating impacts in the future. | ALA | Lexile: 1070

**Exoplanets** by Seymour Simon
Introduces exoplanets, examining the planets outside of our solar system, discussing what makes them habitable, and exploring the efforts to discover new life. | NSTA

---

**BIOGRAPHY**

**Look Up!: Henrietta Leavitt, Pioneering Woman Astronomer** by Robert Burleigh
An illustrated portrait of astronomer Henrietta Swan Leavitt traces the years she spent measuring stars from her position at the Harvard College Observatory and her important discoveries that enabled the scientific community to gain a fuller understanding of the universe's vast size. | NCSS | Lexile: 600

**Mission to Space** by John B. Harrington
Chickasaw astronaut, John Herrington, shares his flight on the space shuttle Endeavour and his thirteen-day mission to the international Space Station. | ALA

**Fascinating: The Life of Leonard Nimoy** by Richard Michelson
An uplifting picture book portrait of the late actor best known as Spock from Star Trek describes his upbringing as the child of immigrant parents, his early dreams of becoming an entertainer and the ways his famous character reflected his experiences of being different. | NCSS | Lexile: 920

**Starry Messenger:** A Book Depicting the Life of a Famous Scientist, Mathematician, Astronomer, Philosopher, Physicist.

**Galileo Galilei** by Peter Sis
Describes the life and work of the courageous man who changed the way people saw the galaxy, by offering objective evidence that the earth was not the fixed center of the universe. | ALA, NCTE | Lexile: 830

**A Computer Called Katherine:**

**Slade**
How Katherine Johnson Helped Put America on the Moon by Suzanne Slade
Shares the story of the pioneering African American mathematician, Katherine Johnson, who helped calculate America's first manned flight into space, its first manned orbit of Earth, and the world's first trip to the moon.

**To the Stars!: The First American Woman to Walk in Space** by Carmella Van Vleet
Shares the story of renowned astronaut and distinguished scientist Kathryn Sullivan, describing how she defied the conventions of her childhood to pursue interests previously limited to boys and how she became the first woman to walk in space. | NCSS | Lexile: 680

---

*Many of the listed books were selected as exemplary books by one or more of the following organizations: the American Library Association (ALA), the International Literacy Association (ILA), the National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS), the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE), the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM), the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA), the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) or the United States Board on Books for Young People (USBBY). Other awards as noted.*
Mr. Popper’s Penguins by Richard Atwater
The unexpected delivery of a large crate containing an Antarctic penguin changes the life and fortunes of Mr. Popper, a house painter obsessed by dreams of the Polar regions. | ALA | Lexile: 910

Tuck Everlasting by Natalie Babbit
The Tuck family is confronted with an agonizing situation when they discover that a ten-year-old girl and a malicious stranger now share their secret about a spring whose water prevents one from ever growing any older. | ALA | Lexile: 770

Madeline by Ludwig Bemelmans
Madeline, smallest and naughtiest of the twelve little charges of Miss Clavel, wakes up one night with an attack of appendicitis. | ALA | Lexile: 330

On a Beam of Light: A Story of Albert Einstein* by Jennifer Berne
Follows the life of the famous physicist, from his early ideas to his groundbreaking theories. | ALA | Lexile: 680

James and the Giant Peach by Roald Dahl
Wonderful adventures abound after James escapes from his fearful aunts by rolling away inside a giant peach. | Lexile: 870

Because of Winn-Dixie by Kate DiCamillo
Ten-year-old India Opal Buloni describes her first summer in the town of Naomi, Florida, and all the good things that happen to her because of her big ugly dog Winn-Dixie. | ALA | Lexile: 670

My Father's Dragon by Ruth Stiles Gannett
A young boy determines to rescue a poor baby dragon who is being used by a group of lazy wild animals to ferry them across the river on Wild Island. | ALA | Lexile: 970

The Story of Ferdinand by Munro Leaf
Ferdinand likes to sit quietly and smell the flowers, but one day he gets stung by a bee and his snorting and stomping convince everyone that he is the fiercest of bulls. | Lexile: 760

The Tales of Uncle Remus as told by Julius Lester
A retelling of the African American tales about the adventures and misadventures of Brer Rabbit and his friends and enemies. | ALA | Lexile: 780

Pippi Longstocking by Astrid Lindgren
Escapades of a lucky little girl who lives with a horse and a monkey — but without any parents — at the edge of a Swedish village. | Lexile: 870

Sarah, Plain and Tall by Patricia MacLachlan
When their father invites a mail-order bride to come live with them in their prairie home, Caleb and Anna are captivated by their new mother and hope that she will stay. | ALA | Lexile: 660

Firefly Hollow* by Alison McGhee
Because their dreams of daring adventures go against the cautious teachings of their nations, Firefly and Cricket set out on their own, find a home with kindly Vole, and togehter help a grieving "miniature giant" named Peter. | Lexile: 690

Juana & Lucas* by Juana Medina
A spunky young girl from Colombia loves playing with her canine best friend and resists boring school activities, especially learning English, until her family tells her that a special trip is planned to an English-speaking place. | ALA, Nutmeg 2019 | Lexile: 870

Archer's Quest by Linda Sue Park
Twelve-year-old Kevin Kim helps Chu-mong, a legendary king of ancient Korea, return to his own time. | ALA, Nutmeg 2010 | Lexile: 690

Pax* by Sara Pennypacker
After being forced to give up his pet fox Pax, a young boy named Peter decides to leave home and get his best friend back. | ALA | Lexile: 760

*New to the list in 2019
Pink and Say by Patricia Polacco
Say Curtis describes his meeting with Pinkus Aylée, a black soldier, during the Civil War, and their capture by Southern troops. Based on a true story about the author's great-grandfather. | Lexile: 600

Tar Beach by Faith Ringgold
A young girl dreams of flying above her Harlem home, claiming all she sees for herself and her family. Based on the author's quilt painting of the same name. | ALA | Lexile: 790

The Noisy Paint Box* by Barb Rosenstock
An exuberantly illustrated introduction to the early life of abstract painter Vasija Kadinsky describes how his creative life was profoundly shaped by a neurological condition called "synesthesia," which caused him to experience colors as sounds, and sounds as colors. | ALA, NCTE, NCSS | Lexile: 630

Grandfather's Journey by Allen Say
A Japanese American man recounts his grandfather's journey to America which he also undertakes later, and the feelings of being torn by a love for two different countries. | Lexile: 650

Where the Sidewalk Ends by Shel Silverstein
A boy who turns into a TV set and a girl who eats a whale are only two of the characters in this collection of humorous poetry illustrated with the author's own drawings.

Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters by John Steptoe
Mufaro's two beautiful daughters, one bad-tempered, one kind and sweet, go before the king, who is choosing a wife. | ALA | Lexile: 790

All-of-a-Kind Family by Sydney Taylor
The adventures of five sisters growing up in a Jewish family in New York in the early twentieth century. | Lexile: 750

Harriet the Invincible* by Ursula Vernon
Never a conventional princess, Harriet becomes an adventurer after learning she is cursed to fall into a deep sleep on her twelfth birthday, but after two years of slaying ogres, cliff-diving, and more with her riding quail, Mumfrey, things go awry at home and she must seek a prince to set things right. | ALA, Nutmeg 2017 | Lexile: 810

Charlotte's Web by E. B. White
Wilbur, the pig, is desolate when he discovers that he is destined to be the farmer's Christmas dinner until his spider friend, Charlotte, decides to help him. | Lexile: 680

The Velveteen Rabbit by Margery Williams
By the time the Velveteen Rabbit is dirty, worn out, and about to be burned, he has almost given up hope of ever finding the magic called Real. | Lexile: 820

Dragonwings by Lawrence Yep
In the early twentieth century a young Chinese boy joins his father in San Francisco and helps him realize his dream of making a flying machine. | Lexile: 870

Lon Po Po by Ed Young
Three sisters staying home alone are endangered by a hungry wolf who is disguised as their grandmother. | Lexile: 670

Rumpelstiltskin by Paul O. Zelinsky
A strange little man helps the miller's daughter spin straw into gold for the king on the condition that she will give him her first-born child. | Lexile: 620

---

Series

Ramona by Beverly Cleary
Amber Brown by Paula Danziger
Bink & Gollie by Kate DiCamillo
Mercy Watson by Kate DiCamillo
Sassy by Sharon Draper
Nikki and Deja by Karen English
Babymouse by Jennifer L. Holm
Bunnicula by James Howe
Frog and Toad by Arnold Lobel

Gooney Bird by Lois Lowry
Lulu by Hilary McKay
Magic Treehouse by Mary Pope Osborne
Junie B. Jones by Barbara Park
Clementine by Sara Pennypacker
Calvin Coconut by Graham Salisbury
The Time Warp Trio by Jon Scieszka
EllRay Jakes by Sally Warner
Commander Toad by Jane Yolen