

NOTABLES 2001

1621: A NEW LOOK AT THANKSGIVING. Catherine Grace. Photos by Sisse Brimberg & Cotton Coulson. National Geographic Society. \$18.00. A photo-essay that presents a more accurate account of the first Thanksgiving than is usually given. The living history museum of Plimoth Plantation reenacted the 1621 harvest gathering and the book is a result of the reenactment. History-Social Science.

ABC SCIENCE RIDDLES. Barbara Saffer. Illus. by Jennifer Johnson Haywood. Peel Productions. Twenty-six science riddles, one for each letter of the alphabet, are presented in this brightly illustrated book. Students will enjoy reading and searching the clues and working out the answers (that are included at the end of the book). Includes Ideas for Parents and Teachers.

AESOP'S FABLES Jerry Pinkney. Illus. by the author. North-South/Sea Star. \$20.00. Sixty of Aesop's fables are reinterpreted with witty text and colored pencil and watercolor illustrations. Both human and animal characters seem to come alive on the pages and make this a delightful read aloud. **Open Court: Storytelling.**

AFTER THE HOLOCAUST. Howard Greenfield. Archival photos. Greenwillow. \$16.00. Eight Jewish men and women relate their experiences immediately following World War II. History-Social Science. **Young Adult.**

ALBERT. Donna Jo Napoli. Illus. by Jim LaMarche. Harcourt. \$16.00. Every day Albert sticks his hand out the window of his apartment to check the weather and then remains secluded in his apartment the rest of the day. But one day, a cardinal drops a stick in Albert's hand and wonder of wonders, a nest is created! Albert is now stranded with a new nest in his hand – but watching as the cardinal brings berries to him and tends the nest and then the baby birds, opens up Albert's small world.

ALL THAT REMAINS. Bruce Brooks. Simon & Schuster/Atheneum. \$16.00. The theme of each of these three novellas is death and how it affects the lives of the young people in each story. **Young Adult.**

AMANDINE. Adele Griffin. Hyperion. \$16.00. Fourteen-year-old Delia is the new girl at DeWolf High School and is drawn into a friendship with Amandine, an artistic and sometimes cruel girl. When Delia tries to pull back from the friendship, the nightmare begins. **Young adult.**

AMBER WAS BRAVE, ESSIE WAS SMART: THE STORY OF AMBER AND ESSIE TOLD HERE IN POEMS AND PICTURES. Vera Williams. Illus. by the author. Greenwillow. \$16.00. With their mother working and their father in jail, sisters Amber and Essie are portrayed through poetry and sketches. A poignant presentation of family life that depicts the love of family members despite the difficult circumstances.

AND THE DISH RAN AWAY WITH THE SPOON. Janet Stevens. Harcourt. \$17.00. Oh, what fun! Remember when the dish ran away with the spoon? Well, in this zany version, they never come back, so Cat, Dog, and Cow set out to find the pair so they are back in the nursery rhyme before it is read again! Lots of word play, fun and familiar book characters pop up in this delightful read aloud!

ANY SMALL GOODNESS: A NOVEL OF THE BARRIO. Tony Johnston. Illus. by Raul Colon. Blue Sky/Scholastic. \$16.00. Eleven-year-old Arturo is growing up in the barrio of East Los Angeles and although his family is close and loving, he worries about the street life outside his home. His father tells him, "...In life there is *bueno* and there is *malo*. If you do not find enough of the good, you must yourself create it." Includes glossary of Spanish words. California author.

ASTRO BUNNIES Christine Loomis. Illus. by Ora Eitan. Putnam. \$16.00. Using a cadence 0similar to "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star," this read aloud will delight the primary child as a bunch of bunnies set off to explore space.

AWFUL OGRE'S AWFUL DAY. Jack Prelutsky. Illus. by Paul O. Zelinsky. Greenwillow. \$16.00. Rollicking verse, enhanced with monstrous illustrations, relate the happenings of a typical day in the life of an ogre.

BACKYARD SCIENCE. Chris Maynard. DK Publishing. \$13.00. Over 50 experiments are shown using the backyard as a source of materials. Kids can become scientists in their own backyards using garden tools to perform the experiments. **Open Court: City Wildlife.**

BAD BOY: A MEMOIR Walter Dean Myers. HarperCollins. \$16.00. An award winning author tells of his life as a boy in Harlem during the 1940s and 1950s. His love of books and reading were the cornerstones for escaping from a life of trouble. **Young Adult.**

BALONEY (HENRY P.). Jon Scieszka. Illus. by Lane Smith. Viking. \$16.00. How is Henry going to escape a life of Permanent Lifelong Detention that his teacher is threatening for being chronically late to class? Readers will enthusiastically translate Henry's explanation until it all makes sense... or does it? **Open Court: Imagination.**

THE BEASTLY ARMS. Patrick Jennings. Scholastic. \$17.00. Sixth-grader Nickel lives in the city with his divorced mother. When they must move to a less expensive apartment, Henry and his friend Inez find a potential apartment building that, without knowing why, has a strong appeal to Nickel. But, why is the landlord so strange? What secrets lurk behind the walls of the Beastly Arms? This is a warm story of friendship and trust.

BEHOLD THE TREES. Sue Alexander. Illus. by Leonid Gore. Scholastic/Arthur A. Levine.\$17.00. When the land was called Canaan, there were many varieties of trees, but as centuries passed and wars occurred the trees were diminished until the land was a desert. While millions of trees were planted following World War II, even more are being planted now. During Tu B'Shevat, the national tree planting holiday, more trees are ceremoniously planted each year while celebrating the importance of trees to human life.

BENNO'S BEAR. N.F. Zucker. Dutton. \$17.00. Set in central Europe, this story tells about Benno who is separated from his father when they are arrested for picking pockets. Benno's father goes to jail and Benno is taken in by a kindly policeman and his wife which means he is also removed from his company of his beloved bear – his “partner in crime.”

BERRY SMUDGES AND LEAVE PRINTS: FINDING AND MAKING COLORS FROM NATURE. Ellen B. Senisi. Photos by the author. Dutton. \$17.00. This book is an exploration of color through the wonders of nature. Each primary color is described as it appears in nature and then activities are shown for using nature to make the colors.

BEWARE OF THE STORYBOOK WOLVES. Lauren Child. Scholastic/Arthur A. Levine. \$16.00. Herb's mother reads Little Red Riding Hood to him before bed. Lights out, time for sleep – except she leaves the book in Herb's room and the wolves from the storybook come out looking for a little boy to gobble up. Fortunately there are other storybook characters who emerge from books and come to the rescue!

BLACK MIRROR Nancy Werlin. Dial. \$17.00. After her brother Daniel's suicide, 16-year-old Frances discovers truths about their boarding school's charitable group, Unity, of which Daniel was a member. **Young adult.**

BLUES SINGERS: TEN WHO ROCKED THE WORLD. Julius Lester. Illus. by Lisa Cohen. Jump at the Sun/Hyperion. \$16.00. Ten notable African American blues singers, from Bessie Smith to Aretha Franklin are profiled in this attractive book. Full-page stylized illustrations of each artist will draw the reader to learn more about each artist. **Open Court: Music and Musicians.**

BO & MZZZ MAD. Sid Fleischman. Greenwillow. \$15.00. Sid Fleischman has brought another memorable set of characters to the intermediate age reader. Bo's father dies and Bo moves to the Mojave Desert to live with estranged cousins. A family feud that has lasted for a hundred years does not make the transition an easy one for Bo. A lost gold mine is the heart of the family feud and while Bo's suitcase holds the clues to the site of the missing mine, Bo is convinced he only wants to escape his cantankerous relatives. California author.

BOOK! BOOK! BOOK! Deborah Bruss. Illus. by Tiphonie Beeke. Arthur A. Levine/Scholastic. \$16.00. A joke has been passing through library circles about a chicken and frog and other barnyard animals who go to the library for books. This is a delightful rendition of that joke and a fun read aloud! Every school library will want to add this book to their Everybody collection!

BOOK OF COUPONS Susie Morgenstern. Illus. by the author. Viking. \$13.00. Set in France, teachers and students alike will chuckle as elderly 5th grade teacher Monsieur Noel gives coupon books to the children in his class. Coupons are for dancing in class, sleeping late, etc. – and they are a huge hit with the children. However, the sour Principal Incarnation Perez, has no understanding of anything but a totally strict school environment. Compassion, a love of learning and trust are additional messages the children are given by Monsieur Noel.

BOOK OF FLIGHT: THE SMITHSONIAN NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM.

Judith e. Rinard. Illus. with photos. Firefly. \$25.00. The major milestones in flight history illustrated from the collections of the National Air and Space Museum are featured in this book. The development of flight, as well as diagrams explaining flight science and technology are included. **Open Court: Technology.**

BOSTON JANE: AN ADVENTURE. Jennifer Holm. HarperCollins. \$17.00. Etiquette school has not prepared Miss Jane Peck of Philadelphia for life in the wilderness of the Pacific Northwest in the mid-1850s. Enduring months of seasickness, Jane arrives in Washington Territory only to find that her fiance is no longer there and Jane must rely on her wits and the friendship of others to survive. History-Social Science.

BRAVE HARRIET. Marissa Moss. Illus. by C.F. Payne. Harcourt. \$16.00. In 1912 Harriet Quimby became the first woman to fly across the English Channel. This picture book biography tells of her courage and the hardships she had to overcome to make her journey. **Open Court: Being Brave.**

BREAKING THROUGH. Francisco Jimenez. Houghton Mifflin. \$15.00. In this sequel to *The Circuit*, Francisco Jimenez continues his autobiographical story. Fourteen-year-old Francisco is back in California, working in the fields and going to school. His love of learning and his thirst for education despite many odds, makes this story a truly inspirational read. California author and California setting. History-Social Science.

BREAKOUT AT THE BUG LAB. Ruth Horowitz. Pictures by Joan Holub. Dial. A Dial Easy-To-Read book. \$14.00. When Max, a giant hissing cockroach escapes from his mother's insect laboratory, Leo and his brother receive help from a mysterious stranger as they rush to capture the big bug before a party in the lab begins.

A BURST OF FIRSTS: DOERS, SHAKERS, AND RECORD BREAKERS. J. Patrick Lewis. Pictures by Brian Ajhar. Dial. \$16.00. A collection of poems that celebrate such notable firsts as the first person to make blue jeans (Levi Strauss), the biggest bubble-gum bubble ever blown (it happened in Fresno) and the first child to integrate an all-white school (Ruby Bridges). I doubt that this book will ever have a rest!

THE BUS FOR US. Suzanne Bloom. Illus. by the author. Boyds Mills. \$11.00. Gus and Tess are waiting for the bus on the first day of school. As each vehicle passes by, Tess asks, "Is that the bus for us?" Meanwhile, lots of activity is happening at the bus stop that the reader will enjoy while "waiting for the bus." This is a nice read aloud and the characters represent a variety of different cultures. **Open Court: School.**

CAIN AND ABEL: FINDING THE FRUITS OF PEACE. Sandy Eisenberg Sasso. Illus. by Joani Keller Rothenberg. Jewish Lights. \$17.00. In this rendition of the Old Testament story, the focus is on the choices of Cain and how the two brothers' friendship turns to anger and violence. A thoughtful picture book for older readers.

CARLO LIKES READING Jessica Spanyol. Illus. by the author. Candlewick. \$15.00. Carlo the giraffe like to read and wherever he goes he finds something to read. The pages of this book show labeled objects that the beginning reader or ELD reader can readily identify. **Open Court: Look Who's Reading.**

CASTLE ON VIOLA STREET, A. DyAnne DiSalvo. HarperCollins. \$16.00. Told from the viewpoint of a child, this lovely book relates how their hardworking family gets their own home by joining a community program that restores old houses. Includes a forward by Millard Fuller, Founder and President of Habitat for Humanity. **Open Court: Homes.**

CASTLES, CAVES, AND HONEYCOMBS. Linda Ashman. Illus. by Lauren Stringer. Harcourt. \$16.00. Rhyming verse explores the homes of different animals. The word sound patterns are excellent for oral language development and in tandem with the paintings, evoke a comforting environment for the various animals. **Open Court: Homes.**

CAT, WHAT IS THAT? Tony Johnston. Paintings by Wendell Minor. HarperCollins. \$16.00. Short, lyrical verse describes the characteristics and behaviors of cats. Lush paintings capture perfectly those animals we call CAT. **Open Court: Animals.**

CHESS: FROM FIRST MOVES TO CHECKMATE. Daniel King. Kingfisher. \$17.00. This book covers chess history, from ancient India to the present, explains each chess piece and offers playing strategies.

CHIMPANZEES I LOVE: SAVING THEIR WORLD AND OURS. Jane Goodall. Scholastic. \$18.00. In this photo essay, Jane Goodall shares her years of primate research with the reader. Chimpanzees are an endangered species and Goodall tells how she continues to work for their protection.

CIRCUS GIRL. Tomek Bogacki. Illus. by the author. FSG. \$17.00. A little girl comes to town with the circus, enrolls in schools and gently shows her classmates the paths to kindness and friendship. **Open Court: Kindness. Open Court: Friendship.**

THE CIRCUS IN THE WOODS. Bill Littlefield. Houghton. \$15.00. A fantasy novel in which Molly recollects the childhood trips she and her family made to a Vermont lodge each summer. Once, she awakened in the night, heard calliope music and discovered circus people deep in the woods. She discovers that the circus is a place of suspended time for people whose journey into adulthood is too painful.

CLARENCE AND THE GREAT SURPRISE. Jean Elman Adams. Illus. by author. Rising Moon. \$16.00. In this sequel to *Clarence Goes Out West and Meets a Purple Horse*, Smokey (the horse) leads Clarence (the pig) on a desert adventure. But the search for the "great surprise" is put on hold when a new-found friend, a dancing dog, goes missing.

CLARICE BEAN, GUESS WHO'S BABYSITTING? Lauren Child. Illus. by the author, Candlewick. \$17.00. When Mom and Dad have to go away for a few days, Uncle Ted comes to babysit. At first all is well – until Albert, the school guinea pig escapes, grandpa comes up

missing, and Minal has to go to the hospital. The artwork is a mixture of photos and stylized drawings while the text works itself around the art.

THE CLASS ARTIST. G. Brian Karas. Illus. by the author. HarperCollins. \$16.00. The class is given an art project and Fred has difficulty expressing his creativity on a scale he can handle. As the project becomes overwhelming, his teacher lets him suggest he draw how he feels. Suddenly, Fred is able to put his project down on paper. **Open Court: School.**

CLAUDE MONET: SUNSHINE AND WATERLILIES. Kelley True. Illus. by the author. Putnam/Grosset. One of a series. \$15.00. This biography of Monet is told through the voice of a student, Kristin Cole, who is presenting a report on the artist. Scrapbook-style layouts illustrate both the stories and the artistic explanations. A nice example of a student report, as well as engaging information about Monet. VAPA.

THE COD'S TALE. Mark Kurlansky. Illus. by S.D. Schindler. Maps. Putnam. \$17.00. Kurlansky wrote an adult bestseller, *Cod: A Biography of the Fish That Changed the World*, and this is an adaptation for young readers. It is presented in picture book format with watercolor illustrations. Sidebars of text and illustrations give cod recipes. Timelines run at the bottom of pages. You'll be amazed at the importance of cod was in early civilization as well as during America's early days. Endpaper prints of an actual cod will give the reader an indication of a cod's size. Includes Bibliography. History and Social Science.

CORDUROY & COMPANY: A DON FREEMAN TREASURY. Eleven of Freeman's beloved, and sometimes out-of-print stories, are brought back under one cover. Includes *Corduroy, Chuggy and the Blue Caboose, Flash the Dash, Beady Bear, Pet of the Met, Norman the Doorman, Dandelion, Mop Top, Tilly Witch, Fly High, Fly Low*, and a never before published story, *Gayelord*. Includes About Don Freeman and Chronology of the Life of Don Freeman.

COUNTDOWN TO INDEPENDENCE: A REVOLUTION OF IDEAS IN ENGLAND AND HER AMERICAN COLONIES. Natalie S. Bober. Illus. prints and photos. Includes maps. Atheneum. \$27.00. An excellent resource for the Colonial Life research unit in Open Court. In some detail, the book examines the people and events both in the American colonies and in Great Britain between 1760 and 1776 that led to the American revolution. **Open Court: Colonial Life.** History-Social Science.

DAMAGE. A.M. Jenkins. HarperCollins. \$16.00. Austin is a football hero, but at the age of 17 he is also a very depressed young man. He thinks he has found relief in knowing Heather, but his problems cannot be solved so easily. **Young adult.**

DANCING IN CADILLAC LIGHT. Kimberly Willis Holt. Putnam. \$16.00. In 1968, 11-year-old Jaynell's life in the town of Moon, Texas, is enlivened when her eccentric Grandpap comes to live with her family. Jaynell and her family learn about prejudice and generosity through Grandpap's legacy.

DAVY CROCKETT SAVES THE WORLD. Rosalyn Schanzer. Illus. by the author. HarperCollins. \$16.95. This Davy Crockett is bigger than life – he combs his hair with a rake and shaves his beard with an ax! Halley’s Comet is speeding toward Earth and the President wants Davy to pull off the tail of that comet – but first Davy has to be found. How Sally Sugartree finds Davy, how he becomes her own true love, and how Davy wrangles the comet to submission makes this a deliciously rollicking story to read aloud. **Open Court: Imagination.**

THE DAY EDDIE MET THE AUTHOR. Louise Borden. Illus. by Adam Gustavson. Margaret K. McElderry. \$15.00. Eddie is very excited when a real, live author comes to speak at his school. He wants to ask, “How do you write books that have parts meant for me?” but time runs out before he can ask the question. The author sees his disappointment and addresses Eddie and his question in a very satisfying manner. Resource for the Young Author Program.

DIG, WAIT, LISTEN: A DESERT TOAD’S TALE. April Pulley Sayre. Pictures by Barbara Bash. Greenwillow. \$16.00. A spadefoot toad waits under the desert sand for the sound of rain. While she is waiting for the rain that will change her life, the reader hears and sees all the toad’s neighbors. And when the rains finally come we discover how her environment changes. This primary book explains the ecology of the desert and the habits and habitats of the spadefoot toad. **Open Court: Country Life.**

DIM SUM FOR EVERYONE. Grace Lin. Illus. by the author. Knopf. \$15.00. Through vibrant illustrations and succinct text, a little girl explains what her family chooses when they have dim sum in a restaurant in Chinatown.

DINOSAURS OF WATERHOUSE HAWKINS. Barbara Kerley. Drawings by Brian Selznick. Scholastic. \$17.00. This is the story of one man’s passion for dinosaurs. Mr. Waterhouse Hawkins’s story is told in three ages: in childhood he drew and made models of dinosaurs, in adulthood he created huge dinosaur sculptures at the Crystal Palace in London, and in his later years he attempted to build a Paleozoic Museum in New York’s Central Park, only to be thwarted by the corrupt mayor, Boss Tweed. Hawkins finally gave up and returned to England, his spirit broken. This is an interesting look at how science and art together helped to bring the past to the mid-19th century. **Open Court: Fossils.**

DIRTY LAUNDRY PILE: POEMS IN DIFFERENT VOICES. Selected By Paul B. Janeczko. Illus. by Melissa Sweet. HarperCollins. \$16.00. All sorts of animals and objects speak up in this anthology of poetry. Included are a scarecrow, a washing machine, a kite and a turtle.

DISASTERS IN SPACE EXPLORATION. Gregory Vogt. Millbrook. \$24.00. While several countries have had impressive successes in space exploration, there have been some notable disasters. This book tells of those disasters by detailing the events in short chapters and accompanying photos. Includes Glossary, Further Reading and Resources, Index. **Open Court: Technology.**

DON’T WHISTLE IN SCHOOL: THE HISTORY OF AMERICA’S PUBLIC SCHOOLS. Ruth Tenzer Feldman. Illus. with photos and prints. Lerner. \$24.00. A comprehensive look at

the history of public schooling and education in America – from hornbooks and primers to textbooks and computers. Includes Early School Rules and Lessons, Schoolhouses to Visit, Selected Bibliography, Index. **Open Court: Learning.**

DOWN CUT SHIN CREEK: THE PACK HORSE LIBRARIANS OF KENTUCKY. Kathi Appelt and Jeanne Cannella Schmitzer. Includes archival photos. HarperCollins. \$17.00. This is an inspiring story of how Kentucky librarians rode horses and mules during the Great Depression to deliver reading materials to the people in Kentucky's Cumberland Mountains. A project of Franklin D. Roosevelt's Works Progress Administration, over 100,000 people were served by these dedicated women and men. **Open Court: Learning.**

A DRAGON IN THE SKY. Laurence Pringle. Paintings by Bob Marstall. Scholastic. \$19.00. This is the story of a green darner dragonfly called Anax. Through the story the reader is introduced to the life cycle, feeding habits, migration, predators and mating habits. Includes Bibliography, Web Sites, Index.

DUMPY LA RUE. Elizabeth Winthrop. Illus. by Betsy Lewin. Holt. \$16.00. Dumpy La Rue is a pig who dances but his parents tell him "... Pigs don't dance/The grunt, they grovel/they snuffle for truffles..." And when the sheep decide they want to dance, Dumpy La Rue has some good advice for the barnyard animals. A joyous, fun read aloud. VAPA.

EDGAR DEGAS: PAINTINGS THAT DANCE. Maryann Cocca-Leffler. Putnam/Gosset. \$15.00. One of a series. This biography of Edgar Degas is told through the voice of a student, Kristin Cole, who is presenting a report on the artist. Scrapbook-style layouts illustrate both the stories and the artistic explanations. A nice example of a student report, as well as engaging information about Degas. VAPA.

EDGE ON THE SWORD. Rebecca Tingle. Putnam. \$20.00. In 9th century Britain, 15-year-old Aethelflaed, daughter of King Alfred of West Saxony, finds she must assume new responsibilities much sooner than expected when she is betrothed to Ethelred of Mercia in order to strengthen a strategic alliance against the Danes. **Young adult.**

EMILY'S ART. Peter Catalanoto. Illus. by the author. Atheneum. \$16.00. The first grade class is having an art contest and Emily decides to enter her painting of her dog. The judge exclaims over the painting, thinking it is a rabbit. When she learns it is really a dog, her bias against dogs surfaces and she awards first prize to another child. **Open Court: Appearances.**

ESTELLE AND LUCY. Anna Alter. Illus. by the author. Greenwillow. \$15.00. Lucy wants to do everything her bigger friend, Estelle, can do but Estelle points out that Lucy is too small. However, they are both the right size to share a picnic together. By the way, Lucy is a wee mouse and Estelle is a kitten!

EUGENIE CLARK: ADVENTURES OF A SHARK SCIENTIST. Ellen R. Butts and Joyce R. Schwartz. Linnet Books. \$20.00. Japanese American Eugenie Clark is an ichthyologist and an accomplished diver. This biography describes her New York childhood and her desire to become a marine scientist. Includes Glossary, Bibliography, and Chronology.

EVERY TIME A RAINBOW DIES. Rita Williams-Garcia. HarperCollins. \$16.00. After seeing a girl raped and becoming obsessed with her, 16-year-old Thulani finds motivations to move beyond his interest in his pigeons and his grief over his mother's death. **Young adult.**

EVERYTHING ON A WAFFLE. Polly Horvath. FSG. \$16.00. Primrose Squarp is the perky heroine of this delightful story about a girl who is convinced her missing parents actually did survive a storm at sea. Uncle Jack arrives in Coal Harbour to become her surrogate parent, and with the interactions of colorful village characters like Miss Honeycutt, Miss Perfidy and Miss Bowzer, the story comes to a satisfying resolution. The story is told in Primrose's voice and she includes a chapter end recipe for one food mentioned in each chapter. **Open Court: Perseverance.**

EVERYWHERE BABIES. Susan Meyers. Illus. by Marla Frazee. Harcourt. \$16.00. The first year of a baby's life is celebrated with rhyming and repetitive text. The babies are representative of various cultures.

A FACE FIRST. Priscilla Cummings. Dutton. \$17.00. Twelve-year-old Kelley suffers terrible burns to her face and body in a car accident and finds it easier to retreat from the world rather than to deal with her disfigurement in public. The examples of other burn victims and the loving care of those who know Kelley help her to realize that although a face is the first thing one sees, a second impression can make all the difference.

FAIR WEATHER. Richard Peck. Illus. with archival photos. Dial. \$17.00. Newbery Award winner, Richard Peck, takes the reader to Chicago's 1893 World's Columbian Exposition with Rosie Beckett and her family. In this rollicking historical fiction, Grandad gives Rosie, Lottie, Buster and Aunt Euterpe the time of their lives as they attend the Exposition, meet Buffalo Bill and have a grand time. Mr. Peck's use of language and dialogue is masterful!

FANNY B. KRANNY, THERE'S A BIRD IN YOUR HAIR! Harriet Lerner and Susan Goldhor. Illus. by Helen Oxenbury. HarperCollins. \$16.00. Fanny B. Kranny loves her long, unruly red hair, but everyone else thinks every day is a bad hair day for Fanny – she should cut her hair! It's when Fanny wears a live bird in her hair to a family reunion that her family decides her hair is very stunning – and that is just when Fanny decides to cut her hair because a certain bird told her to! A fun read aloud!

FANNIE IN THE KITCHEN. Deborah Hopkinson. Pictures by Nancy Carpenter. Atheneum. \$16.00. The subtitle of this non-fiction book in picture book format is, *The whole story from soup to nuts of how Fannie Farmer invented recipes with precise measurements.* Marcia Shaw is distressed when Mother announces that a new girl, Fannie Farmer, is coming to be her mother's helper. However, as the story progresses, Marcia and the reader learn tips and techniques from the woman who went on to write the *Fannie Farmer Cookbook*, still a best seller after 100 years.

FARM FLU. Teresa Bateman. Illus. by Nadine Bernard Westcott. Albert Whitman. \$16.00. Oh, no! All the farm animals have the flu. A little boy, who's mother is the farmer, tends to them (as his mother would tend to him) and they recover so well that they are content to remain in the

house watching T.V. and eating popcorn. When threatened with a return to sick-a-bed mush, they flee back to the barnyard – only to come back and tend to the boy when he comes down with the flu. Delightful rhyming text and humorous pictures will make this a favorite read aloud for the primary students.

FAST FOOD! GULP! GULP! Bernard Waber. Illus. by the author. Houghton. \$16.00. Come to Fast Food Town and meet Colonel Mane, Jiffy Jack and others who are dedicated to get food out fast to those who are dedicated to eating food fast. Told in rhyme, this story poses the question, *What's the rush?*

FIESTA FAMININA: CELEBRATING WOMEN IN MEXICAN FOLKTALES. Mary-Joan Gerson. Barefoot Press. \$20.00. Eight Mexican folktales and legends featuring strong women characters are retold in this lavishly illustrated book. Includes Source Notes, Pronunciation Guide, and Glossary.

A FINE, FINE SCHOOL. Sharon Creech. Pictures by Harry Bliss. HarperCollins. \$16.00. Mr. Keene is a principal who loves his school, loves the children and loves learning – so much so that he requires the children and teachers to go to school all week, and then Saturday, and then Sunday, and then all holidays and then finally, all summer! It's only when he finds out that not everyone is learning that he comes up with a satisfactory solution. **Open Court: School.**

FIRST NUMBER BOOK. Patty Barber. Illus. by Mandy Stanley. Kingfisher. \$13.00. The young reader is given a variety of tasks and activities to do (up to the number 20) while looking at this book.

FIVE CREATURES. Emily Jenkins. Pictures by Tomek Bogacki. FSG/Frances Foster. \$16.00. A little girl describes the 3 people and 2 cats that live in her how, and how they are alike and different. A nice introduction to classification and a fun read aloud follow-up might be a graph activity.

FLAGS OF OUR FATHERS: HEROES OF IWO JIMA. James Bradley, with Ron Powers. Adapted for young people by Michael French. Archival photos. Delacorte. \$16.00. This book, an adaptation of the national best seller, details the World War II battle at Iwo Jima and the lives of the brave men who raised the American flag on the site. **Open Court: Taking a Stand.** History-Social Science.

FLORA'S BLANKET. Debi Gliori. Illus. by the author. Scholastic. \$16.00. Flora, a little rabbit, has lost her blanket and can't sleep. The entire rabbit family looks high and low so that Flora can get to sleep.

FOOTNOTES: DANCING THE WORLD'S BEST-LOVED BALLETS. Frank Augustyn and Shelley Tanaka. Photos. Millbrook. \$24.00. A behind-the-scenes look at seven classic ballets and the men and women who have danced them. The book's narration is based on interviews of those who have danced the featured ballets. **Open Court: Music and Musicians.** VAPA.

FOUR HUNGRY KITTENS Emily A. McCully. Illus. by the author. Dial. \$16.00. In this wordless story, four kittens share adventures while their mother is away hunting for food. The hero of this story is the farm dog! **Open Court: Pictures Tell Stories.**

FOUR TO THE POLE!: THE AMERICAN WOMEN'S EXPEDITION TO ANTARCTICA, 1992-93 Nancy Loewen. Linnett. \$25.00. This is an account of the experiences of the first all-female team to traverse Antarctica on foot. The text comes from diaries, interviews, newsletters, and research transcripts. The harsh conditions required an incredible commitment and resolve from each team member. **Open Court: Perseverance.**

THE FRIDAY NIGHTS OF NANA. Amy Hest. Illus. by Claire A. Nivola. Candlewick. \$16.00. As Jennie and her Nana prepare for the Jewish Sabbath dinner, the reader will enjoy the closeness of family and the traditions that are explained through the storyline.

GASPARD ON VACATION. Anne Gutman & Georg Hallensleben. Knopf. \$10.00. Gaspard, a little black rabbit is thrilled to be going on vacation with his family to Venice, Italy. But after an overdose of museums he sneaks away to more exciting adventures.

GAWGON AND THE BOY. Lloyd Alexander. Dutton. \$18.00. The setting is Depression-era Philadelphia, our protagonist is 11-year-old David who has almost died from a terrible illness. Enter Aunt Annie, a seemingly terrifying “gawgon” to be David’s tutor. Between his fruitful imagination and her spirit of adventure, the two create a strong, wonderful bond.

A GIFT FROM THE SEA. Kate Banks. Illus. by Georg Hallensleben. Farrar. \$16.00. “The boy crouched low on the beach. He picked up a rock hidden in the cool wet sand and held it in his hand...” So begins this story of how a simple rock has passed through eons of history before it is picked up on the beach and is placed on a shelf beside a starfish. A simple story that eloquently shows a timeline of history through rich paintings and concise text.

A GIFT FROM ZEUS: SIXTEEN FAVORITE MYTHS. Jeanne Steig. Illus. by William Steig. HarperCollins. \$18.00. Well into his 90s, William Steig is still illustrating books with style and verve! Sixteen Greek and Roman myths are presented here with lightness and humor. Especially suited for the high school and adult crowd. **Young adult.**

GIRL OF KOSOVO. Alice Mead. Farrar. \$16.00. Before her father was killed in the war, Zana, an 11-year-old Albanian girl, learned from him not to live in hate as she experiences terrible turmoil and violence during the 1999 conflict in Kosovo. **Open Court: Surviving.**

GIRLHEARTS. Norma Fox Mazer. HarperCollins. \$16.00. Thirteen-year-old Sarabeth’s life is turned upside down when her mother dies suddenly, leaving her orphaned, confused, and at the mercy of everyone who seems to know what is best for her.

GOIN’ SOMEPLACE SPECIAL. Patricia McKissack. Illus. by Jerry Pinkney. Atheneum. \$16.00. Based on an incident in the author’s life, twelve-year-old Tricia Ann wants to go to the Someplace Special by herself. An African American, she lives in the segregated South and

braves a series of indignities to get to one of the few integrated places in town, the place she calls the Someplace Special - the public library. **Open Court: Taking a Stand.**

THE GOOD FIGHT: HOW WORLD WAR II WAS WON. Stephen Ambrose. Archival photos. Maps. Atheneum. \$20.00. Ambrose, a leading American historian, relates events of World War II and provides personal anecdotes from the soldiers who fought on the battlefields, flew the planes and commanded the ships that won the war. Glossary, Bibliography, Related Web Sites, Index. History-Social Science.

GRANDPA BLOWS HIS PENNY WHISTLE UNTIL THE ANGELS SING. Susan Roth. Illus. by the author. Barefoot Press. \$17.00. Little Boy James refuses to get dressed for church, complains about the preacher – but then, when defying his mother, he falls off the roof and lies unconscious on the ground. His sister and Grandpa walk to church, interrupt the preacher’s sermon, and Grandpa plays his penny whistle to summon the angels to wake up Little Boy James. The illustrations are lovely collages of netting and tissue paper.

GREAT GRACIE CHASE: STOP THAT DOG! Cynthia Rylant. Illus. by Mark Teague. Blue Sky. \$16.00. Gracie, a silly little dog who loved a quiet house, is rudely tossed outside by the men who come to paint the house. SO, she decides to take a walk and soon the entire town is trying to catch Gracie. The children will love to hear aloud how Gracie (the cutest new dog character since McDuff) Gracie gets home again.

THE GREAT PIG SEARCH. Eileen Christelow. Illus. by the author. Clarion. A hilarious sequel to *The Great Pig Escape* where we find our porcine friends pulling a fast one on Bert and Ethel. The two farmers have lost their pigs but can’t see that they are hidden in plain sight. The pigs are seen everywhere by everyone but Bert and Ethel.

GYMNASTICS BOOK: YOUNG PERFORMER’S GUIDE TO GYMNASTICS. Elfi Schlegel and Claire Ross Dunn. Illus. with photos. Firefly. A comprehensive guide to gymnastics which includes how to get started, how to be a healthy gymnast, skills and competition. Includes Glossary, Gymnastics Contacts and Web Sites, Index.

THE GYPSIES NEVER CAME. Stephen Roose. Simon & Schuster. \$15.00. Sixth-grader Augie Knapp, who hides a deformed hand inside a glove, is convinced by the new girl in town, Lydie Rose, that the Gypsies are coming for him. This is a tender story about a boy who wants to belong.

HANNAH’S BOOKMOBILE CHRISTMAS. Sally Derby. Holt. \$17.00. It’s a snowy Christmas Eve as Hannah and her aunt, a bookmobile driver, make their way home. Unable to get through they must spend the night with some patrons. They share their many edible gifts received on their route and books from their bookmobile shelves.

HANSEL AND GRETEL Jacob & Wilhelm Grimm. Illus. by Dorothee Duntze. Translated by Anthea Bell. North-South. \$16.00. This is the classic fairy tale told in large picture-book format. Not for the faint of heart!

HAVE YOU EVER DONE THAT? Julie Larios. Illus. by Anne Hunter. Front Street. \$16.00. Beginning and ending with a child sleeping under a star-filled sky, protected by a canopy of trees, the text and lovely illustrations take readers on a trip into the imaginative dreams of children. It starts with the question: "Have you ever slept outside on a hot summer night?" A child replies no, but he has done something different, and he continues the pattern with the question, "Have you ever done that?"

HEART TO HEART: NEW POEMS INSPIRED BY TWENTIETH-CENTURY AMERICAN ART. Edited by Jan Greenberg. Illustrated by numerous artists. Abrams. \$20.00. Forty-three poets were invited to select a piece of modern art and to write a poetic response to it. VAPA.

HEAVEN EYES. David Almond. Delacorte. \$16.00. Set in England, three children escape from their orphanage, float down the river into another world of abandoned warehouses and factories where they meet an old man and a strange girl with little memory and webbed fingers. A haunting story of lost and lonely people becoming a family of friends.

HELEN KELLER: REBELLIOUS SPIRIT. Laurie Lawlor. Includes archival photos. Holiday. \$23.00. "I cannot remember how I felt when the light went out of my eyes. I suppose I thought it was always night, and perhaps I wondered why day did not come." This comprehensive biography relates the story of one of America's most loved heroines. Helen Keller's story is told with honesty and provides understanding into the life of a woman who, although blind and deaf, brought light and understanding to millions of people. Includes Chronology, Source Notes, Bibliography and Index. **Open Court: Perseverance.**

HELLO OCEAN. Pam Munoz Ryan. Illus. by Mark Astrella. Charlesbridge/Talewinds. \$17.00. Using rhyming text, a little girl describes the wonder of the ocean experience through each of her five senses. Glorious acrylic illustrations evoke the sight, sounds, feel, taste and smell of the ocean. California author.

HENRY'S FIRST-MOON BIRTHDAY. Lenore Look. Illus. by Yumi Heo. Atheneum. \$16.00. Jen helps her grandmother with preparations for her new brother's first moon celebration. This is a traditional Chinese birthday celebration held when a baby becomes one month old.

HIDDEN UNDER THE SEA: THE WORLD BENEATH THE WAVES. Peter Kent. Illus. by the author. Dutton. \$18.00. What do you want to know about what happens deep in the ocean? The author explains such things as coral reefs, sunken ships, submarines, and dredging. Small, detailed drawings reveal minute details that will fascinate the reader.

HIDDEN WORLDS: LOOKING THROUGH A SCIENTIST'S MICROSCOPE. Stephen Kramer. Photos by Dennis Kunkel. Series: Scientists in the Field. Houghton Mifflin. \$16.00. This photo essay chronicles how Dennis Kunkel became a scientist and how he uses the microscope and camera as technological tools to better understand the world of nature. **Open Court: Technology.**

A HOLE IN THE WORLD. Sid Hite. Scholastic. \$17.00. Fifteen-year-old Paul Shackelford is caught in a lie and as punishment, is sent to a relative's farm in an isolated part of Virginia. Everyone Paul meets seems to be changed by the death of a beloved farm hand and in learning more about this man, he comes to understand how one life can affect many people. Grade 6+.

HOODWINKED. Arthur Howard. Illus. by by author. Harcourt. \$16.00. Mitzi is a little witch who is searching for a creepy pet. Will she choose a bat or a toad? She tries all the usual witch pets but nothing seems right until just the perfect potential pet appears at her door.

HOW CAN YOU DANCE? Rich Walton. Illus. by Ana Lopez-Escriva. Putnam. \$14.00. Rhyming text explores the many ways one can dance, like the leader of a marching band, like a tree as it waves in the breeze. VAPA.

HOW CHIPMUNK GOT HIS STRIPES: A TALE OF BRAGGING AND TEASING. As told by Joseph and James Bruchac. Illus. by Jose Aruego & Ariane Dewey. Dial. \$16.00. When Bear and Brown Squirrel have a disagreement about whether Bear can stop the sun from rising, Brown Squirrel ends up with claw marks on his back and becomes Chipmunk, the striped one.
Open Court: Folk Tales.

I LOVE GOING THROUGH THIS BOOK. Robert Burleigh. Illus. by Dan Yaccarino. HarperCollins. \$16.00. The hero of this picture book takes us through a picture book and meets strange new places and lots of new faces on his journey. A nice introduction to books and reading for the primary student.

IN NED'S HEAD. Soren Olsson and Anders Jacobsson; translated by Kevin Read. Atheneum. \$16.00. Originally published in Sweden, this chapter book relates how 11-year-old Ned, who prefers the name Treb, uses his diary to record his wild thoughts about romance, school, and all that happens in his life. Sequel to *Ned's Diary*.

IN THE DAYS OF THE VAQUEROS: AMERICA'S FIRST TRUE COWBOYS. Russell Freedman. Archival photos and prints. Clarion. \$18.00. The first cowboys were actually Indian cow herders in Mexico almost 500 years ago. This book covers from the time of Columbus to the coming of the railroad and the open ranges. This fine book is an eye-opener that dispels many romantic notions of the West. **Open Court: The American West.**

INTERRUPTED JOURNEY: SAVING ENDANGERED SEA TURTLES. Kathryn Lasky. Photos by Christopher G. Knight. Candlewick. \$17.00. This photo essay describes efforts to protect sea turtles, particularly Kemp's ridley turtles, and help them reproduce and replenish their once-dwindling numbers. **Open Court: Ecology.**

IRVING AND MUKTUK: TWO BAD BEARS. Daniel Pinkwater. Illus. by Jill Pinkwater. Houghton Mifflin. \$15.00. Two muffin-loving polar bears make a yearly attempt to use stealth and subterfuge to get muffins at the Yellowtooth Blueberry Muffin Festival. The Pinkwaters have created a very funny story about bears vs. humans!

IS MY FRIEND AT HOME? PUEBLO FIRESIDE TALES. Retold by John Bierhorst. Illus. by Wendy Watson. FSG. \$16.00. A collection of Hopi traditional stories originally told in the pueblos of Arizona. All have the theme of friendship and feature animals such as Coyote, Beetle, Mouse, Snake and Badger. **Open Court: Storytelling.**

IT'S A FROG'S LIFE: MY STORY OF LIFE IN THE POND. Steve Parker. Illus. by Robert Morton, Robin Carter & Philip Bishop. Reader's Digest Children's Books. \$10.00. This is a first frog account "as told to" the author. Frog keeps a journal of his life and through it the reader learns about the habits and habitats of frogs. The format of the book is that of a lined journal, complete with sketches, berry splotches and a feather.

IT'S FALL! Linda Glaser. Illus. by Susan Swan. The cut-paper illustrations are the highlight of this charming picture book about the textures and colors of fall. This is the first book in a series about the seasons.

IT'S SIMPLE, SAID SIMON. Mary Ann Hoberman. Illus. by Meilo So. Knopf. \$16.00. After successfully meeting the challenges posed by a dog, cat, and horse, Simon meets a tiger that is much harder to satisfy. Can Simon outwit the tiger's ultimate challenge? The illustrations evoke the culture of India.

THE JOURNEY. Sarah Stewart. Illus. by David Small. FSG. \$16.00. Hannah, a young Amish girl writes in her "silent friend," her diary, about all the wondrous experiences she has on her first trip to the city. The diary entries are illustrated with images of Hannah's trip, while the following two-page spread shows a similar, but contrasting, image of her Amish community. The text and lovely illustrations will pose many questions for the reader to ponder. **Open Court: Our Country, E Pluribus Unum.**

JUBELA. Christina Kessler. Illus. by JoEllen McAllister Stammen. Simon & Schuster. \$16.00. A baby rhino is left an orphan when his mother is shot. He must rely on his own resources to survive until he is adopted by another female rhino. Based on a true story from Swaziland. Pastel illustrations evoke the setting and poignancy of the story. **Open Court: Surviving.**

JUST AROUND THE CORNER: POEMS. James Stevenson. Illus. by the author. Greenwillow. \$15.00. This collection of short poems on a variety of topics will be checked out often in the elementary school library. My favorite – "The Christmas captives...Tied with twine ... Lean against each other on the city sidewalk ... Whispering of the frozen woods back home." A sketch of bound and leaning Christmas trees simply but touchingly illustrates the poem.

JUST ASK IRIS. Lucy Frank. Atheneum. \$17.00. In the summer before 7th grade, 12-year-old Iris Diaz-Pinkowitz goes up and down the fire escape outside her New York City apartment, and becomes a friend and helper to her human and animal neighbors.

KIDBITS (REVISED AND UPDATED). Blackbirch. (paper) \$28.00. An all-visual reference book that presents facts and statistics in graphs and charts. While the information presented is fascinating, the presentation format will give students great ideas for reports and presentations.

KIPPER'S A TO Z: AN ALPHABET ADVENTURE. Mick Inkpen. Illus. by the author. Harcourt. \$17.00. Kipper the dog and Arnold the pig are on an alphabet search and the reader is invited along. Kipper and Arnold find such things as a Buzzing BumbleBee and other creatures that begin with the 26 letters of the alphabet.

KISS GOOD NIGHT. Amy Hest. Illus. by Anita Jeram. Candlewick. \$16.00. Mrs. Bear just doesn't get it! Sam isn't ready to go to sleep, he's waiting for something. After many bedtime routines, Mrs. Bear finally understands – Sam needs a bedtime kiss before going to sleep!

KITCHEN SCIENCE. Chris Maynard. DK Publishing. \$13.00. Why do lemons give you a buzz? Why does a cornstarch and water mixture behave so strangely? This book shows the young kitchen scientist over 50 experiments to do in the kitchen using everyday ingredients.

LADY LOLLIPOP. Dick King-Smith. Candlewick. Illus. by Jill Barton. \$15.00. What a fun read-aloud. Dick King-Smith's barnyard animals know more about kindness and human nature than many people! Lollypop and her swineherd are hired to reform the very spoiled 8-year-old Princess Penelope. A delightful read aloud. **Character Education. Open Court: Friendship.**

THE LAMP, THE ICE AND THE BOAT CALLED FISH. Jacqueline B. Martin. Illus. by Beth Krommes. Houghton. \$15.00. In 1913, a boat called *Fish*, part of the Canadian Arctic Expedition, became stuck in the Arctic ice after sailing. The mission of the expedition was to study the plants and people of the high north. Aboard were scientists, a cook, captain, crew, one black cat, 40 sled dogs and an Inupiaq family from Point Barrow. Once icebound, the scientists walked off to look for new land and the boat's captain became the new leader. How they all managed to stay alive and reach safety is an incredible story. The story is told from the viewpoint of the Inupiaq family and enhanced with scratchboard illustrations that evoke the cold harshness of the far north. Based on a true story. **Open Court: Surviving. Open Court: Journeys and Quests.**

LEAF BY LEAF: AUTUMN POEMS. Selected by Barbara Rogasky. Photos by Marc Taus. Scholastic. \$16.00. Twenty-five poets are featured in this book of verse about autumn. The spectacular photographs fill the pages evoking a variety of fall days and happenings.

LET'S GET A PUP! SAID KATE. Bob Graham. Illus. by the author. Candlewick. \$15.00. By summer, Kate is ready to get a pup to replace Tiger the cat who died during the winter. She and her parents go to the animal shelter to get a puppy but find it difficult to leave behind an older dog. The whimsical pictures are charming and endearing and perfectly illustrate the story.

LISA'S AIRPLANE TRIP. Anne Gutman & Georg Hallensleben. Knopf. \$10.00. Lisa, a little white rabbit from Paris takes an airplane trip across the ocean to New York. She enjoys sitting next to the "blue lady," eating, and watching the movie *Cowboys Forever!*

LOCUST POCUS!: A BOOK TO BUG YOU. Douglas Kaine McKelvey. Illus. by Richard Egielski. Philomel. \$16.00. Rhyming verses describe an assortment of insects, including

termites, moths, beetles, grasshoppers, lice, and houseflies. Lots of word play, alliteration and large, bright illustrations make this a perfect read aloud!

LORD OF THE DEEP. Graham Salisbury. Delacorte. \$16.00. Working for his stepfather on a charter fishing boat in Hawaii teaches 13-year-old Mikey about fishing, about taking risks, making sacrifices, and facing some of life's difficult choices.

LOVE & SEX: TEN STORIES OF TRUTH. Edited by Michael Cart. Simon & Schuster. \$18.00. Noted young adult authors contributed to this collection of short stories that deal with various aspects of love and sexuality. Authors include Joan Bauer, Garth Nix, Laurie Halse Anderson, Chris Lynch and Angela Johnson. **Young adult.**

LOVE THAT DOG. Sharon Creech. HarperCollins. \$15.00. A boy comes to enjoy poetry through a wise teacher's introduction to the structures of poetry through classic examples. His reluctance becomes interest, then enjoyment, and finally a passion for reading and writing poetry. Through poetry he is able to communicate his feelings and thoughts. Reading this story is akin to watching a tight bud open into a beautiful flower.

LOVE TO MAMA: TRIBUTE TO MOTHERS. Pat Mora. Illus. by Paula S. Barragan. Lee & Low. \$17.00. A dozen bilingual poems about mothers and grandmothers are colorfully illustrated with cut-paper collages that evoke the settings of the poetry.

LOVE, RUBY LAVENDER. Deborah Wiles. Harcourt. \$16.00. Ruby Lavender is a lively 9-year-old living in rural Mississippi. She and her grandmother, Miss Eula correspond daily by leaving notes the knothole of a tree. Ruby Lavender is devastated when Miss Eula goes to Hawaii to visit a new grandchild, thinking little Leilani will steal Miss Eula's heart away.

LUCY MAUD MONTGOMERY: A WRITER'S LIFE. Elizabeth MacLeod. Archival photos. Kids Can Press. \$14.00. The life and career of the author of *Anne of Green Gables*, and other books, is presented in this photo-filled book. Includes a chronology of her life, a listing of her books, places to visit and web sites, and Index.

MABELA THE CLEVER. Margaret Read MacDonald. Illus. by Tim Coffey. Albert Whitman. \$16.00. Long ago, cats were clever and mice were foolish. This folk tale from Africa tells about Mabela, the mouse who outwitted the cat and led her friends to safety. Fo Feng! **Open Court: Folk Tales.**

THE MAN-EATING TIGERS OF SUNDARBANS. Sy Montgomery. Photos by Eleanor Briggs. Houghton Mifflin. A photo essay about the tigers who live in the Sundarbans Tiger Reserve near the Bay of Bengal. Wonderful color photographs will encourage the reader to explore the fascinating text. Includes a Bengali glossary, Tiger Index: Some Statistics, Books About Tigers, Some Organizations Helping Tigers, Index. \$16.00.

MASTER MAN: A TALL TALE OF NIGERIA. Aaron Shepard. Illus. by David Wisniewski. HarperCollins. \$16.00. In this Nigerian tall tale, Shadusa brags to his wife and says he is so strong that he must be called Master Man. She warns him to be careful because no

matter how strong he is someone will always be stronger. He doesn't listen but learns that very thing – and as he is ever learning, we experience thunder on earth. Wisniewski's bold cut-paper illustrations, set in comic strip frames, make this a memorable book.

THE MASTER SWORDSMAN & AND THE MAGIC DOORWAY: TWO LEGENDS FROM ANCIENT CHINA. Retold and illustrated by Alice Provensen. Simon & Schuster. \$17.00. Two original stories, in *The Master Swordsman*, Little Chu masters the sword, and in *The Magic Doorway*, Mu Chi escapes death through his wonderful paintings. **Open Court: Ancient Civilizations.**

A MATTER OF PROFIT. Hilari Bell. HarperCollins. \$16.00. Sick of the horrors of conquering beings on other planets, Ahvren will end his service as a soldier and save his sister from an unhappy marriage if he can discover who is behind a rumored plot to assassinate the emperor. **Young Adult.**

MAZESCAPES. Roxie Munro. Illus. by the author. Sea Star. \$17.00. The reader takes a trip to the zoo and back home again by moving through mazes. There are other discovery games to be played on the pages of this book. Answers are given at the end.

MIDNIGHT BABIES. Margaret Wild. Illus. by Ann James. Clarion. \$15.00. Baby Brenda and her friends have fun at the Midnight Café, enjoying a “wibble wobble” dance, a “jiggly-joggly” treat, and a dip in the sprinklers before going home to bed. The story is illustrated with vivid chalk pastels on colored paper.

MILO'S HAT TRICK. Jon Agee. Illus. by author. Hyperion. \$16.00. Milo is a struggling magician but with few skill - until he attracts a brown bear who dives into Milo's top hat (“you just pretend your bones are made of rubber”) and the madcap adventures begin.

MINNIE AND MOO MEET FRANKENSWINE. Denys Cazet. Illus. by the author. *An I Can Read Book*. HarperCollins. \$15.00. Beginning readers must be introduced to Minnie and Moo, two cows that take things literally and are “utterly” funny! In this story, the farm is experiencing a thunderstorm and all of the animals are frightened out of the barn by a monster. Minnie and Moo come to the rescue and investigate. One of a series. California author.

THE MISFITS. James Howe. Atheneum. \$16.00. Skeezie, Addie, Joe, and Bobby have been good friends all their lives. They are misfits at their small-town middle school and decide to create a third party for the student council elections to represent all students who have ever been called names. **Open Court: Taking a Stand.**

MISS MOUSES'S DAY. Jan Ormerod. HarperCollins. \$15.00. Miss Mouse is a doll and her day includes getting dressed, having breakfast, drawing, having a picnic lunch, gardening – and ending with a goodnight kiss and bed. Somehow, it is not as simple as that!

MISSING FROM HAYMARKET SQUARE. Harriette G. Robinet. Atheneum. \$16.00. Set in 1886 Chicago, 12-year-old Dinah Bell searches for her father, a union organizer who has disappeared after participating with 80,000 other workers in a labor protest march. The reader

will learn much about the factory conditions of 19th century America and the risks people took to bring social justice to their places of work. **Open Court: Taking a Stand.**

MISSISSIPPI. Diane Siebert. Illus. by Greg Harlin. HarperCollins. \$17.00. A poetic and historic picture of the Mississippi River is presented in this lovely picture book. The reader follows the path of civilization as it expanded along this mighty river. Includes About the River and River Words. History-Social Science.

MONEY HUNGRY. Sharon Flake. Hyperion/Jump at the Sun. \$16.00. Thirteen-year-old Raspberry Hill and her mother have lived on the streets but now live in the projects. Raspberry is determined to have money because nobody can do anything to you if you have money. This is a picture of inner city poverty and the effects it can have on family and friendships. **Young Adult.**

MOONPIE AND IVY. Barbara O'Connor. Farrar. \$16.00. Twelve-year-old Pearl feels hurt, confused, and unwanted when her irresponsible mother leaves her with Aunt Ivy in a little country house in Georgia and then isn't heard from again. The neighbor boy, Moonpie, has a mother who doesn't want him, either – but he still seems to have more of a family than does Pearl.

MORE PARTS. Tedd Arnold. Illus. by the author. Dial. \$16.00. A little boy is frightened about what will happen to his body when he hears such expressions as “give him a hand” and “hold your tongue.” The illustrations are funny and kids will want to talk about familiar expressions and what they mean after this book is read aloud. Nice pattern book for writing.

MORE SPICE THAN SUGAR: POEMS ABOUT FEISTY FEMALES. Compiled by Lillian Morrison. Illus. by Ann Boyajian. Houghton Mifflin. \$15.00. A collection of 45 five poems that describe actual women and women in general as they have impacted the world. From Wilma Rudolf to Dorothy Hamill to Sojourner Truth to Elizabeth Blackwell the poetry tells their stories. Resource for Open Court units, History-Social Science and Women's History Week.

MOUNTAIN MEN: TRUE GRIT & TALL TALES. Andrew Glass. Illus. by the author. Doubleday. \$16.00. Glass dedicates this book to Samuel Clemens, aka Mark Twain, who promised never to let dull facts get in the way of telling a true story. He discusses the events that made opportunities for these independent spirits and then presents narrative and visual sketches of John Colter, Jedediah Smith, Hugh Glass, Jim Bridger, Mike Fink, Kit Carson, and Jim Beckwourth. Includes Mountain Man Necessaries, Mountain Man Lingo, Bibliography, and Author's Note. **Open Court: The American West.**

MOUNTAIN POSE. Nancy Hope Wilson. Farrar. \$17.00. When 12-year-old Ellie inherits an old Vermont farm from her heartless grandmother Aurelia, she reads several generations of family diaries and discovers secrets from the past that make her see her heritage in a new and special way. **Open Court: Family Heritage.**

MOVIE IN MY PILLOW/UNA PELICULAR EN MI ALMOHADA. Jorge Argueta. Illus. by Elizabeth Gomez. Children's Book Press. \$16.00. Biographical poems are shared by the author who left San Salvador during political turmoil and came, with his family, to San

Francisco. The poems contrast Jorge's life in both places and describe the hardships and joys of those times. As he says in the introduction: "These poems are my memories, my dreams – the movies in my pillow." California author and California illustrator.

MR. LINCOLN'S WAY. Patricia Polacco. Illus. by the author. Penguin Putnam. \$17.00. When Mr. Lincoln, "the coolest principal in the whole world," discovers that Eugene, the school bully, knows a lot about birds, he uses this interest to help Eugene overcome his intolerance and to channel his talents positively. **Open Court: Learning.**

MR. PUTTER & TABBY FEED THE FISH. Cynthia Rylant. Illus. by Arthur Howard. Harcourt. \$14.00. Both Mr. Putter and his cat, Tabby, are getting a little "long in the tooth." They enjoy going together to the tropical fish store and one day decide to bring home 3 fish, not realizing that Tabby has a "fish problem." It seems that Tabby cannot stop watching the fish bowl, day and night and is suffering from sleep deprivation. So, the fish are given to Mrs. Teaberry and her dog, Zeke. Will Zeke also have a "fish problem?"

MS. FRIZZLE'S ADVENTURES: ANCIENT EGYPT. Joanna Cole. Illus. by Bruce Degen. Scholastic. \$16.00. It's vacation and leaving the magic schoolbus behind, Ms. Frizzle parachutes into Egypt – but it turns out to be Ancient Egypt! It's a vacation back in time and Ms. Frizzle learns much to share with her class when she returns. The last page, "Could It Really Happen?" talks about fantasy and reality and how this story, while interesting, is not totally accurate.

MY CAR. Byron Barton. Illus. by the author. Greenwillow. \$15.00. With vibrant primary colors and succinct text, Sam describes his car and how he drives it. This book will be a certain hit with the preschool and kindergarten crowd.

MY DAD. Anthony Browne. Illus. by the author. FSG. \$16.00. A child describes the many wonderful things about "my dad," who can jump over the moon, swim like a fish, sing like the three tenors, and is as warm as toast. The illustrations will appeal to many readers – although they appear simple, there are many details to discern and enjoy.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC PHOTOGRAPHY GUIDE FOR KIDS. Neil Johnson. National Geographic Society. \$19.00. A nice introduction to photography for the novice. The basics of cameras, film, lighting, film speed, lenses, depth of field, and "how a camera sees" are covered. Suggestions from National Geographic photographers are provided along with samples of their work.

NIBBLING ON EINSTEIN'S BRAIN: THE GOOD THE BAD & THE BOGUS IN SCIENCE. Diane Swanson. Illus. by Warren Clark. Annick Press. \$25.00. This is a good book for creative thinking skills, information literacy and scientific research. How can we evaluate information so that our facts are credible? Many scenarios and examples are given. Sidebars of what to question with scenarios are given.

NOBODY PARTICULAR: ONE WOMAN'S FIGHT TO SAVE THE BAYS. Molly Bang. Illus. by the author. Holt. \$18.00. When Diane Wilson, a fourth generation shrimper in Calhoun County, Texas found out that her county was one of the most polluted in the United States, she

decided to take action. From being a shrimper a mother, she became an environmental activist for the ecology of the local bays. This book and Diane Wilson's story shows how one person can make a difference in a complex world.

NOTES FROM A LIAR AND HER DOG. Gennifer Choldenko. Putnam. \$19.00. Eleven-year-old Ant, stuck in a family that she doesn't relate to, copes by pretending that she is adopted, telling lies, volunteering at the zoo, loving her dog Pistachio and pretending that her "real" parents will rescue her.

NOW WHAT CAN I DO? Margaret Park Bridges. Pictures by Melissa Sweet. Sea Star. \$16.00. Little Raccoon learns how to turn chore time into playtime with the help of a wise mother.

NURSERY CRIMES. Arthur Geisert. Illus. by the author. Houghton/Walter Lorraine. \$16.00. For Thanksgiving Day, the 14 pigs in the Jambonneau family trim their trees to look like turkeys, but wake up to find they have all been stolen! Only clever problem solving brings the thief to justice!

OF SOUND MIND. Jean Ferris. Farrar. \$16.00. High school senior, Theo, is tired of being the interpreter for his deaf family and living in a home world of silence. Then he meets Ivy, a new student, who offers him support and understanding. **Young adult.**

OLIVIA SAVES THE CIRCUS. Ian Falconer. Simon & Schuster. \$16.00. Hurray! Olivia is back with another delightful story. At school, Olivia tells about her summer vacation and how, when she went to the circus and all the performers had ear infections, she saved the day. Olivia became Olivia the Tattooed Lady, Olivia the Lion Tamer, and the Flying Olivia! Was it true? ... "Pretty all true..."

ON THE BRIGHT SIDE, I'M NOW THE GIRLFRIEND OF A SEX GOD: THE FURTHER CONFESSIONS OF GEORGIA NICHOLSON. Louise Rennison. HarperCollins. \$16.00. A sequel to last year's *Angus, Thongs and Full-Frontal Snogging*. Written in a diary format, Georgia has just started dating Robbie (aka the Sex God). Life should be just about perfect, right? Wrong. This British teen has a never-ending set of dilemmas! **Young adult.**

ON THE WING: AMERICAN BIRDS IN MIGRATION. Carol Lerner. Illus. by the author. HarperCollins. \$17.00. The author explores the migratory pattern of our American birds and the reader will learn much about habits and habitats of these beautiful creatures. Included is an explanation of flight patterns and how all birds flap their wings, but don't all fly the same way. Includes maps, bibliography, Index.

ONE DAY AT WOOD GREEN ANIMAL SHELTER. Patricia Casey. Illus. by the author. Candlewick. \$17.00. Photo/picture collages and text take the reader through one day at an animal shelter. From fox, kitten, bulldog, and bird we learn why each animal is at the shelter. This is a book that will never be on the shelf! **Open Court: Animals.**

THE OTHER SIDE OF TRUTH. Beverley Naidoo. HarperCollins. \$17.00. Winner of the Carnegie Medal. Sade and her brother Femi are smuggled out of Nigeria when assassins kill their mother while trying to get to their father, a newspaper journalist. After arriving in London, they are abandoned and find themselves in a strange country without resources or friends. How they survive and are reunited with their father makes for a tense but ultimately, satisfying story. **Open Court: Taking a Stand.**

PATCHES LOST AND FOUND. Steven Kroll. Illus. by Barry Gott. Winslow. \$17.00. Jenny is given an assignment at school to write a story but Jenny is at a loss for words and would rather draw the story. Mr. Griswold insists that she write the words before drawing. At home, Patches, the guinea pig is missing and Jenny draws a series of pictures showing what might have happened to her pet. After Patches is found, Jenny puts words to her pictures and has her story. Jenny learns she can write a story with words and Mr. Griswold discovers that sometimes pictures can come first. A nice resource for the Young Author Program.

A PENGUIN PUP FOR PINKERTON. Steven Kellogg. Illus. by the author. Dial. \$16.00. Pinkerton, that irrepressible dog, is back and has discovered that research has its own rewards! Emily arrives home from school excited about all that she has learned about penguins at school. Pinkerton decides to hatch a penguin egg and raise a penguin himself. Well, the football that Pinkerton tries to hatch just doesn't do the trick. A rollicking story that is a perfect spin-off to classroom penguin research by the primary students!

PIRATES. Drew C. Lamm. Illus. by Stacey Schuett. Hyperion. \$16.00. Ellery reads a pirate story to her little brother Max. The roar of a storm outside adds to the atmosphere of the story and Max begs Ellery to read another book. However, Ellery enjoys Max's reaction and continues to read the gruesome parts. But then Ellery begins to believe what she is reading – and just at that moment a hook reaches out from the chair and grabs her! You'll have to read the book to find out the ending to this fun read aloud!

PLANET ZOO: ONE HUNDRED ANIMALS WE CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE. Simon Barnes. Illus. by Alan Marks. Trafalgar Square. \$30.00. The author is a wildlife journalist for the London Times and presents a fact-filled, environmental message about animals who are in danger of extinction. Each chapter features a single animal. The illustrations are lovely watercolors that show animals in motion. **Open Court: Ecology.**

THE POCKET DOGS. Margaret Wild. Illus. by Stephen Michael King. Scholastic. \$16.00. Two small dogs, Biff and Buff, are carried in Mr. Pockets very big pockets – until Biff falls through a hole and becomes lost.

A POKE IN THE I: A COLLECTION OF CONCRETE POEMS. Paul Janeczko. Illus. by Chris Raschka. Candlewick. \$16.00. Could this be the 2002 Caldecott book? A picture book anthology of concrete poems that will stimulate the mind and the imagination. The colorful illustrations are a combination of collage and paint and are interwoven with the words. After puzzling through this book, kids will want to write their own concrete poems. A perfect companion book to Sharon Creech's *Love That Dog* annotated earlier.

POPULAR SCIENCE: SCIENCE YEAR BY YEAR: DISCOVERIES & INVENTIONS FROM THE LAST CENTURY THAT SHAPE OUR LIVES. Photos. Scholastic. \$20.00.

This is a chronological timeline of technology from 1900 through 2000. A wealth of informational tidbits with accompanying photos will make this book both usable and popular. Did you know General Mills and Pillsbury introduced cake mixes in 1949? – or that Corona invented the first portable typewriter in 1912? **Open Court: Technology.**

Q IS FOR QUARK: A SCIENCE ALPHABET BOOK. David Schwartz. Illus. by Kim Doner. Tricycle. \$16.00. Schwartz is the author of *G is for Googol*, a book about mathematics; in this book, he presents a science alphabet book, making clear concepts that are often very complex.

QUILT ALPHABET. Lesa Cline-Ransome. Illus. by James E. Ransome. Holiday. \$18.00. Each letter of the alphabet is depicted in a quilt block in this beautifully illustrated book. Each letter has a poem, every poem is a clue and the answers are given in the back of the book. The accompanying pictures are lush paintings that depict country life. A perfect pattern book for a class alphabet book. **Open Court: Country Life.**

RACING THE PAST. Sis Deans. Holt. \$16.00.

RAG AND BONE SHOP. Robert Cormier. Delacorte. \$16.00.

RAVEN OF THE WAVES. Michael Cadnum. Orchard. \$18.00. On his first Viking raid, 17-year-old Lidsmod sails on the ship *Raven*, joining his comrades as they destroy and plunder villages in medieval England. California author. **Young adult.**

RAZZLE. Ellen Wittlinger. Simon & Schuster. \$17.00. When his retired parents buy a group of tourist cabins on Cape Cod, 15-year-old Kenyon Baker's days are filled with repair work until he becomes friends with an eccentric girl and makes her the subject of a series of photos. **Young adult.**

REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR: AMERICAN AND JAPANESE SURVIVORS TELL THEIR STORIES. Thomas B. Allen. National Geographic Society. \$18.00

RIDING THE TIGER. Eve Bunting. Woodcuts by David Frampton. Clarion. \$16.00. Ten-year-old Danny is bored and lonely when a tiger tempts him to go on a ride. Danny finds that it is much easier to get on a tiger than to get off a tiger. A powerful message about temptation and conformity. **Character Education. Open Court: Risks and Consequences.**

ROCKS IN HIS HEAD. Carol Otis Hurst. Pictures by James Stevenson. HarperCollins. \$16.00. This is the story of the author's father who had a passion for collecting and learning about rocks. During the Great Depression, he lost the family business, a gas station, and it was difficult to find and hold a steady job. He then became a janitor at the local science museum. However, when his vast knowledge of rocks was discovered he became the Curator of Mineralogy at the museum. Charming, sparse sketches by James Stevenson evoke the difficulties of the times. **Open Court: Our Country, E Puribus Unum.**

ROOTS AND FLOWERS: POETS AND POEMS ON FAMILY. Liz Rosenberg. Holt. \$22.00

ROWAN OF RIN. Emily Rodda. Greenwillow. \$15.00. In this sequel to *Roan and the Travelers*, Rowan joins six other villagers to climb the mountain above their village of Rin to try to restore the source of their water supply. Fears of a dragon and the knowledge that no one has ever returned from the mountain, makes Rowan wonder if he can survive the quest. **Open Court: Surviving.**

RUN IF YOU DARE. Randy Powell. FSG. \$16.00. Fourteen-year-old Gardner Dickinson can't seem to get his life together – not only that, but his mother is the only wage earner in the family while his father sits in the garage and reads magazines. How can Gardner find purpose when his role model has given up and his family is in chaos? **Young adult.**

SAILING HOME: STORY OF A CHILDHOOD AT SEA. Told by Gloria Rand. Illus. by Ted Rand. North-South. \$16.00. This story is based on a journal kept by Captain Madsen and his daughter Ena as they sailed on the family bark that carried cargo around the world in the 19th century. Playing on shipboard, going to school and storms at sea are all related in this true story. Includes family photos and Afterward.

SALLY GOES TO THE MOUNTAINS. Stephen Hunneck. Illus. by author. Abrams. \$18.00.

THE SCARECROW'S HAT. Ken Brown. Illus. by author. Peachtree. \$16.00

SCIENCE OF LIFE: PROJECTS AND PRINCIPLES FOR BEGINNING BIOLOGISTS. Frank G. Bottone Jr. Chicago Review Press. \$15.00.

SECRET SACRAMENT. Sherryl Jordan. HarperCollins. \$16.00. A disturbing incident when he is only 7-years-old foreshadows the role Gabriel will play in the relations between his Navoran people and the Shinali, a role which is solidified when he becomes an Elected One and trains to be a Healer. **Young adult.**

THE SECRET SCHOOL. Avi. HarperCollins. \$16.00. In 1925, fourteen-year-old Ida Bidson secretly takes over as the teacher when the remote one-room schoolhouse closes after the trained teacher quits. Ida's dream is to become a teacher but in order to do that she must pass entrance exams to high school at the end of the year. How can the school year continue without a teacher? An inspiring story about finding a way to follow a dream. This story was serialized in the Sacramento Bee last year. **Open Court: Learning.**

THE SEEING STONE. Kevin Crossley-Holland. Scholastic. \$18.00. In late 12th century England, 13-year-old Arthur, tells how Merlin gives him a magical seeing stone which shows him images of the legendary King Arthur. The events of the earlier Arthur seem to have many parallels to his own. Part I of a trilogy.

SEEK. Paul Fleischman. Cricket. \$17.00

SHAKE, RATTLE & ROLL: THE FOUNDERS OF ROCK & ROLL. Words by Holly George-Warren. Pictures by Laura Levine. Houghton Mifflin. \$15.00. Brief biographies, in picture book format, of the musicians who created a cultural revolution in the 1950s. Each one-page biographical sketch is accompanied by large framed picture of the biographee that highlights their accomplishments. **Open Court: Music and Musicians.**

SHAKESPEARE: HIS WORK & HIS WORLD. Michael Rosen. Illus. by Robert Ingpen. Candlewick. \$20.00. At last! A comprehensive biography of William Shakespeare for the intermediate student that explains the culture of Shakespeare's times, the language of his writings and the plots of many of his plays. Includes Timeline, Index and Bibliography. A must for the school library!

THE SHARK GOD. Martin Rafe. Pictures by David Shannon. Scholastic. \$16.00. This story is based on a traditional Hawaiian folktale. Two children are sentenced to death by a cruel king. Their desperate parents implore the great Shark God to help free the children. An earlier act of kindness to a beach-stranded shark by the children is remembered by the Shark God and he returns the children to their parents.

SHELTERWOOD. Susan Hand Shetterly. Illus. by Rebecca Haley McCall. Tilbury House. \$17.00.

SHIPWRECKED! THE TRUE ADVENTURES OF A JAPANESE BOY. Rhoda Blumberg. HarperCollins. \$17.00. In 1843, sixteen-year-old Manjiro became the first Japanese person to set foot in the United States. Shipwrecked on a remote island in 1841, he was rescued by an American whaler and eventually taken to Massachusetts. For nine years he experienced life in American (including the California Gold Rush), then returned to Japan leaving a wealth of information on his impressions of mid-19th century America. Includes Author's Note. **Open Court: Journeys and Quests.**

SHRINKING VIOLET. Cari Best. Illus. by Giselle Potter. FSG. \$16.00. Violet, who is very shy and hates for anyone to look at her in school, finally comes out of her shell when she is cast as Lady Space in a play about the solar system. **Open Court: Friendship.**

SIDE BY SIDE: FIVE FAVORITE PICTURE-BOOK TEAMS GO TO WORK. Leonard S. Marcus. Walker. \$23.00

A SINGLE SHARD. Linda Park. Clarion. \$15.00. Tree-ear, a 13-year-old outcast orphan in medieval Korea, lives under a bridge in a potters' village. He wants desperately to learn how to make pottery from the master Min. His quest is difficult and seemingly impossible. However, his perseverance and determination finally bring his dream to fruition.

SISTERHOOD OF THE TRAVELING PANTS. Ann Brashares. Delacorte. \$15.00. A story of four best friends, the biggest summer of their lives, and the magical pants that make it all happen. **Young adult.**

SIT TRUMAN. Dan Harper. Illus. by Cara Moser and Barry Moser. Harcourt. 16.00. Truman is an enormous dog with a mind of his own. This delightful picture book takes the reader through the day with Truman, a dog who slobbers, drinks out of the toilet and is a pretty typical Boxer. Wonderful illustrations bring Truman right to your lap! **Open Court: Animals.**

SKELETON MAN. Joseph Bruchac. HarperCollins. \$16.00. After her parents disappear and Molly is turned over to the care of a strange “great-uncle,” she begins to rely on her dreams about an old Mohawk story for her safety and maybe even for her life.

THE SNAIL HOUSE. Allan Ahlberg. Illus. by Gillian Tyler. Candlewick. \$14.00. Grandma tells Michael, Hannah and the baby the story of three children who shrink to such a small size that they decide to live in a snail’s shell. In Grandma’s story they have three huge adventures that all end happily for the three tiny children and the snail. **Open Court: Storytelling.**

SOME FROM THE MOON; SOME FROM THE SUN: POEMS AND SONGS FOR EVERYONE. Margot Zemach. Illus. by the author. FSG. \$17.00. “If there are only cornflakes and mustard in the kitchen, it’s a great thing to be able to paint chocolate pudding.” This statement, by Margot Zemach, describes her feelings about being an artist. Zemach died in 1989 and this posthumously published book is a collection of verses and illustrations that she left behind. The final section of this picture book contains an endearing description, with photos and drawings, of her life.

SOPHIE’S MASTERPIECE: A SPIDER’S TALE. Eileen Spinelli. Illus. by Jane Dyer. Simon & Schuster. \$16.00. Destined to become a classic, this lovely story tells how Sophie, the spider, makes wondrous webs that are largely unappreciated by the residents of Beekman’s Boardinghouse. When she weaves her final masterpiece, Sophie is at last appreciated for the beauty and kindness she has woven. **Open Court: Kindness.**

SORRY. Jean Van Leeuwen. Pictures by Brad Sneed. Phyllis Fogelman Books. \$16.00. Two brothers who cannot apologize to each other extend their feud down through their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. It isn’t until, many generations later, Luther and Nathaniel come to an understanding of friendship.

SPELLBOUND. Janet McDonald. FSG/Frances Foster. \$16.00. Raven, a teenage mother and high school dropout lives in the projects. She wants more for herself, and with the help of her best friend Aisha, studies for a spelling bee which could lead to being in a college prep program and a scholarship. **Young adult.**

STAR-BEARER: A CREATION MYTH FROM ANCIENT EGYPT. Diane Hofmeyr. Illus. by Judy Daly. FSG. \$16.00. A 5000 year old creation story which tells of how Atum created the gods of air and rain and then the god of the earth, Geb, and the Goddess of the sky, Nut. But when Nut and Geb begin to cause Atum trouble, he forces them apart – Nut becomes the brown earth and Geb becomes the starry skies. **Ancient Civilizations.**

STEPPING OUT WITH GRANDMA MAC. Nikki Grimes. Illus. by Angelo. Orchard. \$17.00. The relationship between feisty Grandma Mac and her spunky granddaughter is told through the voice of the granddaughter and in a collection of poems.

STOPPING TO HOME. Mark Maslin. Margaret K. McElderry Books. \$16.00. In 1806, orphaned 11-year-old Abigail and her little brother Seth find a home with the young Widow Chase in a Maine seaport village. Times are difficult but it is through Abigail ingenuity that the Widow Chase is able to support them.

THE STORY TREE. retold by Hugh Lupton,. Illus. by Sophie Fatus. Barefoot Books. \$19.00.

STRAY DOG: FROM A TRUE STORY BY REIKO SASSA. Retold by Marc Simont. Illus. by author. HarperCollins. \$16.00. Over fifteen years ago, Marc Simont heard this tender story from his friend Reiko Sassa. Willy is a little stray dog, is found in the park during a family picnic. Thinking he might belong to someone, Willy is left at the park but remains in the family's hearts. The next weekend they return to the park and find Willy being chased by a dogcatcher and they take him home where he belongs.

SUPER-COMPLETLY AND TOTALLY THE MESSIEST. Judith Viorst. Illus. by Robin Preiss Glasser. Atheneum. \$16.00. Many kids and adults will identify with the message in this story! Olivia, who is very neat and practically perfect, despairs because her sister Sophie is super-completely and totally the messiest, no matter where she goes or what she does.

TABITHA'S TERRIFICALLY TOUGH TOOTH. Charlotte Middleton. Illus. by the author. Phyllis. Fogelman/Putnam. \$13.00. This is a great book for all those kids out there with loose teeth! Tabitha has a loose tooth and she really wants to lose it so the Tooth Fairy will bring a reward. She tries all sorts of methods to get rid of that tooth but it is the unexpected that solves the problem! **Open Court: Stick To It.**

TAGGERUNG: A TALE FROM REDWALL. Brian Jacques. In this 14th story in the Redwall fantasy series, a young otter, kidnapped in his infancy and raised as a warrior-thief by a band of vermin, leaves the tribe and goes off to seek adventures of his own.

TALE OF TRICKEY FOX: A NEW ENGLAND TRICKSTER TALE. Retold by Jim Aylesworth. Illus. by Barbara McClintock. Scholastic. \$16.00. After making a bet with his brother, Tricky Fox uses his sack to trick everyone he meets into giving him ever more valuable items – until he meets a teacher who is just too smart to be outwitted! A fun story to read aloud and you'll gather audience great participation! The illustrations are reminiscent of 19th century drawings for children. **Open Court: Storytelling.**

THREE DAYS. Donna Jo Napoli. Dutton. \$16.00. “What if ...you and your father were driving late at night in a foreign country, and he collapsed at the wheel? What if no one stopped as you frantically tried to flag down help? Then ...what if two men picked you up, but instead of going to the police, they kept on driving”? Great way to start a booktalk about this tense story!

THE THREE PIGS. David Wiesner. Illus. by the author. Clarion. \$16.00. Here's a unique version of *The Three Little Pigs*! The three pigs escape from the big, bad wolf by going into another world where they meet nursery rhyme and storybook characters. The illustrations are a mix of styles and medium perspective. Each reading of this book will reveal something new.

TIGER RISING. Kate DiCamillo. Candlewick. \$13.00. Rob Horton discovers a caged tiger while walking in the woods on the same day he meets Sistine Bailey. Both events will change his life and make him realize that some things like memories, heartache, and tigers, cannot be locked up forever. A moving and haunting story about friendship and trust.

TO THE TOP OF EVEREST. Laurie Skreslet with Elizabeth MacLeod.. Kids Can Press. \$17.00. Follow Laurie Skreslet as he ascends Mt. Everest and learn how he overcame obstacles both before and during his climb to make it to the top and down again. Large, colored photos illustrate the immensity of both the mountain and the climb. **Open Court: Journeys and Quests.**

TOMBOY OF THE AIR: DAREDEVIL PILOT BLANCHE S. SCOTT. Julie Cummins. Archival photos. HarperCollins. \$17.00. Blanche Scott was the first woman to fly a plane in public in America. Her daring career began on the roads when she drove a car from the Atlantic to the Pacific in 1910. She learned to fly in 1910, became the first woman stunt flier and then, many years later, became the first American woman to fly in a jet. Includes Chronology, Notes, Bibliography, Index. **Open Court: Risks and Consequences.**

TOUCHING SPIRIT BEAR. Ben Mikaelson. HarperCollins. \$16.00. After his anger turns to violence, and in order to avoid prison, Cole agrees to participate in a sentencing alternative based on the Native American Circle Justice. He is sent to a remote Alaskan Island where an encounter with a giant Spirit Bear changes his life. **Young adult.**

TRAVELING MAN. James Rumford. Illus. by the author. Houghton Mifflin. \$16.00. Ibn Battuta was born in Morocco in 1304 and spent almost 30 years and 75,000 miles traveling around the known world before he told his story to the Moroccan court secretary who transcribed it in Arabic. The original book can be seen at the national Library in Paris. The format of the narrative, the artwork and the story itself is a wonderful exploration for any reader. **Open Court: Journeys and Quests.**

TREASURE AT THE HEART OF TANGLEWOOD. Meredith Pierce. Viking Press. \$17.00.

TROY: A NOVEL. Adele Geras. Harcourt. \$17.00.

TRUE BELIEVER. Virginia E. Wolff. Simon & Schuster/Atheneum. \$17.00

THE TRUTH ABOUT RATS, RULES, & SEVENTH GRADE. Linda Zinnen. HarperCollins. \$15.00. Eleven-year-old Larch has depended on her own rules to help her cope with the life she and her mother share in a trailer in a small Ohio town, but her rules do not help

her deal with a rat-catching dog, her best friend's crush, and the truth she learns about her father's death.

TRUTH & LIES: AN ANTHOLOGY OF POEMS. Patrice Vecchione, editor. Holt. \$18.00

TURTLE SPLASH!: COUNTDOWN AT THE POND. Cathryn Falwell. Illus. by the author. Greenwillow. \$16.00. "Ten timid turtles are lounging in a line ..." when they are startled by a bullfrog and the chain of events begins until there is only one turtle left. The illustrations are soft, but bright collages depicting pond life. Includes a section about the different life that lives in a pond, as well as instructions for creating leaf print. **Open Court: Animals.**

TWIN TALES: THE MAGIC AND MYSTERY OF MULTIPLE BIRTH. Donna H. Jackson. Little, Brown. \$17.00

TWO HOMES. Claire Masurel. Illus. by Kady MacDonald Denton. Candlewick. \$15.00. Alex tells how he has two homes – Daddy lives in one house, and Mommy lives in another house. Alex knows that he is loved dearly in both houses. A reassuring book for the young child whose family is experiencing divorce. **Open Court: Homes.**

TWO LITTLE TRAINS. Margaret Wise Brown. Pictures by Leo and Diane Dillon. HarperCollins. \$16.00. Two little trainsk one streamlined, another toy, puff, puff, puff, and chug, chug, chug, on their way west. The Dillon's lovely illustrations reflect the times of when the book was originally written (1949).

UNCLE RAIN CLOUD. Tony Johnston. Illus. by Fabricio VandenBroeck. Charlesbridge/Talewinds. \$16.00. Carlos thinks his Tio Tomas looks like a black cloud about to rain and because he always looks so grim thinks of him as Uncle Rain Cloud. Then Carlos discovers that Tio Tomas is frustrated because he can't speak English and is unhappy in their new home in Los Angeles. It is Carlos who teaches Tio Tomas to speak English and to adjust to a life far different from their home in Mexico. **Open Court: Learning.**

VINCENT VAN GOGH: PORTRAIT OF AN ARTIST. Jan Greenberg and Sandra Jordan. Illustrated with color reproductions of paintings and archival photos. Delacorte. \$15.00. Van Gogh's career began when he was 27 and only lasted a decade. He did not reach fame during his lifetime and he lived with many self-doubts and disappointments – and yet, he is now honored as one of the greatest painters in history. Includes Map, Postscript, Biographical Time Line, Museum Locations, Glossary of Artists and Terms, Notes, Bibliography, Index. **Open Court: Fine Arts.**

WAITING FOR WINGS. Lois Ehlert. Harcourt. \$17.00.

WALK ACROSS THE SEA. Susan Fletcher. Atheneum. \$16.00. This story is set in late 19th century Crescent City, California. Chinese immigrants are being driven out or killed because of a fear that they will take jobs from the whites. Fifteen-year-old Eliza defies the townspeople and her lighthouse-keeper father to help a Chinese boy who has been kind to her. The narrative and vocabulary of the characters reflect the times. **Open Court: Taking a Stand.**

WALKING WITH DINOSAURS. Tim Haines. DK Publishing. \$25.00.

WE NEED TO GO TO SCHOOL: VOICES OF THE RUGMARK CHILDREN. Tanya Roberts-Davies. Douglas & McIntyre. \$16.00.

WE RODE THE ORPHAN TRAINS. Andrea Warren. Houghton. \$18.00

WE WERE THERE TOO!: YOUNG PEOPLE IN U.S. HISTORY. Phillip Hoose. Archival photos and prints. FSG. \$26.00. A history of the United States seen through the contributions of young Americans, beginning in 1492, ending in the 1990s. This book features the roles that young people played in “writing” and living the times. A must-buy for every library! **Open Court Resource.**

THE WEB FILES. Margie Palatini. Illus. by Richard Egielski. Hyperion. \$16.00. The rhythm of the text will remind adults of the old *Dragnet* television shows – complete with the “Dum De Dum Dum.” Ducktective Web and his partner try to quack the case of the pilfered peck of perfect purple almost-pickled peppers. A great read aloud, but practice first!

WHAT MY MOTHER DOESN'T KNOW. Sonya Sones. Simon & Schuster. \$17.00. Fifteen-year-old Sophie is dating Dylan, chats online with her “cybersoul” mate, Chaz, and secretly has a crush on Murphy. The reader follows Sophie as she comes to understand the difference between lust and love. The format of this book will appeal to the middle school reader; as each chapter is told in poetry through Sophies’s point of view. **Young adult.**

WHAT PETE ATE FROM A TO Z (REALLY!) Maira Kalman (truly). Illus. by the author. Putnam. \$16.00. Subtitle of this book: WHERE WE EXPLORE THE ENGLISH ALPHABET (IN ITS ENTIRETY) IN WHICH A CERTAIN DOG DEVOURS A MYRIAD OF ITEMS WHICH HE SHOULD NOT. In this alphabet book, Poppy Wise relates some of the unusual things eaten by Pete the Dog.

WHAT SHALL WE DO WITH THE BOO-HOO BABY. Cressida Cowell. Illus. by Ingrid Godon. Scholastic. The author dedicates this book to “perplexed parents everywhere!” The baby says “Boo-hoo-hoo!” and every animal has an idea of how to stop his crying. It’s an exhausting job for all!

WHAT YOU NEVER KNEW ABOUT TUBS, TOILETS, & SHOWERS. Patricia Lauber. Illus. by John Manders. Simon and Schuster. \$16.00. Don’t expect to keep this book on the shelves and, expect lots of giggles! This world history of hygiene, from Stone Age to present times, will amaze, amuse and educate! **Open Court: Technology.**

WHEN MOON FELL DOWN. Linda Smith. Illus. by Kathryn Brown. HarperCollins. \$16.00. The moon falls down to Earth one night and roams about with friendly cow before returning to the sky. The language is lyrical (“...Fell upon a farmer’s lawn, ...Rolled about in sheer delight...On fields he’d only shined upon...”) and the whimsical illustrations paint a glowing picture of the moon’s adventure.

WHEN THE MOON IS FULL: A LUNAR YEAR. Penny Pollock. Illus. by Mary Azarian. Little, Brown. \$16.00.

WHOLE NIGHT THROUGH: A LULLABY. David Frampton. Illus. by author. HarperCollins. \$16.00.

WIDGET. Lyn Rossiter McFarland. Illus. by Jim McFarland. FSG. \$16.00. Widget, a little stray dog, finds a home with Mrs. Diggs and her six cats. Widget acts like a cat to be accepted but when help is needed in a hurry, Widget shows the cats the way.

WILDFLOWERS AROUND THE YEAR. Hope Ryden. Photos by the author. Clarion. \$17.00. Ryden tells the story of each wildflower – its history, lore, and blooming time. A different wildflower is featured on a page, with the facing page showing a large color photo of the flower.

WILDLIFE WINNERS: THE PEREGRINE FALCON. Mindfull Publishing. \$15.95.

WILLIAM AND THE NIGHT TRAIN. Mij Kelly. Pictures by Alison Jar. FSG. \$16.00. When a young child can't wait until tomorrow comes, perhaps s/he needs a trip on the Night Train. Everyone has boarded the Night Train, mothers and fathers, teachers, writers - except William. When William finally closes his eyes, the Night Train speeds away taking everyone to Tomorrow.

WILLIAM'S HOUSE. Ginger Howard. Illus. by Larry Day. Millbrook. \$23.00. William and his family arrive in New England in 1637. William wants to replicate his father's home in England but soon realizes that the climate and other considerations will require modifications to his plans. A nice look at what the settlers faced when adapting to Colonial America. **Open Court: Colonial Life.**

WINTER DAY PLAY: ACTIVITIES, CRAFTS, AND GAMES FOR INDOORS AND OUT. Nancy F. Castaldo. Chicago Review Press. \$14.00.

WITNESS. Karen Hesse. Scholastic. \$17.00. It is the early 1920s and eleven residents of a small Vermont town express their views of various people living in the town – including a young black girl and a young Jewish girl. The narrative is delivered through poetry. A very strong and compelling picture of prejudice.

WORDS WITH WINGS: A TREASURY OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN POETRY AND ART. Selected By Belinda Rochelle. HarperCollins/Amistad. \$16.89. Noted African American poets share twenty of their poems, each illustrated with a painting by an African American artist. The poems address black history and identity.

WORLD AT HER FINGERTIPS: STORY OF HELEN KELLER. Joan Dash. Scholastic. \$16.00

YOU DON'T KNOW ME. David Klass. Farrar. \$17.00.

YOU READ TO ME, I'LL READ TO YOU. Mary Ann Hoberman. Illus. by Michael Emberley. Little Brown. \$16.00