

2023
PICTURE BOOK
*Gift
Guide*

literacious.com



Happy Holidays!

It's gift guide time! And I'm so excited that you've got some time to do your shopping, although I never seem to post this as early as I want!

This year's list includes 30 picture books titles from silly read alouds to poignant titles that will tug at your heartstrings. Picture books are beautiful works of art and writing with a variety of diverse voices sharing their worlds.

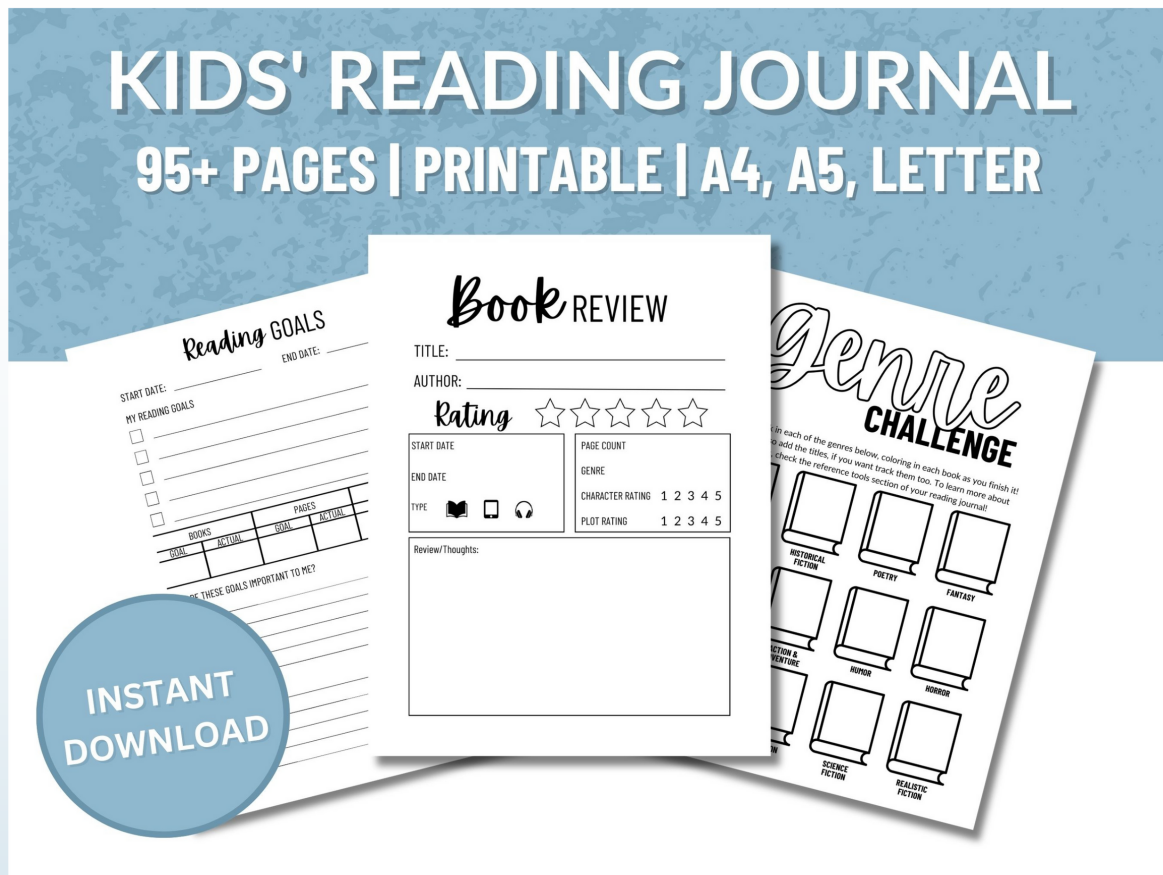
Whether you're buying for a reader in your life or finding a few titles for your own holiday break there's a little something for everyone.

Wishing you a safe and happy holiday season,

Laura

This post may contain affiliate links, meaning I'll receive a commission if you purchase through my links, at no extra cost. Please read the [full disclosure](#) for more information.

Looking for a fun,
customizable gift for readers
this holiday season?



Check out the Literacious
Kids' Reading Journal on [Etsy!](#)

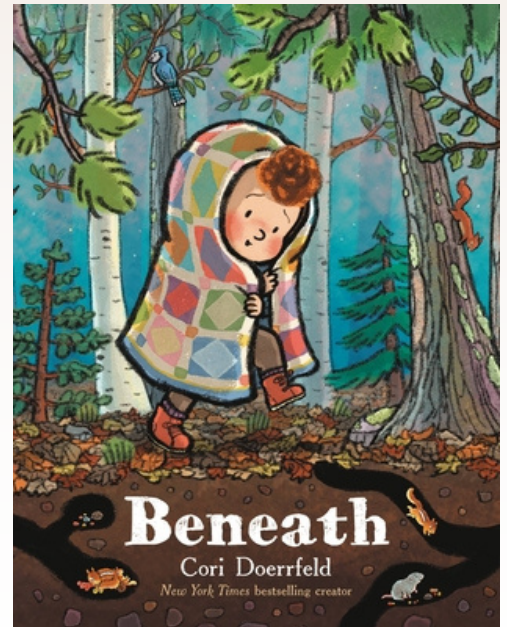


100 Dragons Named Broccoli by David LaRochele, illustrated by Lian Cho

High on a mountain live 100 mighty dragons all named Broccoli. Young readers will delight in following each and every dragon as they leave their home for marvelous adventures until there is but one dragon remaining.

Beneath by Cori Doerrfeld

Finn is in a horrible mood and doesn't want to talk about it. After some persuading, though, they agree to go for a hike with Grandpa. It's when the pair pass fellow hikers that Finn realizes that people, just like the elements of nature, are more than they appear.

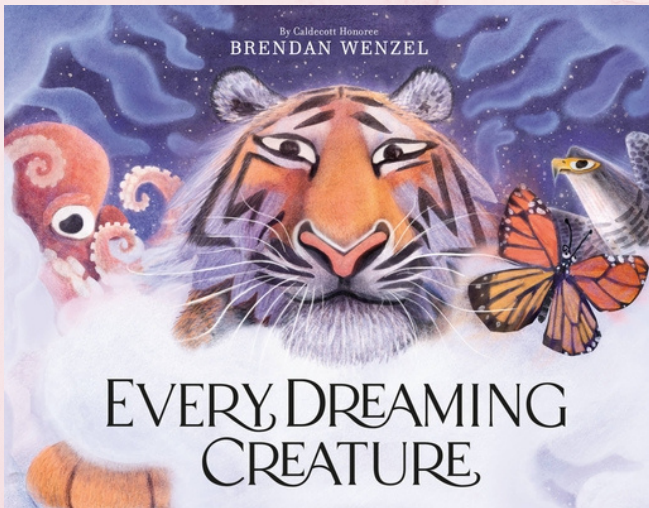
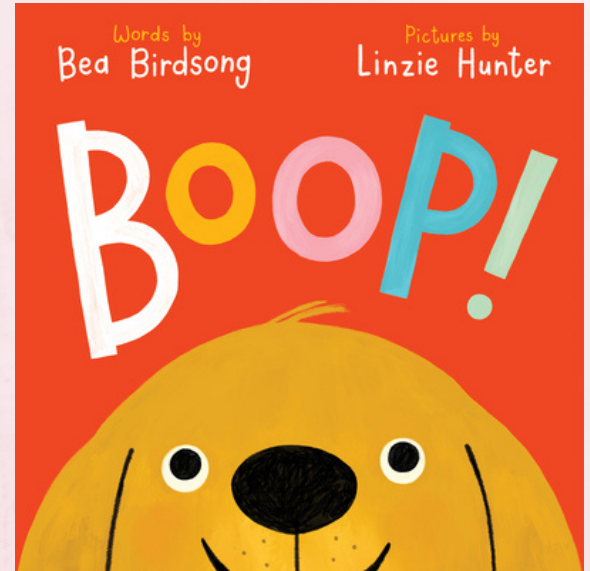


Big by Vashti Harrison

With spare text and exquisite illustrations, this emotional exploration of being big in a world that prizes small is a tender portrayal of how you can stand out and feel invisible at the same time.

Boop! by Bea Birdsong, illustrated by Linzie Hunter

This is a snoot. Snoots need boops. A boop is a pat. A gentle tap. Get your finger ready and . . . BOOP! There are so many snoots to boop! Snoots attached to big dogs and little dogs and dogs with beards and those without. Are you ready to boop ALL the snoots?

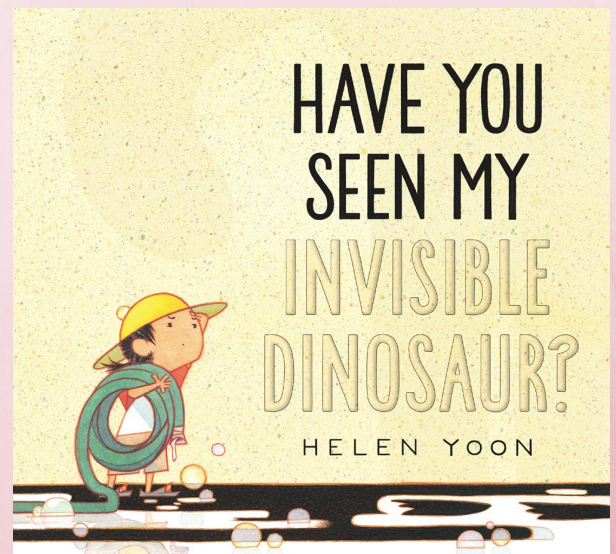


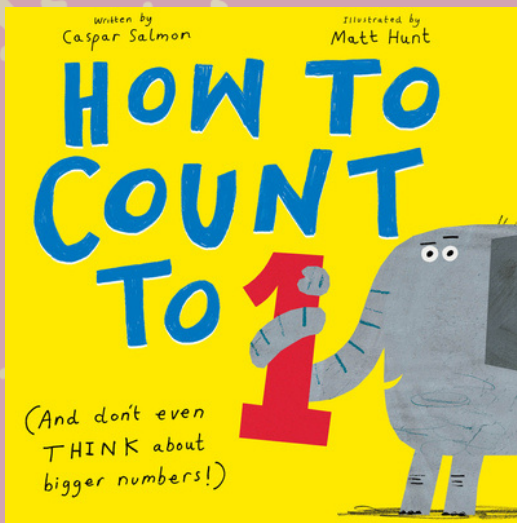
Every Dreaming Creature by Brendan Wenzel

Welcome to a magical world of endless curiosity. You are a sleeping salamander. A dancing octopus. As one dream slips into another, every page turn immerses you in the sensory wonder of the world and all its creatures, from the ocean depths to soaring skies, and everything in between. Each is connected despite their differences.

**Have You Seen My Invisible Dinosaur?
by Helen Yoon**

Help! This little girl has lost her best friend. He's a dinosaur (not the extinct kind). He's enormous (bigger than a panda!). He was last seen before she gave him a bath and washed off all the mud (maybe that wasn't a good idea?).





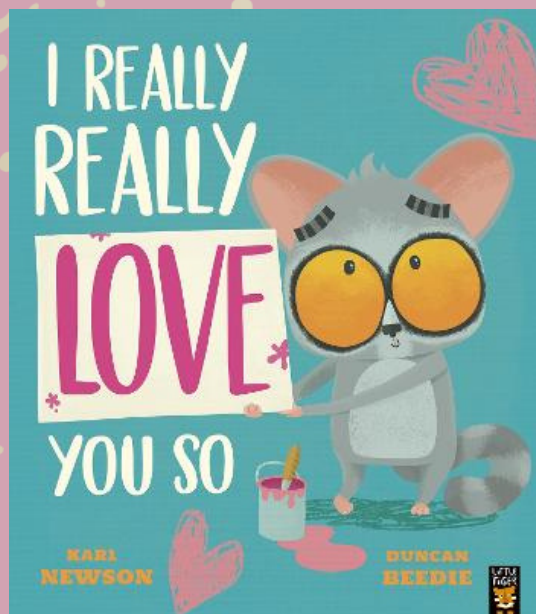
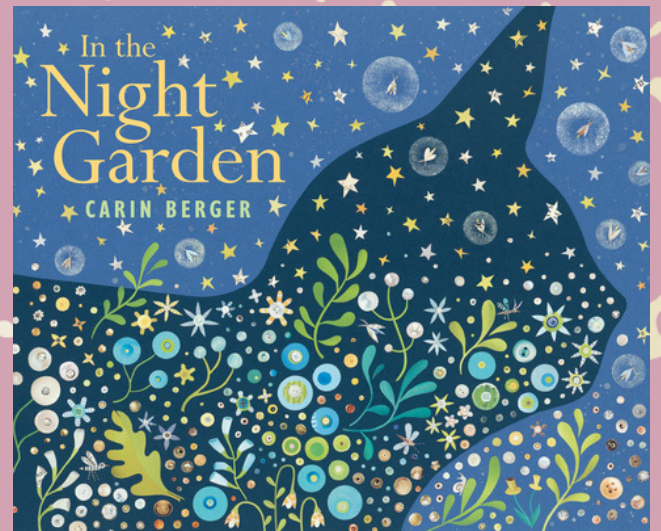
How to Count to 1

by Caspar Salmon, illustrated by Matt Hunt

Get ready to show off your skills in this fun new counting book! But not everything is as it seems... is this book really only about counting to "ONE?" But wait —maybe there's a way to outsmart the book... and count all the way up to 100!

In the Night Garden by Carin Berger

In the night garden fireflies look like fallen stars. Moonflowers unfurl and release their intoxicating perfume. In the night garden you can lie on the cool grass and look up to the millions and trillions of stars...

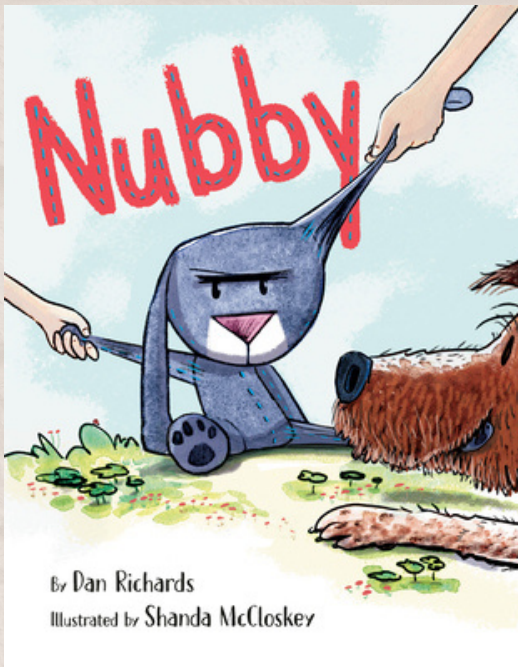
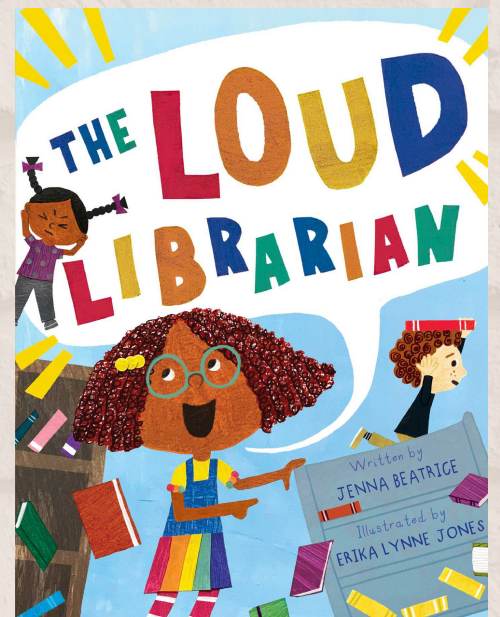


I Really, Really Love You So by Karl Newson, **illustrated by Duncan Beedie**

In this sweet story, a young animal wants to express just how much they love their parent, so they look for increasingly extravagant ways of doing so. But could there be a simpler—and even more special—way to show their love?

The Loud Librarian by Jenna Beatrice, illustrated by Erika Lynne Jones

Penelope is perfect for the job of student-librarian. Friendly? Check. Helpful? Check. Book lover? Check. There's just one snag. Penelope is...LOUD. Can a little librarian with a big voice find a place where she belongs?



Nubby by Dan Richards, illustrated by Shanda McCloskey

Nubby the stuffed rabbit is his owner's favorite toy, but you wouldn't know it from the way he's treated. He's been dropped, dragged, and even used as a nose wipe. He decides to strike out for a fresh start, and his adventure takes him across the realm—or at least around the cul-de-sac—in search of treasure, fame, and glory.

Once There Was by Corinne Demas, illustrated by Gemma Capdevila

In this magical, modern fairy tale, a girl dreams she is a princess. A princess dreams she is a horse. A horse dreams she is a tree, a tree a mountain, a mountain a moon, a moon a sea, a sea a girl.



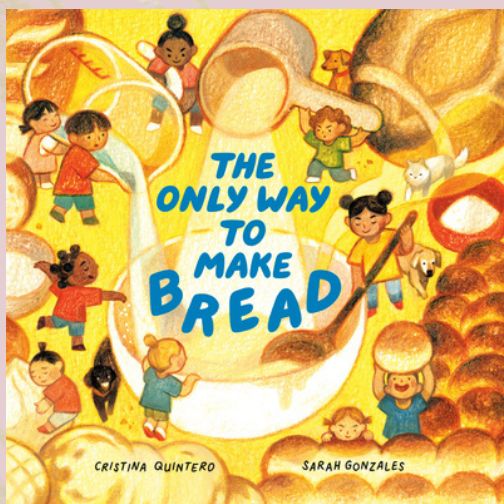
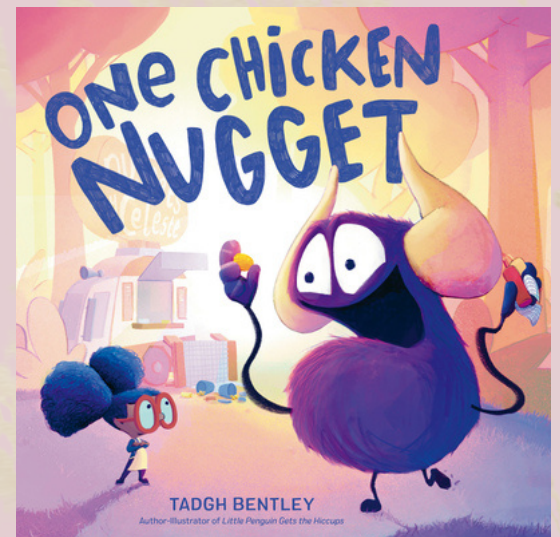


Once Upon a Book by Grace Lin & Kate Messner

Once upon a time, there was a girl. She went to a place alive with colors, where even the morning dew was warm. Alice loves to imagine herself in the magical pages of her favorite book. But when her imaginative journey comes to an end, she yearns for the place she loves best of all.

One Chicken Nugget by Tadgh Bentley

Everybody knows monsters love chicken nuggets, but Frank loved them more than most. This is a problem if you happen to sell chicken nuggets, and Celeste sells the finest nuggets around. But Frank scares her other customers away, so she's forced to cook up an eating contest of monstrous proportions to get rid of him.



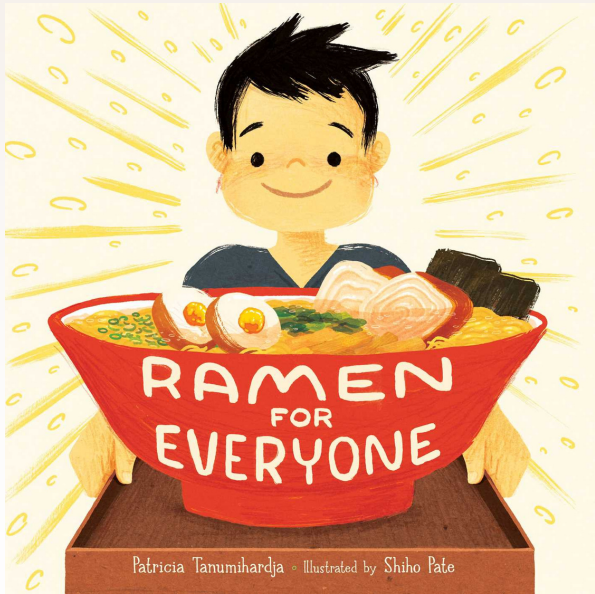
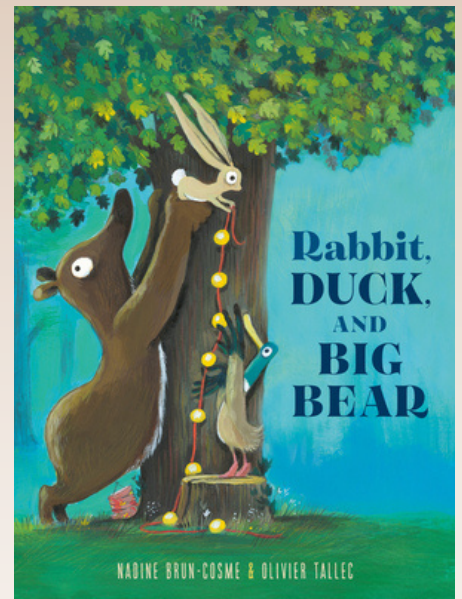
The Only Way to Make Bread by Cristina Quintero, illustrated by Sarah Gonzales

What's the only way to make bread? You might use white flour in your bread, or whole wheat flour or corn flour. You might use water or milk, maybe an egg or two. What's the only way to make bread? Your way!

Rabbit, Duck, and Big Bear by Nadine

Brun-Cosme, illustrated by Ollivier Tallec

Rabbit, Duck, and Big Bear are best friends. They do everything together and go everywhere together. In this story rich with social emotional learning, young readers will see the importance of balancing time with friends and time spent on their own.



Ramen for Everyone by Patricia

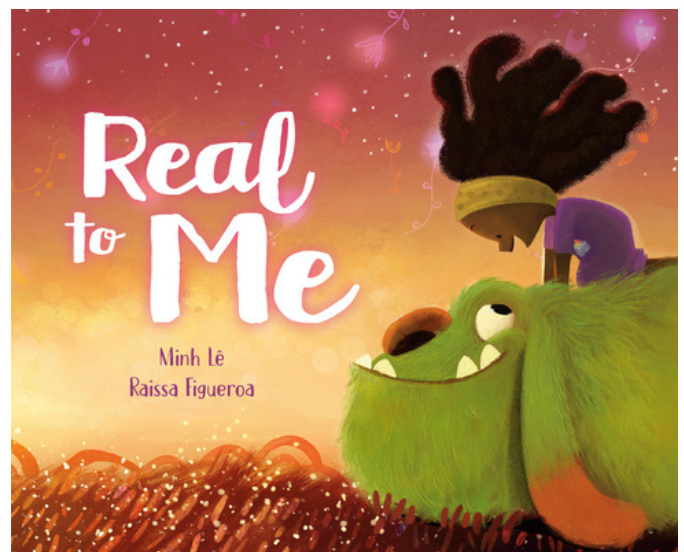
Tanumihardja, illustrated by Shiho Pate

Hiro loves ramen. Every Sunday, Hiro's dad makes delicious, perfect ramen for dinner, using a recipe passed down from his dad. Hiro is worried he'll never be a real ramen chef...but thanks to his father's wise advice and his own creativity, Hiro discovers that every person's perfect bowl of ramen is unique.

Real to Me by Minh Lê, illustrated by

Raissa Figueroa

Others tried to tell me that she wasn't real, that she was just imaginary. But what did they know? She was real to me. Then one morning... she was gone. What do you do when your imaginary friend goes away? Did you dream up the entire friendship? Maybe...





**Something, Someday by Amanda Gorman,
illustrated by Christian Robinson**

You're told that This won't work, But how will you know If you never try? Sometimes the world feels broken. And problems seem too big to fix. With a little faith, and maybe the help of a friend, together we can find beauty and create change.

Something Wild by Molly Ruttan

Hannah loves to play her violin—as long as no one is watching. On the day of the recital, she's wishing something wild would happen so she won't have to go. Hannah's big imagination dreams up all kinds of entertaining scenarios that could change the course of her day, but what actually happens is the most amazing of all!

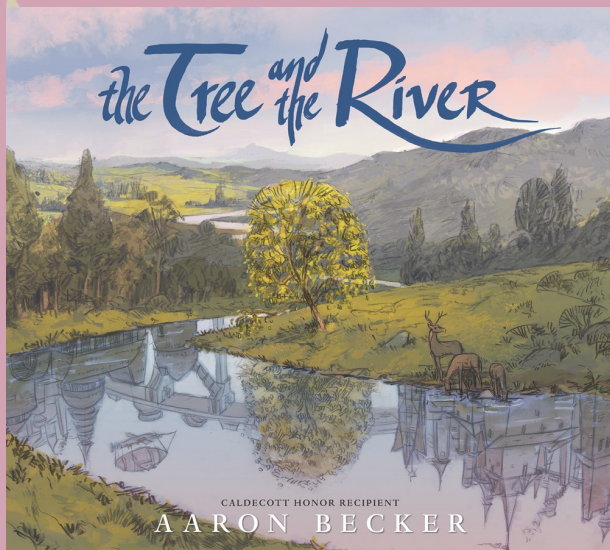


**Sometimes It's Nice to Be Alone by Amy Hest,
illustrated by Philip Stead**

Sometimes it's nice to be alone. Just you, eating a cookie, alone. But what if a friend drops in?

This Little Kitty by Karen Obunhanych

This little kitty starts the day and meows, "Wake up! It's time to play! All the little kitties get out of bed. Their bellies grumble—it's time to be fed." Read along as these frisky felines pounce and play, claw and climb, and snack and sleep—until daylight fades and these little kitties are ready to receive some love and affection.

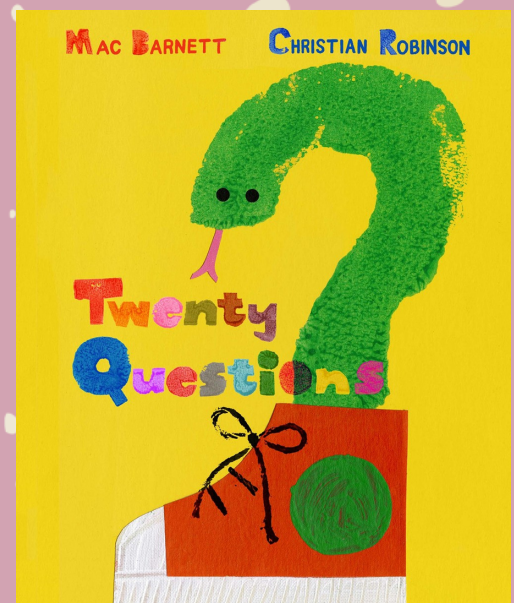


The Tree and the River by Aaron Becker

In an alternate past—or possible future—a mighty tree stands on the banks of a winding river, bearing silent witness to the flow of time and change.

**Twenty Questions by Mac Barnett,
illustrated by Christian Robinson**

Not all questions have answers. Some have more than one answer. And others have endless answers, unfolding out to the edges of the world. The result is a quirky, wandering exploration of where the best questions lead—to stories.





***A Unicorn, a Dinosaur, and a Shark Walk into a Book* by Jonathan Fenske**

While the narrator insists that the characters are in the best book ever, they are all less than impressed, and won't cooperate with the storyteller's cues. Can the narrator find a way to convince them to stick around, or will the creatures choose to skedaddle off the page?

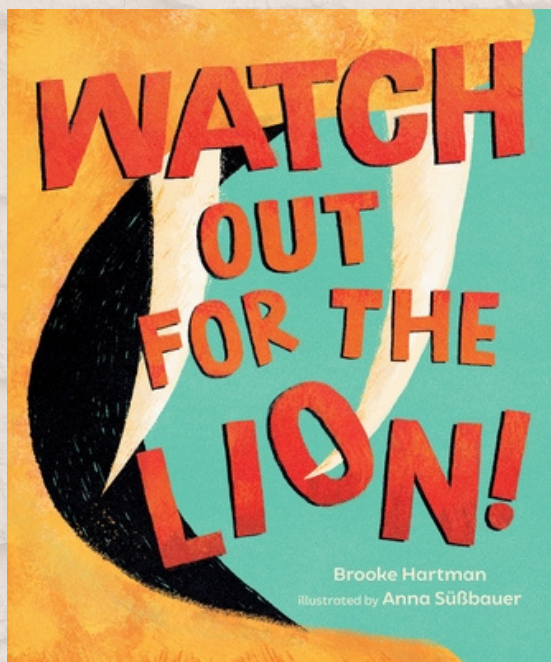
Very Good Hats by Emma Straub, illustrated by Blanca Gomez

Some people think hats are fancy things you can buy at a dressy store, but that's just the tip of the iceberg. Readers will be delighted to discover that anything can be a hat if you believe it is. Hats are everywhere you look!



Watch Out for the Lion! by Brooke Hartman, illustrated by Anna Süßbauer

Readers beware—there's a ferocious lion in this book! The book warns that it has seen the lion already. First its bristly tail, then clashing claws, twitchy ears, fearsome fangs... and it's lying in wait to turn any unsuspecting passerby into a child cheeseburger or rugrat ravioli.



Wombat by Philip Bunting

From wombat to squarebat to roundbat, and longbat—no bat is left out in this silly and sweet marsupial love story. Quirky, playful text paired with simple, humorous illustrations makes for a hilarious repeat read that both kids and parents can enjoy.

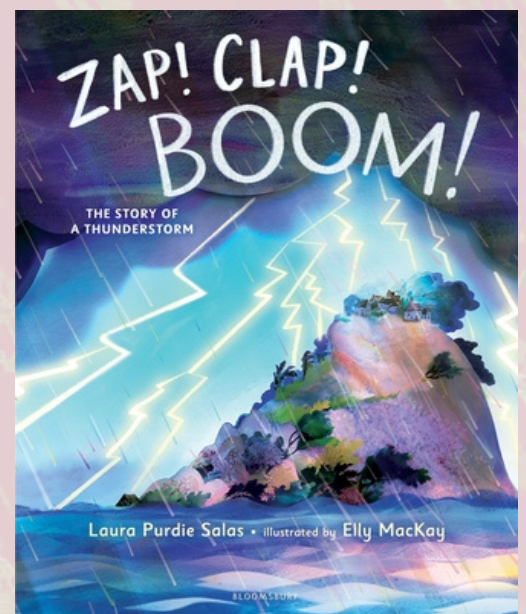


You Are a Story by Bob Raczka, illustrated by Kristen and Kevin Howdeshell

What makes you you? So much goes into who you are, and you are so many different things: A child, an animal, a body of water, a friend, a mystery, one-of-a-kind, a miracle. You are and could be so many things, but whatever you choose to do, it's your life to write, you are a story.

Zap! Clap! Boom! The Story of a Thunderstorm by Laura Purdie Salas, illustrated by Elly MacKay

Follow along as the weather changes, from a blue-sky day to a brewing storm, from a brewing storm to a dazzling downpour, and from a dazzling downpour to the breathtaking moment when the sky emits a- ZAP! CLAP! BOOM!



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