

Great Reading Choices for K - 3 or 4 (or so)



2019 Fall RAN Workshop
November 1, 2019
Sandy Wallick, Lincoln City Libraries

~~~ Beginning Readers ~~~

Barnett, Mac ***HI, JACK!***

Illus. by Greg Pizzoli unp. Viking (Penguin Random House) 2019 \$9.99 ISBN 978-0-593-11379-0

(A Jack Book, Bk 1)

Activity: Ask the readers/listeners how they would feel if Jack treated them like he did The Lady and Rex.

Barnett, Mac ***JACK BLASTS OFF!***

Illus. by Greg Pizzoli unp. Viking (Penguin Random House) 2019 \$9.99 ISBN 978-0-593-11385-1

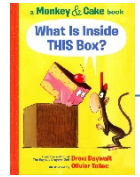
(A Jack Book, Bk 1)

Activity: Ask the readers/listeners

Daywalt, Drew ***WHAT IS INSIDE THIS BOX?***

Illus. by Olivier Tallec unp. Orchard Books (Scholastic Press) 2019 \$9.99 ISBN 978-1-338-14386-7

(a Monkey and Cake book, #1 of 3): A look at the concept of Schrödinger's cat for the young set. (and, by the way, both Monkey and Cake love pie.) "full of philosophical inquiry" - Wall St. Journal. **Activity:** Ask: Do you like pie? What other foods might Monkey and Cake like?



Daywalt, Drew ***THIS IS MY FORT!***

Illus. by Olivier Tallec unp. Orchard Books (Scholastic Press) 2019 \$9.99 ISBN 978-1-338-14390-4

(a Monkey and Cake book, #2 of 3): A look at the concept of ownership. Cake says he owns the area of the fort, so Monkey says his fort is made up of all the other space in the world. (Monkey and Cake still love pie.)

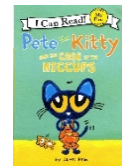
Activity: Ask

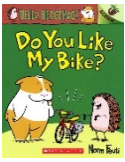
Bk 3 is out 9/17/19

Dean, James ***PETE THE KITTY AND THE CASE OF THE HICCUPS***

32p. HarperCollins 2019 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-06-286827-5

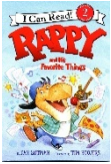
This is the first "Pete the Kitty" "I Can Read" book, sure to be popular. Little Pete does, indeed, have the hiccups. One by one he asks his friends what they do to get rid of the hiccups, but each idea he hears does not work for him. Finally his mom has the solution. **Activity:** Ask the readers/listeners what cures they know for hiccups, and who told them about it. Does it work for them? Which idea of the ones you just heard are you going to try next time?





Feuti, Norm **DO YOU LIKE MY BIKE?** (Hello, Hedgehog! series, #1)
 44p. Scholastic Press 2019 \$15.99 (PLB) ISBN 978-1-338-28139-2; \$4.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-1-338-28138-5

Three stories told in graphic novel format about Hedgehog and his friend Harry. Positive and upbeat, even if Hedgehog rings the bell on his bike too much! **Activity:** Talk about learning to do something hard, like ride a bike or play the piano.



Gutman, Dan **RAPPY AND HIS FAVORITE THINGS**
 Illus. by Tim Bowers 32p. HarperCollins 2019 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-06-225272-2

Rappy does not want to write a poem in school. Soon enough he is rapping instead, about many of the things he likes. Imagine his surprise when their teacher, Ms. H, tells him rapping IS poetry! **Activity:** It is pretty obvious – ask the readers/listeners to write a short poem or rap about something they like.

Milgrim, David **LOOK OUT! A STORM!**

Unp. Simon & Schuster 2019 \$17.99 ISBN 978-1534441972; \$4.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-1-5344-



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Olly the rhino is in a bad mood but Otto the robot doesn't know that until he yells, "Hi" to Olly's back. Olly chases Otto and they run right through monkeys Flip and Flop's artist area. Now Flip and Flop are in a bad mood and are chasing Olly and Otto. They stop when a lightning storm starts up – Olly says "Hop on" and the three ride Olly out of the storm. Everyone is in a good mood now.

Told in brief rhyming phrases, this is a very beginning reader. **Activity:** Have the readers/listeners draw a picture of one of the characters from the book in a bad mood or in a good mood. Talk about the animals' feelings and facial expressions that show their moods.

Milgrim, David **POOF! A BOT!**

Unp. Simon Spotlight (Simon & Schuster) 2019 \$17.99 ISBN 978-1-5344-1103-6; \$4.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-1-5344-1102-9



(second book in series, *See Zip Zap* was the first.) Zip (an alien) tries a new magic trick, and zaps a bot. The problem is the bot does not do what Zip commands. His younger sibling Bip laughs when the bot throws a pie at Zip. After zapping one bot into two, and two bots into four, Zip finally zaps tea and a pot so all can enjoy it. Told in brief rhyming phrases, this is a very beginning reader. Repetition and rhymes help new readers recognize the words. The alien, Zip, and the bots will keep the reader's attention. **Activity:** Ask If you had a robot, what would you like to do with it?



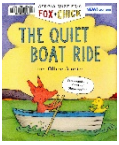
Ransom, Candice **SNOW DAY!**

Illus. by Erika Meza 32p. Random House 2018 \$4.99 ISBN 978-1-5247-2037-7

(third book with this family, *Apple Picking Day!* & *Pumpkin Day!* were the first two)

Siblings enjoy the outdoors and friends when a snow day is declared. This is a very beginning reader with big type, easy words, and told in rhyme. **Activity:** Talk about what things they like to do on a snow day.

A good physical follow-up is an indoor snowball fight. (sw)



Ruzzier, Sergio **THE QUIET BOAT RIDE** (Fox + Chick, Bk 2)
46p. Chronicle Books 2019 \$14.99 ISBN 978-1-4521-5289-9

(Fox & Chick, Bk 2) Three stories are included. The first is Fox wanting a quiet boat ride, while Chick keeps loudly worrying about everything from pirates to shipwreck. Clever fun. **Activity:** Ask the readers/listeners to write a short story (like the ones in the book) about a new Fox and Chick adventure, and illustrate it if they wish.

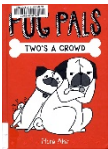
Willems, Mo & Dan Santat **HAROLD & HOG PRETEND FOR REAL**

Illus. by Dan Santat & Mo Willems 55p. Hyperion (Disney) 2019 \$9.99 ISBN 978-1-36802716-8



Harold and Hog decide to pretend (for real) to be Elephant and Piggie. Hog has a hard time being since Piggie is carefree and loves to dance. Hog is too careful and he suggests Harold is too extroverted to be Elephant, even if he has on some pretend glasses. The answer? Hog can be Elephant and Harold can be Piggie! **Activity:** Ask If you would be someone else, who would it be? Is it someone that's like you or not?

~~~ Early Chapter Books ~~~



Ahn, Flora **TWO'S A CROWD** (Pug Pals series, Bk 1)
121p. Scholastic Press 2018 \$9.99 ISBN 978-1-338-11845-2

(Pug Pals, Bk 1) Sunny is a well-loved pug, and she enjoys her life and routines. But now she feels something is wrong – and finds out what when her human brings home Rosy, a pug puppy. Sunny is not happy, and when her favorite toy falls out the window, she is distraught. After she comes back downstairs from hiding in their human's room, she finds the door open and Rosy is gone. Now Sunny has a rescue mission, to find Rosy before the end of the workday for their human. **Activity:** Ask how would you feel if someone new moved into your home?

Ahn, Flora **YAY FOR VACAY!** (Pug Pals series, Bk 2)

121p. Scholastic Press 2019 \$9.99 ISBN 978-1-338-11847-6; \$7.95 (pbk) ISBN 978-1-338-53131-2
(Pug Pals, Bk 2) Sunny and Rosie are spending two weeks at their “Grandma & Grandpa’s” house. They discover something is nibbling on and taking vegetables from the garden. They must find out who it is, because Grandma is blaming them! **Activity:** Ask how would you feel if you got blamed for something you didn't do?



Cameron, Ann **THE STORIES HUEY TELLS** (Julian's World Bk 6)

102p. Random House 1995(reprint) \$5.99 ISBN 978-0-6798-8559-7
(Julian's World Bk 6) Huey wants to prove to his older brother that he's not a baby! Huey finds a way to face his fears, learns about cooking, uses his imagination and surprises Julian along the way. (sw)
Activity: Have books available with animal tracks and let the children see if they can duplicate them on paper or in sand or clay.



Citro, Asia **ZOEY AND SASSAFRAS: DRAGONS AND MARSHMALLOWS.** (Zoey and Sassafra Book 1)

Illus. by Marion Lindsay 94p. The Innovation Press 2017 \$16.99 ISBN 978-1-943147-08-3
Zoey discovers that the barn behind their house holds a secret her mother has kept since she was Zoey's age: there are magical creatures in the woods who come to the barn when they need help and her mother has been there to care for them. Now it's Zoey's turn—what will happen while her mom's away? **Activity:** visit www.zoeyandsassafra.com for free discussion questions and extension activities. (sw)

Florence, Debbi Michiko *JASMINE TOGUCHI, MOCHI QUEEN* (Jasmine Toguchi Bk. 1)

Illus. by Elizabet Vukovic 115p. Farrar Strus Giroux 2017 \$15.99 ISBN 978-0-374-30410-2

Jasmine, age eight, is tired of always following in her sister's footsteps. She decides she's going to do something Sophie hasn't; pound the mocha rice with the men for their New Year's dessert. **Activity:** Use the recipe in the book to make microwave mocha. (sw)



McGee, Joe *THE MONSTER SQUAD* (Junior Monster Scouts Bk. 1)

Illus. by Ethan Long 81p. Simon & Schuster 2019 \$16.99 ISBN: 978-1-5344-3677-0

Wolfy, Frankie, and Vampyra are the children of the classic monsters and also Monster Scouts, out to earn their monster scout badges, help others and make friends. One big obstacle is Baron Von Grump, who doesn't like noise, doesn't like the smell of the village's cheese, doesn't like kids and really doesn't like monsters.

Activity: Have the children create name monsters by printing or writing their name in cursive. See an example at <https://www.happinessishomemade.net/kids-art-alien-creature-name-monsters/> (sw)

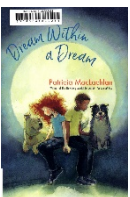


Medina, Juana *JUANA AND LUCAS: BIG PROBLEMAS*

88p. Candlewick Press 2019 \$14.99 ISBN 978-1-5362-0131-4

Sequel to Juana and Lucas. Juana explains all the people and things that she loves, most of all her Mami and Lucas. But things are changing, and Mami is marrying Luis. Juana is worried, but finds she now has a bigger family and a roomy new place to live. A positive family story with Spanish words sprinkled throughout. **Activity:** Ask the readers/listeners to share stories of their families or friends.

~~~ A Few Chapter Books ~~~



MacLachlan, Patricia *DREAM WITHIN A DREAM*

119p. Simon & Schuster 2019 \$16.99 ISBN 978-1-5344-2959-8

Louisa and her brother spend the summer with her grandparents while their parents spend the summer on scientific research.

Activity: Ask the readers to write a poem similar to the ones Louisa wrote about some of the people on the island. The readers can choose a character from the book, or someone they know and/or admire from their lives.



List compiled by Sandy Wallick, Lincoln City Libraries
& Sally Snyder, Nebraska Library Commission