OPEN

a window into a
New World!

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Run Wild
by David Covell (Preschool-Kindergarten)
“Hey, you. Sky’s blue! (forget your shoes) OPEN that door and...” Ah, to be young and carefree with the whole natural world at your fingertips. David Covell elicits pure joy with words and pictures that get under your skin and make you want to burst outside, to run and play and be wild. Who cares if you get dirty? Tap into your imagination and “Roar!” like a grizzly. Run on the hot burning sand and cool your toes in the soft blue sea. A lovely celebration of children and the primal need to be outside.

Brick: Who Found Herself in Architecture
by Joshua David Stein; illus. by Julia Rothman (Preschool-Grade 1)
First of all, take a moment to appreciate the cover. Then, look under the jacket and check out the endpapers. This book is a work of art. With simple yet gorgeous illustrations, this talented author/illustrator team follow the journey of a brick as she explores the importance of architecture and her place in the world. “Great things begin with small bricks,” her mother said. As brick travels, she discovers buildings built through the ages in a variety of architectural styles. Information about these buildings are included in the back of the book.

Drawn Together
by Minh Lê; illus. by Dan Santat (Preschool-Grade 1)
What can break through cultural, language and generational barriers? Love. Art. That is the theme of this sparsely worded picture book featuring genre-spanning illustrations by Calecott Medalist Dan Santat. In the story, a grandson spends the day with his grandfather. The two don’t share the same language, or the same taste in food or television. But as soon as the grandson wields his paintbrush and the grandfather his calligraphy pen, the two connect over a shared love of creating art. The pair imagine a world of dragons and fighters through their illustrations and imaginations, and come to know one another in a way they never had before.

Alma and How She Got Her Name
by Juana Martinez-Neal (Preschool-Grade 2)
Alma Sofia Esperanza José Pura Candela wants to know how she got her very long name, so her dad tells the story of how she got each one. Alma learns that most of her names were inherited from family; from her book-loving grandmother, stoic great-grandmother, artistic grandfather, superstitious great-aunt and activist grandmother. But she has one name that is uniquely her own. This beautiful, sparsely-illustrated Caldecott Honor book had a 5-year-old curiously asking, “How did I get my name?” and will have you thinking about family and the ties that bind.

Night Job
by Karen Hesse; illus. by G. Brian Karas (Preschool-Grade 2)
This is the sweetest story about a young boy who accompanies his dad to his night job as the school janitor. With a quiet dedication to get the job done, the pair work side by side as they “tack back and forth down the hallway sweeping the school from stem to stern.” With illustrations that truly tell the story on their own, and often in graphic novel format, this is a lovely story highlighting the often-overlooked jobs that night workers perform.

Perfect
by Max Amato (Preschool-Grade 2)
This book teaches so many lessons in so few words: the meaning of friendship, collaboration and that “perfection” is relative. In clean, sharp and humorous artwork, we follow an eraser that finds happiness in the cleanliness of a blank page. When a bothersome pencil taunts him by scribbling all over the page, eraser gets angry. On wordless pages, illustrations speak volumes as the eraser gets angrier until he realizes what beautiful artwork can be produced by erasing and he begins to join in creating scenes by removing some of pencil’s etching. As Amato says, “when we embrace imperfection, we embrace the unknown, opening ourselves up to the world.”

Inky’s Amazing Escape: How a Very Smart Octopus Found His Way Home
by Sy Montgomery; illus. by Amy Schimler-Safford (Preschool-Grade 3)
With bright and colorful illustrations, this is the tale of a baby octopus exploring his way along the ocean floor. After an injury, he is caught in a lobsterman’s trap and finds himself in an aquarium where the keeper names him “Inky.” Based on a true story, the information-packed narrative provides facts in a fun way as the reader follows Inky’s adventures until, “Out popped one arm two arms, four arms – eight- and finally Inky’s squishy head was free again!” And just like that he is back in the ocean.

When Sadness is at Your Door
by Eva Eland (Kindergarten-Grade 3)
This sweet book is great for young children, but also a lovely and gentle reminder for an older child or adult of how to understand feelings of sadness. It gives simple ways of coping with the feeling, such as treating it as a guest that will soon go away, naming the feeling and reading a book with it. This book will help children to understand that this sometimes-scary feeling is not here to stay.
PICTURE BOOKS

Howl Like a Wolf!
by Kathleen Yale; illus. by Kaley McKeen
(Grades K-4)

“Everyone knows that octopuses have eight arms, but did you also know that we have three hearts?” This fun and fact-filled book is a great choice for animal lovers. After a brief introduction to each animal’s cool characteristics, it’s your turn to act like an animal! “Your rattlesnake mission is to get around by slithering and to use your scary rattle to warn others to stay away.” Kids get to learn in an interactive way. It might get kind of wild at your house with this book around.

The Rough Patch
by Brian Lies (Grades 2-5)

Evan’s favorite way to spend his time is by tending the garden with his canine best friend. Upon the death of his constant companion, he loses all interest in his other love. In his grief, he tears down the garden that they loved together. Like a phoenix, a giant pumpkin rises from the weeds and after a bit of care, Evan finds himself wanting to show the pumpkin at the country fair, as had been the custom of the two friends. Nature’s magic help Evan’s heart to heal and find interest in his hobby once again.

CHAPTER BOOKS
& MIDDLE GRADE NOVELS

The Bookshop Girl
by Sylvia Bishop (Grades 2-5)
The greatest bookstore in England is being raffled off and Property Jones’ family really wants to win. Winning comes with problems, as Property finds out when the evil Eliot Pink shows up and wants a Shakespearian manuscript that is hidden somewhere in the stack. Property must save the day with The Gunther, a feisty cat, at her side all as she is hiding a big secret from her family. From the spunky beginning where we learn how Property got her name, to the cozy ending with lemonade toasts of celebration, this early chapter book jam-packed with fun and adventure.

Who Were the Tuskegee Airmen?
by Sherri L. Smith (Grades 3-7)
This recent entry in Penguin’s “Who HQ” series will appeal to history lovers as it explores a lesser-known chapter of World War II, specifically the first group of African American military pilots and their contribution to both the war effort and the desegregation of the U.S. military. A timeline of the Tuskegee Airmen adjacent to a timeline of what else was going on in the world at the time makes for an interesting juxtaposition. With over 200 titles in this chapter book series, young readers are bound to find something that appeals to them.

A Story Like the Wind
by Gill Lewis; illus. by Jo Weaver (Grades 4-7)
Rami is floating on a dangerous sea with other refugees trying to find a better life. The risks of their journey are so many; their survival will be a miracle. Rami has only brought one item with him on the raft - a precious violin that carries not only its own story inside it, but all stories. Rami chooses one particular story - that of hope - to play for his fellow refugees on their perilous journey, and brings them through a treacherous night to the hopefulness of dawn.

Merci Suarez Changes Gears
by Meg Medina (Grades 4-7)
On her twelfth birthday, Kiranmala discovers that the stories her parents have told her might be more truth than fiction. Her parents disappear, a rakkhosh destroys their New Jersey home, and two princes show up offering guidance into a dimension beyond where Kiran is in fact a real Indian princess. Kiran’s adventure into this new dimension forces her to stretch both her intellect and physical strength as she attempts to save the ones she loves and come to terms with her true self. This new series is an exhilarating adventure into a brilliant world full of lore from Indian folktales.

Serpent’s Secret
by Sayantani DasGupta (Grades 3-7)
This 2019 Newbery Medal winner is a great coming-of-age story that tackles social and family dynamics. Merci encounters challenges as she enters the sixth grade at a private school where other students are part of wealthy families while she and her brother are scholarship students. When one of the Wealthier girls has a crush on a boy who befriends Merci, she must navigate difficult social situations. Meanwhile at home, her beloved grandfather is acting strangely and the adults her life won’t explain what’s going on around her. Meg Medina pinpoints what it’s like to be a middle schooler.
**CHAPTER BOOKS & MIDDLE GRADE NOVELS**

**Lu**  
by Jason Reynolds (Grades 5-6)  
You don’t have to have read any of the other books in Reynolds’ “Track” series to become immersed in this story of friendship, family, and the true meanings of both. Lu was born albino, but that only figures partially into his experience as a successful track star and co-captain of the Defenders. Reynolds portrays the unique fruit arrangements he creates as he helps his mother in her business. We learn about deep secrets concerning his father who is his mentor and friend. “Coach” figures largely in Lu’s life and helps him to overcome hurdles literally and figuratively while building a bond that will be tested. Lu is written with absolute realism and a tremendous amount of heart.

**Pay Attention, Carter Jones**  
by Gary D. Schmidt (Grades 5-7)  
It’s just another hectic, rainy weekday morning when Carter Jones answers the door to find Mr. Bowles-Fitzpatrick standing on the front step, a Mary Poppins in a suit and tie. The British butler is there to attend to the Jones family while Carter’s father is deployed. Carter doesn’t like the strict rules Mr. Bowles-Fitzpatrick sets at home, nor can he understand the rules of cricket, which the butler forces upon Carter and his friends. But soon, Carter begins to understand the confusing game as he also learns to deal with the sticky wickets life puts in his way. A delightful story about learning to lean on others. **IRW is excited to bring Gary D. Schmidt to Mount Desert Island on October 24 for a community program around this book. Stay tuned for details!**

**We Are Displaced by Malala Yousafzai**  
(Grades 6 and up)  
While Malala Yousafzai has become a household name, she has brought together an inspiring group of young women from around the globe to share their stories and educate anyone who picks up this book. The stories are heartbreakingly compelling and reflect the experiences of 68.5 million displaced persons around the globe. Their stories remind us all of the power we each have to make a difference. An absolutely wonderful resource for middle grades and the adults in their lives. **Contains strong content and for younger readers may best be read along with an adult.**

**Seafire by Natalie C. Parker**  
(Grades 7-9)  
Into the vast ocean of modern dystopian fiction sails this intricately imagined tale of an all-female ship’s crew devoted to two things – revenge against the warlord who killed their families, and protecting one another. In a future where ships use solar sails, and boys are enslaved with drugs and forced to serve in the warlord’s army, Capt. Caledonia Styx struggles to deal with her own guilty secret while keeping her crew safe. Parker has written a book that is simultaneously an old-fashioned adventure on the high seas, and a poignant examination of love and learning to trust. First in a trilogy.

**A Few Red Drops: The Chicago Race Riot of 1919**  
by Claire Hartfield (Grades 7-9)  
This engaging book depicts the dramatic incident that sparked these lesser-known riots during a time of social unrest. Narrating the chaos from the point of view of the five teenage boys involved certainly engages a young reader in the story. Hartfield then goes forward and provides factual information about the time period via narrative text, photographs, newspaper articles, maps and even newspaper cartoons. The reader is able to utilize these tools to understand how the race riots became such a huge part of Chicago’s history. This is an important look at an issue that marks its 100th anniversary this year.

**YOUNG ADULT**

**The Prince and the Dressmaker**  
by Jen Wang (Grades 7-12)  
After Frances creates an avant-garde ballgown at the behest of a rebellious princess, she is summoned by a mysterious royal to become their personal seamstress. It turns out that the royal is neither princess nor queen. It’s Prince Sebastian, the heir to the throne who secretly loves wearing gowns. The pair embark on a friendship as Frances creates clothes for Prince Sebastian by day and Lady Chrystalia by night. But their secret is at risk as the king plays matchmaker for his son. This wonderful graphic novel turns a fairy tale on its head as it explores the themes of self-discovery, identity, friendship and unconditional parental love.

**A Story About Cancer (With a Happy Ending)**  
by India Desjardins (Grades 8-10)  
On her way to a doctor’s appointment where she is convinced the doctors will tell her how much longer she has to live, a 15-year-old with leukemia recounts the last five years of her life living with the disease. Along the way she has experienced loss and love, fought with her parents and with herself. As the title infers, the ending of this is a happy one. The story was created for a young girl with cancer fed up that all books about kids with cancer have sad endings. Desjardins does a wonderful job of acknowledging the difficulties families encounter along this journey while also leaving the reader feeling immensely hopeful in this graphic novel.
Cold White Sun
by Sue Farrell Holler (Grades 8 and up)
Set against the civil strife in Ethiopia in the early 1990s, this beautifully written story of the journey of Tesfaye from Addis Ababa to Toronto is much more than just another coming-of-age tale. Based on true events, this story engages the reader immediately and draws one into the life of a relatively well-connected Ethiopian family who loses their station in life and has to smuggle their prized son out of the country. The description of what it means to be torn from one’s family, brought into a new country, and cope with a new language and society is especially poignant. It is brought into a new country, and cope with a new language and society is especially poignant. It is a powerful story of the immigrant experience for teens and adults alike.

Hey Kiddo
by Jarrett Krosoczka (Grades 8 and up)
This 2018 National Book Award finalist tackles heavy themes, but is ultimately uplifting. There is so much to absorb in this graphic memoir and some of the content is uncomfortable, yet brutally honest. It is the author’s story of his upbringing in a household where he was raised by loving grandparents due to an absent father and his mother’s struggle with addiction. She appears in and out of his life but never at the times when she was really needed. Jarrett learns to cope with his situation through art and eventually comes to realize the many blessings in his life.

The Weight of Our Sky
by Hanna Alkaf (Grades 9 and up)
Using the backdrop of the May 1969 riots in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Hana Alkaf crafts an intriguing story about the internal battle between Melati and an imaginary Djinn – or supernatural force – who gives voice to her obsessive-compulsive disorder. As she searches for her missing mother during the riots, Mel must deal with the overpowering djinn who tells her if she doesn’t perform certain rituals, such as counting everything in threes, bad things will befall her friends and family. This fast-paced book gives readers great insight into the culture wars of that period and weaves in the often-misunderstood effects of OCD.

On the Come Up
by Angie Thomas (Grades 9 and up)
Hip hop shapes the realities of Bri, a 16-year-old growing up in a rough neighborhood. She is determined to be the next big rap star so she can save her family from financial stress, support her recovering mom and her brother, Trey, on his path to graduate school. At the heart and soul of the story is the strong family bond between Bri, Trey, her mother and Auntie Pooh. It is a story of friendship, first loves and flirtations, and finding your own authentic voice and story. Thomas writes from the gut, realistically, poetically, and passionately about what is simple, but not necessarily easy, when faced with a world of challenges.

The Poet X
by Elizabeth Acevedo (Grades 9 and up)
Winner of the 2019 Printz Award, this novel is both a timely and insightful look into the life of Xiomara, a high school girl who loves to write poetry and hates how her life seems to be one long fight. She fights with her mother, she fights on behalf of her brother, and she fights her own self, sometimes the most difficult opponent of them all. Xiomara, a girl developing in body and sexuality, butts heads with her religious mom, and has to prove that she is not bound for a life of sinfulness and shame. In a complex world fraught with sexual politics and corruption, the Poet X speaks out, her words a way of keeping it all together. Contains mature scenes and language.

Goodbye, Perfect
by Sara Barnard (Grades 9 and up)
Eden has always been a bit of an outlier but she has a best friend Bonnie who personifies “perfect” in all things. They share everything. Except when Bonnie mysteriously disappears. What follows is a beautifully written and thoughtful novel about trust, betrayal, pushing the implicit demand of friendship to excruciating limits and a thoughtful, nuanced discussion of the unthinkable. Leave time to read the whole book at one sitting. You won’t be able to put it down.

Stronger, Faster and More Beautiful
by Arwen Elys Dayton (Grades 9 and up)
How far will we go to try to “perfect” human-kind? And what are the consequences? Dayton explores what might be possible if we continue on the path of exponential tinkering with the human body and mind. In six captivating stories, she explores this premise and challenges the reader to consider the moral and ethical conundrums that arise as a result of our search for perfection. That the stories are imaginatively told as well as just fun to read is an added bonus. This book is sure to challenge the reader’s conception of the possibilities and pitfalls for the human race of the future. A wonderful read.

SUMMER 2019 BOOKLIST
Volunteer Readers

| Jenna Beaulieu | Lisa Herrington |
| Ephron Catlin | Alison Johnson |
| Amanda Crafts | Beverly Lamoureux |
| David Evans | Taylor Mace |
| Ruth Feldman | Melinda Rice |
| Melissa Haas |  |
MORE GREAT READS!

Check out these titles by our author and illustrator partners used in our programs during the 2018-2019 school year.

PICTURE BOOKS

At One in a Place called Maine by Lynn Plourde; illus. by Leslie Mansmann
City Fish, Country Fish by Mary Cerullo; illus. by Jeffrey L. Rotman
Faraway Friends by Russ Cox
Hello Lighthouse by Sophie Blackall
I’m New Here by Anne Sibley O’Brien
Look Up! Bird-watching in Your Own Back-yard by Annette LeBlanc Cate
Hot Rod Hamster by Cynthia Lord; illus. by Derek Anderson
Sea Secrets by Mary Cerullo and Beth E. Simmons; illus. by Kirsten Carlson
Thanks to the Animals by Allen Sockabasin; illus. by Rebekah Raye
The Legend of Hong-Kil Dong by Anne Sibley O’Brien
The Secret Bay by Kimberly Ridley; illus. by Rebekah Raye
The Secret Pool by Kimberly Ridley; illus. by Rebekah Raye
The Teacher’s Pet by Anica Mrose Rissi; illus. by Zachariah O’Hara
The Very Best Bed by Rebekah Raye

CHAPTER BOOKS & MIDDLE GRADE NOVELS

Anna, Banana and the Friendship Split by Anica Mrose Rissi
Extreme Survivors: Animals that Time Forgot by Kimberly Ridley
In the Shadow of the Sun by Anne Sibley O’Brien
Lost Trail: Nine Days Alone in the Wilderness by Lynn Plourde;
   illus. by Ben Bishop
Navigating Early by Clare Vanderpool
Posted by John David Anderson
Shelter Pet Squad by Cynthia Lord
Touch Blue by Cynthia Lord

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