



# Bluestem Nominees 2013-2014



PowerPoint created by  
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Bluestem Steering Committee  
Original design by Michelle Johnson

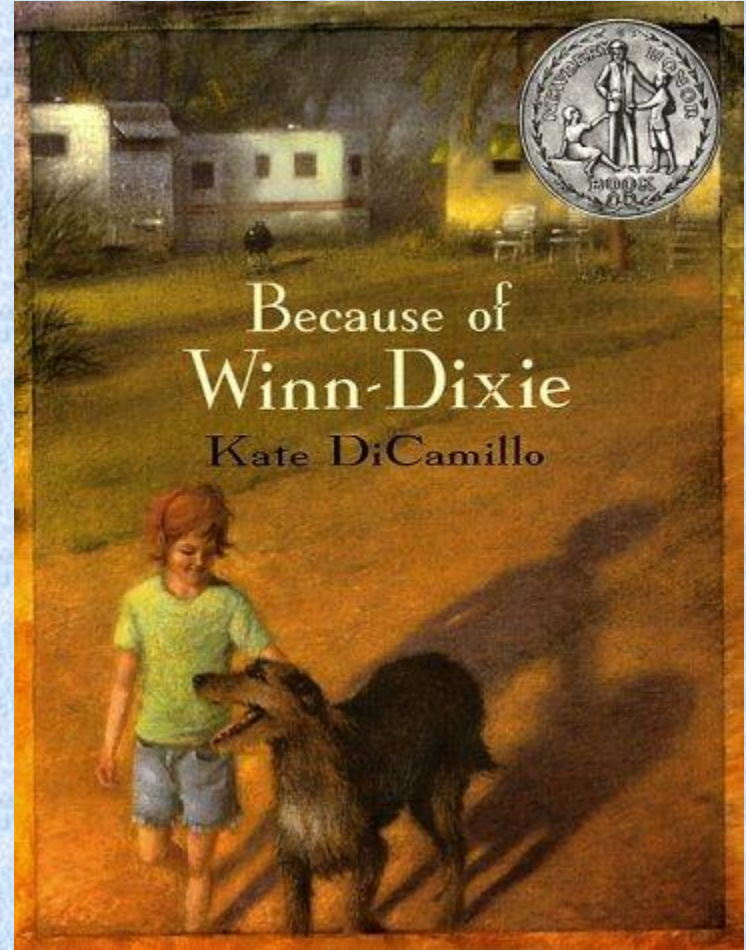
This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 3.0 Unported License. To view a copy of this license, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/> or send a letter to Creative Commons, 444 Castro Street, Suite 900, Mountain View, California, 94041, USA.

# Because of Winn-Dixie

by Kate DiCamillo

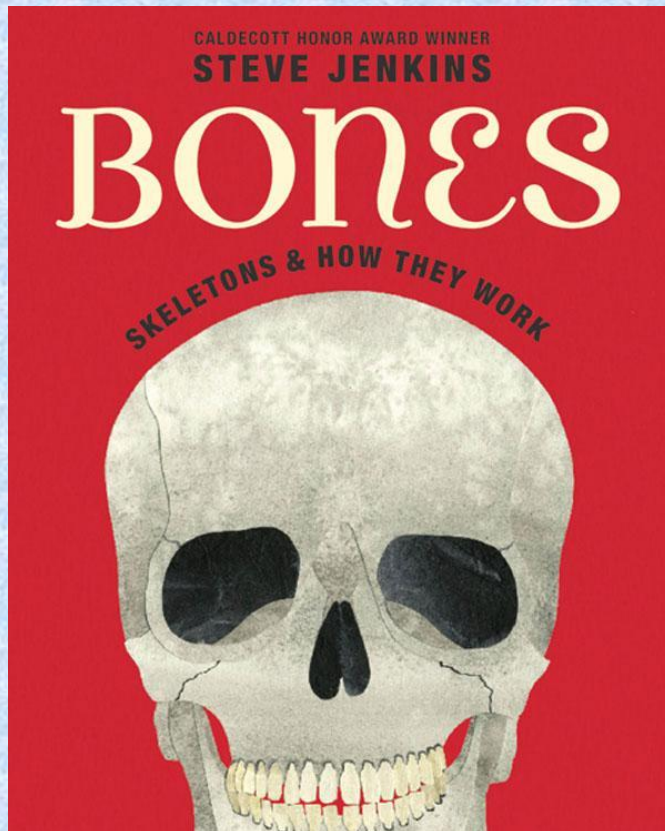
New to her Southern town, Opal goes to the store for a box of macaroni and cheese, but returns home with a scruffy stray dog! During one unforgettable summer, this lovable pooch helps Opal feel less sad about things. Together they make some unusual misfit friends who change her life forever. (182 pages)

Newbery Honor Book



# Bones: Skeletons and How They Work

by Steve Jenkins



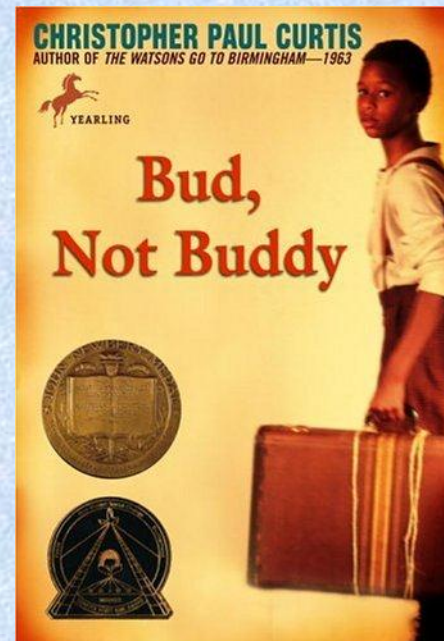
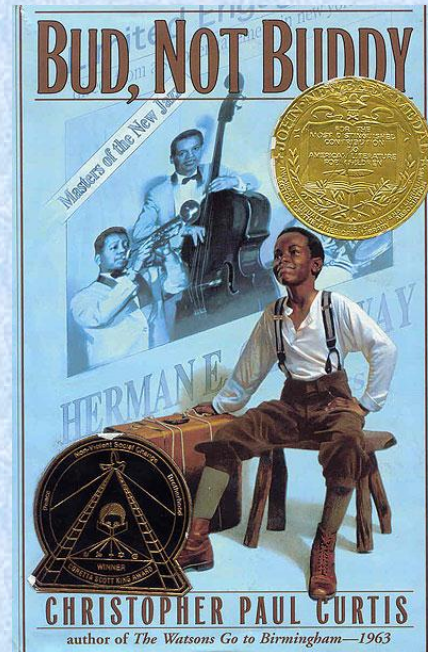
A quick read 😊

Bones come in all shapes and sizes, and can do many amazing things. Packed with illustrations (many of them actual size), this fascinating non-fiction picture book shows the skeletons of humans and all kinds of animals! (32 pages)

# Bud, Not Buddy

by Christopher Paul Curtis

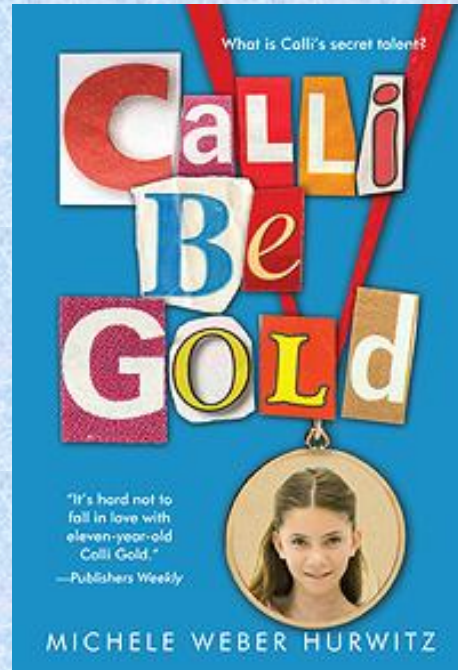
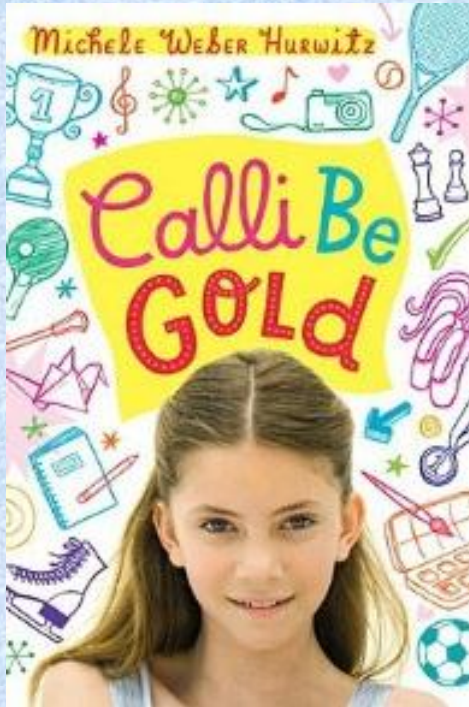
In 1936, Bud decides to flee from his foster home (after being attacked by bats) and find his long-lost father. He sees a poster for a jazz band. Is the mysterious man in the photograph his dad? Suitcase in hand, Bud hits the road to find out. (245 pages)



Won Newbery and Coretta Scott King awards!

# Calli Be Gold

by Michele Weber Hurwitz

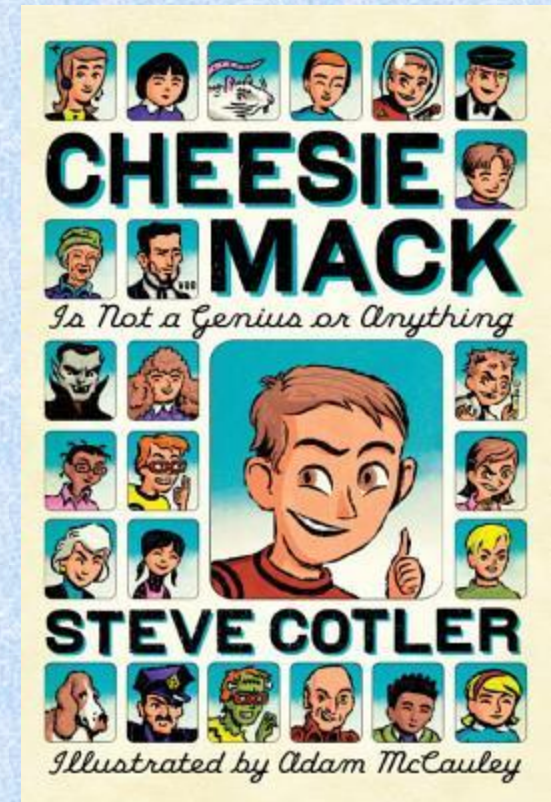


Calli Gold's family has a motto: Be Gold! It's hard to live up to the triumphs of her sports star siblings and the expectations of her on-the-go, ambitious parents. However, things change when she meets a second grader who needs a friend. Will Calli ever find her special talent? (198 pages)

Illinois Author!

# **Cheesie Mack Is Not a Genius or Anything** by Steve Cotler, illustrated by Adam McCauley

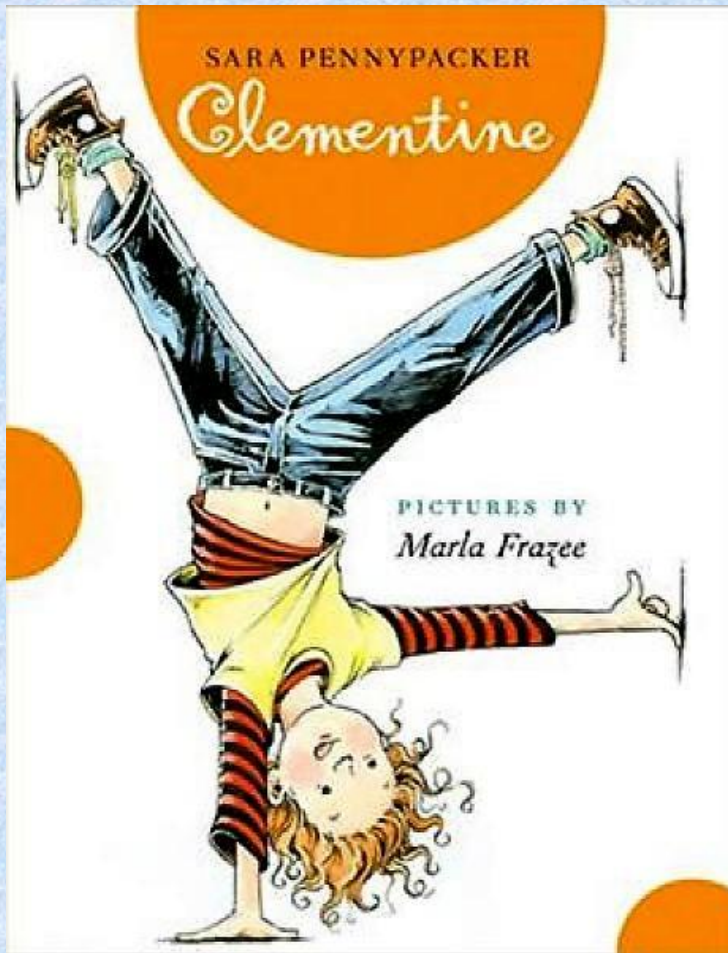
Cheesie Mack enjoys making up new words, writing science fiction stories, battling his older sister, and preparing to playfully disrupt his fifth grade graduation. Cheesie's life changes when his buddy Georgie discovers a valuable old coin. Cheesie now has a mystery to solve—but how will he do it? (229 pages)



Funny! 😊

# Clementine

by Sara Pennypacker, illustrated by Marla Frazee



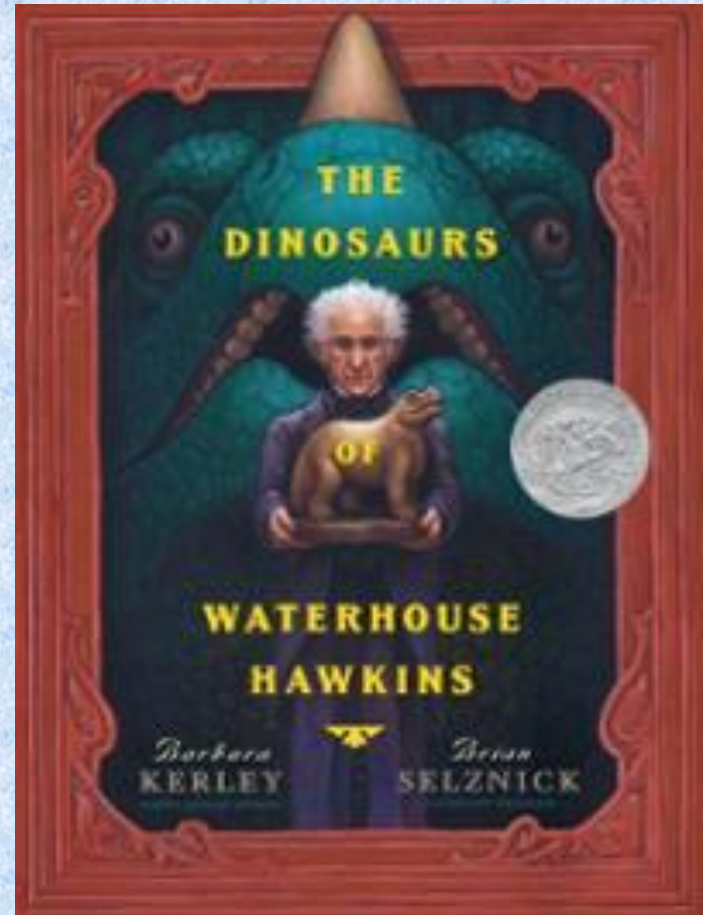
Pay attention, Clementine! That is what third grader Clementine always hears. In one eventful week, this funny heroine gets into all kinds of trouble. What can you do when you have ideas “sproinging up” in your brain all the time? (133 pages)

First in a series! 😊

# The Dinosaurs of Waterhouse Hawkins

by Barbara Kerley, illustrated by Brian Selznick

Once there was a time when people did not know what dinosaurs looked like. In 19<sup>th</sup> century London, artist and sculptor Waterhouse Hawkins builds giant dinosaur models to show how big and amazing they are! This non-fiction picture book shows how this interesting man made an important contribution by mixing art and science! (47 pages)

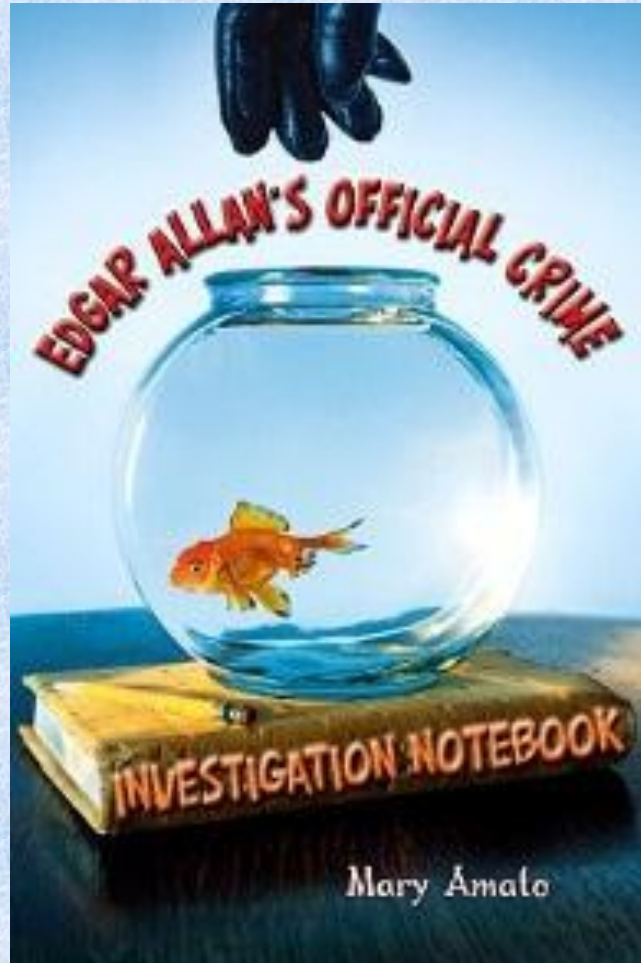


Non-fiction!



# Edgar Allan's Official Crime Investigation Notebook

by Mary Amato



Someone has stolen Slurpy, the class goldfish! And the crook has left a poem behind, creating an even bigger mystery. It's up to detective Edgar Allan to outwit his rivals and solve this case! But how? (140 pages)

# Emily's Fortune

by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

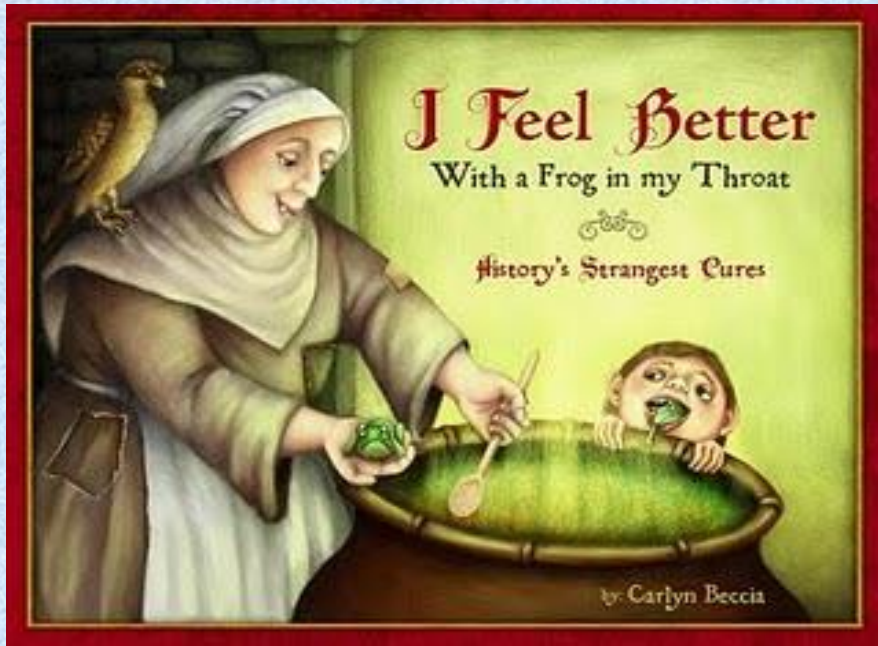
In the 19<sup>th</sup> century American west, orphan Emily tries to travel by stagecoach (with her pet turtle Rufus in tow) to live with her Aunt Hilda. Hot on Emily's trail is her evil Uncle Victor, who wants to stop her plan! Can Emily and her new pal Jackson outwit Uncle Victor? A hootin', tootin' adventure! (147 pages)



# I Feel Better with a Frog in My Throat: History's Strangest Cures

by Carlyn Beccia

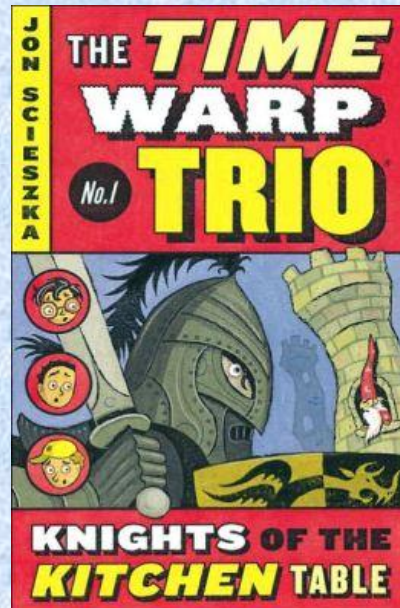
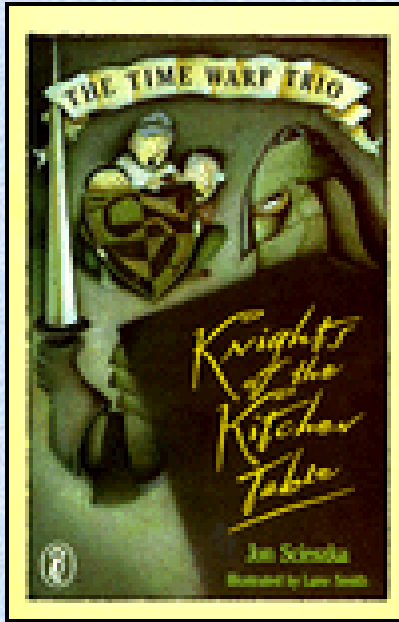
How do you cure a sore throat? Put a frog down your throat? Wear a necklace made out of earthworms? Tie a dirty sock around your neck? Believe it or not, people throughout history tried to make these odd cures work. This non-fiction picture book tells you whether strange remedies such as puppy kisses or electric eel shocks helped with colds, stomachaches, and other ailments. (48 pages)



Non-Fiction!

# Knights of the Kitchen Table

by Jon Scieszka, illustrated by Lane Smith



Joe, Sam and Fred are celebrating Joe's birthday when he gets a gift from his uncle, a magician. The gift is a book that magically takes the boys to Medieval England where they meet famous knights, battle a dragon and a giant. Full of laughs and adventure - check this out to see if the trio can make it home before dinner!

(64 pages)

First in the hysterical Time Warp Trio series!

# The Lemonade War

by Jacqueline Davies



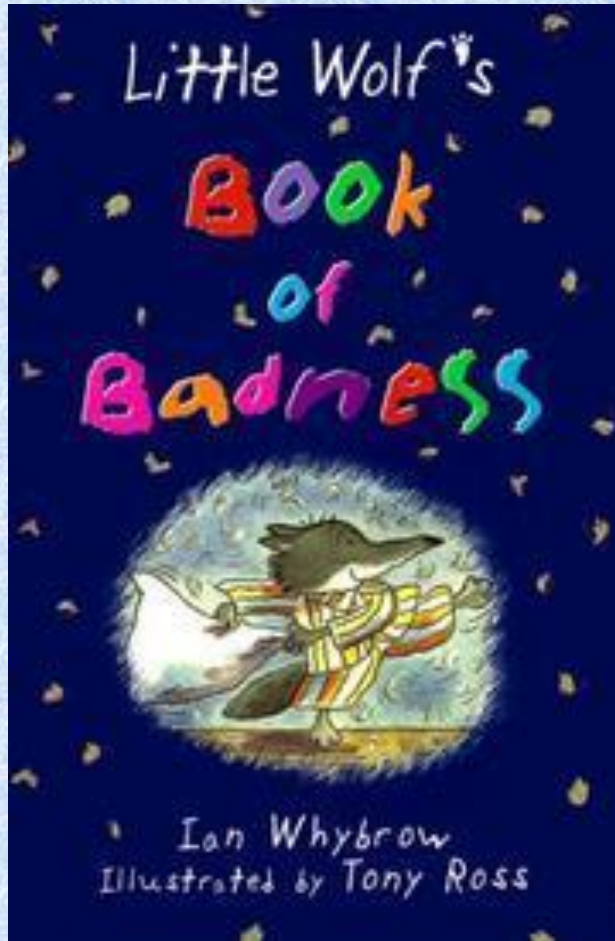
First in a Series

Evan and Jessie Treski are at war! A lemonade war to be exact. Whoever sells the most lemonade during the last week of the summer will win the respect of their sibling. Full of competitive ideas and lots of heart. Read *The Lemonade War* to find out who wins, and whether Evan and Jessie can be friends again.

(192 pages)

# Little Wolf's Book of Badness

by Ian Whybrow, illustrated by Tony Ross



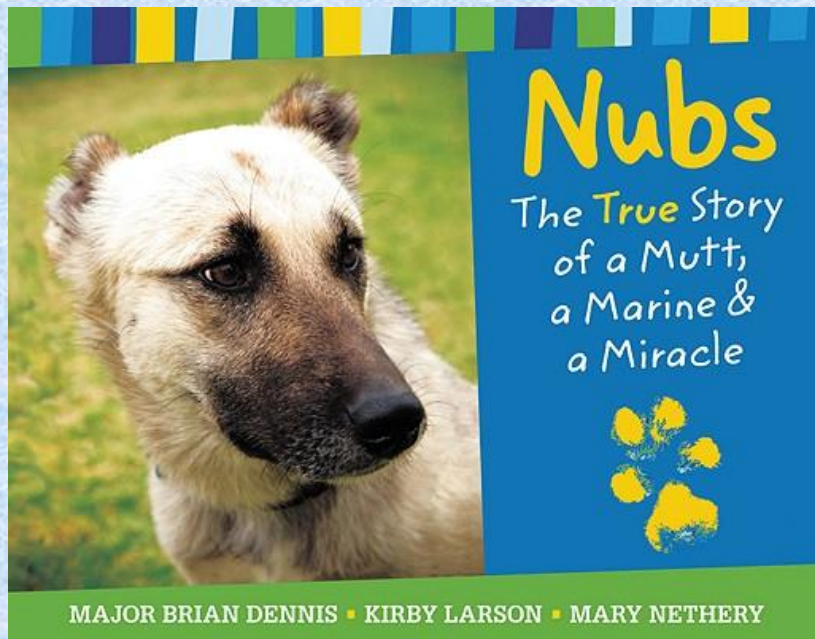
All Little Wolf wants to do is stay home with his parents and little brother and be polite. This is not acceptable to the fearsome wolves, and he's shipped off to Cunning College to learn the 9 Rules of Badness from his famous fairy tale uncle, Bigbad. Little Wolf writes hilarious letters home about his adventures and attempt to earn a golden BAD badge from his uncle.

(144 pages)

Very Funny!

# Nubs: The True Story of a Mutt, a Marine, and a Miracle

By Brian Dennis, Kirby Larson and Mary Nethery



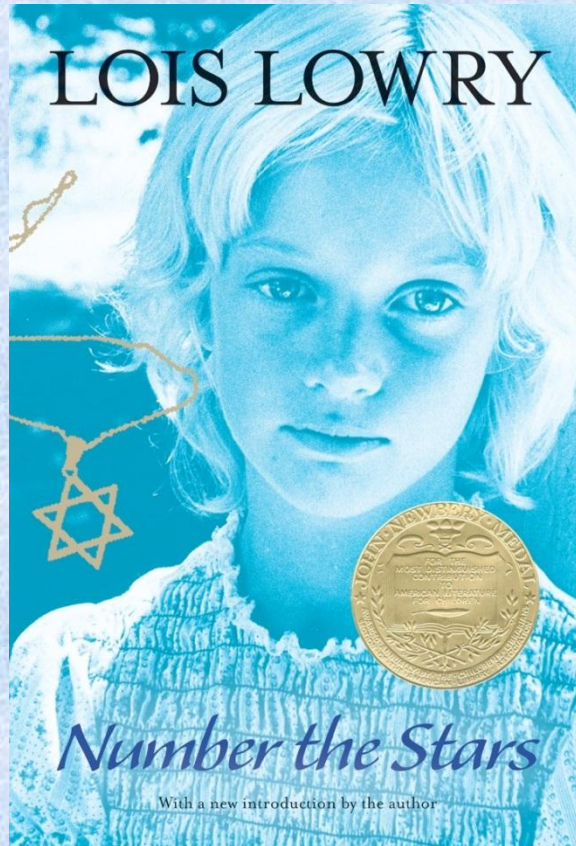
The true story of Nubs, a wild dog in Iraq, who befriends American marine Major Brian Dennis. Unable to take Nubs with him to his next base, Brian had to leave his friend behind. Follow Nubs as he sets off on a dangerous, desert journey to find his human friend. Will Brian and Nubs be reunited again? Read to find out!

(48 Pages)

Non-Fiction!

# Number the Stars

By Lois Lowry



Based on the true story of people in Denmark who helped 7,000 Jews escape the Nazis during World War II. Narrated by 10-year old Annemarie whose family helps hide her best friend Ellen and aids her family in escaping the country. A gripping story about a horrible time in history that shows there was some hope for the Jews to escape.

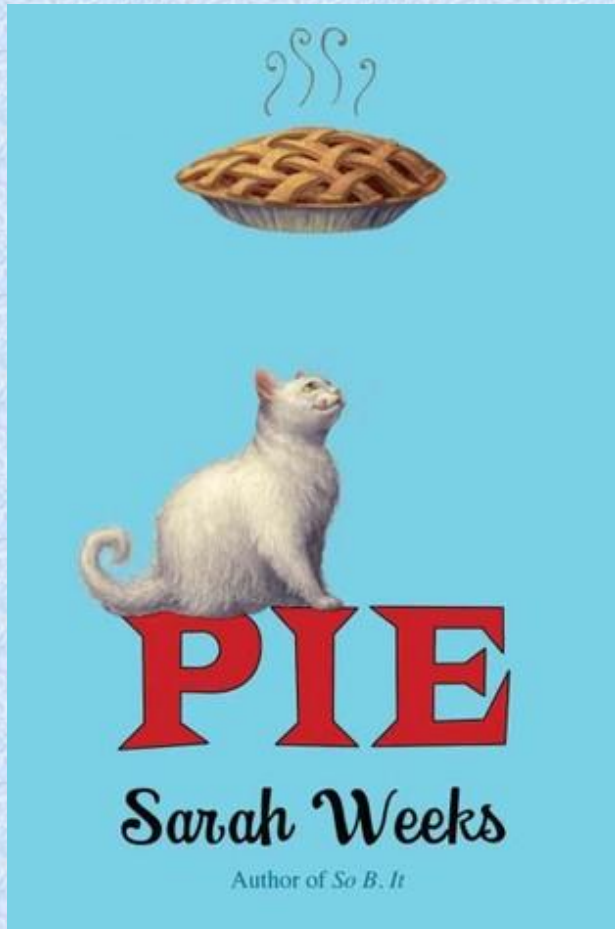
(156 pages)

Winner of the Newbery Medal



# Pie

by Sarah Weeks



Includes recipes!

Alice's Aunt Polly is called the Pie Queen of Ipswich, largely because her secret pie crust recipe is so outstanding. When her Aunt Polly passes away, Alice learns that the secret recipe has been left to Polly's huge, mean cat Lardo, and Lardo has been given to Alice. Suddenly Alice has the power to decide who the new Pie Queen might be as everyone in Ipswich goes crazy for pies. A fun read about baking, community and family. (192 pages)

# Seaglass Summer

by Anjali Banerjee

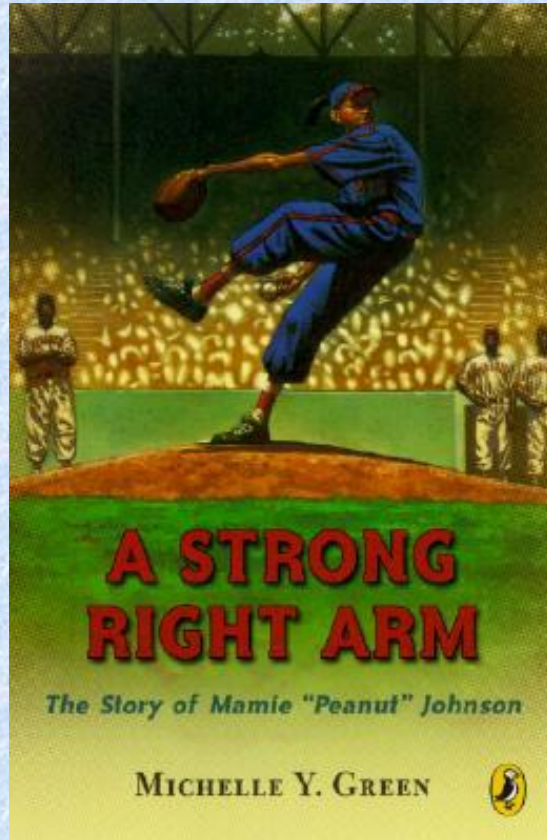


For Animal Lovers

Poppy Ray longs to be a veterinarian like her uncle Sanjay, but she has never owned a pet. She is able to gain experience with animals while spending a month helping her uncle at his animal clinic off the coast of Washington. While she loves meeting newborn puppies and taking care of dogs, cats and birds, Poppy also learns being a vet is hard, sometimes gross work. (176 pages)

# A Strong Right Arm: The Story of Mamie “Peanut” Johnson

by Michelle Y. Green

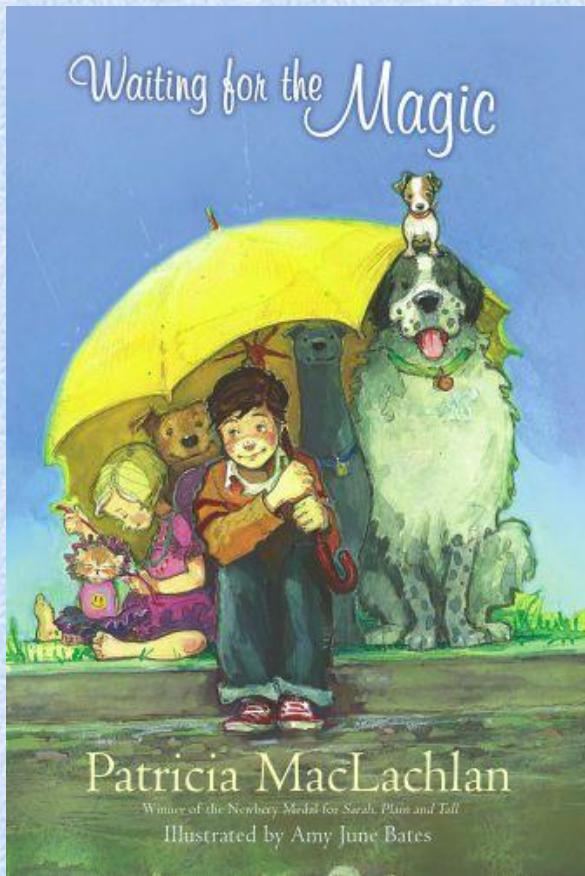


Sports Biography!

The true story of Mamie Johnson, who loved baseball so much she dared to try out for the all-male, all-white Police Athletic League and made the team. She dreamed of playing in the big leagues like her hero Jackie Robinson and finally did! She was one of 3 African-American women to play professional baseball, pitching for the Indianapolis Clowns! This book is full of exciting baseball stories and lots of heart. (128 pages)

# Waiting for the Magic

by Patricia MacLachlan, illustrated by Amy June Bates

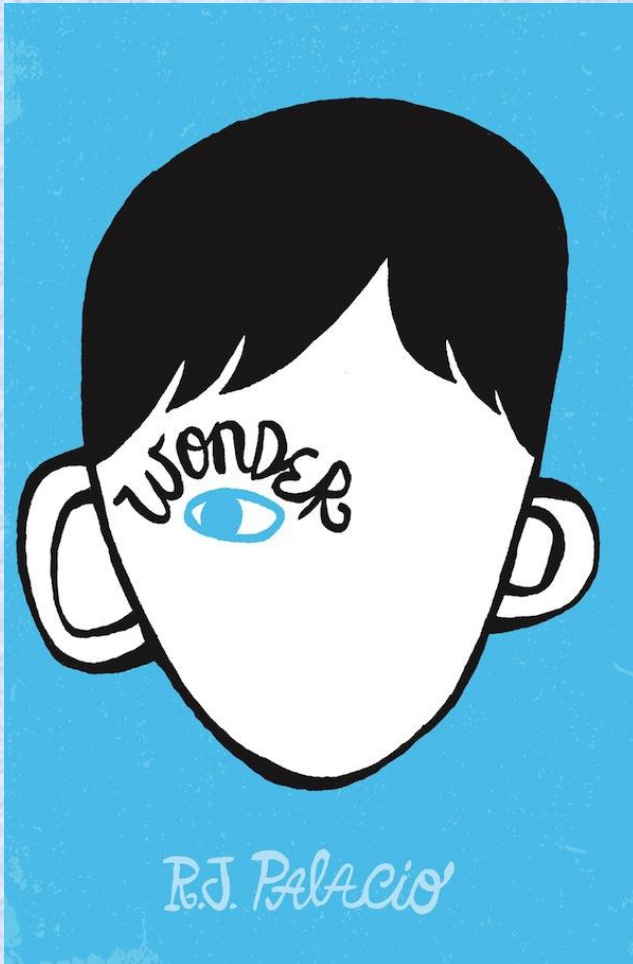


When William's father leaves, his mother quickly adopts four dogs and a cat to keep her children company. With the help of his little sister Elinor, his mother, and the five furry new additions William begins to learn a new definition for family while discovering the magic in his own backyard. (176 pages)

By the author of *Sarah, Plain and Tall!*

# Wonder

By R.J. Palacio



Choose Kind!

Auggie was born with a facial deformity that has kept him from going to mainstream school until now. As a fifth grader Auggie is going to a traditional school for the first time. Told through not only Auggie's voice, but those of his sister, friends and others, *Wonder* is the story of rising above differences to accept all people and choose kindness over mean behavior. (320 pages)



**Which book will you read first?  
Be sure to read at least four  
so you can vote!**