

Book Title	Author	Summary	JLG	Grade Level	AR Level	Teacher Approval	Teacher Comments	Board Approva
Howard the Average Gecko	Jory John	Howard thinks he's the most exceptional creature in the rainforest-that's because no other creature is as exceptionally camouflaged as him! But when he learns that the rainforest is full of other camouflaged creatures, he begins to wonder: 'Who will like me if I'm just . . . an average gecko?' Thankfully Howard meets Dolores (another average gecko) and he discovers that you don't have to be exceptional to be loved-and those that love you will never think you're average at all. https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/57591700-howard-the-average-gecko	Yes	Lower Grade (K-6)	2.8	Yes-Robinson	does use the word "nincompoop" "Over here, you nincompoop!" something said."	
The Reflection in Me	Marc Colagiovanni	This is a story of self-love that teaches children that their physical layer is just that -- one layer -- and below it lies a rich tapestry of attributes that make them unique and wonderful. Through Marc Colagiovanni's powerful text and Peter H. Reynolds's inspirational artwork, this picture book offers readers a wholly original exploration of self-love and self-acceptance. https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/124932736-the-reflection-in-me	No-Scholastic	Lower Grade (K-6)	2.0	Yes-Robinson	great book about appreciating yourself as you are	
I am We: A Book of Community	Susan Verde	Connected is what we part of a world-wide community, diverse and magnificent, kind and accepting, supportive and present. All of us important, none of us alone. Sometimes we may wonder, how does caring for ourselves help anyone else? But then we realize that the better we feel inside, the more we can be there for others—our friends, families, and communities. We are part of something bigger than ourselves, and when we each turn our goodness and compassion outward, we can create, learn, and love. https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/207003500-i-am-we	No-Scholastic	Lower Grade (K-6)	NA	Yes-Robinson		
That's Not Funny, David	David Shannon	David is determined to get laughs out of everyone -- even from those who might not find his antics amusing! From cannonballs into the pool to slurping his spaghetti to telling funny jokes during class, David is a natural comedian. But David learns that not all of his tricks are funny... like sticking things up his nose! Still, this troublemaker will always have the last laugh and, of course, the enduring love of his mom. https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/210563278-that-s-not-funny-david	No-Scholastic	Lower Grade (K-6)	NA	Yes-Robinson	does show a cartoon illustration of David in his underwear, as most "David" books do	
Bizzy Mizz Lizzie	David Shannon	Lizzie is the busiest, buzziest bee in Hivetown! She longs to impress the Queen by winning a spelling contest, but she studies to the point of exhaustion on top of trying to juggle all her other activities. When she dozes off in the middle of the competition, the only solution is rest -- and her refreshing visit to the local Garden finally teaches Lizzie to stop and smell the flowers, "which...is exactly what bees are supposed to do. https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/34381578-bizzy-mizz-lizzie	No-Scholastic	Lower Grade (K-6)	3.1	Yes-Robinson	I loved this book! It's super cute, and encourages kids to slow down. Also has a little plot twist!	

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I wish you more	Amy Krouse Rosenthal	From the incomparable team of author Amy Krouse Rosenthal and illustrator Tom Lichtenheld, this exuberant, inspirational book for kids holds more than a single wish or even three wishes—it is filled with endless good wishes. Wishes for curiosity and wonder, for friendship and strength, laughter and peace. Whether celebrating life's joyous milestones, sharing words of encouragement, or observing the wonder of everyday moments, this sweet book is for wishers of all ages! I Wish You More is the perfect graduation gift or baby shower book as well as an uplifting read sure to bring positivity to all who read it. https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/22484277-i-wish-you-more	No-Scholastic	Lower Grade (K-6)	NA	Yes- Mann	Lovely book where the narrator wishes wonderful things for the reader/listener of this picture book.	
Hurry, Little Tortoise, Time for School	Carrike Finison	It's the first day of school and Little Tortoise is ready with a backpack filled with new school supplies. Little Tortoise can't wait to get to school and tries very hard not to be the last student there. But soon Cheetah, Llama, and even a snail on a scooter, overtake her. And then when she gets stuck in the gutter of the book, she's sure she'll be the last pupil to arrive! But the timely arrival of Mr. Sloth, her new teacher, changes everything. Gentle reassuring language full of wordplay, and bold and bright art by an up and coming artist offer students a comforting story about this new experience. Here's a fresh way to encourage reluctant students to be on their way. https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/59316968-hurry-little-tortoise-time-for-school	Yes	Lower Grade (K-6)	NA	Yes- Mann	Charming book about a Tortoise who is excited about her first day of school. As she is on her way to school she is passed by her other classmates the cheetah, the llama, the snail (on a scooter), and others. She eventually makes it to school and realizes it's not a race, but what matters most is that she shows up. A great book that allows students to make connections to the classic Tortoise and the Hare. Very engaging illustrations throughout the book.	
On my Papa's Shoulders	Niki Daly	This little boy loves walking to school with his family, but the best days are when he walks with his dad, who lifts his son onto his shoulders and always says goodbye with a special "I love you". Whether it's jumping in puddles with Tata in the rain, greeting the neighborhood cat on the quiet back streets with Gogo, or holding hands with Mama while rushing to make the bell, walking to school with family is the best. But nothing is better than walking to school with Papa. From high above, resting on Papa's shoulders, all of the town is in perfect view, and Papa always says "I love you" when he says goodbye. A sweet ode to fatherhood and the special relationships children share with each member of their family, On My Papa's Shoulders reminds us that it's not about where we're going, but rather the people who walk with us along the way. https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/60059104-on-my-papa-s-shoulders	Yes	Lower Grade (K-6)	2.6	Yes- Mann	This book is about a boy who is taken to school by different family members, each having their own experiences on the way. He loves it best when his Papa takes him. An excellent book that children can relate to.	

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The Tide Pool Waits	Niki Daly	Twice a day when the tide goes out, an astonishing world is revealed in the tide pools that form along the Pacific Coast. Some of the creatures that live here look like stone. Others look like plants. Some move so slowly it's hard to tell if they're moving at all, while others are so fast you're not sure you really saw them. The biggest animals in the pool are smaller than your hand, while the smallest can't be seen at all without a microscope. During low tide, all these creatures – big, small, fast, slow – are exposed to air and the sun's drying heat. And so they have developed ways to survive the wait until the ocean's return. https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/58737301-the-tide-pool-waits	Yes	Lower Grade (K-6)	2.6	Yes -Mann	This is a great picture book to introduce young readers to tide pools. The illustrations are vibrant, and the author does an excellent job describing the tide pool habitat.	
How to make a Mountain in just 9 simple steps	Amy Huntingon	"Geology and earth science made easy (to learn) and super-quick (to read about). You, too, can make a mountain--start today! (Some restrictions apply.)"-- Provided by publisher. https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/52475427-how-to-make-a-mountain	Yes	Lower Grade (K-6)	NA	Yes- Mann	This book is beautifully illustrated and a great way to introduce the geological history and formations of Earth.	
Wingbearer	Marjorie Liu	"Zuli is extraordinary--she just doesn't realize it yet. Raised by mystical bird spirits in the branches of the Great Tree, she's never ventured beyond this safe haven. She's never had to. Until now. When a sinister force threatens the life-giving magic of the tree, Zuli, along with her guardian owl, Frowly, must get to the root of it"-- Provided by publisher. https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/58275713-wingbearer	Yes	Middle Grade (5-8)	3.1	Yes-Massingill	Graphic Novel, fantasy, kids love it	
Kneel	Candance Buford	When his best friend is unfairly arrested and kicked off the team, Russell Boudreaux kneels during the national anthem in an effort to fight for justice and, in an instant, falls from local stardom to become a target of hatred. https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/55743833-kneel	Yes	Upper Grade (7-12)	5.2	No- Massingill	I did not get very far, but the constant language of "white people" being the problem and how violent they are was discouraging. I felt it sends the wrong message to our youth. The plot is created to allude to hate towards police or those is authority and certain race groups versus a challenge he needs to overcome.	

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Hollow Fires	Samira Ahmed	"After discovering the body of fourteen-year-old Jawad Ali in Jackson Park, seventeen-year-old journalism student Safiya Mirza begins investigating his murder and ends up confronting white supremacy in her own high school"--OCLC. https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/58511505-hollow-fires	Yes	Upper Grade (7-12) Possible YA (11-12)	5.1	No-Massingill	There are issues of racism, where "whites" cause it all, media bias. I could see where some might apply it to real life and I may need a second opinion. From what I read, it encourages victim behavior and incites anger and protest against the nation as a whole	
Remember Me Gone	Stacy Stokes	Sixteen-year-old Lucy Miller's family has been erasing people's heartaches and tragic memories for decades, but after an encounter with Marco Warman--a local boy Lucy has always wondered about and who seems to know more than he should--Lucy begins to question her family's legacy and her role in it. https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/58446229-remember-me-gone	Yes	Upper Grade (7-12)	5.0	Massingill	Still reading, just from summary there is manipulation of the mind to lose memories, still reading to get a better assessment of the book	
Leave it to Plum!	Matt Phelan	Every day at the Athensville Zoo the peacocks are allowed to wander freely among the visitors, delighting and guiding kids and grownups alike, and kind, curious Plum is the peacock most proud of their responsibility. https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/58986616-leave-it-to-plum	Yes	Lower Grade (K-6)	3.6	Yes-Massingill		