

Library Book Procurement List for LV Primary- November 2025

List procured by: K. Saulter, Campus Library Media Specialist

Book list reviewed for compliance with SB13 and HB 900 as outlined in [LVISD Library Collection Development Plan](#)

Books approved from this list may be purchased in any format (hardback, paperback, audio...etc) without the need for additional approval.

Campus	ISBN	Title	Author/Artist	Review
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9152-4	A-meow-zing Race	Pamela Bobowicz	
La Vernia Primary	9781419753992	Aaron Slater and the sneaky snake	Beaty, Andrea	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-593-46365-9	Ablaze: The Story of America's First Female Smokejumper	Jessica Lawson	Growing up in a family attuned to nature, Deanna Shulman later found her calling in the grueling and often dangerous work of U.S. Forest Service wildland crews, reducing wildfire risks and maintaining forest health: "Hard physical work. Camaraderie with crewmates. Being outdoors. All things that fueled her heart's fire." But when Shulman aspired to become a smokejumper and trained diligently for the role, she was dismissed for "looking too small." Undaunted, she filed a complaint under the Equal Employment Opportunity Act, never stopped training, and triumphed. Lawson, making her picture book debut, leans into fire metaphors to describe the protagonist's state of mind across concise, often poetic text that captures Shulman's passion and steely determination. Warm-toned artwork by Gonzales (You'll Always Be My Chickadee) makes the most of the book's horizontal format, evoking the radiant hues and strong graphic lines of WPA murals while depicting Shulman in heroic action poses against sweeping landscapes. In this resonant story, conserving nature, protecting communities, and demanding equal opportunity unite. Background characters are portrayed with various skin tones. Ages 4: 7. Author's agent: Tina Dubois, CAA. Illustrator's agent: Alexandra Levick, Writers House. (July)
La Vernia Primary	9781419743535	Ada Twist and the disappearing dogs	Beaty, Andrea	School Library Journal (June 1, 2022) Gr 1-4-There is trouble in Blue River Creek-pets are disappearing and Ada Twist and the Questioners are on the case. In this series entry, Ada and her friends are once again using their STEM skills to solve a problem. Sofia's dog and Iggy's cat are among the missing pets; the personal loss makes it difficult to approach the situation in a logical manner. Ada reminds them, "It's not scientific to jump to conclusions. We need more facts." The kids decide to follow the scientific method to investigate the situation. Illustrations show the concerned faces of Sofia and Iggy, Ada and Rosie building a trap for the thief, and the humorous posters Aaron creates to warn neighbors to guard their pets. The text offers humorous theories about alien pet thieves, a recipe for the "stinkaroo" that the trap will spray, and even details of Aunt Bernice digging up dinosaur bones with a spoon as a child. The friends learn that "spreading stories without facts can always harm someone." Additional materials include suggestions on how to "follow the facts," how to be a good listener, and even details about the allosaurus. VERDICT An enjoyable addition to the series with a captivating mystery, perfect for early chapter book readers.-Suzanne Costner © Copyright 2022. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9781419734229	Ada Twist and the perilous pants	Beaty, Andrea	School Library Journal (April 1, 2019) Gr 2-3-Ada Twist is learning all about air, but can her newfound knowledge save a family friend in peril? After debuting in a picture book series by Beaty, Ada returns in the second book of this early chapter book series focusing on kids and STEM. Ada is fascinated by all things science, and spends her time actively seeking answers to her numerous questions about the world. When a family friend goes airborne in a pair of inflatable pants and can't land himself, Ada joins forces with friends Rosie Revere and Iggy Peck to devise a scientific plan to bring Uncle Ned home. Beaty's compelling text keeps readers moving like a swift wind through the plot's twists and turns, creating an adventurous mystery out of Uncle Ned's plight and the science capable of saving him. Brief chapters support emerging readers transitioning to chapter books without sacrificing opportunities for learning; however, young readers might be stymied by a brief foray into Ada's "research" texts, still written for children but from a more technical perspective. Roberts's illustrations, which will be familiar to fans of the picture book series, complement the book's readability with humorous, detailed artwork. Additional information about "The Great Backyard Bird Count" and a poem about gas are included at the end of the book. VERDICT A compelling early reader that packs plenty of information into a high-flying adventure.-Casey O'Leary, Mooresville Public Library, IN © Copyright 2019. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-62354-444-7	Adela's Mariachi Band	Denise Vega	Adela loves everything about her family's mariachi band ("how the music skips and bounces.... how her family dances and claps"); except "the fact that she isn't in it." But her early attempts at playing various instruments and joining the dancers quickly reveal that becoming proficient will take a long time ("When Papa plays la trompeta, big, beautiful sounds burst out.... When Adela tries it, a small, fizzy sound dribbles out," Vega writes). Frustrated with her attempts, Adela makes a drawing of beloved mariachi elements that presages her own participation. Rodriguez Medina's warm-toned digital illustrations offer texture and depth to a story that conveys one child's early attempts at being part of something she loves. Characters are portrayed with various skin tones. An author's note and sources conclude. Ages 4: 7. (Aug.)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8851-7	Adventure On the Horizon (Pokemon)	Maria S. Barbo	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-593-42939-6	Ahoy!	Sophie Blackall	Preschool-Grade 2 "Starred Review" In the living room, a young sea captain warns his vacuuming sailor (a parent) that the rug is, in fact, the rising ocean, and they must climb aboard the ship! As they hoist the burgee and raise the mainsail, a complex chair-fort transforms into a staunch seafaring vessel and the rug becomes a teeming ocean. Although they briefly hit the doldrums when the parent takes a phone call, soon the vacuum cord becomes the tentacles of a giant squid and the sailors are stranded on a rapidly melting iceberg surrounded by swarming sharks, rescued in the nick of time by a lighthouse (artist wink) arriving in the form of a second parent who joins the play. This delightful tale highlights and celebrates the powerful bonding that happens when caregivers engage in imaginative play with children. It's a spectacular tale of adventure on the high seas, complete with a glossary of maritime terminology for the deckhands and first mates who may not yet be fluent. Blackall uses hand-lettered text and Procreate artwork with a mix of gouache, pencil, and watercolor to create spectacular ocean vistas and beautifully lit living rooms alike. With her trademark skill, these pages are richly textured and infinitely layered, from the wood of the mast to the ripple of the waves. Tiny sea captains everywhere will cherish this lovely tale. COPYRIGHT(2024) Booklist, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-9785-3956-3	Air Force One	Eleanor Bradshaw	Gr 1-3--Young military enthusiasts will delight in these introductions to well-known machines employed by the armed forces. Readers learn the history of each machine: tanks were first used in World War I to cross trenches, the first amphibious vehicle was built in 1807, and helicopters were intended to rescue people. Each volume contains interesting facts such as the great height of Air Force One, that aircraft carriers have their own hospitals, and that the F-35 fighter plane can take off straight in the air. Colorful photographs enhance the text and will be appreciated by the readers as much as the narratives. The only drawback is there is not a lot of new information presented and collections may already have sufficient books on the topic. VERDICT These nice works should be considered where collections need refreshing. Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-9785-3953-2	Aircraft Carriers	Eleanor Bradshaw	Gr 1-3--Young military enthusiasts will delight in these introductions to well-known machines employed by the armed forces. Readers learn the history of each machine: tanks were first used in World War I to cross trenches, the first amphibious vehicle was built in 1807, and helicopters were intended to rescue people. Each volume contains interesting facts such as the great height of Air Force One, that aircraft carriers have their own hospitals, and that the F-35 fighter plane can take off straight in the air. Colorful photographs enhance the text and will be appreciated by the readers as much as the narratives. The only drawback is there is not a lot of new information presented and collections may already have sufficient books on the topic. VERDICT These nice works should be considered where collections need refreshing. Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	979-8-89304-480-5	Aircraft Carriers	Kaitlyn Duling	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-88989-209-0	Aircraft Carriers	Grace Beltowski	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-959223-78-8	Akua Goes to the Post Office	Artika R. Tyner	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5463-6	Aladdin: Beyond the Palace Walls	John August, Alexandra Lazar	

La Vernia Primary	978-1-5383-9605-6	Alice in Wonderland	Federica Tanania	PreS-Gr 4—This series offers eight classic children's books, cleverly summarized and packaged for even the youngest readers. Each story includes basic descriptions and dialogue, condensing classics like Alice in Wonderland and Treasure Island to a brisk three to five sentences per page. Despite their brevity, the books are faithful summaries. All the story beats are true to the actual text, and not twisted to fit popular film plots. In The Wizard of Oz, Dorothy's slippers are the original silver and not ruby. Mowgli's end in The Jungle Book is not Disney's version, but Kipling's. Occasionally some cartoon speech bubbles will pepper their way into the illustrations, but only to enhance, not to convey vital information. Each book has a different illustrator, but they all include colorful images, with rounded, cartoonish figures shown in action. Some volumes include especially beautiful illustrations, like the lush garden scenes in The Secret Garden, or Black Beauty's majestic horses depicted with watercolor-like realism. VERDICT An easy way to introduce children's classics to young readers. Copyright 2024 Reed Business Information.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5443-8	Alice's Wonderland Bakery: Meet Alice	Catherine Hapka	
La Vernia Primary	9780329997618	All about Ellie	Barkley, Callie	School Library Journal (April 1, 2013) Gr 1-3-These beginning chapter books chronicle the adventures of bookish Amy, theatrical Ellie, artistic Liz, and horse-loving Marion. While the eight-year-olds have varied interests and come from diverse families, they're as close as sisters, and they all look forward to their weekly slumber parties. In Ellie, the title character is cast as the lead in the school play, and her friends don't appreciate her self-centered attitude-especially when she neglects her duties at the animal shelter. In the end, a heartfelt apology and a heroic effort toward the shelter's residents win back her friends. In Puppy, Amy helps her veterinarian mother locate a lost pet belonging to a crabby elderly woman who ends up being friendlier than anyone suspected. The woman donates a building to establish an animal shelter, which Amy and her friends help run. Simple, upbeat plots, plenty of black-and-white illustrations, and relatable themes make these great picks for newly independent readers.-Amanda Struckmeyer, Middleton Public Library, Madison, WI (c) Copyright 2013. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-0-316-51274-9	All the Books	Hayley Rocco	PreS-Gr 3--The cover illustration from this husband-and-wife team glows with the warm green light of banker lamps, illuminating the rodents who appear engrossed in moving and consuming treasured piles of classic-looking tomes. Opening end papers charmingly depict scenes of tension between dyads of animals that may or may not be siblings. Indeed, the problem of the protagonist, proud book-owner and anthropomorphized chipmunk Piper Waterstone, is that she does not yet understand the concept of sharing books and has never visited a library. Illustrations--pencil, watercolor, and digital elements--suggest warm, fuzzy problem-solving is up ahead. But despite their tackling relatable themes, the creative team behind this book has not conveyed the meaning or mechanics of sharing beyond the narrowest contexts. The book uses the notion of magic to explain how sharing works, without clarifying the broader societal benefits of sharing resources, including books. In an earnest effort to introduce youngest readers to the joys and importance of public libraries, and reinforce the inclusive mission and potential of public circulating collections, the book upholds the importance of individual ownership, neglecting the true strengths of sharing. VERDICTA charming introduction to libraries but a missed opportunity for deeper explorations.--Jessica Fenster-Sparber Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	9781725446960	All the fun winter things	Perl, Erica S	
La Vernia Primary	9781668883808	All you need is mud	Higgins, Cam	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-8729-0	Alligator or Crocodile?	Julie Murray	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-4760-8	Alligators: Wetland Engineers	Heather E. Schwartz	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-4994-5509-0	Alva and Santa	Maren Tjelta Thu	
La Vernia Primary	9781489860712	Amelia Bedelia cleans up	Parish, Herman	Horn Book Guide (Spring 2016) Despite her penchant for being too literal, Amelia makes friends wherever she goes: whether taking dance classes, exploring the neighborhood, or going on vacation. Fans of the easy readers who are ready for more challenging fare will enjoy these sixth, seventh, and eighth installments. The plots are flimsy but diverting; lively black-and-white drawings capture the series' lighthearted tone. [Review covers these Amelia Bedelia Chapter Books titles: Amelia Bedelia Cleans Up, Amelia Bedelia Dances Off, and Amelia Bedelia Sets Sail.]
La Vernia Primary	9781489898241	Amelia Bedelia dances off	Parish, Herman	Horn Book Guide (Spring 2016) Despite her penchant for being too literal, Amelia makes friends wherever she goes: whether taking dance classes, exploring the neighborhood, or going on vacation. Fans of the easy readers who are ready for more challenging fare will enjoy these sixth, seventh, and eighth installments. The plots are flimsy but diverting; lively black-and-white drawings capture the series' lighthearted tone. [Review covers these Amelia Bedelia Chapter Books titles: Amelia Bedelia Cleans Up, Amelia Bedelia Dances Off, and Amelia Bedelia Sets Sail.]
La Vernia Primary	9781537953939	Amelia Bedelia digs in	Parish, Herman	
La Vernia Primary	9781489806284	Amelia Bedelia goes wild!	Parish, Herman	School Library Journal (June 1, 2014) Gr 1-3-Amelia and her friends build a zoo in her backyard (with stuffed animals) in this fourth book in the series chock-full of zany black-and-white illustrations. (c) Copyright 2014. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9781537912233	Amelia Bedelia makes a splash	Parish, Herman	Horn Book Guide (Spring 2018) Amelia Bedelia is bummed to be spending the summer at camp instead of lazing at home. But she befriends her cabin-mates, learns how to build a fire, stargazes, and surprises herself by having fun. Her literal (mis)interpretations of words often feel forced, though graduates of the easy readers should find this latest chapter-book entry appealing. Lively black-and-white illustrations break up the accessible text.
La Vernia Primary	9781537912127	Amelia Bedelia on the job	Parish, Herman	School Library Journal Xpress (June 1, 2016) Gr 1-3-Amelia Bedelia's class is learning about occupations and when her dad talks about pitching to a client and working on slides, Amelia figures out what he does for a living: he's a baseball coach! But when her class goes on a field trip to the corporate park, Amelia discovers the truth about her father's job and she just might come up with her best idea yet. This series brings classic Amelia Bedelia humor to the chapter book set with plenty of small black-and-white spot illustrations on every page to break up the text. Kids graduating from the original "Amelia Bedelia" books or looking for a story with plenty of good-natured humor will enjoy this series. © Copyright 2016. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9780062095022	Amelia Bedelia road trip!	Parish, Herman	Booklist (October 15, 2013 (Online)) Grades 2-4. Amelia Bedelia's family goes "off to roam" in book 3 about her life as a young, modern girl. Although she's disappointed it's not "off to Rome," Amelia Bedelia soon adapts. She keeps a journal, learns to read a map (kind of), accidentally joins a small-town parade, and enters the Miss Bigmouth fishing contest. Like the earlier books in the series, Amelia Bedelia is likable and funny, though somewhat less outlandish than in previous books by Peggy Parish. Small illustrations break up every spread, making it a good choice for readers transitioning into chapter books. Hand this to fans of Junie B. Jones and Ruby Lu.
La Vernia Primary	9781489889706	Amelia Bedelia sets sail	Parish, Herman	Horn Book Guide (Spring 2016) Despite her penchant for being too literal, Amelia makes friends wherever she goes: whether taking dance classes, exploring the neighborhood, or going on vacation. Fans of the easy readers who are ready for more challenging fare will enjoy these sixth, seventh, and eighth installments. The plots are flimsy but diverting; lively black-and-white drawings capture the series' lighthearted tone. [Review covers these Amelia Bedelia Chapter Books titles: Amelia Bedelia Cleans Up, Amelia Bedelia Dances Off, and Amelia Bedelia Sets Sail.]
La Vernia Primary	9781489830067	Amelia Bedelia shapes up	Parish, Herman	Horn Book Guide (Spring 2015) Amelia turns her attention to sports as she prepares for the school Greek Games in this fifth chapter book about the young Amelia Bedelia. Parish uses every opportunity to play with language, so plot and character development are slight, but the silly wordplay and Amelia's literal interpretations will be familiar to fans of the picture books and easy readers. Lively black-and-white illustrations break up the text. An inexpensive paper-over-board edition is also available.
La Vernia Primary	9780329964191	Amelia Bedelia unleashed	Parish, Herman	School Library Journal (April 1, 2013) Gr 2-4-Beginning chapter-book readers can meet the young Amelia Bedelia and enjoy her literal take on the world around her. In Business, the homophonic-challenged girl is looking for ways to earn money for a new bike. She encounters all sorts of mayhem as she helps out at the local diner, sells stolen flowers, has a run-in with the local police, and tries her luck selling drinks at her lemonade sit. (After all why should customers have to stand?) Wordplay abounds as Amelia "steps on it," splattering pie on a customer at a diner and taking each word to heart. Her parents are helpful in explaining meanings to her, but readers will laugh out loud as she navigates her way through a variety of business opportunities. In Unleashed, Amelia Bedelia searches for the perfect puppy. Her parents encourage her to learn about different breeds by helping her neighbor with her dog-walking business. While out walking several of the dogs, Amelia meets her friend Charlie and his pedigreed poodle. He invites her to help get Pierre "show ready" with a bath and coat trim. Things go badly awry, and the two friends have two hours to find the dog and figure out a way to fix his coat in time for the show. In both books, the illustrations bring the characters and plot to the forefront, and well-designed drawings provide reluctant readers with dynamic and whimsical visual cues. Rendered in gouache and black pencil, the artwork splashes across the pages. Sure to be favorites on the early chapter-book shelves.-Melissa Smith, Royal Oak Public Library, MI (c) Copyright 2013. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

La Vernia Primary	978-1-9785-3959-4	Amphibious Vehicles	Eleanor Bradshaw	Gr 1-3--Young military enthusiasts will delight in these introductions to well-known machines employed by the armed forces. Readers learn the history of each machine: tanks were first used in World War I to cross trenches, the first amphibious vehicle was built in 1807, and helicopters were intended to rescue people. Each volume contains interesting facts such as the great height of Air Force One, that aircraft carriers have their own hospitals, and that the F-35 fighter plane can take off straight in the air. Colorful photographs enhance the text and will be appreciated by the readers as much as the narratives. The only drawback is there is not a lot of new information presented and collections may already have sufficient books on the topic. VERDICT These nice works should be considered where collections need refreshing. Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	9781668883822	Amy and the emerald snake		
La Vernia Primary	9780329997601	Amy and the missing puppy	Barkley, Callie	School Library Journal (April 1, 2013) Gr 1-3-These beginning chapter books chronicle the adventures of bookish Amy, theatrical Ellie, artistic Liz, and horse-loving Marion. While the eight-year-olds have varied interests and come from diverse families, they're as close as sisters, and they all look forward to their weekly slumber parties. In Ellie, the title character is cast as the lead in the school play, and her friends don't appreciate her self-centered attitude-especially when she neglects her duties at the animal shelter. In the end, a heartfelt apology and a heroic effort toward the shelter's residents win back her friends. In Puppy, Amy helps her veterinarian mother locate a lost pet belonging to a crabby elderly woman who ends up being friendlier than anyone suspected. The woman donates a building to establish an animal shelter, which Amy and her friends help run. Simple, upbeat plots, plenty of black-and-white illustrations, and relatable themes make these great picks for newly independent readers.-Amanda Struckmeyer, Middleton Public Library, Madison, WI (c) Copyright 2013. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9781518140952	Amy is a little bit chicken	Barkley, Callie	Horn Book Guide (Fall 2016) When Marion announces she signed the Critter Club up for the Quiz Bowl, timid Amy is nervous. But the girls practice hard for the competition--while also taking care of some rescued chickens--and readers will rejoice as Amy overcomes her stage fright to lead the team to victory. A satisfying entry in the sweet illustrated series ideal for animal-loving young readers.
La Vernia Primary	9798368755342	Amy looks before she leaps	Barkley, Callie	
La Vernia Primary	9781489806369	Amy meets her stepsister	Barkley, Callie	
La Vernia Primary	9781537950754	Amy on park patrol	Barkley, Callie	
La Vernia Primary	9781713725879	Amy the puppy whisperer	Barkley, Callie	
La Vernia Primary	9781489839152	Amy's very merry Christmas	Barkley, Callie	Horn Book Guide (Spring 2015) While preparing for and celebrating the holidays, Amy matches some guinea pigs to a family (after solving an allergy problem) and spreads some cheer to a dear friend. While the rest of the Critter Club frog-sits, Marion tries to win a local fashion challenge--but at what cost? Riti's sweet spot art decorates the latest enjoyable outings of these animal-loving girls. [Review covers these Critter Club titles: Amy's Very Merry Christmas and Marion Strikes a Pose.]
La Vernia Primary	9781368108980	An Elephant & Piggie biggie! Volume 1	Willerns, Mo	
La Vernia Primary	9781368108997	An Elephant & Piggie biggie! Volume 2	Willerns, Mo	
La Vernia Primary	9781368109000	An Elephant & Piggie biggie! Volume 3	Willerns, Mo	
La Vernia Primary	9781368109017	An Elephant & Piggie biggie! Volume 4	Willerns, Mo	
La Vernia Primary	9781368109024	An Elephant & Piggie biggie! Volume 5	Willerns, Mo	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-316-18236-2	And She Was Loved: Toni Morrison's Life in Stories	Andrea Davis Pinkney	PreS-Gr 3--From the moment Toni Morrison drew chalk drawings on the sidewalk, she was a storyteller. Told in verse, Pinkney's beautiful homage to Morrison begins in her birthplace of Lorain, OH. Her childhood was filled with playing with her siblings, hopscotch, and ABCs. Morrison went on to study at Howard University and it was there that she left behind her birth name, Chloe Ardelia. After graduating, she became a literary agent, ushering Black writers into what was a predominantly white space. After reading others' stories, she decided to tell stories of her own, eventually publishing her venerable list. Pinkney's expertly woven lines tell the story of how the girl who was playing games with her siblings became the phenomenal writer behind so many works. Floral patterns and line drawings merge in vibrant illustrations to create unique pieces of art that adorn each spread. VERDICT This winning tribute to a great American writer is a must-purchase for picture book collections.--Myiesha Speight Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	9780329872540	Andy Shane : hero at last	Jacobson, Jennifer	School Library Journal (September 1, 2012) K-Gr 2-Andy Shane believes that if he can find a four-leaf clover, he will have that little extra bit of luck he needs to win the bike-decorating contest in his town's upcoming parade. When Dolores shows up, he tells her that he wants to find the lucky charm to help him win the contest, but not that he hopes it bring him luck in fulfilling his dream of becoming a hero. As the parade day nears, Andy works hard to prepare his bike. When the day arrives, the boy's nerves set in, especially when he overhears a child misidentify his bike decoration. Out of nowhere, an opportunity to become a hero presents itself and Andy springs into action and saves the parade. Jennifer Richard Jacobson's beginning chapter book (Candlewick, 2010) is read by Rachael Lillis who gives the characters unique voices that match their personalities. Sound effects add to the telling, but in a few instances it is difficult to figure out what they represent. Page-turn signals are optional.-Marci Johnstone, Punahou School, Honolulu, HI (c) Copyright 2012. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9780329786045	Andy Shane and the barn sale mystery	Jacobson, Jennifer	School Library Journal (August 1, 2011) Gr 1-3-Andy Shane devises a plan to get his Granny Webb the perfect un-birthday gift-a case for her well-loved binoculars. However, since he doesn't have much money, he and his friend Dolores decide to gather cast-off items from around the neighborhood and hold a barn sale. When the binoculars are accidentally sold during the sale, the pair cleverly tracks them down. The clues that Andy and Dolores collect and the lists they create are read in a softer voice by narrator Rachael Lillis so that listeners become detectives right along with the children. Andy can't afford both the binoculars and the case, so he adds his trusty, but well-worn bike to the deal. The plot has a cute twist, reminiscent of O. Henry's "The Gift of the Magi"-at the un-birthday party we learn that Granny has traded her binoculars for a seat and horn for Andy's bike. Lillis expressively reads Jennifer Richard Jacobson's story (Candlewick, 2009), giving a unique and appropriate voice to each character. Sound effects such as the voices of buyers at the barn sale, a dog barking, and wrapping paper crinkling give the feel of a radio play. Page-turn signals are optional. Another fun early-chapter book in the series that can be enjoyed by emergent readers who are ready for a longer book with a more complex plot.-MaryAnn Karre, Horace Mann Elementary School, Binghamton, NY (c) Copyright 2011. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9780329786052	Andy Shane and the Queen of Egypt	Jacobson, Jennifer	School Library Journal (July 1, 2010) K-Gr 2-In this easy-read chapter book, Andy Shane and Dolores Starbuckle both select Egypt as their project for the Cultural Fair at school. Andy's grandmother has given him a scarab beetle in plastic, and Dolores dresses like an Egyptian queen. Andy isn't keen on working with bossy Dolores, and losing a t-ball game because Dolores is "dancing like an Egyptian" in the stands doesn't make him any more enthusiastic. Jennifer Richard Jacobson's book (Candlewick, 2008) is expressively read by Rachel Lillis, who provides a variety of voices for the characters. A musical background and sound effects enhance the telling. Page-turn signals are optional. The story deals realistically with children's feelings, relationships, and attitudes. This title for beginning readers can also be used to encourage struggling readers and to help ELLs.-Ann Elders, Mark Twain Elementary School, Federal Way, WA Copyright 2010 Reed Business Information.
La Vernia Primary	978-0-06-326461-8	Apart, Together: A Book about Transformation	Linda Booth Sweeney	A Book about Transformation is a picture book that explores how separate things (people, objects, elements) when brought together can become something new., A sweet read-aloud for younger readers to help them learn how the individual is part of a greater community - Scholastic
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7112-8250-6	Are You a Monster?	Guilherme Karsten	
La Vernia Primary	9781423113478	Are you ready to play outside?	Willerns, Mo	School Library Journal (December 1, 2008) PreS-Gr 2-In a refreshing reversal of their usual roles, the often-despondent Gerald proves to be a valuable friend to exuberant Piggie when her own naturally sunny disposition fails her. Fretful about the sudden rain that threatens to ruin an afternoon of running, skipping, and jumping, Piggie declares emphatically that she is "not a happy pig." Poor Gerald patiently weathers the rain and her brief tantrum and, as readers might expect, the pair soon make the most of the situation. Alive with movement and feeling, the illustrations tell the story, setting the tone and adding depth to the simple text. The words themselves are manageable for young readers, and these endearing and distinctly developed characters have great child appeal. With a cameo appearance by the Pigeon on the final endpaper, this is a winning addition to the author's canon.-Neala Arnold, St. Francis Elementary School, MN Copyright 2008 Reed Business Information.

La Vernia Primary	978-1-5341-1324-4	ARLO	Sophia Gholz	A robot leaves the assembly line for the natural world. This offbeat hero's journey begins with a description of a typical day at the factory where pink-cheeked, multi-armed ARLO ("Automated Robotic Line Operator") works. He and 11 slightly smaller robots "power up, juice joints, grease gears, and rattle to the assembly line," where he "katinkers six tools at the same time." He's the only robot who uses break time to tinker; his inventions garner interest from the little robots but stern resistance from the apparently managerial "big bots." ARLO adores his factory work, but "his bolts buzz for something...more." When a storm leaves a hole in the factory wall, ARLO catapults into an exciting world of flowers, frogs, and trees—but no charging station. After successfully figuring out how to recharge himself with a little help from the natural world, he surmounts more obstacles before returning to his factory home, where all the little robots have been powered down. He tinkers until the little robots are functional. Together, they rebuild and improve their environment—and re-create some of ARLO's newest inventions, which now reflect the natural world. Once the large bots have been repowered, will they grant permission for ARLO's changes? Gholz's lively text is peppered with the sounds of imaginative robotic language and onomatopoeia, well matched by Haley's art, which effectively portrays cute, round-eyed robots, drab factory conditions, and colorful, comical nature scenes. Quirky, thoughtful, and fun. (Picture book. 4-6)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-78121-987-4	Artificial Intelligence	Nancy Dickmann	Gr 2-4--This series offers solid graphics and clear information but covers predictable material often found in children's books on the subject. The title on robots explores different types, how they work, and their future potential. The book on computers explains hardware, software, touch screens, motherboards and more. Coding and Programming stands out slightly by introducing C++ and Python, offering coding examples like using parentheses to group code or quotations to indicate text. It also challenges kids to write their name in binary code, with a full alphabet-to-binary chart included. The visuals, with colorful backgrounds, text boxes, photos, and illustrations, are impressive. Each book includes a quiz, a glossary, an index, and further reading. VERDICT A solid choice for libraries, though not essential for those with an already well-rounded tech collection. Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	9798368747699	Ash the blaze dragon	Mara, Maddy	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-88989-231-1	Asteroids	Matt Lilley	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-4695-2	Asteroids & Meteors	Elizabeth Andrews	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-6689-4656-5	Astronaut	Samantha Bell	K-Gr 2--In this early elementary series, information is presented through the viewpoint of the person, place, or piece of technology featured in the title. The rover explains that it uses its cameras to help it navigate, while the space telescope explains that it sees clearly without atmosphere to blur the images. Short, direct sentences are paired with large photos to share information. Cartoon-style illustrations pose questions that encourage readers to think critically about what they have read. For instance, the space suit mentions that each of its layers has a job. Then the illustration asks readers, "Do you ever have to wear layers?" A glossary supports comprehension and offers pronunciation for unfamiliar words and an index helps to locate information. VERDICT A good choice for primary grades with its unique approach to a high-interest topic. Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-1813-2	At Bat	Tiffany Renando	
La Vernia Primary	9781338566260	Attack of the 50-foot Fly Guy	Arnold, Tedd	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9002-2	Attack of the Giant Octopus	Eric Geron	
La Vernia Primary	9798368735535	Author visit jitters	Danneberg, Julie	Horn Book Magazine (January/February, 2025) Inviting readers into this spirited book, a bouncing red-rubber ball generates a path leading from the initial endpapers to the first words of text. Here readers discover properties of rubber: that it can bounce, stretch, roll, and be molded. Animated illustrations at times combine with text treatment to graphically reinforce features of rubber (e.g., under vignettes of children riding a rubber-tired tricycle, scooter, and bike: "It can r o o o o o o ll"). By posing three questions, Albee provides an outline of what readers can expect to learn about rubber: "Who discovered it? Where does it come from? How is it made?" As promised in the subtitle, she provides scientific explanations for each of the properties discussed in the introduction. Spot art supports clear, understandable explanations of scientific steps, as well as key historical moments of discovery. Throughout, Ewen's bright watercolor illustrations both pace and inform this lively text, creating a book as bouncy as the original red ball. Extensive back matter includes a note about the nomenclature of Indigenous people of South America who first discovered rubber, a discussion of environmental problems and historical conflicts involving rubber today, a timeline, a bibliography, and documentation. Betty Carter January/February 2025 p.98
La Vernia Primary	978-1-68446-997-0	Author vs. Illustrator	Donald Lemke	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5453-7	Avengers Mech Strike: This is Avengers Mech Strike	Jeremy Whitley	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5452-0	Avengers: This is Doctor Strange and Scarlet Witch	Emeli Juhlin	
La Vernia Primary	9780593693223	Axl the Axolotl Is Not a Frog	Brammer, John Paul	
La Vernia Primary	9798318909580	Axolote	Culliford, Amy	
La Vernia Primary	9781684022618	Axolotl	Bluemel Oldfield, Dawn	School Library Journal (November 1, 2017) Gr 2-4-With a few sentences per page and a variety of well-chosen photos, these books introduce animals that will be new to many readers. Children's books on axolotls, snub-nosed monkeys, and Polish chickens are particularly hard to find. The text provides general data on physiology, behavior, and life cycles while also highlighting unique features, such as the platypus's hunting techniques and the healing ability of the axolotl. Related species are noted and sometimes pictured, and there are images and brief descriptions of more "weird animals" at the end of each book. Visual support is effective: each book opens with an impressive two-page photograph; subsequent pages include large pictures, inset images, and size comparison diagrams, with captions and labels included where needed. VERDICT Strong appeal for curious kids interested in unusual creatures and to fill subject holes in more comprehensive animal collections. © Copyright 2017. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9781516073986	Axolotl	Culliford, Amy	
La Vernia Primary	9798368718019	Axolotl	Grodzicki, Jenna	
La Vernia Primary	9781791159320	Axolotl	Rylands, Warren	
La Vernia Primary	9781684495115	Axolotl : a first field guide to the amphibian that never grows up	Whited, Jessica LaMae	Booklist starred (October 15, 2024 (Vol. 121, No. 4)) Grades 1-4. Author introductions kick off these stellar additions to the Young Zoologist series (2 new titles), instantly injecting them with earnest enthusiasm and a sense of real-world scientific exploration. Next, readers encounter a "Fact File" list of snack-sized animal stats: scientific name, class, species, geographical location. Then, an illustrated double-page spread lays out some equipment needed to study the animal in the field: a notebook, a microscope, bug spray, sample-collection containers, rain boots, and more. Axolotl scientist Dr. Whited opens Axolotl by explaining how her job as a Harvard biologist centers on studying these adorable amphibians. Different types of axolotls (they're not all pink!) swim about one spread, while another describes how current research into axolotls' ability to regenerate limbs may have applications for human healing. Though different artists illustrate, they maintain a uniform style that is simultaneously humorous, winsome, and scientifically accurate. Charming images accompany information on anatomy, life cycles and reproduction, "a day in the life" snapshots, predators, and animal relatives. Environmental impacts (affecting axolotls and caused by capybaras) are also noted. Animal enthusiasts, future biologists, and casual browsers will flock to this enchanting series.

La Vernia Primary	9781464237904	Axolotl and Axolittle	Hitchman, Jess	School Library Journal (June 1, 2025) K-Gr 2-As far as creatures go, they don't get much cuter than the axolotl. The older sister, Axolotl, is outgoing and energetic-she "lives life to the max-a-lotl." Younger brother, Axolittle, is more reserved and "loves to just relax a little." One day Axolotl's exuberance ruins Axolittle's artwork, and Axolotl shouts while Axolittle pouts. The father is called to help the two siblings work through their feelings, and the "axo-skiffle-suffle" is successfully resolved. They end the story cuddling "to the max-a-lotl." The comedic digital illustrations, featuring a vivid yellow and a fuchsia color inspired by Mexican pink (honoring the habitat of the endangered axolotl), are effective at capturing the energy and emotions of the text. Unfortunately, the repetitive endings "-otl" and "-little" as well as their variations wear thin by the story's conclusion. VERDICT Cute-as-can-be axolotl's engaging in sibling squabbles don't save the text that forces rhymed endings.-John Scott © Copyright 2025. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9781645199472	Axolotl's big move	Clark, Elizabeth	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-64519-947-2	Axolotl's Big Move	Elizabeth Clark	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-88989-744-6	Baby Alligators	Kim Thompson	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-88989-206-9	Baby Bats	Meg Greve	
La Vernia Primary	9781546110071	Baby-sitters little sister. 10,Karen's prize	Grant, Shauna J	
La Vernia Primary	9781546110576	Baby-sitters little sister. 11,Karen's ghost	Yingst, DK	
La Vernia Primary	9781338762648	Baby-sitters little sister. 7,Karen's haircut	Farina, Katy	
La Vernia Primary	9781338762556	Baby-sitters little sister. 8,Karen's sleeperover	Farina, Katy	
La Vernia Primary	9781546109617	Baby-sitters little sister. 9,Karen's grandmothers	Yingst, DK	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0398-8021-4	Bad-ish Bunnies at the Beach	Laurie Friedman	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0398-8022-1	Bad-ish Bunnies at the Park	Laurie Friedman	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0398-8023-8	Bad-ish Bunnies Love to Party	Laurie Friedman	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0398-8020-7	Bad-ish Bunnies on the Bus	Laurie Friedman	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-0334-5	Baila the Kloppe	Jennifer Tzivia MacLeod	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8805-0	Bandage for Miss Elaina	Haley Hoffman	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7595-5741-3	Banquet For Cecilia: How Cecilia Chiang Revolutionized Chinese Food in America	Julie Leung	Gr 1-5--As a young girl growing up in a wealthy family in Beijing, Cecilia Chiang (1920-2020) developed a strong interest in learning how the meals she was served were prepared. She ultimately became a successful restaurateur in the U.S., where she served authentic Chinese cuisine that reflected the food of many different provinces and changed people's understanding of it. Covered is Chiang's early interest in observing the two chefs in her family's kitchen and listening to her father's description of what made each dish perfectly prepared. Her life changed drastically when Japan invaded Beijing, and she and a sister traveled on foot to the new Chinese capital, a distance of more than a thousand miles. During their six-month trip, Chiang saw the different regions of China and tasted many different cooking styles. After the war, she joined one of her sisters in San Francisco. Chiang was disappointed in what restaurants there offered as "Chinese food," so she opened her own restaurant, offering a wide variety of over 200 dishes from the different regions of China. The restaurant was a huge success. Detailed descriptive writing brings this story to life. The food being prepared in her family's kitchen, for example, is described: "Hot steam whistled out of bamboo baskets." The illustrations provide additional information that supports the text: a map of the route Chiang walked with her sister shows the different regions they passed through, and the accompanying illustrations show the food in that region being prepared. VERDICT Words and illustrations provide an excellent introduction to how one woman brought her love of fine Chinese food to the United States.--Myra Zamowski Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9532-4	Barbie: Winter Wonder	Anna Membrino	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9310-8	Barbie's Big Move	Courtney Carbone	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9310-8	Barbie's Big Move	Courtney Carbone	
La Vernia Primary	9781452111827	Barkus. Book 1	MacLachlan, Patricia	School Library Journal (January 1, 2018) PreS-Gr 2-When world exploration can wait no more, Uncle Everton leaves his giant travel-averse dog Barkus with his niece Nicky. Barkus quickly nestles right into his new family, soon becoming Nicky's beloved class dog at school, having raucous dog cookie parties with his canine pals, and adopting a purr-fect baby of his own. Newbery Medal author MacLachlan brings to joyful life an amiable trio of forever friends in a hybrid picture and beginning chapter book. In this recorded version, voice actress Lori Gardner takes a straightforward approach. She alters her voice only subtly to indicate different characters, and speaks slowly enough for beginning readers to understand and follow along in the book. With no music or sound effects, the charm of the story and characters shine through unimpeded. Listeners will look forward to more adventures of Barkus and friends. VERDICT A gentle, friendly choice for young listeners and readers; any library would do well to have this title in its collection.-Jennifer Verbrugge, State Library Services, Roseville, MN © Copyright 2018. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9781668820926	Barnyard buddies	Higgins, Cam	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9069-5	Battle Buddies! (Pokemon)	Lara Hutcheson	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-2615-3	Battlefront Military Machines	Brianna Kaiser	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-88989-321-9	Battleships	Kate Riggs	
La Vernia Primary	9798368701721	Beach paws	Higgins, Cam	
La Vernia Primary	9781534405745	Bear country : bearily a misadventure	Cronin, Doreen	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-1017-6	Bear's Big Idea	Sandra Nickel	PreS-Gr 3—Bear and Fish are the best of friends. Every day, Fish has a big brand-new idea for what to do. One day, Fish suggests that Bear be the one to come up with the idea for the following day. Bear agrees but struggles with just what this brand-new idea should be. Bear puts together ideas from the previous days but reflects that spending time with a best friend is always a great idea. The art that propels this story along is colorful and funny. Like a graphic novel, it extends the text to give readers an idea of what else is going on between the friends and around them in an entertaining way. Young readers will enjoy the dilemma and recognize the anxiety of choosing just what to do each day. VERDICT This gently humorous story would be a good addition to libraries needing animal and friendship stories, especially for those with other tales of Big Bear and Little Fish.—Debbie Tanner

La Vernia Primary	978-1-77657-594-7	Bear's Lost Glasses	Leo Timmers	Hilarity ensues when a bear "sees" without specs. Where are Bear's glasses? Bear "can't see a thing without them!" Young listeners will notice that the bright red glasses are atop Bear's head and will eagerly cry out to let Bear know. But our hapless friend decides that the glasses are at Giraffe's house and trots over. On the way, Bear passes a large, two-branched tree and misidentifies it as a deer with antlers. Bear also mistakes a low-lying bush for a crocodile, a big boulder for an elephant, and a spindly pink plant for a flamingo. Bear's amazed by these never-before-seen creatures along the path. Bear even assumes that a reclining Giraffe is a snake! When Bear explains the problem, Giraffe "returns" the glasses by removing them from Bear's head. Bear's vindicated, "knowing" they were at Giraffe's house all along, then describes the unusual sights. Giraffe's eager to see them and accompanies Bear, who's now wearing the spectacles. Naturally, neither spots the creatures Bear described. Bear, confused, thinks the glasses are the problem—but now, having removed them, Bear directs Giraffe's attention to three nearby "lions." Moral: Maybe it's better (and more fun) to "see" with the imagination? This comical charmer, originally published in the Netherlands, will engage children as they laughingly correct Bear's misnomers. Set against white backdrops, the caricature-esque illustrations capture the expressive protagonists' close friendship. A humorous, delightful tale about finding wonderful new ways to see the world. (Picture book. 4-7)
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-2016-6	Bearded Dragons and Crocodiles: Reptile Relatives	Heather E. Schwartz	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5341-1320-6	Beat of the Dragon Boat	Christina Matula	A Chinese grandfather enthalls his grandson in this lightly fantastical work about a traditional celebration. The night before the Dragon Festival, Yeye tells the story of how the annual event got started. According to legend, the guardian dragons in every lake and river once carried the sun's warmth, the sea's breezes, and the sky's rain to help humankind. When the Dragon King befriended poet Qu Yuan, the writer incorporated the dragon's words "into poems about raindrops and rivers, the stars and the moon," Matula notes. He also encouraged villagers to bang drums on launched boats by way of expressing resonant appreciation for the dragon's guardianship. After the child dreams of dragons, the narrative picks up with a beat-by-beat accounting of the next day's race, including the child's small offering to "our dragon." Wong's finely detailed illustrations gesture at deep intergenerational affection while combining the detailed wonders of the dragon story with the day-of thrill of the race. Background characters are portrayed with various skin tones. Back matter includes an author's note and recipe. Ages 6: 7. (Apr.)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5038-7088-8	Beauty and the Beast	Nadia Higgins	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-1805-7	Bed for Ten	Tiffany Renando	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8745-0336-9	Belling the Cat - Why Should You Think Before You Act?	Aesop	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9269-9	Berenstain Bears Get Outdoors	Mike Berenstain	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9609-3	Berenstain Bears Reach for the Stars!	Mike Berenstain	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-4723-3	Best Stick	Jenny Jinks	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-9537-1	Beth's Bath	Leanna Koch	PreS-K—The titles in this set are designed for emergent readers aged three to four. Each book includes consistent front matter with strategies for parent support before, during, and after reading. While this guidance encourages adult involvement, the effectiveness is limited by the simplistic nature of the content. The bright illustrations are reminiscent of early concept books, appealing to young readers but lacking the depth to fully engage them. The large print and sparse text may aid emergent readers, but the minimalism can result in flat narratives that fail to capture children's imaginations. VERDICT These books offer foundational skills, but they need richer narratives and more engaging illustrations to stand out in the growing market of decodables for very young readers.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9582-9	Better Together (Disney Zootopia 2)		
La Vernia Primary	9780803734074	Betty Bunny loves chocolate cake	Kaplan, Michael B	School Library Journal (March 1, 2013) PreS-Gr 2-Betty Bunny declares that chocolate cake is "yucky," until she tries it. Then she loves it so much she wants to marry it. Thus begins Kaplan's luscious lark (Dial, 2011) into the world of little Betty Bunny's mischievous interplay with cake, tantrums, and the struggle to be patient. Stephane Jorisch's delectably detailed illustrations perfectly depict the interaction of the four Bunny siblings and their requisite teasing. The eyes and expressions of all the characters are lively and adorable. Youngsters' eyes will go wide when Betty calls her family and her school "yucky" and they will anticipate the goopy results when Betty sneaks cake into her pocket! The narrative performance of British-educated Katherine Kellgren enhances the story. Her voice varies with the characters but retains a sweetness that fits the light-hearted frolic. She places appropriate emphasis on the bold words in the text and her crisp enunciation and pacing allow listeners to grasp the details. Subtle and amusing sound effects such as cute kissy sounds when Betty's mother says she loves her and the "boing" of chair springs when Betty bounces are a nice touch. The story could be useful in lessons on patience and consequences. Page-turn signals are optional. Children will appreciate the silliness and laugh-out-loud antics of the adorably real Betty Bunny.-Jane Newschwander, Fluvanna County Public Schools, VA (c) Copyright 2013. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9780803738591	Betty Bunny wants a goal	Kaplan, Michael B	School Library Journal (March 1, 2016) PreS-Gr2-Betty Bunny aspires to score 10 goals in her first game. When she does poorly, declaring that soccer is "yucky," her family rallies behind her to keep trying and practicing. She does, which leads to improvement and the achievement of her goal. Spunky illustrations heighten Betty's trials and her ultimate success. © Copyright 2016. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9780803734081	Betty Bunny wants everything	Kaplan, Michael B	School Library Journal (January 1, 2012) PreS-K-In Betty Bunny's return appearance, the enthusiastic rabbit and her siblings are told that they can each choose one toy in the toy store. Betty Bunny selects a small stuffed bunny that looks a lot like her. But then she starts filling the cart. When her mother reminds her of the one-item rule, Betty replies, "Maybe you don't understand.I want all these toys." Unable to get her way, Betty throws a full-blown tantrum as her mother picks her up and leaves the store. At home, she tries to convince her father that the tears are because she has the meanest mommy in the world. Her parents have a plan. They take her back to the store and give her some cash to spend as she wants, hoping she will come to an understanding about the value of money. Betty gets the small stuffed bunny she initially chose, and her mother and father assume she has learned a lesson-until the youngster fills the cart again with toys, saying that the stuffed bunny wants them. The mostly watercolor illustrations are colorful and expressive, and the characters' contemporary clothing is quite funny. There is humor in the reactions and dialogue of Betty's three older siblings as they witness this drama. There is a lesson here about money and what it can do. Readers will probably learn it, but Betty Bunny clearly has not.-leva Bates, Ann Arbor District Library, MI (c) Copyright 2012. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-1281-9	Betty the Yeti and the Babysitter Problem	Mandy R. Marx	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-1273-4	Betty the Yeti Dreads the Dentist	Mandy R. Marx	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-1257-4	Betty the Yeti Has a Snow Day	Mandy R. Marx	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-1265-9	Betty the Yeti Loses Confetti	Mandy R. Marx	
La Vernia Primary	9781546180265	Beware of the Dino-Snake --a Branches Book	Tan, Susan	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-2705-1	Big Bug & On the Map	Jenny Moore	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8865-4	Big Dog and Little Dog	Dav Pilkey	PreS-Gr 1-This day in the life of two dogs is a perfect choice for children just starting to read. A simple declarative sentence appears on each page and is matched to the boldly-outlined cartoon illustrations. In addition to the story, there are three bonus activities: sequencing, matching, and "Dog-Libs." VERDICT A great addition to any early reader collection.-Patrick Tierney, Dr. Martin Luther King Elementary School RI ? Copyright 2015. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc.

La Vernia Primary	978-1-68446-912-3	Big Snowdown	Katy Hudson	A cocky bird realizes the value of hard work in Hudson's fable-like account of a wintry woodland competition. Accustomed to being at the top of the food chain (as noted by several pennants in her tree house), Owl assumes she'll sweep the "Big Snowdown." During events including igloo building, icicle playing, snow angel making, and downhill skiing, however, the avian protagonist repeatedly sees other forest creatures come out on top through their steady and deliberate effort ("and rightfully so," a refrain concludes); a contrast with her own untrained showings. Dusky painterly renderings adeptly convey sporting action and Owl's wide-eyed disappointment. In the competition's aftermath, the overconfident fowl realizes that "her friends deserved to win," and the book rushes to a close with scenes of support, hard work, and earning one's place. Ages 4: 8. (Aug.)
La Vernia Primary	9781725497122	Big test jitters	Danneberg, Julie	School Library Journal (July 1, 2011) K-Gr 2-Mrs. Hartwell's students have been working hard all year, but they are not sure they can deal with the Big Test. The week before it is slated, their teacher tells them they have just a few more things to learn. They need to know how to sit still for long periods of time, how to fill in the bubbles on the answer sheet, and how to follow directions. At each turn, the kids worry and get headaches, stomachaches, and other maladies. On Thursday, Mrs. Hartwell lines up her class and marches them down the hall to the library. The sign on the door says, "Library Closed: Students Testing." But inside it's a test party. The students get to play and relax and eat. This works so well that no one is sick anymore and they breeze through the actual Big Test on Friday. The illustrations, done in ink and transparent dyes on watercolor paper, are priceless. The children's faces clearly express all the agony that the situation requires. The youngsters appear to be about second or third graders. This title will be popular in school and public libraries -Ieva Bates, Ann Arbor District Library, MI (c) Copyright 2011. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8806-7	Big Unicorn Feelings (Not Quite Narwhal)	Maggie Testa	
La Vernia Primary	9781592701063	Big Wolf & Little Wolf, such a beautiful orange!	Brun-Cosme, Nadine	School Library Journal (May 1, 2011) Gr 1-3-In this final sequence in the "Big Wolf and Little Wolf" series, the two protagonists once more find their friendship challenged. The tale, revolving around the discovery, loss, and rediscovery of an orange-"so round, so sweet, so bright"-while a bit wordy flows quietly yet fluidly. The puzzling disappearance of the orange on the final pages, however, results in an unsatisfying conclusion. Nevertheless, Tallec's beautifully composed spreads, rich with blues, greens, and yellows, are a marvel of soft, richly applied hues and dark swaths of color for contrast, and the two characters, formed with a lithe roundedness and sense of vitality, will engage readers. This happily ever after tale offers numerous possibilities for discussion about the give-and-take of friendship as well as the artistry of the illustrations.-Barbara Elleman, Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, Amherst, MA (c) Copyright 2011. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-4721-9	Bigfoots at the Beach	Rebecca Colby	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9353-5	Biggest Sister	Cala Spinner	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9258-3	Birthday Treasure Hunt! (Disney Moana 2)	Kamalani Hurley	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5574-9	Biscuit and Friends Visit the Community Garden	Alyssa Satin Capucilli	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5575-6	Biscuit and the Big Parade!	Alyssa Satin Capucilli	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5576-3	Biscuit and the Little Llamas	Alyssa Satin Capucilli	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5577-0	Biscuit Loves the Park	Alyssa Satin Capucilli	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8760-2	Biscuit Visits the Firehouse	Alyssa Satin Capucilli	PreS-K—A charming book to introduce children to firefighters. Sweet yellow puppy Biscuit, along with three children and a kitty, visits a fire station. The puppy brings all the enthusiasm, energy, and joy of a child during the visit. Biscuit finds the fire bell, helmets, boots, and even the Dalmatian fire dog, Dottie. Biscuit and friends meet the two men and the woman working in the fire station and learn that a fire truck has a hose, a ladder, and a terrifyingly loud siren. This latest Biscuit story has all the elements of the best-selling series that have made children love it for years—a minimum number of basic, fun-to-say words are repeated throughout, i.e., "Woof, woof!" and "Clang, clang!" Berlin's sweet illustrations, done in the style of Pat Schories, of the animals, children, firefighters, and firefighting equipment complement the text. VERDICT A charming, easy-to-read book.—Sally James
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9195-1	Biscuit's Puppy Sleepover	Alyssa Satin Capucilli	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5383-9611-7	Black Beauty	Rose Wilkins	PreS-Gr 4--This series offers eight classic children's books, cleverly summarized and packaged for even the youngest readers. Each story includes basic descriptions and dialogue, condensing classics like Alice in Wonderland and Treasure Island to a brisk three to five sentences per page. Despite their brevity, the books are faithful summaries. All the story beats are true to the actual text, and not twisted to fit popular film plots. In The Wizard of Oz, Dorothy's slippers are the original silver and not ruby. Mowgli's end in The Jungle Book is not Disney's version, but Kipling's. Occasionally some cartoon speech bubbles will pepper their way into the illustrations, but only to enhance, not to convey vital information. Each book has a different illustrator, but they all include colorful images, with rounded, cartoonish figures shown in action. Some volumes include especially beautiful illustrations, like the lush garden scenes in The Secret Garden, or Black Beauty's majestic horses depicted with watercolor-like realism. VERDICT An easy way to introduce children's classics to young readers. Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-2462-1	Black Widow Spiders	Lisa J. Amstutz	
La Vernia Primary	9781489879493	Blast off!	Ball, Nate	School Library Journal (February 1, 2014) Gr 2-5-Another normal school year is about to start for fourth grader Zack McGee until a small blue alien crash lands in his bedroom. In Blast Off!, Amp the alien stows away in Zack's backpack and joins him at school while Zack tries to figure out a way to repair Amp's ship. This proves most difficult for Zack who, unlike his overachieving scientist family, would rather spend time on the baseball diamond. His neighbor and best friend, Olivia, helps explain the science behind the story. The chapters are short and delightful pencil drawings accompany the text. Ball integrates real science in a refreshing way. In the second installment, The Science UnFair, Zack faces failing science if he does not get an A on his science project. He must also prevent Amp's identity from being exposed. When the day of the science fair comes, Zack's experiment works almost a little too well and all but destroys the science fair finals. The first book includes step-by-step instructions for creating a bottle rocket, while the second book offer instructions for constructing electromagnets. The science is aligned to the Common Core standards as well. Both titles will likely have appeal to even the most reluctant reader.-Wayne R. Cherry, Jr., First Baptist Academy Library, Houston, TX (c) Copyright 2014. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9781338828900	Blizzard rescue	Rajan, Rekha S	School Library Journal (December 1, 2024) Gr 1-3-Leela, Jaden, and their parents travel around the country in an RV helping people and animals prepare for natural disasters in this new series from Scholastic. Dad Lamar is an award-winning doctor who helps people all over the world, while Mom Jaya is a famous journalist who takes pictures and writes articles about the disasters. Leela and Jaden help the animals who are in danger. In each of these exciting tales, the family, or Disaster Squad, heads to a different location facing a new challenge: In Texas, they drive right into a hurricane where they help out at shelters and rescue a baby dolphin; in Minnesota they help their grandmother and her community prepare for a blizzard, keep the baby calves warm at a cattle farm, and rescue a snowshoe rabbit stuck in the snow. These black-and-white illustrated tales are chock-full of educational tidbits that readers will learn along with Leela and Jaden. Everything from weather facts to emergency procedures to animal behavior and habitats make an appearance. New readers will appreciate the short chapters and level-appropriate sentences. VERDICT Recommended for purchase where other Branches books go out frequently. © Copyright 2024. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9781250255570	Blue, Barry & Pancakes. Danger on Mount Choco	Abdo, Dan	School Library Journal (March 1, 2022) K-Gr 3-An ice cream sundae contest turns into a humorous quest for Blue, Barry, and Pancakes, everyone's favorite worm, frog, and rabbit trio. To build the best sundae and help Barry finally win a coveted trophy, the three friends seek the greatest chocolate ice cream in the universe, located in a yeti's lair on top of Mount Choco. Each protagonist helps overcome obstacles, from crossing the Sea of Sea Sickness to impressing the yeti with funky dance moves. Creative paneling and focus lend variety to the layouts-Barry's echoing cry in his empty trophy room takes up a full page, while Blue's underground jaunt to retrieve sunglasses results in the dynamic and fun display of character movement known as the De Luca effect. Back matter includes extra gags and a guide to making a miniature comic. VERDICT Humor carries three tight-knit friends underwater and over mountains; new and returning readers alike will be charmed. © Copyright 2022. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

La Vernia Primary	9781250816962	Blue, Barry & Pancakes. Enter the underground throwdown	Abdo, Dan	
La Vernia Primary	9781250255563	Blue, Barry & Pancakes. Escape from Balloonla	Abdo, Dan	
La Vernia Primary	9781250829351	Blue, Barry & Pancakes. Mayhem on wheels	Abdo, Dan	School Library Journal Xpress (July 12, 2024) Gr 1-3-Best friends Blue, Barry, and Pancakes are ready for a day of fun-filled water safety demonstrations inside the treehouse they share. But when Pancakes inadvertently breaks the water tank they were planning to use and the trio has to chase a rogue ball throughout the town, they discover a new game at which they are remarkably skilled. Playing the game is fun for a while, but when egos begin to grow, the joy wanes and the three companions must rediscover what it truly means to have fun together. This comical graphic novel is well-suited to newer readers with an interest in slapstick humor and cartoonlike characters. Though this is a later book in the series, readers need not have read the previous installments for this one to make sense. Occasional asides guide readers to books where references have been made, but for the most part, this book is its own unique adventure. Using word bubbles, onomatopoeia, occasional butt jokes, and expressive illustrations, this graphic novel keeps readers engaged from start to finish. The overarching premise of the story is one of friendship and acceptance while working through disagreements, and it wraps up on a particularly positive and cheerful note. The clever design and appearance of this book enhances its appeal to young readers. VERDICT This is a fun and accessible graphic novel, and a good comical option for young readers to enjoy.-Mary Lanni © Copyright 2024. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9527-0	Bluey: Copycat		
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9377-1	Bluey: Cricket		
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8823-4	Bluey: Daddy Robot		
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9340-5	Bluey: Hammerbarn		
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9245-3	Bluey: Road Trip		
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8670-4	Bluey: Shadowlands		
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9187-6	Bluey: The Decider		
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8913-2	Bluey: The Doctor		
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8826-5	Bluey: Unicorse		
La Vernia Primary	9781516087433	Bo hatches a plan	Higgins, Cam	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-4779-9	Boa Constrictors	Julie Murray	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-68446-903-1	Bold Pumpkin Plan	Katy Hudson	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-88989-427-8	Bombers	Grace Beltowski	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5341-1321-3	Brave Old Blue	Colleen Muske	An old horse gets a brand-new lease on life. Old Blue arrives at a horse rescue farm. Alone and uncertain, he's wary of his surroundings. A red-haired, pale-skinned young girl named Bobby welcomes him; he responds softly to her kind overtures and receives gentle scratches, fresh carrots, and a new blanket. Bobby also gives him a warm bath. Old Blue meets other horses who live at the farm: They whinny their welcomes, and he responds in kind. Then he and Bobby rest together. Old Blue begins to feel better, but when a strong wind blows, he's "alarmed. Unsettled. Afraid." When Bobby assures him he's safe, her words "soothe his troubled thoughts." Gradually, Old Blue feels stronger and more courageous. Nighttime finds him snuggled in "deep soft straw" in a cozy stall. After Bobby promises to see him tomorrow, smiling Old Blue realizes he's "home at last." Readers may realize—though it's never stated explicitly—that Old Blue's former life was likely difficult; he may have suffered neglect, abandonment, and even abuse. Though very gently written, this understated story expertly captures the horse's deep-seated anxiety and guardedness. Children will be heartened to realize that Old Blue will be treated with the loving attention he and all animals deserve. The illustrations are rendered in a very muted palette, mostly softly applied browns and tans, suggesting serenity. A heartwarming charmer. Readers will root for this horse all the way. (a message from the author) (Picture book. 5-8)
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8745-0364-2	Brazier and His Dog - Why Should We Do Our Part to Help Others?	Aesop	
La Vernia Primary	9798318912078	Breaking Out!	Spiotto, Joey	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-8985-1	Bring Your Pet to School Day	Natasha Deen	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5383-9710-7	Bronty's Battle Cry	Hannah Peckham	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-89304-464-5	Brown Bats	Janie Scheffer	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-9465-7	Buddhist Festivals and Traditions	Sarah Shey	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-1789-0	Bug Club	Tiffany Renando	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9364-1	Bug Hugs (Lu and the Bally Bunch)	Nicky Phelan	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8971-2	Bunny Hop	Sarah Hwang	A hungry bunny has a feast in a picture book that can also function as an early reader. The titular Bunny is a cute, pink little chunk of a critter, barely more than a rounded rectangle with ears, limbs, and an expressive face rendered in dots and lines. The visual effect is rather porcine, which ends up making sense because this rabbit's zeal for trying new foods is downright piggish. The sparseness of Bunny's form is matched by the controlled text, which will invite new readers to sound out brief phrases as the "Hungry Bunny" performs a "Bunny hop" through an open kitchen window, upending a grocery bag filled with foods for the taking. Bunny eats through all manner of victuals, with adjectives like sour, bitter, sweet, and sticky describing foods such as beets, strawberries, bubble gum, and pizza, all depicted in the brightly colored illustrations but unnamed in the text. After several more spreads comically showing Bunny trying many other kinds of food and drink, the protagonist's overindulgence culminates in a closing spread that reads "Bathroom Bunny" as the gluttonous creature makes a beeline for the toilet. Silly fun for new readers, with an abundance of adjectives to stretch their decoding skills. (Picture book/early reader. 2-6)
La Vernia Primary	979-8-89304-476-8	Bush Vipers	Joanne Mattern	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8807-4	Busy Day in Chipping Cheddar	Katharine Holabird	
La Vernia Primary	9781728271200	Butt or face? Vol. 2.Revenge of the butts	Lavelle, Kari	
La Vernia Primary	9798368751276	Buzzing beehive!	Webster, Christy	

La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9008-4	Buzzing Beehive! (Mobs of Minecraft)	Christy Webster	
La Vernia Primary	9781423119913	Can I play too?	Willems, Mo	School Library Journal (August 1, 2010) K-Gr 2-This beginning reader focuses on differently abled animals as Elephant and Piggy get ready for a game of catch. Before they begin, Snake asks to join them. Simple gestures and facial expressions convey Elephant's embarrassment at Snake's inability to catch a ball. Piggy breaks the silence stating, "You don't have arms!" and Snake dejectedly slithers away. On the next page, Snake diffuses his rejection by saying, "Hee-hee! Ha-ha! Hee-hee! Ha-ha! Hee-hee! I know I do not have arms/I am a snake." Elephant asks, "But can a snake play catch?" The story moves from clever to cruel as Elephant throws the ball and hits Snake on the head, and the reptile's expressions indicate distress. Piggy follows suit, with the same result. Then Elephant decides, "Maybe we need more balls," and the next spread shows Elephant and Piggy bombarding Snake with balls, each one hitting him with a "BONK!" and Snake upside down in anguish. Then Piggy gets the idea to use Snake as the ball. Snake happily says, "Wheel!" to which Piggy replies, "I love playing catch with my friends!" While all ends on a positive note, Jeanne Willis's Susan Laughs (Holt, 2000) and Grace Maccarone's The Gym Day Winner (Scholastic, 1996) offer more respectful treatments of inclusion. -Laura Scott, Farmington Community Library, MI Copyright 2010 Reed Business Information.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5454-4	Captain Marvel: This is Captain Marvel	Kelsey Sullivan	
La Vernia Primary	9781713734864	Carnival chaos	Penney, Shannon	
La Vernia Primary	9781338846621	Cat Kid comic club. Collaborations	Pilkey, Dav	Kirkus Reviews starred (January 1, 2023) His 21 froglets' messy bedrooms have caused harried papa Flippy the fish to cancel today's Cat Kid Comic Club meeting. "It's the WORST DAY of ALL TIME!" That doesn't stop the fun in this fourth entry in Pilkey's nth-degree zany series. Breathless reporter Sarah Hatoff is on hand to admire Wendy and Raine's wholly fictitious biography of their father; Summer and Starla's autumnally themed haiku-and-photographs sequence; Gilbert and Curly's Frogzilla comic; and more. These minicomics are, per established pattern, interspersed with scenes of the froglets explaining their processes, cleaning (creatively), and, in the case of self-appointed director and agent Melvin and Naomi (respectively), trying to find their better selves. The volume's theme allows readers to contemplate both creative collaboration and sweet Poppy's gentle demonstrations of how small acts can have great impacts. As before, Pilkey deftly balances quiet life lessons with sheer loopyness for a winning, kid-friendly romp. The formula allows him to showcase solid technical advice and different modes of storytelling within a frame that advances a family story—and he makes it look easy. Human characters are rare; Hatoff presents White and the cameraman, Black, and human comics characters are depicted as racially diverse. Wise, funny, and whiplash-inducing: Pilkey delivers again. (notes & fun facts) (Graphic fiction. 8-12)
La Vernia Primary	9781338896398	Cat Kid comic club. Influencers	Pilkey, Dav	Kirkus Reviews starred (February 1, 2024) The members of the Cat Kid Comic Club learn how to win friends and influence people. The story opens with the shocking news that "the Cat Kid Comic Club...is no more." It will surprise none of the club's loyal readers to learn that "weeks of bitter fights" among the club's membership of 22 baby frog siblings have led their exasperated father, Flippy the fish, to dissolve the club as punishment. That hasn't stopped the fighting, though, so Flippy reaches for Dale Carnegie's self-help classic and gifts it to drama queen Naomi, telling her, "You're a very smart kid...but your people skills could use some work!" As in previous volumes, Pilkey proffers a deceptively chaotic, devilishly clever exploration of his theme, here the power of influence, and presents the tricky concepts with profound respect for his audience. While Naomi experiments with compliments and gifts to achieve her ends, the froglets share some of their comics, including "I Am Dr. Frederic Wertham," an entry in their series Irritating People Ruin the World, which is a parody of the Brad Meltzer–Christopher Eliopoulos series Ordinary People Change the World. This comic introduces readers to Wertham, the comic book–hating author of Seduction of the Innocent. A "Chubbs McSpiderbutt" comic presents the notion that "our viewpoints...influence our experience," and the first drawing lesson after Flippy's inevitable restoration of the club unpacks the psychology of cuteness in making us "Feel the Feels!!!" Controlled hilarity makes the concepts go down easy—another winner. (notes, fun facts) (Graphic fiction. 8-12)
La Vernia Primary	979-8-3849-0500-4	Cat Origami	ZoeY Schrader	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-4720-2	Catch That Star!	Jenny Jinks	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8770-1	CatRat's Birthday Surprise	Pamela Bobowicz	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-2469-0	Cave Spiders	Lisa J. Amstutz	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8978-1	Cece Has a Little Cat (CoComelon)	Maria Le	
La Vernia Primary	9780593857564	Center of the universe	Hanlon, Abby	School Library Journal (October 1, 2025) Gr 2-4-Delightful Dory is back, in all her chaos and hilarity, in this latest volume of the beloved series. What's she up to now? Soccer! Dory has joined a soccer team and is struggling to get along with a new teammate, who seems to outdo her at just about everything. Meanwhile, her friends Rosabelle and George are embroiled in their own imaginary games and personal dramas, and Dory calls on her Fairy Godmother, Mr. Nuggy to help with the situation. Kids who love Dory will be pleased with this new story, which doesn't disappoint with its laugh out loud antics and humorous illustrations. VERDICT Recommended for collections where the other Dory books circulate well. © Copyright 2025. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8707-7	Charhound Chase (Star Wars: Young Jedi Adventures)	Emeli Juhlin	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-0451-9	Charley and Seymour's Hanukkah Miracle	Melody Howard Ritt	BFFs Charley Chipmunk and Seymour Squirrel "did everything together," Howard Ritt conveys in opening lines that speak to the animals' closeness. The bright-eyed, bushy-tailed buds love celebrating Hanukkah, but this year, Seymour forgets to take candles to the celebration at Charley's tree-house nest, as promised, instead arriving with all manner of other things beginning with C. Instead of exhibiting frustration, Charley reassures his embarrassed friend with a comforting hug; a moment of secure attachment rendered touchingly by Gould in playful colors and print-like textures. Then Charley quickly devises a menorah using string and cooking oil, and the celebration continues; with all the other C objects Seymour brought, including a cantaloupe, carrots, a cauliflower, and more. "A great miracle happened here!" exult the two friends, and readers may suspect they're celebrating not just the story of Hanukkah, but also the wonder of their friendship. Ages 4: 8. (Oct.)
La Vernia Primary	9781452183411	Charlie & Mouse are magic	Snyder, Laurel	School Library Journal (July 1, 2022) K-Gr 3-The "Charlie & Mouse" series is a breath of fresh air, and its latest installment is no exception. In this sixth book, the two brothers find themselves playing with magic. After Mouse concocts a special potion that appears to grant wishes if smeared on the tip of one's nose, they enjoy a special cookie, dance naked in the rain, and include all their toys in a delightful family dinner. Mom and Dad find themselves playing along, too, and it looks as though everyone may just get their wish granted. Snyder fosters empathy in readers by showing Charlie and Mouse effortlessly accepting their mom's apology for being cranky when they respond, "We are fine." With this, both children display a heartwarming understanding that adults can also have flaws. Colorful pictures that look as though they were drawn intricately with colored pencils highlight the innocence and whimsical qualities of children, though pictures of the boys dancing naked outside may be problematic for some. The story features four short chapters, making it perfect as a quick read-aloud for primary students or an independent option for growing readers. This book is a great choice for both children and adults looking for a relatable story full of goodness to snuggle up with and enjoy together. VERDICT A feel-good choice for the classroom that could also circulate often in various library settings for young children just learning to enjoy short chapter books with simple language. -Kerra Mazzariello © Copyright 2022. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9781452183404	Charlie & Mouse lost and found	Snyder, Laurel	School Library Journal Xpress (October 2, 2021) PreS-Gr 2-This installment in the early reader series is as drily funny as its predecessors and will have newly literate children racing through the pages. The overall theme addresses matters of lost or found. Once again, the book has four chapters about brothers Charlie and Mouse, who are white. In the first story, Mouse has lost Blanket, which they determine must be "somewhere." They investigate, until Charlie realizes that Mouse is wearing the blanket. In the second, the brothers come across a dog. "He looks lost to me," said Charlie. "He looks very lost to me," said Mouse. "Let's wait and see what happens," said Mom." The boys keep the dog, then return it to its owners, but then find Boop, a puppy of their own. VERDICT The deadpan delivery of each tale treats readers as intelligent insiders on the jokes; with all the elan of Frog and Toad, but here dealing with brotherly love and support, this nifty book will give readers confidence in their skills, and a few chuckles, too. -Kimberly Olson Fakih, School Library Journal © Copyright 2021. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9798318914195	Charlotte the Rose Dragon	Mara, Maddy	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-8438-2	Cheers-a-Lot! Blows Up	C. W. Estes	

La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-4688-4	Cheetahs	Elizabeth Andrews	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-6659-5478-5	Chicka Chicka Tricka Treat	Julien Chung	Bill Martin Jr and John Archambault's classic alphabet book Chicka Chicka Boom Boom (1989) gets the Halloween treatment. Chung follows the original formula to the letter. In alphabetical order, each letter climbs to the top of a tree. They are knocked back to the ground in a jumble before climbing up in sequence again. In homage to the spooky holiday theme, they scale a "creaky old tree," and a ghostly jump scare causes the pileup. The chunky, colorful art is instantly recognizable. The charmingly costumed letters ("H swings a tail. / I wears a patch. J and K don / bows that don't match") are set against a dark backdrop, framed by pages with orange or purple borders. The spreads feature spiderwebs and jack-o'-lanterns. The familiar rhyme cadence is marred by the occasional clunky or awkward phrase; in particular, the adapted refrain of "Chicka chicka tricka treat" offers tongue-twisting fun, but it's repeatedly followed by the disappointing half-rhyme "Everybody sneaka sneak." Even this odd construction feels shoehorned into place, since "sneaking" makes little sense when every character in the book is climbing together. The final line of the book ends on a more satisfying note, with "Everybody—time to eat!" A bit predictable but pleasantly illustrated. (Picture book. 3-7)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9329-0	Chip Gets Swimmer Shivers	Maddie Frost	
La Vernia Primary	9798368782300	Chloe the topaz fairy	Meadows, Daisy	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-64614-454-9	Chooch Helped	Andrea L. Rogers	A young Indigenous girl attempts to get along with her infuriating little brother. Sissy has a mischievous 2-year-old brother called Chooch—an affectionate nickname based on the Cherokee word for boy or son. No matter what the usdi (baby) does, he "just gets away with everything"—from painting streaks through Elisi's mural to making a mess of Edutsi's grape dumpling flour. Each transgression is followed by the same refrain: "Chooch helped." Sissy has less tolerance for her brother's "assistance," and the last straw comes when Chooch damages her clay pot. After the fed-up narrator screams at the little boy, her parents yell at her, bringing the beleaguered sister to tears. But Chooch shows up to do what he always does—with his arms around a sobbing Sissy, "Chooch [helps]." Sissy comes to understand that young children learn by watching others and that her patience helps Chooch grow. Author Rogers and illustrator Kunz, both members of the Cherokee Nation, portray Sissy's older sisterhood with tenderness; illuminating backmatter explains the links between the story and the creators' own heritage. The touching narrative and its universal lesson are brought to life through Kunz's powerful images, which make stunning use of collage to illustrate the children's rich familial and cultural webs. Readers' hearts will be warmed by Sissy and Chooch's relationship and by the moving representation of Cherokee traditions. Native life and language are at the center of this beautiful sibling story. (author's and illustrator's notes, instructions for creating a pinch pot, glossary) (Picture book. 4-10)
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-9457-2	Christian Festivals and Traditions	Mari Bolte	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0398-8126-6	Christmas with Lolly and Pop	Laurie Friedman	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5038-7090-1	Cinderella	Nadia Higgins	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-949480-43-6	Class with Wings	Paul Fleischman	Led by their teacher, budding birders imagine their lives as veeries. When Ms. Lee turns off the lights and starts playing rainforest sounds, her students know it's time to fly into their imaginations. In vibrantly hued scenes, honey-colored veeries—"Sort of like robins but smaller"—flit over the dark shadowy blue of the classroom. Ms. Lee sets the scene, describing the birds' eating and migration habits. Bright, saturated images of the birds contrast with faded depictions of the schoolchildren. In one spread, the young, Black-presenting narrator holds out an arm, which becomes a multicolored wing. As the students follow the veeries' migration from Brazil to the United States and Canada, they learn that deforestation, dogs, and lit windows all pose dangers. The children draw parallels between themselves and the birds. Just as veeries fall prey to raptors, kids are vulnerable to bullies. One youngster begins wondering about a relative's immigrant journey—was it as perilous as a veerie's travels? Matter-of-fact text pairs well with dreamy illustrations that illuminate the students' thoughts as effectively as the "bird river" they're imagining. In the final spread, the narrator comes face to face with a real bird, and the two share a curious moment: "I think it knows I'm a veery, too." Ms. Lee presents Asian; her students are diverse. A visually stirring guide to empathizing with the natural world. (further reading, facts about birds) (Picture book. 5-9)
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-0892-8	Clayface's Shape-Shift Showdown: Featuring The Signal!	Steve Korte	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5383-9707-7	Climb	Hannah Peckham	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9332-0	Clyde in Plain Sight (Hide and Seek with Clyde and Monique)	Graham Annable	A busy day of exploration for two friends—and readers. After arriving at Clyde's aunt's house, Monique wonders where Clyde is. He pops out and suggests that they play hide-and-seek in his aunt's vast backyard. Monique volunteers to seek, while Clyde is confident in his hiding abilities. The outdoor pastime is a festively furtive affair, with Monique reacting to every investigated corner. The child sneezes at the flowers, exclaims over the warmth of the greenhouse, and recoils in disgust at the basement cobwebs. The yard is filled with vocal animals, too, from a meowing cat to clucking chickens and quacking ducks. Anable slyly plays with perspective, from an overhead shot of Monique gazing into the chicken coop to lovely, panoramic views of the garden. He employs soft, fuzzy linework in keeping with the upbeat tone. The mischievous masterstroke, however, is how Clyde is hidden on nearly every page during the game. Looking for him is truly a lesson in observation and will get readers in the habit of paying close attention to the artwork in graphic novels: this is a tale to build visual literacy and set readers on the path to becoming longtime comics fans. Both kiddos are good sports about how the game concludes, and it all wraps up with a snack and a rematch. Monique is light-skinned; Clyde is tan-skinned. An irresistible playdate. (Graphic fiction. 4-8)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-4696-9	Comets	Elizabeth Andrews	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5383-9826-5	Conker and the Monkey Trap	Hannah Peckham	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5383-9704-6	Conker the Chameleon	Hannah Peckham	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-4780-5	Corn Snakes	Julie Murray	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-4994-5503-8	Cotton Cloud Refuses to Rain	Elizabeth F. Hill	
La Vernia Primary	9781516085118	Cougar clues	Whaley, Kayla	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-4689-1	Cougars	Elizabeth Andrews	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-64519-946-5	Cow's World Tour	Gillia Olson	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5341-1356-5	Cowpoke's Christmas	Ann Ingalls	A family-oriented celebration of hard work, capped with a special meal. Early on Christmas Day, Sam and Grandpa walk to the barn through a snowy yard. Before they can celebrate, they've got chores to do: milking the cow, bathing their big fluffy dog, and feeding the mare, chicks, pigs, calves, sheep, and goats. And, of course, they must check on the mare one more time. When Mama asks for help gathering eggs, Sam, petting a kitten and watching the cat lap up milk, readily agrees. Mama, Grandma, and Sam have plenty to do inside: chopping and peeling potatoes, sweeping up, and setting the table. Once all five are gathered around their laden table, Daddy says grace. Later that night, everyone piles into a horse-drawn wagon for a brief ride that ends at the barn, where a nativity scene awaits. The mare has birthed a foal. Brief rhyming couplets carry readers smoothly through a very busy day. Cartoon-style art in subdued colors depicts a soft, evenly lit, and orderly farm. Despite the snow, clothing choices such as wide-brimmed hats suggest a Southwest setting. Notably, Sam's family has a Christmas tree, but no gifts are seen or mentioned; warm family connection and Sam's willing participation are what truly matter on this day. This tale offers a positive, Santa-free take on the holiday that might be different from many readers' expectations, potentially expanding horizons. Characters are tan-skinned and dark-haired. A refreshingly uncommercial Yuletide tale. (Picture book. 4-8)
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8745-0312-3	Crab and Its Mother - What is the Best Way to Teach Others?	Aesop	

La Vernia Primary	978-0-593-62102-8	Crayons Trick or Treat	Drew Daywalt	Costumes? Check. Enthusiasm? Check. Door-knocking protocol? Not so much. Halloween night is off to a rough start in this spin-off from Daywalt and Jeffers, in which the crayons make some hilarious missteps when they head out trick-or-treating. Orange, fittingly dressed as a jack-o'-lantern, assures rule-follower Purple, sporting a sharp vampire getup, that the crayon crew knows just what to do, but the group proves unsure what to say when they knock on their neighbors' doors. Orange tries the first residence, saying "Give us your candy, lady," as Peach, wearing the crayon box, calls back to the original book, exclaiming, "I'm naked!" Subsequent stops prove equally silly as Purple, alongside bat-winged Black, coaches the pals on the holiday's conventional greeting, and finally gets everyone in line. This book's diminutive trim size and classic costumes make for predictably pleasing snack-size fun. Ages 4-8. (Sept.)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8842-5	Creature Powers: The Biggest! (Wild Kratts)	Chris Kratt, Martin Kratt	Gr 1–4—The Kratt Brothers are back, this time investigating big creatures and how their size helps them survive. The Kratts share information about 16 animals, from elephants to blue whales, showing how each one fights predators, hunts prey, or otherwise survives in the wild. As the brothers explore each animal's Creature Power, readers will giggle at the brothers' antics and get a kick out of how the animals react; for instance, the ostrich is shown kicking one of the brothers out of its nest. "The ostrich can kick with its big clawed feet and can run away with its long legs." Stylized, vivid cartoon illustrations mirror the text, giving deciphering tools for new readers. Children will love the just-ferocious-enough animals shown in their natural habitats and may be inspired to do further research. VERDICT Developing readers will enjoy the spreads, short sentences, and the Kratts, making this a good choice for early reader shelves.—Melisa Bailey
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9259-0	Creature Powers: The Fastest! (Wild Kratts)	Chris Kratt, Martin Kratt	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-4424-0297-3	Creepy Carrots!	Aaron Reynolds	In a spot-on parody of a paranoid thriller, a hungry bunny senses "creepy carrots" watching his every move. Jasper Rabbit doesn't think twice about plundering the carrots of Crackenhopper Field "until they started following him." Jasper glimpses three jack-o-lantern-jawed carrots behind him in the bathroom mirror (when he turns around it's just a washcloth, shampoo bottle, and rubber duck—or is it?), and he yells for his parents when a carrot shadow looms on his bedroom wall. Reynolds (Snowbots) makes liberal use of ellipses for suspense, conjuring the "soft... sinister... tunktunktunk of carrots creeping." Brown (Children Make Terrible Pets) illustrates in noirish grayscale with squash-orange highlights and dramatic lighting, framing each panel in shiny black for a claustrophobic film-still effect that cements the story's horror movie feel. Jasper's grin grows maniacal as he constructs a fortress and moat to contain the offending carrot patch, giving the carrots a happy ending in this Hitchcock spoof (Brown even sneaks in a sly Vertigo reference). Watch out, vegetarians—these carrots have bite! Ages 4–8. Agent: Paul Rodeen, Rodeen Literary Management. (Aug.)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5344-6588-6	Creepy Crayon!	Aaron Reynolds	When a young rabbit who's struggling in school finds a helpful crayon, everything is suddenly perfect—until it isn't. Jasper is flunking everything except art and is desperate for help when he finds the crayon. "Purple. Pointy. .perfect"—and alive. When Jasper watches TV instead of studying, he misspells every word on his spelling test, but the crayon seems to know the answers, and when he uses the crayon to write, he can spell them all. When he faces a math quiz after skipping his homework, the crayon aces it for him. Jasper is only a little creeped out until the crayon changes his art—the one area where Jasper excels—into something better. As guilt-ridden Jasper receives accolade after accolade for grades and work that aren't his, the crayon becomes more and more possessive of Jasper's attention and affection, and it is only when Jasper cannot take it anymore that he discovers just what he's gotten himself into. Reynolds' text might as well be a Rod Serling monologue for its perfectly paced foreboding and unsettling tension, both gentled by lightly ominous humor. Brown goes all in to match with a grayscale palette for everything but the purple crayon—a callback to black-and-white sci-fi thrillers as much as a visual cue for nascent horror readers. (This book was reviewed digitally.) Chilling in the best ways. (Picture book. 4-7)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-4994-5521-2	Curious Critters Go to School!	Karen Rahill	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9514-0	Curse of the Mummy (The Boxcar Children)	Gertrude Chandler Warner	
La Vernia Primary	9781524764470	Cute as an axolotl : discovering the world's most adorable animals	Keating, Jess	School Library Journal (June 1, 2018) Gr 3-5-Whether a creature looks like an unusual tadpole with feathery headgear (the axolotl) or an adorable miniature penguin (the 12-inch fairy penguin), readers will enjoy learning about these animals from around the world. This title has a lot of visual appeal for curious students-large photographs and cartoon graphics fill the pages. Readers might be learning about some animals like the furry little quokka from Western Australia for the first time. The author includes a page near the end called "The Science of Cute," which provides more information on how this all plays out in nature. ("Believe it or not, cuteness could be a survival strategy.") While the topic might seem lighthearted, there is enough scientific information woven into the text. Facts given about each animal include the species' name, size, diet, habitat, and predators and other threats. There is also a glossary at the back with terms like diurnal. VERDICT A home run for public and school libraries. The subject matter, the format, and visual components make this a title that is likely to see a lot of circulation.-Robin Sofge, Prince William Public Library System, VA © Copyright 2018. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9119-7	Cuttlebaby Sitter (Disney Junior Ariel)	Michelle Meadows	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8976-7	Daniel Makes a Mistake	Haley Hoffman	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9537-9	Daniel Tries It Himself (Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood)	Haley Hoffman	
La Vernia Primary	9781549006173	Dark shadows : yes, another misadventure	Cronin, Doreen	Booklist (May 15, 2017 [Online]) Grades 2-4. Road trip! The four chicks (Dirt, Sugar, Poppy, and Sweetie) travel to the farm to meet their aunts and cousins, only to find that someone has swiped their bag of jellybeans. Tricked into losing their secret stash as well, the intrepid chicks investigate and make a series of surprising discoveries. Plenty of comedy arises from seeing these familiar characters outside their comfort zone, and Sugar gives herself a new nickname that fans of the Chicken Squad series are sure to find hilarious. Throughout the book, Gilpin's cartoonlike, grayscale illustrations add to the drama as well as the fun. Just right for young chapter-book readers.
La Vernia Primary	9781546180296	Dawn of the Axolotl	Tan, Susan	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-593-62236-0	Day the Crayons Made Friends	Drew Daywalt	After Duncan finds his crayons gone—yet again—letters arrive, detailing their adventures in friendship. Eleven crayons send missives from their chosen spots throughout Duncan's home (and one from his classroom). Red enjoys the thrill of extinguishing "pretend fires" with Duncan's toy firetruck. White, so often dismissed as invisible, finds a new calling subbing in for the missing queen on the black-and-white chessboard. "Now everyone ALWAYS SEES ME!...(Well, half the time!)" Pink's living the dream as a pastry chef helming the Breezy Bake Oven, "baking everything from little cupcakes...to...OTHER little cupcakes!" Teal, who's hitched a ride to school in Duncan's backpack, meets the crayons in the boy's desk and writes, "Guess what? I HAVE A TWIN! How come you never told me?" Duncan wants to see his crayons and "meet their new friends." A culminating dinner party assembles the crayons and their many guests: a table tennis ball, dog biscuits, a well-loved teddy bear, and more. The premise—personified crayons, away and back again—is well-trammeled territory by now, after over a dozen books and spinoffs, and Jeffers once more delivers his signature cartooning and hand-lettering. Though the pages lack the laugh-out-loud sight gags and side-splittingly funny asides of previous outings, readers—especially fans of the crayons' previous outings—will enjoy checking in on their pals. Quirky, familiar fun for series devotees. (Picture book. 4-7)
La Vernia Primary	9798225003302	Defending the Swamp Dragon	West, Tracey	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5362-3550-0	Dictionary Story	Oliver Jeffers	The creators of A Child of Books (2016) are back with another charming work of metafiction. A little dictionary notices that while other books tell stories, she's just a list of definitions. Eager for change, Dictionary decides to bring her words to life, and things almost immediately get out of hand. A hungry alligator invades the D pages in search of a doughnut, which bounces further into the dictionary, running into a ghost, the moon, and a queen. All the while, and on almost every page, clues to the personalities, wants, and needs of the now-living words appear in the dictionary definitions, which are original, hilarious, and impressively plentiful. Things literally spiral into chaos thanks in large part to the appearance of a tornado, spilled ink, a Viking, and more. It takes Dictionary's friend Alphabet, who has a helpful little song, to get things back in order once more. Unimaginable care has been taken with the very real handmade books that visibly bookend the story (the dictionary is noticeably worse for wear by the end). Meanwhile, pages are filled to the brim with tiny details for eyes both young and old to find and enjoy (for instance, the editors of this dictionary are listed as "Woliver Efferes and Jam Spinston"). The occasional human characters have fanciful skin tones. With hijinks and hilarity hidden on every page, this is a sweet, strange, wordy tale bound to delight all who pick it up. (Picture book. 4-10)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8917-0	Dino Disaster (Spidey and His Amazing Friends)	Steve Behling	

La Vernia Primary	978-1-7284-6799-3	Dino-Birthday	Lisa Wheeler	K-Gr 3—A colorful, vibrant romp through dino land, where dinosaurs celebrate their birthday in fun and familiar ways. Following the seasons, the birthdays start in fall with T. rex, who celebrates with a sports-themed party. In winter, Maiasaura picks a snowy party, while in spring, Tricera chooses to go to a skate rink. The book ends with Pterodactyl twins having a summer pool party. There is a fun pattern with the Pterodactyl twins showing up to each party in a disguise connected to the theme. At their party, the other dinosaurs trick the twins by dressing up as sharks. With Wheeler's clever rhyming text and Gott's amusing illustrations, this is a perfect read aloud for Dinovember or any time of year. Children will relate to the themed parties and enjoy Gott's creative details that perfectly match the story. VERDICT Combining birthdays and dinosaurs is a perfect match. This book is guaranteed to have high circulation—best to order more than one!—Heidi Dechief Copyright 2025 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	9781496524904	Dino-Mike and the dinosaur cove	Aureliani, Franco	Horn Book Guide (Fall 2016) Mike and best friend Shannon travel the world with Mike's paleontologist dad, saving humanity from dinosaurs reanimated by villains using Mike's technology-enhanced dino jacket. They combat the elusive Mr. Bones at a dig in China (Fossils), then in Australia (Cove). Character development is weak, but the emphasis is on the plot-driven action. Grayscale cartoons are included; dinosaur facts appended. Glos. [Review covers the following Dino-Mike! titles: Dino-Mike and the Dinosaur Cove and Dino-Mike and the Living Fossils.]
La Vernia Primary	9781496524898	Dino-Mike and the living fossils	Aureliani, Franco	Horn Book Guide (Fall 2016) Mike and best friend Shannon travel the world with Mike's paleontologist dad, saving humanity from dinosaurs reanimated by villains using Mike's technology-enhanced dino jacket. They combat the elusive Mr. Bones at a dig in China (Fossils), then in Australia (Cove). Character development is weak, but the emphasis is on the plot-driven action. Grayscale cartoons are included; dinosaur facts appended. Glos. [Review covers the following Dino-Mike! titles: Dino-Mike and the Dinosaur Cove and Dino-Mike and the Living Fossils.]
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8746-6	Dino-Rama (Spidey and His Amazing Friends)	Josh Haber	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-7284-6798-6	Dino-School	Lisa Wheeler	
La Vernia Primary	9781489824172	Dinos are forever	Trine, Greg	Kirkus Reviews (June 15, 2012) The wacky origin story of a fourth-grade girl superhero from the author of the Melvin Beederman, Superhero series. Jo Schmo's normal life of skateboards and crushes is cast aside with the arrival of a mysterious package from her Uncle George (who is actually her mother's second cousin, once removed on account of being stinky). Ready to retire from his life as a superhero, Uncle George bequeaths his cape to Jo so that she may take up the calling. But she's a little girl, and the cape is too long—the piece Grandpa Joe cuts off makes a perfect cape for her loyal dog and now sidekick, Raymond. The cape gives the duo superpowers—strength for Jo and heroic amounts of drool for Raymond. Luckily, Jo has a capable mentor in Grandpa Joe, a retired sheriff. But soon they must face the mad scientist, super-villain Dr. Dastardly, and his latest invention for evil: the Re-animator Laminator. The zany writing wavers between slapstick and tongue-in-cheek. The edge is taking off the fighting part of crime-fighting through silly attack names like "Russian Toe Hold" and "Siberian Ear Tweak." Dorrner's movement-oriented illustrations complement the fast pace of the story and suit the comical tone, as well. Lighter-than-air superhero fun. (Adventure. 6-9)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9009-1	Dinosaur Discovery! (PAW Patrol: Rubble and Crew)	Hollis James	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9161-6	Dinosaur Friends! (Dinosaur Roar!)	Patty Michaels, Peter Curtis	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9398-6	Disaster Alert! (Marvel's Storm)	Daka Hermon	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5455-1	Disney Villains: Maleficent	Steve Behling	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9583-6	Disney Zootopia 2 Step into Reading, Step 3		
La Vernia Primary	978-1-63079-291-6	Do Not Bring Your Dragon to Grandma's	Julie Gassman	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-63079-340-1	Do Super Heroes Make Mistakes?	Michael Dahl	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-3849-0501-1	Dog Origami	Zoezy Schrader	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-8984-4	Dog Park Disguise	Natasha Deen	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9112-8	Dog Show (Disney Stitch)		
La Vernia Primary	9798318906497	Doggo and Pupper Save the World	Applegate, Katherine	School Library Journal starred (March 1, 2022) Gr 1-3-Applegate's second tale about two canine friends offers early readers another entertaining story about being kind to others. Upon observing a bird, Pupper voices his longing to fly; he likes to picture himself as a superhero in a red suit with yellow boots and flowing cape. One day, a baby bird flies from a nest, leaving its sibling alone. Doggo assures Pupper the fledgling "will fly when he is ready." The two dogs make plans to attend a music concert at the park, but when they arrive, they discover the second baby bird hiding under a bush. Pupper insists they stay close to make sure the fledgling is safe until its mother arrives; they miss the concert, but perform a good deed. Alder's humorous illustrations, created from a mix of collage and digital techniques, include Doggo lying on a bench with his legs crossed at the ankles; Cat snacking on Goldfish crackers; and Doggo's ability to use the TV remote control and willingness to teach Pupper to play the drums. The book concludes with "Pupper's Guide to Being a Hero," which lists 10 codes of conduct, including "Be helpful," "Imagine how others feel," and "Listen well." Pupper learns that while giving assistance to those in need may not always look flashy, it can still make one feel like a superhero. VERDICT A number of attractive features, including cartoon illustrations, seven short chapters, numbered pages, and being part of a series will entice early readers. A first purchase for libraries.-Maryann H. Owen © Copyright 2022. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-77306-771-1	Dogs and Us: A Fifteen-Thousand-Year Friendship	Marta Pantaleo	A fetching tribute to a long and fruitful association between two species. "It doesn't take much for us to understand each other," writes Pantaleo, in Bibo's translation from Italian, "but it hasn't always been this way." In the simply phrased narrative that follows, prehistoric humans and early wolves hunting mammoths gradually come together. Then, as eras pass, humans are depicted in the conventional dress of many cultures and periods posing with differing breeds of dogs—in war and peace, in work and play—up to modern views of people and pooches in settings both rural and urban. "Together forever," she concludes, "dogs and us!" For families in search of canine companions, she appends portraits of 35 domestic breeds, plus a dingo standing in for wild strains; each comes with brief notes (translated by Ghione) about its history, distinctive characteristics, and disposition. In the illustrations, two-legged figures, though stylized in dress and features, are nearly as diverse as the array of affectionate four-legged ones, and the message that there is a dog for everyone—and vice versa—comes through clearly. A quick overview with a bit of historical perspective sure to enrich the natural bonds between dogs and dog lovers. (Informational picture book. 5-9)
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-1765-4	Dogs Do a Lot	Tiffany Renando	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5383-9832-6	Don't Be SillyWrong Leg, Billy!	Antonis Papatheodoulou	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9474-7	Donkey Hodie Meets Daniel Tiger	Maria Le	
La Vernia Primary	9781516054930	Dorks in New York!	Gutman, Dan	
La Vernia Primary	9781537977829	Dory Dory black sheep	Hanlon, Abby	Booklist (November 1, 2016 (Online)) Grades 1-3. While Dory's friend Rosabelle can read chapter books, Dory struggles with selections from the easy-reader bin. Initially resistant to learning, she begins to engage with the written word in her own original way. As always, fantasy flavors her reality, and Dory often draws her other classmates into her lively, imaginative play, which now includes a superhero. Hanlon has a winning way with the story's characters (real and imaginary) and dialogue. With amusing situations and expressive, childlike drawings, the third entry in the Dory Fantasmagory series will satisfy the many young chapter-book readers who like their books served with a generous helping of fun.

La Vernia Primary	978-1-7972-3258-4	Dot! Scribble! Go! (Interactive)	Herve Tullet	Art making is distilled into simple steps--and a whole lotta fun. Black "dots, lines, smudges, and scribbles" appear on a white background. An unseen narrator instructs readers to place their hands on the page to feel it "vibrate." On the next page, the patterns have formed the shape of a hand--the "drawing hand"--as if the dots and lines are reacting to the actual hand that's touched them. In typical Tullet fashion, subsequent pages allow readers to interact with the book and to make art by following simple instructions. First, kids are invited to use their fingers to drag and drop red, blue, and yellow dots onto little marked x's to make "a whole dance of dots!" and, later, a flower. Readers are asked to draw lines and then scribbles. Each prompt ends with bold, black lines transforming the project into a flower--even after some surprising twists. Encouraging phrases such as "Brilliant!" and "Bravo, bravo!" cheer readers on throughout. The inclusion of smudges and other imperfections beautifully provides nonverbal support for the affirmations. Tullet has molded a familiar formula into something both fun and meaningful. By starting simple and moving on to more abstract techniques, the book represents a scaffolded lesson at its best. The open-ended conclusion brilliantly takes art out of flower territory and opens a Pandora's box of creativity. A call to action that's sure to make an artist out of anyone. (Interactive picture book. 3-6) COPYRIGHT(2024) Kirkus Reviews, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-4197-5436-4	Dragonflies of Glass: The Story of Clara Driscoll and the Tiffany Girls	Susan Goldman Rubin	Glass designer Clara Driscoll (1861: 1944) dazzles in this illuminating story about her pivotal role in creating some of Tiffany Glass Company's most iconic pieces. Beginning with the protagonist's love of nature in her Ohio childhood, the book leaps swiftly ahead to her move to New York City, where she studies at the Metropolitan Museum Art School, then is hired by Louis Comfort Tiffany on the basis of her floral sketches. Bringing Driscoll's voice into the story with quotations from her letters, Goldman Rubin's text-heavy pages also delve vividly into the process of making intricate glass art. Chapman balances the in-depth storytelling with saturated watercolor, gouache, and cut paper illustrations have a glimmering quality reminiscent of creations of the "Tiffany Girls." As the subject's career takes off, a brief parallel visual story unfolds along the bottom of the page, underscoring the role that memories of home inspired Driscoll's creative process. Driscoll appeals as a fascinating figure in this immersive historical read. Background characters are portrayed with various skin tones. Back matter includes author and artist notes and resources. Ages 6: 9. (Feb.)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9581-2	Dream Team (Disney Zootopia 2)		
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8843-2	Dream Team! / Glitter and Shine! (LEGO DREAMZzz)	Kaela Rivera	Gr 2–3—LEGO DREAMZzz introduces young readers to a thrilling universe-spanning TV shows, web shorts, building sets, and books. In this double-header, friends battle against The Nightmare King and his Grimspawn minions, who threaten to plunge the dream realms into chaos. With fantastical elements like a space bus, transforming blobs, giant bunnies, and flying evil unicorns, these action-packed adventures leave little room for calm. Readers unfamiliar with the DREAMZzz universe might find the book's lack of context confusing. Vocabulary related to the world, such as grimspawn and grimesteed, might challenge new readers. Despite any initial confusion, both stories end positively. Full-color illustrations are sure to captivate young readers. LEGO has made strides in diversifying its characters, featuring physical differences such as dreadlocks, vitiligo, and prosthetics. However, the backstories of these characters may develop more fully across other media, but not in these two entries. VERDICT Update or add to early reader paperback collections with this LEGO double feature.—Ellen Williams
La Vernia Primary	978-1-68464-896-2	Duck Goes Meow	Juliette MacIver	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-64519-945-8	Duck's Big Leap	Elizabeth Clark	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-9785-7475-5	Dwarf Planets	Murray "oak" Tapeta	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-9785-7478-6	Earth	Murray "oak" Tapeta	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-89359-001-2	Earth's Eco-Warriors and the Fight for Eco-Friendly Food	Shalini Vallepur	Gr 1-3--In this series, three children, adorned with leaves, and their dog take on the role of teaching adults how to protect the environment. Each book starts with a "planet promise," outlining simple ways to help the Earth. The kids then show how to tackle environmentally harmful behaviors their parents engage in, offering practical tips like composting, creating backyard habitats, reducing plastic use, and donating unwanted items instead of discarding them. While some suggestions, such as avoiding air travel, may seem impractical, the series offers a lot of valuable guidance. Each book includes a related activity, a glossary, and an index. VERDICT A useful resource, especially where books on environmental action are in demand. Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	979-8-89359-002-9	Earth's Eco-Warriors and the War on Waste	Shalini Vallepur	Gr 1-3--In this series, three children, adorned with leaves, and their dog take on the role of teaching adults how to protect the environment. Each book starts with a "planet promise," outlining simple ways to help the Earth. The kids then show how to tackle environmentally harmful behaviors their parents engage in, offering practical tips like composting, creating backyard habitats, reducing plastic use, and donating unwanted items instead of discarding them. While some suggestions, such as avoiding air travel, may seem impractical, the series offers a lot of valuable guidance. Each book includes a related activity, a glossary, and an index. VERDICT A useful resource, especially where books on environmental action are in demand. Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	979-8-89359-003-6	Earth's Eco-Warriors Evolve the Ecosystem	Shalini Vallepur	Gr 1-3--In this series, three children, adorned with leaves, and their dog take on the role of teaching adults how to protect the environment. Each book starts with a "planet promise," outlining simple ways to help the Earth. The kids then show how to tackle environmentally harmful behaviors their parents engage in, offering practical tips like composting, creating backyard habitats, reducing plastic use, and donating unwanted items instead of discarding them. While some suggestions, such as avoiding air travel, may seem impractical, the series offers a lot of valuable guidance. Each book includes a related activity, a glossary, and an index. VERDICT A useful resource, especially where books on environmental action are in demand. Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	979-8-89359-004-3	Earth's Eco-Warriors Go Green for Good	Shalini Vallepur	Gr 1-3--In this series, three children, adorned with leaves, and their dog take on the role of teaching adults how to protect the environment. Each book starts with a "planet promise," outlining simple ways to help the Earth. The kids then show how to tackle environmentally harmful behaviors their parents engage in, offering practical tips like composting, creating backyard habitats, reducing plastic use, and donating unwanted items instead of discarding them. While some suggestions, such as avoiding air travel, may seem impractical, the series offers a lot of valuable guidance. Each book includes a related activity, a glossary, and an index. VERDICT A useful resource, especially where books on environmental action are in demand. Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	978-0-593-69932-4	Echo	Adam Rex	In this socio-emotional picture book, young Junior Junior finds a seemingly ideal friend in the echo that bounces off an adjacent mountain near his high-altitude home. When he shouts approbations such as "JUNIOR JUNIOR IS THE GREATEST IN THE WORLD!" the echo immediately agrees. Then a real kid, Sandy, moves in next door; not only does she refuse to echo Junior Junior's inflated sense of self, she also calls him out when he's wrong. Flummoxed, Junior Junior runs away to hang full-time with the echo, embodied as the child's doppelganger. But the echo's constant agreement soon becomes tiresome, and the child realizes it's more fun to be with someone who challenges and engages. "I'm glad you're here," Junior Junior tells Sandy after offering an apology, and when Sandy reflects those exact words back, he learns the importance of having an authentic mirror. Astutely recognizing the universal allure of constant validation, Rex (Tumblebaby) employs a slyly comic narrative and sculptural digital drawings to nudge readers toward a greater truth: real reciprocity thrives on the perspective that everyone brings to the table. Characters are portrayed with pale skin. Ages 4: 8. Agent: Steven Malk, Writers House. (Mar.)
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-6898-6	Eek, Amphibians!	Candice Ransom	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-689-84908-4	Elena's Serenade	Campbell Geeslin	K-Gr 4-In this story set in Mexico, a young girl longingly watches her papa blow into a pipe to create bottles, and dreams about doing the same. Papa disapproves, with comments about her size and gender. Hurt and angry, Elena takes her brother's advice and, disguised as a boy, begins a journey to Monterrey, home of the great glassblowers. Stopping to rest along the way, she pulls out her pipe to blow and is surprised when a melodious sound emerges. Her beautiful notes give lost and lonely Burro comfort, help hopeless Roadrunner to move faster, and allow shrill-sounding Coyote to make sweet melodies. With newly acquired confidence in her abilities, the girl finally reaches Monterrey. Although the men laugh at her, she closes her eyes and plays "Estrellita" while blowing a star out of glass. Desperate to share her talent with her father, Elena blows out a giant bird and flies home, and Papa soon realizes how special she is. The story flows well and Spanish words are smoothly incorporated into the text. The alluring acrylic-and-crayon illustrations have a stylized folk-art quality that helps to set the stage for the tale. Juan uses striking color combinations and shifting perspective to keep attention focused on the child and her changing emotions. The final images of Elena, complete with smiling face and flowing hair, reveal her blossoming identity along with her talents. A fascinating adventure that explores issues of gender roles, self-confidence, and the workings of an artist's heart.-Tracy Bell, Durham Public Schools, NC Copyright 2004 Reed Business Information.

La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-1989-6	Elephant and the Purim Crown	Haviva Kierzenblat	A young girl's compassion proves more precious than gold or rubies. Drawing from her mother's childhood in Burma (now Myanmar), where a vibrant Jewish community flourished for years, Kierzenblat tells a story centered on the Jewish value of treating animals with kindness. Rachel is on her way to a Purim celebration when her cousin points out a man offering elephant rides. She's disturbed to find that underneath its elaborate costume, the animal is old and tired. Later, at the Purim festival, Rachel wins a valuable golden crown. She decides to trade her prize for the elephant, allowing it to retire. The elephant handler is so moved by her selflessness that he lets her keep the crown and the elephant. Rachel donates both to a sanctuary, demonstrating that animals are the real treasure. Though wearing costume crowns is a common way to honor Purim hero Queen Esther, readers may find it implausible that a child is inexplicably gifted a towering, bejeweled creation worth more than an elephant. Still, with richly colored illustrations and alliterative text, the story portrays a variety of Burmese Jewish foods, clothing, and traditions. Characters are depicted with medium to dark brown skin tones. An author's note addresses both Kierzenblat's connection to the historic Jewish community in Myanmar and the status of its elephants, accompanied by photographs. A welcome glimpse of a culture too rarely depicted in American children's literature. (glossary) (Picture book. 3-8)
La Vernia Primary	9781423114109	Elephants cannot dance!	Willems, Mo	Horn Book Magazine (July/August, 2009) Whether elephants can (or should) dance is the quandary presented to preschoolers and new readers in the latest Elephant & Piggie easy reader. When elephant Gerald intones, "Elephants cannot dance," Piggie responds with a crestfallen, "You are kidding me." It turns out that elephants can try to dance, and that even though Gerald can't keep up with Piggie, he has a few (unwitting) moves of his own. Color-coded speech bubbles (pink for Piggie, gray for Gerald, and brown for the little squirrels who join the story near its end) focus the new reader's attention on the simple words and expressive illustrations. Despite some challenging sight words (e.g., "ENOUGH!"), the story is easily understood and will provide instant reading success and lots of laughs, especially if the audience attempts to act out the story and dance lesson themselves. The repetition in the dialogue ("Robot walk!" "Robot walk?!") demonstrates just how much tone and context can affect meaning. We have come to expect delicious hilarity from this interspecies friendship, and indeed Willems's comedic gifts are many – both friends' slyly emotive eyes and Gerald's Richard Simmons-esque workout clothes can reduce a roomful of listeners to giggles. Though this episode is less rooted in a young child's daily experiences than the other books in the series, the idea that difficult tasks can at least be attempted is a valuable one.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8347-5	Elio Goes to Space! (Disney/Pixar Elio)	Cynthia Liu	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8348-2	Elio's New Friends (Disney/Pixar Elio)	Kristine Osaki	
La Vernia Primary	9781489893772	Ellie and the good-luck pig	Barkley, Callie	Horn Book Guide (Fall 2015) When a pig named Plum comes to the shelter, everything starts going Ellie's way. When Plum is adopted, Ellie's luck changes for the worse. Was Plum Ellie's good luck charm? The Critter Club girls help Ellie see that it's really her hard work that helped her. This easygoing, generously illustrated chapter book fits right in with the rest of the sweet series.
La Vernia Primary	9798368781648	Ellie finds her voice	Barkley, Callie	
La Vernia Primary	9781544402901	Ellie steps up to the plate	Barkley, Callie	
La Vernia Primary	9781713747192	Ellie tames the tiger	Barkley, Callie	
La Vernia Primary	9781518140969	Ellie the flower girl	Barkley, Callie	
La Vernia Primary	9781489816078	Ellie's lovely idea	Barkley, Callie	
La Vernia Primary	9780329906290	EllRay Jakes is a rock star!	Warner, Sally	School Library Journal (August 1, 2014) Gr 1-3-A bragging contest in EllRay Jakes's third grade class quickly morphs into a risky game of one-upmanship with EllRay caught in the center. Initially, he tries to persuade his family to buy an ATV, but in an effort to place himself on the class popularity map, EllRay impulsively decides to borrow his father's rock collection, unbeknownst to his dad. What begins as the best Tuesday EllRay had ever had ends in disaster when he starts giving away crystals in an effort to buy his peers' admiration. When his father discovers EllRay's deceit, the consequences fit the crime. Warner's use of humor in addressing issues of bullying and popularity will attract even reluctant readers. Corey Allen's narration is infused with warmth and wit. This second book in the EllRay Jakes series will have star appeal in any library.-Terri Perper, Middletown Public Library, MD (c) Copyright 2012. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9781489805959	Ellray Jakes is magic!	Warner, Sally	School Library Journal (July 1, 2015) Gr 2-4-When the principal decides that an end-of-year talent show is in order, EllRay Jakes and his classmates do what they can to get out of performing. EllRay ends up being selected for his "illusions" and develops a better relationship with his professor dad as he prepares for the big show. Corey Allen portrays the students at Oak Glen Primary with just the right amount of humor laced with a tiny bit of the sarcasm that third-graders are developing. Over the course of the tale, one can also hear EllRay's confidence growing through Allen's phrasing and word emphasis. In addition, both Miss Sanchez, his teacher, and his principal come across as both competent and caring people. -VERDICT A great addition that shows an average kid being good at something he never thought was possible.-Ann Brownson, Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL © Copyright 2015. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9780329906306	EllRay Jakes is not a chicken!	Warner, Sally	School Library Journal (April 1, 2014) Gr 1-3-Third grader EllRay Jakes is fighting a secret war against Jared and Stanley, two bigger boys in his class who take every opportunity to call him names or grind their knuckles into his ribs. He is afraid to tell his parents, teacher, or anyone else, for fear that the situation will get worse and he'll get in trouble. He already is in trouble at home because his latest progress report said he was disruptive in class. (He tried to explain that the girl next to him wanted to be distracted, but no one listened.) When his father promises EllRay a family trip to Disneyland if he can stay out of trouble for one week, EllRay uses every bit of creativity and will an eight-year-old can exert to avoid the bullies and keep his nose clean. The story is told from EllRay's point of view, so the listener is able to see the world through his eyes. In this series first, available on audio for the first time, Warner has created a memorable, realistic character in EllRay, even though she misses the opportunity to teach her audience that it is okay to ask grownups for help. The narrator, Corey Allen, was not convincing as the voice of EllRay, however, and may be annoying to listeners.-Amanda Rollins, Northwest Village School, Plainville, CT (c) Copyright 2014. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9781624021909	Elmer the very sneaky sheep	Harrington, Claudia	
La Vernia Primary	9798368748214	Eloise the flame dragon	Mara, Maddy	School Library Journal (December 1, 2024) Gr 2-5-In the three newest titles of the "Dragon Girls" series, each character-Mina, Zora, and Eloise-takes the spotlight in her own adventure as they transform into dragons to protect the Magic Forest. The Chaos Queen is relentless in her attempts to destroy the forest, using threats like blue snow, dangerous fires, and lightning storms. It's up to the dragon girls to thwart her plans and protect their magical world. While the illustrations are small, they add a touch of whimsy, bringing the fantasy elements to life. The concept of girls transforming into dragons is imaginative and sure to captivate young readers, particularly those new to chapter books. With action-packed scenes and a strong sense of friendship, this series offers plenty of excitement. VERDICT A great addition to any collection, especially where there is a demand for dragon-themed stories that inspire courage and teamwork. © Copyright 2024. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9462-4	Elvis and Romeo Go to Dog School (Elvis and Romeo)	Jacky Davis	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9570-6	Ember the Fire Dragon (Dragon Hill)	Tracey West	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5344-8661-4	Emilio Sloth's Modern Manners	Renee Ahdieh	In this work about a character who knows how to make others feel seen and valued, Ahdieh (The Wrath and the Dawn), making her picture book debut, and Marley (Charlotte and the Nutcracker) extend the realm of manners to social-emotional awareness. Sloth Emilio, portrayed with gentle, alert eyes, believes that some things are "worth taking my time" ("Did you know there are a hundred ways to tie a cravat? Some days it is difficult to decide"). Donning a top hat and cravat to meet a friend, Emilio heads out with enough time to prioritize punctuality as well as appreciate a nightingale acquaintance's park song and engage in a brief but meaningful conversation with new friend Mildred Mouse. Prizing mutuality, Emilio responds when asked after, then returns the favor: "When she talks, my favorite thing to do is take my time to listen. If she is sad, I listen. If she is happy, I listen." In a conflict-free story that moves at its protagonist's measured pace, Emilio's heartfelt intentionality, and digital art that exudes earnest, focused calm, speak volumes about remedies to distraction and detachment; namely genuine connection, mindful interaction, and taking one's time. Ages 4: 8. Author's agent: Barbara Poelle, Irene Goodman. Illustrator's agent: Anne Moore Armstrong, Bright Agency. (Oct.)
La Vernia Primary	9798368782294	Emily the emerald fairy	Meadows, Daisy	

La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-0449-6	Etrog from Across the Sea	Deborah Bodin Cohen, Kerry Olitzky	A Jewish family in colonial New York hopes Papa will come back in time for Sukkot. In July 1729, Leah, Aaron, and Mama wait for Papa, a merchant currently on the island of Corsica, to return to their woodland homestead. The Jewish holidays are approaching, and Papa has promised to bring home an etrog, a citrus fruit resembling a bumpy lemon. (This fruit is one of four plants used to decorate a sukkah, a small hut built by observant Jews to celebrate Sukkot.) The family travels to Grandpapa Luis' elegant New York City home to await Papa's ship; it doesn't come. Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur pass; still, Papa doesn't return. At last, Mama declares it's time they leave; she must run their business. Grandpapa Luis gives Leah a silver cup; she can put the etrog into it when Papa finally comes back. Back home, the family builds and decorates their sukkah and waits. The first night of Sukkot is especially joyous: Papa returns, bringing his promised bounty. This touching story, written by two rabbis, offers a glimpse into a lesser-known aspect of colonial America and celebrates the warmth of family togetherness. The authors' note explains that Grandpapa Luis is based on Luis Moises Gomez, a Sephardic Jewish colonial merchant and trader. The lovely, stylized illustrations expertly capture historical details and resemble delicate paintings on porcelain or needlework on embroidery samplers. A homey, appealing holiday celebration. (Picture book. 5-8)
La Vernia Primary	9798368764320	Etta flies high	Mara, Maddy	
La Vernia Primary	9781546127086	Eva and the new teacher	Elliott, Rebecca	
La Vernia Primary	9781338880281	Eva for president	Elliott, Rebecca	
La Vernia Primary	9781546127116	Eva Saves the Day --A Branches Book	Elliott, Rebecca	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-6902-0	Ew, Reptiles!	India James	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-4781-2	Eyesh Vipers	Julie Murray	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9489-1	Face in the Mirror and Other Scary Stories	Max Brallier	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9291-0	Fairy Fashion Show (Fairies Welcome)	Bea Jackson	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9059-6	Fairy Finds Her Song (Fairies Welcome)	Bea Jackson	PreS-Gr 2—This endearing early reader features a cast of fairy friends with brown skin celebrating their magical gifts in nature. Lily is a young fairy anxiously awaiting the growth of her wings. When she finds her gift, her wings will get bigger and more colorful. Though all her fairy friends have obvious gifts, Lily believes hers is hard to find. Her human friend, Willow, thinks otherwise and helps Lily believe in herself and discover just what she has to offer. Digitally rendered watercolor-style illustrations depicting fairies with a variety of body types fill the pages and help bring the story to life. Young readers will be drawn to the bright colors and highlights that resemble sparkles. These elements, combined with forest animals throughout, add to the magical feel of the whole story. The text is large and appropriate for an early reader. Most sentences are simple, and words are repeated throughout the story. There are some more challenging words, but these won't dissuade new readers. While the diversity of skin tones and body types is encouraging and needed in early reader sections, the fairies depicted are all still hyperfeminized. This book will appeal to young readers who are drawn to bright colors, fairies, and woodland animals. VERDICT A recommended purchase for libraries expanding their early reader sections.—Jessica Trafton Copyright 2025 Reed Business Information.
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-9110-6	Fall	Karen Bischer	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-2611-5	Fast Fighter Jets	Brianna Kaiser	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8817-3	Fast Food, Fast Cars!	Eric Geron	
La Vernia Primary	9781532131752	Fawn the very small deer	Harrington, Claudia	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9368-9	Field Day (Curious George)	H. A. REY	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-88989-428-5	Fighter Jets	Laura K. Murray	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-9785-3962-4	Fighter Planes	Eleanor Bradshaw	Gr 1-3—Young military enthusiasts will delight in these introductions to well-known machines employed by the armed forces. Readers learn the history of each machine: tanks were first used in World War I to cross trenches, the first amphibious vehicle was built in 1807, and helicopters were intended to rescue people. Each volume contains interesting facts such as the great height of Air Force One, that aircraft carriers have their own hospitals, and that the F-35 fighter plane can take off straight in the air. Colorful photographs enhance the text and will be appreciated by the readers as much as the narratives. The only drawback is there is not a lot of new information presented and collections may already have sufficient books on the topic. VERDICT These nice works should be considered where collections need refreshing. Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	9781479598045	Fin-tastic fashion	Young, Jessica	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-9510-4	Finn Swims	Leanna Koch	PreS-K—The books in this set intend to support early readers, but frequently do not meet developmental and curricular benchmarks. The stories can feel disorganized, with texts that introduce too many different phonemes at once, making it difficult for young readers to focus on decoding skills. For example, in Pet Tricks, the plot is cluttered with too many characters, making it challenging to follow and distracting from the phonics practice. VERDICT This lack of controlled text and focus undermines the series' effectiveness as a decodable reading tool for early literacy.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9361-0	Fire Rescue (PAW Patrol)	Matt Huntley	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-80466-119-2	First Big Book of How: How Do Polar Bears Keep Warm? How Do Keys Open Locks? How to Spacesuits Work? The Ultimate Book of Answers for Kids Who Need to Know How!	Sally Symes	Fascinating photos and interesting illustrations take center stage in this fun, fact-filled book. A colorful, appealingly organized, and straightforward table of contents describes the six high-interest subjects the book covers—the body, machines and buildings, wild animals, bugs, Earth, and space—immediately signaling to readers that they can enjoy the information within in myriad ways. Longer segments that answer questions like "How do touchscreens work?" and "How do we know what extinct creatures looked like?" allow learners to gain a more in-depth understanding of a range of subjects. Many pages include a text bubble that presents a "wacky fact," a fascinating tidbit designed to engage and impress—for example, that scientists once found a suit of armor in a shark's stomach—which is a clever way to help readers retain information. For those with shorter attention spans, "Tell me how...NOW!" spreads provide quick answers to burning questions, such as "How many times do people pass gas in a day?" The informal language and kid-friendly phrasing make the facts feel like thrilling wisdom passed between friends on the playground, and the numerous references to poop will delight many readers. Stunning photographs interspersed among the charming illustrations and clear scientific diagrams add greatly to the overall appeal. The photos and artwork portray a racially diverse array of people. A well-researched, visually impressive informational treat. (glossary, index, source notes, picture credits) (Nonfiction. 5-10)
La Vernia Primary	979-8-3849-0502-8	Fish Origami	Zoey Schrader	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-4719-6	Fish Thief	Jenny Moore	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5038-7093-2	Fisherman and His Wife	Rebecca Felix	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5580-0	Flat Stanley and the Bees	Jeff Brown	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5581-7	Flat Stanley and the Lost Treasure	Jeff Brown	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5582-4	Flat Stanley and the Very Big Cookie	Jeff Brown	

La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-2706-8	Flip! Flap! & Go for It!	Katie Dale	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-58089-880-5	Flip!: How the Frisbee Took Flight	Margaret Muirhead	K-Gr 2—The frisbee is such a ubiquitous toy, it is hard to imagine a time when it didn't exist. This nonfiction picture book tells the story of the origin and marketing of the classic toy. After a brief mention of older disc games (like those in Ancient Greece), the book begins exploring the creation of the frisbee almost simultaneously in two places in early-20th century America—Yale University and California beaches. Told in narrative text and colorful drawn illustrations, the frisbee evolves from a pastry dish to a plastic saucer and the toy we know now. The colorful cartoon-like drawings well match the subject matter. The elongated arms of the disc-throwing people especially suggests the sense of movement. Other than a brief author's note at the end and a short list of sources, there is no additional back matter or historical information. No photos are included to provide more context. While this will be good as a story for young students, it will not be sufficient for older students doing research. VERDICT A sweet nonfiction picture book explaining the history of the frisbee which might be of interest to young students but lacks any additional depth for further learning.—Elizabeth Nicolai, Anchorage P.L., AK
La Vernia Primary	979-8-3849-0503-5	Flower Origami	Zoey Schrader	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-3849-0504-2	Food Origami	Zoey Schrader	
La Vernia Primary	9780062216335	Forces of nature	Ball, Nate	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8921-7	Fox Plays Ball	Corey R. Tabor	PreS-Gr 3--A fun read about a mixed group of animals who are competitive no matter their size. Fox wants to play ball, and soon is joined by Elephant, Bear, and Rabbit in a game officiated by Penguin. Snail does not want to miss out, even though he is such a small creature. Elephant kicks the ball to start the game. It soars. Illustrations show the ball going far away, into the mountains and trees, and the animals scurry to claim their prize. Fox is elated when he gets to the ball first. Little does he know the punishment his body is about to take: Rabbit, Bear, and Elephant pile on top of him, causing the ball to squirt out. Snail claims victory, proving that underdogs can win, even if the odds are against them. Readers will love seeing unlikely friends playing together. Lively illustrations capture the game and the players' emotions as they chase the ball. A spread with the animals chasing the ball as it repeatedly goes "boing" off trees, rocks, and hills is laugh-out-loud funny. The expression on Bear's face as he concentrates while trying to catch the ball is phenomenal. For further whimsy, Rabbit uses a kitchen colander as a football helmet. This book will appeal to parents and caregivers as a solid teaching tool. A note before the story offers guidance on using I Can Read titles for shared reading, reading with help, beginning reading, and reading alone. VERDICT A must-have for all elementary collections.--Pamela Thompson McLeod Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	978-0-593-64827-8	Fraser the Forest Ranger	Matthew Schufman	A forest ranger, Fraser lives in a cabin atop Pine Peak, surrounded by the forest he loves. He walks down through the woods daily, checking on the animals and trees. Later, he goes home and eats his dinner (pancakes) by himself. He paddles a canoe by himself, plays chess by himself, and celebrates his birthday by himself. Realizing that he’s lonely, Fraser goes to a city, but no one ever stops to talk with him. He walks back in the dark. Entering the cabin, he’s shocked to find another ranger there. He’s in Hazel’s cabin, and she invites him for dinner (pancakes!). No longer lonely, Fraser loves the forest and especially loves having a friend nearby. An unassuming fellow, Fraser is among the picture-book characters who long for friendship and, when they look, find it. The narrative, written in short, well-phrased sentences, reads aloud well. Created using paint, paper, and digital media, the richly colorful illustrations bring order and balance even to the forest. A pleasing picture book featuring a quiet character.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0398-4992-1	Friends for Life	Paul Veenstra	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0398-8125-9	Friendship Soup	Laurie Friedman	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9593-5	Fun Day with Bash! (Dinosaur Roar!)	Patty Michaels, Peter Curtis	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-8857-0	Fun Facts About Lizards	Julie Murray	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-8860-0	Fun Facts About Spiders	Julie Murray	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-1781-4	Fun in the Sun	Tiffany Renando	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-2476-8	Funnel-Web Spiders	Lisa J. Amstutz	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9432-7	Gabby's Dollhouse: The Movie	Gabrielle Reyes	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-88989-232-8	Galaxies	Matt Lilley	
La Vernia Primary	9781668875667	Game day	Penney, Shannon	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-2714-1	Gems	Laura Stickney	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9096-1	George's Digger	Lori Froeb	
La Vernia Primary	9781338877670	Get well, pug	May, Kyla	School Library Journal (May 1, 2025) K-Gr 3-Baron Von Bubbles, better known as Bub the Pug, is back-this time with a solo in Bella's Pet Choir. The book follows the familiar format of lined paper with text, large colorful illustrations, and expressive speech bubbles. A fun visual touch is the small emotion bubble near Bub, changing colors and expressions to match his feelings-red for anger, orange for surprise, green for happiness, and more. When Bub falls off the stage and breaks his leg, he's stuck wearing a plastic cone, which ruins his outfit and makes him want to quit. But with some encouragement, he learns that what matters most isn't how he looks-it's being himself. The short, simple text and engaging format make this a great choice for readers transitioning to chapter books. The back matter includes comprehension questions and activity ideas for deeper engagement. VERDICT A lively and creative addition to this entertaining series, sure to delight Bub the Pug fans. © Copyright 2025. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9169-2	Getting Ready for First Grade	Vera Ahiyya	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-7282-8351-7	Gifts from the Garbage Truck: A True Story About the Things We (Don't) Throw Away	Andrew Larsen	Preschool-Grade 3 "Starred Review" As a child whose mother taught him to reuse and recycle cast-offs, Nelson Molina enjoyed picking up discarded items, repairing them, and turning them into gifts for his siblings. As a man, he collected garbage in two ways. His job was to take garbage bags full of trash left by New York City residents and load them into a dump truck. But his mission was to discover treasures in the trash and take them back to the office, where he cleaned and saved the ones that seemed worth keeping. He displayed them atop his coworkers' lockers. When a supervisor ordered them removed, the unpopular decision was soon reversed. Eventually, 45,000 items collected by Molina formed the basis of the Treasures in the Trash Museum. With a foreword addressed to kids from Nelson Molina, the story begins with his childhood and concludes with "an invitation to think differently about the things we throw away." An unusual storybook written with a keen sense of what appeals to children and illustrated with a strong sense of form, line, color, and shadow, this beautiful picture book tells a story and makes certain points without becoming didactic. An excellent choice for classroom units focused on trash, conservation, or the environment. COPYRIGHT(2024) Booklist, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-63079-294-7	Glam World Tour	Rachel Werner	

La Vernia Primary	978-1-5362-2206-7	Go and Get with Rex	David LaRochelle	In this peppy read, creative partners LaRochelle and Wohoutka (See the Cat: Stories About a Dog) introduce "Go and Get"; an "eye spy"; like alphabet game that keeps three players on their toes. When the unseen narrator calls out a letter of the alphabet, pale-skinned Jack; Jill, portrayed with brown skin; and anthropomorphized dog Rex are tasked with retrieving something that begins with that letter. The narrator kicks off the game with F, which results in Jack bringing a frog, Jill presenting a fish, and Rex showing up with a... duck? When Rex explains ("Woof! Woof! Woof!") that the duck is a "friend," the moment establishes both a running joke around Rex's fondness for ducks, and a key semantic point: context is everything. Meanwhile, Jack and Jill's responses become more expansive, as D inspires Jack to produce a dress-clad, drum-playing dinosaur, while Jill offers a daisy-drawing dragon sitting at a desk. The unflagging energy and creative play on offer should soon prompt readers to transfer the game from picture book to real life. Ages 3: 7. (May)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9070-1	Go Team Spidey! (Marvel: Spidey and His Amazing Friends)	Frankie Hallam	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8866-1	Going for a Walk (Big Dog and Little Dog)	Dav Pilkey	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-68436-335-3	Good	Alexs Pate	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-68446-981-9	Goodnight Gymnastics	Mandy R. Marx	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-68119-199-7	Goodnight Sounds	Debbie S. Miller	Sounds soothe when it's time to drift off in this sleep aid, a sensory-based picture book. "What sound helps you fall asleep?" an opening prompt probes as Miller's text proposes a range of onomatopoeiaic place-based phrases. These include foghorns bellowing beneath the Golden Gate Bridge, the hooting of an owl, the quaking of leaves, and the trickle of a mountain stream, among others. Jing Chan's carefully lit digital nightscapes draw on dusty purples and blues throughout unlined renderings of the myriad dwellings and figures who play audience to the featured noises. Closing examples zero in on the domestic, highlighting "Grandma's voice telling you a story" and "the purring of your cat/ curled up in a cozy ball." The steady layering of echoic sounds succeeds in achieving a soporific effect. Characters are portrayed with various skin tones. Ages 2: 5. (Oct.)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5341-1318-3	Goose Egg Island	Julia Richardson	A bonded pair of Canada geese raise a family. When Goose and Gander fly back to the island they call home, it's still wintry. They fend off rival geese and, as the ice thaws, dive for food. Amid frog song and under a full moon, the two come together, and "a miracle begins." (Mating isn't depicted on the page.) Next, Goose finds their old nest and lines it with moss and twigs, lays five eggs, and incubates them for a whole month—not feeding herself and not moving, even through a late snowstorm. Meanwhile Gander stands guard, driving off a hungry fox and a curious puppy. Five goslings hatch, looked after by both Goose and Gander and observed by a light-skinned child (referred to as "you"), until autumn arrives and all seven fly away together. The language is well chosen, and repetition gives extra weight to the words' meaning. A spread of backmatter adds more fascinating facts about Canada geese. Using a restrained palette, Repka's colorful illustrations are detailed and accurate, though stylized and elegantly composed, right down to the decorative endpapers. While the goslings are undeniably cute, the artwork eschews anthropomorphism. Perspective varies from full views to close-ups, with appropriate, identifiable landscapes and vegetation. The child is the only human and is portrayed less realistically than the animals. The many double-page spreads make for an immersive read-aloud. A vivid and authentic account of geese living their beautiful, wild lives. (Picture book. 4-8)
La Vernia Primary	9781668893821	Grace the cove dragon	Mara, Maddy	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9591-1	Granny Mobile (Bluey)		
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8920-0	Great Voyage (Disney Moana 2)	Natasha Bouchard	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-2617-7	Great Warships	Brianna Kaiser	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-4782-9	Green Tree Pythons	Julie Murray	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-2709-9	Greg's Leg & Walk the Plank!	Katie Dale	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5341-1328-2	Gus Hearts the Bus	Lindsay Leslie	It's the beginning of a beautiful friendship when a young boy boards a bus for the first time. Sometime between the "phissssh!" of the brakes, the "creak, clunk" of the doors opening, and the "DING" of the cord that the passengers pull to signal a stop, Gus falls in love with the bus. He explores different seats until he finds the perfect one and watches the driver steer hand over hand as she makes a turn. Gus wants to ride the bus everywhere, and he wants others to ride often, too. He even becomes an expert on all the city bus routes and designs an imaginary route of his own. When his family decides to visit New York City and ride a bus there, Gus is totally on board. He checks the routes before they leave and confidently leads the way after his parents get the family lost. Happily, even buses in New York brake with a "phissssh!" and open their doors with a "creak, clunk." Though low on conflict, Leslie's simply told story captures the single-minded passion that many youngsters feel for vehicles. Ladi's cozy, muted illustrations convey Gus' energy during his first bus ride, his deep dive into the bus world, and the bustling crowds of New York City. Gus' family is dark-haired and tan-skinned; his community is diverse. A gently joyful tale for vehicle-loving tots. (Picture book. 5-8)
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-9560-9	Gus the Bus	Leanna Koch	PreS-K—This set is intended to support early phonics development, but it feels more suited to teacher-led instruction than independent reading. The books lack a clear scope and sequence, which makes it difficult for educators to determine which phonemes are targeted in each title. While the illustrations, such as those in Gus the Bus, may appeal to younger children with themes like vehicles, the stories themselves often lack depth and originality, with clunky text that fails to engage readers. Additionally, some of the illustrations come across as too simplistic and may not resonate with the older end of the intended audience. VERDICT Without a more defined phonics focus or age-appropriate content, these books fall short in providing an effective tool for early literacy development.
La Vernia Primary	9781516077175	Hana the thunder dragon	Mara, Maddy	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5038-7091-8	Hansel and Gretel	Nadia Higgins	
La Vernia Primary	9781725421530	Happy fell	Peri, Erica S	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7358-4483-4	Happy Owls	Celestino Piatti	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-2994-9	Happy Passover, Edie Rose!	Joy Preble	A child plans a Passover seder when a beloved neighbor, who usually hosts it, it has a medical emergency. Mia loves seders at Edie Rose's apartment. Everyone in the building is invited, and Edie arranges things so the guests won't have to bring anything. Mia enjoys making decorations and acting out parts of the Passover story. Edie, who has wrinkles and salt-and-pepper hair, tells Mia that when Moses led his people out of Egypt, they worked together. This year, though, Edie falls and injures her arm shortly before Passover and won't be able to prepare the seder. Inspired by stories of Edie's adventures around the world, Mia sets out on a journey of her own to make Edie's seder happen after all. Edie and Mia's sweet intergenerational friendship notwithstanding, astute readers may wonder why Edie usually insists on preparing everything herself while extolling the art of working together. Common Passover foods, such as macaroons and potato kugel, are referenced, as well as seder activities such as searching for the afikomen and reciting the Four Questions. In the stylized illustrations, Mia has light brown skin and curly hair, Edie is light-skinned, and the building's residents are diverse. A brief paragraph describes the basics of Passover, but adults introducing the holiday to children may want to pair this tale with books that contain more extensive backmatter. Friendship and community building are welcome themes in this Passover tale. (Picture book. 4-9)
La Vernia Primary	9781423143420	Happy Pig Day!	Willems, Mo	School Library Journal (November 1, 2011) PreS-Gr 3-Beginning readers will delight in this funny tale. Gerald and Piggie are celebrating "The day of the pig" with pig songs, pig dances, pig food, pig games, and friends wishing one another "oinky, oink oink," which is "pig for Happy Pig Day!" Gerald the elephant seems genuinely interested in this celebration until Piggie's friends start speaking "pig" and he feels left out. The animated characters convey emotion and humor; masterful use of white space and comic-style text bubbles will inspire repeated readings. Another hit for Willems.-Melissa Smith, Royal Oak Public Library, MI (c) Copyright 2011. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-2613-9	Hardworking Military Engineering Vehicles	Brianna Kaiser	

La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-0884-3	Harley's Fun House Frenzy: Featuring Huntress!	Steve Korte	
La Vernia Primary	9798368715926	Harriet the hamster fairy	Meadows, Daisy	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8841-8	Harvest Feast (Star Wars: Young Jedi Adventures)	Emeli Juhlin	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-593-61577-5	Hat for House: One Storm, Many Helpers	Audrey Perrott	House's roof is blown off in a storm, but help arrives in many forms. One day, "a big, blustery gust of wind" steals House's "hat" (roof). A nearby oak tree stretches her limbs and leaves over House, but more wind WOOSHes away the attempted protection. Birds, squirrels, and mice try to help, but the wind whisks their replacement roof away, too. Human neighbors arrive to help, securing a tarp over House. The tarp protects the neighbors inside House during a rainstorm, after which a rainbow appears and roofers arrive to install a permanent roof, allowing House to "feel like myself" again. House's front resembles a face, with windows on either side of a door with a small window in it; these features function as eyes and a mouth, and window treatments provide plenty of variety in expression (to great comic effect on the final page, when House eyes storm clouds and warns, "Don't even think about it"). House's inhabitant has brown skin and a long dark braid; neighbors and roofers appear to be a diverse bunch in terms of age, gender, and ethnicity. Centering a house instead of a human as the main character provides a bit of distance and humor to a potentially scary topic, but House expresses feelings, too. The color palette reinforces this tone: House is a cheery yellow with teal trim, the oak tree's leaves are rust-orange, and the storm clouds and gusts of wind are a steely blue-gray. Hats off! (Picture book. 3-8)
La Vernia Primary	9781546110033	Haunting of the ghost dragon	West, Tracey	School Library Journal (December 1, 2024) Gr 2-4-In this 27th adventure in the popular series, "Dragon Masters," Drake and Bo are given a special mission by Jayana, the Head Wizard. A powerful magical object has been stolen from the castle, and the two boys and their dragons must travel to a land called Gothica to retrieve it. The object is a dream orb that a wizard can use to open a pathway to the dream world, where he could use magic to make dreams become real- something that could prove very dangerous. Bo and Drake travel to the dark and haunted land of Gothica to confront the evil wizard Zoltan, who they believe has stolen the orb. Fans of the Dragon Master series will find much to like in this installment. West has managed to create the perfect formula for these exciting but straightforward adventures that promise more to come with each new story. VERDICT Purchase where the rest of the series is popular. © Copyright 2024. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9781725487536	Heart of gold	Penney, Shannon	School Library Journal (April 1, 2020) Gr 2-4-This sparkly, fun, and fantasy-filled series brings the world of puppies and unicorns together into one magical creature known as Cutiecorns. These adorable puppies with unicorn horns live in the fantastical world of Puppypaw Island. The adventure begins with Sparkle as she is preparing for her magic ceremony, where she will learn how to use her special powers. Sparkle's mother gives her a family heirloom-a golden heart locket to commemorate the occasion. When Sparkle wears it out to play, a mysterious figure steals it. Sparkle, with the help of her friends Twinkle and Flash, must put together the clues left behind to find the thief and retrieve Sparkle's necklace. Each chapter is short and includes a heartwarming illustration. Adorable pictures support the plot and assist readers new to chapter book reading. The themes of friendship, family, and cooperation ring throughout. The world of Puppypaw Island will spark readers' imagination, and leave them wanting more books in the series. VERDICT Cuteness overload, these Cutiecorns will have young readers wanting more. Perfect for libraries where Ellen Miles's "The Puppy Place" series is popular. A fun and inventive choice for any beginning chapter book collection.-Elizabeth Pelayo, St. Charles East High School, IL © Copyright 2020. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9798225003333	Heart of the Ruby Dragon	West, Tracey	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-4197-5668-9	Heartbeat Drum: The Story of Carol Powder, Cree Drummer and Activist	Deidre Havrelock	In Carol Powder's Cree family, drumming skills are passed down through the generations. "Moshum's drumbeat went, PUH-POM, PUH-POM, PUH-POM, PUH-POM. Uncles' voices poured out, 'Hi-ya, hi-ya, way-ah, hey-ah-oh.' Kokum sang, 'We are strong... We are singing... And we will continue.'" Variations on this potent refrain are artfully threaded through Havrelock (Saddle Lake Plains Cree) and Aphelandra's (Oneida Nation of Wisconsin) biography of drummer Powder. Carol learns to drum from Moshum, her great-grandfather, who says, "Women first made the drum. It is the sound of a mother's heartbeat" and emphasizes that all people, including women and children, should drum together, "because that's the only time anyone's going to heal." He tells her that one day women will be excluded from drumming but that it's up to her to change that. After he passes, Carol continues to practice, growing up to teach her own children to drum and forming Chubby Cree, a female Indigenous drumming group. When Carol is told at a powwow that women are no longer welcome to drum, she faces her fears of speaking up (brilliantly illustrated in hues of blue) and continues to do so to this day, performing with her band, which now includes her grandson. Cree words are strung throughout the radiant illustrations, which make use of bold lines and a sunset palette. Characters are depicted in traditional Indigenous clothing, and the book has multiple gorgeous wordless spreads. Stunning and empowering. (author's and illustrator's notes, note from Carol Powder) (Picture-book biography. 4-8)
La Vernia Primary	979-8-89685-022-9	Hello Hello	Brendan Wenzel	
La Vernia Primary	9780593618219	Hello, I'm an axolotl	Rocco, Hayley	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9132-6	Here Come the Bears! (The Berenstain Bears)	Mike Berenstain	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8792-3	Hide-and-Seek Fun! (CoComelon)	Maria Le	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8661-2	Hide-And-Seek Pup (Junior Monster Scouts)	Joe McGee	K-Gr 2—The Junior Monster Scouts from McGee and Long's chapter book series make their early reader debut in this title. The titular character is Franky Stein's mechanical puppy, Sprocket, who learns that she has an appointment with Dr. Frankenstein to "oil your gears and wind your springs and make sure all of your parts are working." When Sprocket hides to avoid her check-up, the Junior Monster Scouts help Franky search the castle for her. Repeated phrases will help emerging readers decode the text, and Long's whimsical cartoon illustrations add additional context clues. Young pet owners may relate to the experience of seeing their furry friends hide from the vet, and there is a bit of humor when Sprocket's hiding place is eventually revealed. Like other early reader spin-offs from popular chapter book series, there is nothing groundbreaking here, but it will likely appeal to a wide audience. VERDICT A serviceable addition to early reader collections, and an obvious choice for libraries where the chapter book series is popular.—Amy Reimann
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-4717-2	Hiding Hetty	Jenny Moore	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-68263-754-8	Home Is Where the Herd Is	Lu Fraser	A yak learns an important life lesson. Gertie's mother tells her that their yak herd must move because the weather on the mountain where they reside has gotten too warm. This news unsettles Gertie because all her favorite belongings are right here. Mummy sagely tells her, "A home is much more than the things that you pack." But a skeptical Gertie is determined to cram every item she owns onto her sled, including books, pine cones, skis, jump rope, photos, and her second-best hat. Mummy tells Gertie that no matter what, they must remember to take Dot, Gertie's baby sister. At last, Mummy gives the order for the herd to leave. Gertie stops to pick up more pine cones. Unbeknownst to her, one of these stopovers results in Dot plopping off the sled and rolling away! When Gertie realizes what's happened, she's distraught. Fortunately, Granny Yak soon comes along and assures Gertie that all's well: She found Dot, who's now safe. Gertie, understandably relieved, is finally convinced that mere things don't make home a home—family does. This U.K. import, told in lyrical, bouncy verse, is a lovely story with a simple yet uplifting, empowering message that will resonate with readers. The lively illustrations, rendered in pencil and ink and colored digitally, are crisp and clear, like cold mountain air. Gertie and tiny moon-eyed Dot are adorable. Note the striking patterns on the yaks' hats, blankets, and elsewhere. Children will enjoy trekking along and sharing adventures with this herd. (Picture book. 5-8)
La Vernia Primary	9781713724155	Houndsley and Catina and cousin Wagster	Howe, James	School Library Journal (September 1, 2018) Gr 1-3-Houndsley and Catina are back for another adventure when cousin Wagster comes to visit. Unlike Houndsley, who is a rather quiet dog, his cousin Wagster is loud and full of stories and also seems to be good at everything. As Houndsley, Wagster, and Catina cook dinner, play Ping-Pong, and go on a picnic. Houndsley finds the fact that charming Wagster is good at everything a little disheartening. When Houndsley and Catina get some time away, Houndsley must find a way to tell Catina how he has been feeling a bit neglected and is worried about their friendship. Of course, Catina is sensitive to how Houndsley is feeling and reassures him that they are the very best of friends and nothing will change that. With three short chapters, this is a great book to transition independent readers from picture books to something a little more challenging. Even though it is on the longer side, this entry is still very engaging. Gay's delightful artwork, done in watercolor and pencil, adds a playful quality to the story and don't overwhelm the page, leaving plenty of space for the paragraphs of text. VERDICT Add this wonderful transitional book for newly independent readers to most collections.-Jayna Ramsey, Douglas County -Libraries in Parker, CO © Copyright 2018. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

La Vernia Primary	9781537940144	Houndsley and Catina and the quiet time	Howe, James	School Library Journal (September 1, 2008) K-Gr 2-"The quiet. It is almost like music." With the delicacy of snow falling silently on treetops and musical notes passing across the page, close friends Houndsley (a wise dog who happens to play the cello) and Catina (a childlike perfectionist cat who plays the clarinet) find their performance plans interrupted by a snowstorm. While Catina always worries about that which cannot be done, and Houndsley always finds a positive solution to every situation, the realities of a winter storm lead the friends to use their imaginations and create an "island" in Houndsley's house, enjoying a day of reading and writing poetry, games, and shared dreams. Soft watercolors and a pastel palette reveal the cozy clutter of Houndsley's home, and white snow-washed scenes of snowmen add gentle, whimsical humor to a day of restricted activities inspired by the weather. This small book provides a seamless visualization of the perfect conclusion to a snowy day.-Mary Elam, Forman Elementary School, Plano, TX Copyright 2008 Reed Business Information.
La Vernia Primary	9781668807866	Houndsley and Catina at the library	Howe, James	School Library Journal (February 1, 2020) K-Gr 2-Houndsley and his friends Catina and Bert spend every Saturday morning at the library tutoring, taking classes, and volunteering. Librarian Trixie has always greeted them with a smile, a joke, and book recommendations. However, on their latest visit, Trixie seems sad and preoccupied. As the three friends leave, they notice a sign that says the library is closing and to please bring something special to Trixie's farewell party. The friends learn that Trixie is retiring to pursue a circus career and there is no one to take her place. Saddened that they are losing their beloved library, all three prepare their "something special" for Trixie. Houndsley and Catina know right away what they are going to bring. Bert struggles: how can he thank her for all of the happy Saturdays he has spent at the library? At the party, Houndsley brings baked goods to share. Catina gives Trixie a beautiful circus performer's outfit she created. Bert brings himself and his desire to take Trixie's place as the new librarian so the library will not have to close. The watercolor, pencil, and collage illustrations are gentle and expressive, and the text is just right for readers transitioning into beginning chapter books. VERDICT A good choice for early reader collections that works equally well as part of the series or as a standalone.-Kelly Roth, Bartow County Public Library, Cartersville, GA © Copyright 2020. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9260-6	How Do Toilets Work? (StoryBots)	Scott Emmons	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8346-8	How to Befriend an Alien (Disney/Pixar Elio)	Suzanne Francis	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9607-9	How to Drive Your Brother Bananas	Diane Z. Shore	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5383-9835-7	How to Make an Elephant Dance	Emi Sini, Angelos Angelou	
La Vernia Primary	9798368765068	How to spy a spy	Higgins, Cam	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-68436-320-9	How to Teach Your Monster to Read	Christianne Jones	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-9887277-0-5	How We Heal	Adam Schmitt	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-8422-1	Hugs-a-Lo! Can't Show the Love	C. W. Estes	
La Vernia Primary	9781503937451	I am (not) scared	Kang, Anna	School Library Journal (March 1, 2017) PreS-Gr 1-Two unnamed bearlike creatures, a small purple one and a larger brown one, discuss their fears. The smaller of the two accuses his big friend of being scared, but the brown creature denies it and suggests that it is the small one who is really afraid. Both try to minimize their fears as they approach a roller coaster. The little purple one says that there are things more scary than this roller coaster, such as a tub full of spiders or snakes. Then the roller coaster stops for them, and, to make matters worse, there is a snake riding on it. Yikes. The three creatures cling to one another and admit that they really are scared as the coaster dips and bends. The final image suggests that being scared is OK, even fun, as the trio get ready for a second ride. The text is minimal and easy to read. The design makes use of lots of white space, with big, two-page illustrations. Children will not be distracted by details in the pictures-the focus is on the emotions. Big, blocky letters holler at readers, making the noise of thumping hearts and whooshing coasters part of the background for the shouting friends. The cartoonish visuals and simple text balance each other well. VERDICT This appealing read-aloud is a good place to start a conversation about being afraid and how we sometimes enjoy the adrenaline rush of overcoming a little fear. Recommended for one-on-one and small group sharing.-Mary Hazelton, formerly at Warren & Waldoboro Elementary Schools, ME © Copyright 2017. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9781423119906	I am going!	Willems, Mo	School Library Journal (June 1, 2010) PreS-Gr 1-Once again, Willems shows his talent for distilling the most profound human emotions to just a few words. Gerald the elephant is exhibiting anxiety, and his issue is the fact that Piggie says, "I am going!" For young children, this fear of abandonment can surface even when a friend or caretaker leaves for a brief time. It turns out that Piggie is just planning to go get lunch, and in his typical, reassuring way, Willems shows a picnic spread at the end with the two friends enjoying the meal together. Gerald's worries having been assuaged. Fans of the series will recognize that sometimes Gerald is the in-charge character and sometimes it is Piggie; as in real life, different people show their vulnerabilities in different situations. Once again, Willems uses just two colors, showing pink Piggie marching on the front endpapers and gray Gerald hopping on the back. He uses text bubbles to indicate who is speaking and includes plenty of white space. The illustrations are hilarious while at the same time capturing the truest of feelings. Be sure to add this easy reader to your collection as an addition to the series or even as a stand-alone.-Gloria Koster, West School, New Canaan, CT Copyright 2010 Reed Business Information.
La Vernia Primary	9781423106876	I am invited to a party!	Willems, Mo	School Library Journal (October 1, 2007) K-Gr 2-Beginning readers familiar with Willems's books will recognize his distinctive humor and illustrative style in these stories. When Piggie receives her first invitation to a party, she asks Gerald to join her and relies on his advice-because he "knows" parties-in order to prepare for the big event. The elephant, however, has a tendency to overanalyze, so he prepares them both for any contingency-a fancy/pool/costume party. Piggie's expressive features show her questions about their attire, but the friends set off bedecked in flippers, masks, top hat, pearl earrings, cowboy hat, and evening dress. Imagine her surprise when they find all the other guests as lavishly overdressed as they are. In the second title, Gerald learns that there are worse things than a bird on your head, namely, two love birds, a nest, and three hatchlings. With the help of Piggie, he is finally able to ask them to move, but, as the final page reveals, they have become her problem. Both books use speech bubbles-gray ones for Gerald, pink for Piggie-to tell the entire story. This feature is a nice touch that facilitates paired/choral readings. The conversation between the friends flows smoothly and allows beginning readers to practice expression as they read. These appealing titles will tickle the funny bones of children and are sure to become favorites.-Maura Bresnahan, High Plain Elementary School, Andover, MA Copyright 2007 Reed Business Information.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8864-7	I Am Powerful: A Positive Power Story	Suzu Capozzi	K-Gr 2-A leveled reader with an uplifting story featuring a strong main character. Every Saturday, Amari and her sister, Marley, go to the rec center. While Nana teaches knitting and sewing, Marley goes to art class and Amari to dance class, where she learns to "swing," "stomp," "floss," and "whip." Her body language and the broad smile on her face are clear indications of how much she loves these weekly lessons. When the rec center is scheduled to close, Nana organizes a rally, which Marley and her friends advertise with flyers and posters. But how can Amari help? She decides to reach out to her teacher and her classmates with an ingenious plan to save the rec center and demonstrate that peaceful activism is powerful, even when the idea is the brainchild of a young girl. Amari and her family are Black, but people of many skin tones, backgrounds, and abilities, including a dance participant using a wheelchair, are represented in the cheerful illustrations. Excellent for early independent reading, this story also has potential for group sharing and discussion. VERDICT Recommended for school and public libraries.-Gloria Koster Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	9781423133094	I broke my trunk!	Willems, Mo	School Library Journal (May 1, 2011) PreS-K-Gerald the Elephant recounts to Piggie the crazy story of how he broke his trunk. When he was playing with Hippo, he had the idea to lift him with his trunk. As Gerald tells Piggie, "a hippo on your trunk is heavy." But there is more to it. Rhino shows up and he wants a turn, so Gerald lifts them both onto his trunk, and so on, until he has lifted Hippo, Rhino, and Hippo's big sister and her piano on his trunk. As readers expect, there is more to the story of Gerald's bandaged trunk than first imagined. Willems's now classic and predictable formula, complete with an uncluttered background, large-type word balloons, and expressive characters, is as effective as ever. The style may now be familiar, but the "Elephant & Piggie" stories remain fresh, amusing, and relevant to readers, who will sit on the edge of their seats as they eagerly anticipate the surprising turn of events. A winning addition to the series.-Kristine M. Casper, Huntington Public Library, NY (c) Copyright 2011. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-9513-5	I Can Do It!	Leanna Koch	PreS-K—The books in this set intend to support early readers, but frequently do not meet developmental and curricular benchmarks. The stories can feel disorganized, with texts that introduce too many different phonemes at once, making it difficult for young readers to focus on decoding skills. For example, in Pet Tricks, the plot is cluttered with too many characters, making it challenging to follow and distracting from the phonics practice. VERDICT This lack of controlled text and focus undermines the series' effectiveness as a decodable reading tool for early literacy.

La Vernia Primary	9798368748016	I can grow it!	Greenawalt, Kelly	School Library Journal (November 1, 2024) PreS-Gr 2-Princess Truly, a girl with brown skin and her hair in two sparkly puffs, and her friends, one with tan skin and curly black hair and the other with lighter skin and light brown pigtails, grow a garden, help a baby bird, and plant a magical tree in three short stories. The text uses simple rhymes for an engaging and smooth experience for beginning readers. Full-color art in spreads and vignettes help further illustrate the target text. The watercolor style is warm, bright, and inviting, with a bit of extra sparkle on the pages where Princess Truly uses her rainbow magic. "A Magic Tree," the final story, inspires the most creative thinking: This will likely be readers' favorite and is the perfect conclusion. Back matter includes a drawing tutorial and a journaling and art prompt related to the magical tree in the third story. VERDICT Recommended for collections where "Princess Truly" and Acorn books are popular, as well as for those hoping to offer diverse magical stories that inspire confidence.-Taylor Skorski © Copyright 2024. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8988-0	I Can Grow It! (Princess Truly)	Kelly Greenawalt	PreS-Gr 2-Princess Truly, a girl with brown skin and her hair in two sparkly puffs, and her friends, one with tan skin and curly black hair and the other with lighter skin and light brown pigtails, grow a garden, help a baby bird, and plant a magical tree in three short stories. The text uses simple rhymes for an engaging and smooth experience for beginning readers. Full-color art in spreads and vignettes help further illustrate the target text. The watercolor style is warm, bright, and inviting, with a bit of extra sparkle on the pages where Princess Truly uses her rainbow magic. "A Magic Tree," the final story, inspires the most creative thinking: This will likely be readers' favorite and is the perfect conclusion. Back matter includes a drawing tutorial and a journaling and art prompt related to the magical tree in the third story. VERDICT Recommended for collections where "Princess Truly" and Acorn books are popular, as well as for those hoping to offer diverse magical stories that inspire confidence.--Taylor Skorski Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	978-0-374-39133-1	I Can Help in the Neighborhood	David Hyde Costello	In this follow-up to Costello's I Can Help (2010), a duckling receives assistance, which results in a chain of good deeds. Peeking out from tall grass, the little duck laments, "Uh-oh. I'm lost." A rabbit bounds by and cheerily offers to help. The rabbit jumps high and spots the duckling's family. They are all reunited. When the perspective zooms out, readers can see that the animals are in a park. But now the rabbit, tangled in a kite string, needs help. A passing pigeon flaps down and says, "I can help." A familiar pattern emerges as the book demonstrates how all the animals are interconnected. The setting changes as the pigeon flies out of the park and into an urban environment. In need of shelter, the pigeon laments, "I need cover." A raccoon steps in to lend a paw; later, a rat and a squirrel join the fray. Day turns to night and back to morning, and the same little duckling helps the squirrel but gets lost again (someone get that duck a compass!). The repeating refrain of "I can help" will reassure readers and is simple enough to be triumphantly parroted by the youngest of bedtime audiences. Whether depicting a verdant park or moonlit city scenes, Costello's artwork sets a soothing tone. Human characters are diverse. Infectiously charming. (Picture book. 2-5)
La Vernia Primary	978-0-316-47472-6	I Do Not Eat Children	Marcus Cutler	Only an absolute monster would eat a kid, right? So why do the children keep disappearing...? Marcus Cutler's sly and subversive picture book I Do Not Eat Children cautions readers to take a narrator's word with a grain of salt.
La Vernia Primary	978-0-316-47472-6	I Do Not Eat Children	Marcus Cutler	A towering red creature is outsmarted by a child. "I would never eat a child," says a tall critter, who holds a hand over its heart and makes a scout's honor gesture. A line of 10 racially diverse children (one of whom uses a wheelchair) flank the not-monster at the outset, resembling an ensemble waiting to take a bow at a curtain call. Kids disappear with each turn of the page, leaving behind accessories such as a soccer ball or a trumpet to mark their place in the lineup. Though we see the nameless "monster" reaching for unsuspecting tots and burping up a green cloud containing possessions belonging to the kids, it skirts around the label and the idea that it would ever eat children. "Maybe it is you who eats children," the red-skinned beastie supposes, pointing toward the reader. Readers will enjoy flipping back and forth to see which children have vanished as the not-monster denies all involvement in the rapid and reliable disappearances. The text is spare and direct, with the only dialogue coming from the not-monster until the very last spread. What happens to this anthero? The last standing child, with puffy pigtails and dark skin, declares, "I do eat liars." And the creature cleanly disappears in a scene sure to elicit chuckles. Kids will gobble this tale up. (Picture book. 3-5) COPYRIGHT(2023) Kirkus Reviews, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.
La Vernia Primary	978-0-8234-5666-6	I Know How to Draw an Owl	Hilary Horder Hippely	One day, Ms. Rio offers a method for drawing an owl, and one student's rendering looks real. "How did Belle make his eyes so wise?" Ms. Rio asks. "Belle's owl looks almost alive!" Protagonist Belle says nothing, while first-person narration indicates, "I know,/ but I don't want to tell." Slowly, Horder Hippely (A Stormy Night on Tangleweed Island) offers context behind the drawing's creation. Though Belle and their mother once lived in a house like Leo's ("tall and white") and Annika's ("green"), they now inhabit their car. Belle's mother says the cry the two hear at night is a hoot owl, "keeping an eye/ on you and me." One night, at long last, the owl lets itself be seen, and lingers. "I like sharing my home with you," Belle feels the owl might be saying. This startling moment draws the child into intimacy with the wild creature, equipping the youth to welcome a new student at school whose circumstances seem similar to Belle's own: "I understand./ I'll keep my eye on you." Acrylic paintings by James (Tadpoles) convey measured calm throughout this nuanced work whose energy radiates from a transformative encounter. Characters are portrayed with various skin tones. Ages 4: 8. Author's agent: Karen Grenick, Red Fox Literary. Illustrator's agent: Jackie Kaiser, Westwood Creative Artists. (Nov.)
La Vernia Primary	978-0-8234-5666-6	I Know How to Draw an Owl	Hilary Horder Hippely	Hilary Horder Hippely (A Song for Lena) champions courage and kindness while presenting a difficult and relevant topic--unhoused families--in I Know How to Draw an Owl. Award-winning illustrator Matt James (The Funeral) elevates Hippely's heartfelt story with his richly layered, deeply saturated art.
La Vernia Primary	9781423109617	I love my new toy!	Willems, Mo	School Library Journal (August 1, 2008) K-Gr 2-In classic Willems style, the characters' expressions and body language carry both stories, with the deceptively simple line art saying far more than the slight, though whimsical, texts. When Gerald accidentally breaks Piggie's new toy, he is by turns ashamed, chagrined, and apologetic. Piggie is mad, sad, and finally embarrassed (a squirrel shows them that the "broken toy" is of the "break-and-snap" variety). The pals then decide that playing together is more fun than playing with a toy anyway. In the second title, the two watch a squirrel surprise a friend by jumping out from behind a rock. Mischievous Gerald and Piggie then plan together how to "surprise" one another in the same way. They sit behind opposite sides of a large stone and wait to be surprised. And wait. And wait. And worry. Savvy readers will know exactly what happens when each friend thinks that the other has left. These masterful mini-dramas will delight and amuse easy-reader and picture-book audiences, alike.-Kelly Roth, Bartow County Public Library, Cartersville, GA Copyright 2008 Reed Business Information.
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-2707-5	I Miss Rabbit! & Put It Up	Jenny Moore	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-374-39219-2	I Quit	Kristen Tracy	PreS-Gr 1-This book follows the well-known plot of leaving home to find one's way in the world, and then returning after having learned some important truths. Only in this case, the tale centers around a cat. When the cat is adopted by a family, life improves dramatically. Not only is the cat surrounded by soft spots, but it "snacked like a queen." Life was good--very, very good--until the rules came. No scratching window screens and no chasing the baby. "Bad Kitty" quits and leaves, but it's terrible out there--dark and scary, cold and rainy. This is a very appealing book. The artwork is bold and attention-grabbing, with large, detailed illustrations that support and add to the text. The story, told from the point of view of the cat, is familiar--learning to adjust to the rules of living with others. VERDICT This book will be sure to promote responses from young children and spark lots of conversation. A combination of eye-catching illustrations and a cat's narrative perspective make this a fine choice for reading and sharing.--Myra Zarnowski Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	9781484722626	I really like slop!	Willems, Mo	School Library Journal (December 1, 2015) PreS-Gr 2-Elephant and Piggie are back! This time Piggie has created... slop. When Gerald gets a whiff of the pea-green concoction and sees flies buzzing around the bowl, he asks Piggie if it is supposed to smell that way. With the exaggerated flair Willems is known for, as Piggie sniffs, her hat pops off, eyes bulge, and her head turns from turquoise to orange before she answers "Yessssss!" Piggie is eager for her best friend to try the recipe, but Gerald emphatically refuses. Seeing that he has upset his friend, Gerald changes his mind. Willems successfully executes the tension in the tasting scene by using two pages to zoom in on Gerald's face as a dot of slop touches his tongue. Gerald turns four shades of bright colors before transforming into a yellow and purple polka-dotted elephant. As he begins to return to his normal gray self, Piggie asks if he liked it. Although Gerald confesses that he does not, he shares that he is glad he tried it, because that is what friends do for each other. Variance in text size and melodramatic facial expressions will help readers understand how the two pals feel throughout the story. Elephant and Piggie fans will enjoy the new twist of bright colors used in contrast against the signature gray and pink hues. VERDICT Through a story line and illustrations that produce rollicking laughter, Elephant and Piggie once again share with young readers what it means to be a friend.-Beth Farmer, New Albany Elementary Library, OH © Copyright 2015. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5341-1327-5	I Want to Dance in Pants	Ruyman Hernandez, Jess Hernandez	When trouser-loving Ava receives an invitation to a quinceanera, her mother carts her off to the mall for a new dress. Ava dutifully tries on one after another, but "dresses itch and pinch, squish and squash, ride up or fall down, and plain get in the way," reactions shown in a comic series of vignettes. Repeating "I want to dance in pants," she finally persuades her mother, then chooses a bright blue suit with colorful embellishments. At the quinceanera, the choice draws a crowd of dress-clad revelers and leads to a group revelation: "We want to dance in pants!" And an upcoming wedding sees more than just Ava cutting a rug in comfortable garb; even adults get in on the pantsuit action. Modeling advocacy around self-expression and sensory needs, the Hernandezes' text prioritizes personal limits over social norms, while animation-style art from Martinez leans fittingly into depictions of physical comfort and discomfort. Characters are portrayed with various skin tones. Back matter includes a creator's note about sensory processing. Ages 6: 7. (Mar.)

La Vernia Primary	9781423109624	I will surprise my friend!	Willems, Mo	School Library Journal (August 1, 2008) K-Gr 2-In classic Willems style, the characters' expressions and body language carry both stories, with the deceptively simple line art saying far more than the slight, though whimsical, texts. When Gerald accidentally breaks Piggie's new toy, he is by turns ashamed, chagrined, and apologetic. Piggie is mad, sad, and finally embarrassed (a squirrel shows them that the "broken toy" is of the "break-and-snap" variety). The pals then decide that playing together is more fun than playing with a toy anyway. In the second title, the two watch a squirrel surprise a friend by jumping out from behind a rock. Mischievous Gerald and Piggie then plan together how to "surprise" one another in the same way. They sit behind opposite sides of a large stone and wait to be surprised. And wait. And wait. And worry. Savvy readers will know exactly what happens when each friend thinks that the other has left. These masterful mini-dramas will delight and amuse easy-reader and picture-book audiences, alike. -Kelly Roth, Bartow County Public Library, Cartersville, GA Copyright 2008 Reed Business Information.
La Vernia Primary	9781484716304	I will take a nap!	Willems, Mo	School Library Journal (July 1, 2015) K-Gr 2-Willems delivers another exemplary entry for beginning readers. Announcing that he is cranky and tired, Gerald the elephant decides to take a nap to improve his mood. Just how restful this will be comes into serious question when Piggie enters his dream and begins pestering him. The increasingly agitated elephant freaks out, as Gerald is wont to do, and soon both Piggie and Elephant are in desperate need of sleep. This dream sequence goes from funny to downright kooky when their respective stuffed animals, acting as a Greek chorus, comment on some of the more outrageous happenings. The expressions of Elephant and Piggie, in combination with the simple yet emotional text, will have young readers laughing and identifying with the characters and the topic. VERDICT Filled with slapstick humor and a sense of the absurd, this book is a sure bet for fans of the series and a lovely introduction for those not yet acquainted with it. -Amy Nolan, St. Joseph Public Library, St. Joseph, MI © Copyright 2015. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-6659-3872-3	I Worked Hard on That!	Robyn Wall	Creating something worthwhile takes time, effort, and patience. Since childhood, Kiara the spider has spun webs to catch food. Then she sees a web so beautiful that it inspires her to create something similar. Her initial efforts fail, and each time she achieves a breakthrough, another animal accidentally destroys the web. "Hey, I worked hard on that!" she protests. Discouraged, Kiara abandons artistry, then notices that the inspirational web's gone. Orb, its weaver, suggests that the two collaborate, and the results are lovely. Next morning, hungry Orb breaks the web while grabbing a morsel from it; Kiara refuses to work with Orb again. When Kiara accidentally destroys Paws the squirrel's "sculpture," all's forgiven because, as Paws explains, "I learned a thing or two for my next piece." Kiara's never thought about art like that, and she, Paws, and Orb join artistic forces. This thought-provoking story about the nature of creativity is geared more to adult sensibilities; young children are generally more interested in the fun process of making art than in perfecting their craft, as Kiara does. Terms such as dimension and scale and phrases such as "on the cusp of something" won't be meaningful to youngsters. It's commendable, however, that expressive Kiara is portrayed determinedly pursuing her passion; she's also an exemplar of self-confident persistence. The colorful digital illustrations are by turns delicate and lively and incorporate examples of creative typesetting; those intricate webs are spectacular. Wall weaves a tale that may be too complex for its target audience; still, many youngsters will get caught up in this web. (Picture book. 5-8)
La Vernia Primary	9781423183051	I'm a frog!	Willems, Mo	School Library Journal (December 1, 2013) PreS-Gr 1- Elephant and Piggie continue to amuse in this early reader. Piggie pretends to be a ribbiting, jumping frog, and children will catch on quickly and delight in "explaining" to Elephant that his friend is not actually a frog. The story is especially entertaining when Piggie tries to convince Elephant that he, too, can play-their banter escalates to a spread of tangled "No, I can't!/Yes, you can!" speech bubbles. True to Willems's style, a white background, minimal color, and charcoal outlines draw focus to the always-changing facial expressions of Elephant and Piggie. With heavy black dashes to signify motion, Piggie practically jumps off the page. The story ends with a playful twist, in which Elephant finally comprehends and pretends to be a cow. I'm a Frog will join the ranks of other well-loved Elephant and Piggie books. -Nora Clancy, Teachers College Community School, New York City (c) Copyright 2013. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-0-593-46291-1	I'm Sorry You Got Mad	Kyle Lukoff	In this witty epistolary classroom drama, a student struggles to apologize to a classmate about a knocked-over block castle. Jack's first effort, scrawled on lined notebook paper, reads "DEAR ZOE, I'M SORRY YOU GOT SO MAD!!!" When teacher Ms. Rice has him try again, he's shown grinding away furiously at the pencil sharpener. There's improvement, but Jack next tackles the misdeed passively: "I'm sorry FOR REAL that your castle got knocked over." After Ms. Rice explains that apologies have three parts--"1) What I did 2) That I'm sorry 3) And I'll help you fix it"--a more nuanced understanding of the incident emerges. "I wanted to play in it with you. But Ben and Jeremy said I couldn't because castles are for girls." Jack's almost there ("Can we check in about your letter?" Ms. Rice writes), but there's more to come before Zoe receives a complete note. Polished renderings by Kwon (Waiting for Tomorrow) writes a sparkling examination of messy feelings and meaningful apologies. Classmates are portrayed with various skin tones. Ages 3-7. (Aug.) Copyright 2024 Publishers Weekly, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	978-0-593-46291-1	I'm Sorry You Got Mad	Kyle Lukoff	In a text composed completely of handwritten notes, Jack gradually learns to apologize sincerely and thoroughly for knocking over Zoe's castle (with some help from teacher Ms. Rice). The notes and thick-lined mixed-media illustrations show Jack's trajectory from visibly fuming to ready to make up and play with friends. Readers may be reminded of their own conflicts and the emotions that came with them, and reflect on what it really means to apologize. (Copyright 2024 by The Horn Book, Incorporated, Boston. All rights reserved.)
La Vernia Primary	978-0-593-61775-5	Icy Fruit: How My Grandfather Spread the Joy of Ice Pops Across Taiwan	Charlotte Cheng	The author grows to appreciate the ingenuity of her Taiwanese grandfather. When Cheng was a child, her Agong carried a bag of coins in his pocket; that simple bag tells a story of "joyful jingles, sultry summers, and fresh frozen fruit." It all began in 1965, when Agong was a young man making a living selling pork. As the demand for pork dwindled, he wondered what else he could stock in his empty freezer. Noticing the scorching summer heat, he had an idea and started traveling the country, speaking with farmers harvesting guava, pineapple, star fruit, and more. Slicing the fruits and blending them together with bits of sugar, Agong experimented with ways to package the frozen delights, finally landing on colorful pouches that "gleamed like jewels in red, white and yellow as they quickly turned to scrumptious fruit pops." The innovation didn't stop there. Agong realized that outdoor food vendors often had difficulty being heard over the cacophony of honking vehicles, so he held a competition, inviting composers to devise a creative jingle to "cut through the rumbling noise of Taipei." As Cheng brings her tale to a close, she notes that her grandfather's legacy lives on as three generations of family sing the tune at his funeral. Her gently affectionate narrative flows naturally, marked by alliterative, elegant language. Mineker's warmly textured illustrations rely on soft lines and bold colors. A delectably loving tribute to a pioneering entrepreneur. (Picture-book biography. 5-8)
La Vernia Primary	9798368752389	Iggy Peck and the mysterious mansion	Beaty, Andrea	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-4722-6	In a Stew	Sheryl Webster	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-2711-2	In the Den & Mick and Mom	Elizabeth Dale	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-9634-7	In the Mud	Leanna Koch	PreS-K—This set is intended to support early phonics development, but it feels more suited to teacher-led instruction than independent reading. The books lack a clear scope and sequence, which makes it difficult for educators to determine which phonemes are targeted in each title. While the illustrations, such as those in Gus the Bus, may appeal to younger children with themes like vehicles, the stories themselves often lack depth and originality, with clunky text that fails to engage readers. Additionally, some of the illustrations come across as too simplistic and may not resonate with the older end of the intended audience. VERDICT Without a more defined phonics focus or age-appropriate content, these books fall short in providing an effective tool for early literacy development.
La Vernia Primary	9798368782270	India the moonstone fairy	Meadows, Daisy	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-89685-023-6	Inside Cat	Brendan Wenzel	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-88989-236-6	International Space Station	Lori Dittmer	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7352-6856-2	Into the Goblin Market	Vikki VanSickle	Intricately worked page borders and shadowy, woodblock-print-like artwork by Eckwall (Almost a Full Moon) create an eerie atmosphere for this tense verse tale about Mina; a risk-seeking girl who succumbs one night to the lure of the Goblin Market and its magical wares. Bespectacled Millie, Mina's comparatively contented homebody sister, reads up on her quest before braving the market's threats in search of her sibling ("The Goblins weren't just fierce, but clever; / It was a dangerous endeavor"). Once Millie passes the wolf just inside the market's entrance, she experiences one chilling encounter after another as she uses the magic antidotes she's brought to counter fairy tale menaces. "Come into my stall and sit / To soothe your nerves, I'll play a bit," offers a piper whose song begins lulling Millie to sleep, until she stuffs wool into her ears and resumes her search. Rigorously metered couplets make the suspense easier to bear. Via an allusive, Christina Rossetti: tinged work that rewards clearheadedness and preparation, VanSickle (Anonymouse) creates a hero who won't be cowed. Character skin tones reflect the white of the page. Ages 4: 8. (July)

La Vernia Primary	9781537950747	Into the wild : yet another misadventure	Cronin, Doreen	School Library Journal (February 1, 2016) Gr 1-3-The short, fuzzy, yellow chick detectives are back for another misadventure in this lip-bitingly funny series entry by the author of The Trouble with Chickens (HarperCollins, 2011), which stars the chicks' ex-police dog pal, J.J. Tully. As in past installments, the hard-boiled Tully introduces readers to Barbara's backyard and the motley crew of pet chicks who spend their days investigating oddities, devising plans, staking out suspicious characters, and generally causing an adorable ruckus. Once again, know-it-all Sugar leads the way, roping her siblings into spying on a strange new box in the yard-could it be a shark?! Though levelheaded Dirt drolly deduces that their new neighbor is a rabbit, Sugar, Sweetie, and Poppy are convinced that the new creature is up to no good. When the hatch door is found open, the squad goes on a search-and-contain mission, armed with marshmallows. Gilpin's comically expressive black-and-white drawings pepper almost every page, and the typeface is generously sized, making this an ideal series for newly independent readers. The slight sarcasm, witty banter, and sly observations in the style of old-time noir films will have adults chuckling right alongside kid readers. VERDICT This volume, along with the previous books in the series, is an essential purchase for chapter book collections.-Kiera Parrott, School Library Journal © Copyright 2016. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9781250219954	InvestiGators	Green, John Patrick	School Library Journal Xpress (February 14, 2020) Gr 2-5-In the first installment of what promises to be a wildly successful graphic novel series, Green ("Kitten Construction Company") once again shows off his knack for pun-filled animal tales. Alligators Mango and Brash are friends and secret agents for S.U.I.T. (Special Undercover Investigator Teams), tasked with solving their first case: finding Chef Mustachio, who went missing just before he was about to unveil his latest concoction. These masters of disguise are off and running. But when there's an explosion at the Science Factory, the duo are asked to look into that mystery, too. No matter where they go, Mango and Brash blend in seamlessly with humans who somehow never notice that they are interacting with alligators who sport vests outfitted with gadgets. Jokes, especially visual puns ("Badges?" "We're not badgers, we're alligators!") and toilet humor, come fast and furious, and the clean, simple cartoon art and paneled layout are easy to follow. Kids who are tickled by Green's irreverent humor will appreciate the drawing tips that conclude the book. VERDICT Like the heroes of Dav Pilkey's "Dog Man" or "Captain Underpants," the Investigators are bound to resonate with kids.-Nancy McKay, Byron Public Library, IL © Copyright 2020. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9781250357915	InvestiGators --Weather or Not	Green, John Patrick	
La Vernia Primary	9781250220059	InvestiGators. Ants in our P. A. N. T. S.	Green, John Patrick	School Library Journal Xpress (December 17, 2021) Gr 2-4-In this latest installment about the InvestiGators (a pair of alligators who fight crime), Mango has continuing guilt over what happened to his wounded partner, Brash (who's now in a coma), to the point that it haunts his dreams. He and his team of crime fighters are prepared to go undercover if a supervillain team ever takes shape. At the same time, teammate Cilantro, a chameleon, visits an evil base out of curiosity and discovers the space-themed villain Maestronaut and bothersome ants. Some of the characters are animals, while a racially diverse cast of humans also fill heroic roles. A villain team-up, mega-size ants, and an uncannily mature dream sequence are all major developments. Exuberant, bright art will grab readers' attention. Dialogue is frequently bolded or italicized for emphasis, and sound effects are rendered in colorful, stylized fonts. Previous books in the series make cameos as in-story reference material, underscoring how necessary they are to making sense of the significant story beats in this book. VERDICT John Patrick Green's punny sense of humor and bulging cast of heroes and villains will reward continuing readers.-Thomas Maluck, Richland Lib., SC © Copyright 2021. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9781250220066	InvestiGators. Braver and boulder	Green, John Patrick	
La Vernia Primary	9781250849885	InvestiGators. Heist and seek	Green, John Patrick	Kirkus Reviews (July 15, 2022) Reptilian wisecracking sleuths return for their sixth silly adventure. Following Braver and Boulder (2022), S.U.I.T. (Special Undercover Investigation Teams) agents Mango and Brash return to solve the case of missing masterpieces from the art museum. The museum's fundraising gala is fast approaching, and without its beloved paintings (many with chuckle-inducing names like the Bona Lisa by Leodoggo da Vinky), it may have to close its door permanently. Mango and Brash realize this must have been an inside job. Could it have been the curator, Thelonious Snoot, a caterer with an ax to grind, an avant-garde possum artist named Panksy, or museum preparator Savanna the cheetah? With the help of his new S.M.O.C.K. (Supplementing Mango's Originality, Creativity, and Knowledge), Mango must go even deeper undercover as artist Macaroni Ancheese to see if he can get close enough to crack this case. Green's latest offering is a fun mystery with the series' trademark puns and bright illustrations and enough red herrings to keep readers riveted. This is a must-read for fans of Dav Pilkey's Dog Man books wondering what to pick up next. Though this installment falls relatively later in the series, this is a great jumping-in point for new readers that offers tantalizing tidbits that established fans will relish. Thelonious is light-skinned, while the caterer is brown-skinned; background human characters are depicted in a variety of skin tones. A winner. (information on how to draw the characters) (Graphic fantasy. 7-10)
La Vernia Primary	9781250220004	InvestiGators. Off the hook	Green, John Patrick	School Library Journal (December 1, 2021) Gr 2-5-Alligator spies Mango and Brash are back in this third volume that tackles no-win scenarios and sees the return of memesis Crackerdile. The InvestiGators are summoned to the Science Factory to look into the continued disappearance of plumber Bill Plungerton and a lab snake. Little do they know that Plungerton and the snake are now evil-dubbing themselves Hookline and Slinker, they have teamed up with Crackerdile to start a new group of supervillains. Antics ensue after the villains rob a bank, setting themselves on an eventual crash course with Mango and Brash. Though the narrative is dialogue heavy at times, the colorful, cartoony artwork, wordplay, and comical misunderstandings will leave kids eager for more. VERDICT An enjoyable, humorous tale for new and returning series readers, especially those partial to puns. © Copyright 2021. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9781250219985	InvestiGators. Take the plunge	Green, John Patrick	Kirkus Reviews (July 1, 2020) In this sophomore romp, the silly investi-gators take to the sewers to once again save their city. Mango and Brash, the utility vest-sporting A- (for alligator) Team of the Special Undercover Investigation Team, are on the case to locate a rogue robot that received an accidentally transmitted code giving it the ability to combine two things (which is great in the case of the wheels and shoes that make rollerskates but suboptimal in the case of broccoli candy). Also seeking this bot is their foe Crackerdile, an ex-S.U.I.T. agent who's been turned into a crumbly cracker. Crackerdile hopes to use the bot to combine himself with something less brittle. When the city floods, Brash and Mango are blamed and demoted, and S.U.I.T. assigns B-Team badgers Bongo and Marsha to the case. Green's second entry in his ongoing graphic series is as fun and fast-paced as predecessor InvestiGators (2020), with its recognizable candy-colored art and high-octane punning. Young readers who like their humor dialed up to the max should feel right at home here with breezy bathroom humor, chuckle-causing wordplay (puns and goofy acronyms abound), and snort-inducing names including Bill Plungerman the plumber and a reporter called Cici Boringstories. Even for those unfamiliar with this series, this installment makes for a fine jumping-in point, and it should certainly whet appetites for the next proposed volume. Human characters display a variety of skin tones. A surefire crowd pleaser. (Graphic fantasy. 7-10)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9013-8	Iron Man Goes Magnetic (Marvel)	Charlie Price	
La Vernia Primary	978075879814	Is it larger? Is it smaller?	Hoban, Tana	Kirkus Reviews starred (1985) Relative size is the concept unifying Hoban's latest collection of eye-filling photos. As always, her choice of subjects represents a wonderful conjunction of eye and mind. See, for example, the rabbit's large ears against a little boy's smaller ones; the two large X's of a sawhorse picnic table with the four small X's of its benches stacked upside-down on the table; or the different measures of cake ingredients lined up in front of a partially-filled mixing bowl, being stirred. Often the motif is stated and echoed, as in the toy car beside a real Volkswagen being washed by father and son. Other combinations are more and less obvious; but the simplest, most predictable groupings make striking pictures, and the subtlest (e.g., a row of icicles against a grubby background) bear longer gazing in their own right.
La Vernia Primary	978-0-06-323667-7	It Belongs To the World: Frederick Banting and the Discovery of Insulin	Lisa Katzenberger	A simply told tale of how dedication and painstaking work led to the discovery of a treatment for a devastating autoimmune disorder. This exploration of the achievements of scientist Frederick Banting doesn't explain the difference between Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes until the glossary and never mentions gestational or other types of diabetes at all. And some readers may be put off by descriptions of how his research involved removing pancreases from healthy dogs, especially given the author's earlier, insistent references to Banting's youthful love of farm animals. What does come through clearly, however, is his stubborn persistence (following a late-night Eureka! moment about a new approach) in working with colleagues to find a way to isolate the pancreatic hormone he eventually dubbed "insulin," as well as the laudable altruism that led him to pass up big bucks and give away the formula with the titular comment. Along with an indignant complaint about the unjustly high cost of insulin today, the author leaves readers with simple descriptions of the nature of Type 1 diabetes and the mechanism of insulin. In the simply drawn illustrations, the small bottles of medication, the green blood sugar indicators floating above the heads of joyful former patients, and even the lab dogs are depicted with smiling faces. Though major figures are white, brown faces mingle with lighter ones in most of the other lab and outdoor group scenes. Sugary but significant, despite its somewhat unsystematic presentation. (author's and illustrator's notes, bibliography) (Picture-book biography. 7-9)

La Vernia Primary	9781542016629	It is (not) perfect	Kang, Anna	School Library Journal (April 1, 2020) PreS-Gr 1-Two fuzzy creatures, one large and one small, admire the sandcastle they have created. The big one declares it perfect, while his little friend feels it just misses the mark. He decides to add flags and is now satisfied that it has reached perfection. Not so fast! His partner thinks that while it is better, the towers could certainly be taller. Soon other creatures at the beach join in. One suggests that the wall is too small; others opine that the castle needs arches, windows, stairs, a gatehouse, and even a drawbridge. After each suggestion, we see the pair dutifully construct until finally, they all feel it is perfect. Just as they pose for a group photo with this truly spectacular sandcastle, a huge wave comes in and destroys it. A wonderful illustration of the wet, bedraggled crowd is sure to elicit laughs. Happiness wins the day as the final page shows the two friends enjoying snow-cones, sitting next to what looks suspiciously like the original sandcastle, and guess what? It is perfect. VERDICT This award-winning duo have created a lovely tribute to the old adage that perfect is the enemy of good. Recommended for purchase for all collections.-Amy Nolan, St. Joseph Public Library, MI © Copyright 2020. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9780329692933	Ivy + Bean bound to be bad	Barrows, Annie	Horn Book Magazine (March/April, 2009) Best friends Ivy and Bean decide to be really, really good -- like the guy Ivy once saw in a picture "with birds flying all around him and a wolf licking his foot," the guy who "was so good that wild beasts talked to him and birds swarmed all over him." They start by thinking good and loving thoughts, arms stretched out for birds to land on; both, however, would prefer a wolf. Barrows's very funny story tells how the girls go from trying to win over animalkind by changing neighborhood bully Crummy Matt into a nice guy (doesn't work), to having Bean do bad things so that Ivy can reform her (resulting in all the kids on the street trying to outdo Bean), to singing, "Join us in the paths of goodness, and the birds and beasts will love you," while Crummy Matt ties the girls to a tree. Blackall's illustrations keep up with the text; it's hard to say which is funnier -- reading about or looking at the picture of, for instance, Ivy giggling but trying to look horrified when Bean whispers a bad word in her ear. In this fifth book in the series, Ivy and Bean are bound to satisfy fans and garner new ones.
La Vernia Primary	9780329804640	Ivy + Bean doomed to dance	Barrows, Annie	School Library Journal (January 1, 2010) Gr 2-3-Second-graders Ivy and Bean return to their mischievous ways as they beg their parents for ballet lessons. They get what they want, but class isn't exactly what they expected. Instead of the "kicking" and sword they saw in a picture of the ballet Giselle, they are disappointed to be learning positions, plies, and how to be butterflies. When they are cast as squids in their first recital, they come up with several ideas for how to get out of performing without breaking their promise not to drop out of class. The story is solidly written, and the expressive black-and-white illustrations, some full page, add to the humor. Early chapter-book readers will appreciate and relate to the friends' dilemma.-Sarah Polace, Cuyahoga County Public Library, Parma, OH Copyright 2010 Reed Business Information.
La Vernia Primary	9781668861936	Ivy + Bean get to work!	Barrows, Annie	School Library Journal (May 1, 2021) Gr 1-4-In the latest "Ivy and Bean" tale, the principal visits the girls' classroom to announce a career fair. There, the second graders are inspired to become treasure hunters. The classmates uncover various treasures including a broken plate, a lost toy, a hoard of cans, and a bunch of change. Feeling left out, Ivy and Bean use a divining rod (and some creativity) to locate things in each others' yards-they have each hidden items for the other to find. After a show-and-tell among the classmates, an exchange ensues, and Ivy and Bean are content to return to their pre-career fair plans for their futures. As always, Barrows's concise, clever text captures a child's voice and perspective. Characters are fully realized with age-appropriate thoughts, actions, and attitudes. This accessible story will appeal to children ready for short chapter books and will work equally well read aloud. Depicting a diverse classroom of distinctive students, Blackwell's signature black-and-white illustrations break up the text and bring Barrows's characters to life. Though this is the 12th in the series, it stands on its own; however, new readers will want to discover the duo's previous adventures. Ivy and Bean are both cued as white. VERDICT This funny, engaging story is an excellent addition to all libraries, and a must for those stocking the series.-Amy Lilien-Harper, Wilton Lib., CT © Copyright 2021. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9781452111483	Ivy + Bean make the rules	Barrows, Annie	Horn Book Magazine (January/February, 2013) For spring break, Bean's older sister Nancy is headed off to Girl Power 4-Ever Camp ("Girls are strong! Girls are great! Girls have the power to cre-ate!") at the local park. Unfortunately, seven-year-old Bean is only old enough to attend Puppet Camp (as if!), so she and Ivy decide to start their own camp -- Camp Flaming Arrow. Putting their own twist on the usual activities, counselors Bean and Ivy end up unintentionally attracting quite a few interested campers. Making friendship bracelets turns into playing Houdini, resulting in lots of hands being tied to feet. For nature study, they chase Komodo dragons (a.k.a. kids playing soccer). First-aid instruction starts with some fake blood and bandages and morphs into zombies on the rampage. In this ninth book in the series, Ivy and Bean's version of Girl Power Camp's "hands-on learning in a safe and supportive atmosphere" will make their devoted fans very happy campers indeed. Jennifer m. brabander
La Vernia Primary	9781544445175	Ivy + Bean one big happy family	Barrows, Annie	Horn Book Magazine (November/December, 2018) The second-grade best friends of Pancake Court, Ivy and Bean, return for an eleventh installment in which they consider what it means to be a "spoiled" child. Opinionated classmate Vanessa points out that Ivy is an only child and asserts that such children are usually spoiled. Though Bean defends Ivy (Bean could have bitten Vanessa on the ankle, but she didn't. She just said, "Ivy's not spoiled"), Ivy takes the remark to heart. She tries many corrective measures, including giving away her clothes and asking her mom for a baby sister. At last, Bean helps Ivy see that though she is an only child, she is consistently unselfish and thoughtful--the opposite of spoiled. The imaginative and somewhat rash problem-solving tactics of these two otherwise earnest, emotionally mature friends offer readers characters to love as well as energetic plot details and gags to laugh at. Blackall's black-and-white spot art deftly captures and builds on the characters' distinct personalities and the story's humor while also creating breaks in the text for pausing and reflecting. This long-awaited (it's been five years since the last installment) addition to the series has much to recommend for both longtime Ivy and Bean fans and new initiates. Julie roach
La Vernia Primary	9780329672454	Ivy + Bean take care of the babysitter	Barrows, Annie	School Library Journal (October 1, 2008) Gr 2-3-Ivy and Bean, "BFFs," are back in a new adventure. Bean is upset when her parents decide that Nancy, her 11-year-old sister, will be her babysitter for the afternoon, so she flags down Ivy with a T-shirt with SOS on it from her bedroom window. Together they find a way to get into the attic without Nancy finding out, but get locked in. All ends well with Ivy and Bean blackmailing Nancy to keep quiet about her trying their mother's makeup. Bean is a typical little sister with a big imagination. The story line and antics of the characters resemble Sara Pennypacker's "Clementine" series (Hyperion). The frequent black-and-white Chinese ink illustrations capture the mood and carefree attitude of the story well. Early chapter-book readers will enjoy this installment in this lighthearted series.-Krista Tokarz, Cuyahoga County Public Library, OH Copyright 2008 Reed Business Information.
La Vernia Primary	9781489836052	Ivy + Bean take the case	Barrows, Annie	School Library Journal (January 1, 2014) Gr 1-3-After watching an example of film noir with her mother, Bean immediately identifies with the hard-boiled detective star. She dons a hat, sets up a P.I. office and tries to talk without moving her lips, determined to solve a mystery on Pancake Court. Unfortunately, mysteries are hard to come by in her suburban neighborhood, so Bean practices on simple mysteries like "The Mystery of What's Under the Cement Rectangle" and "The Mystery of the Sleeping Mailman." Most of Bean's friends ridicule her newfound career, but not Ivy. Once again, in spite of their differences, Ivy and Bean join forces. They will most definitely solve the neighborhood's biggest mystery to date: "The Mystery of the Yellow Rope." Barrows provides a good introduction to mysteries for children who are beginning to read chapter books. In this 10th book (Chronicle, 2013) in the series, Barrows's knack for appreciating the young child's way of looking at the world is evident in her descriptive details. The story's humor will appeal to intergenerational listeners. Cassandra Morris's narration is flawless with perfect pacing for the early reader. With multiple prediction points that could be used in the classroom, this audiobook deserves a listen by your early reader.-Terri Perper, Middletown Public Library, MD (c) Copyright 2013. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9780329897956	Ivy + Bean what's the big idea?	Barrows, Annie	Horn Book Magazine (November/December, 2010) For the science fair, second-graders Ivy and Bean need to come up with an idea to fight global warming. A few false starts involve hurling ice cubes into the sky while jumping on a trampoline (a low-tech attempt to cool down the air); tying their wrists together (to make humans weaker and let the animals take over); and smashing grains of rice with a hammer (could rice be a new source of clean energy?). Though wildly unsuccessful and not even all that fun, these experiments eventually lead the girls to ask some good questions: Why don't grownups like (and therefore care about) nature as much as kids do, and how can they be taught to like it? The answer they come up with, like many scientific ideas, is simple but brilliant: give grownups their favorite thing -- a calm, quiet rest -- in a natural setting. How Ivy and Bean accomplish this deserves a prize, and Barrows and Blackall deserve kudos for keeping this seventh book in the series original and funny. jennifer m. brabander
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-4690-7	Jaguars	Elizabeth Andrews	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-959223-82-5	Jaheem's First Kwanzaa	Zephaniah Martin	
La Vernia Primary	9781889910444	Jazz fly 2 : the jungle pachanga	Gollub, Matthew	School Library Journal (August 1, 2010) K-Gr 3-Jazz Fly and his band can only get to and from a jungle club gig (and out of trouble) if they use the right Spanish words. But on the CD, Gollub tells young audiences that Spanish is not the only language to listen for in this story. They also must listen for "jazz words": nonsense syllables that evoke classic scat singing. The Spanish words appear in pink text, while jazz words appear in green. This technique helps young readers distinguish between the two. While the colorful text and bright illustrations will appeal to children, this book may be most effective in conjunction with the CD. The lively narration brings the text's jazz and Latin rhythms to life; this quality may not be evident when read by less musically talented adults. The author also adds effective sound effects, such as club chatter and rain-forest noises, which suggest atmosphere without drowning out the narration. His musical flair also extends to introducing instruments. Gollub presents the name of an instrument, the sound it makes, and then plays a few notes. His note explains his creative process and gives educators useful information and ideas. This book is best suited for music units or public-library music programs.-Mary Landrum, Lexington Public Library, KY Copyright 2010 Reed Business Information.

La Vernia Primary	9781889910543	Jazz fly 3 : the Caribbean Sea	Gollub, Matthew	Kirkus Reviews (September 15, 2020) A band of insects, speaking Spanish, French, and jazz scat, survives a shipwreck in this third installment of a picture-book series. The Jazz Bugs—featuring Jazz Fly on drums, Nancy the Gnat on saxophone, Centipede Sam on piano, and Willie the Worm on bass—perform on the cruise ship SS Le Magnifique, with Capt. Cockroach at the helm. The group plays so well that no one notices the thunder in the distance or the rolling of the ship until a storm hits and the vessel crashes on the shoals. With the help of the band, Capt. Cockroach gets the passengers aboard lifeboats. Most of the musicians find safety in a glass bottle until the tempest passes. While much of the adventure involves the band's waiting for rescue, the story isn't the highlight here. Gollub's use of music, especially when the book is accompanied by the included CD or audio download, gives the tale its texture. The author's phrases don't always rhyme, which could baffle grown-ups trying to read this work aloud. But the audio enhances the experience, exposing kids to music in 5/4 or 7/8 time. The inclusion of Spanish and French is seamless, especially when pronounced by Gollub and the other performers. Hanke's bright, eye-catching illustrations are sure child pleasers, and, despite the dangerous storm, her depictions of peril are never too scary for young readers. A sure hit for jazz fans who like to dance along with their read-alouds.
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-8986-8	Jealous Jade	Natasha Deen	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-9505-0	Jen's Big Job	Leanna Koch	PreS-K&mdash:The books in this set intend to support early readers, but frequently do not meet developmental and curricular benchmarks. The stories can feel disorganized, with texts that introduce too many different phonemes at once, making it difficult for young readers to focus on decoding skills. For example, in Pet Tricks, the plot is cluttered with too many characters, making it challenging to follow and distracting from the phonics practice. VERDICT This lack of controlled text and focus undermines the series' effectiveness as a decodable reading tool for early literacy.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-6626-8037-3	Joan Mitchell Paints a Symphony: La Grande Vallee Suite	Lisa Rogers	With pulsating lines and musical metaphor, Rogers rhapsodically introduces artist Joan Mitchell (1925: 1992) and her creation of 21 gigantic paintings known as La Grande Vallee Suite. Evocative narration highlights Mitchell's efforts to convey the feelings elicited by imagined and remembered landscapes: "She knows what marks she wants/ to make,/ marks that will transform her emotions/ and memories/ into a symphony of colors/ and shapes." Because "one canvas cannot express the buzz of dragonflies,/ the flutter of petals," Mitchell keeps generating new paintings until, at last, she shares "her valley with the world." In absorbing scenes, Innerst emulates the energy of Mitchell's own work with bold strokes of radiant color, using contrasting unlined black and gray markings to render Mitchell amid other figures, portrayed with various skin tones. The vibrant study that emerges feels like an apt paean. Extensive back matter concludes. Ages 7: 10. (Feb.)
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-7019-4	Job for Pop	Jenny Jinks	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-1773-9	Jon on the Job	Tiffany Renando	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9451-8	Journey of the Snow Golem (Mobs of Minecraft)	Christy Webster	
La Vernia Primary	9798368793429	Judy Moody sunny-side up	McDonald, Megan	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5383-9614-8	Jungle Book	Michelle Simpson	PreS-Gr 4—This series offers eight classic children's books, cleverly summarized and packaged for even the youngest readers. Each story includes basic descriptions and dialogue, condensing classics like Alice in Wonderland and Treasure Island to a brisk three to five sentences per page. Despite their brevity, the books are faithful summaries. All the story beats are true to the actual text, and not twisted to fit popular film plots. In The Wizard of Oz, Dorothy's slippers are the original silver and not ruby. Mowgli's end in The Jungle Book is not Disney's version, but Kipling's. Occasionally some cartoon speech bubbles will pepper their way into the illustrations, but only to enhance, not to convey vital information. Each book has a different illustrator, but they all include colorful images, with rounded, cartoonish figures shown in action. Some volumes include especially beautiful illustrations, like the lush garden scenes in The Secret Garden, or Black Beauty's majestic horses depicted with watercolor-like realism. VERDICT An easy way to introduce children's classics to young readers. Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-9785-7481-6	Jupiter	Murray "oak" Tapeta	
La Vernia Primary	9781338596649	Jurassic peck	Marko, Cyndi	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9171-5	Just Me in the Tub (Little Critter)	Gina Mayer, Mercer Mayer	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-1991-9	Just Say Welcome	Emily Rajj	
La Vernia Primary	9781546111269	Karen's Surprise --A Graphic Novel	Grant, Shauna J	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9538-6	Kelp and the Special Plant (Not Quite Narwhal)	Gloria Cruz	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-1757-9	Kick It	Tiffany Renando	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9293-4	Kick It into High Gear! (Mighty Monsterwheelies)	Gloria Cruz	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9188-3	King of Kindergarten	Derrick Barnes	When a mother gives her son the titular nickname, it inspires him throughout his first day of school; the child imagines that a chalk-drawn crown is sitting on his head as he walks through the "towering doors" of the "grand fortress" and into his "Kindergarten Kingdom." It's a day filled with new friends, "a royal rest" (nap time), and acts of noblesse oblige (the boy shares an extra pudding cup with a dessert-less classmate). And when the teacher goes through all the classroom rules and the work ahead, Barnes (Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut) writes, "It sounds like a lot, but you're the King of Kindergarten. Piece. Of. Cake." Affirming text and energizing drawings by Brantley-Newton (Grandma's Purse), which skillfully balance bright colors, patterns, and textures, should put a spring in the step of any reluctant kindergartner: who wouldn't want to be thought of as "the charming, the wonderful and the kind" class sovereign? Ages 3: 6. (July)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5383-9713-8	Kiwicorn	Kat Merewether	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-89605-003-2	Kofi Goes to the Bank	Artika R. Tyner	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-959223-79-5	Kojo Goes to the Library	Artika R. Tyner	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-89304-466-9	Komodo Dragons	Chris Bowman	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-2612-2	Land and Water Combat Vehicles	Marie-Therese Miller	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-4549-5148-3	Lefty	Mo Willems	Willems continues his forays into the world of informational texts with an unusual overview of our left-handed history. Two hand puppets (actual hands, there's no felt here) named Lefty and Righty appear on a makeshift stage to present a story to the reading audience. They deliver shocking news: Historically, a person could get in "really, really BIG trouble" for being left-handed. As far back as ancient times, people would hide their left-handedness to fit in. Otherwise, "you might be fired or arrested or teased or thrown out of your village!" While incorporating the occasional choice callback to other Willems books—for instance, the phrase "Hubba Whaaaaa!?!?" from The Duckling Gets a Cookie (2012)—the book empowers left-handed children to understand that "you can't be born WRONG...RIGHT?" It takes very little to extend such a lesson to other groups forced to conform to society's norms. As Lefty says, "If you're hiding who you are, you feel rotten." Meanwhile, Santat (clearly having a ball) draws historical sections in the style of Puritanical pamphlets, Greco-Roman friezes, and 1950s ad campaigns. Our main characters are real hands with illustrated glasses perched on top, allowing the artist to portray all kinds of emotions through their little drawn eyes. Humans depicted are diverse; the hands are light-skinned. A handy message goes down smooth when delivered with a little history and a lot of shameless silliness. (Informational picture book. 4-7)

La Vernia Primary	9781546127208	Legned of the Sea Dragon	Elliott, Rebecca	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-4691-4	Leopards	Elizabeth Andrews	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-9638-5	Let's Get Some Shells	Leanna Koch	PreS-K—The titles in this set are designed for emergent readers aged three to four. Each book includes consistent front matter with strategies for parent support before, during, and after reading. While this guidance encourages adult involvement, the effectiveness is limited by the simplistic nature of the content. The bright illustrations are reminiscent of early concept books, appealing to young readers but lacking the depth to fully engage them. The large print and sparse text may aid emergent readers, but the minimalism can result in flat narratives that fail to capture children's imaginations. VERDICT These books offer foundational skills, but they need richer narratives and more engaging illustrations to stand out in the growing market of decodables for very young readers.
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-9566-1	Let's Go	Leanna Koch	PreS-K—This set is intended to support early phonics development, but it feels more suited to teacher-led instruction than independent reading. The books lack a clear scope and sequence, which makes it difficult for educators to determine which phonemes are targeted in each title. While the illustrations, such as those in Gus the Bus, may appeal to young children with themes like vehicles, the stories themselves often lack depth and originality, with clunky text that fails to engage readers. Additionally, some of the illustrations come across as too simplistic and may not resonate with the older end of the intended audience. VERDICT Without a more defined phonics focus or age-appropriate content, these books fall short in providing an effective tool for early literacy development.
La Vernia Primary	9781423164821	Let's go for a drive!	Willems, Mo	School Library Journal (October 1, 2012) K-Gr 2-Best friends Elephant and Piggie are back in a new adventure that extols imaginative play and flexibility. Type-A Elephant suggests going for a drive (narrated hilariously by the friends with a Pigeon-esque "Drive! Drive! Drivey-drive-drive!"), but cannot stop panicking about contingencies long enough to relax. Piggie gamely supplies solutions to assuage Elephant's concerns, each time adding a new sound effect to their play-"Map! Map! Mappy-map-map!" and so on-guaranteeing laughs from children. Eventually, Elephant thinks of a need that Piggie cannot supply, causing him to have a flat-out meltdown (also reminiscent of the Pigeon), but in the end, Piggie's quick thinking saves the day. The clean line drawings mirror and support the concise text; both avoid unnecessary details while evoking the full range of emotion. The deceptive simplicity and the comic-book layout will entice even reluctant readers, and is a perfect read-aloud for groups of a wide age range. A must-have for every library.-Rebecca Dash Donsky, New York Public Library (c) Copyright 2012. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5383-9841-8	Level Up	Antonis Papatheodoulou	
La Vernia Primary	9781419705441	Library mouse : home sweet home	Kirk, Daniel	School Library Journal (August 1, 2013) K-Gr 2-When faced with a real-life problem, Sam knows just what to do. After the mouse reads a note indicating that a "renovation" in his library is afoot, he uses a dictionary to define the new word and then locates architecture resources to help him design temporary quarters in the attic. Sam's cerebral style contrasts with that of his more adventurous friend Sarah. While Sam gravitates toward classical Roman buildings and grand castles, Sarah favors yurts, igloos, and geodesic domes. Seeking a perfect home, the two pals produce many miniature structures. In the end, Sam resides most comfortably under a book, which Sarah presents to him as an example of an A-frame house. Predictably, with the library renovations completed, the children's room re-opens with the mouse projects prominently displayed on the shelf tops, making for a warm, welcoming, and creative environment. Kirk's gouache cartoon illustrations are charming. The back matter includes information on houses around the world, photos, and a glossary. Newcomers and fans of the previous titles will welcome this tale, and librarians will put it to good use in their research lessons.-Gloria Koster, West School, New Canaan, CT (c) Copyright 2013. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9781419775727	Lila Greer and the shrieking shadow	Beatty, Andrea	School Library Journal (May 1, 2025) Gr 1-4-In this latest installment of the beloved "Questioners" series, Beatty continues her masterclass in illustrated chapter books for beginning readers. School teacher Lila Greer, who battles anxiety, suffers a sleepless night when a strange shrieking sound keeps her awake. Not long after, a series of paintings go missing from her student Iggy Peck's family gallery. Determined to solve both the mystery of the shrieking and the paintings, Lila Greer gets to work investigating and researching all around town, with a little help from the Questioners. Like other stories in this series, this installment stands out for its thoughtful, well-rounded approach to problems. Lila Greer's anxiety-battling tactics, sprinkled throughout the text, add a welcome SEL-angle. VERDICT Recommended for purchase where the other titles are popular. © Copyright 2025. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-68446-928-4	Line Leads the Way	Laura Purdie Salas	Shapes vie for a chance to guard an unspecified treasure in this alliterative introduction to geometry. An announcement sets the scene ("WANTED/ NEW TREASURE KEEPER"), prompting a variety of forms to answer the call, each exhibiting its own mode of travel ("Square strutted in equally spaced steps"). Line's journey proves less than straightforward as the character gets all knotted up. At the audition, a creaturely librarian listens as the hopefuls explain why their attributes suit them for the role. Despite taunts from fellow applicants, the book's title presages Line's triumph, which Purdie Salas leavens with a winning twist about the value of imperfection. Caldarella's colorful naïf renderings give the story's shapely characters clown-like features and playful accessories. Ages 4: 8. (Aug.)
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8745-0320-8	Lion, the Bear, and the Fox - Is it Better To Cooperate or Compete?	Aesop	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8745-0340-6	Lion, the Wolf, and the Fox - How Should You Treat Others?	Aesop	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-4692-1	Lions	Elizabeth Andrews	
La Vernia Primary	9781423154044	Listen to my trumpet!	Willems, Mo	School Library Journal (April 1, 2012) PreS-Gr 2-Gerald and Piggie are back in another easy reader that manages to touch on the complex issues of communication, honesty among friends, and shared experiences. Piggie is in proud possession of a loud, shiny trumpet, which she can't wait to play for Gerald. As he sits and listens, she proceeds to struggle her way through a demonstration, which sounds less like music and more like Gerald's "Aunt Molly with a cold." But as painful as it is for Gerald to listen to Piggie play, he knows that telling her how bad she is will be even more torturous. His anguish is clearly visible-but tell her he must, because that's what friends are for. Willems squeezes so much information and emotion out of the barest of illustrations: Gerald sticking his tongue out in concentration as he maneuvers his bulk onto the tiny stool Piggie has provided for him reminds readers of what a physically odd couple they are; Piggie reverently embracing her trumpet before proceeding to blast the heck out of it speaks to her true motivation for getting it in the first place, as is revealed in the surprisingly sweet ending. This winning pair continues to delight and charm readers with a wisdom that seems hard won by adults, but is second nature to children.-Kara Schaff Dean, Walpole Public Library, MA (c) Copyright 2012. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9781627796408	Little Elliot, fall friends	Curato, Mike	School Library Journal (September 1, 2017) PreS-Gr 1-Little Elliot, the tiny, polka-dotted elephant of Little Elliot, Big City and Little Elliot, Big Family, and his friend Mouse need a break from the hustle and bustle of New York City. So it's off to the country to take in the autumn foliage. Little Elliot panics when Mouse fails to find him during a game of hide-and-go-seek, but the pachyderm smells something sweet and heads to a farmhouse. There, he finds a pie, which Mouse and some new pals baked to lure him out, and the tale ends with a fall feast and a cozy night beneath the stars. Making excellent use of light and shadow, the painterly illustrations are sumptuous, dominated by oranges, reds, and golds. Curato brings to life the fall countryside just as effectively as he does the urban setting. However, compared with other "Little Elliot" installments, which offer rich explorations of friendship and bravery, the plot is a little unfocused. The drama around Elliot being unable to locate Mouse comes relatively late in the game and is resolved fast, and the titular "fall friends" seem to arrive out of nowhere (Mouse meets them off-page). Still, Elliot is a winsome protagonist, and the charming visuals will entice children. The gentle prose makes this book suitable for a quiet storytime or a soothing bedtime read. VERDICT Recommended as an additional purchase or for collections where Little Elliot fans abound.-Mahnaz Dar, School Library Journal © Copyright 2017. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5341-1313-8	Little Ghost House Hunts	Lucy Branam	Must Little Ghost abandon his rambunctious family of 10 to find peace? Little Ghost feels squeezed. He finds his family's high-ceilinged attic home too noisy—there's nowhere he can relax and read his scary stories! Venturing out to haunt alternative quarters on October 31, Little Ghost surprisingly seems to have little notion of what Halloween entails. As he knocks on doors, he's mistaken for a costume-clad child; he rejects offers of candy and is scared off by rowdy dogs, rude neighbors, and even a black cat. No house seems right until he spots a classic old mansion on a hill. The old woman who lives there doesn't mind his huffiness, and he makes himself at home. Peace at last. Days later, when he's become "lonely for his loud family," they suddenly show up for a happy reunion and move in. They're noisier than ever, but now Little Ghost has enough space "to practice his BOOOOOOS!" and read the tales he loves. This yarn is wispier than a specter, though the smiling, ectoplasmic figures in pastel settings are pleasant to look at. Should readers sharing close quarters with family conclude that moving to a larger space is the answer? Family can be difficult, but there's no room for compromise, thoughtfulness, or creative solutions here. Human characters are diverse; the old woman is tan-skinned. An overly tight real estate crunch is too simplistically solved. (Picture book. 5-8)

La Vernia Primary	978-1-5038-7092-5	Little Mermaid	Rebecca Felix	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5464-3	Little Mermaid: This is Ariel	David Magee, Colin Hosten	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5038-7089-5	Little Red Riding Hood	Nadia Higgins	
La Vernia Primary	9781544414850	Liz and the nosy neighbor	Barkley, Callie	
La Vernia Primary	9781518140945	Liz and the sand castle contest	Barkley, Callie	Horn Book Guide (Spring 2016) Liz competes in a sand castle contest and discovers that people aren't always what they seem; Marion learns about responsibility and how to be a good big sister when she watches over little sis Gabby. As usual, the Critter Club girls navigate their world with verve, helping animals and people along the way. Short chapters include lots of friendly spot art. [Review covers these Critter Club titles: Liz and the Sand Castle Contest and Marion Takes Charge.]
La Vernia Primary	9781489827739	Liz at Marigold Lake	Barkley, Callie	Horn Book Guide (Fall 2014) The Critter Club girls visit Liz at her family's lake cabin, and Liz hopes they'll love the lake as much as she does. The animal-loving girls take care of some baby mice, but Ellie is preoccupied with seeing snakes, Amy tips a canoe, and the girls think Liz's mom's food is weird. Riti's illustrations capture the likable characters' sweet bond and caring personalities.
La Vernia Primary	9781489804327	Liz learns a lesson	Barkley, Callie	
La Vernia Primary	9798318921469	Liz Plays Matchmaker	Barkley, Callie	
La Vernia Primary	9781518140976	Liz's night at the museum	Barkley, Callie	
La Vernia Primary	9781516087655	Liz's perfect painting	Barkley, Callie	
La Vernia Primary	9781713790891	Liz's pie in the sky	Barkley, Callie	
La Vernia Primary	9781524787196	Llama Llama learns to swim.		
La Vernia Primary	978-1-6659-0540-4	Look	Gabi Snyder	PreS-Gr 2--When a person is feeling overwhelmed, looking around and noticing patterns can be a calming action. Part math concept book, part coping technique, this gorgeously illustrated picture book shows a young child out and about with an adult in very busy places. The text points out a variety of patterns--light and dark, color, size, even patterns that can be created while moving. Some of the patterns are fairly obvious and others will need more careful analysis. The patterns are shown in a variety of settings: in a store, at home, with trees, in the ocean, in the stars. The conclusion reminds readers that searching for patterns can help make sense of a world that can be big and confusing. The back matter also includes a page describing different kinds of patterns, both mathematical and natural, as well as activities. The artwork is warm and beautifully rendered in compelling ways, using mixed media, three-dimensional sets; these were photographed and give the work an organic, even tactile, sense. Young readers will enjoy poring over the pages, searching for patterns and details with every rereading. VERDICT This beautiful book will be an excellent addition to both SEL shelves for coping strategies or STEM shelves for the math.--Debbie Tanner Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	9781549093807	Lost and found	Perl, Erica S	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8793-0	Lost in the Library (Junior Monster Scouts)	Joe McGee	K-Gr 2—The Junior Monster Scouts—Franky, Wolfy, and Vampyra—love to read. They are in the library of Castle Dracula when Wolfy hears what sounds like a piano. The group follows the noise, revealing a hidden passageway. Behind a secret door, the trio discover the source of the music: a ghostly girl, unable to speak, playing the piano. She passes them a note, which explains that her name is Bella and that she is a Banshee, but she lost her voice as it became lonely from lack of use and ran away. The Scouts are determined to reunite their new friend with her voice, and they devise a clever solution. Through the use of story time, and with support and patience, Bella's voice returns. Each page contains three to five sentences that include approximately five to 12 words apiece. Long's signature cartoonlike illustrations portray the monster pals as friendly and nothing to fear. VERDICT This series is monstrous fun for emerging reader collections.—Olivia Gorecke
La Vernia Primary	978-0-593-64977-0	Lucky Duck	Greg Pizzoli	Susan the duck is not having the best day. Her roller skates have arrived, and they’re far too big. Her moping is interrupted by a knock on the door, where a chipper wolf announces that she’s won an enormous cooking pot. It might be a bit big for her little kitchen, but Susan accepts and cheerfully goes on with her day. Later, she's again dismayed when her kitchen light goes out, but that wolf is back with another prize: an armful of onions. Back and forth Susan’s luck goes, her bad occurrences always balanced out with more prizes from the wolf until a scary reveal sees all of Susan’s unlucky incidents align to come through and save the day. It’s a clever setup to a payoff that will have young readers giggling. The charming illustrations, rendered mainly in comforting reds, greens, and oranges, are packed with diverting details and hilariously capture the physical humor when everything comes to a head. An entertaining exercise in seeing setbacks from a different perspective.
La Vernia Primary	9798368748023	Lucky mermaid sleepover	Ruths, Mitali Banerjee	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-9643-9	Lucky Rat	Leanna Koch	PreS-K—The titles in this set are designed for emergent readers aged three to four. Each book includes consistent front matter with strategies for parent support before, during, and after reading. While this guidance encourages adult involvement, the effectiveness is limited by the simplistic nature of the content. The bright illustrations are reminiscent of early concept books, appealing to young readers but lacking the depth to fully engage them. The large print and sparse text may aid emergent readers, but the minimalism can result in flat narratives that fail to capture children's imaginations. VERDICT These books offer foundational skills, but they need richer narratives and more engaging illustrations to stand out in the growing market of decodables for very young readers.
La Vernia Primary	9780329907365	Lulu and the brontosaurus	Viorst, Judith	School Library Journal (September 1, 2010) Gr 1-4-Viorst and Smith introduce a spoiled young lady who wants a brontosaurus for her birthday. With her lightbulb-shattering screeches, Lulu is used to getting her way, but her parents refuse this request. After four days of screaming, she tells her parents, "foo on you," packs a small suitcase, and sets off into the forest. After getting the best of a snake, tiger, and bear, she meets a brontosaurus. He, however, decides that she will be his perfect pet. While this story follows a familiar cautionary-tale story line, Lulu is both determined and surprisingly resourceful (her small suitcase contains pickle sandwiches and an astonishing amount of stuff). Viorst's narrative is appropriately arch: "since I'm the person writing this story, I get to choose what I write." There's plenty of child-friendly humor, and Smith's droll, exaggerated pencil drawings on pastel paper deftly add to the fun. The pinheaded brontosaurus is irresistible and reminiscent of Syd Hoff's beloved dinosaur from the "Danny and the Dinosaur" series (HarperCollins). This inventive, lighthearted fantasy should be a solid hit with young readers looking for a lively first chapter book.-Marilyn Taniguchi, Beverly Hills Public Library, CA (c) Copyright 2010. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-6659-4040-5	Mabel Wants a Friend	Ariel Bernstein	Prior collaborators Bernstein and Rosenthal (You Go First) once again dazzle at demonstrating social-emotional nuance in this savvy, playground-set work. A red fox sporting a pink pinafore dress, Mabel "always got what she wanted," even when doing so requires subterfuge. (One crisply inked vignette shows her distracting an entire line of animal kids so she can head to the front of the ice cream queue.) When she's befriended by Chester, a rabbit with a generous spirit, Mabel values his company merely for how it meets her needs: "She could finally use the seesaw. And when she told a joke, there was someone to hear it." But Chester sees how Mabel's wants lead to thoughtless behavior; including pilfering another child's toy; and when Mabel declares his role is to "let me have whatever I want," he breaks off the friendship. Missing Chester's companionship, Mabel realizes that others have needs and feelings, too; and learns that wants can go beyond a desire for self-gratification. It's a lesson that's beautifully delivered in the story's final pages, which model Chester's humane adherence to boundaries and genuine forgiveness when asked. Ages 4: 8. Author's agent: Sean McCarthy, Sean McCarthy Literary. Illustrator: Holly McGhee. Pippin Properties. (Oct.)
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-7016-3	Magic Dad	Elizabeth Dale	

La Vernia Primary	978-0-593-62022-9	Magic in a Drop of Water: How Ruth Patrick Taught the World about Water Pollution	Julie Winterbottom	Winterbottom spotlights oft-overlooked aquatic ecologist Ruth Patrick (1907- 2013) in this eye-opening book, which considers the origins of Patrick's scientific work and lauds her pivotal role in the study of biodiversity as a gauge of ecosystem health. An unlikely opening line immediately captures attention: "When Ruth Patrick was five years old, she fell in love with pond scum." Narration goes on to describe how the protagonist's early and enduring fascination with microscopic algae leads her to graduate school studies, of "her true love, diatoms" and of water pollution; its lively style making her collection of data feel like a page-turning event. Reagan's hand-painted watercolor washes mix with digital detailing for absorbing effect: lightly sketched scenes of the figure ankle-deep in water appear alongside delicately starry diatoms and careful depictions of aquatic creatures poised to one day benefit from the scientist's trailblazing work. More about the figure and a timeline conclude. Ages 6: 9. (Mar.)
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-7021-7	Magic Mix-Up	Lou Treleaven	
La Vernia Primary	9781546110842	Magic of the wizard dragon	West, Tracey	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8889-0	Magic Runs Wild (My Little Pony)	Alexandra West	PreS-Gr 2—One morning, Izzy wakes up and feels like she is not herself. She does not want to do anything she loves, and her magic is gone. Her friend Zipp is worried but tells Izzy, "If you're not feeling your best, it's time to go on a quest!" Izzy grabs the Nova Charm, which opens portals to other lands. She visits an icy forest and meets an ice pony, then the dragon lands where a dragon encourages her to take a chance, and the ocean where she makes friends with a sea pony. When Izzy arrives back home, she finds herself in the old fairgrounds. Looking around, she sees time and decay has taken its toll: The rides are broken, and the park is in disarray. Izzy's heart starts to beat faster as a surge of magic "sparked ideas of how to fix up the fairgrounds. Her creative magic was back!" Izzy uses her newly returned magic to fix the park and turn on the lights and rides. All her friend ponies see the lights and run over, happy to have Izzy back home. Parents and caregivers will have no trouble using this book to help children gain interest in reading. Easy words, captivating illustrations and word repetition help emergent readers, and a magic pony is an irresistible character: Izzy is fun to follow on her quest to find her magic. VERDICT Recommended for emergent readers collections and fans of My Little Pony.— Pamela Thompson McLeod
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8744-2	Magical Mess (Disney Junior Ariel)	Michelle Meadows	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9130-2	Makeda Makes a Mountain (Makeda Makes)	Olugbemisola Rhuday-Perkovich	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9562-1	Making a Mistake (Big Dog and Little Dog)	Dav Pilkey	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-358-56713-4	Man Who Didn't Like Animals	Deborah Underwood	In this Old MacDonald origin story from Underwood (Walter Had a Best Friend) and Pham (Bear Came Along), the opening sequence shows a middle-aged man, portrayed with brown skin, happily dusting his apartment: "There was once a man who loved his tidy home and who didn't like animals." Naturally, a sleek cat appears on his doorstep. In digital artwork with a deliciously retro feel, vignettes show him holding his hands over his head to scare it off. But the cat refuses to leave, and the two find much in common: "The man liked to eat dinner at precisely 6 p.m. So did the cat." Willing to make an exception for a single kitty, he muses "Maybe THIS cat isn't so bad." But when additional felines, a dog or two, and a wealth of farm animals arrive, and determine to stay, the neighbors start to complain. The solution leads to a familiar tune about a man whose new residence houses many animals (their names, illustrations hint, begin with E, I, and O). It's a light tale that garners plenty of smiles, as well as an amiable look at one individual's learning to let go of preconceptions. Ages 4: 8. Author's agent: Erin Murphy, Erin Murphy Literary. Illustrator's agent: Holly McGhee, Pippin Properties. (Sept.)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0398-3866-6	Mara the Mermaid Meets a Dolphin	Amy Culliford	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0398-3869-7	Mara the Mermaid Meets a Manatee	Amy Culliford	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0398-3867-3	Mara the Mermaid Meets a Sea Turtle	Amy Culliford	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0398-3864-2	Mara the Mermaid Meets a Seahorse	Amy Culliford	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0398-3865-9	Mara the Mermaid Meets a Shark	Amy Culliford	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0398-3868-0	Mara the Mermaid Meets a Walrus	Amy Culliford	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-7972-2233-2	Mariam's Dream: The Story of Mariam Al-Shaar and Her Food Truck of Hope	Leila Boukarim	Born in a Beirut refugee camp, Mariam Al-Shaar (b. 1972) "will never be Lebanese./ She is Palestinian but may never go to Palestine./ Mariam is the daughter of refugees; /people who live between worlds." Though the camp walls "keep her from working./ from growing, from dreaming," she nevertheless yearns to "do something, and she knows she can't do it alone." When she reaches out to the women of her camp, they express a love of cooking, "flavors from Palestine, Iraq, Syria, and Lebanon." The result is Soufra, a women-run food business operated within the camp that slowly, facing discriminatory setbacks, expands to a food truck. Though the creators only briefly touch on Al-Shaar's childhood, Avadian's digital images employ bright hues along with textured splashes, swirls, and waves in this work about an individual who dared "to dream of a better tomorrow." Background characters are portrayed with various skin tones. An author's note concludes. Ages 5: 8. (Apr.)
La Vernia Primary	9781544435800	Marion and the girls' getaway	Barkley, Callie	
La Vernia Primary	9781518185700	Marion and the secret letter	Barkley, Callie	
La Vernia Primary	9781489839695	Marion strikes a pose	Barkley, Callie	Horn Book Guide (Spring 2015) While preparing for and celebrating the holidays, Amy matches some guinea pigs to a family (after solving an allergy problem) and spreads some cheer to a dear friend. While the rest of the Critter Club frog-sits, Marion tries to win a local fashion challenge—but at what cost? Riti's sweet spot art decorates the latest enjoyable outings of these animal-loving girls. [Review covers these Critter Club titles: Amy's Very Merry Christmas and Marion Strikes a Pose.]
La Vernia Primary	9781489804334	Marion takes a break	Barkley, Callie	
La Vernia Primary	9781489891396	Marion takes charge	Barkley, Callie	Horn Book Guide (Spring 2016) Liz competes in a sand castle contest and discovers that people aren't always what they seem; Marion learns about responsibility and how to be a good big sister when she watches over little sis Gabby. As usual, the Critter Club girls navigate their world with verve, helping animals and people along the way. Short chapters include lots of friendly spot art. [Review covers these Critter Club titles: Liz and the Sand Castle Contest and Marion Takes Charge.]
La Vernia Primary	9781668839737	Marion's got the butterflies	Barkley, Callie	
La Vernia Primary	9798368724157	Marion's warm welcome	Barkley, Callie	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-9785-7484-7	Mars	Murray "oak" Tapeta	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-15-205810-4	Mary Poppins	P. L. Travers	Gr 3-5-Mary Poppins takes charge of the Banks children and changes their lives forever. By P.L. Travers. (c) Copyright 2010. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc.

La Vernia Primary	9781419774973	Marya Khan and the abominable ski trip	Faruqi, Saadia	School Library Journal (September 1, 2025) Gr 1-4-This fulfilling sixth installment of this series follows the ever-enthusiastic adventurer and third grader, Pakistani American Marya Kahn. It's winter break, and all Marya wants to do is drink hot chocolate and have sleepovers with her best friend Hanna-but Marya's "Winter Break of Fun" dreams are foiled when her frenemy, Alexa, invites them both to the very fancy Mountain Valley Ski Resort. Just before the girls head out to the mountains, Marya's older sister Aliyah taunts her about the Abominable Snowman, sparking Marya's determination to prove her bravery by catching the snow monster. Faruqi maintains a strong, sincere voice for Marya; her dramatic flair, spunk, and relentless ambition create laugh-out-loud lines while gently drawing out her real-kid vulnerabilities which will strongly resonate with readers. Marya's internal dialogue is smooth and genuine, further developing relationships with well-loved secondary characters. As with previous titles, the authentic portrayal of a Pakistani family is neatly integrated throughout the plot. Readers don't have to be familiar with the entire series to know and love Marya's world; this title is certainly strong enough to stand on its own, however Marya Khan's fans will appreciate brief callbacks to previous books. Bushry's black-and-white illustrations provide helpful visual cues to Marya's daydreams and challenges, emphasizing both emotional and plot-driven turns in the story. VERDICT Exuberant storytelling through the endearing voice of a headstrong heroine continues the playful legacy of this thoughtful series; returning and new readers will be enchanted by this latest addition. -Morgan Hanrahan © Copyright 2025. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9781419761225	Marya Khan and the awesome adventure park	Faruqi, Saadia	
La Vernia Primary	9781419774959	Marya Khan and the disastrous class project	Faruqi, Saadia	School Library Journal (May 1, 2025) Gr 2-4-Marya Khan is partnered with a new boy named Waleed for a class project. Waleed, who is from Pakistan-the same country as Marya's family-is very quiet and shy. When Marya starts working on their project about Pakistan, Waleed initially refuses to discuss his homeland. Determined to bridge the gap, Marya makes it her mission to befriend him. Each chapter opens with a "word of the day," offering fun vocabulary practice, even though most events unfold within a single day. Grayscale illustrations break up the text and add visual interest, making the book especially approachable for readers transitioning to longer chapter books. VERDICT A wonderful addition to any collection, this story offers insights into Pakistani culture and the challenges-and rewards-of making new friends in a new place. © Copyright 2025. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9798368783239	Marya Khan and the Disastrous Class Project (#5)	Faruqi, Saadia	School Library Journal (May 1, 2025) Gr 2-4-Marya Khan is partnered with a new boy named Waleed for a class project. Waleed, who is from Pakistan-the same country as Marya's family-is very quiet and shy. When Marya starts working on their project about Pakistan, Waleed initially refuses to discuss his homeland. Determined to bridge the gap, Marya makes it her mission to befriend him. Each chapter opens with a "word of the day," offering fun vocabulary practice, even though most events unfold within a single day. Grayscale illustrations break up the text and add visual interest, making the book especially approachable for readers transitioning to longer chapter books. VERDICT A wonderful addition to any collection, this story offers insights into Pakistani culture and the challenges-and rewards-of making new friends in a new place. © Copyright 2025. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9781419761188	Marya Khan and the fabulous jasmine garden	Faruqi, Saadia	School Library Journal starred (December 1, 2022) Gr 1-4-This series sequel continues the adventures of gutsy third grader Marya Khan. This time, Marya wants to prove that she isn't a baby by taking up a big responsibility as garden leader at their school's first-ever community garden. Also competing for that spot? Rich girl nemesis Alexa. The spirited heroine soon learns that gardening requires a lot of work and being a leader isn't always what it's cracked up to be. She also learns that people aren't always who they seem, and hard work is made lighter when you're together. Along for the hijinks are Marya's close friends and supportive family. The characters are well-developed and feel like a well-integrated part of Marya's universe. The humor is genuine, and warmth exudes from the dialogue and prose. Faruqi continues to create relatable protagonists with age-relevant and real-kid struggles and triumphs while offering an authentic portrayal of a Muslim, Pakistani family. Those who haven't read the first installment will be brought up to speed quickly and familiarity with the first book isn't necessary. Words of the Day precede each chapter, which will delight word lovers and give astute readers clues as to what awaits Marya. Bushry's black-and-white illustrations help ground the narrative and give burgeoning readers extra clues to help discern Marya's goings-on. VERDICT Authentic friendships, layered family dynamics, and the adventures of an intrepid heroine make this a must-have series that should be shelved next to Renée Watson's "Ryan Hart" books. -Shelley M. Diaz © Copyright 2022. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9781419761164	Marya Khan and the incredible henna party	Faruqi, Saadia	School Library Journal (October 1, 2022) Gr 1-3-Seven-year-old Pakistani American Marya Khan is on the precipice of turning eight, and she has big ambitions for this year's birthday celebration. Unfortunately, Baba and Mama are not on the same page with Marya's plans-instead they want to do their traditional low-key, pizza-and-cake family celebration. To make matters worse, Marya's neighbor Alexa's birthday is two days before hers, and that celebration will be one for the books. While Marya only gets to invite her best friend Hanna to her party, Alexa is inviting the whole class. As Alexa is distributing her party invites, Marya blurts out that she, too, is having a birthday party with fairy lights, yummy food, and henna! Of course, her parents haven't agreed to any of this, so Marya sets out on an ill-fated crusade to convince her parents that this year must be the year of the incredible henna party. Short chapters are sprinkled with simple, expressive illustrations that will keep readers who are transitioning to more text-heavy chapter books engaged. Culturally specific terms, like daal, shalwar kameez, and paratha, will be welcome by readers of South Asian descent and embraced by others not part of that community. VERDICT This early chapter book will find favor with fans of "Definitely Dominguita" and "JoJo Makoons" and has broad appeal. Readers will look forward to reading more of plucky Marya's adventures. -Sarah Simpson © Copyright 2022. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-1821-7	Max the Cat	Tiffany Renando	
La Vernia Primary	9798368786919	Max, a little axolotl : an original graphic novel	Spiotto, Joey	School Library Journal (July 1, 2025) K-Gr 2-Axolotl Max's peaceful lake-dwelling lifestyle is rudely disrupted by habitat-harming construction when a quick-thinking conservationist intervenes, giving Max a fresh start at a nearby aquarium. Much to standoffish Max's chagrin, his new tank is brimming with freshwater fauna, including Milo the turtle and Sheila the snail. The social and academic pressures of aquarium life prove to be a lot for shy, hiccup-prone Max to handle. During a game of kickball, he ventures into a nearby cave to find a rogue ball and comes face-to-face with the ominous Water Monster. Surprisingly, this unexpected encounter makes Max realize his new life might not be so bad after all. Early elementary school graphic novel readers will find Max and company to be charming and relatable, and Spiotto cleverly sprinkles axolotl facts and lore throughout the text. The no-frills, boldly outlined panels are an ideal match for the straightforward narrative. A cliffhanger leaves Max poised for a potential series. VERDICT Early elementary readers will pick this book up for the axolotl and stay for the cute, informative, and engaging story. -Sarah Simpson © Copyright 2025. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9596-6	May's Too-Big Pizza (All About May)	A. T. Woehling	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-4814-4926-7	Maya Angelou Finds Her Voice	Peter Roop, Connie Roop	In this sensitively rendered biography of Maya Angelou (1928: 2014), the Roops describe how, early in life, "Words whirled and stories spun in Maya's head and off her lips." After she experiences an attack at age eight, however, Angelou stops speaking to all but her brother Bailey, fearing that she's to blame for her attacker's death. Years later, Beulah Flowers, a customer at her mother's store, loans the child some books and invites her to read them aloud, an act that offers Angelou "the key to unlock her voice, now finally free to rise up and inspire the world." Denmon's gossamer drawings of formerly caged birds foretell the figure's literary journey, leading to a fanciful spread in which Angelou flies, floats, and glides along a sun-drenched tableau of words read from A Tale of Two Cities. Ages 4: 8. (Jan.)
La Vernia Primary	9798368786926	Maya the ember dragon	Mara, Maddy	
La Vernia Primary	9781516082261	Maybe maybe Marisol Rainey	Kelly, Erin Entrada	School Library Journal starred (April 1, 2021) Gr 3-7-"That's the thing about best friends. They don't care about all the things you can't do:" wise words from a timid adolescent girl. Marisol is a young Filipina living in Louisiana, while also residing in her own little world. She notices things that most people would overlook, like the sights and sounds from a refrigerator. With a fascination with silent movies and a habit of assigning names to everything (even inanimate objects), endearing, relatable Marisol is also plagued by anxieties of all sorts. This story contains adorable yet thought-provoking conversations between friends, allowing for readers to feel as though they have been transported into the imagination of the main character. The main antagonist in the story is a bully of sorts, and causes grief for Marisol. Readers will be rooting for the main character, Marisol, throughout the story, as well as her kind best friend Jana. VERDICT This title is a great read for upper elementary children. With occasional, whimsical illustrations, it will keep even the most reluctant readers entertained. -Megan Honeycutt, Univ. of West Georgia, Carrollton © Copyright 2021. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8745-9	Meet Ariel and Friends (Disney Junior Ariel)	Elizabeth Lynch	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9605-5	Meet the Agents (The Creature Cases)	Alexandra West	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9020-6	Meet the Boxcar Children (Boxcar Children)	Gertrude Chandler Warner	

La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8846-3	Meet the Chef! (The Tiny Chef Show)	Nicole Johnson	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9470-9	Meet the Iron Friends (Iron Man and His Awesome Friends)	Steve Behling	
La Vernia Primary	9781713770404	Mei the ruby treasure dragon	Mara, Maddy	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-9785-7487-8	Mercury	Murray "oak" Tapeta	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8745-0360-4	Mercury and the Woodsman - Why Should You Always Be Honest?	Aesop	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8840-1	Merry Spidey Christmas	Jack Palfrey	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9505-8	Mia the Masterpiece: An Empowering Story About Inclusivity and Growing up with Down Syndrome	Mia Armstrong	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5444-5	Mickey Mouse Funhouse: Homesick!	Sib Ventress, Sheila Sweeny Higginson	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5456-8	Mickey Mouse Mixed-Up Adventures: Campy Camper Day	Mike Kubat, Bill Scollon	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-9785-3965-5	Military Helicopters	Eleanor Bradshaw	Gr 1-3--Young military enthusiasts will delight in these introductions to well-known machines employed by the armed forces. Readers learn the history of each machine: tanks were first used in World War I to cross trenches, the first amphibious vehicle was built in 1807, and helicopters were intended to rescue people. Each volume contains interesting facts such as the great height of Air Force One, that aircraft carriers have their own hospitals, and that the F-35 fighter plane can take off straight in the air. Colorful photographs enhance the text and will be appreciated by the readers as much as the narratives. The only drawback is there is not a lot of new information presented and collections may already have sufficient books on the topic. VERDICT These nice works should be considered where collections need refreshing. Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-4783-6	Milk Snakes	Julie Murray	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8745-0332-1	Milk Woman and Her Pail - What Happens If You Count On Getting Something Before You Have It?	Aesop	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-339-02327-4	Millie Fleur's Poison Garden	Christy Mandin	The sign at the entrance to Garden Glen boasts "a picture-perfect place," a phrase that hints at the neighborhood's stifling conformity. But young Millie Fleur, who's vaguely reminiscent of Wednesday Addams in Mandin's measured, sepia-toned digital illustrations; changes all that when she and her mother move into a lone, decrepit gothic house on the edge of town. Pet frog in tow, Millie plants a garden that is gloriously unruly, filled with anthropomorphic plants whose names include "sore toothwort," "tentacled tansy," and "grumpy gillyflower." The town elders declare the garden "poisonous," but Millie rallies her classmates and teacher, who "all agreed... Millie Fleur's garden was wonderfully weird!" The child's example doesn't completely unleash the forces of unconventionality in Garden Glen, but final images depict homeowners expressing themselves, at least in their horticultural pursuits. Millie and her mother are portrayed with pale skin; background characters are shown with various abilities and skin tones. An author's note concludes. Ages 2: 6. (July)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9507-2	Milo the Doctor	Mei Nakamura	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9261-3	Milo the Explorer		
La Vernia Primary	9781516093526	Mina the lightning dragon	Mara, Maddy	School Library Journal (December 1, 2024) Gr 2-5-In the three newest titles of the "Dragon Girls" series, each character-Mina, Zora, and Eloise-takes the spotlight in her own adventure as they transform into dragons to protect the Magic Forest. The Chaos Queen is relentless in her attempts to destroy the forest, using threats like blue snow, dangerous fires, and lightning storms. It's up to the dragon girls to thwart her plans and protect their magical world. While the illustrations are small, they add a touch of whimsy, bringing the fantasy elements to life. The concept of girls transforming into dragons is imaginative and sure to captivate young readers, particularly those new to chapter books. With action-packed scenes and a strong sense of friendship, this series offers plenty of excitement. VERDICT A great addition to any collection, especially where there is a demand for dragon-themed stories that inspire courage and teamwork. © Copyright 2024. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-8483-2	Mini Mystery	Michael Anthony Steele	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5445-2	Minnie: Spring at the Bow-tique	Allison Grote	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5446-9	Minnie's Bow Toons: Daisy's Crazy Hair Day	Robert Ramirez, Annie Auerbach	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5447-6	Mira, Royal Detective: Meet Mira	Sascha Paladino	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-0301-7	Miri's Moving Day	Stephanie Wildman, Adam R. Chang	Moving stirs up big emotions for a young Jewish Chinese child. Miri blinks back tears; the little one will miss Mah Mah and Yeh Yeh (Cantonese for paternal grandmother and Mandarin/Cantonese for paternal grandfather, respectively), who look after Miri while Mom and Dad are at work. Miri will also miss the stone Chinese lions outside the family's apartment. But as everyone packs up the furniture, Yeh Yeh and Miri's other grandfather, Zayde (Yiddish for grandfather), take Miri out for ice cream. Yeh Yeh gives Miri a beautiful mezuzah case and explains, "There are no stone lions to guard your new apartment building, but you can hang this mezuzah at your door." Zayde supplies the scroll to place inside, and they all head to Miri's new apartment. The whole family gathers as Zayde says the special blessing; then they hang the mezuzah above the front door. Later, Zayde has another surprise for Miri: a pair of small carved red lions. Miri is adorable, but other characters are less consistent in their depiction from page to page, and details in the text aren't always fleshed out (Mah Mah and Yeh Yeh were Miri's caregivers before, so what will happen in their new home?). Nonetheless, the family's love is palpable, and readers will appreciate how all four grandparents work to honor Miri's heritage—Yeh Yeh mentions learning about mezuzahs from Zayde, while Bubbe (Miri's maternal grandmother) and Mah Mah both prepare Shabbat dinner. A sweet story of a family blending traditions. (authors' note, glossary) (Picture book. 4-8)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8686-5	Missing Dot (Dot the Ladybug)	Kallie George	PreS-Gr 1—Readers will enjoy solving a dot-themed mystery in the latest series installment. When Dot's friend finds that the dot is missing from the middle of his donut, she steps in to save the day. In true detective style, Dot grabs her magnifying glass and searches everywhere for the missing dot. A trip to her mouse friend Jot's house gives Dot a new perspective, and soon the mystery is solved. The combination of simple text, especially repeated sounds like "ot," with higher level vocabulary words makes this an enjoyable book for beginning readers. Coleman's vibrant and colorful illustrations bring Dot and her animal friends to life. Children will delight in co-reading this book with a teacher, friend, or family member. VERDICT A wonderfully shareable early reader that is perfect for schools and libraries.—Lauren White

La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8686-5	Missing Dot (Dot the Ladybug)	Kallie George	An introduction to reading--and to the gentlest of mysteries. Although Dot the ladybug enjoys finding dots and spots "here, there, and everywhere," she's stumped when her friend Spots the dog asks for help finding his snack's "missing dot." Readers in the know will recognize the dog's treat as a doughnut, but Dot and Spots need time to come to this understanding. They begin searching for the ostensibly missing dot as Dot encounters a sunflower's round center, a round blueberry, and Spots' ball. None of them are the missing dot! While new readers will be supported by the controlled text's use of rhyme, assonance, and short sentences, they'll also gain encouragement from the conceit of the book, which positions them to know more than the main characters do. Throughout, Coleman's cheery, cartoon-style illustrations ratchet up the humor of the accessible text, showing Dot using a magnifying glass to examine these objects in her search and visually adding a subtle detective-story flair to the narrative. The mystery is solved when Dot comes across her friend Jots the mouse, who is the doughnut maker. "My snacks have a hole, but they are whole," Jots explains. In this treat of a story, the homophone is the icing on the cake. By turns funny and sweet--and sure to hit the spot. (Early reader. 5-7) COPYRIGHT(2024) Kirkus Reviews, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-6689-4657-2	Mission Control	Samantha Bell	K-Gr 2--In this early elementary series, information is presented through the viewpoint of the person, place, or piece of technology featured in the title. The rover explains that it uses its cameras to help it navigate, while the space telescope explains that it sees clearly without atmosphere to blur the images. Short, direct sentences are paired with large photos to share information. Cartoon-style illustrations pose questions that encourage readers to think critically about what they have read. For instance, the space suit mentions that each of its layers has a job. Then the illustration asks readers, "Do you ever have to wear layers?" A glossary supports comprehension and offers pronunciation for unfamiliar words and an index helps to locate information. VERDICT A good choice for primary grades with its unique approach to a high-interest topic. Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8685-8	Misty's Tale (My Little Pony)	Matthew Corrigan	K-Gr 2—Wicked Opaline wants to take over the land of Equestria. She enlists a little Alicorn named Misty to steal Sparky, the pet dragon of a group of magical ponies called the Mane 5. Opaline wants to use the dragon's fire to destroy magic. Misty becomes instant pony friends with Izzy of the Mane 5 and is conflicted about turning against the group. But Opaline has promised to get a cutie mark for Misty if she brings her Sparky. The task proves harder than it's supposed to be, and eventually Misty must decide whether she will stand up to Opaline and save her new friends. In this early reader, young My Little Pony fans get their first literary taste of the fantasy series. Followers will recognize the visual prerequisites of the franchise, including rainbow manes and magical swirls of butterflies, hearts, and stars. References to cutie marks, Alicorns, and brandings of achievement and identity will support youngsters familiar with the world to follow the story. Cartoon artwork shows pink and turquoise ponies; an imposing Opaline gets a full-page close-up of dark purple evil. Her suitably malevolent expressions add some serious drama to the proceedings, along with compelling themes of bravery, friendship, and the struggle to be one's best self. VERDICT A beginning-to-read first fantasy title for My Little Pony enthusiasts.—Sarah Webb
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-2699-3	Mitzvah Fairy	Danielle Joseph	With a crown, wings, and a star wand, a young Jewish boy transforms into the Mitzvah Fairy. After breakfast, the boy loads supplies into his wagon and leaves with his father and small gray dog to do good deeds for relatives and neighbors in need of cheering up. His bubbe (grandmother in Yiddish) has a case of the sniffles; she proclaims his chicken soup "delicious!" Mr. Gordon's leg is in a cast, so the boy waters the plants and fills the bird feeder. The thoughtful child notices trash in the park and asks his dad, "Don't we need to treat the earth with kindness too?" When his dad agrees, the two pick up the garbage and recycle what they can. The boy spots lost coins and asks if he can add them to the blue tzedakah box (a charity box, adorned with Hebrew letters). He also moves a ladybug to a safer spot where it can't be harmed by pedestrians. Though many readers will appreciate this quiet, matter-of-fact tale of a young everyday hero doing his best, it'll have special resonance for those familiar with Judaism. Featuring characters with oversize heads and textured backgrounds with cozy details, Battuz's art sets a warm tone. Characters are light-skinned. The book concludes with a matching game and a list of Hebrew phrases for the Jewish values incorporated into the story. A tale gently infused with kindness and compassion. (Picture book. 4-8)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8919-4	Moana's Canoe Crew (Disney Moana 2)	Natasha Bouchard	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-88989-237-3	Moon	Matt Lilley	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-4697-6	Moon	Elizabeth Andrews	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-316-59260-4	More or Less	Alison Hughes	Two little words, more and less, tell a tale of sustainable practices in an era of excess. In a house of "plenty," a child notices the sheer amount of stuff that the whole family has accumulated. Perturbed by the pileup of objects, the youngster gathers items to distribute among friends. More opportunities to collect ("more") and give away ("less") occur, including a donation request for the local senior center and a swap meet. Conveying the idea that it's better to give than to receive, Hughes relies on just a word or two per spread. The word plenty bookends the beginning and the ending of the narrative, reestablishing a kind of platonic ideal in a world of superfluous overabundance. The storytelling feels jumbled, however. The connection between the text and the visuals isn't always clear; children may be unsure why the word less accompanies a scene of the kids piling a wagon with items, for instance. While parsing the story with an adult may spark fruitful discussion about generosity and recycling, it might also lead to further confusion. Caldecott Honor-winning illustrator Mora's lovely cut-paper artwork gives the book a handmade feel appropriate for its subject matter. The family at the center of the tale is multiracial; their community is diverse. Visually enticing but ultimately puzzlingly expressed meditations on sustainability. (Picture book. 3-6)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9064-0	More Trees, Please!	Alastair Heim	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-77306-935-7	Mother Aspen: A Story of How Forests Cooperate and Communicate	Annette LeBox	Librarians and teachers will find many opportunities to utilize poet and environmentalist LeBox's gorgeous work as a read-aloud or within units on science, art, and social-emotional learning. The main body of the book describes the life of a tree she calls Mother Aspen. First are the seasons of one year, from when the tree sends up shoots in spring, which look like multiple trees but are joined by one root system, through winter. LeBox narrates the long-term life of the tree, over hundreds of years, until the tree dies from storm damage. LeBox emphasizes the symbiosis of the tree, underground fungus, and forest animals; her description of how the dead tree will continue to give life by becoming a "nurse log" will be a valuable addition to lessons on life cycles and even on grieving. The author's vibrant watercolors of the tree and forest dwellers are bursting with life and are a highlight of the book. A wonderful choice for school and public library shelves.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9459-4	Mouse and the Mouse-Maker (The Witches)	Roald Dahl	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5341-1338-1	Mouse Buffet: A Christmas Treat	Della Ross Ferreri	While the cat's sound asleep, the mice will... nibble, crunch, and slurp their way through a family's sumptuous Christmas spread. Four rambunctious, hungry mice climb a chair ("scritchity scrat") to reach a table laden with a cheery rainbow of desserts; from delicately decorated cut-out cookies to a large punch bowl accented with floating cranberries and orange slices. Potential tragedy strikes when a runaway grape ("boinga boinga!") wakes the fluffy orange kitty loafing tableside, and the mice tunnel into a tall chocolate cake as refuge. Juxtaposed with the sure-to-pounce cat, scenes of the rodents; who look alternately euphoric and frantic; gobbling the kaleidoscope of goodies create a gentle suspense. And Ross Ferreri's brief and bustling onomatopoeic outing serves up a sudden, surprise ending that's delicious for all. Ages 6: 7. (Aug.)
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-4424-9	Mouse Who Loved Latkes	Joy Nelkin Wieder	When CJ (short for Colby Jack) learns that a family named Katz is moving into the apartment whose walls he inhabits, the little mouse goes into full panic mode ("Cats are no friends of mine!"). Following a delicious beckoning aroma, though, CJ finds Hanukkah preparations, including jelly doughnuts and chocolate coins, irresistible; even when Nelkin Wieder reveals that the family are, indeed, anthropomorphized cats. It helps when the family kitten, Kitty Katz, reassures him that the menorah isn't a "ginormous mousetrap"; he first cautiously, and then joyfully, joins their celebration of latkes and candle lighting. And as the book's punch line explains, CJ was never truly in danger anyway, because mice aren't kosher. Watercolor- and ink-style illustrations lend a homespun, coloring-book warmth to a congenial cat-and-mouse picture book that honors Judaism's tradition of holiday hospitality. Activities and a glossary conclude. Ages 2: 8. (Oct.)
La Vernia Primary	9781665910224	Mousetronaut saves the world : based on a (partially) true story	Kelly, Mark E	Booklist (June 1, 2024 (Vol. 120, No. 19)) Preschool-Grade 3. In this picture book, NASA scientists discover an asteroid that has entered our solar system and may collide with Earth. After determining that it would take too long to build a manned spaceship, they suggest sending Meteor, the lead character in Mousetronaut Goes to Mars (2013), and two other Mousetronauts to crew a much smaller spaceship and nudge the asteroid off course while it is still far away. The president orders them to send three well-trained mice to do the job. Newton and Nova join Meteor for intensive training, and then they blast off and carry out their mission successfully. Unfortunately, their ship is damaged, and they must land on the moon, but Mousetronaut fans can be sure of a happy ending here as well. Well-drawn and beautifully shaded, the illustrations are full of color and drama. Kelly, an experienced astronaut and the author of several children's books, offers a lively, space-based adventure story, followed by a detailed afterword that separates fact from fiction and guides readers to recommended space-based reading, both the imaginative and the informational.

La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8657-5	Movie Night (Peppa Pig)	Cala Spinner	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-0873-7	Mr. Freeze's Coldest Case: Featuring Bluebird!	Steve Korte	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9134-0	Mr. Putter and Tabby Pour the Tea	Cynthia Rylant	K-Gr 3-Tired of living alone, Mr. Putter finds himself a perfect pet at an animal shelter. It is an old yellow cat with creaking bones and thinning fur who seems to be "a little deaf." But after all, "Mr. Putter creaked, his hair was thinning and he was a little deaf, too." Rylant's charming story of two elderly characters is complemented and enhanced by Howard's delightful illustrations, done in pencil, watercolor, and gouache. Mr. Putter's senior status and the style of illustration are reminiscent of James Stevenson's pictures for Helen V. Griffith's Granddaddy's Place (Greenwillow, 1987). A finely crafted beginning reader.-Gale W. Sherman, Pocatello Public Library, ID (c) Copyright 2010. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9135-7	Mr. Putter and Tabby Walk the Dog	Cynthia Rylant	K-Gr 2-From a neighborly distance, Zeke seems to be a "dream dog." So, when Mrs. Teaberry, his owner, hurts her foot, her friend Mr. Putter does not hesitate to volunteer to walk him. At the end of a leash, however, the little bulldog is a "nightmare." He tugs, tangles, and chases "big dogs." Mr. Putter, always accompanied by his cat, resorts to bribes of just the sort (ice cream, swimming pools, carnivals, and zoos) that tempt children to good behavior. Mr. Putter at last returns Zeke, and he and Tabby celebrate. This beginning-reader chapter book has a brief text (with a few words readers might have to stretch for), plenty of repetitive phrases, and lots of visual clues. Howard's illustrations are breezy, watercolor-and-pencil cartoons that extend the humor and give comic life to the mischievous canine, the earnest cat, and the hapless humans. Another winner from Rylant.-Meg Stackpole, Rye Free Reading Room, NY (c) Copyright 2010. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc.
La Vernia Primary	979-8-89063-081-0	Mr. Round and Mr. Square	Patricia Fitti	It's all in how you look at things. Orange-skinned Mr. Round and beige-skinned Mr. Square live opposite each other. Everything about them suits their respective names: Mr. Round's face, house, and car are round. Mr. Square's face, spectacles, hat, house, and car are square, as are his dog and plants. The guys perceive things differently, too. When a bird flutters by Mr. Round's window, he observes that the animal is close by, but Mr. Square retorts, "NO! The bird is far away." And as the two neighbors gaze at an array of animals, Mr. Round concludes that the dog is last in line. From Mr. Square's perspective, however, "The dog is first in line." Both are perfectly correct in their respective judgments. Young children will have a wonderful time meeting these jovial neighbors and exploring basic math concepts (shapes, quantities, spatial relationships, distances, perception, and relativity) as well as colors. But there's another message here, and we're not just talking math. At the end of the day, seeing things differently--and being OK with that--is what life's all about and what unites neighbors. Witness these fellows' final convivial picnic. This winning charmer, originally published in Belgium and the Netherlands and translated from Dutch, includes lively, colorful illustrations incorporating fonts that reflect the protagonists' shapes; the book uses rounded type for Mr. Round's dialogue and a sharper, squared type for Mr. Square's. Don't be a square: Everyone gather round for this adorable concept book.(Picture book. 3-6) COPYRIGHT (2024) Kirkus Reviews, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5457-5	Ms. Marvel: This is Ms. Marvel	Emeli Juhlin	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-4197-5521-7	Music Inside Us: Yo-Yo Ma and His Gifts to the World	James Howe	Howe highlights the celebrated cellist's introspective nature, conveying questions that Yo-Yo Ma (b. 1955) has asked throughout his life, first as a young musician taught by his father; "What does it mean to be a cellist? To be a musician? To be a human being?"; and later when questioning his future: "Who am I when I am not the obedient son, when I am not the cellist everyone expects me to be?" In diaphanous multimedia spreads with velvety textures, Wong portrays Ma as a young boy struggling to get his cello case up the stairs of his family's Paris apartment, playing on television for the president of the United States, and then, in adolescence, slumped on his bed reading a comic book. Studying anthropology leads to further questions, a career choice, and to a realization: "I am a human being first, a musician second, a cellist third." It's a warm, musing biographical work that details a figure's desire to "bring people together in harmony and joy"; and invites readers to ask and answer questions of their own. Ages 4: 8. (June)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9452-5	My Cousin, the Quinceanera	Julissa Mora	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-593-38501-2	My First Book of Fancy Letters	Jessica Hische	Each letter of the alphabet gets fresh and fancy in this primer from typography guru Hische. "Letters can be A-for-Athletic," "J-for-Jeweled," or "U-for-Unique," but one thing's for sure: "Each and every letter is AWESOME!" On each page, lowercase letters are rendered in pastel 3D block lettering, while uppercase counterparts take on stylized typographic pizzazz to match the descriptive text, which features lively adjectives that begin with the corresponding letter. Each anthropomorphized letter has a simple, expressive doodled face and stick limbs. Lowercase b uses a tiny bubble wand to blow a soapy, uppercase bubbly B. Uppercase M is drawn with curling serifs and a rabbit-filled top hat and a wand, much to the delight of the lowercase m spectator. Each scene is colorfully detailed, though visually a bit flattened by the stark white background. While the design is inspired, however, it isn't clear who this book is intended for. The intricacies of the art may go over the heads of readers learning their ABCs; older children and typography-loving adults, as well as fans of Hische's work, feel like this book's true audience. Those readers may find the presentation and format a bit on the young side, while preschoolers will likely struggle with words such as vibrant, prickly, and electric. A charmingly illustrated and designed work that will have trouble finding its readership. (Picture book. 3-7)
La Vernia Primary	9781423102977	My friend is sad	Willems, Mo	School Library Journal (May 1, 2007) K-Gr 3-In these two easy-to-read books, Willems introduces two best friends. Gerald is a slightly stodgy, bespectacled elephant with a stumpy, downturned trunk. Piggie is more daring and whimsical, and, like many friends, the two complement one another. In My Friend Is Sad, Piggie tries hard to cheer her dejected friend. She disguises herself as a cowboy, clown, and a robot, but Gerald doesn't recognize her and is sad because she isn't there to enjoy the fun. Without missing a beat, Piggie points out that he needs new glasses. In Today I Will Fly, Piggie announces her intention to do so to her skeptical pal. In the end, though, Gerald is making adventurous plans of his own. With just a few tweaks of his expressive lines, Willems creates engaging characters. The stories move briskly, with a minimal word count and touches of whimsy throughout. Fans of the author's previous books should check the endpapers for a cameo appearance of his familiar pigeon. These simple, humorous stories will sound just the right note for beginning readers.-Marilyn Taniguchi, Beverly Hills Public Library, CA Copyright 2007 Reed Business Information.
La Vernia Primary	9781549049453	My kite is stuck! : and other stories	Yoon, Salina	School Library Journal (January 1, 2017) K-Gr 2-The delightful trio from Duck, Duck, Porcupine are back in three short stories of friendship. In the first, Big Duck gets a kite stuck in a tree. Porcupine and Big Duck attempt to knock it free but succeed only in getting more objects-a ball, a Hula-hoop, a ladder-stuck in the branches. In the second tale, Big Duck is jealous when Porcupine befriends Bee, making Big Duck jealous until she meets Ladybug. When a spider lands on Little Duck, the others assume that he has made a new friend, too. In the final tale, Big Duck and Porcupine are so focused on making a lemonade stand that they forget all about the lemonade. Good thing Little Duck is prepared. A step up from Mo Willems's "Elephant and Piggie" in reading level, Yoon's beginning reader is thoughtfully designed. The comic book layout of panels bordered in black draws attention to the sequential action. The humorous, full-color digital illustrations feature welcoming, curving black outlines. The all-dialogue black text is printed in a large font in white speech bubbles against solid colored backgrounds. The text is grounded in short, declarative, sight word-heavy sentences. Occasionally, a new word is introduced without a clear visual context clue, but in general the text is strongly supported by illustrations as well as by frequent word repetition. Contractions-"don't," "can't," "let's"-are used in a natural way, making for a smooth flow. VERDICT Cheerful, approachable, and thoughtfully created, this beginning reader will find a welcome home in public and school libraries.-Amy Seto Forrester, Denver Public Library © Copyright 2017. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9781632061386	My life at the bottom : the story of a lonesome axolotl	Bondestam, Linda	School Library Journal starred (May 1, 2022) PreS-Gr 3-In a lake near a city, a single axolotl lives with tiger salamanders, fish, and snails for company. Evidence of "big lugs" (humans) abounds: on land, buildings spew dark smoke into the air, and underwater, the axolotl and its friends find plenty of "exciting treasures" (trash). When the tiger salamanders grow lungs and venture out of the water, the axolotl is lonelier than ever, until a "raging monster wave" sweeps it out of the lake and into a surprising new environment: a "pet shop zoo" containing another axolotl. When the storm clears, the "big lugs" are gone, and the two axolotls happily repopulate the lake. An axolotl is a fascinating choice of narrator for this story that works on two levels: it's one creature's journey, but it's also the story of how climate change is affecting all the creatures on the planet. The axolotl's wide-set eyes, with a single line or curve for its mouth, convey innocent happiness, sadness, and surprise in turn. Color is used effectively to shift the tone throughout, from cool underwater hues to the light and air pollution (and, on one spread, wildfire) on land above. VERDICT This charming-but-not-preachy story could be a real conversation starter for preschoolers and elementary students, and encourage budding environmentalists and climate activists; recommended.-Jenny Arch © Copyright 2022. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

La Vernia Primary	978-1-5341-1311-4	My Name Is Ai Lin	Maria Wen Adcock	A girl explains her name's pronunciation and significance to her new classmates. Ai Lin is the only Asian-featured child in a classroom of children with many other shades of skin and hair colors. On the first day of school, the other kids don't know how to say her name. "Island?" "Eileen?" they ask. "No," Ai Lin replies, correcting their pronunciation. They persist. "Can we just call you Eileen?" Ai Lin then explains why her name is not to be changed; it is her heritage, carrying the hopes and dreams of her elders. She describes how each part of her name has a meaning. "Ai" means "love," like warm hugs from Mama, and "Lin" means "gem," precious and unique the way Baba sees her. Her sister also has a meaningful name, Ai Mei. "Ai" is for "love," "just like me..." It's what I feel when I say her name." "Mei" means "rose," and the two sisters together are a lovely gem and a lovely rose. By the end of her explanation, the other children are listening intently and, of course, get her name exactly right the next day. Cheng's sweet illustrations in a muted yet colorful palette convey Ai Lin's childlike perspective of her classmates and her understanding of herself, her family, and her heritage. An empowering celebration of identity. (author's note, glossary) (Picture book. 4-8)
La Vernia Primary	9781423179580	My new friend is so fun!	Willems, Mo	School Library Journal (July 1, 2014) PreS-Gr 1-What is friendship? Gerald reveals his pessimistic thoughts when he explores the "what ifs" as Snake tells him about their best friends' blissful discovery of each other. All is joy at first-Piggie and Brian Bat are perfect playmates, and the really fun time becomes a super-fun time. Unfortunately, Gerald becomes convinced that he and Snake are losing their best friends, and the resulting insecurities crowd out all positive thoughts: "We must do something! We must tell them to stop having fun!" Piggie and Brian are even playing BEST FRIEND GAMES! Speech bubbles, clearly drawn, simple line drawings, and easily visible facial expressions all provide clues to the inner thoughts of these pals. Gerald worries, while Piggie channels his adventurous side and forges ahead. Another forte for the unlikely pair-text repetition and diversity of font emphasize an overblown situation with a simple solution that demonstrates trusted friendships are not easily erased. A must-buy for "Elephant & Piggie" fans.-Mary Elam, Learning Media Services, Plano ISD, TX (c) Copyright 2014. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-2708-2	My Pet & Full Bed	Rebecca Colby	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9325-2	Mystery at the Old Ranch (The Boxcar Children)	Gertrude Chandler Warner	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8998-9	Nat the Cat Has a Hat	Jarrett Lerner	
La Vernia Primary	9781479558797	Nature calls	Young, Jessica	Horn Book Guide (Spring 2016) Finley Flowers returns, each time with a problem to solve and friends to help her do it. Whether going to camp for the first time (Nature), inventing a laugh machine (New), or creating modern art (Art-Rageous), Finley triumphs. Finley's insatiable curiosity, puns galore, colorful spot art, and satisfying conclusions make the breezy series worthwhile. Discussion questions, writing prompts, and activities are included. Glos. [Review covers these Finley Flowers titles: Art-Rageous, Nature Calls, and New & Improved.]
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8886-9	Neighborhood Helper (Reina Ramos)	Emma Otheguy	Gr 1–2—When Reina Ramos's class wants to win a pizza party for collecting the most cans in the food drive, she goes into overdrive planning and encourages those around her to participate. She even recruits Abuela, who agrees to help but then gets distracted with a new baby in the neighborhood. Reina's class loses by one can, and the disappointment is palpable. However, with Abuela's help, Reina learns that winning isn't everything, and there are still others to help. Otheguy's text is perfect for beginning readers to tackle on their own. Her blend of Spanish will expose young readers to the language and support multilingual learners. Landazbal's illustrations are bright and cheerful; Reina's expressions are especially strong. VERDICT A solid choice for early readers, especially recommended for students in immersive or bilingual classrooms.—Brittany Morgan
La Vernia Primary	978-1-9785-7648-3	Neptune	Murray "oak" Tapeta	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9304-7	Nervous Narwhal (Not Quite Narwhal)	Maria Le	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8944-6	New Girl	Sarah Jospitre	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9309-2	New Home for Barbie	Courtney Carbone	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9068-8	New Journey (Pokemon)	Julia March	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9040-4	Night Night! Sleep Tight! (Little Critter)	Mercer Mayer	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5341-1286-5	Night of the Deer	Mary Morel	Morel and Miroslavova lend a fairy-tale-like air to a pastoral story, which hinges on the fleeting moments when autumn sits just on the cusp of winter. Crisp, careful lines set the scene as "autumn trotted into the valley on frosty hooves," and a pale-skinned family drive through harvest-ready farmland. Encountering two deer, the parents share familial lore suggesting that the animals can "disguise themselves as people and walk among us." Later, spotting the same cervid duo, the child invites them to attend that evening's harvest dance. Predictably, but no less entrancingly, two mysterious guests in old-fashioned attire briefly appear on the floor, their steps "as delicate as the last leaves of autumn slipping into the wind." They depart before anyone can unravel their identities; except perhaps for the knowing child protagonist. Earthy-hued depictions of figures dressed in mid-20th-century fashions and references to rural chores give the book a quaint throwback feel that emphasizes the tale's mythic qualities. Background characters are portrayed with various skin tones. Ages 6: 7. (Aug.)
La Vernia Primary	9781546110491	Night of the dream dragon	West, Tracey	School Library Journal (May 1, 2025) Gr 1-4-The popular "Dragon Masters" series returns with Drake and his dragon, Worm. A brief recap sets the stage before Drake teams up with Kishar and her dragon to stop an evil wizard threatening the Dream World. Action-packed and fast-paced, the story is supported by grayscale illustrations that enhance the adventure. With short chapters, simple vocabulary, and large illustrations breaking up the text, this remains an approachable and exciting choice for new chapter book readers who are interested in dipping their toes in fantasy. VERDICT A strong addition to the series and a must-buy where "Dragon Masters" is popular. © Copyright 2025. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5383-9668-1	No Bad Feelings	Jenni Nakken	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-4994-5518-2	No Is a Good Word	Bharti Singh	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-4345-7	No More Gnomes	Beth Mills	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-593-40703-5	Not All Sheep Are Boring!	Bobby Moynihan	Sheep are more than just numbers (or are they?), hints SNL alum Moynihan with this sly debut, a series of sheep profiles that seek to prove the titular conceit. First up is Alice, clad in a jet pack and a helmet: "Alice is smart/ AND cool. See?// A sheep with a jet pack?!!/ Alice is NOT boring!" There's also coffee-loving Julie, pickle aficionado Mike H., and Quinn, who "enjoys a slight wind/ and also standing." As the list goes on, the sheep seem increasingly humanlike; culminating with Jessica, who "used to date Gary." By the end, even the frog that appears in each spread has grown weary, conceding that sheep Steve is indeed "a little boring... very boring... EXTREMELY boring," and dropping off to sleep. The humor on display here might be beyond kid readers, but Rowan-Zoch creates a fluffy mutton cast with amusing mannerisms and accoutrements for an effect that's decidedly not boring. Ages 4: 8. (Sept.)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9469-3	Not So Fast	Steve Behling	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8795-4	Nothing Scares a Dinosaur (Junior Monster Scouts)	Jonathan Fenske	

La Vernia Primary	978-1-5341-1339-8	OH DEER!	Phaea Crede	A shy creature learns to balance solitude with companionship. Jasper the Sasquatch lives alone; he finds others' company overwhelming. Life on his own is a bit boring, but growing turnips keeps him occupied. When he discovers deer feasting on his crops, he tries to dissuade them, but they return. After chasing them off one last time, Jasper notes his lone remaining turnip—and a lost, whimpering fawn, to whom he feeds the turnip. While he's still reluctant to socialize, he knows he must help the little one reunite with its family. The deer are initially frightened but eventually welcome him. Jasper briefly enjoys their company but then gladly goes home. Jasper's reformed—a bit. He's more comfortable spending time with others, but when that becomes too stressful, "he still loves being alone!" Crede's often-wry narration pairs well with Chen's energetic, expressive illustrations: A looming Jasper cuddles with a teddy bear, while the deer are a delight to behold, shimmying with wild abandon in the turnip garden and fleeing in unfettered horror when Jasper shows up with the fawn. Crede walks a fine line, depicting Jasper not as a cranky misanthrope but as a thoughtful creature who simply needs time to himself to recharge. Many youngsters will appreciate seeing a quiet protagonist portrayed heroically. An entertaining tale with an affirming message for introverts. (author's note) (Picture book. 4-7)
La Vernia Primary	9780062216311	Ohm vs. Amp	Ball, Nate	
La Vernia Primary	9780062216298	On impact!	Ball, Nate	School Library Journal (June 1, 2014) Gr 1-3-The silly sci-fi series with reluctant reader appeal is back for a fourth installment. This time, Zack is stuck at home with a broken arm and an annoying little brother. As in the previous books, instructions for a hands-on science experiment are included. (c) Copyright 2014. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-9508-1	On the Tracks	Leanna Koch	PreS-K—The books in this set intend to support early readers, but frequently do not meet developmental and curricular benchmarks. The stories can feel disorganized, with texts that introduce too many different phonemes at once, making it difficult for young readers to focus on decoding skills. For example, in Pet Tricks, the plot is cluttered with too many characters, making it challenging to follow and distracting from the phonics practice. VERDICT This lack of controlled text and focus undermines the series' effectiveness as a decodable reading tool for early literacy.
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-8491-7	One Cool Caper	Michael Anthony Steele	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-4994-5515-1	One More Does Matter, Lana	David Howlett	
La Vernia Primary	9798368710648	Only only Marisol Rainey	Kelly, Erin Entrada	Horn Book Magazine (July/August, 2023) In her third adventure, Marisol (Maybe Maybe Marisol Rainey, rev. 5/21, and sequel) helps her friend Felix learn to ride a bicycle, navigates her best friend Jada's jealousy that Marisol is spending so much time with Felix, and worries about a neighbor's scary-looking German shepherd, who has gone missing. (At bedtime, after learning that the dog has escaped, Marisol "wonders where he is. She wonders if he will be waiting for her in the morning with all his teeth.") Marisol is an anxious second grader, and her concerns are emotionally spot-on. The limited omniscient narration means that readers know what the protagonist is feeling and thinking while still viewing the world from outside of her head. The book design is approachable for young readers, featuring wide margins, plenty of white space, and an abundance of line drawings. Give this to fans of Dominguez's Stella Diaz Has Something to Say (rev. 5/18) or those ready to move on from Faruqi's Meet Yasmin! Maeve Visser Knoth July/August 2023 p.112
La Vernia Primary	9781624021879	Otis the very large dog	Harrington, Claudia	Booklist (March 15, 2017 (Vol. 113, No. 14)) Preschool-Grade 2. In this easy reader, Hank's bike is damaged, and he has to pay for a new one, so he decides to pet sit. He misspells his name on the sign he paints, advertising his services, by writing an o instead of an a—"Honk"—so drivers honk instead of stopping. Then his friend Ben asks Hank to pet sit his huge dog, Otis. When Otis refuses to eat, Hank and his neighbor Jane discover Otis has a bad tooth. They know Otis hates the vet, so they plan to pull out the tooth themselves, until Hank's mom intervenes. This has diverse secondary characters and uses word repetition to reinforce comprehension. The plot and accompanying illustrations don't always match or make sense. Funny and sweet, but sometimes misses the mark.
La Vernia Primary	9781532131769	Otis the very scared dog	Harrington, Claudia	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0398-3877-2	Out in My Yard	Crystal Williamson	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-63592-591-3	Outdoor Farm, Indoor Farm	Lindsay H. Metcalf	Two youngsters compare and contrast two very different farms. Efrem and Emma are pen pals, each writing about their family farm. Emma lives on a traditional, soil-based farm in the country, while Efrem's family has an aeroponic farm in the city. The book is organized by seasons, starting with spring. On Emma's farm, crops are just beginning to be planted, while bushy greens are already growing on Efrem's farm. "Outdoor farm, / tractors toil. / Indoor farm, / zero soil." A large, sprawling landscape is contrasted with an image of trays stacked up high. At first, the differences are more apparent, but on close inspection, it's clear that there are similarities, too. For instance, on both farms, light is necessary for crops to grow, but, as noted in the backmatter, indoor farms use LED lighting, often relying only on certain colors, such as red or blue ("Outdoor farm, / sunlight beams. / Indoor farm, / color streams"). Readers may suppose that the traditional farm is outdated, but new technology is included here, too, such as drones. Spare, bouncy rhymes pair with soft, rounded illustrations. The staccato rhythm limits explanations, but a full spread of detailed notes at the end describes why farms are changing and how each type works. Efrem is brown-skinned, while Emma presents Asian. A captivating glimpse into the shifting agricultural landscape. (activities, videos, selected sources, photos) (Informational picture book. 4-7) COPYRIGHT(2024) Kirkus Reviews, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-68446-920-8	Overdue: The Misadventure of Bob the Book	Gloria Koster	
La Vernia Primary	9781713770398	Owly. 4,A time to be brave	Runton, Andy	
La Vernia Primary	9781668875575	Owly. 5,Tiny tales	Runton, Andy	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8958-3	Paddington's Jungle Quest (Paddington 3: Paddington in Peru)	Rebecca Gerlings	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-250-82860-6	Painting the Sky With Love: A Celebration of Love and Community	Mary E. Haque	It's raining hearts in this gladdening work featuring a young person who "painted the sky with love." The first ripples begin when a child portrayed with light brown skin arrives at a city park and initiates play with others, first brushing a rainbowlike ribbon of color overhead alongside red hearts that "flitted and twirled and fell in the air." Ambling through the park's green meadows, pathways, and zoo, the child observes a trio of musicians and admires ladybugs, birds, and clouds before heading home to a content and peaceful bedtime tuck-in. As the youth spreads kindness, Haque's envisaging text ("Hearts dropped on trains and muffled their sound") and Gardel's loosely rendered portraits deliver the message that putting love into the world yields an enormous return. Background characters are portrayed with various skin tones. Ages 2: 5. (Nov.)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-250-82860-6	Painting the Sky With Love: A Celebration of Love and Community	Mary E. Haque	A child imagines painting love that rains down like hearts touching the world. With a paintbrush aimed at the sky, a child streams pink, purple, and yellow beams from a wand. Bright red hearts flutter and fall, touching everything the child sees: hills, trees, zoo animals, a group of musicians in the park, birds in a nest, and of course the child and caregiver. The book has a meaningful message about the reach and spread of acts of love, with the child continuing to find and share love. The final two lines of each group of four rhyme, but this pattern makes for a disappointingly awkward read-aloud. Still, the illustrations, featuring people of varying skin tones, hair styles, ages, and abilities, are a delight. The child is drawn with light brown skin and dark brown hair, while the caregiver has brown skin and black hair. The tricolored ribbon of love is a consistent presence throughout the book, and the hearts appear like butterfly wings. This representation of love really brings the concept of "painting love" to life in a way that little readers will be able to visualize. The final images of the child cradling the globe and snuggling with the caregiver bring home the idea of just how much love we hold and how far it can reach if we share it. Bumpy text saved by touching illustrations.(Picture book. 2-4) COPYRIGHT(2024) Kirkus Reviews, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8897-5	Pandy's Bad Day (Gabby's Dollhouse)	Gabrielle Reyes	

La Vernia Primary	978-1-6643-0044-6	Papa's Butter Chicken: A Celebration of Family and Community	Monica Saigal	A young South Asian girl helps her father whip up his famous butter chicken. Monica and her cousin Anya are about to go to the park when Monica realizes that Papa's getting ready to cook. She joins him in the kitchen, where he regales her with his first memory of eating the dish; he, his brother, and his father ate it at a restaurant under twinkling lights as musicians played. It quickly became a family favorite. While the pair stir the sauce and add the spices, Papa gives Monica some words of wisdom. "Ingredients are just like people," he says. "Wonderful on their own, but even better together." Meanwhile, Anya is spreading the word to family, neighbors, and friends that Papa's cooking butter chicken. Just as Monica and her father are ready to eat, the doorbell rings, and their family and friends stop by with dishes of their own. Monica is upset at the interruption, but Papa reminds her that "beautiful things happen when we share food like this." As they join the guests for a feast, Monica revels in the twinkling lights and a special memory of her own. Though the conflict feels a bit forced, Saigal and Tariq capture the immersive feelings of cooking. Bright and cheery illustrations in fiery reds and oranges and complementary blues create a celebratory mood, while spot-art frames feature arches and arabesque designs. A tasty tale of delighting in the magic of both cooking and memories. (foreword from Chef José Andrés, recipe for butter chicken) (Picture book. 4-7)
La Vernia Primary	978-0-525-64461-3	Paper Kingdom	Helena Ku Rhee	Gr 1—3—When his babysitter calls in sick, young Daniel is taken by his parents to their job cleaning an office after hours. The empty building initially scares and confuses Daniel. He doesn't understand why his mother and father have to clean it. They explain that the office is home to the Paper King and a bunch of dragons who leave trash everywhere. Although his parents insist that the dragons don't mean to be messy, Daniel is incensed by the injustice. But he is soothed when his parents tell him that one day, he can be king and tell the dragons to be less messy. Campion's illustrations are gentle and colorful. He conveys the family's economic status on the first page when we see Daniel sleeping in the same room as the stove and dining table. The perspective of some scenes is off; however, there are also subtle details like the characters' reflections in the shiny, freshly mopped floors. The text is mostly composed of Daniel's questions and his parents' explanatory dialogue, but it also alludes to how hard their work is. They sweat, sneeze, cough, and rub their necks as they clean the office board room. VERDICT Inspired by the author's own life, this is an uplifting story of a family working hard to make things better for the next generation.—Chance Lee Joyner, Wilton Public and Gregg Free Library, NH
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8969-9	Parker Takes a Trip	Jessica Curry, Parker Curry	PreS-Gr 1—Inspiring internet sensation Curry is back with another engaging and relatable story. Parker and her family are preparing to visit Papi and Nana, who live in Portugal. The family members pack their bags and head to the airport. After boarding and takeoff, they snack, enjoy the view of the clouds, and rest on the plane. They soon land at their destination, where Papi and Nana are waiting. Subsequent pages chronicle the joyful trip filled with outings to town, exploring the beach, boat rides, trying new treats, and even a visit to a castle in nearby Spain. As they reach the end of the trip, the family promises to visit again soon. Sentences range from three to 16 words, with two to four sentences per spread. The text features significant use of sight words along with vocabulary-building language. Charming illustrations are cartoonlike and depict Parker and her family thoroughly enjoying both their trip and each other's company. Back matter includes ideas and inspiration for readers to create adventure journals. VERDICT Another excellent addition to a winning series, recommended for early reader collections.—Olivia Goreckee
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8796-1	Parker's Slumber Party	Jessica Curry, Parker Curry	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-68446-858-4	Pass	Sara Laux Akin	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8745-0356-7	Peasant and the Eagle - Why Should You Help Other In Need?	Aesop	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-250-83712-7	Pedal Pusher: How One Woman's Bicycle Adventure Helped Change the World	Mary Boone	The daring exploits of a bike-riding trailblazer. Two Boston businessmen made a bet: No woman could cycle around the world. Annie Cohen Kopchovsky, a Latvian Jewish immigrant and married mother of three, accepted. Talk about nervy: Antisemitism was rife, and Annie had never ridden a bike. She received just two brief lessons before she set out on June 25, 1894. Before leaving, she accepted \$100 from the Londonderry Lithia Spring Water Company and attached their advertising to her bike, thus (temporarily) becoming "Annie Londonderry, Daring Lady Bicyclist." Following initial struggles, a New York bicycle company donated a lighter-weight bike, and Annie traded her skirt for bloomers. After sailing to France and cycling across the country, Annie sailed to Egypt. On her trip, she also traveled by train and ship and pedaled through Russia, India, Vietnam, and more. A steamship from Japan brought Annie to San Francisco, from whence she returned to Boston, arriving on schedule. She was greeted enthusiastically everywhere, signing photos and regaling audiences with exciting, probably heavily embellished lectures. What was genuine: Annie pedaled a tremendous distance—and changed perceptions about women's accomplishments. Children will embrace this fast-paced tale about an indomitable adventurer. The colorful illustrations, some featuring international landmarks, capture Annie's determination and present period details well. Introduces a bold female risk taker who deserves much wider recognition. (newspaper excerpts, author's note, map) (Informational picture book. 5-8)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8799-2	Penguin Parade	Heidi E. Stemple	
La Vernia Primary	9798368715940	Penny the pony fairy	Meadows, Daisy	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8235-5	Peppa Goes Ice-Skating	Vanessa Moody	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9052-7	Peppa the Unicorn	Lauren Holowaty, Cala Spinner	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8850-0	Peppa's Big Feelings	Lori C. Froeb	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9039-8	Perfect Spot (Dot the Ladybug)	Kallie George	K-Gr 1—Overconfident dot-spotter Dot dashes off to fulfill her mouse friend Jots's request for a spot. She encounters pointy things, "stripy" things, and other misdirection, but ultimately remembers that "Sometimes a spot isn't a dot"—the word "spot" can also mean "place" as well as "dot." The premise is classic and the illustrations are clean and fun, but the pacing and rhythm feel a little off, and the jump between rhyme, internal rhyme, and non-rhyming sentences can be jarring, as in "Wait," says Jots. "Dot?" Too late. Off Dot trots." While the formula of mixing internal rhymes can be fun, the unpredictability of the rhyme scheme and pacing might also be daunting to early readers seeking the rock of repetition. Some of the harder words ("stripy") and the liberal use of apostrophes go against the early reader's simple mission. VERDICT A functional, but not expert, early reader.—Katya Schapiro
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-9575-3	Pet Tricks	Leanna Koch	PreS-K—The books in this set intend to support early readers, but frequently do not meet developmental and curricular benchmarks. The stories can feel disorganized, with texts that introduce too many different phonemes at once, making it difficult for young readers to focus on decoding skills. For example, in Pet Tricks, the plot is cluttered with too many characters, making it challenging to follow and distracting from the phonics practice. VERDICT This lack of controlled text and focus undermines the series' effectiveness as a decodable reading tool for early literacy.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5509-1	Pete the Cat and the Bad Banana	Kimberly Dean, James Dean	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5510-7	Pete the Cat and the Cool Caterpillar	Kimberly Dean, James Dean	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5511-4	Pete the Cat and the Lost Tooth	Kimberly Dean, James Dean	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5512-1	Pete the Cat and the Tip-Top Tree House	Kimberly Dean, James Dean	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8947-7	Pete the Cat and the Wright Brothers	James Dean, Kimberly Dean	PreS-Gr 2—With simple text and colorful illustrations, this book has everything readers have come to expect from Pete, plus lessons in both history and engineering. Here, Orville and Wilbur Wright are reimagined as "two cool cats" named Orv and Wil who help their fellow feline Pete achieve his dream of flying. His first flight in the brothers' glider is cut short by insufficient wind, and his solution, an arsenal of electric fans, doesn't generate enough lift to get the craft airborne again. Inspired by the spinning fan blades, Orv asks, "What if we make a machine that doesn't need wind to fly?" and the cats work together to build a new aircraft with propellers and an engine. Readers may get the mistaken impression that the Wright brothers are credited with the invention of the propeller, but the final page includes a brief history of "The Real Wright Brothers," which sets the record straight. Pair this title with Ashley Spires's The Most Magnificent Thing or Gaia Cornwall's Jabari Tries plus a hands-on activity for a STEM-focused program, and recommend it to readers who are interested in history and technology, as well as those who just love Pete. VERDICT Sure to be a hit with young historians, aspiring engineers, and Pete's many fans.—Amy Reimann Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5513-8	Pete the Cat Goes Camping	Kimberly Dean, James Dean	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9075-6	Pete the Cat Rocks On!	Kimberly Dean	

La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5514-5	Pete the Cat Saves Up	Kimberly Dean, James Dean	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5505-3	Pete the Cat: Pete's Big Lunch	Kimberly Dean, James Dean	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5506-0	Pete the Cat: Play Ball!	Kimberly Dean, James Dean	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5507-7	Pete the Cat: Sir Pete the Brave	Kimberly Dean, James Dean	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5508-4	Pete the Cat: Too Cool for School	Kimberly Dean, James Dean	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5515-2	Pete the Cat's Groovy Bake Sale	Kimberly Dean, James Dean	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9333-7	Pete the Cat's Mars Mission	Kimberly Dean	K-Gr 2-It is not cool to be stuck on Mars! When Pete the Cat spots his friend Marty stranded on the red planet, he gears up for a rescue mission. With a toolbox, a space board, and plenty of snacks, Pete blasts off in his backyard rocket ship. Mars is groovy up close, but fixing Marty's broken spaceship won't be easy. Pete searches the planet for missing parts, soaring over craters with his jet pack and zipping across the surface on his space board. When one last wheel is missing, Pete comes up with a clever solution-sharing a wheel from his own scooter. Once the ship is fixed and the mission is complete, Pete and Marty celebrate with a snack. With its short, simple sentences and dialogue, and plenty of exclamation points, this book is an engaging choice for early readers practicing inflection and expression. The vibrant colors and Pete's signature laid-back style will be familiar to readers. While scientific accuracy is sacrificed, the story remains an imaginative read that will delight young fans. VERDICT A recommended purchase for libraries where Pete the Cat is popular and early readers circulate widely.-Ellen Williams © Copyright 2025. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5516-9	Pete the Cat's Train Trip	Kimberly Dean, James Dean	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9136-4	Pete the Kitty and the Mermaid's Sandcastle	Kimberly Dean	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5383-9617-9	Peter Pan	Andrea Castro	PreS-Gr 4--This series offers eight classic children's books, cleverly summarized and packaged for even the youngest readers. Each story includes basic descriptions and dialogue, condensing classics like Alice in Wonderland and Treasure Island to a brisk three to five sentences per page. Despite their brevity, the books are faithful summaries. All the story beats are true to the actual text, and not twisted to fit popular film plots. In The Wizard of Oz, Dorothy's slippers are the original silver and not ruby. Mowgli's end in The Jungle Book is not Disney's version, but Kipling's. Occasionally some cartoon speech bubbles will pepper their way into the illustrations, but only to enhance, not to convey vital information. Each book has a different illustrator, but they all include colorful images, with rounded, cartoonish figures shown in action. Some volumes include especially beautiful illustrations, like the lush garden scenes in The Secret Garden, or Black Beauty's majestic horses depicted with watercolor-like realism. VERDICT An easy way to introduce children's classics to young readers. Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-1797-5	Pets	Tiffany Renando	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-8983-7	Pets Are Missing	Natasha Deen	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-9501-2	Pets Wash Up	Leanna Koch	PreS-K—The titles in this set are designed for emergent readers aged three to four. Each book includes consistent front matter with strategies for parent support before, during, and after reading. While this guidance encourages adult involvement, the effectiveness is limited by the simplistic nature of the content. The bright illustrations are reminiscent of early concept books, appealing to young readers but lacking the depth to fully engage them. The large print and sparse text may aid emergent readers, but the minimalism can result in flat narratives that fail to capture children's imaginations. VERDICT These books offer foundational skills, but they need richer narratives and more engaging illustrations to stand out in the growing market of decodables for very young readers.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-62354-362-4	Pickle Words: Crunchy, Punchy Pickles and Poetry	April Pulley Sayre	K-Gr 2--Through simple, crisp rhymes, Sayre's collection of pickle poems introduces children to the joys of traditional types of fermented vegetables across cultures. While the poems are not particularly varied in style (four lines, all in an A/B/A/B rhyme scheme), the vocabulary is perfect for early readers to practice on their own, and the rhythms are a pleasure to digest. Adjectives integrated into Sun's bright, vibrant illustrations also encourage readers to start considering how they, too, can describe the world around them with zest. Poem after poem in the same style on roughly the same subject matter can stretch a little thin if powering through in a single reading; however, the pages are sprinkled with additions that add some spice. Readers will find definitions; descriptions of many types of pickles, chutneys, and relishes from around the world; and, appropriately, a few recipes for making pickles. A small bibliography of pickle books leaves plenty more to discover. Sayre's note about what inspired her to write the book is intensely sweet and is a posthumous reminder of how much she contributed to the children's literature community. She fed her readers well on flavorful words, and she will be missed. VERDICT Those keen on finding poetry for emerging readers will find this book a satisfying dish.--Kate Stadt Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	9781624021886	Pickles the very hungry pig	Harrington, Claudia	
La Vernia Primary	9781668859285	Picture day jitters	Danneberg, Julie	Kirkus Reviews (September 1, 2022) A tradition as familiar as the first day of school. Mrs. Hartwell's elementary class has come dressed to the nines for class-picture day. The only problem? Photographs won't be taken until the end of the day, so everyone has to stay neat and tidy until then. Throughout the day, the students are tremendously careful, and their routine goes relatively smoothly--except when a tomato explodes on a student; the pencil sharpener breaks, spilling shavings all over another student; and everyone cleans up the classroom at the end of the day. Each time there's a mishap, Mrs. Hartwell reassures the kids with a "Don't worry, I can fix it." When it is finally time for pictures, the students look smart and neat in their individual photos. Relieved, they run off to play--and make a mess--before convening for a photo of the whole class, in which everyone looks rumpled and disorganized. But, says Mrs. Hartwell when they finally see the photo, "You're picture-perfect just the way you are!" This latest series installment is as much about Mrs. Hartwell as it is about her students, reminding readers that all classrooms have their own symbiosis. Educators will find this book all too relatable, while children will laugh at the fun Mrs. Hartwell's class has together. Love's watercolor illustrations are marvelously detailed and look almost like photographs themselves. Mrs. Hartwell is light-skinned; her class is diverse. (This book was reviewed digitally.) A class abuzz on a special day! (Picture book. 5-8)
La Vernia Primary	9781423114116	Pigs make me sneeze!	Willems, Mo	School Library Journal (December 1, 2009) PreS-Gr 3-When Gerald cannot stop sneezing, he is sure he is allergic to pigs. His effervescent best friend takes things in stride until the fits of sneezing threaten to end their friendship. When Gerald sees Dr. Cat, he decides that his continued sneezing means he is also allergic to cats. When the doctor informs him that he is sick with a cold, the elephant is elated and rushes to tell his best friend. Unfortunately, Piggie now has a cold. The spare colored-pencil drawings are devoid of background detail. Text is spare too, with speech bubbles against the white pages. Both are simply perfect. The focus is on the characters and their interactions. The illustrations in this case of mistaken logic are very funny, with Piggie being repeatedly blown off her feet and Dr. Cat climbing on Gerald's head to take his temperature. Willems knows how to create rich humor with few words and minimal art.-Mary Hazelton, Elementary Schools in Warren & Waldoboro, ME Copyright 2009 Reed Business Information.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5362-2626-3	Pinecone!	Helen Yoon	Once a dark-haired child discovers pinecones on a snowy walk, there's no limit to their lengths of obsession in this humorous tale by Yoon (Off-Limits). Picking up one pinecone after another, the child names each find and collects them for the trip home. The child's pale, blond-bearded adult, meanwhile, is in slapstick distress: the family dog pulls the grown-up into a mud puddle, then flings dirt all over indoors. Still solely pinecone-focused, the child slips out through a dog door and continues adding to the collection ("Hello, Uncle Pinecone! Greetings, Great-Aunt Pinecone!"). And when woody objects overflow myriad household vessels, and insects and worms begin wriggling up walls, it becomes clear that the interest has reached new heights. Minimal text is mostly devoted to the child's fully committed narrative ("With the singing of the Pinecone Family anthem... we will now commence the Pinecone Family reunion!") and appears alongside a wealth of familial sight gags delivered with affectionate aplomb. Fully and funnily realizing the comedic potential of a child's single-mindedness, the work also provides a model for rolling with the p... inecones. The final scenes are a visual feast of related decor; and a tribute to the family's crafting chops. Ages 3: 7. (Sept.)

La Vernia Primary	978-1-4998-1609-9	Ping-Pong Shabbat: The True Story of Champion Estee Ackerman	Ann D. Koffsky	For Estee Ackerman (b. 2002), "Shabbat was a day of calm," Koffsky writes, "a break from the exciting pop, pop, ker-pops" of the ping-pong tournaments she played during the week. Rajunov contrasts the intensity of competition; images of fierce concentration, bold motion lines, and onomatopoeia; with starchy scenes of the athlete's family serenely gathered around the Shabbat table. At 11, Ackerman was on the brink of winning the U.S. National Table Tennis Championships when the finals were set for a Saturday and the officials refused to budge. Her decision to forfeit wasn't easy, but it captured the nation: "People everywhere read the articles. Most of them didn't play Ping-Pong. A lot of them weren't Jewish. But many of them were excited to hear about a young girl who had chosen her values over the gold medal." The book concludes with Ackerman winning gold the following year; on a Monday; and an afterword. Ages 4: 8. (Sept.)
La Vernia Primary	9781609071783	Pingo and the playground bully	Mull, Brandon	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8884-5	Pinkalicious: Lost in Paris	Victoria Kann	Gr 1–2—Pinkalicious returns in a new adventure, this time in chic Paris. The whole family is taking a trip to the glittering city of lights, and Pinkalicious is determined to find the perfect pink souvenir to remember their trip. She spies a cart of pink Eiffel Towers and chases it down to secure one but gets separated from her family in the process. In her efforts to locate them, she visits a pink shop and a bakery before finding a helpful mother and daughter. Pinkalicious remembers the rule her mommy told her: Find a mother if she needs help. It proves to be true; the mother and daughter help her back to the Eiffel Tower where her family awaits. Kann's vivacious prose and dialogue express the bubbly personality of Pinkalicious on every page. The illustrations seem a bit flat, without enough layering and detail to bring them to life. VERDICT A good choice for new and old fans of Pinkalicious and her adventures; especially recommended for beginning readers.—Brittany Morgan
La Vernia Primary	9781489865229	Pinkbeard's revenge	Trine, Greg	Kirkus Reviews (October 15, 2013) Fourth-grade girl superhero Jo Schmo faces three revenge-hungry villains. While Jo masters new techniques--the Tasmanian Chop and invisibility (useful for sneaking into movies, not so useful for avoiding being sat on by fat people)--Dr. Dastardly and Numb Skull bond in prison over their mutual hatred of her. Their jailbreak uses exploding macaroni and a giant slingshot made from underwear elastic. Meanwhile, a crew of time-traveling pirates led by Pinkbeard (he was Blackbeard until he drank too much pink lemonade) travels to the future to see if modern times offer more money, better-tasting grog and cuter women. They find it all at a wine tasting/fashion show before being trounced by Jo. Pinkbeard, the only pirate to escape, encounters Dr. Dastardly and Numb Skull as they plot revenge on Jo and joins them. After Googling Jo Schmo's vulnerabilities (three boys she has crushes on and her dog, Raymond), the terrible trio abduct the boys and Raymond in a plot that includes "an enormous piece of bacon dancing in the moonlight." Sometimes, especially early on, chattiness and repetition threaten to bog things down, but the lively action and illustrations propel the story forward to a drool-filled fight on a pirate ship. Packed with warped logic, twisted common sense and silly hijinks--offbeat fun. (Adventure. 6-9)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8847-0	Pizza Party! (The Tiny Chef Show)	Nicole Johnson	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9516-4	Pizza Problem (The Boxcar Children)	Gertrude Chandler Warner	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-4698-3	Planets	Elizabeth Andrews	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8973-6	Playground Rescue!	Patty Michaels	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-593-52639-2	Poet and the Bees: A Story of the Seasons Sylvia Plath Kept Bees	Amy Novesky	In the first of this collection of poems, Novesky compares the brief life and enduring work of bees with those of beekeeper and poet Sylvia Plath (1932: 1963): "Love, bees don't live long.../ But honey lives forever. Words, too." Four delicate, understated poems follow, one for each season. Romantic, flower-sprigged watercolors depict Plath's face close-up as she studies the hive in "Spring." In "Summer," Plath writes "in the blue hour" before her children awake, navigates domestic matters, then checks the bees; Love paints her defeated, head bowed in arms, covered with red welts. But in "Fall," she is publishing poems and standing amid the bees' swarm. In "Winter," she lines up jars of honey and dreams of the future, writing "one last bee poem.... The last word; spring." Plath's death by suicide isn't mentioned; instead, the work leaves behind a sense of her solitude, competing demands on her time, and the way both hive and poet navigate seasonal change. More about the subject concludes. Ages 4: 8. (Feb.)
La Vernia Primary	9781668813768	Polly Diamond and the super stunning spectacular school fair	Kuipers, Alice	School Library Journal (April 1, 2019) Gr 1-4-Polly Diamond is spirited, imaginative, and, in her own words, spectacular. She loves reading books, making lists, and writing in her special book called Spell. Spell has magical powers and can communicate with Polly by writing back to her and making whatever she writes down come true. However, Spell takes everything Polly writes quite literally. When the school holds a book-themed fair, Polly excitedly gets involved. With the help of Spell, Polly turns her classmates into fairies and dragons and other book characters. All are having a good time until Polly discovers that she has misplaced her magic book, and can't turn her friends back! Polly is eventually reunited with her beloved text, and everything is set right (though not without some silliness and wordplay first). This series installment includes several references to popular books and comes with a suggested reading list. VERDICT Recommended for readers with strong vocabularies who enjoy wordplay.-Vivian Ho, Port Washington Public Library, NY © Copyright 2019. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9798318924590	Polly Diamond and the Topsy-Turvy Day	Kuipers, Alice	Booklist (November 1, 2023 (Vol. 120, No. 5)) Grades 1-3. It's no ordinary day for Polly Diamond when she awakens in this third series installment. First of all, her head's at the foot of the bed and her feet are on her pillow. Secondly, her little sister, who always wakes up first, is still asleep. Everything is topsy-turvy! Even so, it can't dim Polly's excitement over it being the day her teacher is bringing them an official class pet. But what kind will it be? Polly is hoping for a pangolin. The topsy-turvy vibes follow Polly to school, though, where she arrives to find a substitute teacher (Mrs. Strange) in their classroom and a cute but boring pet hamster. Polly decides to ask her magic notebook for the perfect pet (a tiny, flying horse), but as more requests from classmates pour in, pet pandemonium ensues. Polly Diamond's adventures are always fun, and her love of reading, writing, and learning carries through the short, sweetly illustrated chapters. Her big-hearted antics will amuse young readers, as will her perfect solution to the pet problem.
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-7020-0	Popping Pam	Jenny Moore	
La Vernia Primary	9781338566772	Poppleton at Christmas	Rylant, Cynthia	Kirkus Reviews (September 1, 2022) Poppleton the pig celebrates the season in three delightful stories. Each tale presents the charming porcine at his most conscientious, gracious self. In "The Jar," good-natured Poppleton considers his BFFs' preferences and needs above all when making his gift choices. When his money runs out before he can purchase the just-right item he wants for llama pal Cherry Sue, the store's manager comes up with an ingenious solution. In "Snow," Poppleton wishes for a white Christmas, but the weather isn't cooperating, so he takes matters into his own trotters with the aid of dozens of artificial-snow-filled aerosol cans. When he's done, the whole neighborhood "looks like Christmas." In "Midnight," Poppleton and buddies Cherry Sue, Fillmore the goat, and Hudson the mouse celebrate a festive Christmas Eve with cider and cookies, sparkling candles and tree lights, secret Christmas wishes, and, before going home to bed, a walk to wish "a good Christmas to the animals of the night: the owls, the deer, and the raccoons." This sweet easy chapter book overflows with warmth and coziness and exudes the true spirit of the holiday season: friendship, thoughtfulness, and kindness. The cheery, colorful illustrations and endearing, expressive animal protagonists are well suited to the text. Backmatter bonuses include a guide to drawing Poppleton and a prompt for creating an illustrated story. A lovely choice to help emergent readers get into the Christmas spirit. (Early reader. 5-7)
La Vernia Primary	9798368748009	Poppleton has fun	Rylant, Cynthia	School Library Journal (December 2000) K-Gr 2-Another episodic entry in the popular beginning-reader series. This time the endearing pig finds that sharing an activity with a friend is much more fun than doing it alone. First, Poppleton goes to a movie by himself, which he does not enjoy at all; then he designs and sews a quilt with friends, swapping stories as they work; finally, he abandons his luxurious bath plans to go out for banana splits with his friend Cherry Sue. The colorful illustrations add just the right touch of whimsy.-Sally R. Dow, Ossining Public Library, NY Copyright 2000 Cahners Business Information.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9092-3	Poppleton Has Fun	Cynthia Rylant	

La Vernia Primary	9781725461062	Poppleton in summer	Rylant, Cynthia	School Library Journal (May 1, 2023) K-Gr 3-Long summer days mean plenty of time for adventure with Poppleton the pig! In this volume, readers are treated to three episodic chapters full of summer silliness. The first story leads the reader right into a Poppleton oops-he forgets sunscreen and becomes a very pink pig. He's self-conscious, but his best friend, Cherry Ann, reminds him that even very pink pigs are wonderful. Poppleton takes his next adventure farther afield when he and Hudson, a tiny friend, rent a jeep and gallivant through the country, ultimately ending up stuck in a muddy field. It takes some special friends to "un-stuck" the jeep. In the next story, summer rains help Poppleton's plants grow strong and beautiful. He wonders if the rain will do the same for him? Rylant employs multisyllabic words, many of which are found in a reader's daily language, and intersperses longer sentences among shorter ones to encourage readers and build confidence in reading more complicated stories. Lines are often longer than ideal, but generous white space and kerning balance it well. The digital illustrations beautifully combine texture and action with the illustrative simplicity required of beginning readers. Teague seamlessly creates character emotion, enabling readers to use expressions to help decode the narrative and add additional thoughts. The book includes a "Meet the Characters" page in the front, as well as a "You Can Draw Hudson!" section in the back. A "What's Your Story?" prompt helps build text-to-life connections. VERDICT An amiable story perfect to elicit smiles from burgeoning readers.-Kate Davis © Copyright 2023. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9365-8	Powwow Day	Traci Sorell	When River first wakes up on tribal powwow day, she feels a surge of excitement before remembering that there will be "no dancing./ No jingle dress competition for me. /... I can't dance like I could before I got sick." Attending the powwow with family, River, portrayed with light brown skin and short hair in a marigold jingle dress, hopes to dance Grand Entry and the intertribal dance, but is fatigued, unfocused, and "can't feel the drum's heartbeat." Yet, watching from a nearby seat as the dancers connect to "the drum./ Mother Earth./ and one another," and witnessing family and friends participating in the girls' jingle dance, she realizes: "They dance for/ the Creator./ the ancestors./ their families./ and everyone's health.../ including mine." In sensory-focused lines, Sorell (We Are Still Here!), who is Cherokee, creates a resonant, hopeful tale about the healing power of community and tradition, deftly capturing the powwow's essence. Textural digital illustrations by Goodnight (Look, Grandma! Ni, Elisil!), who is Chickasaw, focus on the event's sights and its participants' fluid movements, effectively conveying River's sideline perspective and desire to dance with her community once again. Back matter offers more information about powwows. Ages 4: 8. (Feb.)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9029-9	Princess Leia's Adventures (Star Wars)	Ruth Amos	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8899-9	Princess Truly Builds a Snowman	Kelly Greenawalt	
La Vernia Primary	9781546139263	Pug Goes to Hollywood	May, Kyla	
La Vernia Primary	9781546139232	Pug the Unicorn --A Branches Book	May, Kyla	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5448-3	Puppy Dog Pals: Hissy's Big Day	Bill Fuller, Sara Miller	
La Vernia Primary	9781668839485	Puppy luck	Higgins, Cam	
La Vernia Primary	9781725487543	Purrfect pranksters	Penney, Shannon	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-89304-477-5	Pythons	Joanne Mattern	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-593-20509-9	Quiet Karima	Nidhi Chanani	Simple, line-style ink, watercolor, and colored pencil drawings introduce a child, portrayed with brown skin, who prefers listening to talking. For "Quiet Karima," "my ears seek/ rhythm and beat": sound-forward text describes the "tk tk tk" of "my mama/ making rotis/ in a one-two tempo," and the shutting door and jingling of keys that occur around leaving the apartment. In first-person narration, the figure wanders through a park to a favorite place, the music store, where Mrs. T accepts Karima's quiet. "Without silence, there's no music." Karima and Mrs. T use objects that Karima's brought ("a box, a can, a pair of chopsticks") to "tap and crash./ groove and bash." Chanani (the Shark Princess series) draws the two as they experiment with sound, then play drums together. Streams of color emerge from Karima's: "I'm an instrument./ my heart, my body./ part of the/ world's melody." In a world where the protagonist's quiet can feel like something that sets them apart, Karima finds a place to engage in both listening and expression. Background characters are portrayed with various skin tones. Ages 3: 7. (Oct.)
La Vernia Primary	9780062216274	Radio active	Ball, Nate	Horn Book Guide (Spring 2015) The latest installments in this silly series packs comic punches as Amp, the small blue alien, continues to wreak havoc on human Zack's life. While packaged for maximum reluctant-reader appeal, the book will engage new readers with entertaining plots, believable characters, humorous black-and-white line illustrations, and palatable science; each volume includes a related science experiment, appropriately detailed for elementary students. [Review covers these Alien in My Pocket titles: On Impact! and Radio Active.]
La Vernia Primary	978-1-963802-02-3	Rain, Rain	Josh Banday	
La Vernia Primary	9798318921285	Rainbow Magic Jewel Fairies #5 Amy the Amethyst Fairy	Meadows, Daisy	
La Vernia Primary	9798318921292	Rainbow Magic Jewel Fairies #6 Sophie the Sapphire Fairy	Meadows, Daisy	
La Vernia Primary	9781544454283	Rainy day rescue	Penney, Shannon	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-89304-478-2	Rat Snakes	Joanne Mattern	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8855-5	Razzle Dazzle (Unicorn and Yeti)	Heather Ayris Burnell	K-Gr 2--Yeti takes Unicorn on a camping trip where they make yummy s'mores, swim in a hot spring, do a little stargazing, fly close to the moon, and enjoy a cheese picnic under the dazzling night sky. This graphic early reader features simple repetitive text and cheery cartoon illustrations in warm pastel tones. With an already built-in audience, this latest edition in an ongoing series featuring lovable characters, an endearing friendship, and an abundance of whimsy; it offers plenty of warmth, humor, and sparkle for burgeoning independent readers. The final page includes instructions on how to draw a campfire, as well as a few easy creative writing and drawing prompts. VERDICT A winning title that both fans of the series and those just discovering Unicorn and Yeti for the first time will enjoy.--Jessica Marie Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	978-0-593-69672-9	Ready to Soar	Cori Doerrfeld	A cherubic pink-cheeked Riley, decked out in a blue onesie, leather flying cap, and aviator goggles, marches off with a tiny paper airplane clutched in hand, "ready . . . to try something new." Just before Riley can send the plane off flying to see how far it will go, an eagle descends from the sky, insisting the plane needs to be "bigger." Adjustments made, Riley tries again, only for a parrot to say it should be "fancier." One bird after another-a falcon, an owl, a crane, and more-interrupts each take-off with advice on making the plane "faster," "smarter," "taller." "BETTER," all certain that their guidance will improve the chances of the plane flying. A frustrated Riley stomps away to try again when a penguin leaps into view. But instead of a suggestion, the land-bound bird says, "I just didn't want to miss it!" and cheers Riley on. Plenty of negative space, soft watercolor backgrounds, and digitally illustrated characters with crayon-like outlines and pastel dappling all work together to create a cozy atmosphere and manage to make each fowl advisor both adorable and smug in their exhortation. The text ensures storytime engagement, with suspenseful countdowns to each launch, and every groan-inducing interruption from a well-intended but nitpicky bird is ripe for dramatic performance. The story itself contains a gentle reminder to adults that sometimes what children need is a supportive audience as they attempt something new rather than suggestions for improvement. Easily pair this with Doerrfeld's The Rabbit Listened (BCCB 3/18) for a storytime about feelings, or with Shea's Oh, Are You Awake? (BCCB 2/24)for more interruption-induced silliness. ART COPYRIGHT(2024) Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9374-0	Ready, Set, Catch! (Pokemon)	Lara Hutcheson	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0398-3876-5	Ready. Set. Swim!	Laurie B. Friedman	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9106-7	Recipe for Friendship	Courtney Carbone	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-7018-7	Red Rocket Pirates	Katie Dale	

La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-2066-3	Rembrandt's Blessing	Tami Lehman-Wilzig	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8848-7	Rescue Wheels (PAW Patrol)	Matt Huntley	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9014-5	Rescue Wings (PAW Patrol)	Matt Huntley	
La Vernia Primary	9781546119777	Revenge of the raccoons	Tan, Susan	School Library Journal (May 1, 2025) Gr 1-3-Ember the power-hungry Chihuahua is back from vacation at Ember Island and ready to rescue his fellow animal friends Neo, BeBe, and Steve in this hilarious addition to the "Pets Rule!" series. After hearing from a canary that there was trouble back home, Ember returns to find out that the ever-troublesome raccoons are taking over the neighborhood one trash can at a time. With the help of his fellow pets, Ember hatches a plan to stop the raccoons for good. This series is distinct for its pitch-perfect animal-tinged humor and frequent illustrations, making it a great pick for both regular and reluctant readers. VERDICT A worthy series to have on all library shelves. © Copyright 2025. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-62672-311-5	Revolutionary Mary: The True Story of One Woman, the Declaration of Independence, and America's Fight for Freedom	Jennifer McCartney, Karen Blum	The story of an unusual woman who printed the Declaration of Independence. Mary Katharine Goddard was determined to be recognized. Though she didn't attend school, she was fortunate to have a mother who tutored her in reading and math. When Mary and her mother worked in brother William's print shop, she could see another option for her life, beyond marriage and motherhood. She became immersed in her profession, relishing the hard physical work. She printed newspapers, books, advertisements, and more. as well as information about events that were moving the 13 colonies toward independence from Britain. When the Revolution began, she was fully aware that she was committing treason, proudly placing her name, M.K. Goddard, on every paper she issued. Mary was chosen to print the first official copies of the Declaration of Independence, which showed the names of the signers. She made her own statement by adding her full name as printer. "That was Mary." The tale is filled with details of America's revolutionary period, insights into Mary's character, and facts about the printing process—"Whoosh!" "Pound!" "Crank!"—all greatly enhanced by bright, sharply delineated illustrations accompanied by sepi insets that provide further historical information. Mary was white, but some workers and townspeople have darker skin. In the backmatter, the author notes that upon her death, Mary freed the enslaved woman she owned, Belinda, and left her all her possessions. A fascinating look at a thoughtful, courageous woman. (about Mary Katherine Goddard, printing history of the Declaration of Independence, printing and publishing in colonial times, select bibliography, author's note) (Picture book-biography. 6-10)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5383-9671-1	Rex and Ralph Write a Book	Tania Phillips	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-0900-0	Riddler's Puzzle Prank: Featuring Nightwing!	Steve Korte	
La Vernia Primary	9781668837658	Ride it! Patch it!	Brimmer, Larry Dane	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9113-5	Ride the Waves! (Disney Stitch)	Alli Brydon	
La Vernia Primary	9780545222761	Ride, Fly Guy, ride!	Arnold, Tedd	Booklist (March 1, 2012 (Vol. 108, No. 13)) Preschool-Grade 2. When Dad takes Buzz and his pet, Fly Guy, for a drive, a gust of wind blows the little fly out the car window and into a passing truck. Buzz and Dad dash to his rescue, hurtling over roads, across the water, down the rails, and into the air. The simply written text and expressive, cartoon-style illustrations create a series of tense moments and narrow escapes. A change of pace for the ever-popular Fly Guy series, this full-throttle adventure story will please beginning readers as well as younger fans of trucks and trains, boats and planes.
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-7017-0	Robber Rabbit	Alice Hemming	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8801-2	Robby and Mo, Ready for Action! (Transformers: Earthspark)	Maria Le	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-399-54875-8	Rosie the Truffle Hound	Jessie Hartland	K-Gr 2—Rosie is a self-possessed poodle who walks upright, rides a bike, and has such a keen sense of smell she can "smell the stale breath of a sleeping mole" deep underground. Unable to help her human family at their chocolate truffle shop (where the chocolate is, of course, poisonous to dogs), Rosie runs away to the city to seek employment. Stints as a museum guard dog, a show dog, and a guide dog don't work out, but she finds her calling when she responds to an ad for a job as a truffle hound. She becomes an expert but misses her family and returns home where, to her surprise, the smell of truffles (the fungi kind) is in the air. Reunited, Rosie's family now happily sells both kinds of truffles. Painted in gouache with lots of greens and peachy pinks, the naive illustrations are cheerfully comic and packed with dainty details to explore. They pair perfectly with the quirky, lighthearted text. A recipe for each type of truffle is included. VERDICT There is plenty to entertain young listeners and viewers in the pages of this lark of a picture book; not an essential purchase, but a charming one.—Jan Aldrich Solow, formerly Fairfax County P.S., VA
La Vernia Primary	978-1-6689-4658-9	Rover	Samantha Bell	K-Gr 2—In this early elementary series, information is presented through the viewpoint of the person, place, or piece of technology featured in the title. The rover explains that it uses its cameras to help it navigate, while the space telescope explains that it sees clearly without atmosphere to blur the images. Short, direct sentences are paired with large photos to share information. Cartoon-style illustrations pose questions that encourage readers to think critically about what they have read. For instance, the space suit mentions that each of its layers has a job. Then the illustration asks readers, "Do you ever have to wear layers?" A glossary supports comprehension and offers pronunciation for unfamiliar words and an index helps to locate information. VERDICT A good choice for primary grades with its unique approach to a high-interest topic. Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8970-5	Sabrina Sue Loves the Mountains	Priscilla Burris	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9295-8	Safe Splashing!	Haley Hoffman	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-77164-928-5	Salvatore and the Goats of Mount Etna	Uschi Muller	A young boy discovers that he can learn a lot from others if he just pays attention. Tan-skinned Salvatore and his family live on a goat farm at the base of Mount Etna. He bonds with a herding dog named Gina and the goats, led by Bianca. One day, Salvatore takes the herd up the mountain on his own, without Papa's guidance, to graze on fresh herbs. As they ascend, the animals act strangely—much to Salvatore's chagrin. Gina barks, the goats buck wildly, and all refuse to move. Though Papa's words ("YOU herd the goats. They don't herd you") echo in his mind, he realizes that something's wrong as Mount Etna starts to smoke and spew lava. The herd safely leads Gina and Salvatore down to their home thanks to their natural intuition. The author, coordinator of the ICARUS Project, a group that works to "make the extraordinary sensory capabilities of many animals useful to humans," based the story on an incident at the real Mount Etna in Sicily. Her text and Lane's dreamy, delicately rendered art will leave readers with an appreciation for the natural world. Lane's portrayal of the goat herd showcases their humanity, with their playfully arched backs and expressive faces. Backmatter includes more information on Müller's work and how it can contribute to creating more advanced warning systems for natural disasters—a must, given how these events have increased due to climate change. A thrilling look at the benefits of connecting with the natural world and listening to one's instincts. (Picture book. 5-8)
La Vernia Primary	9781537918907	Sam battles the machine	Chabert, Jack	Horn Book Guide (Spring 2018) Hall monitor Sam and his friends join forces with the great-great-grandson of mad scientist Orson Eerie, the man behind the vengeful spirit possessing their school. When they attempt to use Orson's old invention against him, Orson's spirit inhabits the machine and re-creates himself as a giant robot. This sixth chapter book is filled with age-appropriate scares; black-and-white illustrations throughout add to the creepy atmosphere.
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-9488-6	Sam Helps	Leanna Koch	PreS-K—The books in this set intend to support early readers, but frequently do not meet developmental and curricular benchmarks. The stories can feel disorganized, with texts that introduce too many different phonemes at once, making it difficult for young readers to focus on decoding skills. For example, in Pet Tricks, the plot is cluttered with too many characters, making it challenging to follow and distracting from the phonics practice. VERDICT This lack of controlled text and focus undermines the series' effectiveness as a decodable reading tool for early literacy.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-7284-9291-9	Sammy Spider's Big Book of Jewish Holidays	Sylvia A. Rouss	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-6689-4659-6	Satellite	Samantha Bell	K-Gr 2—In this early elementary series, information is presented through the viewpoint of the person, place, or piece of technology featured in the title. The rover explains that it uses its cameras to help it navigate, while the space telescope explains that it sees clearly without atmosphere to blur the images. Short, direct sentences are paired with large photos to share information. Cartoon-style illustrations pose questions that encourage readers to think critically about what they have read. For instance, the space suit mentions that each of its layers has a job. Then the illustration asks readers, "Do you ever have to wear layers?" A glossary supports comprehension and offers pronunciation for unfamiliar words and an index helps to locate information. VERDICT A good choice for primary grades with its unique approach to a high-interest topic. Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.

La Vernia Primary	978-1-9785-7490-8	Saturn	Murray "oak" Tapeta	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8692-6	Scaredy Cat! (Pete the Cat)	Kimberly Dean	PreS-Gr 1—Pete and Bob scare themselves with a spooky story and learn that it is okay to feel scared sometimes in this reassuring early reader. The familiar blue face and yellow eyes of Pete will delight young fans as they experience a common dilemma: the scary story! While sitting around a fire on a dark and cold night, Bob tells Pete about a monster with seven yellow eyes and spaghetti for arms. As they go through the rest of their evening routines, watching television, eating dinner (spaghetti!), and going to bed, Pete grapples with lingering feelings of fear from the story. Short, simple, repetitive sentences make this a great choice for emerging readers and fans of Pete the Cat alike. VERDICT Recommended for purchase where Pete and early readers are in demand.—Kristy Pasquariello
La Vernia Primary	9798368782287	Scarlett the garnet fairy	Meadows, Daisy	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-89304-479-9	Sea Snakes	Joanne Mattern	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5341-1306-0	Seasons on the Farm	Chelsea Tornetto	A farm hums with activity all year round. Farmers and their families are never idle, no matter the season. They must keep an eye on the weather so they know when to till the soil, what and when to plant, and when to harvest their crops. They must also closely monitor soil conditions and plantings. They take care of farm animals, who are themselves busy caring for their young; the geese even honk to announce "signs of autumn on the farm." This delightful book, expressed in sprightly rhymes, bursts with vivid seasonal colors as it offers glimpses of bustling activities outside and inside the farmhouse, not to mention some specialized equipment, vehicles, and buildings, including those that house various wonderful creatures of all sizes that call a farm home. These farmers shear sheep, bake apple pie, move bales of hay, and pay the bills. The richly colored illustrations—some presented as insets or vignettes—provide good hints about the seasons under discussion: bare winter trees, bright green spring leaves, and deep orange fall pumpkins. The human family varies in skin tone. Children will appreciate this charming, insightful book at any season of the year. (author's note) (Picture book. 4-7)
La Vernia Primary	9780758769114	Seaweed soup	Murphy, Stuart J	School Library Journal (January 1, 2002) PreS-Gr 2-Murphy's humorous text indirectly teaches about sets as Turtle sits down to enjoy his thick green, gooey seaweed soup. Each time unsuspecting friends come by, they are invited to lunch and Turtle goes to his shelf to find extra place settings. When he runs out of an item, he makes another set with substitutes. For instance, a jelly jar serves for a cup, a toy shovel becomes a spoon, etc. Children will enjoy the story and its surprising ending while learning about the concept. The bright watercolor cartoons by the artist of "Froggy" fame lend a deft and humorous touch to the proceedings. The last pages have tips for further fun with math, suggestions for activities around the house, plus a short list of other stories with similar concepts. Well worth considering. -Judith Constantinides, formerly at East Baton Rouge Parish Main Library, LA Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-77278-247-9	Secret Gardeners: Growing a Community and Healing the Earth	Lina laurent, Maija Hurme	Three curious kids, neighbors in an apartment building, spy a junglelike, abandoned plot in their urban neighborhood, but they're not the only ones: the “sad old man” in their building gazes at it from his balcony, and when they slip through the fence to explore, they meet Amy, who's trying to turn the overgrown area into a garden. With the permission of their parents, the three kids help Amy, who teaches them about no-dig gardening, composting, and sowing. Soon, neighbors join in, and the plot thrives with buzzing bees and abundant fruits and vegetables. They even build a treehouse that's “perfect for spying.” which leads them to solve a gentle mystery about their sad neighbor. While the main text is fiction, this gem of a picture book is teeming with instructive facts (further resources appear in the back matter). Inset boxes scattered across the pages provide more detailed information, and the warm watercolor illustrations reveal details of the gardening methods and the wide variety of life growing above and below ground. Fun and encouraging for kids eager to garden.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9326-9	Secret of the Yellow House (The Boxcar Children)	Gertrude Chandler Warner	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-7284-8643-7	Secret Recipe	Ilan Stavans	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9308-5	Secret Recipe (Barbie and Teresa)	Courtney Carbone	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-80507-869-2	See Inside Artificial Intelligence	Victoria Williams, Alex Frith	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-2744-0	See-You-Soon Spice Box	Pamela Ehrenberg	A meaningful ritual brings young Silas and Great-Grandma Faye closer together. According to observant Jewish tradition, Havdalah signifies the formal end of Shabbat on Saturday night and its "separation" from the other days of the week. (Havdalah means "separation" in Hebrew.) On one of their weekly video calls, Great-Grandma Faye tells Silas how much she loves Havdalah; she suggests that the two of them perform the ceremony virtually until they can meet in person again. Great-Grandma Faye shows Silas a spice box—a very important item used in the ceremony—made by Great-Grandpa long ago. Inspired, Silas creates his own version from a lidded plastic cup, which he fills with cinnamon, his favorite spice, and shows it to Great-Grandma Faye on their next call. When Great-Grandma Faye finally arrives, the family observes Havdalah with both boxes. Children will appreciate Silas and Great-Grandma Faye's loving intergenerational relationship and their up-to-date communication style; readers will smile as the two sign off with variations on the phrase "See you soon" ("See you soon, Harvest Moon!" "See you soon, Green Balloon!" Great-Grandma Faye's clear yet whimsically child-friendly explanation of Havdalah ("the in-between-est part of the week") will resonate with youngsters. Muted illustrations depict a loving, light-skinned family amid cozy settings; some background characters are brown-skinned. A gentle demonstration of how familial bonds—and traditions—can endure even over vast physical distances. (about Havdalah, making a spice box for Havdalah) (Picture book. 4-7)
La Vernia Primary	9798318900044	Selena the Sunflower	Mara, Maddy	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-4716-5	Shipwrecked	Jenny Jinks	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-2553-8	Shira the Singing Puppy	Ilana R. Wieder	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8745-0316-1	Shoemaker and His Medicine - Why Should You Tell the Truth?	Aesop	
La Vernia Primary	9781423143437	Should I share my ice cream?	Willems, Mo	School Library Journal (September 1, 2011) PreS-Gr 2-Children will delight in this perfect drama for hot weather. Gerald is excited about his "awesome, yummy, sweet, super, great, tasty, nice, cool ice cream" cone. But worry sets in with thoughts of his best friend, Piggie-should he share his treat with her? As Gerald wrestles with the pros and cons, observant readers will notice that the ice cream is melting-fast. By the time he decides in favor of sharing, it has melted into a puddle at his feet, and Gerald realizes that he "blew it." But timing is everything, and Piggie shows up at that moment with a cone of her own-and happily shares it. "Not my plan," thinks Gerald, but he also realizes that this arrangement is fine. Willems's simple text allows beginning readers independent success, although the text and illustrations also work well as a read-aloud. Fans of the series will not want to miss this offering, and adults can use the simple story to discuss sharing, friendship, and making decisions in a timely manner. Another winner-Stephanie Farnlacher, Trace Crossings Elementary School, Hoover, AL (c) Copyright 2011. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5579-4	Show-and-Tell, Flat Stanley! (Flat Stanley)	Jeff Brown	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-1749-4	Sid Will Fix It	Tiffany Renando	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-593-11095-9	Sing with Me: The Story of Selena Quintanilla	Diana Lopez	K-Gr 4—Young Selena Quintanilla (1971–95), a groundbreaking Mexican American singer from Texas, "turned everything into a microphone: spoons, crayons, toothbrushes." When she was nine, her family formed a band, Selena y Los Dinos, and performed at their restaurant. When the family lost their house and business due to the recession of the early 1980s, they moved to Corpus Christi to live with relatives. They bought a bus and went on the road to perform at weddings, parties, and rodeos—often for a pittance. Selena loved to sing, but she wished she knew the Tejano songs her audience enjoyed. She longed to connect with them, so she taught herself Spanish. When the male-dominated Tejano music world was less than welcoming, she persisted. In 1986, she won her first Tejano Music Award at age 15. Selena studied fashion magazines and helped to design and create her own stage outfits. She eventually opened a chain of boutiques. The text ends on a high note, with Selena's historic performance at the Astrodome in Houston. An author's note mentions the star's untimely death at age 23. The energetic, bright cartoon illustrations depicting Selena and her family in various venues, decorated with rainbow notes, stars, hearts, and flowers will appeal to young readers. VERDICT This inspirational rags-to-riches biography, released on the heels of a Netflix miniseries about the singer's life, will inspire anyone who dreams of a career in the performing arts.—Barbara Auerbach, Cairo P.L., NY

La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8688-9	Sketty and Meatball	Sarah Weeks	Gr 1–3—A lovable duo that will charm young readers. Sketty and Meatball are the best of dog friends. They do everything together: run, play, bark at the cat, and curl up under the lemon tree for a nap. Aptly named Sketty is a bigger dog with long, spaghetti-like hair. Meatball is a round, brown dog who looks like a meatball. Readers will love their names and their friendship. When the friends go to a dog show, they see dogs of every kind. After spending the day making new friends, Meatball curls up with Sketty to nap under their favorite tree. Repetition shows how close the two dog friends are and is good for new readers. For example, one will often always ask, "Are you thinking what I'm thinking?" and the other replies, "I hope so." Then, Sketty and Meatball will blurt out the same answer together. Willmore captures the fun personalities of the dogs with colorful and playful illustrations. A note to parents at the beginning offers tips on shared reading, beginning reading, and reading alone, and a helpful web link promises more information. VERDICT A must-have for early readers.—Pamela Thompson McLeod
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9170-8	Sleepover Night! (Family Fun with the Day Kids!)	Candice Ransom	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-1018-3	Slippery, Spicy, Tingly: A Kimchi Mystery	Yangsook Choi	K-Gr 3—Keo is surprised when his grandmother shows up one chilly morning. She lives far away and keeps busy with lots of things. But she has a surprise—treasure! She doesn't exactly explain what she's doing with a really big jar and a really big hole in the backyard. Grandma calls the whole family together to make kimchi, but Keo is too sleepy to see what happens next and is surprised when he wakes up the next morning to find Grandma gone and the hole filled in. After a month or so, Keo's mom opens Grandma's treasure and finds kimchi. This is a lovely family story about the sharing of making food together. The warm, friendly artwork is a perfect complement to the story. VERDICT A nice picture book story about a family working together to make food they all enjoy.—Debbie Tanner
La Vernia Primary	978-1-64519-948-9	Sloth's Poo of Peril	Elizabeth Clark	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-4994-5506-9	Slow Down, Dino	Emily Snape	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9387-0	Smooosh's Super-Duper-Fun Day	Michael Slack	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-8430-6	Snacks-a-Lo! Gets the Hungries	C. W. Estes	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8745-0328-4	Snake and His Tail - How Can You Support Your Team?	Aesop	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8829-6	Snake Attack! (Hot Wheels Let's Race)	Eric Geron	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-8475-7	Sniffing Out Stars	Michael Anthony Steele	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9565-2	Snow Day for Dog (Little Critter)	Mercer Mayer	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-6659-1559-5	Snow Is...	Laura Gehl	Gehl's joyous couplets exalt a day of snowy fun, using the titular refrain as springboard. From the "moment you wake" and "stillness/ before the first flake," energetic lines laud snow's myriad qualities while describing the play it allows ("Snow is a hoard that is set for attack./ Snow is Dad's face.../ when a snowball/ goes WHACK!"). Shown with pale skin and black hair, a child protagonist and their father stand out against the steely blues of Sanchez's digital snowscapes, which are shaded with looping scribbles. After a day of snowpeople, sledding, snow forts, and more, "Snow is the sparkles/ as sun starts to set" and the duo, joined by a second caregiver and baby portrayed with brown skin, troop home, where "Snow is a fire with snuggles and books." The creators successfully evoke both the exhilaration of a snowy romp and the deep sleep it can inspire. Ages 4: 8. (Oct.)
La Vernia Primary	9781516060139	Sofia the lagoon dragon	Mara, Maddy	
La Vernia Primary	9798368752396	Sofia Valdez and the vanishing vote	Beaty, Andrea	School Library Journal Xpress (October 30, 2020) GR 1-3-Sofia Valdez (Sofia Valdez, Future Prez, 2019) and the Questioners are back in the fourth installment of Beaty & Roberts's transitional chapter book series. This time, Miss Greer's second graders are choosing a class pet, and the ever civic-minded Sofia suggests holding an election. She gets more than she bargains for, however, when Miss Greer makes her the election commissioner. As Sofia and her classmates learn about elections, Sofia finds herself caught between two campaigns, and things get even more complicated when Sofia's cousin needs to find a new home for her pet bird. When the ballots are finally counted and the class is one vote short, Sofia has yet another problem to solve. Luckily, with some good advice from her Abuelo and a little help from the library, Sofia finds ways to resolve both situations. The story is thoughtful, well-paced, and entertaining, and features a diverse cast of familiar characters, including Ada Twist, Rosie Revere, and Iggy Peck. Sofia and her family are of Mexican heritage, and her cousin uses a wheelchair, while Ada is Black and Rosie, Iggy, and Miss Greer all present as white. Sofia's relationship with her grandfather is a heartfelt anchor, and Beaty seamlessly integrates information about voting, the electoral process, journalism, and activism into the text; back matter explores these issues further and provides additional context. Short chapters, graph paper design elements, and Roberts's charming illustrations add to the appeal. VERDICT A winning (and timely) addition to the series, sure to delight existing fans and attract new ones as well.- Lauren Strohecker, McKinley Elem. Sch., Elkins Park, PA © Copyright 2020. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5341-1298-8	Some Bunny Loves You	Helen Foster James	A sweet Valentine's Day-themed tale for every bunny out there. A grown-up rabbit and a young bunny head into nature for a day "packed with play." They draw, jump, run, sail toy boats, build a fort, and make necklaces out of berries. Other animal pairs join them for picnic-party fun and games. The bunnies bake cupcakes for their neighbors, which sends a lovely message about the importance of honoring community. That evening, after the others bid them farewell, the adult sings "silly songs" while rocking the child to sleep. Proffering a Valentine's Day card, the grown-up whispers those words all children, bunny or otherwise, want to hear most: "I love you." Receiving a tender kiss, the young rabbit snuggles up with a stuffed bunny toy and drifts off. The delightful final scene depicts the pair flying a heart-shaped kite. This warm story, expressed in gentle though at times treacly verse, is well suited for young audiences on Valentine's Day or any occasion when adults want to assure little ones they're much loved—and that's at any time. The inclusion of pages to write on (and an invitation to affix a photograph) makes this book better suited as a personal purchase rather than for schools and libraries. The colorful illustrations are as lushly delicate as bunny fur. Earnest and heartfelt. (Picture book. 3-6)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8765-7	Sonic vs. New Yoke City	Kiel Phegley	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8766-4	Sonic's Introduction to the Shatterverse	Kiel Phegley	
La Vernia Primary	9780062370914	Space invaders	Ball, Nate	Horn Book Guide (Spring 2017) Until now, only Zack and his best friend Olivia knew about Amp, the small blue alien from Erde who crash landed into Zack's bedroom. But that changes in this satisfying series conclusion when a fleet of Erdians invades Earth. Utilizing science and Amp's favorite foods, Zack and Olivia help save the planet. Black-and-white illustrations and a detailed appended science experiment amplify the sci-fi fun.
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8989-233-5	Space Rovers	Lori Dittmer	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-6689-4660-2	Space Shuttle	Samantha Bell	K-Gr 2—In this early elementary series, information is presented through the viewpoint of the person, place, or piece of technology featured in the title. The rover explains that it uses its cameras to help it navigate, while the space telescope explains that it sees clearly without atmosphere to blur the images. Short, direct sentences are paired with large photos to share information. Cartoon-style illustrations pose questions that encourage readers to think critically about what they have read. For instance, the space suit mentions that each of its layers has a job. Then the illustration asks readers, "Do you ever have to wear layers?" A glossary supports comprehension and offers pronunciation for unfamiliar words and an index helps to locate information. VERDICT A good choice for primary grades with its unique approach to a high-interest topic. Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-6689-4661-9	Space Station	Samantha Bell	K-Gr 2—In this early elementary series, information is presented through the viewpoint of the person, place, or piece of technology featured in the title. The rover explains that it uses its cameras to help it navigate, while the space telescope explains that it sees clearly without atmosphere to blur the images. Short, direct sentences are paired with large photos to share information. Cartoon-style illustrations pose questions that encourage readers to think critically about what they have read. For instance, the space suit mentions that each of its layers has a job. Then the illustration asks readers, "Do you ever have to wear layers?" A glossary supports comprehension and offers pronunciation for unfamiliar words and an index helps to locate information. VERDICT A good choice for primary grades with its unique approach to a high-interest topic. Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.

La Vernia Primary	978-1-6689-4662-6	Space Suit	Samantha Bell	K-Gr 2--In this early elementary series, information is presented through the viewpoint of the person, place, or piece of technology featured in the title. The rover explains that it uses its cameras to help it navigate, while the space telescope explains that it sees clearly without atmosphere to blur the images. Short, direct sentences are paired with large photos to share information. Cartoon-style illustrations pose questions that encourage readers to think critically about what they have read. For instance, the space suit mentions that each of its layers has a job. Then the illustration asks readers, "Do you ever have to wear layers?" A glossary supports comprehension and offers pronunciation for unfamiliar words and an index helps to locate information. VERDICT A good choice for primary grades with its unique approach to a high-interest topic. Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	979-8-88989-234-2	Space Telescopes	Lori Dittmer	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-88989-235-9	Space Vehicles	Lori Dittmer	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-1328-1	Sparkling Space at the Planetarium	Fran Manushkin	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-0621-4	Special Pumpkin	C. L. Reid	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9015-2	Special Spring! (Disney Princess)	Cat Reynolds	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-2610-8	Speedy Drones	Marie-Therese Miller	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-0629-0	Speedy Sled	C. L. Reid	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-593-42713-2	Spice Box	Meera Sriram	A family spice box unites three generations of South Asian chefs. Rishi's grandmother--whom he calls Paati--is arriving from India today. So Rishi asks his father if they can make potato curry together to welcome her. Dad's busy, so Rishi grabs the family spice box, which holds great significance for the family. Paati, the original owner of the box, used the spices inside to achieve her dream of becoming a renowned chef in the big city, an unusual achievement for a woman at the time. She gave the box to Rishi's father before he left for a new country. Rishi's dad was nervous about the move, thinking he might stick out as a recent immigrant. Happily, he arrived in a welcoming, diverse community, where, after a few mistakes and a lot of trial and error, he, too, learned to use the spice box to make delicious meals. When Rishi now lifts the box up high, disaster strikes. With a broken box, will Rishi ever earn the family title of "Master of Spice"? This gorgeous, tenderly told story uses a beloved spice box--something many South Asian and, specifically, Tamil families, will recognize--to tell an intergenerational story about adventure, love, and inheritance. With swirls of vibrant colors and effective use of repetition, the book depicts a family supporting its youngest member even through mistakes. A warm tale of family bursting with color and love. (Picture book. 3-8) COPYRIGHT(2024) Kirkus Reviews, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.
La Vernia Primary	978-0-06-328947-5	Spider in the Well	Jess Hannigan	When a shopkeeper, doctor, and baker each claim to be furious that their altruistic wishes aren't coming true, a naive newsboy is dispatched to find out why the local wishing well is on the fritz. There, the boy discovers that a spider (wonderfully distilled into black circle, eight squiggles, and earnest googly eyes) is not only catching the wishers' gold wishing coins, but has also heard their desires, which are in actuality anything but selfless: "The baker wished for a full head of hair, the shopkeeper wished for huge muscles, and the doctor wished for lots of money." With a cry of "JUSTICE," the town's overworked Jack of all trades, suddenly savvy, parlays his information into a life of leisure and a steady income of wishing-well revenue. In a folkloric-feeling work with a bit of bite, Hannigan makes a splendid picture book debut with digital art that brings to mind the vibrant palettes, comically stylized shapes, and compositional playfulness of 1960s Polish "Cyrk" posters. Characters are portrayed with various skin tones. Ages 4: 8. Agent: Hannah Mann, Writers House. (Mar.)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5458-2	Spider-Man: This is Miles Morales	Alexandra West	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5449-0	Spidey and His Amazing Friends: House-Sitting at Tony's	Ken Kristensen, Steve Behling	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5450-6	Spidey and His Amazing Friends: Super Hero Hiccups	Ken Kristensen, Steve Behling	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9016-9	Spin Saves the Day	Steve Behling	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5584-8	Splat the Cat and the Cat in the Moon	Rob Scotton	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5585-5	Splat the Cat and the Lemonade Stand	Rob Scotton	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5586-2	Splat the Cat and the Obstacle Course	Rob Scotton	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5587-9	Splat the Cat Gets a Job!	Rob Scotton	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9266-8	Sports Are Fun!	Zaila Avant-garde	PreS-Gr 1-In this fun early reader, a young girl tries out sports of all kinds. She is engaged and happy as she enjoys each of the sports, which include soccer, basketball, tennis, ice skating, golf, and many more. Young readers will find this book bright, colorful, and engaging, while also being exposed to a wide array of sports to try out for themselves. There are several rhyming words in the story, and the short two- to four-word sentences are sure to help emerging readers find success or keep preschoolers' attention. The artwork is a wonderful addition, adding color and joy; the girl's sparkling eyes and wide toothy smile are sure to draw in young children even before they try out the words on their own. VERDICT This wonderful early reader about a variety of sports is a great addition to any preschool or elementary library collection.-Sara Collins © Copyright 2025. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-9112-0	Spring	Karen Bischer	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9017-6	Spring Fever! (Disney Stitch)	Virginia Murphy	PreS-Gr 1—Lilo and Stitch are preparing for a springtime party at Lilo's school, but Stitch slows Lilo down every time he attempts to help. He eats the fruit they are supposed to bring to the party, then falls asleep on the beach when Lilo asks him to deliver flowers. The story has little tension and a predictably tidy resolution. The simple, decodable text is set in large type, but there are a few places where new readers will be hampered by the lack of contrast between the text and the full-bleed illustrations beneath it. Sharp-eyed educators or caretakers may take issue with two illustrations showing characters riding bikes without helmets. VERDICT Nothing groundbreaking, but fans of the movie will forgive the formulaic plot.—Amy Reimann
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9298-9	Squeak Seeks! (Dinosaur Roar!)	Patty Michaels, Peter Curtis	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9300-9	Squid in Pants	Kaz Windness	PreS-Gr 1--An opportunity presents itself for a fashion-forward squid when a young boy goes for a quick dive, leaving his clothes unattended. Gleeefully snatching up gear to create their own stylish looks, the squid and his sea creature friends squabble over shoes, transform a tank top, and dance with pants. Chaos ensues when the boy realizes where his clothes have gone, but a quick deal is struck and more fun is had for all involved. Through the book's blend of humor and expressive illustrations, young readers will enjoy the antics of these playful ocean creatures. Short rhyming phrases contribute to the book's easy-to-follow flow, creating a catchy rhythm. Vocabulary is simple throughout and provides great opportunities to practice consonant digraphs. Though some words might need a bit of explanation, the colorful illustrations provide excellent support and create a tone for young readers that is humorous and engaging. VERDICT An excellent addition for all early reader collections. --Louie Lauer Copyright 2025 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-7022-4	Stan the Stunt Snail	Cath Jones	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-3849-0505-9	Star Origami	Zoeey Schrader	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5465-0	Star Wars: Galaxy of Adventures: Heroes & Villains	Ella Patrick	

La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5466-7	Star Wars: Galaxy of Creatures	Kristin Baver	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5467-4	Star Wars: The Mandalorian: The Path of the Force	Brooke Vitale	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5468-1	Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker: Resistance Heroes	Michael Siglain	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5459-9	Star Wars: This is Luke	Nate Millici	
La Vernia Primary	9781250305763	Starla Jean : which came first: the chicken or the friendship?	Arnold, Elana K	School Library Journal Xpress (March 5, 2021) Gr 1-2-In short chapters geared to newly proficient readers, an inquisitive child with spunk takes home a chicken she finds in the park, hoping it will be her pet. Starla Jean is a lively young white girl who enjoys being one with nature and riding her bike with her father. She narrates, and her droll tone is sure to draw readers in as she explains how she became a chicken expert. For good reasons, she names the chicken Opal Egg. In fact, Starla has a good reason for everything she does, and though the story is little more than a shaggy dog tale, but with a chicken, there is a happy ending. VERDICT A funny introduction to a new character and series, best for its humorous narration and a charming baby sister.-Annmarie Braithwaite, New York P.L., New York City © Copyright 2021. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9781250305787	Starla Jean takes the cake	Arnold, Elana K	School Library Journal starred (October 1, 2021) Gr 1-3-Starla Jean, who is Willa's big sister and a chicken expert, is a curious and spirited little girl with pale skin and dark hair. She is eager to help her mom plan Willa's first birthday party, complete with making bean-and-cheese burritos and a homemade cake! It's a good thing Starla Jean is a chicken expert because her chicken, Opal Egg, will lay an egg for the cake. When she checks the chicken coop and finds no eggs, she must figure out how to save the day and get Willa's cake made. With four short chapters, Arnold captures the innocence of childhood while making readers giggle. Each chapter contains a combination of full- and half-page illustrations-no page is without some imagery to cue readers. Sentence length varies, making it perfect to share with family. The use of bold and elongated words, like "BAWK" keep the reader engaged. Children will see themselves in the animal-loving protagonist and be eager for more adventures. Starla Jean is the kind of enduring character that readers will turn to time and time again. VERDICT The delightful second in an excellent series of early reader chapter books. Children will love solving problems and chuckling alongside Starla Jean.-Kelly Finan Richards, Baltimore County Public Sch. © Copyright 2021. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-4699-0	Stars	Elizabeth Andrews	
La Vernia Primary	9781668837726	Stella the starlight dragon	Mara, Maddy	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9116-6	Stepping Up! (All Are Welcome)	Alexandra Penfold	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5383-9829-6	Stick Called Cyril	Alison Falkonakis	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8780-0	Stompysaurus	Rachel Bright	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-89685-021-2	Stone Sat Still	Brendan Wenzel	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8997-2	Stop That Mop!	Jonathan Fenske	An inventive riff on "The Gingerbread Boy," featuring the phoneme made famous by Hop on Pop. A disgruntled mop is done with the brown "SLOP" and green "GLOP" that a pig continues to "DROP." The mop gleefully decides to "RUN! Run far away!" and blithely bids the pig farewell. The pig's cry of "STOP THAT MOP" summons a bunny, a pony, and a fish. Though they "HOP," "CLOP," and "FLOP," their efforts are in vain. (The fish sports a water-filled helmet so that it can give chase alongside the others.) Although the put-upon mop initially evokes readers' sympathy (who wouldn't want to flee a life of cleaning up slop?), its repeated cry of overweening pride—"But you will NEVER stop this mop!"—eventually calls out for comeuppance. A stop sign is ready to provide it. Though the sign tries to warn the escapee of an impending "DROP," the mop is too full of self-importance to listen. Predictably but satisfyingly, the mop falls off the cliff but fortunately lands ("PLOP") on a blue, vaguely peacock-ish bird passing by. The mop is exuberantly unrepentant, giddily flying off on the bird. Cartoon-style art boldly foregrounds the major players, setting them against minimal backgrounds and giving the mop a distinct personality. This masterful romp makes the very most of its limited vocabulary, entertaining even adult readers while offering beginners humor, suspense, and just plain fun. Laugh-out-loud fare for burgeoning readers and a rollicking celebration of the rebellious spirit. (Early reader. 4-7)
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-2614-6	Strong Submarines	Marie-Therese Miller	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-9111-3	Summer	Karen Bischer	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-88989-238-0	Sun	Matt Lilley	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-4700-3	Sun	Elizabeth Andrews	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-9785-7493-9	Sun	Murray "oak" Tapeta	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-9898588-1-1	Sunday	Marcelo Tolentino	A pale-skinned boy and his dog battle Sunday doldrums with an imagined journey in this meditation on adventure. With domestic distractions occupying family, the protagonist and pup venture forth alone. As their expedition takes them "from the freezing cold of ice caps... to the baking heat of lava flows," each location bears resemblance to household spaces. Tolentino pairs venturing lines with art that embraces matte coloring and a retro etched look, creating immersive spreads that amplify the wonder of the pair's round-the-world jaunt with a hidden-pictures effect. A line of camels traverses a sand dune that, at second glance, takes on the contours of a person's face, and a pirate ship's flag mirrors the shape of laundry hung to dry. When the explorers return home, accounts of their daring provoke a profound realization about the child's boundless future in "the wild unknown." Background characters are portrayed with various skin tones. Ages 3: 7. (Jan.)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8945-3	Super Avo	Sarah Jospitre	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8672-8	Super Hairo	Sarah Jospitre	
La Vernia Primary	9781546139195	Super pug	May, Kyla	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9334-4	Super Ty! (Ty's Travels)	Kelly Starling Lyons	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9065-7	Superstar! (Taylor Swift)	Shana Corey	PreS-Gr 1--Swifties, are you ready for it? This early reader biography will delight the youngest of Taylor Swift fans. Simple sentences chronicle Swift's life from her early days on the farm to her fearless rise to international stardom. The book touches on struggles she had as a young student and how she was able to shake it off through dedication to her craft. Digitally rendered illustrations are found on every page, but blank space is well placed so as not to overwhelm the senses. The illustrations feature a diverse cast of characters and will help to keep young readers engaged. Swift's current popularity may ensure that the library shelf and this book never get back together, like ever. VERDICT This simple story of Swift's life will keep young readers enchanted and is a recommended purchase for libraries frequented by Swifties.--Jessica Trafton Copyright 2025 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9023-7	Surprise Island Adventure (Boxcar Children)	Gertrude Chandler Warner	
La Vernia Primary	9781668853078	Sweater weather	Higgins, Cam	

La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9193-7	Sweet Surprise (Curious George)	H. A. Rey	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9373-3	Sweet Surprise (Pokemon)	Julia March	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-218-47188-0	Swing for Samara	Nancy Carlson	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8745-0348-2	Swollen Fox - Why Should You Share With Others?	Aesop	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5460-5	T.O.T.S.: Panda Excess	Amy Keating Rogers, Travis Braun	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-5461-2	T.O.T.S.: Whale, Hello There	Travis Braun, Annie Auerbach	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9306-1	Tacos for Everyone!	Maggie Testa	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8977-4	Talent Show! (DreamWorks Not Quite Narwhal)	Natalie Shaw	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5341-1317-6	Tallulah the Mermaid and the Great Lakes Pledge	Denise Brennan-nelson	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-9785-3968-6	Tanks	Eleanor Bradshaw	Gr 1-3--Young military enthusiasts will delight in these introductions to well-known machines employed by the armed forces. Readers learn the history of each machine: tanks were first used in World War I to cross trenches, the first amphibious vehicle was built in 1807, and helicopters were intended to rescue people. Each volume contains interesting facts such as the great height of Air Force One, that aircraft carriers have their own hospitals, and that the F-35 fighter plane can take off straight in the air. Colorful photographs enhance the text and will be appreciated by the readers as much as the narratives. The only drawback is there is not a lot of new information presented and collections may already have sufficient books on the topic. VERDICT These nice works should be considered where collections need refreshing. Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	979-8-88989-435-3	Tanks	Laura K. Murray	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-2483-6	Tarantulas	Lisa J. Amstutz	
La Vernia Primary	9798368780511	Teacher jitters	Danneberg, Julie	School Library Journal (October 1, 2025) Gr 2 Up-When children have that lightbulb moment where they realize that adults have feelings too, their world shrinks and gets a little more comprehensible, and suddenly, empathy is born. There's also power in adults being honest with their feelings. This title addresses all of that and more, demonstrating how adults and kids can have similar experiences. Mrs. Hartwell tells her students she has to go to a teacher class the next day, and she's nervous. The kids band together to remind her of the coping mechanisms she has taught them, adding some of their own wisdom into the mix. The rest of the book outlines Mrs. Hartwell's day in a new class, with fears that seem familiar to anyone who's stepped in a new school. The expressive faces and outlandish situations depicted in the illustrations drive home that everyone, even grown-ups, are students at heart. VERDICT An amusing disruption of the norm, teaching kids how to handle nerves by cleverly making the student the master. © Copyright 2025. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-6689-4663-3	Telescope	Samantha Bell	K-Gr 2--In this early elementary series, information is presented through the viewpoint of the person, place, or piece of technology featured in the title. The rover explains that it uses its cameras to help it navigate, while the space telescope explains that it sees clearly without atmosphere to blur the images. Short, direct sentences are paired with large photos to share information. Cartoon-style illustrations pose questions that encourage readers to think critically about what they have read. For instance, the space suit mentions that each of its layers has a job. Then the illustration asks readers, "Do you ever have to wear layers?" A glossary supports comprehension and offers pronunciation for unfamiliar words and an index helps to locate information. VERDICT A good choice for primary grades with its unique approach to a high-interest topic. Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	9780062370884	Telescope troubles	Ball, Nate	Horn Book Guide (Fall 2016) In book seven, Amp, the small blue alien living in Zack's bedroom, finds a telescope and discovers an alien invasion in progress. Zack, his best friend Olivia, and Olivia's grandpa must use their savvy--and a little real science--to save Amp and, hopefully, Earth. Black-and-white cartoons complement the humor, and the appended try-it-yourself experiment elucidates a scientific concept within the story.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8680-3	Tembo the Baby Elephant	Sarah Jospitre	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-9611-8	Tess Has Fun	Leanna Koch	PreS-K—This set is intended to support early phonics development, but it feels more suited to teacher-led instruction than independent reading. The books lack a clear scope and sequence, which makes it difficult for educators to determine which phonemes are targeted in each title. While the illustrations, such as those in Gus the Bus, may appeal to younger children with themes like vehicles, the stories themselves often lack depth and originality, with clunky text that fails to engage readers. Additionally, some of the illustrations come across as too simplistic and may not resonate with the older end of the intended audience. VERDICT Without a more defined phonics focus or age-appropriate content, these books fall short in providing an effective tool for early literacy development.
La Vernia Primary	9781477826393	That's (not) mine	Kang, Anna	School Library Journal (September 1, 2015) K-Gr 2-That's (Not) Mine teaches the value of sharing by demonstrating the opposite. A tall brown bear and a stubby blue bear--the very same pair from You Are (Not) Small (Amazon, 2014)--both want to sit in the same comfy yellow chair, but neither is willing to give it up. They argue about who it belongs to, constantly crying "It's mine!", and just like belligerent children they offer the kind of reasoning one would expect from such a statement. Quickly, their fairly "innocent" attempts to lay claim to the chair through trickery descend into physically removing one another. Their furrowed brows express the seriousness of the situation without detracting from the humorous approach of the overall look. With copious white space, the design is effective and cute. The story ends on a reassuring note, as the characters realize their folly and make up. Kang and Weyant's minimalist art and dialogue force viewers to make their own inferences about events, especially in regards to why it is wrong to act in such a manner. VERDICT With its clever use of reverse psychology, That's (Not) Mine provides the perfect foundation for a discussion on sharing. -Rachel Forbes, Oakville Public Library, Ontario, Canada © Copyright 2015. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9798368740478	That's my book! And other stories	Yoon, Salina	School Library Journal (November 1, 2017) PreS-Gr 1-Children and librarians alike will enjoy this charming new addition to the series. Similar in style to the beloved "Elephant and Piggie" series by Mo Willems, Yoon's bright and humorous characters return to a story, speaking via speech bubbles with a strong black font. The narrative is presented in three short chapters with quirky animal characters, reminiscent of the "Poppleton" series by Cynthia Rylant. The first story titled, "That's My Book!" will make a nice read-aloud for introducing students to the library and inform them about the best use of books (hint: they're for reading, not for playing dominos!). Although the punch line of the second chapter doesn't land quite as strongly, the final chapter is filled with the wit and humor that makes the series so enjoyable. VERDICT A great choice for beginning reader collections. -Maria Alegre, The Dalton School, New York © Copyright 2017. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5461-2318-7	That's Not Funny, David!	David Shannon	The circular-headed, triangular-toothed protagonist of Shannon's Caldecott Honor--winning No, David! (1998) returns to prove once and for all that humor is subjective. An author's note at the book's beginning observes that, for kids, the line between funny and not funny is meant to be constantly tested. Enter David. Written entirely in admonishments by authority figures such as parents and teachers, the book stresses that David makes mischief not for the sake of being a nuisance, but more because it amuses him deeply (even if he's the only one who's amused). He might blow bubbles in his drink one moment or perform a cannonball in a crowded pool the next. The narrators--generally unseen, though readers catch glimpses of adults' hands and legs--protest, "That's not funny!" or "You always go too far!" Still, David can't seem to stop himself, which sometimes leads to painful consequences, like getting his head stuck between the bars on a porch or inadvertently wedging a peanut up his nose. A final admittance by a caregiver that sometimes David is funny ("What am I going to do with you?") caps everything off warmly. While there's little to distinguish this from previous David books, Shannon still knows how to appeal to readers. In the energetic, highly expressive art, David is tan-skinned; the supporting cast is diverse. More of the same from a kid who does what he does so well. (Picture book. 3-6)

La Vernia Primary	9781713771234	The adventures of the Bailey School kids. 1, Vampires don't wear polka dots	Low, Pearl	Kirkus Reviews (July 1, 2021) The Bailey School Kids series returns with a graphic-novel adaptation that asks: Is the kids' new teacher a vampire? Having tormented their former teacher into quitting, Eddie, the ringleader of the pranksters, thinks he can handle anyone the school can find to replace her. But the replacement is pale Transylvanian Mrs. Jeepers, whose Gothic demeanor, coffin ownership, and accent immediately have the kids thinking of vampires. The accent is depicted visually, with a faintly drippy (but still plenty legible) type set in a green that coordinates with her mystical, glowing brooch. At first Eddie, who presents White, is confident that he can get rid of her, but after he gets in trouble with Mrs. Jeepers for trying to touch Melody's hair (she is illustrated as Black) without permission, the other kids notice—and taunt him that he's afraid of Mrs. Jeepers. They challenge Eddie to sneak into Mrs. Jeepers' basement, open the coffin, and tell them what's inside—and he challenges Melody to come with him to verify. The mission ends in inconclusive creepiness, further shifting the balance of power in Mrs. Jeepers' favor in their classroom battle of wills. The new format will be readily received by graphic-novel fans and reluctant readers alike. The full-color illustrations include a character guide at the front that provides names and establishes racial diversity. A great way to reboot the silly, gently creepy series for a new generation. (Graphic paranormal/comedy. 6-10)
La Vernia Primary	9781668818787	The adventures of the Bailey School Kids. 2, Frankenstein doesn't plant petunias	Low, Pearl	
La Vernia Primary	9781668893845	The adventures of the Bailey School Kids. 3, Ghosts don't eat potato chips	Rafer, Angeli	
La Vernia Primary	9781537950822	The baby firebird	Harrison, Paula	
La Vernia Primary	9798368719740	The Bad Guys in One last thing	Blabey, Aaron	School Library Journal (December 1, 2024) Gr 2-5-The final two installments of this beloved series wrap up with the same humor, action, and over-the-top adventures that fans have come to love. These books feature bank robberies, epic battles, and even time travel, all while tackling deeper themes like how difficult it can be to make the right choices. The series' trademark silliness shines through, and kids will be sad to see it end. The story builds on events from previous books, so it's helpful to have read the earlier installments to fully appreciate the conclusion. The familiar comic panels and expressive illustrations keep the energy high, maintaining the visual style that has made the series so popular. This is a fantastic conclusion to a beloved series that will leave readers satisfied. VERDICT A must-have for any collection where the series has a strong following. © Copyright 2024. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9781516089840	The Bad Guys in The serpent and the beast	Blabey, Aaron	School Library Journal (December 1, 2024) Gr 2-5-The final two installments of this beloved series wrap up with the same humor, action, and over-the-top adventures that fans have come to love. These books feature bank robberies, epic battles, and even time travel, all while tackling deeper themes like how difficult it can be to make the right choices. The series' trademark silliness shines through, and kids will be sad to see it end. The story builds on events from previous books, so it's helpful to have read the earlier installments to fully appreciate the conclusion. The familiar comic panels and expressive illustrations keep the energy high, maintaining the visual style that has made the series so popular. This is a fantastic conclusion to a beloved series that will leave readers satisfied. VERDICT A must-have for any collection where the series has a strong following. © Copyright 2024. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9798368723891	The bark park	Higgins, Cam	
La Vernia Primary	9781544452500	The biggest roller coaster	Kugler, Tina	Horn Book Magazine (March/April, 2021) The Great Bunk Bed Battle [Fox Tails] by Tina Kugler; illus. by the author Primary Acorn/Scholastic 48 pp. g 9/20 Library ed. 978-1-338-56168-5 \$23.99 Paper ed. 978-1-338-56167-8 \$4.99 e-book ed. 978-1-338-63514-0 \$2.99 In this lighthearted and lively early reader series, anthropomorphized Fox siblings Fritz and Franny's everyday experiences are depicted with imagination and playfulness. In Roller Coaster, the kids visit a (pinecone-themed) amusement park in search of the perfect ride. When they line up for "The Big One" -- a huge looping coaster -- their fears get the best of them, but they ultimately find a just-right amusement (for themselves and pet dog Fred). Bunk Bed finds the kids arguing at bedtime over which bunk is best before opting to snuggle together -- in Fred's bed. In each title, the events of three short chapters come together to make one cohesive story arc. Straightforward and usefully repetitive dialogue is presented via speech balloons that have plenty of white space and color-coded outlines for each character. Prepositions and opposites (over and under, above and below) scaffold beginning readers' understanding of new words, and keep the books moving at a zippy pace. Vibrant-hued illustrations with thick black outlines complement the mood of the humorous tales. Back matter includes instructions from Kugler on how to draw one of the characters and a "What's Your Story?" comprehension and activities section. Elisa Gall March/April 2021 p.93
La Vernia Primary	9781419743238	The bog beast	Potter, Ellen	
La Vernia Primary	9781518165337	The case of the weird blue chicken : the next misadventure	Cronin, Doreen	School Library Journal (March 1, 2015) Gr 2-4-Dirt, Sugar, Poppy, and Sweetie, otherwise known as the Chicken Squad, are back in another comical backyard adventure. When a little blue bird enters the chicken coop, Sugar and Dirt decide to help the "weird blue chicken" recover her stolen birdhouse. After some rather clumsy investigating, the chicks realize that the house-napper is none other than their brother Poppy. They also discover that in addition to the missing birdhouse, Grumpy Squirrel's acorns have disappeared. With the help of the little bird, the Chicken Squad set out to end the crime spree that has swept the backyard. Cronin creates a humorous story of bumbling detectives who in the end, manage to save the day. Young listeners will enjoy piecing together the clues along with the heroes. Adam Grupper voices J.J. Tully, the retired search-and-rescue dog who keeps an eye on the Chicken Squad, and Michele O. Medlin voices the remaining animals. Both narrators succeed in portraying likable characters who will appeal to beginner readers. VERDICT Fans of Geronimo Stilton and Kung Pow Chicken are sure to delight in the antics of the Chicken Squad.-Amanda Spino, Ocean County Library, NJ (c) Copyright 2015. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9798368783918	The face in the mirror and other scary stories	Brallier, Max	
La Vernia Primary	9781419743245	The gremlin's shoes	Potter, Ellen	Kirkus Reviews (March 15, 2021) In the fifth Big Foot and Little Foot book, Hugo and Boone go on a moneymaking adventure. The toy store downtown is hosting a special appearance by Sasquatch celebrity Mad Marvin, who's selling his Marvelous Monster Magnet. To earn money for one, aspiring cryptozoologists Hugo (a Sasquatch) and Boone (a human, White) take a couple of delivery jobs. In the woods on a run, they're pursued by something mysterious that turns out to be a Sasquatch wearing a hat and riding a moose (drawn, like other illustrations, to emphasize silly playfulness). He offers the boys a chance to split a treasure he's looking for with him, giving them directions. The directions bring the boys to a hill where, while the boys play a somersaulting game, a sneaky gremlin steals the package they're delivering! They trade Boone's new shoes to get it back, but Boone struggles in the woods without them. Throughout the straightforward plot, delivered in Potter's characteristically breezy style, Hugo mentally makes a list of things he envies about humans—such as cool shoes and pockets—and then crosses the items off as he realizes Sasquatches have their own strengths. After the deliveries, Hugo finds a way to recover Boone's shoes, and the boys learn the wholesome truth of the treasure. They decide they like things just the way they are—Hugo a Sasquatch and Boone a human—and that they'll skip the Monster Magnet for monster-finding adventures instead. Slightly message-heavy but delightful and accessible nevertheless. (Fantasy. 5-9)
La Vernia Primary	9781713771098	The Halloween goblin	West, Tracey	
La Vernia Primary	9781537975146	The magic fox	Harrison, Paula	
La Vernia Primary	9781338880311	The Owllympic games	Elliott, Rebecca	
La Vernia Primary	9781536202212	The Princess in Black and the bathtime battle	Hale, Shannon	
La Vernia Primary	9781536202229	The Princess in Black and the giant problem	Hale, Shannon	
La Vernia Primary	9780763665135	The Princess in Black and the hungry bunny horde	Hale, Shannon	Booklist (December 1, 2015 (Online)) Grades K-2. Princess Magnolia and her unicorn, Frimplepants, are on their way to brunch when her monster alarm rings, demanding help from her crime-fighting alter ego, the Princess in Black. Their friend Duff (the goat boy) needs help battling an invasion of cute bunnies that are eating all his goats' grass. Unfortunately, the PIB can't see beyond their adorable fluffiness, so she delays her response until Duff points to one of the evil lapins chomping on his goat's horn. But by then the horde's numbers are too great for the PIB's ninjasque efforts to have any effect. It takes the persuasive talents of her faithful steed Blacky (who understands and speaks the language of Cuteness) to convince the ravenous rabbits to return to Monster Land. As in the earlier titles, Pham's watercolor-and-ink illustrations add to the humor by playing with the stereotypes the text exposes. It's also nice to see Blacky's considerable skills on display. This third series installment is sure to be popular.

La Vernia Primary	9781536209778	The Princess in Black and the mermaid princess	Hale, Shannon	School Library Journal starred (January 1, 2022) K-Gr 3-They've done it again! In this ninth installment, the Hales have brought back all the elements young readers love about the "Princess in Black" series-heroes in disguise, hungry monsters, imperiled goats, and ninja skills-but this time, they've set their story underwater, added a mermaid princess, and included a powerful message of speaking up to help others. The story begins with the three heroes sailing on Princess Sneezewort's ship. The Princess in Blankets would like to battle sea monsters while the Princess in Black is hoping to see a mermaid. Before long, they do meet beautiful mermaid Princess Posy, and the Princess in Black is gushing and giddy. The three friends enthusiastically offer to help the nice, but very worried, mermaid protect the capricorn (sea goats) from the krakens. Unfortunately, they discover that their monster-fighting moves are practically useless underwater. As she is drifting upside down, the Princess in Blankets lets Princess Posy know that she has the ability to protect the sea goats, assuring her that speaking up helps others. Princess Posy busts out some new ninja moves and sends the kraken packing. Afterward, she feels amazing and soon has her undersea kingdom in order. She even finds time to play with her new friends, which includes some throwbacks to previous installments. The Princess in Black is white, and her friend group is diverse. VERDICT With appealing new characters, lively language, an abundance of exclamation points, and a lush pastel-toned undersea kingdom, young readers will eagerly dive into this latest series adventure.-Sally James © Copyright 2022. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9780763688264	The Princess in Black and the mysterious playdate	Hale, Shannon	Booklist (November 1, 2017 (Online)) Grades K-3. The Princess in Black's latest caper involves a playdate with Princess Sneezewort. For once, the monster situation seems under control, now that the Goat Avenger (aka Duff) is assisting. But Magnolia (aka the PIB) is unaware that a sneaky shape-changing monster has stowed away in her carriage, and the hungry beast causes no end of problems. Certain that Magnolia is afraid of monsters, Sneezewort decides to become a superhero herself, the Princess in Blankets. The superheroines have great fun locating the monster (who morphs from bush to streetlight to park bench), pummeling him with ninja moves, and finally returning him to Monster Land. An unsung strength of this series is its successful blending of traditional masculine and feminine pursuits in stories that promote active, imaginative play for all genders. Pham's colorful illustrations are pleasing as always; young readers will especially delight in locating the camouflaged monster in the art. With spot-on humor for its intended audience, this is sure to please series fans and newcomers alike.
La Vernia Primary	9781536209785	The Princess in Black and the Prince in Pink	Hale, Shannon	School Library Journal (January 1, 2023) Gr 2-4-By day Princess Magnolia sits in her refined outfits, and when her monster alarm goes off, she turns into a caped ninja. In this entry, Magnolia is getting ready for the flower festival and the evening's ball. While setting up the decorations, a big emu begins to stomp, kick, and destroy her glass decorations. But Magnolia is at a loss at how to tame the grumpy beast. It turns out Prince Valerian also has a secret identity-he is the glamorous Prince in Pink, and his special skills save the day. A sweet twist shows Magnolia that the belligerent emu may actually have a softer side. This entertaining series centers a lovable, empowered female character; this is a princess who can save herself and still be frilly. Main characters are cued as white. VERDICT A wonderful addition to Hale's unique series, wherein zany humor and teamwork tells the story that children can be anything they dream of. © Copyright 2023. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9781549084997	The sea pony	Harrison, Paula	
La Vernia Primary	9781544457949	The secret maze	Charman, Katrina	
La Vernia Primary	9781546127178	The secret of the lost gold	Elliott, Rebecca	School Library Journal (May 1, 2025) K-Gr 3-The "Unicorn Diaries" series returns with its signature diary format, packed with colorful illustrations and speech bubbles throughout. Each unicorn has a special power-Rainbow Tinseltail can grant one wish per week, while her best friend, Sunny Huckleberry, can turn invisible. At school, the unicorns work toward earning new patches by learning something new each week. But when a massive storm leaves the forest in disarray, class is put on hold so the unicorns can help those in need. As they assist in rebuilding, they discover a powerful spell that requires ancient gold nuggets, leading them on an exciting quest. The popularity of this series is no mystery-the engaging layout, easy-to-read text, and plot-driven storytelling make it a hit with young readers. VERDICT A must-add series to any collection, sure to be a crowd-pleaser. © Copyright 2025. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9781668893746	The shadow returns	Charman, Katrina	
La Vernia Primary	9798368782768	The snow show	Higgins, Cam	
La Vernia Primary	9781549071584	The star wolf	Harrison, Paula	
La Vernia Primary	9781423178286	The thank you book	Willems, Mo	School Library Journal Xpress (June 1, 2016) PreS-Gr 2-A sweet and pitch-perfect swan song to a wildly popular series. Reflecting on her good fortune and many blessings, Piggie decides to thank everyone who is important to her. Gerald thinks this is a bad idea, in that she runs the very big risk of forgetting someone. Piggie will not be dissuaded and embarks on her "Thank-o-rama!" She gives a shout-out to the Squirrels, Snake, the Pigeon, and other characters from the series, including Mouse, Birdies, Rhino, Hippo, Hippo's Big Sister, Barky Dog, Pelican, Bears, and Worms. Piggie turns into a thanking machine. Whale, Ice Cream Penguin, Doctor Cat, and Brian Rat all make appearances. Last, but hardly least, she remembers to acknowledge her partner in crime, Gerald, but there's still one important group that the effusive Piggie neglects to mention-their readers! Willems's brilliant, minimalist cartoon illustrations are as expressive and charming as ever. VERDICT The 25th installment in the winning series is a must-have for every collection and will lead kids to go back and revisit the earlier titles again and again. Thanks, Mo Willems, you've helped a whole generation learn to be proficient readers with Gerald and Piggie. Hugs all around!-Luann Toth, School Library Journal © Copyright 2016. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9781668837917	The underland	Charman, Katrina	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-77488-116-3	There Are No Ants in This Book	Rosemary Mosco	A young girl unpacks a blanket and food in preparation for a picnic. She's convinced no ants are near, but soon 10 unusual kinds appear, each describing its own salient characteristics: acorn ants reside in acorns, dinosaur ants are extremely large, pharaoh ants are tiny, winnow ants nibble seeds, honeypot ants store food in their abdomens, leafcutter ants feed leaves to the fungus they eat, slender twig ants glide gracefully, green tree ants make silken nests, turtle ants have big heads, and acrobat ants raise their abdomens when they are frightened. Mosco's simple text and the ants' speech-bubble commentaries mesh nicely with Pirolli's cartoon-style digital illustrations. Bright colors and sunny skies predominate, contrasting nicely with the black ants, and the protagonist's facial expressions (ranging from concern to awe) deftly convey her evolving attitude. And while adults may grimace at the illustration of the child swarmed by these insects, kids will understand her delight. Appended with additional information about the cited species, this should pique young browsers' interest.
La Vernia Primary	9781423106869	There is a bird on your head!	Willems, Mo	School Library Journal (October 1, 2007) K-Gr 2-Beginning readers familiar with Willems's books will recognize his distinctive humor and illustrative style in these stories. When Piggie receives her first invitation to a party, she asks Gerald to join her and relies on his advice-because he "knows" parties-in-order to prepare for the big event. The elephant, however, has a tendency to overanalyze, so he prepares them both for any contingency-a fancy/pool/costume party. Piggie's expressive features show her questions about their attire, but the friends set off bedecked in flippers, masks, top hat, pearl earrings, cowboy hat, and evening dress. Imagine her surprise when they find all the other guests as lavishly overdressed as they are. In the second title, Gerald learns that there are worse things than a bird on your head, namely, two love birds, a nest, and three hatchlings. With the help of Piggie, he is finally able to ask them to move, but, as the final page reveals, they have become her problem. Both books use speech bubbles-gray ones for Gerald, pink for Piggie-to tell the entire story. This feature is a nice touch that facilitates paired/choral readings. The conversation between the friends flows smoothly and allows beginning readers to practice expression as they read. These appealing titles will tickle the funny bones of children and are sure to become favorites.-Maura Bresnahan, High Plain Elementary School, Andover, MA Copyright 2007 Reed Business Information.
La Vernia Primary	9780439639064	There was an old lady who swallowed Fly Guy	Arnold, Tedd	School Library Journal (December 1, 2007) K-Gr 2-In this fourth Fly Guy adventure, the same big-eyed cartoon characters occupy ample white space and find themselves in a humorous situation. Grandma has, indeed, swallowed Fly Guy. The standard scenario unfolds and, in the end, everyone lives happily ever after. Though not the strongest in the series, the book will please fans and the fly will gain unprecedented sympathy. Beginning readers will enjoy practicing their new skill with familiar characters and a fun story.-Linda M. Kenton, San Rafael Public Library, CA Copyright 2007 Reed Business Information.
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8745-0352-9	Thief and the Housedog - When Should You Trust Someone?	Aesop	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-8446-7	Thinks-a-Lot! Says Cheese	C. W. Estes	

La Vernia Primary	9781542018517	This is (not) enough	Kang, Anna	Kirkus Reviews (January 1, 2022) Kang and Weyant's You Are (Not) Small series is the slightly off-kilter gift that keeps on giving. This time, the diverting duo of fuzzy cryptids are excited because it's Give-a-Gift Day. At a flea market with carnival-esque booths, each of them attempts to find the perfect gift for the other. They are both in search of a present that's "COOL and FUN and BIG and "WOW!" They consider music boxes, alien plushies, musical instruments that emit soap bubbles, and more—but none of the items feels special enough. So, they knit, garden, bake, paint, and even attempt carpentry and skywriting, but it all leads to a meltdown: "THIS IS NOT ENOUGH!" When the pair eventually resign themselves to the simplest of handmade gifts that are "one of a kind" and "from the heart," they are surprised to discover that their offerings aren't only "more than enough"—they are "everything." The protagonists and their other cryptid friends are visually intriguing; one of them looks like a cross between a poodle and a dinosaur. The cartoony, cut-out illustrations, rendered in ink and watercolor with brush pens, appear against ample white space, inviting readers to focus squarely on the characters and their emotions. The plot twist on the final page, meant to be amusing, is a tone mismatch but is easily forgotten. An unromanticized friendship story that manages to be both affecting and amusing. (Picture book. 3-7)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8891-3	This Is Ghost-Spider (Marvel: Ghost-Spider)	Anthony J. Lee	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9249-1	This Is Groot	Kim Anderson	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-68436-356-8	This Is My Wonderful Face	Miriam Moore-Keish	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9172-2	This Is Rey (Star Wars)	Emeli Juhlin	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5341-1319-0	This Is the Crew That Builds Our School	Sherry Fellores	Kids know all about the teachers who make learning possible—but what about those responsible for constructing the school building itself? Set to the familiar, bouncy tune of "Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush," this perky tale of an energetic, all-animal crew who erect a school from the ground up can be sung by or to an appreciative group of youngsters. Children will be captivated by the sights and sounds of the skilled team carrying out their specialized tasks. They'll practically hear the heavy clangs of the machinery and equipment; truck mavens will have a field day watching the crew's vehicles digging and hauling dirt. Most readers may not know exactly what their own school's construction entailed: laying the foundation and roof, painting the walls, placing power lines and pipes, and even landscaping the playground and garden spaces. They certainly will after poring over this spirited book that captures the essence of teamwork at its finest. Fellores describes the many specific steps with strong, active, rhyming verbs typeset in large capitals: "DIG and SCRAPE, / EXCAVATE!" "CLING and CLANG / THWACK and BANG!" Finally, the grateful students offer the builders a well-deserved thanks for their terrific efforts. Caldwell's wonderful, dynamic illustrations burst with energy and color. This winner will build a crew of readers and listeners—and singers—who'll want to revisit again and again. (author's note) (Picture book. 4-7)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9316-0	This Is the Fantastic Four (Marvel Fantastic Four)	Dacy Lim	
La Vernia Primary	9798368756202	This little pup went to the market	Higgins, Cam	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-68263-746-3	This Rock Is Mine!	Kaye Umansky	Two frogs have a big disagreement over the ownership of a small rock in the middle of a pond. One frog, comfortably ensconced in its own space, hears snores and, parting tall strands of grasses, discovers another frog lazing on the other side. Frog Numero Uno angrily confronts the interloper, announcing, "This rock is mine!" The second frog huffily responds to assert ownership, pointing to its belongings. Each frog refuses to budge, and they almost come to blows. Suddenly, a huge shadow looms overhead—one with a menacing beak and pointy talons. It's a heron! Terror-stricken, both frogs realize that this isn't the time to bicker over real estate. They escape their would-be predator by jumping into the water. When the heron overtakes their former rocky domain, the amphibious pair, now safely hidden, decide the home they'd once vigorously argued over really wasn't that great after all and find a "perfect" new rock to live on—together. This comical U.K. import, told in rollicking rhyme that bounces along as effortlessly as any frog, will engage readers while delivering an excellent message about friendships forged through cooperation. Children will relate to the frogs' "It's mine!" protestations. Dominated by hues of blue and green, the mixed-media and digital illustrations capture the humorous proceedings, the frogs' very expressive personalities, and their lush, watery environment. The frogs' dialogue is set in different fonts, incorporated into the artwork. Kids will be saying "Mine!" about this delightful story that really rocks. (Picture book. 4-7)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5038-7095-6	Three Billy Goats Gruff	M. York	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5038-7094-9	Three Little Pigs	M. York	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-4693-8	Tigers	Elizabeth Andrews	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-9608-8	Tim's Got This!	Leanna Koch	PreS-K—This set is intended to support early phonics development, but it feels more suited to teacher-led instruction than independent reading. The books lack a clear scope and sequence, which makes it difficult for educators to determine which phonemes are targeted in each title. While the illustrations, such as those in Gus the Bus, may appeal to younger children with themes like vehicles, the stories themselves often lack depth and originality, with clunky text that fails to engage readers. Additionally, some of the illustrations come across as too simplistic and may not resonate with the older end of the intended audience. VERDICT Without a more defined phonics focus or age-appropriate content, these books fall short in providing an effective tool for early literacy development.
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-9604-0	Tim's Trip	Leanna Koch	PreS-K—The titles in this set are designed for emergent readers aged three to four. Each book includes consistent front matter with strategies for parent support before, during, and after reading. While this guidance encourages adult involvement, the effectiveness is limited by the simplistic nature of the content. The bright illustrations are reminiscent of early concept books, appealing to young readers but lacking the depth to fully engage them. The large print and sparse text may aid emergent readers, but the minimalism can result in flat narratives that fail to capture children's imaginations. VERDICT These books offer foundational skills, but they need richer narratives and more engaging illustrations to stand out in the growing market of decodables for very young readers.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-68436-329-2	Time to Play Baseball!	Nick Healy	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9390-0	Time to Play Soccer! (CoComelon)	Gloria Cruz	
La Vernia Primary	9781713724537	Tiny tough	Hanlon, Abby	
La Vernia Primary	ISBN	Title	Author/Artist	Review
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9043-5	To the Rescue! (Cool Buds)	Barbara Lehman	A crisis at sea results in the introduction of a new neighbor. Puff the Atlantic puffin, Blue the blue Arctic fox, and Sealy the harbor seal are seaside neighbors, though Puff lives high up on a cliff. While peering through a pair of binoculars one day, Puff spots an Arctic hare named Tip who's in trouble at sea; the intrepid bird takes flight to guide Tip's ship to shore. Back on dry land but without a home (the volcano on the island where Tip used to live just erupted), Tip seeks shelter with each of the three friends, only to discover that the would-be roommates' houses are incompatible for different reasons. Blue eagerly suggests solutions, but Tip has an initially overlooked idea that leads to a proper resolution. Ultimately, the addition of Tip to the community is cause for celebration. Each of the four anthropomorphic animals has a distinct silhouette and an appropriately warm outfit that help them stand out right from the first page, which introduces the cast. Simple paneling and layouts make following along a breeze. The characters all have helpful, can-do attitudes, which leads to lots of cheer, though tears are briefly shed in a few scenes—grief at Tip's lost home, Blue's worry that Tip will have to live elsewhere. Readers, however, will be all smiles. An idyllic and cozy comic. (Facts about Arctic foxes) (Graphic early reader. 4-8)
La Vernia Primary	9781423102953	Today I will fly!	Willems, Mo	School Library Journal (May 1, 2007) K-Gr 3-In these two easy-to-read books, Willems introduces two best friends. Gerald is a slightly stodgy, bespectacled elephant with a stumpy, downturned trunk. Piggie is more daring and whimsical, and, like many friends, the two complement one another. In My Friend Is Sad, Piggie tries hard to cheer her dejected friend. She disguises herself as a cowboy, clown, and a robot, but Gerald doesn't recognize her and is sad because she isn't there to enjoy the fun. Without missing a beat, Piggie points out that he needs new glasses. In Today I Will Fly, Piggie announces her intention to do so to her skeptical pal. In the end, though, Gerald is making adventurous plans of his own. With just a few tweaks of his expressive lines, Willems creates engaging characters. The stories move briskly, with a minimal word count and touches of whimsy throughout. Fans of the author's previous books should check the endpapers for a cameo appearance of his familiar pigeon. These simple, humorous stories will sound just the right note for beginning readers. -Marilyn Taniguchi, Beverly Hills Public Library, CA Copyright 2007 Reed Business Information.

La Vernia Primary	978-0-316-33544-7	Togo to the Rescue: How a Heroic Husky Saved the Lives of Children in Alaska	Melisande Potter	The story of the sled dogs that braved a blizzard, transporting serum to quell a 1925 diphtheria outbreak in Nome, Alaska, has been told before, via the story of Balto the dog. In this picture book, mother-daughter collaborators the Potters (Cher Ami) spotlight another participant: sled dog leader Togo, who led the most challenging part of that relay, traveling, per back matter, 261 miles in five days under brutal conditions. Togo's strength and special character are apparent early on when his owner, Leonhard Seppala (1877: 1967), tries to give the obstreperous pup away and the animal returns, leaping through a glass window to reach him. Eventually, Togo's fighting spirit leads Seppala to make him the head of his sled dog team. During a precisely planned operation that spans 674 miles and involves 150 dogs, Seppala elects to cut across the frozen Norton Sound, a shortcut that saves time but subjects the team to frigid winds and mortal danger from shifting ice floes, all of which Togo helps the team to overcome. Folk-style watercolor paintings give the characters a classic, sculptural feel in a triumphant telling filled with depth and excitement. Human characters are portrayed with varying skin tones. An author's note acknowledges changes made to the historical story. Ages 4: 8. (Oct.)
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-9600-2	Tom's Map	Leanna Koch	PreS-K—This set is intended to support early phonics development, but it feels more suited to teacher-led instruction than independent reading. The books lack a clear scope and sequence, which makes it difficult for educators to determine which phonemes are targeted in each title. While the illustrations, such as those in Gus the Bus, may appeal to younger children with themes like vehicles, the stories themselves often lack depth and originality, with clunky text that fails to engage readers. Additionally, some of the illustrations come across as too simplistic and may not resonate with the older end of the intended audience. VERDICT Without a more defined phonics focus or age-appropriate content, these books fall short in providing an effective tool for early literacy development.
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-7015-6	Top Mop	Alison Donald	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7112-8810-2	Torla and Smorla and The Lower Than Average Cloud	Kes Gray	
La Vernia Primary	9781338828931	Tornado rescue	Rajan, Rekha S	School Library Journal (May 1, 2025) Gr 2-4-Jaden and Leela Jackson's family travels in an RV, assisting with disaster relief. Their father, an award-winning doctor, treats the injured, while their mother, a journalist, documents the disasters. While helping at an animal shelter damaged by a tornado, the siblings find themselves facing twin tornadoes and must act quickly to protect both themselves and the animals. The short sentences and plentiful illustrations add to the fast-paced action, making this an engaging choice for early chapter book readers building confidence. Though some tornado facts are included, the focus remains on disaster preparedness and helping others. VERDICT A good choice for large collections, this book presents an important topic in an accessible way while keeping young readers engaged. © Copyright 2025. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-2616-0	Tough Tanks	Marie-Therese Miller	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-77488-348-8	Towed by Toad	Jashar Awan	Toad drives the tow truck for Pop's Garage, his dad's car repair shop. Toad is so busy that he bolts out the front door before the title page, skipping the insect his father has fried for him for breakfast. Vehicular calamities abound. "Catie cat has a flat. Davey dog hit a log. Mayor Hop forgot to stop. Stanley Snout's engine fell out." The punchy text uses short sentences and consistent rhythm with periodic bursts of rhyme, giving this a read-aloud cadence and momentum. The digital illustrations are a blend of spare, subtle, and energetic. Characters and vehicles appear as spot images in textured, relatively subdued hues on white backdrops, creating a warm, calm contrast to the nonstop accidents and Toad's frenzied activity level. When the tow truck breaks down, Toad insists he can handle it himself, but when his efforts end in his kicking the car in frustration ("Wait, Toad -- that's not going to help!"), Toad realizes it's time to call Pop. "Everyone needs help sometimes." With its clear plot, welcome predictability, and straightforward language, this book will be a smash with the preschool crowd while also satisfying the needs of beginning readers. (Copyright 2024 by The Horn Book, Incorporated, Boston. All rights reserved.)
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-2490-4	Trapdoor Spiders	Lisa J. Amstutz	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9564-5	Trash Day (Trash Truck)	Max Keane	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5383-9623-0	Treasure Island	Cesar Samaniego	PreS-Gr 4—This series offers eight classic children's books, cleverly summarized and packaged for even the youngest readers. Each story includes basic descriptions and dialogue, condensing classics like Alice in Wonderland and Treasure Island to a brisk three to five sentences per page. Despite their brevity, the books are faithful summaries. All the story beats are true to the actual text, and not twisted to fit popular film plots. In The Wizard of Oz, Dorothy's slippers are the original silver and not ruby. Mowgli's end in The Jungle Book is not Disney's version, but Kipling's. Occasionally some cartoon speech bubbles will pepper their way into the illustrations, but only to enhance, not to convey vital information. Each book has a different illustrator, but they all include colorful images, with rounded, cartoonish figures shown in action. Some volumes include especially beautiful illustrations, like the lush garden scenes in The Secret Garden, or Black Beauty's majestic horses depicted with watercolor-like realism. VERDICT An easy way to introduce children's classics to young readers.
La Vernia Primary	978-0-8234-5558-4	Tree Is a Community	David L. Harrison	So many reasons to love trees! Writing in animated free verse that calls urgently to be read aloud, Harrison celebrates a tree's residents, from bugs that "CRAWL and / CLIMB and / SCURRY up that trunk" to birds that nest or peck out cavities just right for later comers like opossums and raccoons to "SETTLE in. / And maybe / they make / their own babies? / For sure!" Meanwhile, the tree has plenty of "tree business" to conduct, such as making flowers and seeds, breathing out the oxygen that "we BREATHE IN! / For sure," keeping soil in place, and holding "her families / safe in her STRONG arms" when "storms HOWL / and thunder goes / BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!" As small creatures crawl or flit through leafy boughs above in Cosgrove's bustling, populous illustrations, two brown-skinned children below blow bubbles or peaceably share a rope swing in the cool shade. "And best of all," the poem ends, when spring comes round again, new seeds will drop so that "very soon / we will have / a fine new tree. / OH YES!" In a personal afterword, the author describes a certain beloved tree in his yard and suggests that readers might pick one for themselves: "I think trees love it when we love them." An effervescent appreciation of all that trees do and are. (bibliography, index) (Informational picture book. 5-8)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8974-3	Trio of Terrans! (Transformers: Earthspark)	Maria Le	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8663-6	Troll Trouble (Junior Monster Scouts)	Joe McGee	Gr 1–3—In this newest offering from the "Junior Monster Scouts" series, Vampyra, daughter of Count Dracula, smells something delicious while in her room. She spots her aunts making soup, which excites her until it almost goes to ruin when they run out of the key ingredient: Troll Root. Plucky Vampyra offers to get them some from the mean trolls in the forest. With her friends Wolfy and Franky, the rest of the Junior Monster Scouts crew, she goes courageously forward. The trolls ask the team to do three challenges before giving up the Troll Root, and each member of the team is able to showcase their abilities to help. This story will engage young readers who are looking for lengthier early reader books—children will feel triumphant at being able to read through the story. The characters are endearing, and the text is large. Long's art style is well used here, with bright colors and exaggerated features that make the story soar. VERDICT Purchase for early readers who have graduated from "Frog and Toad."—Maria Graybosch
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8861-6	Trouble Brewing! (Minecraft)	Arie Kaplan	Gr 2-4--Emmy and Birch are two Minecraft characters continuing their adventures after returning from the Nether in the previous installment of the series. After a brief recount of what transpired in their last adventure, along with a look at what they collected from their quest, the two begin making a crafting table. They don't get far before a creeper, witches, skeletons, and zombies approach them. Emmy quickly brews two Night Vision potions to better fight the enemies, and Birch makes an Invisibility Potion. The book is filled with Minecraft characters, materials, potions, and more, with illustrations that are adorably reminiscent of the popular game franchise. The text is meant for beginning readers; however, much of the vocabulary is Minecraft terminology. For children who do not play the game, the words may be more difficult to decode, and the story harder to follow. VERDICT Purchase where Minecraft is popular.--Kirsten Caldwell Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-8499-3	Trouble on the Double	Michael Anthony Steele	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-9656-9	Truck Pals	Leanna Koch	PreS-K—The titles in this set are designed for emergent readers aged three to four. Each book includes consistent front matter with strategies for parent support before, during, and after reading. While this guidance encourages adult involvement, the effectiveness is limited by the simplistic nature of the content. The bright illustrations are reminiscent of early concept books, appealing to young readers but lacking the depth to fully engage them. The large print and sparse text may aid emergent readers, but the minimalism can result in flat narratives that fail to capture children's imaginations. VERDICT These books offer foundational skills, but they need richer narratives and more engaging illustrations to stand out in the growing market of decodables for very young readers.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-4994-5512-0	Try Your Best, Patrick	David Howlett	

La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9389-4	Tunnels in the Tunnel (The Tunneler)	Michael Rex	A tunneling penguin stars in this title for the newest of readers. A mole might have been a more logical character choice, especially given the bucolic, decidedly un-Antarctic setting, but the anthropomorphic penguin (referred to as "the tunneler") makes a winning protagonist. Wearing a hard hat and wielding a shovel, the tunneler is introduced on the copyright page in front of a ramshackle house and a few buckets, including one holding orange papers, each emblazoned with a yellow star. On each spread, the unseen narrator informs us that "the tunneler tunnels in the tunnel." The titular phrase repeats on the right-hand side of each spread as the tunneler pops out of the ground to greet other penguins and hand each of them one of the orange papers. These other characters are similarly identified by their occupations: "The gardener gardens in the garden." "The farmer farms on the farm." At the book's conclusion, readers discover that the papers were invitations to a rock concert, held (appropriately enough) by a large nearby stone. Lo and behold, the tunneler is also a "rocker," and "as the rocker rocks on the rock," "the dancers dance at the dance!" Playful cartoon illustrations will help youngsters decode the spare, repetitive text as details in the cross-sections of underground tunnels provide visual interest. Burgeoning readers will eagerly dig in. (Early reader. 4-6)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9586-7	Twins, but Different	Porsche Thomas	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9569-0	Twits: Trouble in Triperot!	Roald Dahl	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9540-9	Two Ballerinas ... and a Moose	James Preller	PreS-Gr 1-The wonderfully haphazard Moose is back and ready to dance! Moose wants to join two animal ballerinas, but they thwart Moose's attempts until they see how sad Moose becomes. After encouraging Moose to dance, his friends are in awe of his righteous moves. They ask to join him, and the three dance the night away under a smiling moon. Children will laugh their way through Moose's antics, his silly dance shoes, and his enthusiastic attempts at twirling and spinning. Readers may recognize themselves in Moose, full of enthusiasm that outstrips his skills, and sympathize when Moose falls in a tangled heap and looks bereft. Smiles will break out when Moose lets loose and dances the night away. Illustrations are vivid and bold with clear expressions, and will likely inspire readers to break out their own moves. VERDICT Another totally relatable winner from Preller for the early reader shelves.-Melisa Bailey © Copyright 2025. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8802-9	Two Birds...and a Moose	James Preller	Gr 1-3--Two birds watch and cheer on a moose who is determined to climb their tree and sit with them. Moose attempts his climb unconventionally with a pogo stick, balloon, and finally a tightwire, until he has success. But then the always funny, "What do I do now?" realization hits. Confusion might arise when children point out Moose had access to a ladder the whole time, but it's no more confusing than why a moose would want to climb a tree in the first place. Spare language complements the cartoon illustrations that are captivating in their simplicity, and visual clues will illicit giggles from young readers as they follow along with moose's bumbling actions. For instance, Moose's movement is especially well-relayed with a comic fall from a wobbly, unsuccessful tightwire walk attempt and a sequence of a slow balloon ascent followed by a quick descent with a popped balloon. VERDICT An entertaining choice, with appropriate language for the developing reader.--Melisa Bailey Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8745-0344-4	Two Goats - Why Should You Prepare for Tomorrow?	Aesop	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-89685-024-3	Two Together	Brendan Wenzel	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9534-8	Ultimate Garage Takeover	Eric Geron	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-593-62406-7	Umami	Jacob Grant	Limited culinary options create a path for exploration in this playful tale. Situated on a white snowbank against a deep blue sea, a penguin community eats cold fish at every meal ("For dessert? Cold fish. Your birthday? More cold fish"). When penguin Umami finds her birthday meal to be a fish too far, she raises her fork in defiance, announcing, "If there is more exciting food in this world, I will find it!" Crossing the ocean, she discovers a warm-hued sunbaked coast and streets crowded with animalian vendors and endless new foods; "Umami would eat it all." She samples foods salty, sour, bitter, sweet, and "a taste that shared her name," until encountering a spicy food suggests inspired next steps that take Umami's findings home. Grant's witty oil pastel monoprint and colored pencil art marries technique with expression to illustrate Umami as a happy-belly food bon viveur, sweetly wide-eyed with joy, wonder, and gustatory delight, forging a tasty path in a bountiful world. Ages 3: 7. (Oct.)
La Vernia Primary	978-0-593-62406-7	Umami	Jacob Grant	"Breakfast, lunch, and dinner, the penguin village ate cold fish." Umami, a brown and white penguin in a homogenous community, is bored with the monotonous meals of bland fish served in her colony. Craving new flavors, she sets off in a small fishing boat in search of more appetizing cuisines. Upon arriving in a different land, the penguin smells the aromas of unfamiliar foods. "Oh, my sweet little beak!" said Umami. "Nothing ever smelled so spectacular." She samples a smorgasbord of salty, sour, bitter, sweet, and spicy foods, as well as those with the "meaty and savory" flavor for which she's named. She hauls home a bounty of ingredients to introduce to her village and serves up a feast, which devolves into a humorous feeding frenzy. Grant's colored-pencil and oil pastel monoprint illustrations depict a penguin experiencing diversity in a populous land, home to numerous types of animals. As Umami leaves the humdrum of her village and travels abroad to experience the vibrancy of variety, the cool color palette simmers into a range of buttery yellows and chili reds. Umami's lively culinary exploration may stir curiosity in young foodies to venture beyond familiar comfort food. Emily Brush(Copyright 2025 by The Horn Book, Incorporated, Boston. All rights reserved.)
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-1336-6	Underwater Wonders at the Aquarium	Fran Manushkin	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9267-5	Uni and the Dolphin (Uni the Unicorn)	Candice F. Ransom	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-316-56548-6	Up Periscope!: How Engineer Raye Montague Revolutionized Shipbuilding	Jennifer Swanson	Gr 1-5--In a nonfiction work told with clarity and enthusiasm, Swanson writes about Raye Montague (1935-2018). As a young girl, Montague was determined to become an engineer who designed ships--battleships, aircraft carriers, and submarines. She reached her goal despite the many obstacles. She was not eligible to take shop classes in high school, because she was a girl; she was not able to apply to an engineering department at college, because she was Black. Still, Montague followed her mother's advice that she could learn anything, be anything, and do anything. She went to business school where she learned computer skills and took programming classes. She worked for the U.S. Navy as a typist and for the men who designed ships. Montague's big chance came when the men were out sick, and she showed her supervisor that she could work with computers. Ultimately, she transferred to the Naval Ship Engineering Center where none of the men wanted to work with her. Montague was given the task of creating a computer program that could be used to completely design all the parts of a ship and she succeeded. The story unfolds in a dynamic text and emotion-packed illustrations. VERDICT An outstanding choice for biography and science classes, women's history studies, and Black history studies.--Myra Zarnowski Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	978-0-06-324241-8	Up, up, Ever up! Junko Tabei: A Life in the Mountains	Anita Yasuda	Climber, climate activist, mother, and inspiration. Growing up in Japan, Junko Tabei (1939-2016) was eager to scale mountains even as a child. From her first climb of Mount Chausu at age 10, Junko knew this life was for her. As an adult, she often heard the message that mountains weren't for women, that she should stay home with her family. A determined Junko "became a mother who climbed for her daughter" and set an ambitious goal--becoming the first woman to climb Mount Everest. "Ganbarimasu!" she and her fellow female climbers say, a Japanese word translated as "We will give it our best." With the help of Tibetan Sherpas, an all-female team of climbers, and her own ingenuity using kimonos to create gear, she reached the top, despite a devastating avalanche. But this would not be Junko's last mountain to climb, nor her last trip to Everest. Concerned about the environmental cost of the litter left on the famous mountain and the future of the Tibetan people, she gave back and inspired through words and deeds--cleaning the slopes and planting trees. Yasuda's captivating, poetic prose weaves powerful metaphors and cultural touchstones into this powerful biography. Shimizu's dreamy illustrations layer calligraphy-brushed outlines in India ink with digital color to immerse readers in blue skies, pink blossoms, and white mountain snow--Junko's home. A joyous celebration of a life built on resilient dreams. (author's note, timeline, glossary, bibliography, source notes) (Picture-book biography. 4-9)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9315-3	Upsy Minnie and Daisy (Disney Jr. Minnie)	Paige Desjardins	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-9785-7496-0	Uranus	Murray "oak" Tapeta	

La Vernia Primary	9781668859278	Valentine's Day jitters	Danneberg, Julie	School Library Journal (January 1, 2022) K-Gr 2-School teacher Mrs. Hartwell is a bit scatterbrained. She's trying to plan a Valentine's Day party for her class, but for once she'd love it to go smoothly instead of ending up as one of her usual disasters. After soliciting suggestions for relevant activities from her students, she prepares for the day. Due to the usual chaos and her overall messiness, the party gets a bit out of control, and the cake reveal is a bust. However, Mrs. Hartwell cannot be sad for too long, as her loving students clean up, salvage the cake, and make a huge Valentine for her, listing all the reasons she is such a wonderful teacher. Love's illustrations lend a lot to the story, portraying a diverse cast of exuberant students. Pandemonium is always on display, but it is good-natured; this entry in the "Jitters" series reassures that good intentions are always rewarded, and tells a Valentine's story that is not overly treacy. VERDICT School stories about Valentine's Day can be hard to find; while not outstanding, this book fills a need.-Allison Gray © Copyright 2022. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-9785-7499-1	Venus	Murray "oak" Tapeta	
La Vernia Primary	9798368795706	Vida takes charge	Mara, Maddy	
La Vernia Primary	9781324003939	Virginia wouldn't slow down! : the unstoppable Dr. Appgar and her life-saving invention	Pearson, Carrie A	School Library Journal Xpress starred (August 25, 2023) Gr 1-3-Many adults may be familiar with the term "Appgar Score," but most children will be meeting Dr. Virginia Appgar, the anesthesiologist who invented the eponymous test, for the first time. Born at the turn of the 20th century, Appgar showed little interest in traditional girls' pursuits: she was not quiet, she preferred sports over cooking, and she wore "all sorts of outfits," including pants. Graduating near the top of her medical school class, Appgar became the second board-certified female anesthesiologist in the United States and used her training to develop a five-step newborn evaluation. Asked about her process, she outlined on the back of a scrap of paper what would become a global medical standard. Pearson uses Appgar's determination and interests to endear her to readers, touching on her use of her sense of humor to relax and support new medical students, her passion for world travel, and other hobbies, such as hand-making string instruments. Carpenter's illustrations capture Appgar's energetic and playful spirit, showing a child and later, a woman, in near-constant motion. Back matter includes an author's note, time line, and sources. End papers display an array of baby footprints. VERDICT With a focus on Appgar as a determined woman in the medical field, and an emphasis on her as a quirky individual, this book is an excellent choice for STEM/STEAM collections.-Rosemary Kiladitis © Copyright 2023. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9781546111245	Vortex of the chaos dragon	West, Tracey	
La Vernia Primary	9781423199571	Waiting is not easy!	Willems, Mo	School Library Journal (February 1, 2015) K-Gr 2-Gerald and Piggie are sharing another adventure in the latest book in the series. The expected large print, spare dialogue, and bubble delivery make it easy to read. Gerald loses patience with Piggie when he is told that a surprise is in store but that he must wait for it. His reactions include producing several loud GROANS and reminding Piggie repeatedly that waiting is NOT easy. Piggie knows that the surprise is worth the wait, but she has to keep Gerald there to see it. The simple words and expressive illustrations, as always, reveal the fact that we often overlook the obvious and that there is beauty all around us. Nothing brings greater joy than sharing that beauty with our friends. VERDICT This original story is about friendship, but it also offers insights into human emotions.-Janene Corbin, Rosebank Elementary School, Nashville, TN (c) Copyright 2015. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9448-8	Wake up, Big Red Chicken! (Dora)	Gabrielle Reyes	
La Vernia Primary	9781423113485	Watch me throw the ball!	Willems, Mo	
La Vernia Primary	9781542044288	We are (not) friends	Kang, Anna	Booklist (March 15, 2019 (Vol. 115, No. 14)) Preschool-Grade 1. The award-winning husband-and-wife team is back with their fourth in a series about two friends—a big orange furry bearlike character and his small fuzzy purple friend. This time, it's the "three's a crowd" theme on display: when a blue rabbit appears asking, "Can I play with you?" only the bear agrees. The expressions on the little purple guy's face are hilarious—he's gobsmacked at the mere suggestion of a third friend and then steaming mad as he mischievously sabotages the rabbit. He complains mightily (they are a duet, after all). Angry at his friend, the little creature conspires with rabbit to build a car too small to fit the big bear. This makes the bear cry, until eventually all three decide to make up and play spies together. But then . . . a fourth animal shows up asking to play! Children are left to decide what will happen next. Simple, humorous cartoon illustrations on generous white space are created in ink and watercolor. Fun for read-alouds or read-alones.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-77488-202-3	We Are Definitely Human	X. Fang	When their flying saucer crash-lands near Mr. and Mrs. Li's rural home at midnight, a trio of aliens tries their darndest to convince the couple that "we are DEFINITELY human." The three clearly resemble blue chess pieces with ovoid heads and huge eyes, but instead of challenging their story or sending them elsewhere, Mr. Li "did what kind humans do. He offered to help." The two welcome the aliens as guests; referring to them as "yall" and going along their stories of being "from Europe." (Asked what they do there, they reply, "I make business... I play sports ball... I wear hat.") After the group visits a local general store for repair equipment, neighbors prove curious but equally hospitable, and a barn-raising-style party ensues (one of the aliens applies a hot dog to its head). Digitally colored graphite tableaux lend a slyly funny vibe, and what starts out as a fish-out-of-water comedy becomes a close encounter of straightforward acceptance. "Wherever they went next," writes Fang (Dim Sum Palace) of the aliens as they fly away, "they would remember the kindness of humans, and do what kind humans do; offer help to anyone who needs it." Human characters are portrayed with various skin tones. Ages 4: 8. Agent: Erica Rand Silverman, Stimola Literary. (Aug.)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9019-0	We Are Family (L.O.L. Surprise)	B. B. Arthur	
La Vernia Primary	9781423133087	We are in a book!	Willems, Mo	School Library Journal (November 1, 2010) PreS-Gr 2-Make room for another satisfying episode in the escapades of lovable Elephant (aka Gerald) and Piggie. This time the best buddies star in a witty metafictional romp replete with visual gags, such as Piggie hanging from a speech bubble and Elephant blocking the author's name on the title page. Willems revs up the fun when the friends realize that someone is watching. Who can it be? Cautious Gerald asks, "A monster?" while savvy Piggie answers, "No. It is...a reader! A reader is reading us!" Mirth ensues as the delightful creatures comprehend a newfound power: "If the reader reads out loud," they can make the reader say words. Piggie decides upon "Banana" and Gerald's sidesplitting laughter proves contagious for all involved. But, when Gerald learns that books end, with Piggie demonstrating by turning the bottom corner of the page to see how many are left, he shouts, "This book is going too fast! I have more to give!" Not to worry—the ever-resourceful Piggie has Gerald ask, "Will you please read us again?" Beginning readers will grant Gerald's request, while grown-ups will marvel at Willems's extraordinary ability to animate his personality-packed gray and pink characters with the widest range of emotions, all drawn with the simplest of line.-Alicia Eames, New York City Public Schools (c) Copyright 2010. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-7284-8770-0	We Are the Scrappy Ones	Rebekah Taussig	Taussig assures disabled readers that they're a vital part of "a world that wasn't built with us in mind." As racially diverse children and adults with myriad physical, sensory, and cognitive disabilities play, learn, and love, the author lyrically celebrates their resilience and resourcefulness: "We live, we adapt, we defy." Disabled people are not burdens, but burdened by a world "starved for creativity and flexibility." Importantly, Taussig acknowledges that navigating such a world can be "exhausting" and encourages readers to rest. Though many youngsters may feel alone, the author explains, "There were revolutionaries thinking of you before you were born," including advocates Judy Heumann, Haben Girma, and Alice Wong. Taussig promises, "You will always be worth fighting for." She also highlights readers' power to enrich, and even change, the world. With unique ways of moving and being, "We hold the clues for a thousand new games." While readers may feel out of place at times, Taussig reassures them, "Darling, we are the very blueprints of Home"—a reference to accessible design. But above all, "We are always enough, just as we are." In Fagan's luminous, star-spangled scenes, people using wheelchairs, white canes, communication devices, and more radiate joy and community, countering assumptions about disabled people (such as "loss leaves no space for laughter") and reminding readers that they're "as dazzling as a sky full of stars." Backmatter includes further information on the advocates mentioned and invites readers to research others, such as Ed Roberts. Warm, poetic, and affirming. (author's and illustrator's notes) (Picture book. 4-10)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8918-7	We Are Voyagers! (Disney Moana 2)	Erin Falligant	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9264-4	We Dig Fossils	Alliah L. Agostini	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-2292-4	We Gather at a Buddhist Temple: A Place in Our Community	Sarah Shey	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-2300-6	We Gather at a Christian Church: A Place in Our Community	Lisa J. Amstutz	

La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-2308-2	We Gather at a Hindu Mandir: A Place in Our Community	Lisa J. Amstutz	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-2332-7	We Gather at a Jewish Synagogue: A Place in Our Community	Emily Raji	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-2324-2	We Gather at a Sikh Gurdwara: A Place in Our Community	Jasneet Kaur	
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-2316-7	We Gather at an Islamic Mosque: A Place in Our Community	Golriz Golkar	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5341-1335-0	We Want Leaves!: A Fall Chant	Jamie A. Swenson	A seasonal tale for children who love all things fall. Three mopey friends bemoan the lack of leaves, rake at the ready: "Leaves! Leaves! We want leaves! / Up to our knees / Up to our hips / Up to our bellies / Up to our lips!" As the pages turn, the kids enjoy the delights of the season: apple pie, pumpkin patches, friendly scarecrows, hayrides, and a bonfire with scary stories, hot cider, and caramel apples. Like the catchy refrain—sure to get kids to chime in—the verses are bouncy and convey delight. "We want a corn maze fit to explore— / With twists and turns and surprises galore." And who could resist this corn maze, with adorable farm animals around every curve depicted in the cartoon illustrations, overflowing with fall colors? But in a tongue-in-cheek final be-careful-what-you-wish-for punch, the kids' request is granted, and they find that raking isn't as much fun as they thought it would be. Naturally, they now want snow, and fortunately, Swenson's already published that book. Boon's trio is diverse: a brown-skinned child with short dark hair, a child with tan skin and black braids, and a light-skinned child with medium-length reddish hair. Autumnal fun, sure to be a hit with storytime audiences and during classroom read-alouds. (Picture book. 3-6)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9579-9	Welcome Aboard! (Pokemon)	Christy Webster	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8803-6	Welcome Home, Franklin!	Charles M. Schulz	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9481-5	Welcome to Motorvania!	Gloria Cruz	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8750-3	Welcome to the City (Tales of the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles)	Matt Huntley	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9312-2	Welcome to the Overworld (Minecraft)	Dennis Shealy	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-0982-4784-3	Western Diamondback Rattlesnakes	Julie Murray	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9594-2	Whale and the Birthday Rocks (Whale, Quail, Snail)	Erica S. Perl	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8804-3	Whale and the Mystery Mango (Whale, Quail, Snail)	Erica S. Perl	PreS-Gr 2—In this third series installment, the three friends wait, with varying levels of composure, for a mango to ripen on its tree. Whale's growing eagerness turns to disappointment and impatience as Quail patiently shows that the mango is "still green," and that even once it begins to turn orange, it is "still hard." Their back-and-forth argument provides ample repetition to aid emerging readers, and Whale's increasing frustration adds an element of humor. The disagreement escalates until Snail steps in and teaches them a dance to distract them. The distraction is successful, but the dance leads to unintended consequences: a bonk on the head and even a few tears. Children will relate to the struggle of waiting for a treat, and the mismatched friends' slapstick antics will appeal to fans of "Elephant and Piggie" and "Frog and Toad." The story is short enough to engage younger children as a read-aloud, and Snail's dance would be a fun interactive element for story time with preschoolers. VERDICT Perfect for "Elephant and Piggie" fans who are ready to expand their horizons.—Amy Reimann
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-2712-9	What a Racket! & Zip Fun	Rebecca Colby	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8975-0	What Dwells Within	Maggie Testa	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5383-9665-0	What Is a Bully?	Kyle Tolstyka	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9330-6	What Is a Smurf? (Smurfs)		
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5253-0836-9	What Lolo Wants	Cristina Oxta	Maria loves spending quality time drawing with her Lolo (grandfather), and she delightedly watches him draw absolutely anything, with his pencil swooshing and swirling across the paper. But things start to change when Lolo falls ill and Maria notices that over time, he forgets names and people entirely. When her Lola (grandmother) asks Lolo what he wants for dinner, Lolo struggles to find the words until Maria has a grand idea to help him express what he wants. Oxta and Bauza have crafted an endearing picture book about a Filipino granddaughter navigating through big familial changes and creatively discovering ways to help her Lolo communicate. Bauza uses crayons, markers, and watercolor to scribble and splash a lively atmosphere on the page when Maria and Lolo have their drawing sessions, and she skillfully creates Lolo's masterful pencil illustrations. These move across the spreads with fine intricate shading and varied lines to detail Maria's daily life in the Philippines: Lola frying sweet plantains, blooming sampaguita flowers, and soaring maya birds. Meanwhile, the dialogue and text clearly relay Maria's emotional distress, which is particularly painful when Maria must tell him who she is when he can't recognize her. Nevertheless, Maria's empathetic nature and resilience show when she tries to guess what Lolo wants for dinner, and she even designs a drawing desk to remind him of their shared love for drawing. Pair this with Drawn Together (BCCB 6/18) to show readers how intergenerational bonds can be strengthened beyond words, or with Olivero' The Remember Balloons (BCCB 9/18) for a compassionate look at aging grandparents and memory issues. Front matter includes a Tagalog glossary. DR COPYRIGHT(2024) Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9004-6	What's Cooking? (Kids Around the World)	Patty Michaels	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9314-6	When Hiccup Met Toothless (How to Train Your Dragon)	Patty Michaels	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5341-1336-7	When Night Comes Calling	Cynthia Schumerth	A nocturnal adventure opens a child's eyes to wonders in the dark. An excited child awakens a younger brother for a walk under the full moon. The young narrator points out the night sky and various phenomena and encourages the little one to listen for night creatures: wolves, loons, a barred owl, crickets, frogs. The duo spy many animals, from skunks and bats to fireflies and a luna moth. The protagonist's care for the young boy is both evident and sweet; the narrator ensures he's dressed properly, holds his hand, eases any fears he might have about the dark woods, offers warnings about rocks and roots, and carries him when he gets tired. The rhyming verses are hit or miss in terms of rhythm ("We'll explore in the dark. / No flashlights tonight. / Our night-vision hike / needs only moonlight"), and several poetic lines glaringly drop the young protagonist's voice. Murray captures the night well with subdued but glowing colors. Hashed lines in the illustrations add marvelous texture. The older sibling has light skin, freckles, and reddish hair; little brother has light brown skin and black hair in tight curls. Backmatter provides further info about light pollution and the creatures and night-sky sights from the text. Readers are sure to want a night hike of their own...perhaps with a beloved sibling. (Picture book. 3-8)
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-9483-1	Where Is Dot?	Leanna Koch	PreS-K—The titles in this set are designed for emergent readers aged three to four. Each book includes consistent front matter with strategies for parent support before, during, and after reading. While this guidance encourages adult involvement, the effectiveness is limited by the simplistic nature of the content. The bright illustrations are reminiscent of early concept books, appealing to young readers but lacking the depth to fully engage them. The large print and sparse text may aid emergent readers, but the minimalism can result in flat narratives that fail to capture children's imaginations. VERDICT These books offer foundational skills, but they need richer narratives and more engaging illustrations to stand out in the growing market of decodables for very young readers.
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9369-6	Where Rainbows Are Made (My Little Pony)	Alexandra West	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5383-9838-8	Who Stole the Sun?	Clair Georgelli	
La Vernia Primary	9781423648611	Why we read : quotations for book lovers	Surrey, Ellen	

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La Vernia Primary	979-8-8745-0324-6	Wild Donkey and the Tame Donkey - Why Should You Not Judge Others By Their Appearance?	Aesop	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-9594-4	Will and the Baby	Leanna Koch	PreS-K—This set is intended to support early phonics development, but it feels more suited to teacher-led instruction than independent reading. The books lack a clear scope and sequence, which makes it difficult for educators to determine which phonemes are targeted in each title. While the illustrations, such as those in Gus the Bus, may appeal to younger children with themes like vehicles, the stories themselves often lack depth and originality, with clunky text that fails to engage readers. Additionally, some of the illustrations come across as too simplistic and may not resonate with the older end of the intended audience. VERDICT Without a more defined phonics focus or age-appropriate content, these books fall short in providing an effective tool for early literacy development.
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-9592-0	Will Is All Set	Leanna Koch	PreS-K—This set is intended to support early phonics development, but it feels more suited to teacher-led instruction than independent reading. The books lack a clear scope and sequence, which makes it difficult for educators to determine which phonemes are targeted in each title. While the illustrations, such as those in Gus the Bus, may appeal to younger children with themes like vehicles, the stories themselves often lack depth and originality, with clunky text that fails to engage readers. Additionally, some of the illustrations come across as too simplistic and may not resonate with the older end of the intended audience. VERDICT Without a more defined phonics focus or age-appropriate content, these books fall short in providing an effective tool for early literacy development.
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-9641-5	Will's Friend	Leanna Koch	PreS-K—The books in this set intend to support early readers, but frequently do not meet developmental and curricular benchmarks. The stories can feel disorganized, with texts that introduce too many different phonemes at once, making it difficult for young readers to focus on decoding skills. For example, in Pet Tricks, the plot is cluttered with too many characters, making it challenging to follow and distracting from the phonics practice. VERDICT This lack of controlled text and focus undermines the series' effectiveness as a decodable reading tool for early literacy.
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-9480-0	Will's Pet	Leanna Koch	PreS-K—The titles in this set are designed for emergent readers aged three to four. Each book includes consistent front matter with strategies for parent support before, during, and after reading. While this guidance encourages adult involvement, the effectiveness is limited by the simplistic nature of the content. The bright illustrations are reminiscent of early concept books, appealing to young readers but lacking the depth to fully engage them. The large print and sparse text may aid emergent readers, but the minimalism can result in flat narratives that fail to capture children's imaginations. VERDICT These books offer foundational skills, but they need richer narratives and more engaging illustrations to stand out in the growing market of decodables for very young readers.
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-9001-7	Winter	Karen Bischer	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5383-9608-7	Wizard of Oz	Amit Tayal	PreS-Gr 4—This series offers eight classic children's books, cleverly summarized and packaged for even the youngest readers. Each story includes basic descriptions and dialogue, condensing classics like Alice in Wonderland and Treasure Island to a brisk three to five sentences per page. Despite their brevity, the books are faithful summaries. All the story beats are true to the actual text, and not twisted to fit popular film plots. In The Wizard of Oz, Dorothy's slippers are the original silver and not ruby. Mowgli's end in The Jungle Book is not Disney's version, but Kipling's. Occasionally some cartoon speech bubbles will pepper their way into the illustrations, but only to enhance, not to convey vital information. Each book has a different illustrator, but they all include colorful images, with rounded, cartoonish figures shown in action. Some volumes include especially beautiful illustrations, like the lush garden scenes in The Secret Garden, or Black Beauty's majestic horses depicted with watercolor-like realism. VERDICT An easy way to introduce children's classics to young readers. Copyright 2024 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.
La Vernia Primary	979-8-8752-2497-3	Wolf Spiders	Lisa J. Amstutz	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9508-9	Wonderful Winter! (Disney Princess)	Nicole Johnson	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-6659-5816-5	Wonderfully Wild: Rewilding a School and Community	Jessica Stremer	Stremer inspires with this uplifting, based-on-true-events story of a school community that enacts a "wonderfully wild." plan to resurrect a beloved schoolyard willow; "a gathering place, a run-laps-around place, a dream-under place." After a lightning strike fells the tree, the students are heartbroken, until one has the idea to grow new willows from scavenged clippings. Polished prose tracks the group's efforts as the little trees sprout and are planted around town. Meanwhile, the group undertakes a larger schoolyard rewilding campaign, adding a pollinator garden and hotel, compost bin, birdhouses, bat boxes, and the like. With delicate coloring, attention to critterly detail, and plant-oriented patterns, simple digital renderings capture the gladdening magic of group efforts; and greenery. Characters are portrayed with various abilities and skin tones. Back matter includes more about rewilding. Ages 4: 8. (May)
La Vernia Primary	978-0-06-328515-6	Yasmeen Lari, Green Architect: The True Story of Pakistan's First Woman Architect	Marzieh Abbas	In this eco-aware, place-oriented picture book, Abbas and Hadadi energetically capture the pioneering career of Yasmeen Lari (b. 1941), Pakistan's first female architect. The narrative moves quickly from early childhood, which encompassed Partition, to adulthood, as Lari "soared to 'starchitect' status" with concrete and glass constructions. Travel-driven appreciation for historic structures leads the subject to spearhead a preservation movement across Pakistan. Later, when natural disasters strike, Lari helps build for rehabilitation, drawing on well-honed listening skills, respect for local building traditions, and an emphasis on natural, renewable materials to empower "poverty-stricken" villagers to cocreate their own homes. Emphatic narration drives home Lari's impact by piling on staccato text: "Yasmeen rebuilt lives. The villagers were: / Trained / Equipped / Determined." Crinkled paper collages show the subject maturing over time as swatches layer for an affirming effect that suits an intentionally told story of thoughtful composition. Back matter includes more about the figure and an author's note. Ages 4: 8. (Oct.)
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8658-2	You Can Be a Doctor	Lainee Gant	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9301-6	You Can Be a Scientist	Lainee Gant	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-9001-5	You Can Be a Teacher	Lainee Gant	
La Vernia Primary	978-1-5364-8659-9	You Can Be an Astronaut	Phil Williams	
La Vernia Primary	978-0-7565-9473-2	You Can Swim, Duck!	Leanna Koch	PreS-K—The books in this set intend to support early readers, but frequently do not meet developmental and curricular benchmarks. The stories can feel disorganized, with texts that introduce too many different phonemes at once, making it difficult for young readers to focus on decoding skills. For example, in Pet Tricks, the plot is cluttered with too many characters, making it challenging to follow and distracting from the phonics practice. VERDICT This lack of controlled text and focus undermines the series' effectiveness as a decodable reading tool for early literacy.
La Vernia Primary	9780063337213	Your turn Marisol Rainey	Kelly, Erin Entrada	School Library Journal (October 1, 2025) Gr 2-5-Marisol Rainey, an eight-year-old Filipina girl, returns in the latest volume by Newbery-winner Kelly. In this entry, Marisol and her best friend Jada are not looking forward to returning to school after spring break. Jada wishes she could be more athletic, while Marisol, whose timidity often masks an expansive internal world, longs to speak up more and take chances. When their beloved teacher, Mrs. Ruby, introduces a terrifying haiku project that requires Marisol to recite an original haiku in front of the entire class, it could be just the chance she's been looking for to turn over a new leaf-or it could fail spectacularly. Marisol's internal fight to mold herself into the "new Marisol," who doesn't cry and isn't afraid of anything, will likely resonate with young readers. Simple illustrations portray Marisol's creative and complex inner thinking and make this an incredibly engaging, heartfelt story. VERDICT Recommended for upper elementary readers, particularly for fans of the "Rica Baptista" series. © Copyright 2025. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
La Vernia Primary	9781624021893	Yum-Yum the very spoiled fish	Harrington, Claudia	

La Vernia Primary	978-0-374-39135-5	Yvonne Clark and Her Engineering Spark	Allen R. Wells	Wells opens this upbeat biography of engineering ace Yvonne Clark (1929: 2019) with an anecdote showcasing her early aptitude, recounting how she fixed the family's toaster through self-study and trial and error. Presenting the figure as an instinctual problem-solver, text points out Clark's boundary-defying persistence ("Because she was a girl, Yvonne wasn't allowed to take certain classes; but that didn't stop her from learning") as she navigates college and male-dominated workplaces, such as an arsenal where she improves a firearm and NASA, where she tackles issues around the Saturn V rocket. Bright coloring enlivens Hodge's slick, chunky digital artwork, which routinely presents Clark as wide-eyed with excitement, and pages bedazzled with comic book: style stars amplify the text's snappy, often punning articulation of how passion's "spark" can yield superhero-like powers. Background characters are portrayed with various skin tones. An author's note concludes. Ages 4: 7. (Jan.)
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-1988-9	Zayde Babysits before Passover	Jane Sutton	While Ruthie's parents help Bubbe prepare to host the seder, Zayde makes his debut as Ruthie's babysitter, guided by 10 instructions from Mommy. Humor emerges from the contrast between Sutton's administrative-style text and Chappell's naif illustrations as Zayde interprets the notes: Instruction No. 3 ("Go to the grocery store. Remember to buy parsley for the seder plate") finds Ruthie pushing Zayde in a shopping cart while he waves the parsley like a flag. A few mishaps occur, punctuated with "Oy!"; but Zayde completes his childcare mission and leads the seder with aplomb in a book that shows a mix of spontaneity and tradition making a cherished holiday even more meaningful. The family is portrayed with pale skin. More about Passover concludes. Ages 4: 9. (Jan.)
La Vernia Primary	979-8-7656-1988-9	Zayde Babysits before Passover	Jane Sutton	It's a wonderful day for Ruthie and Zayde. Mom and Dad are helping Bubbe prepare for the Passover seder, so Ruthie is ready to help make Zayde's first solo babysitting experience a success. Mom has provided an itemized list of activities for Zayde to keep Ruthie occupied, wear her out, and get her ready for the seder. The activities include preparing a Passover art project, shopping for the seder, having fun in the playground, searching for and discarding breadcrumbs, and more. Since Ruthie does need to be awake for the long night ahead, a nap is required. Each numbered item appears at the top of a page and is followed by colorful illustrations that joyfully enhance the text and demonstrate that while they complete every task on the list, it might not be the way Ruthie's mother intended. Ruthie pushes Zayde in the shopping cart at the grocery store, Zayde does a handstand and whooshes down the slide at the playground, Zayde needs Ruthie to pull him out from under the sink while they're cleaning, and Zayde is the one who has the nap while Ruthie is wide awake. At Bubbe's house, the seder table is set, Zayde leads the seder, and diverse friends and family are on hand to make it a special night of good food, traditions, and songs. Readers will find themselves giggling with delight at the antics and wanting more of Ruthie and Zayde. The protagonists are light-skinned. Intergenerational love at its most tender and sweet. (about Passover)(Picture book. 3-9) COPYRIGHT(2024) Kirkus Reviews, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.
La Vernia Primary	9781668893838	Zoe the beach dragon	Mara, Maddy	
La Vernia Primary	9798368720500	Zora the snow dragon	Mara, Maddy	School Library Journal (December 1, 2024) Gr 2-5-In the three newest titles of the "Dragon Girls" series, each character-Mina, Zora, and Eloise-takes the spotlight in her own adventure as they transform into dragons to protect the Magic Forest. The Chaos Queen is relentless in her attempts to destroy the forest, using threats like blue snow, dangerous fires, and lightning storms. It's up to the dragon girls to thwart her plans and protect their magical world. While the illustrations are small, they add a touch of whimsy, bringing the fantasy elements to life. The concept of girls transforming into dragons is imaginative and sure to captivate young readers, particularly those new to chapter books. With action-packed scenes and a strong sense of friendship, this series offers plenty of excitement. VERDICT A great addition to any collection, especially where there is a demand for dragon-themed stories that inspire courage and teamwork. © Copyright 2024. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.