

Literacy + Literature to Ignite, Delight and Cultivate Readers, Writers, and Thinkers

MEGAT, April 4, 2025

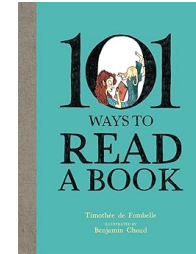
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The following is a list of books for your radar, books that invite the reader to fall into story, learn information and skills, and set the stage for learning and thinking as a literate and thoughtful lifelong reader.

Here is a Book by Elisha Cooper
We Are Definitely Human by X. Fang
All about U.S. by Matt Lamothe
The Yellow Bus by Loren Long
I Am Sorry You Got Mad by Kyle Lukoff
All the Books by Hayley and John Rocco
The Zebra's Great Escape by Katherine Rundell
We Celebrate the Light by Heidi E.Y. Stemple and Jane Yolen illustrated by Jieting Chen
Crowning Glory: A Celebration of Black Hair by Carole Boston Weatherford illustrated by Ekua Holmes
Pinecone! by Helen Yoon



Poetry

How to Write a Poem by Kwame Alexander and Deanna Nikaido, Ill. Melissa Sweet
Daniel Finds a Poem by Micha Archer
Freedom Over Me: Eleven slaves, their lives, and dreams bought to life by Ashley Bryan
Words With Wings and Magic Things by Matthew Burgess, Ill. Doug Salati
Seeing Into Tomorrow: Haiku by Richard Wright, Ill. Nina Crews
The Proper Way to Meet a Hedgehog and Other How-To Poems by Paul B. Janeczko
Poems and Notes about Color by Julie Paschkis
Mirror Mirror by Marilyn Singer
Soccer Queens by Charles Smith

Biographies

As Edward Imagined by Matthew Burgess, Ill by Mac Majewski
Motorcycle Queen: The Life of Bessie Springfield by Janie Havemeyer & Jean Claverie
Go Tell It: How James Baldwin Became a Writer by Quarte Harris, ill. Gordon C. James
Good Books for Bad Children by Beth Kephart
She Sells Seashells: Mary Anning, An Unlikely Paleontologist by Heidi E. Y. Stemple, Ill. Emily Paik
Janie Writes a Play: Jane Yolen's First Great Story by Heidi E.Y. Stemple, Ill. Madelyn Goodnight
Thurgood by Jonah Winter, Ill. Bryan Collier

Informational Books

MIT KIDS Press books in collaboration and published by Candlewick Press

Black Lives Minds of Science by Tonya Bolden, illustrated by David Wi

Life After Whale: The Mazing Ecosystem of a Whale Fall by Lynn Brunelle, Ill. Jason Chin

Over and Under Wetlands by Kate Messner, Illustrated by Christopher Silas Neal

Golden Gate, Building the Mighty Bridge by Elizabeth Partridge

Meet the Wild Things series by Hayley and John Rocco

Meet the Mini Mammals: A Night at the Natural History Museum by Melissa Stewart, Ill. Brian Lies

Anthologies

One the Block: Stories of Home edited by Ellen Oh

Banned Together: Our Fight for Readers' Rights by Ashley Hope Pérez

Chapter Books and Middle Grade Books

Beti and the Little Round House by Atinuke

Scattergood by H. M. Bouwman

The Night War by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley

Carter Avery's Tricky Fourth-Grade Year by Rob Bunyea

Ferris by Kate DiCamillo

Max in the House of Spies and *Max in the Land of Lies* by Adam Gidwitz

Lifeboat 12 and *Lifeboat 5* by Susan Hood

All The Best Dogs by Emily Jenkins

Good Different by Meg Eden Koyatt

The Gate, The Girl, and the Dragon by Grace Lin

The Secret Library by Kekla Magoon

Olivetti by Allie Millington

Chronicles of a Lizard Nobody by Patrick Ness, illustrated by Tim Miller

Grace Under the Waves by Linda Sue Park

A Wolf Called Fire by Rosanne Parry

One Big Open Sky by Lesa Cline-Ransome

Impossible Creatures by Katherine Rundell

Kareem Between by Shifa Saltagi Safadi

Safe Harbor by Padma Venkatraman

Remember Us by Jacqueline Woodson



Young Adult

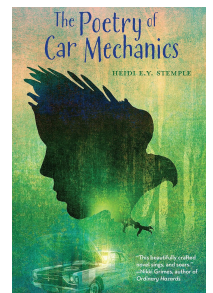
Under the Same Stars by Libba Bray

Twenty-Four Seconds from Now... by Jason Reynolds

Everything We Never Had by Randy Ribay

Run Away with Me by Brian Selznick

The Poetry of Car Mechanics by Heidi E.Y. Stemple



Graphic Novels

Plain Jane and the Mermaid by Vera Brosgol

Very Bad at Math by Hope Larson

Hoops by Matt Tavares

Katie the Catsitter series by Colleen AF Venable

Ash's Cabin by Jen Wang

The Prohibition Era (History Comics published by First Second)

Human Space Flight (Science Comics published by First Second)

Born in the USA (*World Citizen Comics*) by Lawrence Goldstone, with James Otis Smith
published by First Second

Word and Language Books

The Right Word by Jen Bryant, Ill. Melissa Sweet

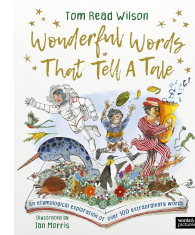
The Fairy Tale Fan Club: Legendary Letters Collected by C.C. Cecily

*Absurd Words: A Kid's Fun and Hilarious Vocabulary Builder for Future
Word Nerds* by Tara Lazar

Other-Wordly: words both strange and lovely from around the world by Yee-
Lum Mak, Ill. Kelsey Garrity-Riley

The Word Collector by Peter H. Reynolds

Wonderful Words that Tell a Tale by Tom Read Wilson



Susannah's Miscellany...

- If you have the chance, visit **Planet Word** (<https://planetwordmuseum.org/>) in Washington, DC as an amazing language, literacy, and literature experience
- Explore all the resources on the Library of Congress website (www.loc.gov)
- If a child wants to read a graphic novel, the answer is always **YES**. Graphic novels are not less of anything than prose or other forms of texts, in fact, they are often more. Analysis found that graphic novels often include a wide and more extensive vocabulary than other forms of story delivery.
- Check out the online issue of *American Educator*-Raising Joyful and Confident Readers https://www.aft.org/sites/default/files/media/documents/2023/AE_Fall_2023_web.pdf.
- The current emphasis on the sciences of reading is GOOD for highly able students but they may not need extensive repetitions and practice to learn the phonological awareness, alphabetic principle, fluency, and vocabulary to continue to grow in their comprehension of all kinds of texts.
- Integrate all kinds of books into the curriculum and they are Type Is (exposure), IIs (how to), and Type IIIs (products and models of Type III that have an authentic audience) of the Enrichment Triad Model/Schoolwide Enrichment Model.
- There are SOOOO many books to ignite, delight, and cultivate readers, writers, listeners, speakers, and thinkers. Make a plan to find and help students have access to a wide variety books on a wide variety of topics in a wide variety of genres and formats.