

Gutman, D. J

The Million Dollar Strike

Best friends Ouchie and Squishy meet the eccentric owner of a local bowling alley and try to help him save it from the wrecking ball and a psychotic lunatic.

Horvath, P. J

Everything on a Waffle

Primrose, living in a small fishing village in British Columbia, recounts her experiences after her parents are lost at sea.

Ibbotson, E. J

The Star of Kazan

After twelve-year-old Annika, a foundling living in late nineteenth-century Vienna, inherits a trunk of costume jewelry, a woman claiming to be her aristocratic mother arrives and takes her to live in a strangely decrepit mansion in Germany.

Karr, K. J/Y

The Great Turkey Walk

In 1820, a somewhat simple-minded fifteen-year-old boy attempts to herd one thousand turkeys from Missouri to Denver, Colorado, in hopes of selling them at a profit.

Kehret, P. J

Escaping the Giant Wave

When an earthquake creates a tsunami while Kyle is babysitting his sister during a family vacation at a Pacific Coast resort, he tries to save himself, his sister and a boy who has bullied him for years.

Naylor, P. J

The Great Chicken Debacle

Hoping to earn a trip to an amusement park, the three Morgan children agree to take care of a chicken that their father plans to give their mother as a birthday surprise.

Pullman, P. J

I Was a Rat

A little boy turns life in London upside down when he appears at the house of a lonely old couple and insists he was a rat.

Ryan, P. J

Becoming Naomi Leon

When Naomi's absent mother resurfaces to claim her, Naomi runs away to Mexico with her great-grandmother and younger brother in search of her father.

Turner, M. J/Y

The Thief

Gen flaunts his ingenuity as a thief and relishes the adventure that takes him to a remote temple of the gods where he will attempt to steal a precious stone.

Wiles, D. J

Each Little Bird that Sings

Comfort Snowberger's family runs the funeral parlor in their small southern town, but even so she is unprepared for the series of events that begins on the first day of Easter vacation.

Wiles, D. J

Love, Ruby Lavender

When her quirky grandmother goes to Hawaii for the summer, Ruby survives on her own in Mississippi by writing letters, befriending the new girl in town and finally coping with her grandfather's death.

Yep, L. J/Y

The Tiger's Apprentice

A tiger, a monkey, a dragon and a twelve-year-old Chinese American boy fight to keep a magic talisman out of the hands of an enemy who would use its power to destroy the world. *Book 1 of The Tiger's Apprentice series.*



For more great reads, please visit the Kidspace at www.kcls.org/kids.

11/07

Contemporary Read-Aloud Books for Children



Turn to us.
The choices will surprise you.

Grades 1-3

End of the Beginning
Avi
J
Avon, the snail, and Edward, a take-charge ant, set off together on a journey to an undetermined destination in search of unspecified adventures.

Stories Huey Tells
Cameron, A.
J
Julian's younger brother tells funny stories about how to get rid of nightmares and making banana spaghetti for Mother's Day.

Jake Drake, Bully Buster
Clements, A.
J
It is up to Jake Drake to take matters into his own hands when Link Baxter, Super Bully, moves into the neighborhood.

The Dragon of Doom
Coville, C.
J
An aspiring magician and his talking toad come to town and ask Edward to help them slay the Dragon of Doom.

26 Fairmount Ave
DePaola, T.
JB
Author and illustrator, Tomie De Paola humorously writes about his Irish and Italian family and their move to a new home when he was a boy.

The Whipping Boy
Fleischman, S.
J
A bratty prince and his whipping boy have many adventures when they inadvertently trade places after becoming involved with dangerous outlaws.

Three Terrible Trins
King-Smith, D.
J
Three mice brothers, ignoring the class system separating the four clans of rodents in their farmhouse, befriend a lower class mouse and form a team to fight cats.

Yang the Third and Her Impossible Family
Namitoka, L.
J
Third daughter Mary Yang makes an unexpected new friend while trying to hide a kitten from her family.

The Firework Maker's Daughter
Pullman, P.
J
In a country far to the east, Chulak and his talking white elephant Hamlet help Lila seek the Royal Sulphur from the sacred volcano so that she can become a master maker of fireworks like her father.

Riding Freedom
Ryan, P.
J
A fictionalized account of Charley (Charlotte) Parkhurst who ran away from an orphanage, posed as a boy, moved to California and fooled everyone by her appearance.

Da Wild, Da Crazy, Da Vinci
Szeszka, J.
J
In their latest time travel adventure, Fred, Joe, and Sam da Brooklyn meet Leonardo da Vinci and try to avoid becoming toilet scrubbers in a sixteenth-century Italian army.

Wild about Books
Sierra, J.
E
A librarian introduces animals to the joy of reading after she drives her bookmobile to the zoo by mistake.

Upchuck and the Rotten Willy
Wallace, B.
J
Chuck the cat meets Rotten Willy—a dog with a heart of gold.

Strange Happenings:
Avi
J
Strange changes occur in these five original stories, from a boy and a cat changing places and a young man learning the price of selfishness to an invisible princess finding herself.

Molly Moon's Incredible Book of Hypnotism
Bing, G.
J
Unlucky and unloved, Molly Moon, living in a dreary orphanage in a small English town, discovers a hidden talent for hypnotism and hypnotizes her way to stardom in New York City.

Me Tarzan
Byars, B.
J
When Dorothy gets the part of Tarzan in the class play, her tremendous yell attracts the attention of increasingly larger and wilder animals.

A Week in the Woods
Clements, A.
J
The fifth grade's annual camping trip in the woods tests Mark's survival skills and his ability to relate to a teacher who seems out to get him.

Chasing Redbird
Crech, S.
J/Y
Thirteen-year-old Zinnia Taylor uncovers family secrets and self truths while clearing a mysterious settler trail that begins on her family's farm in Kentucky.

The Secret Life of Owen Skye
Cumyn, A.
J
Owen Skye lives in a small rural village where he has many adventures with his two brothers.

Wild about Books
Cushman, K.
J/Y
A librarian introduces animals to the joy of reading after she drives her bookmobile to the zoo by mistake.

Upchuck and the Rotten Willy
Wallace, B.
J
Chuck the cat meets Rotten Willy—a dog with a heart of gold.

Strange Happenings:
Avi
J
Strange changes occur in these five original stories, from a boy and a cat changing places and a young man learning the price of selfishness to an invisible princess finding herself.

Molly Moon's Incredible Book of Hypnotism
Bing, G.
J
Unlucky and unloved, Molly Moon, living in a dreary orphanage in a small English town, discovers a hidden talent for hypnotism and hypnotizes her way to stardom in New York City.

Love, Ruby Lavender
Wiles, D.
J
When her quirky grandmother goes to Hawaii for the summer, Ruby survives on her own in Mississippi by writing letters, befriending the new girl in town and finally coping with her grandfather's death.

Each Little Bird that Sings
Wiles, D.
J
Comfort Snowberger's family runs the funeral parlor in their small southern town, but even so she is unprepared for the series of events that begins on the first day of Easter vacation.

Becoming Naomi Leon
Ryan, P.
J
When Naomi's absent mother resurfaces to claim her, Naomi runs away to Mexico with her great-grandmother and younger brother in search of her father.

The Million Dollar Strike
Gutman, D.
J
Best friends Ouchie and Squishy meet the eccentric owner of a local bowling alley and try to help him save it from the wrecking ball and a psychotic lunatic.