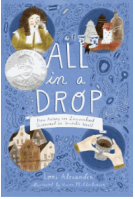




McMurray Summer Reading 2020



All in a drop: How Antony van Leeuwenhoek discovered an invisible world

Lori Alexander

Biography Non-Fiction

By building his own microscope, Antony van Leeuwenhoek advanced the understanding of the oft-invisible world around us. For fans of the "Who Was" series, this lively, accessible, and full-color chapter book biography shows how a self-taught scientist was the first to observe the microbial life in and around us. Microbes are everywhere: in the soil and oceans, in snow, and inside our bodies. But in Antony van Leeuwenhoek's time, people believed that what they saw with their own eyes was all that existed in the world. How did a simple tradesman--who didn't go to college or speak English or Latin like all the other scientists--change everyone's minds? *Robert F. Sibert Honor Award.* AR. 5.8



Aru Shah

Roshani Chokshi

Fiction

"Rick Riordan presents." Accused of stealing the god of love's bow and arrow, Aru has ten days to find the real thief or risk being kicked out of the Otherworld. sequel to Aru Shah and the End of Time. Aru is only just getting the hang of this whole Pandava thing when the Otherworld goes into full panic mode. The god of love's bow and arrow have gone missing, and the thief isn't playing Cupid. Instead, they're turning people into heartless fighting-machine zombies. If that weren't bad enough, somehow Aru gets framed as the thief. If she doesn't find the arrow by the next full moon, she'll be kicked out of the Otherworld. For good. But, for better or worse, she won't be going it alone. Along with her soul-sister, Mini, Aru will team up with Brynne, an ultra-strong girl who knows more than she lets on, and Aiden, the boy who lives across the street and is also hiding plenty of secrets. Together they'll battle demons, travel through a glittering and dangerous serpent realm, and discover that their enemy isn't at all who they expected AR 5.1

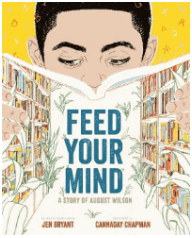


Digging deep

Jake Maddox

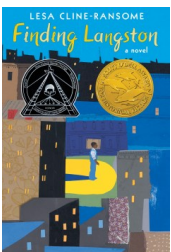
Fiction

Asiyah Najjar enjoys playing volleyball with her friend, Lucy, and the rest of the players in their recreational league, but this year Lucy has talked her into joining the travel team--and suddenly volleyball is a lot more demanding, and a lot less fun, than it used to be, and easy-going Asiyah must learn to dig deep if she does not want to let her teammates down. AR 3.3



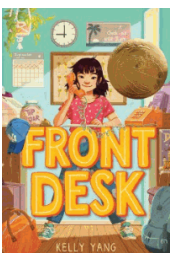
Feed Your Mind: A Story of August Wilson **Jen Bryant** **Biography Non-Fiction**

An illustrated overview of the life of African American author August Wilson, and a journey from a child in Pittsburgh to one of America's greatest playwrights. August Wilson (1945&;2005) was a two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright who had a particular talent for capturing the authentic, everyday voice of Black Americans. As a child, he read off soup cans and cereal boxes, and when his mother brought him to the library, his whole world opened up. After facing intense prejudice at school from both students and some teachers, August dropped out. However, he continued reading and educating himself independently. He felt that if he could read about it, then he could teach himself anything and accomplish anything. Like many of his plays, *Feed Your Mind* is told in two acts, revealing how Wilson grew up to be one of the most influential American playwrights. The book includes an author's note, a timeline of August Wilson's life, a list of Wilson's plays, and a bibliography. 5.4 BL



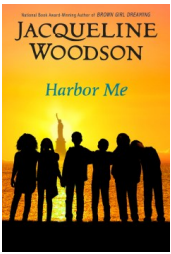
Finding Langston **Lesa Cline-Ransome,** **Fiction**

Langston is coping with the loss of his mother, and relocating from Alabama to Chicago as part of the Great Migration. But to Langston, Chicago is loneliness and lacking—no friends, family, or good food, just his dad's bad cooking. Three bullies make life even harder. Then he discovers something that amazes him: a public library, and it's not just for whites like the one back home. This branch library not only welcomes African Americans, it celebrates successful black men and women, especially writers. The library becomes Langston's everything—his space away from his tiny apartment, his refuge from the bullies, the expansion of his world through books. It is also the place where he finds his namesake, Langston Hughes, and begins to find himself. A *Coretta Scott King Author Honor Book*. Winner of the *Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction AR 4.5*



Front Desk **Kelly Yang** **Fiction**

Recent immigrants from China, desperate for money, ten-year-old Mia Tang's parents take a job managing a rundown Southern California motel for skinflint Mr. Yao, whose son is the only other Chinese American in Mia's class. She wants to be a writer. But how can she when her mom thinks she should stick to math because English is not her first language? It will take all of Mia's courage, kindness, and hard work to get through this year. Will she be able to hold on to her job, help the immigrants and guests, escape Mr. Yao, and go for her dreams? *AR 4.5*

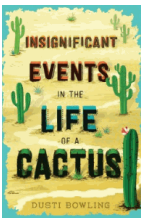


Harbor Me

Jacqueline Woodson

Fiction

When six students are chosen to participate in a weekly talk with no adults allowed, they discover that when they're together, it's safe to share the hopes and fears they have to hide from the rest of the world. It all starts when six kids have to meet for a weekly chat--by themselves, with no adults to listen in. There, in the room they soon dub the ARTT Room (short for "A Room to Talk"), they discover it's safe to talk about what's bothering them--everything from Esteban's father's deportation and Haley's father's incarceration to Amari's fears of racial profiling and Ashton's adjustment to his changing family fortunes. When the six are together, they can express the feelings and fears they have to hide from the rest of the world. And together, they can grow braver and more ready for the rest of their lives. Jacqueline Woodson was the 2018-2019 *National Ambassador for Young People's Literature*. AR 5.2

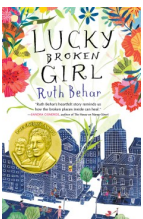


Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus

Dusty Bowling

Fiction

"Aven Green loves to tell people that she lost her arms in an alligator wrestling match, or a wildfire in Tanzania, but the truth is she was born without them. And when her parents take a job running Stagecoach Pass, a rundown western theme park in Arizona, Aven moves with them across the country knowing that she'll have to answer the question over and over again. Her new life takes an unexpected turn when she bonds with Connor, a classmate who also feels isolated because of his own disability, and they discover a room at Stagecoach Pass that holds bigger secrets than Aven ever could have imagined. It's hard to solve a mystery, help a friend, and face your worst fears. But Aven's about to discover she can do it all . . . even without arms" AR 4.6



Lucky Broken Girl

Ruth Behar

Fiction

In 1960s New York, fifth-grader Ruthie, a Cuban-Jewish immigrant, must rely on books, art, her family, and friends in her multicultural neighborhood when an accident puts her in a body cast. *Pura Belpre Award*. AR 4.2



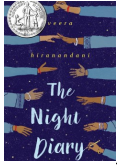
New Kid

Jerry Craft

Fiction

"Seventh grader Jordan Banks loves nothing more than drawing cartoons about his life. But instead of sending him to the art school of his dreams, his parents enroll him in a prestigious private school known for its academics, where Jordan is one of the few kids of color in his entire grade. As he makes the daily trip from his

Washington Heights apartment to the upscale Riverdale Academy Day School, Jordan soon finds himself torn between two worlds--and not really fitting into either one. Can Jordan learn to navigate his new school culture while keeping his friends and staying true to himself?" Winner of the *Newbery Medal*, *Coretta Scott King Author Award*, and *Kirkus Prize for Young Readers' Literature!* Graphic Novel AR 3.6



The Night Diary

Veera Hiranandani

Fiction

Shy twelve-year-old Nisha, forced to flee her home with her Hindu family during the 1947 partition of India, tries to find her voice and make sense of the world falling apart around her by writing to her deceased Muslim mother in the pages of her diary. AR 5.2

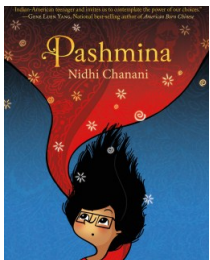


Other Words for Home

Jasmine Warga

Fiction

Jude never thought she'd be leaving her beloved older brother and father behind, all the way across the ocean in Syria. But when things in her hometown start becoming volatile, Jude and her mother are sent to live in Cincinnati with relatives. At first, everything in America seems too fast and too loud. The American movies that Jude has always loved haven't quite prepared her for starting school in the US --and her new label of 'Middle Eastern,' an identity she's never known before. But this life also brings unexpected surprises--there are new friends, a whole new family, and a school musical that Jude just might try out for. Maybe America is a place where Jude can be seen as she really is. AR 5.3



Pashmina

Nidhi Chanani

Fiction

For Pri, her mother's homeland can only exist in her imagination. That is, until she find a mysterious pashmina tucked away in a forgotten suitcase. When she wraps herself in it, she is transported to a place more vivid and colorful than any guidebook or Bollywood film. But is this the real India? And what is that shadow lurking in the background? To learn the truth, Sri must travel farther than she's ever dared and find the family she never knew. In this heartwarming graphic novel debut, Nidhi Chanani weaves a tale about the hardship and self-discovery that is born from juggling two cultures and two worlds. AR 2.9

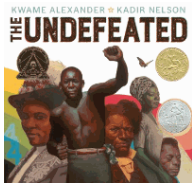


Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise

Dan Geneinhart

Fiction

Twelve-year-old Coyote and her father rush to Poplin Springs, Washington, in their old school bus to save a memory box buried in a park that will soon be demolished. Five years. That's how long Coyote and her dad, River, have lived on the road, criss-crossing the nation. On the way, they'll pick up an eclectic group of folks. Lester has a friend to meet. Salvador and his mom are looking to start over. Val needs a safe place to be herself. Coyote will learn that going home can sometimes be the hardest journey of all, but that with friends, she just might be able to turn her 'once upon a time' into a 'happily ever after.' AR 5.9



The Undefeated

Kwame Alexander

Non-Fiction

Poetic tribute to African American heroes and their struggles. The Newbery Award-winning author of *THE CROSSOVER* pens an ode to black American triumph and tribulation. Originally performed for ESPN's *The Undefeated*, this poem is a love letter to black life in the United States. It highlights the unspeakable trauma of slavery, the faith and fire of the civil rights movement, and the grit, passion, and perseverance of some of the world's greatest heroes. The text is also peppered with references to the words of Martin Luther King, Jr., Langston Hughes, Gwendolyn Brooks, and others, offering deeper insights into the accomplishments of the past, while bringing stark attention to the endurance and spirit of those surviving and thriving in the present. Robust back matter at the end provides valuable historical context and additional detail for those wishing to learn more. *2020 Caldecott Gold Medal Winner. Winner of the 2020 Coretta Scott King-Illustrator Award. 2020 Newbery Honor Book*

All books available in the McMurray Elementary Library.

All annotations and book cover images were taken from the publisher using Titlewave.