

Base, Graeme

Uno's Garden

Base teaches youngsters about the mathematics behind conservation in this wonderful tale of population growth and nature's decline. Fans of the "I Spy" series will have fun examining the complex illustrations, trying to find all of the magical creatures located within. Ages 6-8

Bradley, Kimberly Brubaker

Alley, R.W. (ill.)

Ballerino Nate

Kindergartener Nate desperately wants to be a ballet dancer but is disappointed when his older brother says that boys can't be ballerinas. With encouragement from his parents and an enlightening trip to the theater, Nate finds that his dream is within reach after all. Alley's watercolor-and-pencil contributions capture both the warm family dynamics and Nate's zooming, irrepressible energy. Ages 4-8

Buell, Janet

Ishida, Jui (ill.)

Sail Away, Little Boat

A little red sailboat's journey begins in a small brook, travels through a large river, and finally reaches the ocean, where it is discovered on the seashore by three children. Short, poetic lines of text and cheerfully colorful illustrations enhance this delightful story. Ages 3-6

Child, Lauren

But Excuse Me, That is My Book

Lola becomes distraught when visiting the library and she cannot find her favorite book... even more so when she discovers someone else checking it out. Child's energetic text and collage-style artwork draw readers into the story, allowing them to feel Lola's distress and her brother Charlie's frantic efforts to help her. Ages 4-7

Chodos-Irvine, Margaret

Best Best Friends

Best, best friends Mary and Clare do everything together. Mary's birthday brings Mary special attention and Clare becomes jealous. Without adult intervention, both children find a way to make peace and become best, best friends again. The multicultural retro-art beautifully illustrates this story of true friendship. Ages 4-6

Crews, Nina

Below

Set on a backdrop of a simple white staircase, Jack and his action-figure toy, Guy, climb mountains, visit cities, and explore forests. The illustrations are digitally color-corrected and manipulated color photographs, line drawings, and black-and-white photographs which will inspire young readers to see everyday objects in a new light. Ages 3-6

Cunnane, Kelly

Juan, Ana (ill.)

For You Are a Kenyan Child

Follow a day with a Kenyan child that is filled with wondering cows, great black monkeys, and bright eucalyptus trees. Get to meet the many village people who help this young boy stay on task (mostly) and get him back home before dark. This gently written story with stylized acrylic and crayon illustrations reminds us that it takes a village to raise a child. and do not miss the glossary of Swahili words in the front. Ages 4-8 AA

Demarest, Chris

Hurricane Hunters!: Riders on the Storm

Take a ride with the Hurricane Hunters, the Air Force Reconnaissance squadron which checks the strength and wind speed of an approaching tropical storm. Readers will love the schematic drawings of the WC-130 that the Air Force uses for Hurricane Reconnaissance. Ages 6-8

Diakite, Penda

Diakite, Baba Wague (ill.)

I Lost My Tooth in Africa

While visiting family in Mali, Amina, a young girl from Portland, Oregon, loses a tooth. Bright ceramic tiles vividly illustrate the fascinating Malian culture as Amina places her tooth under a gourd and receives a hen and a rooster from the African Tooth Fairy. A glossary, recipe, and Malian good night song end this story of West African family life and traditions. Ages 4-8. MC & AA

Egan, Tim

Roasted Peanuts

Sam and Jackson are longtime friends who have been playing baseball together for as long as anyone can remember. When Sam makes the big league, he begins to falter because his friend is not with him until Jackson finds a way to help Sam from the sidelines. Ages 5-8

Elya, Susan Middleton

Salerno, Steven (ill.)

Bebé Goes Shopping

Every parent who's ever taken a wide-eyed toddler shopping will relate to this young mother's adventures at the grocery store with her child who wants to touch, taste, or hold everything in sight. Rhyming text in English and Spanish highlights this bright and colorful story of a trip to the "supermercado" for Mamá and Bebé. Ages 3-8 HISP

Ernst, Lisa Campbell

The Gingerbread Girl

This female-empowering version of the Gingerbread Boy features his sweet, candy-laced sister. In a similar chase through town, this "smart cookie" eludes everyone while singing, "I'll run and I'll run, with a leap and a twirl; you can't catch me, I'm the Gingerbread Girl!" Can she really outsmart the fox? Using an oversized format, varying fonts, and bright illustrations, the author creates an excellent sequel to a classic tale. Ages 4-8

Fleming, Denise

The Cow Who Clucked

Poor Cow searches the barnyard all day for her "moo" when she finds one morning that it has disappeared. Smooth rhythm and beautiful illustrations will be enjoyed by preschoolers. Ages 3-5.

Fox, Mem

Denton, Terry (ill.)

A Particular Cow

A particular cow takes her usual Saturday walk. Usually nothing particular happens – until today. Large ink and watercolor cartoons illustrate disaster upon disaster caused by a cow oblivious to it all. The smaller, humorous details show up best when used as a lap

book. Young readers will enjoy the speech balloons which give it a graphic novel feel. Ages 5-7

Frazee, Marla

Walk On! A Guide for Babies of All Ages

An instruction manual for babies ready to take those important first steps. Frazee's 1950's-style illustrations and second-person narration cheekily show the pitfalls and triumphs experienced by the new walker. Ages 2-5

Freymann, Saxton

Elffers, Joose (ill.)

Fast Food

When you see piles of veggies lying sedately around the corner store, you'd never guess all that produce really wants to go, go, GO! But Saxton Freyermann did, and he's transformed those basking berries and lazy legumes into vehicles of every size and speed. Kids everywhere will thrill over the array of transportation methods on display. Freyermann's clever vegetable sculptures delight the eye and tickle the funny bone. Ages 4-8.

Gall, Chris

Dear Fish

While visiting the beach with his family, Peter unwittingly causes chaos when he tosses a bottled message into the sea inviting the fish to visit him. Soon after, a variety of underwater creatures begins showing up in Peter's hometown, and marine mayhem ensues from the school to the beauty parlor and beyond. Ages 6-10

Grey, Mini

The Adventures of the Dish and the Spoon

Having run away together, the Dish and the Spoon from the nursery rhyme, "The Cat and the Fiddle" become vaudeville stars before turning to a life of crime. Side panels add details and humor to the main story. Ages 6-8

Hatkoff, Isabella; Hatkoff, Craig;

Kahumbu, Paula

Owen & Mzee: The True Story of a

Remarkable

Grete, Peter (ill.)

Friendship

Owen, a baby hippo, is stranded following the 2004 tsunami. Rescued and sent to a Kenyan sanctuary, he bonds with Mzee, a 130-year-old tortoise. An engaging story of friendship and acceptance with enchanting color photographs. Ages 5-9

Hillenbrand, Jane and Will

What a Treasure!

Mole gets a new shovel and decides to dig for treasure. He digs and digs but finds treasures for everyone but himself. He finally digs up a treasure for himself—a new friend!

Ages 3-5

Hills, Tad

Duck & Goose

Duck and Goose learn to work together to hatch an "egg." Or is it an egg? Large bright illustrations, expressive body language, plus the surprise ending make it fun for story time or anytime. Ages 3-6

Hopkinson, Deborah
Ransome, James E. (ill.)

Sky Boys: How They Built the Empire State Building

Derrick men crawling "like spiders on steel," the Heater, Catcher, Bucker-Up, and Gunmen, are just a few of the Sky Boys you'll encounter in this "riveting" chronicle of the construction of the Empire State Building. Dizzying perspectives are captured in Ransome's stunning oil paintings and in end papers that contain a collage of photographs from the Empire State Building Archive. Ages 4-9

Horacek, Petr

Silly Suzy Goose

Oh – if only Suzy Goose could be different from the other geese in her flock! After trying out all of the fun ways that other animals are able to move, Suzy discovers that she can not only be unique but also “blend in” when necessary! With beautiful, large, mixed-media and cut-paper collage illustrations, the author validates many children’s desire to be the same, but different. Great for story time use. Ages 2-6

Isadora, Rachel

What a Family!: A Fresh Look at Family Trees

Rachel Isadora has created the perfect book for understanding how families are related and how we share certain traits with family members. This is DNA for little ones. Endpapers clarify family relationships and especially the “note to the reader” deftly explains the “once removed” factor. Ages 5-9 DO/MC

Ives, Penny

Rabbit Pie

When Mother Rabbit gets her six little ones ready for bed, it’s a loving recipe for success. Preschool-aged children will delight in the details of this charming and funny story of a family’s evening with bunny antics and a mother’s patience. Ages 2-5

Jenkins, Emily

Love You When You Whine

Ruzzier, Sergio (ill.)

A classic look at a mother's enduring love through tantrums, whining, and other toddler misbehaviors. Ruzzier's chalky watercolors humorously depict each scene in a Maurice Sendak-like style. Ages 3-6

Jenkins, Steve

Almost Gone: The World’s Rarest Animals

Caldecott Honor illustrator Jenkins applies his considerable talents to the cause of conservation in this book. Using his signature cut-and-torn paper collages, he shows 21 endangered species, accompanying each image with a few sentences about the animal's habitat, a particular characteristic, and, sometimes, the reason for its endangered status. Ages 5-9

Jenkins, Steve

Move!

Gorgeous cut-paper collage animals leap, slither, swim, and slide from page to page in this celebration of animal movement. The text fluidly echoes the action of the verbs and a final invitation to “Move!” will bring young readers to their feet. Ages 2-5.

Kanevsky, Polly

Anderson, Stephanie (ill.)

Sleepy Boy

It is bedtime, but he is not sleepy. He has spent the day at the zoo, and his father is lying beside him in bed reading him a story and smoothing his hair. The boy is going from reality to dreaming while he thinks about the lion cub and his mom. This is a charming bedtime story, especially for fathers and sons. Ages 3-6

Keating, Frank

Wimmer, Mike (ill.)

Theodore

Teddy was a dreamer and had a curiosity about life he could never satisfy. As the youngest man to ever be president, he led a nation to greatness and made every day count. Frank Keating's telling of incidents in Roosevelt's rich and varied life reminds readers how one person can make a difference. Mike Wimmer's exuberant paintings make Roosevelt come to life a century after his presidency. Ages 6-9

Kelly, Mij

Ayto, Russell (ill.)

One More Sheep

Counting sheep has long been the suggested cure for insomnia, but for Sam that's not the problem. He needs to keep track of his herd of 10, but each time he tries to count them, he nods off. The sheep conclude that they must be too boring to keep the shepherd alert and that they must find a way to be more interesting. Ages 3-5

Knudsen, Michelle

Hawkes, Kevin (ill.)

Library Lion

A lion starts visiting the local library but runs into trouble as he tries to both obey the rules and help his librarian friend. Hawkes' pencil and acrylic drawings give the story a nostalgic feel. Great for story time or for use with other library-related stories. Ages 4-8

Lasky, Kathryn

Clark, David (ill.)

Pirate Bob

Bob is a pirate and rouge who dreams of treasure and looting. During the day, Bob and his good friend Yellow Jack help to seize the great ships such as the Concordia and all its treasure bound for the American colonies. A humorous look at the life of a pirate along with his hopes, dreams, and fears, illustrated with pizzazz in pen and watercolor. Ages 6-8

Konnecke, Ole

Anthony and the Girls

Anthony brings his shovel, pail, and Big Truck to the playground. Despite all of his antics, the girls continue to ignore Anthony. Konnecke's charming illustrations, set against a plain white background, are much like the early Peanuts cartoons. Ages 4-7

Larios, Julie

Paschkis, Julie (ill.)

Yellow Elephant: A Bright Bestiary

These short, amusing poems show familiar animals as we've never seen them before. Beautifully illustrated, each verse conveys emotions children will recognize, such as "red donkey tantrums." Ages 5-10

Lehman, Barbara

Museum Trip

A young boy gets separated from his field trip group and ends up becoming part of a museum exhibit in this wordless book. Simple, yet colorful, illustrations and engaging story will make this a popular title. The inclusion of several pages of mazes will allow the reader to follow along with a finger to help the boy reach the center. Ages 4-6

Kontis, Alethea

Kolar, Bob (ill.)

Alpha Oops!: The Day Z Went First

What would happen if the alphabet rebelled and Z came first for a change? Find out in this zany romp of complaining letters and emotional arguments for reorganization. All appears lost and confused until A takes charge once again and saves the day (or the alphabet). Booklist calls this “an alphabet book with attitude.” Ages 4-8

Lewis, Kevin

Kirk, Daniel (ill.)

Tugga–Tugga Tugboat

A tugboat goes through its daily activities including pulling barges, putting out fires, and nudging a tanker out of the way. A surprise ending brings the story home. Delightful rhyming scheme and simple, brightly colored pictures will make this a read-aloud favorite. Ages 3-5

Lies, Brian

Bats at the Beach

Picnic baskets, umbrellas, beach towels, tanning lotion, campfires, and roasting marshmallows. Sounds like a typical day at the beach, but these aren't your typical beach-goers... they're BATS! It seems bats love going to the beach as much as humans do. Kids of all ages will love the rhyming text and imaginative illustrations of these bats enjoying a night at the beach. Ages 5-10

MacLachlan, Patricia & Emily

Schneider, Katy (ill.)

Once I Ate a Pie

Mother-daughter team of MacLachlan and Schneider have provided insight into a dog's life through free-verse poetry and oil paintings. Each poem captures the essence of the pictured dog, and the graphic layout of the text enhances the flow of the poems. Ages 6-8

McCarthy, Meghan

Aliens Are Coming!: The True Account of the 1938 War of the Worlds Radio Broadcast

This picture-book version of the 1938 radio broadcast of Orson Welles' adaptation of H.G. Wells' War of the Worlds invites the audience to experience the mass confusion and hysteria felt across the country that was caused by this broadcast. Not only will the exaggerated and funny illustrations entertain children as a story, but this book makes a great read aloud to introduce the time period to older children. Ages 5-10

McClintock, Barbara

Adele & Simon

This beautifully written story of siblings in turn of the century Paris is perfect on many levels. Children will love Simon and his ability to lose something on every page. Adult readers will love the beautiful illustrations of Paris that serve as a background to the

story, and historians will enjoy the maps, details, and art references that make this a wonderfully enjoyable book. Ages 4-8

McDonnell, Patrick

Art

Art loves art. His joyfully exuberant splashes and squiggles of color decorate every page in this delightful picture book for all ages. Art fills his world with color and tires himself out in the process. When he awakens from his nap, he discovers that his mother has lovingly tacked all his artwork on the fridge because she loves Art ... and his art.

Reminiscent of Harold and the Purple Crayon. Ages 3-6

McElligott, Matthew

Backbeard and the Birthday Suit

The motley crew of a pirate ship throws a wild birthday party for their hairy captain, Backbeard. After the party Backbeard decides he needs new clothes, but the shop in town is out of pirate clothes so he must settle for an alternate ensemble. Is this the best or worst pirate outfit ever? McElligott's mixed-media illustrations are a hoot! Ages 6-9

McLeod, Bob

SuperHero ABC

The pre-school set will leap in a single bound to read comic-book artist McLeod's page-popping ABC. With superheroes like Astro-Man who "is always alert for an alien attack," the vividly colored pages host a wide cast of original characters that possess amazing and unusual super powers. Several female superheroes, like Ms. Incredible and Goo Girl, are also included. This alliterative book will fly off the shelves faster than a speeding bullet. Ages 3-6

Murray, Marjorie Dennis

O'Malley, Kevin (ill.)

Hippo Goes Bananas!

Hippo's strange behavior worries his jungle friends. They relay misinformation thus creating havoc as they become frightened that Hippo will destroy the Serengeti itself. Ages 4-7

Nevius, Carol

Thomson, Bill (ill.)

Building with Dad

Father and son enjoy the daily progress of the construction of the boy's new school. Wearing hard hats, they watch throughout the year as the bulldozer clears the field and the cement mixer pours the foundation, etc., until the building is ready for the first day of classes. . Ages 4-8

Numeroff, Laura

McPhail, David (ill.)

When Sheep Sleep

What can you count when you can't sleep, and the sheep are already asleep? Preschool-age children will enjoy the rhythmic verses and charming watercolors of animals in their cozy homes as they explore the possibilities. Ages 3-5

O'Connor, Jane

Glasser, Robin Preiss

Fancy Nancy

No one knows fancy like Nancy. Unfortunately, her family is anything but fancy: “They never even ask for sprinkles.” Happily, they sign up for lessons, where Nancy teaches them the finer points of being fancy. After a fancy night out, Nancy learns that sometimes simple is best. Glasser's illustrations will make children want to grab some glitter, a tiara, and a boa to be fancy right along with Nancy. Ages 3-7 DO

Pericoli, Matteo

The True Story of Stellina

Stellina, a baby finch who has fallen from her nest, is found and cared for by a Manhattan woman. Pericoli's simple watercolors explore the depth of their relationship as each finds new meaning in the word family. Ages 7-9 DO

Pinkney, Brian

Hush Little Baby

This illustrated version of the traditional folk lullaby is set in the early 1900s and depicts Mama going out for the day, while Papa is left home to entertain the children. Pinkney's scratchboard technique suggests “dancing energy” and reveals some unusual verses to the song. Ages 0-5 AA

Pinkney, Jerry

The Little Red Hen

The classic fable, newly-illustrated, tells of the hen that is forced to do all the work of baking bread and of the animals that learn a bitter lesson from it. Pinkney's colorful and detailed watercolor illustrations make this a perfect choice for story time. Ages 4-7

Prince, April Jones

Laroche, Giles (ill.)

What Do Wheels Do All Day?

Illustrator Laroche uses cut-paper illustrations to show the reader all types of wheels and what jobs they perform. Action words and simple rhymes work to bring transportation and recreation together for the train-and-truck-loving crowd. Ages 4-6

Rappaport, Doreen

James, Curtis (ill.)

Freedom Ship

Samuel and his father are slaves working on a Confederate steamship out of Charleston, South Carolina and they can see the Union ships in the distance where their freedom lies. On May 13, 1862, their family and some friends risk everything to escape. Based on a true story, the chalk-pastel drawings show the strong child and his proud family standing tall. A lengthy author's note, bibliography, and list of related web sites are included. Ages 5-9 AA

Rex, Adam

Frankenstein Makes a Sandwich

Adam Rex shines in this collection of poems featuring some of the greatest monsters of all time. Including such gems as “The Invisible Man Gets a Haircut,” “Godzilla Pooped on My Honda,” and “Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Henderson,” this collection is sure to have readers of all ages in stitches. Ages 6-8

Rosenthal, Amy Krouse

Dyer, Jane (ill.)

Cookies: Bite-Size Life Lessons

Who knew that the simple act of making and eating cookies could gently teach etiquette, courtesy, and respect? From “Patiently” waiting for the cookies to bake to “Fair” and “Unfair” sharing, each term is concisely defined and accompanied by Dyer’s beautiful pastel watercolors showing the word in action. Just like cookies, these definitions satisfy and ensure that readers of all ages will be “Content” at the end. Ages 5-8

St. Pierre, Stephanie

Doyle, Beverly (ill.)

What the Sea Saw

Stunning illustrations and lyrical text introduce readers to life at the seashore. The varied perspectives and the relationships between the many creatures emphasize the interconnectedness of ecosystems. Ages 4-8

**Black? White! Day? Night!: A Book of
Opposites**

Seeger, Laura Vaccaro

Colorful die-cut pages surprise and delight with clever graphic interpretations of words and their opposites. Gatefold pages open to reveal both simple and complex word pairs interpreted in a playful and engaging way. This concept book will appeal to a wide range of readers. Ages 3-7

Shannon, David

Good Boy, Fergus!

Reading this story is like having a romp with the funniest dog in town. No matter what the animal does, his master's refrain is...you guessed it. Shannon’s artwork is like an overstuffed sofa: colorful, homey, and bouncy. A riotous book to unleash on all readers—even those who own cats. Ages 3-7

Shore, Diane Z and Alexander, Jessica

Ransome, James (ill.)

This is the Dream

The rhythmic verse tells the story of the civil rights struggle with simplicity and power, while the images bring the concepts home in a way that children will see and feel. An excellent resource for discussing the changes of the civil rights era as they benefit all Americans.

Ages 6-10 AA

Shulman, Mark

McCauley, Adam (ill)

Mom and Dad Are Palindromes

At school one day, Bob discovers that he is a palindrome and so are Mom and Dad and Sis. He is surrounded by them - 101 palindromes to be exact. But don’t worry, you’ll find them set off by a variety of fonts and styles hidden in a sea of wonderful retrospective illustrations. This book is a fun read for all word lovers. Ages 4-9

Sidman, Joyce

Berg, Michelle (ill.)

Meow Ruff: A Story in Concrete Poetry

At first glance this seems to be a simple story of a cat and a dog taking shelter under a table during a rainstorm. But wait. The landscape is full of words - concrete poetry, in fact - from the “wisp” of cloud which grows into a thunderstorm, describing itself as it grows, to every other object on the page, even the tree and the grass. (Can you find the ladybugs? The marching ants?) Ages 6-8

Sierra, Judy

Gammell, Stephen (ill.)

The Secret Science Project That Almost Ate the School

Rhyming text describes the funny disaster that ensues after a student sends away for “Professor Swami’s Super Slime” and turns it in for her science fair project. Gammell’s watercolor and colored pencil illustrations add to the madness. Ages 5-9

Smith, Lane

John, Paul, George & Ben

...and Tom, too! This irreverent look at five of our founding fathers, shows how early traits become helpful when revolution time rolls around. Best suited for those who know at least a little bit of American history, Smith’s use of early American typefaces, collage effects and “younger versions” of famous portraits add to the humor and history. Be sure to check out “Taking Liberties” at the end with “Ye Olde True or False Section.”

Ages 5-9

Spinelli, Eileen

Stammen, Jo Ellen McAllister (ill.) Hero Cat

On a “cold and slushy” March day, a mother cat gives birth to a litter of kittens in an abandoned building. While out getting food for her kittens, the building catches fire and she must make a daring rescue to save her newborn kittens. Written to honor the 10th anniversary of Scarlett’s (the real Hero Cat’s) heroic deed, Stammen’s life-like pastels enhance the story. Ages 5-8

Stiegemeier, Julie

Baicker-McKee, Carol (ill.)

Cheep! Cheep!

Adorable terry cloth chicks with lifelike expressions tell the story of three friends who are joined by a fourth when an egg hatches. Great for a younger audience, the pages are thick and sturdy and the book manages to convey meaning by only using words that rhyme with “cheep.” Ages 2-4

Walker, Alice

Vitale, Stefano (ill.)

There is a Flower at the Tip of My Nose Smelling Me

A reverse-celebration of the senses using lyrical phrases to suggest that the world smells/ tastes/sees/ and even praises us, this book is a tribute to the beauty around us and its interconnection with us. Walker concludes with: “There is a story at the end of my arms telling me!” The clear, flowing, vibrant, almost fluorescent artwork captures the feeling of the words. Ages 5-8

Watt, Melanie

Augustine

Augustine is anxious about moving from the South Pole to the North Pole but takes solace in her drawings. Left-hand pages depict vignettes from the story in a tic-tac-toe

style that includes master-inspired penguin versions of “The Scream” and her “Blue Recess Period.” Watt’s acrylic and pencil crayon drawings charmingly depict Augustine’s worries and how she overcomes them. A good introduction to art and dealing with change. Ages 4-8 DO

Watt, Melanie

Scaredy Squirrel

The world is a scary place and Scaredy Squirrel knows it. He never leaves the safety of his nut tree and his routine, and he keeps his emergency kit close by. Then one day, Scaredy Squirrel is forced to inject some variety into his schedule and discovers that a leap into the unknown isn’t always a bad thing. Watt’s simple, cartoon-like illustrations add to the “drama” (and humor). Ages 4-8

Wheeler, Lisa

Cyrus, Kurt (ill.)

Mammoths on the Move

“Massive, hairy / legendary / wonderful, woolly mammoths!” Using incredible scratchboard illustrations and lively text on double-page spreads, the illustrator and author invite their readers to experience the excitement and danger that a migration trek across frozen ground must have been like for these majestic creatures of the Ice-Age. A short note from the author provides just enough information to set the scene for this awesome journey. Ages 4-9

Wiesner, David

Flotsam

Wiesner offers another exceptional, wordless picture book that finds wild magic in quiet, everyday settings. At the seaside, a boy discovers an old-fashioned camera, film intact. A trip to the photo store produces astonishing pictures. The masterful watercolors and ingeniously layered perspectives create a clear narrative, and viewers will eagerly fill in the story’s wordless spaces with their own imagined story lines. Ages 6-9 MC

Willems, Mo

Edwina, the Dinosaur Who Didn’t Know She Was Extinct

With the exception of Reginald Von Hoobie-Doobie, everyone in town loves Edwina. Too bad Reginald is determined to prove all dinosaurs (especially Edwina) are extinct. The townspeople ignore Reginald’s rants, until one day, it is Edwina herself that gives Reginald what he has been looking for, a listening ear. Can you find Pigeon and Knuffle Bunny in the illustrations? Ages 5-8

Mama: A True Story in Which a Baby Hippo Loses His Mama During a Tsunami, But Finds a New

Winter, Jeanette

Home and a New Mama

With only two words, “Mama” and “Baby,” themes of loss, grief, and recovery are explored in a poignant and heart-wrenching story drawn from world events. Illustrations, rendered in rich, jewel-like acrylics, underscore the dramatic elements of the story. Ages 4-9

Yin

Soentpiet, Chris (ill.)

Brothers

Ming, an immigrant Chinese boy, arrives in San Francisco in the mid 1800's to help his brother in his Chinatown general store. Lonely, he reaches out beyond the familiar Chinatown neighborhood and develops a friendship with a young Irish boy who teaches him English and helps to make his brother's business a success. Detailed, light-filled illustrations realistically depict the time period and the immigrant experience. Ages 7-10 AS/MC

Young, Ed

My Mei Mei

Antonia is thrilled when her parents travel to China to bring a "Mei Mei," or younger sister, home to join the family. Frustrated because the baby is not at all what Antonia expects, she must learn what being a big sister is all about. Ages 4-8 AS