PICTURE BOOKS

De la Peña, Matt. *Love*
A poetic exploration of the many different ways we experience and express love. The beautiful illustrations by Lauren Long add emotional depth and complexity, making this a book you can return to again and again.

Gerstein, Mordicai. *The Boy and the Whale*
When a whale gets trapped in their fishing net, a boy and his father assume it is dead, and the father is upset because the net, which is their livelihood, is ruined. When the whale’s eye opens, the boy realizes it is still alive. Is he strong and brave enough to try to rescue it?

Kensky, Jessica. *Rescue and Jessica: A Life-Changing Friendship*
After being in an accident in which her legs are badly injured, Jessica needs a lot of help, and Rescue is just the dog for the job. A fictionalized account of the author’s real-life experiences with her service dog.

Khan, Hena. *Crescent Moons and Pointed Minarets: A Muslim Book of Shapes*
This book and its companion, *Golden Domes and Silver Lanterns: A Muslim Book of Colors* provide insight into and appreciation of Muslim cultural traditions through an examination of shapes and colors.

Love, Jessica. *Julián Is a Mermaid*
After noticing three women who look like mermaids while riding home on the subway, Julián longs to be like them. With some things he finds around the house, some imagination, and the help of his abuela, he can be. A lovely story of transformation and acceptance.

McDonnell, Patrick. *The Little Red Cat Who Ran Away and Learned His ABC’s (The Hard Way)*
When the little red cat escapes through an open door, he is not expecting the series of crazy adventures that ensues, each corresponding to a letter of the alphabet. After this, read *Oops, Pounce, Quick, Run*, by Mike Twohy, and then try writing and drawing your own alphabet story!

COMICS/GRAPHIC NOVELS

Jamieson, Victoria. *The Great Pet Escape* and *The Great Art Caper*
Ever wonder what all the class pets get up to in school after all the kids and teachers go home? If Lab’s class pets are anything like the ones at Daisy P. Flugelhorn Elementary School, it gets pretty crazy. The first two titles in a new series.
Kim, Julie. *Where’s Halmoni?*  
When two children arrive at their grandmother’s house, she is missing. A mysterious set of tracks leads them through a cupboard and into another world inhabited by creatures from Korean folklore.

Nordling, Lee. *Belinda the Unbeatable*  
Two friends with very different personalities compete with their classmates in a magical game of larger-than-life musical chairs in this “word-free” graphic novel. Part of a series called *Game for Adventure*.

Renner, Benjamin. *The Big Bad Fox*  
It’s hard to be the terror of the barnyard when no one takes you seriously. A dastardly plan to hatch his own chicks for eating goes hilariously wrong for the fox when the chicks emerge and immediately start calling him “Mommy.”

Telgemeier, Raina. *Ghosts*  
Cat and her family move to the coast of northern California for the sake of her sister, Maya, who has cystic fibrosis and can breathe more easily in the cool, damp air. Cat isn’t excited about the move, and she’s less enthusiastic when she learns their town is a favorite hangout for ghosts. Maya, on the other hand, can’t wait for the opportunity to meet some on Día de los Muertos.

**BEGINNING READERS**  
Adler, David. *Pass the Ball, Mo!*  
Mo, always the smallest on his team, nevertheless always finds a way to triumph, and this fast-paced basketball story is no exception. Try *Don’t Throw it to Mo!* And *Get a Hit, Mo!*

Arnold, Tedd. *Noodleheads See the Future*  
Folklore is rich with stories of the things fools do, and brothers Mac and Mac and their uncle Ziti provide more stories of silliness to make us laugh.

Butler, Dori Hillestad. *King and Kayla and the Case of the Mysterious Mouse*  
Kayla is a good detective, but her dog King is even better. Unfortunately, Kayla doesn’t realize it because she can’t understand what King is saying! A good series for the mystery and/or dog lover.

Ryan, Pam Muñoz Ryan. *Tony Baloney: Yo Ho Ho, Halloween!*  
Tony creates the perfect Halloween costume, but will it last long enough to wear on Halloween? Part of a series about a little penguin, his family, and the ups and downs of elementary school.
Stanton, Beck and Matt. *This Book Is Red, This Is a Ball, and Did You Take the B from My ook?* These are all from a new series called *Books that Drive Kids Crazy*, and the title says it all! These adventures in metafiction are a fun way for new readers to practice.

Willems, Mo. *Elephant and Piggie Like Reading!*
Mo Willems stopped writing Elephant and Piggie books, but he is still collaborating with other celebrated authors to produce a series of fun, easy-to-read books that Elephant and Piggie like to read: Bryan Collier, *It’s Shoe Time*; Charise Harper, *The Good-for-Nothing Button*; Laurie Keller, *We Are Growing*; Dan Santat, *The Cookie Fiasco*. The fun continues.

Yoon, Salina. *My Kite Is Stuck! And Other Stories*
Big Duck, Little Duck and Porcupine are back rescuing a kite from a tree, exploring new friendships and selling lemonade. Oops--the only thing Big Duck and Porcupine forgot was the lemonade!

**Don’t miss these classic early reader series:** Fly Guy (Arnold), Iris and Walter (Guest), Henry and Mudge (Rylant), Nate the Great (Sharmat), Cowgirl Kate and Cocoa (Silverman), Mouse and Mole (Yee), Commander Toad (Yolen)

**CHAPTER BOOK FICTION**

§ Easier reading ★ More difficult reading

George, Kallie. *Heartwood Hotel: A True Home*
After Mona the mouse’s latest temporary house is washed away in a storm, she takes refuge in a delightfully cozy hotel hidden in a tree trunk. She hopes it can become a real, permanent home, but not everyone there is friendly, and there are wolves outside in the forest…

Gidwitz, Adam. *The Creature of the Pines (Unicorn Rescue Society)*
Mythological creatures need protection too! In this first title in a new series of funny adventure stories, two kids help rescue a Jersey Devil from a pair of greedy billionaire brothers.

★ Larwood, Kieran. *Podkin One-Ear*
A hooded bard, mysterious evil mutant rabbits (the Gorm) and a reluctant rabbit hero combine in an exciting start to a new series. Book 2 is due to come out in August.

Mass, Wendy and Stead, Rebecca. *Bob*
It’s been five years since ten-year-old Livy visited her grandmother in Australia, but that doesn’t seem long enough to explain why she doesn’t remember Bob, a small greenish creature who has been living in the closet and waiting for her to return. An unusual, emotionally resonant story about memory, friendship, trust, and growing up.
McKay, Hilary. *Lulu* series
Lulu is famous for loving animals and for having parents whose motto is, “The more the merrier! As long as Lulu cleans up after them.” She does much more, giving each pet her thoughtful, loving attention. There are 6 books (and many animals!) in this delightful series.

§ Miedoso, Andres. *The Haunted House Next Door (Desmond Cole, Ghost Patrol)*
When Andres and his family move to a new town, everything seems normal and boring at first, just how Andres likes it. That’s before he realizes his house is haunted. Luckily, dealing with ghosts is all in a day’s work for his next-door-neighbor and new best friend, Desmond Cole.

Nilsson, Ulf. *A Case in any Case (Detective Gordon)*
Detective Gordon has decided to retire, but he and Police Chief Buffy miss working together too much for him to stay away for long. This wonderful series of illustrated woodland detective stories are translated from Swedish.

§ Zemke, Deborah. *Bea Garcia: My Life in Pictures*
Bea Garcia loves to draw--pictures of her favorite things, pictures of events in her life, and pictures of things she wishes would happen. When her best friend moves away and Bert the Monster moves in next door, Bea wishes her drawings could come true.

**Don’t miss the newest titles in some popular series:** Lola Levine (Brown), Eerie Elementary (Chabert), Carver Chronicles (English), Princess in Black (Hale), Dory Fantasmagory (Hanlon), Bunjitsu Bunny (Himmelman), Stink (McDonald), Hamster Princess (Vernon), Stick Cat (Watson).

**NONFICTION**
Eaton, Maxwell. *The Truth about Bears, The Truth about Dolphins,* and *The Truth about Hippos*
The jokes and cartoon illustrations might fool you, but when you’ve finished these books you will actually know a surprising amount about bears, dolphins, and hippos. Coming soon: *The Truth about Elephants.*

Eggers, Dave. *Her Right Foot*
You may not have thought much about the Statue of Liberty’s right foot, but this author sure has, and it’s quite fascinating. Try his earlier, equally quirky informational picture book about the Golden Gate Bridge, *This Bridge Will Not Be Gray!*

Gates, Mariam. *Meditate with Me: A Step-by-Step Mindfulness Journey*
Even for kids, life isn’t always easy! Animal characters teach you how to focus on your breath, on bodily sensations, and on the sounds around you to help you relax, settle your mind, and understand your emotions.
Lepora, Nathan. *Robots*
Learn about the many different types of robots, the history of robots, and how robots are created in this book, part of the new *DK Findout!* series. These titles are as informative and eye-catching as the books in the long-running *Eyewitness* series, but they are easier to read.

Pimentel, Annette Bay. *Bobbi Gibb and the Boston Marathon*
Can you believe there was a time when women were barred from running in marathons? Bobbi Gibb's stealth run, in 1966, was not officially acknowledged, but her toughness and determination finally helped change the rules and paved the way for other women marathoners.

This picture book biography won Best Overall in this year's Sutherland Award program. Born in Baghdad, Zaha Hadid designed buildings all over the world. She was sometimes nicknamed “Queen of the Curve” because her designs, often based on things from the natural world, incorporated curving lines and unusual shapes.

**POETRY AND STORY COLLECTIONS**

Giovanni, Nikki. *I Am Loved*
Ashley Bryan's vibrant, joyful pictures illustrate this collection of poems for young readers about such varied topics as love, death, cats, and quilts. Check out their earlier collaboration--*The Sun Is So Quiet.*

Harris, Chris. *I'm Just No Good at Rhyming and Other Nonsense for Mischievous Kids and Immature Grown-ups.* In the tradition of Shel Silverstein, Jack Prelutsky, and Ogden Nash, these funny poems will make you laugh and make you think. The poems are matched perfectly with clever illustrations by Caldecott honoree Lane Smith.

Hernandez, Jaime. *The Dragon Slayer: Folktales from Latin America*
Three great stories, The Dragon Slayer, Perez the Mouse, and Tup the Mouse, retold in comic strip style format. From the wonderful TOON series of graphic novels.

Ray, Jane. *The Lion and the Unicorn and Other Hairy Tales*
Stories and poems from India, ancient Greece, Zimbabwe, Germany, England, and more are beautifully retold and illustrated by Jane Ray. If you like this book, try her other collections, *The Little Mermaid and Other Fishy Tales* and *The Emperor's Nightingale and Other Feathery Tales.*

Tuttle, Sarah Grace. *Hidden City: Poems of Urban Wildlife*
Worms, mice, sidewalk moss and red-winged blackbirds are among the subjects of free-verse poems accompanied by brilliant collage illustrations that encourage mindful observations of the nature that surrounds us all, even in the city.

Cover and illustrations from *Julián Is a Mermaid* by Jessica Love