



BEST BOOKS 2008 (so far!)

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Summer 2008

INTRODUCTORY PICTURE BOOK.....

The Short and Incredibly Happy Life of Riley by Colin Thompson & Amy Lissiat
Kane Miller 2007 ALL ages!!!!!!!

PICTURE BOOKS

Anansi's Party Time by Eric A Kimmel (Illustrated by Janet Stevens)

Holiday House K-3 (Based on the African folktales)

Bear's Picture by Daniel Pinkwater (Illustrated by D B Johnson...REISSUE!)

Houghton Mifflin (Bear's painting has too many critics!) 1-4

Big Plans by Bob Shea and Lane Smith ALL

Hyperion (A little boy lists his BIG plans and how to accomplish them)

The Black Book of Color by Menena Cottin & Rosana Faria ALL

Groundwood (What do colors "look" like to the blind? With Braille)

Born to Read by Judy Sierra and Marc Brown K-1

Knoph (Baby Sam says "I'm born to read. I know I am")

Critter Sitter by Chuck Richards 2-4

Walker Books (How many animals can Henry keep track of?)

Dog and Bear: Two's Company by Laura Vaccaro Seeger K-1

Roaring Brook (A second collection of short stories by 2 best friends)

Dog Day by Sarah Hayes K-3

Farrar Straus (What happens when your teacher turns out to be a dog?)

Ducks Don't Wear Socks by John Nedwidek K-2

Viking (How will serious Emily get Duck to change his ways..or will she?)

Frankenstein Takes the Cake by Adam Rex 2-5

Harcourt (Multi-media, humorous look at Frankenstein's wedding)

Gone Fishing: Ocean Life by the Numbers by David McLimans ALL
Walker Books (Partner book to Caldecott honor book Gone Wild)

Help Me Mr Mutt! Expert Answers for Dogs with People Problems
by Janet Stevens & Susan Stevens Crummel Harcourt ALL

Madam President by Lane Smith 1-4
Hyperion (What happens during the "little" President's day??)

My Friend, the Starfinder by George Ella Lyon & Stephen Gammell
Atheneum (A little girl listens to her neighbor's stories) ALL

Never Take a Shark to the Dentist (and Other Things Not to Do
By Judi Barrett & John Nickle Atheneum 1-3

Oodles of Animals by Lois Ehlert K-3
Harcourt (Mini-poems about all sorts of creatures...great art!!)

The Pigeon Wants a Puppy by Mo Willems ALL
Hyperion (The opinionated pigeon thinks he wants a dog!!)

Scaredy Squirrel at the Beach by Melanie Watt 2-3
Kids Can Press (Fraidy-cat Squirrel makes a dangerous trip to a real beach)

The Scrambled States of America Talent Show by Laurie Keller 1-4
Henry Holt (A silly look at the States, with some facts thrown in!)

Sergio Makes a Splash by Edel Rodriguez K-3
Little Brown (Sergio the penguin loves the water, but not the very deep kind)

The Silk Princess by Charles Santore 2-4
Random House (A Chinese legend about how silk was found...beautiful pictures!)

Splat the Cat by Rob Scotton K-2
Harper Collins (Splat's first day of school is full of excitement!)

Stormy's Hat: Just Right for a Railroad Man by Eric Kimmel 1-3
Farrar Straus (Based on the 1903 creation of the hat still worn today)

Ten Little Fingers and Ten Little Toes by Mem Fox & Helen Oxenbury PreK-K
Harcourt (For the youngest child...in Fox's own wonderful style!)

There's Nothing to Do on Mars by Chris Gall 1-3
Little Brown (Moving to Mars isn't any fun, until Davey uncovers its secret)

Too Many Toys by David Shannon K-2
Blue Sky Press/Scholastic (How do you EVER decide what toy to get rid of?)

Used Any Numbers Lately? By Susan Allen and Jane Lindaman
Millbrook (An alphabetical look at numbers all around us) K-2

A Visitor for Bear by Bonny Becker K-3
Candlewick (Bear doesn't WANT any visitors...not even a friendly mouse!)

The Vowel Factory: A Tale of Lost Letters by Sally M Walker
Carolrhoda (Can you EVEN read words without vowels????)

What Pet to Get? By Emma Dodd K-2

Scholastic (A patient mom helps her son decide what pet to choose)

Zen Ties by Jon Muth ALL AGES

Scholastic (Haiku, spelling bees, being a good friend...all rolled up in one story)

EARLY READERS

Allie Finkle's Rules for Girls: Moving Day by Meg Cabot (One of two series titles!)

Scholastic 2-4 (New series for chapter book readers...think "Ramona")

Alvin Ho: Allergic to Girls, School, and Other Scary Things by Lenore Look

Random House 2-4 (Alvin is afraid of EVERYTHING...with a twist)

Bad Kitty Gets a Bath by Nick Bruel

Roaring Brook K-2 (Graphically exciting, very funny, know the picture book?)

Clementine's Letter by Sara Pennypacker

Hyperion 1-4 (Third book in a delightful series, a MUST for reading aloud)

Elephant and Piggy Books (series) by Mo Willems K-1

Hyperion (Start with "I Love My New Toy"...all 6 titles are great!)

Flip a Word books by Harriet Ziefert K-1 (Try "Snake Cake")

Blue Apple/Scholastic (For beginning phonics readers, intro to word families)

Julian Rodriguez, Episode One "Trash Crisis on Earth" by Alexander Stadler

Scholastic 1-2 (Great illustrations about an 8-year-old superhero's antics)

MIDDLE READERS

Airman by Eoin Colfer 4-8

Hyperion (High fantasy about believing in a dream...is flight possible??)

The Calder Game by Blue Balliett 4-7

Scholastic (Third in the series of puzzlers solving artistic mysteries!)

The Girl Who Could Fly by Victoria Forester 4-7

Feiwel and Friends (Gifted kids find their way in a all-too-restricted world)

The Golly-Whopper Games by Jody Feldman 3-6

Greenwillow (Gil's joined the competition to clear his name...great puzzles!)

I,Q by Roland Smith 5-7

Sleeping Bear Press (Q's mom is a rock star; her new marriage changes his life)

Julia Gillian (and the Art of Knowing) by Alison McGhee 3-5

Scholastic (Julia has skills...a book with a scary ending could change her life)

The London Eye Mystery by Siobhan Dowd 4-7

Random House (A British mystery that will grip your kids...good read aloud)

The Missing: Found by Margaret Peterson Haddix 4-7

Simon & Schuster (New series.. same "punch" as "Hidden Children" saga)

The Mysterious Benedict Society and the Perilous Journey 4-7
by Trenton Lee Stewart Little Brown (Sequel to last year's hit mystery!!)

Nick of Time: An Adventure Through Time by Ted Bell 5-7

St Martin's (Wonderful time travel story set in WWII)

The Penderwicks on Gardam Street by Jeanne Birdsall 3-6

Knopf (Sequel to award-winning The Penderwicks)

Pillage by Obert Skye (author of Leven Thumps) 4-7

Shadow Mountain (15-year-old Beck finds he has "plant magic")

Savvy by Ingrid Law 4-7

Dial (Wonderful story of how "talents" can change your life!)

Seer of Shadows by Avi 5-7

Harper Collins (Historical mystery about photographing spirits)

The Underneath by Kathi Appelt 5-8

Atheneum (Acclaimed mystic novel about 2 cats, a dog, a serpent)

The Willoughbys by Lois Lowry 4-8

Houghton Mifflin (With art by author...a satire on children's classics)

AND DID YOU KNOW ABOUT.....

Night of the Howling Dogs by Graham Salisbury 4-8

Random House 2007 (Hawaiian adventure...GREAT for boys!!!)

Trapped in an earthquake on the Big Island, a Boy Scout troop has to make their way back to civilization through a volcano and tsunami....

Based on a true story!

OLDER READERS

The Adoration of Jenna Fox by Mary E Pearson 6-9

Henry Holt (Jenna's been in a coma...is the life she's awakened to, REAL??)

The Dead and the Gone by Suan Beth Pfeffer 7-10

(Partner book to last year's Life As We Knew It)

Harcourt (The earth as we know it has been changed by a natural disaster)

Lock and Key by Sarah Dessen 7-10

Viking (Ruby's crazy mom has left..now her rich sister is in charge of her life!)

Princess Ben by Catherine Gilbert Murdock 6-8

Houghton Mifflin (In a fantasy kingdom, Ben must find her own way!)

Saturday Night Dirt by Will Weaver 6-9 (Great for Boys!!!)

Farrar Straus (Dirt racing in Minnesota...beginning of a great series!)

Trouble by Gary D Schmidt 6-9

Clarion (Henry believes Trouble will never find him...but life throws a curve)

FORTHCOMING THIS FALL

- The 39 Clues: Maze of Bones by Rick Riordan et al 3-8
Scholastic (First in an amazing new series...ties to computer game!)
- Angel Girl by Laurie Friedan Picture Book...2-5
Carolrhoda (A Holocaust love story...children of war reconnect as adults)
- Brisinqr: Bk 3 Inheritance Cycle by Christopher Paolini 5-10
Knopf (Final book about Eragon and his dragon Saphira...September 20)
- Brooklyn Bridge by Karen Hesse 5-8
Feiwel & Friends (An immigrant family in Brooklyn survives many changes)
- The Diamond of Darkhold by Jeanne DuPrau 4-7
Random House (4th in the Book of Ember series, this is a satisfying conclusion)
- Emmy and the Home for Troubled Girls by Lynne Jonell 4-6
Henry Holt (Sequel to Emmy and the Incredible Shrinking Rat...SUPER READ!)
- Enigma: A Magical Mystery by Graeme Base Picture Book for ALL
Abrams
- Graceling by Kristin Cashore 7-10
Harcourt (A land of 7 kingdoms, where only a few are born with "Grace")
- The Graveyard Book by Neil Gaiman 6-9
Harper Collins (A boy escapes his family's killer and is raised by ghosts)
- Hate That Cat by Sharon Creech 5-7
Harper Collins (Partner to Love That Dog, Jack's back and so is poetry class!)
- Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins 7-10
Scholastic (A gritty fantasy by the author of the "Gregor" books)
- If You Give a Cat a Cupcake by Laura Numeroff Picture Book K-2
Harper Collins (More of the same in this "If You Give..." series)
- Inkdeath by Cornelia Funke 5-8
Scholastic (The final book in this fine series about how reading comes alive)
- Knucklehead: Tall Tales & Mostly True Stories about Growing Up Scieszka
By Jon Scieszka Viking (That's right! You'll learn all about his childhood!)
- My One Hundred Adventures by Polly Horvath 4-6
Schwartz & Wade (A 12-year-old finds the adventures she's longed for)
- Science Fair: A Story of Mystery, Danger, International Suspense & a Very Nervous Frog by Dave Barry & Ridley Pearson 4-6
Disney (Toby must win the Science Fair so he can buy back a Star Wars relic)
- Twenty-Odd Ducks: Why, Every Punctuation Mark Counts! By Lynne Truss ALL
Penguin (From our punctuation "goddess", another funny look at language)

The Way We Work: Getting to Know the Amazing Human Body by David Macaulay
Houghton Mifflin (Macaulay's first book in years...an EVENT!!)

White Sands, Red Menace by Ellen Klages 5-7

Viking (Sequel to The Green Glass Sea...more about Los Alamos and the bomb)

COMICS AND GRAPHIC NOVELS

Ali Baba Fooling the Forty Thieves by Marie P Croall & Clint Hilinski 4-7

Graphic Universe (A graphic novel retelling of the Arabian tale)

Coraline by Neil Gaiman (adapted by P Craig Russell) 4-7

Harper Collins (A retelling of the mysterious tale, also soon to be a movie)

Knights of the Lunch Table (Dodgeball Chronicles) by Frank Commuso 2-4

Scholastic (For younger readers....great for BOYS)

Magic Pickle by Scott Morse 2-5

Scholastic (A take-off on science fiction, very funny series)

Rapunzel's Revenge by Shannon & Dean Hale with Nathan Hale 4-8

Bloomsbury (The fairy tale retold...with many twists and turns!!)

"Toon Books (including Otto's Orange Day and Silly Lilly & the 4 Seasons K-2

The Little Lit Library (For beginning readers, these are great beginnings)

Tristan & Isolde: The Warrior and the Princess by Jeff Limke & Ron Randall 6 up

Graphic Universe (A good example of classics retold in graphic format)

NONFICTION

All Stations! Distress! April 15, 1912: The Day the Titanic Sank

Let It Begin Here! April 19, 1775: The Day the American Revolution Began

Both by Don Brown Roaring Brook 4-6 (Beginning of a great series)

The Art of Freedom: How Artists See America by Bob Raczka ALL

Millbrook (Great beginning for a discussion on diversity and freedom)

Did Fleming Rescue Churchill: A Research Puzzle by James Cross Giblin 3-6

Henry Holt (Jason's research project is Alexander Fleming...how boring!?)

Frogs by Nic Bishop ALL

Scholastic (Companion to Spiders, wonderful photos and info!!)

How Fast is It? By Ben Hillman (also: How Big is It? And How Strong is It?) K-3

Scholastic (By comparing objects to establish perspective, a terrific series)

Night Running: How James Escaped with the Help of His Faithful Dog Picturebook

By Elisa Carbone Knopf (Amazing story of a slave & his way to freedom)

One Hen: How One Small Loan Made a Big Difference by Katie Smith Milway ALL

Kids Can Press (How does Koko's hen make all the difference in his Africa)

Planting the Trees of Kenya: The Story of Wangari Maathai by Clair A Nivola ALL
Farrar Straus (Story of the 2004 Nobel Prize winner in Africa..see below)
Silent Music: A Story of Baghdad by James Rumford ALL
Roaring Brook (How Ali lives in midst of war..intros Arabic calligraphy)
The United Tweets of America: 50 State Birds, Their Stories, Their Glories ALL
By Hudson Talbot Putnam (Very creative look at our state birds)
Wangari's Trees: A True Story from Africa by Jeanette Winter ALL
Harcourt (See above...another version of Planting the Trees of Kenya)
We Are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball by Kadir Nelson Grade 3 up
Hyperion (BEAUTIFULLY illustrated look at Black baseball history)
What the World Eats by Peter Menzel & Faith D'Alusio ALL
Tricycle (Children's version of the classic...a look at what fuels the world)
Where In the World? Around the Globe in 13 Works of Art by Bob Raczka ALL
First Avenue/Lerner Books (Just what the title implies...great introduction)

BIOGRAPHY (all picture books unless marked)

Abraham Lincoln Comes Home by Robert Burleigh & Wendell Minor 2-5
Henry Holt (Picture book about the train journey that took Lincoln's body home)
Abe's Honest Words: The Life of Abraham Lincoln by Rappaport & Kadir Nelson
ALL Hyperion (An amazingly beautiful picture book biography)
As Good as Anybody: MLK Jr and Abraham Joshua Heschel's Amazing March toward
Freedom by Richard Michelson 3-7 (The 1965 March in Selma)
How I Learned Geography by Uri Shulevitz 3-7
Farrar Straus (Picture book about the role of a map during a childhood in war)
Lincoln and Douglass: An American Friendship by Nikki Giovanni 3-7
Henry Holt (Lincoln and Frederick Douglass..a friendship across racial barriers)
Lincoln Shot: A President's Life Remembered by Barry Denenberg & Christopher
Bing Feiwel & Friends 4-9 (A facsimile look at Lincoln's life...great realia!)
Manjiro: The Boy Who Risked His Life for Two Countries by Emily Arnold McCully
Farrar Straus 4-8 (A sailor's link between 19th Century Japan and the US)
The Trouble Begins at 8: A Life of Mark Twain in the Wild, Wild West 224 pages
Greenwillow (Beautifully illustrated and detailed biography of Twain) 5-8
What to Do About Alice? By Barbara Kerley 3-5
Scholastic (Picture book life of Alice Roosevelt...in the White House)
Yes We Can: A Biogaphy of Barack Obama by Garen Thomas 200 pages
Feiwel & Friends (Illustrated bio of the presidential candidate)

AND A FEW UNUSUAL SUSPECTS.....

ABC3D by Marion Bataille ALL...POP-UP BOOK!!!!

Roaring Brook Press

Diary of a Winpy Kid Do-It-Yourself Book by Jeff Kinney (for his fans!!!)

Amulet/Abrams (A consumable journal/activity book by our popular author)

Gallop! A Scanimation Picture Book by Rufus Butler Seder ALL

Workman (Can't be described...a sequel, Swing!, comes in October)

What's Your Red Rubber Ball? Discover Your Inspiration & Chase it for a Lifetime

By Kevin Carroll Disney Press ALL (An inspirational look at goalsetting)

