

2010 SUGGESTED SUMMER READING  
GRADES 2-5

PRINCETON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

2011 Garden State Children's Book Award Nominees

The Garden State Children's Book Award has been in existence for over twenty-five years. Children, librarians and teachers have worked together to make this award a most prestigious one. This fall students will be able to vote for their favorite books from this list at school, or at the public library. After children's votes throughout the state are tallied, the winners will be announced.

We recommend joining the Princeton Public Library's Summer Reading Club, and hope that you enjoy reading some of the titles on this list as you participate.

See you in September,

The Princeton Regional Elementary School Librarians

Garden State Book Award Nominees

**Easy Readers:**

Banks. Monkeys and Dog Days.

When Max and Pete get a new dog, they learn that taking care of a pet is not as easy as they thought.

George. Goose and Duck.

A young boy becomes the "mother" to a goose, who becomes "mother" to a duck, as they learn about the rhythms of nature together.

Grant. Chicken Said, "Cluck!"

Earl and Pearl do not want Chicken's help in the garden, until a swarm of grasshoppers arrives and her true talent shines.

Howe. Houndsley and Catina and the Quiet Time.

Houndsley loves the quiet of the first snow of winter, but Catina does not enjoy being snowed in. What about all her plans for the day? With pretending, books,

games, creativity, and some time to dream, Houndsley helps Catina let go of her worries and enjoy the snowy day.

Levinson. Rain Forests.

An introduction to what a rain forest is and the kinds of plants and creatures that live in them.

Ormerod. Ballet Sisters: The Newest Dancer.

Sylvie gets to attend ballet school, just like her big sister.

Rylant. Annie and Snowball and the Teacup Club.

Annie forms a club for girls who love teacups and other dainty things, but she will always love her cousin Henry and his big drooly dog too.

Shaefer. What's That, Mittens?

When Mittens the kitten digs a hole under the fence in the yard, he meets a new friend--Max the dog.

Shore. How to Drive Your Sister Crazy.

A younger brother offers detailed advice on how to annoy older sisters.

Schreiber. Sharks!

Describes the life cycle and behavior of sharks.

### **Easy Readers Series:**

Arnold. Hooray for Fly Guy!

Fly Guy joins Buzz's football team, despite Coach's misgivings, and hits the field for a special, secret play.

Chaconas. Cork and Fuzz: The Collectors.

When best friends Cork and Fuzz go to the pond to collect shiny stones, they happen upon a duck's nest just as the eggs are hatching and Fuzz, who is wearing a feather from his collection, is collected by the mother duck.

Rylant. Mr. Putter and Tabby Run the Race.

Mr. Putter is convinced to run in a senior marathon with his neighbor, Mrs. Teaberry, when he learns that second prize is a train set.

Silverman. Cowgirl Kate and Cocoa: Rain or Shine.

Cowgirl Kate and her cow horse, Cocoa, discover what it means to work, play, and be together--rain or shine.

Van Leeuwen. Amanda Pig and the Wiggly Tooth.

When Amanda Pig has her first loose tooth, she is reluctant to pull it.

Willems. Are You Ready to Play Outside?

Friends Elephant and Piggie are playing outside when it starts to rain, and then they must decide what to do.

### **Fiction:**

Birdsall. The Penderwicks on Gardam Street.

The four Penderwick sisters are faced with the unimaginable prospect of their widowed father dating, and they hatch a plot to stop him.

Broach. Masterpiece.

After Marvin, a beetle, makes a miniature drawing as an eleventh birthday gift for James, a human with whom he shares a house, the two new friends work together to help recover a Durer drawing stolen from the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Bruel. Bad Kitty Gets a Bath.

Takes a humorous look at the normal way cats bathe, why it is inappropriate for humans to bathe that way, and the challenges of trying to give a cat a real bath with soap and water. Includes fun facts, glossary, and other information.

Creech. Hate That Cat.

Jack is studying poetry again in school, and he continues to write poems reflecting his understanding of famous poems and how they relate to his life.

Durango. The Walls of Cartagena.

Calepino was blessed with good fortune. After his mother died giving birth to him on a slave ship, he was taken in by a wealthy woman who gave him every advantage. Then on his thirteenth birthday, Father Pedro, a devout priest, asks Calepino to assist him with the slaves coming into Cartagena. Soon he's fighting seasickness, living in squalor, and cursing every minute. That all begins to change when he meets Mara and Tomi, a mother and son who remind him of his own past.

Gifford. Moxy Maxwell Does Not Love Writing Thank-You Notes.

Ten-year-old Moxy Maxwell has promised to write twelve thank-you notes by the day after Christmas so that she and her twin brother Mark can go to Hollywood to visit their father, but all her brilliant ideas to help finish the task more efficiently end up creating chaos in the house.

Griffin. The Knavehart's Curse: A Vampire Island Story.

Eleven-year-old Maddy Livingstone, a vampire-fruit bat hybrid striving to make

friends in modern-day New York City, tries to protect her family from a vicious pureblood vampire who is in the New World seeking the Tenth Knave.

Holt. Piper Reed, The Great Gypsy.

While her father, a Navy Chief, is on ship duty for six months, nine-year-old Piper stays busy with new neighbors, Christmas at a spaceship beach house, a trip to New Orleans, and especially the upcoming Gypsy Club pet show.

Horvath. My One Hundred Adventures.

Twelve-year-old Jane, who lives at the beach in a run-down old house with her mother, two brothers, and sister, has an eventful summer accompanying her pastor on bible deliveries, meeting former boyfriends of her mother's, and being coerced into babysitting for a family of ill-mannered children.

Kinney. Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules.

Greg Heffley tells about his summer vacation and his attempts to steer clear of trouble when he returns to middle school and tries to keep his older brother Rodrick from telling everyone about Greg's most humiliating experience of the summer.

Korman. Swindle.

After unscrupulous collector S. Wendell Palamino cons him out of a valuable baseball card, sixth-grader Griffin Bing puts together a band of misfits to break into Palomino's heavily guarded store and steal the card back, planning to use the money to finance his father's failing invention, the SmartPick fruit picker.

Law. Savvy.

Recounts the adventures of Mibs Beaumont, whose thirteenth birthday has revealed her "savvy"--a magical power unique to each member of her family--just as her father is injured in a terrible accident.

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

A young boy in Concord, Massachusetts, who loves superheroes and comes from a long line of brave Chinese farmer-warriors, wants to make friends, but first he must overcome his fear of everything.

Lowry. The Willoughbys.

In this tongue-in-cheek take on classic themes in children's literature, the four Willoughby children set about to become "deserving orphans" after their neglectful parents embark on a treacherous around-the-world adventure, leaving them in the care of an odious nanny.

Martin. The Runaway Dolls.

Best friends Annabelle and Tiffany risk placing all of doll kind in danger when they

run away while trying to prevent Tilly from being sent back to London before they can determine if she is Annabelle's long-lost baby sister.

Pennypacker. Clementine's Letter.

Clementine's beloved teacher, Mr. D'Matz, might be leaving for the rest of the year to go on a research trip to Egypt. The only solution, she decides, is to hatch a plan to get Mr. D'Matz back even if it means ruining his once-in-a-lifetime chance.

Prineas. The Magic Thief.

Conn should have dropped dead the day he picked Nevery's pocket and stole the wizard's locus magicalicus, a stone used to focus magic and work spells. But for some reason he did not. Astonished and intrigued, Nevery agrees to take Conn on as his apprentice, on the condition that the boy finds a locus stone of his own within a month. But with his wizard lessons and helping Nevery discover who, or what, is stealing the city of Wellmet's magic, time is running out for Conn to find his stone.

Snyder. Up and Down the Scratchy Mountains.

Lucy, a milkmaid, and her best friend Wynston, a reluctant prince, go in search of information about Lucy's missing mother--even though Wynston is supposed to be searching for a proper princess to marry.

Speck. Maybelle Goes to Tea.

Maybelle the cockroach follows the advice of her new fly friend Maurice and tumbles into a terrifying but tasty adventure during Mrs. Peabody's Ladies' Spring Tea.

Yue. Little Leap Forward: A Boy in Beijing.

In Communist China in 1966, eight-year-old Leap Forward learns about freedom while flying kites with his best friend, by trying to get a caged wild bird to sing, and through the music he is learning to play on a bamboo flute. Includes author's notes on his childhood.

## NON-FICTION NOMINEES

Arnosky. Wild Tracks!: A Guide to Nature's Footprints .

Presents detailed illustrations of life-size paw, claw, and hoof prints; and explains how to identify tracks and how fast the animal might be traveling.

Bishop. Frogs

Nic Bishop's photographs show all different kinds of frogs, big ones, very tiny ones, frogs with beautiful colors of skin, and one frog you can see inside of.

Brown. All Stations! Distress!: April 15, 1912: The Day the Titanic Sunk

Provides the captivating story of this amazing vessel, the people who built it, and

its tragic demise during its maiden voyage across the Atlantic as told through first-hand accounts and detailed illustrations of the events as they happened.

Clifford. Real Pirates: The Untold Story of the Whydah

Built to transport human captives from Africa to the Caribbean, the *Whydah* made one such voyage before being captured in 1717 by Sam Bellamy, the boldest pirate of his day. Two months later, in one of the worst nor'easters ever, the ship sank, drowning all but 2 of the 146 people aboard. For anyone intrigued by the lore of piracy, the mystery of shipwrecks, or the sad and salty intertwining of slave and pirate history, *Real Pirates* has the answers.

Collard. Teeth.

Humans and many animals use teeth to chew their food, but teeth are also used to attract mates and warn off predators. Science writer Sneed B. Collard III explores the various functions, structures, and number of animals' teeth. Includes a glossary and additional resources.

Dray. Yours for Justice, Ida B. Wells: The Daring Life of a Crusading Journalist

Biography of Ida B. Wells-Barnett, a journalist and teacher who wrote about and spoke against the injustices suffered by African-Americans.

Halls. Wild Horses: Galloping Through Time

Introduces the horse family tree including the relatives of today's modern horse that are now extinct, as well as the species of zebras and asses that still live in the wild.

Hirschi. Our Three Bears.

Photos and text inform readers about the three bear species native to North America, the black bear, the grizzly bear, and the polar bear.

Jenkins. How Many Ways Can You Catch a Fly?

Flies are fast! They can hover, walk upside down, and use their lightning-quick reflexes to escape predators.

Kerley. What to Do About Alice.

An illustrated biography of Alice Roosevelt Longworth that focuses on her experiences while her father was president of the United States.

Markle. Animal Heroes: True Rescue Stories

Learn about animals, both domestic and wild, who have become heroes when they came to the rescue of humans.

Markle. Sneaky, Spinning Baby Spiders

Sandra Markle presents up-to-date research about spiders and up-close photographs of baby spiders as they begin life and grow into adults.

Miller. The Tooth Book: A Guide to Healthy Teeth and Gums

Are you looking for a book to help you teach your child how to take care of his teeth and gums? This book will do just that. It is an informational book with colorful, eye-catching illustrations that children will thoroughly enjoy. The book begins with a time line, taking the reader through the lifetime of both primary and permanent teeth.

Nobleman. Boys of Steel: The Creators of Superman

The fascinating true story of how Superman came to be.

Patent. When the Wolves Returned

When wolves were eliminated from Yellowstone National Park the natural system was out of balance. Shows the return of the wolves to the park and the natural balance being restored.

Rex. Frankenstein Takes the Cake

Frankenstein wants to marry his undead bride in peace, but his best man, Dracula, is freaking out about the garlic bread, and the Headless Horseman wishes everyone would stop drooling over his pumpkin head.

Schulman. Pale Male: Citizen Hawk of New York City

A red tail hawk and his mate build their nest near the top of a Fifth Avenue apartment building and bird watchers gather hoping to see the chicks in the nest.

Scieszka. Knucklehead.

Presents a memoir of what it was like to grow up in the 1950s and other almost true stories by American children's author Jon Scieszka.

Tanaka. Amelia Earhart: The Legend of the Lost Aviator

Ever since Amelia Earhart and her plane disappeared on July 2, 1937, people have wanted to know more about this remarkable woman. Amelia Earhart follows the charismatic aviator from her first sight of an airplane at the age of ten to the last radio transmission she made before she vanished. Illustrated with original artworks, contemporary photographs, quotes, and details, this is a great introduction to the famous pilot.

Winter. Wangari's Trees of Peace: A True Story from Africa

Tells the story of Wangari Maathai, a Nobel Prize-winning environmentalist who, shocked to see entire forests being cut down in her native country of Kenya, decides to take action, beginning with the planting of nine seedlings in her own backyard.