

Date	Title	Author	Copyright	Level	Awards	Plot	Setting	Main Characters	Point of View	Theme	Type	Style	Reaction	MLA Citation
1/27/2015	I Am Malala - How One Girl Stood Up for Education and Changed the World	Malala Yousafzai	2014	YA	International Children Peace Prize 2012	Autobiography of Malala Yousafzai, who was known for standing up to the Taliban and fighting for girls's education.	Pakistan, current time period	Malala Yousafzai and family, especially her father	1st	Oppression of Women and bravery	Non-fiction, autobiography	no unique style	Excellent reiteration of her young life thus far. She has fought hard in such a short time for things we take for granted in the US.	Yousafzai, Malala, and Christina Lamb. I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban. New York: Little, Brown, 2012. Print.
1/28/2015	Grave Mercy (My Fair Assassin Trilogy)	Robin LaFevers	2012	YA		Ismae was an unwanted child, born to a life as a turnip-farmers daughter. She comes to find out she is not the daughter of a turnip-farmer, but of a worshipped god, Mortain. She is trained as an assassin, a handmaiden of Mortain, but does not really understand what she is getting into.	Brittany, late 1480's	Ismae Rienne, Viscount Gavriel Duval	1st	Coming of Age	Fiction, historical fiction	fantasy, magic	A surprisingly good YA book. I really enjoyed it. It is a big fan of historical fiction, and the added element of "serving a god" (I dare not call it magic, but it has that type of feel to it), was an interesting and fresh way of presenting this type of fiction.	LaFevers, Robin. Grave Mercy. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2012. Print.
1/29/2015	Dark Triumph (My Fair Assassin Trilogy)	Robin LaFevers	2013	YA		Sybella came to the convent used and abused. But, she was forced back to her family with a promise of King Count d'Alret. However, her plans get messed up when she is called upon to free a prisoner from the dungeon.	Brittany, late 1480's	Lady Sybella d'Alret, Baron Viscount de Waroch "Beast"	1st	Coming of Age	Fiction, historical fiction	fantasy, magic	These books continue to get better, and I absolutely LOVE how the author weaves the first story into the second. It is really neat how they mesh up in such a way where you see the continuity of it all.	LaFevers, Robin. Dark Triumph. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2013. Print.
1/30/2015	Mortal Heart (My Fair Assassin Trilogy)	Robin LaFevers	2014	YA		Anrieth has lived in the convent all of her life. She has never been sent out for an assignment, and is desperate to, but doesn't understand why she isn't chosen. She decides to set out on her own, to make her own destiny. When she falls in with Heliqains, she finds more than she was looking for.	Brittany, late 1480's	Anrieth, the Abbess of Saint Mortain, Saltazaar	1st	Coming of Age	Fiction, historical fiction	fantasy, magic	The third book of the trilogy did not disappoint! Really loved these books, again, loved how the author weaved Anrieth's perspective into the events that were already told. Such a wonderful series!!!	LaFevers, Robin. Mortal Heart. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2014. Print.
1/29/2015	Maisy, Charley, and the Wobbly Tooth	Lucy Cousins	2006	Picture		Charley goes to the dentist for a wobbly tooth.	Dentist office	Charley, Maisy, Dr. Biteright	3rd	getting over fear	fiction, children's book, picture book		I really enjoyed this book! I read it with my son, who has not yet been to a dentist but has lost a tooth, and it was fun to get his reactions to it as well.	Cousins, Lucy. Maisy, Charley, and the Wobbly Tooth. Cambridge, MA: Candlewick, 2006. Print.
1/31/2015	Not a Box	Antoinette Portis	2006	Picture	Theodore Seuss Geisel Honor 2007, Missouri Building Block Award Nominee 2008	A box is not a box.	None	A rabbit	?	Imagination	fiction, children's book, picture book		I loved this book! Short, but creative! My son enjoyed trying to guess what the box would become before turning the next page! I liked how we could use it for foreshadowing, and just the understanding that things could be fun.	Portis, Antoinette. Not a Box. New York: Harper Collins, 2006. Print.
1/31/2015	Violet the Pilot	Steve Breen	2008	Picture	Show-Me Reader Nominee	Violet has grown up around junk. But, she can create all kinds of things from the junk. She even builds a plane.	Violet's home town	Violet	3rd	ingenuity	fiction, picture book, children's book		I thought this was a really good book. Well written, and powerful enough story telling to encourage a boy or a girl that you can do anything if you try.	Breen, Steve, and Lily Malcom. Violet the Pilot. New York: Dial for Young Readers, 2008. Print.
2/1/2015	Dinosaur Tooth Fairy	Martha Brockenbrough	2013	Picture		The dinosaur tooth fairy, who is no longer in business due to the lack of dinosaurs, seeks out a new tooth for her collection. But, she is not alone in her quest.	Museum	Dinosaur Tooth Fairy, Human Tooth Fairy	3rd	sharing	fiction, picture book, children's book		This was a sweet story. My son really enjoyed looking at a second time, just after we read it, to figure out the secret to the book (the human tooth fairy follows the dino tooth fairy.) I really liked the sharing at the end.	Brockenbrough, Martha, and Israel Sanchez. The Dinosaur Tooth Fairy. New York: Arthur A. Levine, 2013. Print.
2/2/2015	Snowball Fight	Jimmy Fallon	2005	Picture	MLA Building Block Award Nominee 2007	A boy has a snow day from school.	Boy's town	Boy (unnamed)	3rd	Youth	fiction, picture book, children's book, literary - poem		This was a cute, fun story, would be good as a read aloud.	Fallon, Jimmy, and Adam Stower. Snowball Fight! New York: Dutton Children's, 2005. Print.
2/2/2015	Magic School Bus - Space Explorers (#4)	Eva Moore	2000	Chapter		Ms. Frizzle and the students are studying about the Solar System, and they go on an adventure to see Mars. They have to make several stops along the way, discussing different planets, the sun, asteroids, and all kinds of other things in space.	Ms. Frizzle's class, space	Carlos, Ms. Frizzle, Dorothy Ann, Raphaela, Phoebe, Keesha, Arnold, Wanda, Tim	1st	adventure, science	fiction, picture book, children's book		I have always enjoyed magic school bus as a cartoon, but I have to say, the books are just as enjoyable! What a great way for kids to learn different facts in a fun, exciting way.	Moore, Eva, and Ted Enik. The Magic School Bus Space Explorers. New York: Scholastic, 2000. Print.
2/3/2015	The Girl Who Owned a City	O. T. Nelson	1975	Chapter		Lisa and Todd are on their own. All children are, actually, due to a plague that wiped out anyone over the age of 12. Lisa is smarter than most - she is resourceful enough to find food, start driving a car, and help her friends form a militia. But, when a gang of kids burns down her house, she realizes she needs a castle, the old high school makes the perfect castle for Lisa and her friends.	Chicago Suburbs	Lisa, Todd, Charlie, Jill, Craig, Steve, Tom Logan (Chester gang leader)	3rd	overcoming fear, survival	fiction, dystopia, post-apocalyptic, chapter book		This was one of my favorite books as a kid, mainly because I knew of the places they were talking about! This takes place in my home area, and so there were things I could relate to, such as the old Jewel warehouse, North Avenue, and DuPage County Airport. It was crazy as a 4th or 5th grader to read this and make those connections. This is part of the reason I love this book. But, it was an early dystopian book, as I now realize. I bet if it was reassessed that it would come into vogue again.	Nelson, O. T. The Girl Who Owned a City. New York: Laurel Leaf, 1975. Print.
2/5/2015	Vampires Don't Wear Polka Dots	Debbie Dadey and Marica Thornton Jones	1990	Chapter		The 3rd grade class just got a new teacher after they ran off their previous one. But, this new teacher is different. She always wears a green brooch, never yells, and everyone seems to just be good. Except Eddie. Eddie continually tries to get Mrs. Jeppers attention. Everyone thinks that Mrs. Jeppers is a vampire. Is she?	Bailey Elementary 3rd grade classroom	Melody, Eddie, Howie, Liza, Mrs. Jeppers	3rd	funny, fear, power	fiction, chapter book		Cute little story. Good for younger kids that are just starting to read chapter books.	Dadey, Debbie, Marica Thornton Jones, and John Steven Gurney. Vampires Don't Wear Polka Dots. New York: Scholastic, 1990. Print.
2/6/2015	Junie B. Jones is Captain Field Day	Barbara Park	2001	Chapter		Junie B. Jones is captain of field day. But, her class doesn't do so well. It's up to one person to save the day for the class.	Junie's kindergarten	Junie B. Jones, Mrs. (teacher), Grace, William, Ben Thelma	1st	teamwork, being fair	fiction, children's book		I haven't heard a Junie B. Jones story since I was a para in a kindergarten class, and they are just as funny as I remember! I know why kids like them - relatable, fun, and just a nice story for the kids to read.	Park, Barbara, and Denise Brunkus. Junie B. Jones is Captain Field Day. New York: Random House, 2001. Print.
2/7/2015	The Titanium Ninja	Kate Howard	2015	Picture		The Overload has taken over Ninjago. The ninjas must save the day.	Ninjago	Jay, Cole, Zane, Kai, Lloyd, Master Wu, Master Garmedon, Overload, Python	3rd	teamwork	fiction, picture book, children's book		My son loves Ninjago books! I was surprised he didn't realize that someone actually "died" in the book!	Howard, Kate. The Titanium Ninja. New York: Scholastic, 2015. Print.
2/8/2015	Bound	Donna Jo Napoli	2004	Chapter		Xing Xing is an orphan with only her stepmother and half-sister as family. She is treated poorly, while the half-sister is being prepped for marriage by having her feet bound.	China	Xing Xing, Stepmother, Wei Ping	3rd	Coming of Age	fiction, chapter book, fable		I didn't realize it was a version of a Cinderella story until closer to the end of the book, where she lost a shoe! To me, that is good writing, because it wasn't obvious to me that that was the underlying theme of the book. This may be a hard read for younger middle grades.	Napoli, Donna Jo. Bound. New York: Atheneum for Young Readers, 2004. Print.
2/9/2015	Mercy Watson Fights Crime	Kate DiCamillo	2006	Picture		Mercy is fast asleep, until she hears the clink of the toaster. She goes downstairs to see what is going on, and who is making toast with lots of butter.	Home and neighborhood of Mercy Watson	Mercy, Leroy Ninker, Mr. and Mrs. Watson	3rd		fiction, picture book, children's book		Adorable book! Lighthearted and fun. Good for a read-aloud or young reader with some confidence.	DiCamillo, Kate, and Chris Van Dusen. Mercy Watson Fights Crime. Cambridge, MA: Candlewick, 2006. Print.
2/9/2015	All Hands on Deck	Marilyn Easton	2011	Picture		A lego boat journey	Lego city	Lego characters	3rd		fiction, picture book, children's book		My son loves these lego books. Easy enough for him to read, and gets his creativity sparked when he sees the different pictures.	Easton, Marilyn, and Kenny Kiernan. All Hands on Deck! New York: Scholastic, 2011. Print.
2/9/2015	Hot Rod Hamster and the Wacky Whatever Race!	Cynthia Lord	2014	Picture		Hamster finds a new race to run	Hamster's hometown	Hamster, Dog	3rd		picture book, children's book		Cute story. My son has another Hotrod Hamster and so he was excited to read another one of these. Good for young kids.	Lord, Cynthia, Derek Anderson, and Greg Paprocki. Hot Rod Hamster and the Wacky Whatever Race! New York: Scholastic, 2014. Print.
2/10/2015	The Testing	Joelle Charbonneau	2013	YA	Truman Nominee 2015-2016	In a dystopian future, Cia lives in Fives Lakes colony. She is chosen with 3 others to participate in the testing, something no one has been chosen for in a number of years. Her father was part of the testing, but cannot recall what happened. Cia learns right away that people are always watching and listening. There are three main tests - a written one, a hands-on portion, and a final major test. After each, students are cut from the testing. No one knows where they go, though it is assumed that they go home. As Cia goes through the testing, she learns how brutal things can be - suicides, murder at the hands of the test, and murder of other students, as everyone wants to be first. As the testing goes along, the stakes keep getting higher. But, Tomas, her friend from home, is there to keep her safe and stable. The biggest challenge, though, is the final test. It is a test of perseverance, for survival, and for her life. She doesn't realize, however, that there is more than what people, even Tomas, are letting her.	Dystopian America	Cia, Tomas, Will, Dr. Barnes, Michal	1st	survival, coming of age, will to survive	Fiction, YA		Complete side note - this book was authored by one of my fraternity sisters. This was a good first book. It definitely kept me throughout. I have read these before, so I know how it ends, so I read it from a little different viewpoint, but still enjoyed it.	Charbonneau, Joelle. The Testing. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2013. Print.
2/10/2015	Making a Friend	Alison McGhee	2011	Picture		A boy makes a snowman, then wonders where he goes	Boy's home	Boy (unnamed)	1st	friendship	fiction, picture book, children's book		A sweet story. This would be good for many units, such as weather, snow day, and friendship.	McGhee, Alison, and Marc Rosenthal. Making a Friend. New York: Atheneum for Young Readers, 2011. Print.
2/10/2015	Trouble at the Bridge	Marie Birkinshaw	2000	Picture		Lego city builders are working on a bridge, and get a surprise from Brickster the thief	Lego City	Lego Builders, Brickster	3rd		fiction, picture book, children's book		Another lego story (can you tell my son likes legos???) Fun to read, and this one had a little adventure to it.	Birkinshaw, Marie, and Sebastian Quigley. Trouble at the Bridge. New York: Dorling Kindersley, 2000. Print.
2/11/2015	Grandpa's Tractor	Michael Garland	2011	Picture	Show Me Nominee 2014	Grandpa Joe reminisces about living on a farm and the things his family did with the red tractor.	Grandpa's farm	Grandpa Joe, Timmy	3rd	family, history	fiction, picture book, children's book		Very nice story. It made me teary-eyed because as a kid we would go to Ohio and we would stop and see the old family farm. Also, my grandpa tells me stories of his time as a boy, and it was just so like the story.	Garland, Michael. Grandpa's Tractor. Honesdale, PA: Boyds Mills, 2011. Print.
2/12/2015	The Devil's Arithmetic	Jane Yolen	1988	Chapter	National Jewish Book Award	Hannah is a thirteen year old girl. She attends a Seder (for Jewish Passover), but does not want to be there. She doesn't understand why she has to remember. When she goes to open the door, she is transported back to 1942, and learns first hand why it is important to remember.	New Rochelle, NY and Poland	Hannah (Chaya), Gif, Shmuel, Rivka	3rd	coming of age, religious persecution	Historical Fiction,		I have loved this story ever since I was young. I used to read all types of things about the Holocaust, and at 16 I was able to travel to Poland to actually see Auschwitz/Brzezina myself. I have always thought this was a great way to introduce the Holocaust to younger students.	Yolen, Jane. The Devil's Arithmetic. New York, N.Y.: Viking Kestrel, 1988. Print.
2/12/2015	Interrupting Chicken	David Ezra Stein	2010	Picture	Caldecott Honor 2011, Missouri Building Block Picture Book Award Nominee 2011, Golden Kite Honor Recipient 2011	Chicken needs to go to sleep, but isn't tired. Papa tries to read her a story, but all Chicken does is interrupt, and put herself in the story instead!	Chicken's Home	Chicken, Papa	3rd	Humor	fiction, picture book, children's book	humor	This was such a funny story! I loved reading it to my son, and he just loved how the chicken interrupted! Not unlike him....	Stein, David Ezra. Interrupting Chicken. Somerville, MA: Candlewick, 2010. Print.

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2/12/2015	Independent Study	Joelle Charbonneau	2014	YA		Cia has survived the test, but she does not recall what happened officially. It is only because she recorded the memories of the communication that she knows what happened, and she knows not to trust either her fellow colony students or the professors. She has been put on the law school track. She did not want that track, but has to accept it. She is separated from Tomas, who is on another track. The challenges aren't over, though, as now they are mixed with students from Tosu City, who did not have to go through the testing in order to get in. The oldest from the law school have their own tests, and can be as deadly as the first testing. Cia has to trust people she does not trust in order to survive. She also gets assigned an internship with the president of the Commonwealth, President Collindar. This is a privileged position, but there is a reason behind it. President Collindar wants to bring the testing to an end, and bring down Dr. Barnes. But, she needs Cia's help. Cia also realizes there are rebels close by, who want the testing to end as well. But, things are not as they seem again. She is being tracked, she is being lied to, and there are more questions than answers.	Diastopian America Tosu	Cia, Tomas, Will, Saica, Dr. Barnes, Michal, Symon, Rafte	1st	survival, coming of age, will to survive	fiction, dystopian future	dystopian	This one was just about as good as the first book. I generally liked it, and there was a definite twist. I can't imagine writing a trilogy, keeping readers interested throughout, but having read this several times now, well, I still enjoy it, but there are still more questions I have than answers.	Charbonneau, Joelle. Independent Study. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2014. Print.
2/13/2015	El Deafó	Cece Bell	2014	Chapter	Newberry Honor Book 2015, Charlotte Huck Honor 2015	Cece contracts meningitis and loses her hearing. She has to now go through school wearing a big hearing aid called a Phonic Ear that had cords and it was worn around her neck. She first begins school at a special school for kids just like her, and she thrives, but then she moves and attends a regular school. She starts to make friends, but not everyone is nice to her. She works through learning how to make friends who don't care that she is deaf. Her alter-egos, El Deafó, tends to come in where Cece needs her most.	Cece's	Cece.	1st	growing up, being different	non-fiction	graphic novel, animal	Loved this book! It is a great real story, told in a unique way. I love that she made herself a bunny! Adorable!	Bell, Cece, and David Lasky. El Deafó. New York: Amulet, 2014. Print.
2/13/2015	Kitten's First Full Moon	Kevin Henkes	2004	Picture	Caldecott Award Winner 2005	Kitten sees her first full moon, and mistakes it for a bowl of milk.	Kitten's home	Kitten	3rd	Discovery	fiction, picture book, children's book		Such a cute book, but I felt so sorry for the kitten! But, she gets her milk in the end.	Henkes, Kevin. Kitten's First Full Moon. New York: Greenwillow, 2004. Print.
2/13/2015	Graduation Day	Joelle Charbonneau	2014	YA		Cia knows that Symon is with Dr. Barnes, not a rebel. She watched Michal being killed, all out of Cia's control. Her brother, Zeen, is with the rebels. Cia is tasked with the worst job ever by the President - kill those who are in charge of the testing. But, as before, things are not as they seem, people on the list are innocent, and things are just a mess overall.	Tosu City	Cia, Tomas, Will, Rafte, Dr. Barnes, President Collindar, Saica, Zeen	1st	survival, coming of age, will to survive	fiction, novel, dystopian future	dystopian	This one was the conclusion to the trilogy. It was a harder read. There were so many twists and turns that I sometimes had to reread in order to keep up. It was good, but not as good as I would have expected.	Charbonneau, Joelle. Graduation Day. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2014. Print.
2/14/2015	Creepy Carrots!	Aaron Reynolds	2012	Picture	Caldecott Honor 2013, Show Me Reader Nominee	Jasper loves carrots. But, they seem to be following him. Are they alive? Are they actually trying to scare him?	Crackenhopper field	Jasper Rabbit, carrots	3rd	greed and fear	fiction, picture book, children's book	humorous	This book was so funny! Another book I loved reading to my son. He just cracked up when we were reading it!	Reynolds, Aaron, Peter Brown, and Lizzy Bromley. Creepy Carrots! New York: Simon & Schuster for Young Readers, 2012. Print.
2/15/2015	Princess Academy	Shannon Hale	2005	Chapter	Newberry Honor 2006	Miri is a mountain girl who lives with her father and sister on the slopes of Mount Eskel. Miri wants to work beside her family and friends to mine the stone, but her father won't allow it, even though they could use the money, as they get very little from the traders for the stone. One day, word comes that it was divined that the next princess, the bride-to-be, for the prince was to come from Mount Eskel. Any girl in the village that is not older than the prince will be brought down from the mountain to attend a princess academy, where they will learn all the things they need in order to be a princess, and then the prince will come and at the academy ball he will select his bride. Miri wants to learn, but does not like the way she and the others are being treated, and finally discovers she can use "quarry speech" since the academy is built out of the linder they mine on top of the mountain. The stone somehow carries thoughts. As the year progresses, the girls attend the academy ball, but the prince does not decide on a princess, and leaves. But, bandits find the academy and take over. Who will now save the girls?	Mount Eskel/the Princess Academy in Danland	Miri, Bitta, Tuder, Orlana, Peder, Katar.	3rd	self-esteem.	fiction, fantasy	poem to begin chapters	I have loved this book for several years, and have read it dozens of times. It is a great story of coming of age, perseverance, and just overall goodness.	Hale, Shannon. Princess Academy. New York: Bloomsbury Children's, 2005. Print.
2/17/2015	It's a Tiger!	David LaRochele	2012	Picture	Missouri Building Block Picture Book Award Nominee 2013	We are in a jungle, and everything looks okay, but is it a girl, or is there a tiger around?	Jungle	Narrator, tiger	1st/2nd?	fear, funny	fiction, picture book, children's book		A Rare second person book that I have found so far. Funny, funny book, deserving of the awards it has received.	LaRochele, David, and Jeremy Tankard. It's a Tiger! San Francisco: Chronicle, 2012. Print.
2/18/2015	Princess Academy - Palace of Stone	Shannon Hale	2012	Chapter		Miri is now a lady of the princess and works teaching others on Mount Eskel. Miri comes down the mountain to help her friend Britta get ready for Britta's wedding and to attend school at the Queen's Castle. When Miri and her friends come down to the lowlands, she realized things were not as perfect as they thought. People are unhappy with the king.						poem to begin chapters		Hale, Shannon. Princess Academy: Palace of Stone. New York: Bloomsbury, 2012. Print.
2/18/2015	Witch and Wizard	James Patterson	2009	YA		Wisty and Whit Allgood are normal, average teens, or so they thought, when one day after The One who is The One has gotten power, they are arrested for being a witch and wizard. They had no clue they were such a thing until Wisty went into flames... This sets them on a whirl-wind path of danger, near-death, torture, and an unimaginable place called the shadow world, where souls go when they die to pass on. This is where Celia, Wisty's girlfriend is. She was murdered by The One who is The One, and now travels in the shadow world to save Wisty and Whit. Whit and Wisty are the only ones who can save the world, but they have to get free of their prison, where they have been sentenced to death by hanging, save their parents, who have managed to disappear, and save the New World from The One who is The One.	unknown	Wisty, Whit, Byron, The One who is The One, Celia	1st	good vs. evil	novel		This was an okay book. It is sometimes a bit hard to follow, but I do enjoy it anyway.	Patterson, James, and Gabrielle Charbonnet. Witch & Wizard. New York: Little, Brown, 2009. Print.
2/19/2015	The Gift	James Patterson	2010	YA		The second book in the series about Wisty and Whit Allgood. The One who is The One faked Wisty's execution, but failed. It just demonstrated more that they are the leaders of the resistance, which is basically a bunch of children who are not part of the New Order. Other parts of the resistance have put on a music festival, and that gets Wisty's interest. She gets caught up with a band who actually happen to be New Order people. And again they are captured. The One who is The One wants her because she is The One with the Gift (he really has things for the one who is...) They go back and forth between being captured and running for their lives.	unknown	Wisty, Whit, Byron, The One who is The One, Celia, Jamie	1st	good vs. evil	novel		I kept continuing reading the series in hopes that it would get better, but it really decides to throw in loops left and right.	Patterson, James, and Ned Rust. The Gift. New York: Little, Brown, 2010. Print.
2/19/2015	Llama Llama Mad at Mama	Anne Dewdney	2007	Picture	Missouri Building Block Award winner	Little Llama has to go shopping with momma. But he doesn't like it!	Shop-o-rama	Little Llama, Mama	3rd	anger	fiction, picture book, children's book	rhyme	I really enjoy the Llama Llama books. Great writing, easy rhymes, and this really reminds me of my son, who HATES going shopping with me! (Unless he gets to drive the little cart...)	Dewdney, Anna. Llama Llama Mad at Mama. New York: Viking, 2007. Print.
2/20/2015	Mixels - Let's Mix!	Shari Last	2014	Picture		Introduction to the Mixels	None	Various Mixels	3rd		fiction, picture book, children's book		Not a good book for this project, but my son enjoyed it.	Last, Shari. Lego Mixels: Let's Mix! St. Louis: Turtleback, 2014. Print.
2/21/2015	Llama Llama Misses Mama	Anne Dewdney	2009	Picture		Little llama is starting school, but he misses is mama!	pre-school	Little Llama, Mama, teacher	3rd	Fear	fiction, picture book, children's book	rhyme	I love these Llama Llama books! Great rhymes, great theme, and overall an enjoyable story for kids. My son made sure to tell me how much he loves me!	Dewdney, Anna. Llama Llama Misses Mama. New York: Viking, 2009. Print.
2/21/2015	Prisoner B-3087	Alan Gratz, Jack Gruener, Ruth Gruener	2013	YA	Truman nominee 2015-2016	"Based on the true story of Jack Gruener." Yank is living in Krakow, Poland during the start of the Second World War. Germany rolls in and occupies all of Poland. As Yank is Jewish, he and his family learn how cruel the Germans can be. This starts when Yank is ten, and follows him through the Krakow ghetto, and ten different concentration camps until he is liberated at sixteen. His will to survive and sheer luck keeps him alive.	Krakow, Poland, and various concentration camps throughout Europe	Yank Gruener,	1st	Survival, Holocaust	fiction but non-fiction,		I really enjoyed this book. As someone who has studied the Holocaust, who has been to Auschwitz, I understood his desire for survival, his will. Though this story has elements that were not specifically from his life, it is a record of what happened to so many Jewish people during the war: the ghetto, being stripped of jobs, food, valuables, and even their homes, to the concentration camps, where they were forced to work with little food, deplorable conditions, and a ever-lasting fear of death around the corner.	Gratz, Alan. Prisoner B-3087. New York: Scholastic, 2013. Print.
2/22/2015	Tuesday	David Wiesner	1991	Picture	Caldecott Medal Winner 1992	Magic occurs on Tuesday night.	unknown town	frogs	none	fantasy, humor	picture book, children's book, limited words	almost wordless	My son cracked up at the images of the frogs, especially when they were doing just silly things! It was a nicely illustrated book.	Wiesner, David. Tuesday. New York: Clarion, 1991. Print.
2/23/2015	Escape from Eden	Elisa Nader	2013	YA	Gateway nominee 2015-2016	Mia and her mom are part of a cult in a South American jungle and have been there for 6 years. Mia does not really like being there. They must follow the rules set forth by the Reverend. A new family with a boy named Gabriel comes to the compound. From the start, Gabriel is trouble. But, Mia is instantly interested in him. She realizes that Mia is not brainwashed like the rest, and they make their plan to escape. However, they are both called to "Prayer Circle." They don't know what it is, as it is secret. What they discover through the "prayer circle" is that the members of Edenton are actually sold for sex by wealthy clients! Gabriel and Mia escape and are helped along by a network of people who's family members are inside Edenton. Mia and Gabriel end up going back in order to bring down Edenton once and for all.	"Edenton" in the jungles of South America	Mia, Gabriel, Thaddeus, Reverend	1st	coming of age, power and corruption, loss of innocence	novel, suspense		I love this book. Powerful, suspenseful, just wow. And apparently this is the authors' first novel! I can't wait to see what else she comes up with.	Nader, Elisa. Escape from Eden. Blue Ash, OH: Merit, 2013. Print.
2/23/2015	Homeless Bird	Gloria Whelan	2000	Chapter	National Book Award Winner	Koly is a 13 year old girl in India. She is uneducated, and is waiting to get married. Her parents arrange a marriage to a 16 year old boy, who they don't realize is sick and dies soon after the wedding. Koly cannot return to her parents, as that would shame them, and so she has to live with her in-laws. However, the mother in law, Sasa, is mean, though her father in law, Sasseur, is nice and teaches her to read. Then, one day Sasseur dies. Koly and Sasa go on a trip, supposedly to go live with Sasa's brother. However, Koly is abandoned in Delhi where there are hundreds of other widows. Koly befriends a rickshaw driver, Raji, who helps her find a place to stay. The landlady works with young widows to get them employed and have a future. Koly works hard, and becomes independent. But, she still wants love.	India, specifically Delhi	Koly, Hari, Sasa, Sasseur, Raji, Maa Kamala, Tani	1st	courage, coming of age, bravery	novel		This is a fascinating story. I am not sure how much of this is supposed to be from the past, or if it is supposed to be set in present times, but it was a fascinating story none the less.	Whelan, Gloria. Homeless Bird. New York: HarperCollins, 2000. Print.
2/23/2015	Rhyming Dust Bunnies	Jan Thomas	2009	Picture	Missouri Building Block Nominee 2010	Dust bunnies start to rhyme...well, except one. He doesn't rhyme, but he makes a lot of sense.	home	Ed, Ned, Ted, Bob	1st	humor, rhyming	picture book, children's book	humor, rhyming	This book was simple but hilarious! I really enjoyed reading this to my son.	Thomas, Jan. Rhyming Dust Bunnies. New York: Atheneum for Young Readers, 2009. Print.
2/25/2015	Princess Academy: The Forgotten Sisters	Shannon Hale	2015	YA		Miri is able to head home to Mount Eskel after spending a year in the lowlands, until she is reunited by the king to tutor the three sisters who the king can make suitable marriages for them. This will help keep the war with Stora at bay. Miri, though, isn't a real tutor, having only one year of actual school at the Queen's Academy behind her. However, she is sent off to Lesser Alva, a poor swampland. There she finds the three sisters she has been sent to tutor. They have not been raised at all like family of royalty, but have had to fend for themselves for several years. So, Miri has to start from the beginning with them. However, there are more things going on in Lesser Alva which complicate matters, such as unfair trading, missing messages and money, and even one of the bandits from Miri's time at Princess Academy. Then, there are the three sisters. Who are they, really, and why are they so important?	Danland/Lesser Alva	Miri, Astrid, Felissa, Susanna, Jeffers, Peder, Britta,	3rd	truth and lies, coming of age	novel	poem to begin chapters	I'm so happy that the author finished the series! I always thought it was a stand alone book, until I realized there were two more books to! The author really made this story come to life.	Hale, Shannon. Princess Academy: The Forgotten Sisters. New York: Bloomsbury, 2015. Print.

2/26/2015	The One and Only Ivan	Katherine Applegate	2012	Chapter	Newberry Medal winner 2013	Ivan is a gorilla that lives in a cage in a mall. He doesn't do any tricks, but in an 16th hour the same dog friend named Bob. He also draws pictures. Stella is an elephant at the mall. She was a circus elephant but now does tricks in the mall. One day, a new elephant is brought in named Ruby. Ruby is a baby, and is scared. She was bought from a circus, but was born in the wild. As they get to know Ruby, Ivan's art changes, his mission for life changes, and things will end for the better.	Big Top Mall	Ivan, Stella, Bob, Mack, George, Julia, Ruby	1st	isolation, perseverance	novel	chapter book	Wow. I got so wrapped up in this book I finished it just hours after I purchased it. I do not regret purchasing it at all! A great great book, great realistic fiction. Wow.	Applegate, Katherine. The One and Only Ivan. New York: Harper, 2012. Print.
2/26/2015	Memoirs of a Goldfish	Devin Scillian	2010	Picture	Show Me Readers Nominee 2013	The life of a goldfish for 2 weeks. He starts off alone, then gets a few friends, and then more and more stuff goes into the bowl	Goldfish's bowl	Goldfish	1st	memoir	children's book	building on the day before	Such a cute story!	Scillian, Devin, and Tim Bowers. Memoirs of a Goldfish. Ann Arbor, MI: Sleeping Bear, 2010. Print.
2/26/2015	Open Very Carefully: A book with Bite	Nicola O'Byrne	2013	Picture	Missouri Building Block Nominee 2014	We try to read the Ugly Duckling, but there's a crocodile in this book!	In the book	Crocodile, duck	1st	humor	picture book, children's book	The book has a bite taken out of it!	Ok, my kid just laughed and laughed at this book. I thought it was adorable.	O'Byrne, Nicola, and Nick Bromley. Open Very Carefully. Somerville, MA: Nosy Crow, 2013. Print.
2/27/2015	Because of Mr. Terupt	Rob Buyea		Chapter		This story is told from seven 5th graders point of view. Each view is a chapter. The 5th graders have a new teacher this year - Mr. Terupt. Though he is new, he isn't about to deal with students as a new teacher. Seven students are featured throughout the book, with each chapter dedicated to one student's voice. Each student has a unique view on their class, their teacher, and their lives, but after an accident occurs, the students are bonded together like they never would have been before. New friendships emerge, family's learn about each other, and a happy ending for the end.	Snow Hill School and surrounding community in Connecticut.	Mr. Terupt, Danielle, Anna, Jessica, Jeffrey, Luke, Alexis, Peter	1st - though changes character with each chapter	friendship, overcoming tragedy, coming of age (somewhat)	novel	Character featured in chapter as narrator	This was a great book. I was a little cynical, because it didn't sound overly impressive. But the more I read, the less I wanted to stop reading! The way the author narrates the story, through the eyes of the students individually, paints a picture of this little community, events that have previously occurred that mar friendships and turn people against each other, and how this class brings many of those people back together. A very powerful story overall.	Buyea, Rob. Because of Mr. Terupt. New York: Delacorte, 2010. Print.
2/27/2015	Rump	Liesl Shurtliff	2013	Chapter	Mark Twain Nominee 2015-2016	Rump was born with only half a name. His mother did not finish telling it before she died. He was raised by his grandmother. He, like most of the village, mined for gold, but rarely came up with any. His mother used to spin, but now the spinning wheel sat in the house unused. Opal was the Millers' daughter. She spins, and Rump watches her, and learns, and realizes he can spin straw into gold. Red is Rump's friend in the village, and wants to help Rump, and he knows more about his mother than his Gran has told him. His gran falls ill, and he trades the gold he spun for rations. After his gran dies, the miller takes advantage of Rump, who realizes that his gift is actually a curse, and he must take whatever is offered in trade for the gold. Soon, the king hears about the spun gold, and the miller claims that his daughter, Opal, spun it. Opal is then promised to the king in marriage, but only if she spins straw to gold. Rump, feeling guilty, goes to help her, and eventually her trade is her 1st born child. Rump of course takes the offer. He then runs away, hoping to never hear of Opal's child. He runs to Yonder, and learns that he has three aunts, all with warning! Finally, once he hears about the child, he is drawn back to the castle. However, the greedy miller and his sons have taken Red, and wants him to keep spinning gold. In order for Opal to keep her baby, she has to figure out Rump's full name.	The Mountain (Village)/The Woods, Yonder	Rump, Red, Opal, King Bartholomew, the aunts	1st	coming of age,	novel	based on a fable	I really enjoyed this book, though at times I had a difficult time with it because I am a huge fan of the show Once Upon a Time, so every once in a while I was thrown off by this. But really good book that I think kids will enjoy!	Shurtliff, Liesl. Rump: The True Story of Rumpelstiltskin. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2013. Print.
3/1/2015	Golden Domes and Silver Lanterns	Hena Khan	2012	Picture		A beautiful book of colors told from a Muslim point of view.	none	none	3rd	colors	children's book	muslim-focused	A really nice book, this would be a good educational tool to teach about other cultures.	Khan, Hena, and Mehrdokht Amini. Golden Domes and Silver Lanterns: A Muslim Book of Colors. San Francisco: Chronicle, 2012. Print.
3/1/2015	The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle	Avi	1990	Chapter	Newberry Honor 1991	Charlotte is 13 years old in 1832. She has lived with her parents in England, but is to return to America. Her family has purchased passage for her on the Seahawk, a ship that is captained by a notorious and unscrupulous captain, and as the other passengers have canceled their trips. There are a lot of mysterious and bad things happening on the ship, and for a 13-year-old, very scary men. She has to learn to protect herself against all kinds of plots that are afoot including the captain wanting her to spy for him, mutiny amongst the crew, and eventually ends up as part of the crew! After a death, she is put on an informal trial for murder by the captain.	The ocean aboard the Seahawk	Charlotte, Captain Jaggery, Zachariah, Holby, Barlow, Hollybass, Foley,	1st	coming of age,	novel	suspenseful	I did not realize when I bought this book from the book fair that it was written in 1991! My husband had to tell me this. Holy baw, I'm surprised I had never heard of it before.	Avi, and Ruth E. Murray. The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle. New York: Orchard, 1990. Print.
3/2/2015	The Girl of Fire and Thorns	Rae Carson	2011	YA	Truman Nominee 2014	Lucero-Elsa is a princess of Orvalle. She is also a bearer of a godstone. On her 16th birthday, she is married to King Alejandro from the neighboring kingdom of Joya D'Arena. After treachery occurs on the kingdom, Alejandro asks that she not yet reveal that she is married to him nor bears the godstone. Though confused and saddened, she obliges. Though the godstone is secret, a maid, Cosme, discovers it. Elsa is kidnapped, and we find out it is Cosme, her brother, Humberto, and two other companions that have taken her. Elsa realizes that she has been taken in order to help stop the war with the Inverno, which though they all thought had ended, had really not. Elsa now must learn to lead, and learn how to stop the forthcoming war with the Inverno.	Joya D'Arena/Puerto Verde	Elsa, King Alejandro, Ximena, Hector, Humberto, Cosme	1st	Coming of age,	novel		I love this book this series. Well written, but I really like the fictional place that has been created.	Carson, Rae. The Girl of Fire and Thorns. New York: Greenwillow, 2011. Print.
3/3/2015	Hot Rod Hamster and the Awesome ATV Adventure	Cynthia Lord	2015	Picture		Hot Rod Hamster and his buddies go on an ATV adventure, and end up saving some new friends.	unknown	Hot Rod Hamster, Dog	3rd	easy reader	picture book, children's book		Cute little story my son picked out.	Lord, Cynthia, Derek Anderson, and Greg Parroco. Hot Rod Hamster and the Awesome ATV Adventure! New York: Scholastic, 2015. Print.
3/3/2015	Rapunzel	Paul O. Zelinsky	1997	Picture	Caldecott Medal Winner 1998	A man and woman live next to a sorceress. The wife is pregnant, and wants to eat the rapunzel herbs that grows in the sorceress' garden. The man steals it and is caught. As penance, the man and woman must give up the child to the sorceress. Rapunzel, named after the herb, is put under by the age of 12. There are no doors into the tower, and Rapunzel must let down her hair. A prince finds her tower and discovers Rapunzel. He immediately asks her to marry him, and they are informally married. He visits her when the sorceress is gone. She soon gets pregnant. Rapunzel is cast out by the sorceress. When the prince visits, the sorceress throws him from the tower and is blinded. He waits for a year, and finally finds Rapunzel and their twins, and his blindness is cured.	Rapunzel, the sorceress, the prince, the man and woman	unknown land	3rd	greed, love and sacrifice	picture book, children's book	different version of Rapunzel	Beautifully illustrated! Interesting adaptation of Rapunzel, as well as the notes regarding the history of the story.	Zelinsky, Paul O., Amy Beniker, and John Stevens. Rapunzel. New York: Dutton Children's, 1997. Print.
3/4/2015	The Crown of Embers	Rae Carson	2012	YA		With King Alejandro dead, and Elsa his wife, she is proclaimed Queen of Joya D'Arena. She is left with a small step-son, who luckily adores her, and a kingdom frail after the battle with the Inverno. She realizes that she must figure out how to consolidate her power, and that is likely by marrying. However, she has fallen for Hector, the head of the Queen's Guard, and loves her back with a passion, but realizes it is his duty to first and always protect her. She realizes that she must find out more about the godstone, and travels with Storm, the former Inverno ambassador to Joya D'Arena, to find out what power really is.	Joya D'Arena/Isla Oscura	Elsa, Hector, Ximena, Mara, Belen, Tristan, Storm, Felix	1st	coming of age,	novel		Second in a great series! I keep realizing how intricate it is and how well written it is.	Carson, Rae. The Crown of Embers. New York: Greenwillow, 2012. Print.
3/4/2015	The Wall: Growing Up Behind the Iron Curtain	Peter Sis	2007	Picture*	Caldecott Honor 2008, Sibert Medal Winner 2008	Peter Sis tells about his life growing up in Communist Czechoslovakia, from his perspective as an artist and music enthusiast.	Czechoslovakia	Peter	3rd/1st (journals)	oppression, Cold War	picture book, graphic memoir	graphic memoir	Unique book! Even my husband, an artist himself, was drawn to the book from just looking over my shoulder. What a different way to discuss his childhood - told from both a 3rd and 1st person perspective, and the imagery of what occurred - wow.	Sis, Peter. The Wall: Growing up behind the Iron Curtain. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2007. Print.
3/4/2015	I'm a T-Rex	Dennis R. Shealy	2010	Picture		We learn a little about the T-Rex and why he is the baddest of all	none	T-Rex	1st	easy reader	picture book, children's book		I love reading this to my son! It is a fun book to read.	Shealy, Dennis R., and Brian Biggs. I'm a T. Rex! New York: Golden, 2010. Print.
3/5/2015	The Bitter Kingdom	Rae Carson	2013	YA		In the finale of the trilogy, Elsa goes after Hector into the land of the Inverno after he is taken. Hector, to his credit, works to escape as well, as he knows Elsa will follow. The journey takes them into the land of the Inverno, where she learns about their history, their quest for power, and why they want her so much as a willing sacrificial godstone bearer.	Inverno	Elsa, Hector, Mara, Belen, Storm, Muia/Red, Waterfall	1st	coming of age, taking a threat	novel		The final book of the trilogy and is just as good!	Carson, Rae. The Bitter Kingdom. New York: Greenwillow, 2013. Print.
3/5/2015	Mr. Terupt Falls Again	Rob Buyea		Chapter		The students in Mr. Terupt's class has been given the chance to have him again as their 6th grade teacher. Instead of drama with Mr. Terupt, there is drama with everyone else; Alexis starts hanging out with older kids and doesn't know how to say no to them; Peter is supposed to follow his brother to private school. Anna wants to find out about her father; Danielle learned that her family is keeping a secret from Jeffrey; Alexis learns about tragedy and how to bring his family back together again; and Jessica wants to discover more about Mr. Terupt.	Snow Hill School and surrounding community in Connecticut.	Mr. Terupt, Danielle, Anna, Jessica, Jeffrey, Luke, Alexis, Peter	1st - though changes character with each chapter	Friendship, overcoming tragedy, coming of age (somewhat)	novel	Character featured in chapter as narrator	Buyea, Rob. Mr. Terupt Falls Again. New York: Delacorte, 2012. Print.	
3/6/2015	I Have Lived a Thousand Years	Livia Bitton-Jackson	1997	Chapter		Elsa is a young girl in Hungary. She dreams of going to school in Budapest, but her dreams are shattered when the Nazis invade first Budapest and then the whole of Hungary. Her brother, who was studying in Budapest, came home after the invasion. Things start to get worse for the family. The yellow Star of David school was closed, more restrictive laws made. Then, all the Jews in the town are rounded up and taken to a ghetto. Then her father is taken away, and then they are shipped to Auschwitz, where they must survive. There are lies, deception, even after they are able to leave Auschwitz, things are not as they seem. Somehow, Eila, her mother, and brother all survive.	Hungary, Auschwitz (Poland)	Ella, Mommy, Bubi (her brother), Daddy	1st	historic, holocaust, survival	novel, historic	memoir	Another powerful tale from the time of the Holocaust. We are fortunate many survived to tell their tale, but sad that it had to happen, and that a million others had to die....	Bitton-Jackson, Livia. I Have Lived a Thousand Years: Growing up in the Holocaust. New York, NY: Simon & Schuster for Young Readers, 1997. Print.
3/8/2015	The Invention of Hugo Cabret	Brian Selznick	2007	Chapter	Caldecott Medal Winner 2008, Mark Twain Nominee 2010	Hugo is an orphan child living in a train station. After his uncle disappeared, Hugo started making sure all of the clocks were correct every day. He had to steal to live, but he also stole in to try to repair an automaton his father found in the museum he worked in before he died. He gets caught stealing from the man who owns the toy shop, and gets his prized notebook taken. To earn back the notebook, he has to work in the toy shop. However, Isabelle, who is an orphan herself but lives with the toy shop owner, gets it for Hugo first. The pair fix the automaton, and realize there is more to "Papa Georges" life than either of them could have dreamed.	Paris, in a train station	Hugo, Georges, Isabelle, Etienne, Jeanne, Station Inspector	3rd (1st sort of)	circle of life, youth	chapter book	2/3 images, with enough text to help to tell the story	Love the book - love the illustrations!! A great, very different way, to read. Enough text to get the help to tell the story.	Jackson, Livia Bitton. I Have Lived a Thousand Years: Growing up in the Holocaust. New York, NY: Simon & Schuster for Young Readers, 1997. Print.
3/8/2015	The Watermelon Seed	Greg Pizzoli	2013	Picture	Missouri Building Block Nominee 2014, Caldecott Medal Winner 2014	Crocodile loves watermelon, but then he swallows a seed. Is the watermelon going to grow inside of him?	none	Crocodile	1st		children's book		Cute, fun story to read, especially aloud.	Pizzoli, Greg. The Watermelon Seed. New York: Disney Hyperion, 2013. Print.
3/9/2015	Hidden: A Child's Story of the Holocaust	Loïc Dauvillier, Marc Lizano, Greg Salsedo	2012	Picture*	Mildred L. Batchelder Honor 2015	Domia, the grandmother, recounts the story of how she survived the Holocaust. First, she was being misled to be a Jew by being invited on her parents' boat. Then, in the middle of the night, her parents are taken away. She, however, was hidden in a wardrobe by her parents, which likely saved her life. Her downstairs neighbor, Mrs. Pericard, rescues her from the wardrobe, explains that her parents have been taken away, and that she would stay with her and her husband. However, they later found that the police who took away her parents were going to come back for her, so she had to run away, and so did Mrs. Pericard. They were hidden out in a farm in the country. Finally, when the war ended, they returned to Paris, where Mr. and Mrs. Pericard sought to locate her parents. But only her mother survived the camps.	Paris	Domia, grandmother, Pericard, Pericard's daughter, Domia's mom and dad, Mr. and Mrs. Pericard, Germane	1st	Survival, youth growing up too early	graphic novel	graphic novel	Wow. What a great way to read this story. This would be good for both younger and older students to learn about how different children survived the Holocaust. You could contrast this to Anne Frank, who was in fact found and taken away.	Dauvillier, Loïc, Marc Lizano, and Alexis Siegel. Hidden: A Child's Story of the Holocaust. New York: First Second, 2014. Print.
3/10/2015	Steam Train, Dream Train	Sherri Duskey Rinker and Tom Lichtenheld	2013	Picture		A train drives through the night, telling about its interesting cargo	unknown	animals	3rd	children's tale	picture book, children's book		My son loves this book. It makes for a good bedtime story.	Rinker, Sherri Duskey, and Tom Lichtenheld. Steam Train, Dream Train. San Francisco, CA: Chronicle, 2013. Print.
3/12/2015	The Three Little Pigs and the Somewhat Bad Wolf	Mark Teague	2013	Picture		A play on the Three Little Pigs tale, but the wolf isn't all that bad, just hungry!	unknown	3 pigs, wolf	3rd	children's tale	picture book, children's book	play on the old Three Little Pigs story	Cute little book! I enjoyed the twist a lot, and how it tells children to be responsible! And not bad!	Teague, Mark. The Three Little Pigs and the Somewhat Bad Wolf. New York: Orchard, 2013. Print.

3/13/2015	Starry Safari	Linda Ashman	2005	Picture	Building Block Nominee 2007	A little boy goes on a safari in his mind	unknown	little boy	1st	adventure, dreaming	picture book children's book	no words	Another story my son loves! I love the end.	Ashman, Linda, and Jeff Mack. Starry Safari. Orlando, FL: Harcourt, 2005. Print.
3/13/2015	A Ball for Daisy	Chris Raschka	2011	Picture	Caldecott Medal Winner 2012	Daisy plays with a ball. She loves the ball and goes everywhere with it. She starts playing with another dog, and it bursts. Daisy gets really sad, until she is given a new ball by the dog and owner who tucks it under her nose. She's now happy again.	unknown	Daisy, Daisy's owner, brown dog	none	loss	picture book children's book, wordless book	no words	Beautifully drawn. A bit hard to interpret though.	Raschka, Christopher. A Ball for Daisy. New York: Schwartz & Wade, 2011. Print.
3/14/2015	Al Capone Does My Shirts	Gennifer Choldenko	2004	Chapter	Newbery Honor 2005, Fleischman Humor Award 2005	Moose and his family, including his mischievous younger brother Alcatraz, so his dad could be a guard for the famous Alcatraz prison. Moose was not happy to be there. They meet Piper, the Warden's daughter, who can generally do no wrong. She is always scheming but doesn't take the blame. Moose's parents are attempting to get Natalie into a special school for children with autism, but she has to be under 12. Moose's mom says that she is 10, but she has been 10 for several years now. Moose has to deal with being a new kid at a new school. Piper's plots, and taking care of his sister, all while living in the shadow of a major, famous prison.	Alcatraz	Moose, Natalie, Piper, Mom, Dad	1st	coming of age,	chapter book historical fiction		I remember reading this book to my 5th grade class when I was teaching, and how much they enjoyed it. I thought this was a cool to read this through library eyes instead of as a teacher reading it aloud.	Choldenko, Gennifer. Al Capone Does My Shirts. New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2004. Print.
3/15/2015	Separate is Never Equal	Duncan Tonatlich	2014	Picture	Sibert Honor 2015, Pura Bellore Illustrator Honor 2015	The true story of Sylvia Mendez, who fought for the right to go to the local public school, years before Brown vs. The Board of Education. Born in the US, spoke perfect English, yet she was forced to go to the subpar "Mexican" school.	Westminster, CA	Sylvia and her family	3rd	struggle for fairness in education	picture book based on true story	based on true story	I was not aware of this story - most everyone knows Brown vs. The Board of Ed, but not this story. It really shows the whole how you look to how you are - Sylvia was American, born in the US, spoke perfect English, yet she was forced to go to the subpar "Mexican" school.	Tonatlich, Duncan. Separate is Never Equal: Sylvia Mendez & Her Family's Fight for Desegregation. New York: Abrams for Young Readers, 2014. Print.
3/15/2015	Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus	Mo Willems	2003	Picture	Caldecott Honor 2004	The bus driver has to take a break, and makes sure to tell the reader, don't let the pigeon drive the bus! But, that pesky pigeon really wants to!	unknown	Pigeon	1st	humor	picture book children's book	1st person talking to reader	My son loves loves loves this book! I brought it home and he was like, awesome! Funny book, really enjoyed how the pigeon was really trying to convince the reader to let us let him drive the bus!	Willems, Mo. Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus. New York: Hyperion for Children, 2003. Print.
3/15/2015	Who Was Anne Frank?	Ann Abramson	2007	Chapter		Part of a popular series "Who Was...?" this particular one is about Anne Frank. It gives an overview of her life in terms that are appropriate for younger readers.	Amsterdam	Anne	3rd	biography	biography, series	non-fiction in a way that is easy for younger kids to understand	I have seen a lot of students at my son's school check out these books, and so I am excited to finally get to read one. I understand why the kids like them - they are non-fiction, but easy to read and comprehend, even when the subjects, like the Holocaust, can be difficult to understand. If I am at an elementary school, I know I will definitely need to have these for the students.	Abramson, Ann, and Nancy Harrison. Who Was Anne Frank? New York: Grosset & Dunlap, 2007. Print.
3/16/2015	Code Name: Verity	Elizabeth Wein	2012	YA	Carnegie Medal Nominee 2013	This story is told in 2 parts - first by "Queenie," who has been captured by the Germans in occupied France, and is essentially writing out her confession. The second story is Maddie, Queenie's friend who is in France but must be hidden. This is a tale of friendship, lies, espionage, and the power to survive.	France	Queenie (aka Julie), Maddie	1st	survival	YA book,	told from two perspectives, overlapping	Wow. Hard book to get into at first, but there was a point where I then could NOT put it down. A powerful story of friendship and survival in the wake of WWII and occupied France. Just wow.	Wein, Elizabeth. Code Name Verity. New York: Hyperion, 2012. Print.
3/17/2015	Someone Named Eva			Chapter		Milada lives in Chechoslovakia with her parents, older brother, young sister, and grandmother. One day she is taken and told to pack for a 3 day interrogation. Before they leave, her grandmother gives her a ruby pin. Milada hides it. Her family is taken to a school and split up - men to one side, women and children to another. Her father and brother are taken away. She is examined by men in white coats, and is judged to be a "perfect Aryan." She is taken away from her family, and before she leaves, her grandmother reminds her to remember who she is. Milada is taken with another girl from her village to Poland where they are taken to a school. There, along with several Polish girls, they are told they will be groomed to be perfect German girls, future wives and mothers. They are taught German, German history, and the like, and then, once "perfect," they are given to German families.	Poland/Germany	Milada	1st	isolation, forced nationality	chapter book, realistic fiction	realistic fiction	Wow. Just wow. Another fact of World War II that I did not know about. However, based on Hitler's obsession with "purity" and blond hair and blue eyes, it does not surprise me that he took children to this extreme. Very impressed.	Wolf, Joan M. Someone Named Eva. New York: Clarion, 2007. Print.
3/17/2015	The Lion and the Mouse	Jerry Pinkney	2009	Picture	Caldecott Medal Winner 2009	The mouse is trying to escape from predators, but runs into a lion. The lion, however, does not eat him, but lets him go, where he finds other mice. At the same time, trappers are setting up a trap to catch a lion. The lion gets trapped in the net! But the mice come to the lion's rescue by chewing through the rope!	Jungle	Lion, mouse	none (no words)	survival	picture book children's book, wordless	wordless	Beautiful illustrations, and a great story of survival and a type of friendship. Glad I grabbed this one!	Herman, Gail, Lisa McCue, and Aesop. The Lion and the Mouse. New York: Random House, 1998. Print.
3/17/2015	Kindertansport	Oiga Levy Drucker	1992	Chapter	Mark Twain Award Nominee 1995	This is the real story of Ollie, a German Jew, who was sent to England on the Kindertansport (train and boat) due to the deteriorating conditions in Germany for Jews. She leaves her family at the age of 11, and goes from family to family. She has some good families, some not so good. She finally ends up leaving school to take care of children of a family, and is later reunited with her parents and brother in America.	Germany/England	Ollie	1st	survival, coming of age	chapter book, historical, autobiography	memoir	Another part of World War II that I did not know about - the Kindertansport. It was a fascinating memoir, how parents could send their children off to England to hope for survival, and what Ollie went through for this. I am impressed by her determination to survive, but also her parents' determination for their children to survive.	Drucker, Oiga Levy. Kindertansport. New York: H. Holt, 1992. Print.
3/19/2015	Jangles: A Big Fish Story	David Shannon	2012	Picture	Show Me Winner 2015	Jangles is a fish of myth, told by fishermen. One day a grandson listens as his father tells about his grandpa and how he actually caught Jangles.	a lake	grandson, grandpa (as a boy)	1st	survival	picture book children's book		Interesting story with a cool twist! I understand why it is a show-me nominee.	Shannon, David. Jangles: A Big Fish Story. New York: Blue Sky, 2012. Print.
3/19/2015	The Prisoner of Cell 25	Michael Paul Evans	2011	YA	Truman Award Nominee 2014	Michael is an ordinary kid. Except for the Tourette's. And that he has electric powers. He lives in small-town Idaho with his mom. His best friend, Ostin, knows about his powers. Michael thinks he is special with his powers. Until he realizes Taylor, the popular cheerleader, has powers. When Taylor starts cheating on him about how they might have gotten their powers, they realize they have led the people they were hiding from right to them. The cover story for the people is that they are a special academy in Pasadena, CA, but instead they kidnap Taylor and Michael's mom. Taylor learns that there are others, including Nichelle, who is the anti-electric child. Tara, who is Taylor's twin sister, and Zeuss, who can't be water. Hatch is the head of everything. Michael and Ostin go to Pasadena to save Taylor and Michael's mom with the help of Jake and Wade, the high school bullies. And when they are caught, Michael meets more electric children who don't want to obey Hatch and hurt people. They all are able to escape, but not without Hatch and on their tails.	Idaho/Pasadena, CA	Michael, Ostin, Taylor, Michael's mom, Hatch, Jack, Wade	1st (Michael only, others are all 3rd even if they are the focus)	survival, coming of age, powers	novel	power people/mehw at dystopian	This was a great book! It will be good for boys and girls alike that enjoy action and adventure.	Evans, Richard Paul. Michael Vey: The Prisoner of Cell 25. New York: Mercury Ink/Simon Pulse, 2011. Print.
3/19/2015	Rise of the Elgen	Michael Paul Evans	2012	YA		Michael is able to save himself and his friends, and take some new ones with him. Now there are two sets of "clones" - Michael and his friends, and Hatch's kids. Hatch still has Michael's mother. In Idaho, Hatch has a trap set for Michael and his friends, but they are helped out of a jam by a mysterious voice. The voice knows who he is and what the kids are, and want to help them. They learn that Michael's mom is being held in the jungles of Peru, where the Elgen have helped governments to change over their electric to new machines. Michael and his friends must go through the jungle, into the power plant, and save his mom. All while being captured several times in the process.	Idaho/Peru	Michael, Ostin, Taylor, Michael's mom, Hatch, Jack, Wade, Zeuss, Ian, Abi, McKenna, Quentin	1st (Michael only, others are all 3rd even if they are the focus)	survival, coming of age, heroes	novel	power people/mehw at dystopian	Second book as good as the first! I can't believe this is going to go to 7 different books!!!	Evans, Richard Paul. Michael Vey: Rise of the Elgen. New York: Mercury Ink/Simon Pulse, 2012. Print.
3/20/2015	Rosie Revere, Engineer	Andrea Beaty		Picture		Rosie Revere dreams of becoming a great engineer. She likes to create different things, and used to not be shy until she was embarrassed by one of her inventions. Then she meets her great-great-aunt Rosie, who tells her about all the things she has done. This makes Rosie less afraid, and stops being embarrassed and scared.	unknown	Rosie, great-great-aunt Rosie	3rd	overcoming fear	picture book children's book	fun style of print in book	I liked this story! A good story for teaching kids to overcome fear of embarrassment.	Beaty, Andrea, and David Roberts. Rosie Revere, Engineer. New York: Abrams for Young Readers, 2013. Print.
3/20/2015	Battle of the Ampere	Michael Paul Evans	2013	YA		Michael and his friends are in trouble yet again, his friends have been captured by the Purvian army and are to stand trial for terrorism. Dr. Hatch and the other electric kids have taken over the Ampere from the commies who used to govern Elgen, and now Dr. Hatch is solely in charge. Michael finds another electric child, one thought to be dead by Dr. Hatch, named Tessa, and brings her into the fold. Unfortunately, Michael and his friends learn about real tragedy when they loose one of their own, but they keep on in order to beat Hatch and save the world. And, let's not forget about the mysterious voice, who has helped Michael and his friends, helped his mom. Who is this person, these people?	Peru	Michael, Taylor, Ostin, Tessa, Ian, Zeuss, McKenna, Abi, Jack, Wade, Dr. Hatch, Jaime	1st	good vs evil	novel		Another great book! Richard Paul Evans is a great storyteller. I just want to keep reading these, and am bummed to realize how much longer I will have to wait for the conclusion!	Evans, Richard Paul. Battle of the Ampere. New York: Mercury Ink/Simon Pulse, 2013. Print.
3/21/2015	Saint George and the Dragon	Margaret Hodges	1984	Picture	Caldecott Medal Winner 1985	This is the retelling of the story of St. George of England and how he slayed a dragon that was terrorizing a country. He begins by not knowing anything about himself, but meets up with Princess Una. She was searching for a hero to slay the dragon. They stop at a Hermit's cottage, who tells the knight who his is. George and Una continue on to face the dragon.	England	George, Una	3rd	heroism	picture book		Interesting story! I never heard of this before, but this is beautifully done, both the retelling and the illustrations.	Hodges, Margaret. Trina Schart Hyman, and Edmund Spenser. Saint George and the Dragon: A Golden Legend. Boston: Little, Brown, 1984. Print.
3/21/2015	The House in the Night	Susan Marie Swanson	2008	Picture	Caldecott Medal Winner 2009	A little girl is given a key to a house that has a light on, and talks about the origins of light.	house	boy	3rd	None	picture book	cumulative pattern	Fascinating book. I didn't really get it until near the end that the whole thing was cumulative.	Swanson, Susan Marie., and Beth Krommes. The House in the Night. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2008. Print.
3/21/2015	Ox-Cart Man	Donald Hall	1979	Picture	Caldecott Medal Winner 1980	The ox-cart man loads up his cart, and goes off to the village, where he sells his wares, buys a few things for his family, and goes back to his farm, where they start the cycle starts all over again.	village	Ox-cart man	3rd	circle of life	picture book		This was an interesting book. I liked the imagery, and the story was interesting as it kind of went full circle in its telling of the story.	Hall, Donald., and Barbara Cooney. Ox-cart Man. New York: Viking, 1979. Print.
3/21/2015	Locomotive	Brian Floca	2013	Picture	Caldecott Medal Winner 2014, Sibert Honor 2014	A beautiful telling of the creation and riding of the transcontinental railroad.	the US	none specified	2nd	historic, power of the machine	picture book, non-fiction	non-fiction	My son got this book for Christmas, and when he saw it on the PowerPoint when I had to take him to class, he said, I have this book! And he did! He enjoys it a lot. I thought it was both creative and informative.	Floca, Brian. Locomotive. New York: Atheneum for Young Readers, 2013. Print.
3/22/2015	The Rules for Disappearing	Ashley Elston	2013	YA	Gateway Nominee 2015-2016	Anna (who through most of this book is known as Meg) and her family are a part of the witness protection. Though she does realize it, she witnessed a murder of her boyfriend and her father, and because of that her family enters witness protection. They have moved five times in almost as many months, and is now in the rural town of Natchitoches, Louisiana. Anna decides this time that she will get involved in activities, not make friends, in case they have to move again. Anna ends up with a friend, Ethan, who eventually becomes her boyfriend. Ethan knows that something is not right, because Anna says she is from Arkansas, but she knows nothing about it. Anna soon remembers what she witnessed, and realizes the only way to get her family out of witness protection is to go to Arizona, her real home, to get the files the bad guys want. Ethan goes along, and they end up on an adventure.	Natchitoches, LA	Anna (known as Meg throughout most of the book), Ethan, Dad, Mom, Teeny	1st	coming of age, suspense, self-preservation	novel, suspense	mystery/suspense	This was a great book! Kept me on the edge of my seat, so to speak. This was extremely suspenseful throughout, and the couple of twists really surprised me!	Elston, Ashley. The Rules for Disappearing. New York: Hyperion, 2013. Print.
3/23/2015	The Rules for Breaking	Ashley Elston	2014	YA		Anna and her family now lives permanently in Natchitoches, LA, but now because they are free from witness protection, they are free to let them go is it still there, and the drug cartel is not happy that he let her go. The witness protection agents know that there is a mole in the agency, but do not know who. Soon, Ethan, Anna, and Teeny are kidnapped and taken to New Orleans. There is a dangerous protection in order to protect her sister and boyfriend and get away, realize how long the drug cartel have actually been following her, find out who the mole is, and overall stay alive!	Natchitoches, LA	Anna, Ethan, Teeny, Thomas, Tyler	1st	suspense, self-preservation	novel, suspense	mystery/suspense	This book was almost better than the first! I really like how it continued on, because in reality, how can Anna stay alive when she say the killer of her old boyfriend and his father? Intense throughout. Just awesome.	Elston, Ashley. The Rules for Breaking. New York: Hyperion, 2014. Print.
3/24/2015	Number the Stars	Lois Lowy	1989	Chapter	Newbery Medal 1990, National Jewish Book Award for Children's Literature 1990	Anemarie and Ellen are schoolgirls in occupied Denmark. The Germans have been there three years, but they have not yet done anything to the Jewish families who live in Denmark. All that changes the night before the Jewish New Year, when Ellen's family, who is Jewish, is told that Germans will be coming to take them away. Anemarie's family take Ellen in. Ellen has dark hair, but so did Lise, Anemarie's older sister who died. Mama, Anemarie, and Krist must take Ellen to Uncle Henrik, who is a fisherman but also has secret compartments in his boat to hide Jews and get them to safety in Sweden.	Copenhagen	Anemarie, Ellen, Krist, Mama, Papa, Uncle Henrik	3rd	coming of age, bravery, good vs. evil	chapter book	historical fiction	I have loved this book since I was young. It was nice to read it again with all the knowledge I have now of WWII and the Holocaust and realize how very brave people in Denmark were.	Lowy, Lois. Number the Stars. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1989. Print.

3/24/2015	The Ever-After Bird	Ann Rinaldi	Chapter			CeCe is a young girl of thirteen in the mid-1800's. Slavery is still present. Her father is a stop on the Underground Railroad. After he is killed, CeCe goes to live with her Uncle, who is also an abolitionist and is a stop on the Underground Railroad. CeCe's uncle goes around the south, telling slaves about the Underground Railroad under the guise of searching for the Ever-After bird, a bird that slaves believe if they see it will bring them their freedom. CeCe, along with her uncle's assistant, college student Earline, a former slave, travel through the south, where CeCe learns how bad slavery can actually be.	The South	CeCe, Uncle Alex, Earline	1st	slavery, injustice, coming of age	chapter book, YA	historical fiction	Wow. Great book. I only meant to review it for an assignment, but ended up getting engrossed in it and could not put it down. Really enjoyed it more than I would have thought.	Rinaldi, Ann. The Ever-After Bird. Orlando, FL: Harcourt, 2007. Print.
3/25/2015	Unspoken: A Story from the Underground Railroad	Henry Cole	2012	Picture		A girl finds a runaway slave in her barn, and decides to help him when she sees that men are looking for runaways.	farm	girl	none	heroism, slavery	picture book, children's book, historical fiction	wordless	BEAUTIFULLY drawn. I had to read it twice to really get the story, but really enjoyed it.	Cole, Henry, and Marijka Kostiw. Unspoken: A Story from the Underground Railroad. New York: Scholastic, 2012. Print.
3/25/2015	Henry's Freedom Box	Ellen Levine	2007	Picture	Caldecott Honor 2008	A true story of Henry "Box" Brown, who shipped himself from a slave state to a free one in order to be free after his family is sold off.	The South	Henry	3rd	bravery, freedom	picture book, historic		I had never heard of Henry Brown or that some actually shipped themselves in boxes to freedom. This was beautifully illustrated, and an amazing story.	Levine, Ellen, and Kadir Nelson. Henry's Freedom Box. New York: Scholastic, 2007. Print.
3/27/2015	A Sick Day for Amos McGee	Philip C. Stead	2010	Picture	Caldecott Medal Winner	Amos McGee, the Zookeeper, has a routine with some of the animals. But, when he falls ill, the animals come to him.	Zoo and Amos' home	Amos McGee, elephant, tortoise, penguin, rhineros, and owl	3rd	love	picture book, children's book	animal's acting human in a way	This was such a cute story! I really enjoyed the sweet within it, and was not what I was expecting, and just love it!	Stead, Philip Christian., and Erin E. Stead. A Sick Day for Amos McGee. New York: Roaring Brook, 2010. Print.
3/27/2015	Hunt for Jade Dragon	Richard Paul Evans	YA			Michael and his friends have escaped after blowing up the Ampere. Dr. Hatch's main boat. But, they are not done yet. They now have to go to Taiwan to save Jade Dragon, a 3 year old autistic female. Dr. Hatch wants the formula, Jade Dragon has figured out (which can lead to creating more electric children), but of course he can't just ask her.	Taiwan	Michael Vey, Taylor, members of the Eleclian, Dr. Hatch, Dr. Hatch's Gloves (other electric children on his side)	1st	Good vs. Evil	young adult	fantasy set in modern times	I just keep reading these books, and am so sad I have to wait until next fall for the next book!! They are engaging, and really enjoyable.	Evans, Richard Paul. Hunt for Jade Dragon. New York: Mercury Ink/Simon Pulse, 2014. Print.
3/27/2015	Chopsticks: A Novel	Jessica Anthony	2012	YA		Gloria is a piano savant. Her world is just her, her piano, and her father until Frank moves in next door. Her world is turned upside down with his entrance into her world.	New York	Glory, Frank, Victor (dad)	None	madness?	young adult	wordless-ish, not text as much as pictures, articles, etc.	I'm STILL not sure about this book. And maybe that's what it is supposed to happen. But that frustrates me. It's not definitive, though there are clues that maybe Gloria has mental problems or the like. I'm not sure. Not as good as I was expecting given peer reviews.	Anthony, Jessica, and Rodrigo Corral. Chopsticks. New York: Penguin Group, 2012. Print.
3/28/2015	Librarian on the Roof	M. G. King	2010	Picture	Show Me Nominee 2013	This is the true story of RoseAleta Laurell, who took over a rural library that did not have a children's section. So, she stayed up on the roof of her library for a week to help motivate the town to raise funds for a children's section.	Lockhart, TX	RoseAleta Laurell	3rd	The power of community	picture book, children's book, true story	beautiful art	This was a neat story! What a librarian would do for her community - wow.	King, M. G., and Stephen Gilpin. Librarian on the Roof: A True Story. Chicago, IL: Albert Whitman, 2010. Print.
3/28/2015	Snow	Uri Shulevitz	1998	Picture	Caldecott Honor 1999	The boy sees a snowflake, and says it will snow, but everyone disagrees with him. Until it does. And fantasy ensues.	Town	boy	3rd	faith, hope, child's imagination	picture book, children's book	fantasy	Beautifully done.	Shulevitz, Uri. Snow. New York: Farrar Straus Giroux, 1998. Print.
3/31/2015	Out of the Dust	Karen Hesse	2005	Chapter	Newbery Medal 1998, Scott O'Neil Award 1998	Billie Jo lives on the plains of Oklahoma during the great depression. She enjoyed playing the piano. She was an only child for many years before her mom became pregnant again. In July of 1934 she and her mom got burned badly because her father and a pair of hercaine next to the stove and her mom thought it was water, and her mom died after giving birth to her brother. Her brother died soon after. Billie Jo's hands were burnt and she could not play piano. She was blamed for the accident. She now has to survive with her father, who isn't there for her, and with no mother or brother.	Oklahoma	Billie Jo, Mom, Dad.	1st	survival, tragic death and the afterwards of a	novel	unique writing, poetry but not	This was a hard book to read... I struggled... I'm not quite sure why.	Hesse, Karen. Out of the Dust. New York: Scholastic, 1997. Print.
4/8/2015	Half Upon a Time	James Riley	2010	Chapter	Mark Twain Nominee 2013	Jack is not a hero, not an adventurer. Because of his father and the beastalk, he chooses not to adventure. That is until a girl, May, falls from the sky. She's not from this kingdom. She is searching for her grandmother, which is thought to be Snow White. Jack goes with May on a quest to find her grandma, being chased by the Huntsman, helped by Phillip, a prince, and the Wolf King, and then there is a mysterious knight who comes to Jack in a dream.	kingdom of Bunderbush	Jack, May, Phillip, Wolf King, Huntsman, Merriweather	3rd	adventure, quest for discovery	novel, twisted fairy tale	fantasy	I really enjoyed this book, and really need to read the other two to find out what happens!	Riley, James. Half upon a Time. New York: Aladdin, 2010. Print.
4/9/2015	The Book Thief	Markus Zusak	2006	YA	National Jewish Award for Children's and Young Adult Literature 2006, Michael Prinz Honor Book 2007	This story is told by Death. Liesl is a young girl in Germany. She is given up by her mother for her foster father is a Jew. Her foster father has a four mouth who yells at everyone around. Her foster father was a painter and accordion player. He showed her kindness. Her best friend is her neighbor Rudy. She goes through life during the Nazi regime. The biggest thing was that she started to steal books. Not every book, but at first it was a book about burying the dead. She occasionally stole other books from her neighbor, the mayor's wife. Soon, they get another person in their home, a Jew named Max. They took care of him, hid him, until they were unable to hide him anymore. Max and Liesl became really good friends during that time. Max ends up in a concentration camp. There were occasionally bombing in their area, and eventually the whole town is blown up. She ends up with the Mayor and his wife.	Germany	Liesel, Mama, Papa, Rudy, Death, Max.	1st	mortality, coming of age	novel	Told by death	This was a difficult book to read. I'll admit. I only got through half of it before turning to the audio book. I have never used an audio book, but it made it much easier to get through. I can see why it is an award winner, but not a book I think I would have chosen if it was not for this project.	Zusak, Markus. The Book Thief. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2006. Print.
4/9/2015	Hero Cat	Eileen Spinelli	2006	Picture	Show-Me Nominee 2009	One day a momma cat had kittens. She nursed them and cleaned them, and then after a while she went to get food for them. However, when she came back, the building the kittens were in was on fire! The brave momma cat got all five of the kittens out safely.	Unknown town	Momma cat	3rd	motherhood, mothering instinct.	picture book, children's book		Powerful story. Actually made me tear up because I was just hoping she would get all the kittens out alive! I'm glad the real hero cat and her kittens were all adopted into loving homes.	Spinelli, Eileen, and McAllister Stammen Jo Ellen. Hero Cat. New York: Marshall Cavendish, 2006. Print.
4/10/2015	If You're Hoppy	April Pulley Sayre	2011	Picture	Building Block Nominee 2012	A play on "If You're Happy and You Know It" with animals and silly rhymes.	none	animals	3rd	hymn	picture book, children's book	rhymes	I really laughed at this story!	Sayre, April Pulley, and Jackie Urbanovic. If You're Hoppy. New York: Greenwillow, 2011. Print.
4/12/2015	Lucky Beans	Becky Birtha	2010	Picture	Show-Me Nominee 2013	This is set during the depression. Marshall lived with his family and and aunt and uncle. His dad was out of work, and they had no money. Many nights they had beans for dinner. There was a contest at the furniture store. Whoever guessed the right amount of beans in the jar would win the beans and a new sewing machine. Marshall wanted to help his mom win, so they used math that Marshall used from school to estimate the amount of beans that would fit into to an old pot which was close to the size of the jar the beans in the contest was in. Because they made an educated guess, they were only 13 beans off, and won the contest! Marshall's mom started sewing and getting paid for it, and his dad helped the future store owner with deliveries.	unknown town	Marshall, Ma, Dad, Mr. Kaplan	3rd	survival, determination	picture book, children's book		A really nice story of an actual event that happened in the authors' grandmother's life!	Birtha, Becky, and Nicole Tadgeff. Lucky Beans. Chicago, IL: Albert Whitman, 2010. Print.
4/12/2015	He Came with the Couch	David Slonim	2005	Picture	Building Block Nominee 2006	The boys' family needed a new couch after their dog ripped up the old one. They found a new couch, and someone came with it! He didn't budge, no matter where they took him (and the couch)! But one day, he saved the boy by throwing the couch out the window when the boy fell from the tree. But, now they needed a new chair, and a girl came with it.	Boy, thing on couch	Boy, thing on couch	3rd	acceptance	picture book, children's book		cute little story!	Slonim, David. He Came with the Couch. San Francisco: Chronicle, 2005. Print.
4/13/2015	Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone	J.K. Rowling	1997	Chapter	Numerous "Banned/Challenged Book"	Harry Potter is an orphan living in a "room" under the stairs of his aunt and uncle. After years of being picked on and unwanted, he learns that he is actually a wizard and that his parents also were, and that he is to go to Hogwarts School for Witchcraft and Wizardry in order to be trained properly! He soon has two close friends, Ron and Hermione. He is liked by many, but not by one professor in particular, Snape. The headmaster, Dumblestone, takes a special liking to Harry. Harry is very special. He is the child who survived "He Who Shall Not Be Named." This of course leads to unknown fame, but Harry stays humble. Harry learns how to ride a broom, play Quiddich, and learns that someone is trying to hurt Harry!	Hogwarts's School for Witchcraft and Wizardry	Harry, Ron, Hermione, Dumblestone, Professor McGonagall, Professor Snape, Professor Quirrell, Hagrid, Malfoy	3rd	power, quest for power, friendship	novel, banned book	fantasy, witchcraft/wizard dry	I left my summary vague because it is so hard to really encompass all that is Harry Potter! I still have a hard time believing this was a banned book - people really got to get over themselves! I enjoyed this book, but really enjoyed the others, as the writing got stronger (and darker) along the way.	Rowling, J. K., and Mary GrandPré. Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone. New York: A.A. Levine, 1998. Print.
4/14/2015	Ducks Don't Wear Socks	John Nedwidek	2008	Picture	Building Block Nominee 2010	Emily was a serious girl, but the duck was certainly NOT serious!	unknown	Emily, duck	3rd	humor	picture book, children's book	duck as human	Funny story! I like how at the end, Emily stops being so very serious!	Nedwidek, John, and Lee White. Ducks Don't Wear Socks. New York: Viking, 2008. Print.
4/15/2015	The Day the Crayons Quit	Drew Daywalt	2013	Picture	Show-Me Nominee 2016	All the crayons have written letters to Duncan telling them how they feel about their use, or lack thereof.	unknown	Crayons	1st		picture book, children's book	told from the point of view of each of the crayons!	I just love this story, maybe because my husband is an artist, maybe because I love coloring with crayons, or just maybe it is a cute story. Or all three.	Daywalt, Drew, and Oliver Jeffers. The Day the Crayons Quit. New York: Penguin Group, 2013. Print.
4/16/2015	Dewey: There's a Cat in the Library	Vicki Myron	2009	Picture	Show-Me Reader Nominee 2012	This is the true story of Dewey, the library cat, told in picture book form. This is told more from the view of Dewey, though not 1st person. It tells how he was found, what he did in the library, how he interacted with people, and the imagined thoughts of Dewey.	Spencer, Iowa	Dewey the Cat	3rd	discovery, friendship	picture book, children's book		Like the other book, this is so adorable, and tells the story of the library cat in a way that younger kids will understand and appreciate. So cute.	Myron, Vicki, and Bret Witter. Dewey: There's a Cat in the Library! New York: Little, Brown, 2009. Print.
4/16/2015	Never Let a Ghost Borrow Your Library Book	Karen Casale	2012	Picture		Book care guidelines from the Library Secret Service, including not letting pets, or parents, eat your books, don't let babies or elves or ogres drool on books, and do not drink or eat anything while reading a library book.	Unknown	Library Secret Service	2nd	rules for library books	picture book, children's book		LOVE this book! I think that this book should be read to all students at the beginning of the year, just because it is funny, but has some good messages in it. I'm actually surprised this has not won any awards.	Casale, Karen, and Cecilia Reborna. Never Let a Ghost Borrow Your Library Book: Book Care Guidelines from the Library Secret Service. Madison, WI: Upstart, 2012. Print.
4/18/2015	Code Talker	Joseph Bruchac	2005	YA	Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's Book Award Nominee 2008	This is the fictional story of Ned Begay, who is a native american WWII vet. When Ned was young, he was taken away from his family to be educated at a "white man's" school. He had to learn English, but his parents were different, and basically forgot all of his heritage. This all changed when Ned was 16. He was recruited to the Marines and held a secret job - a Navajo Code Talker. During WWII, the Marines used Navajo code talkers to communicate secrets that they did not want the enemy (the Japanese) to know. This story details Ned's journey throughout his time in the war, as told to his grandchildren.	Boarding school, Pacific Islands	Ned Begay	1st	destroying and building character, racism, patriotism	novel, historical fiction	historical fiction	A very good book. I was familiar with the Navajo code talkers but never read a story about them. Very interesting how their culture was taken away and then later saved. Good to discuss a little about what happened to Native Americans in the past.	Bruchac, Joseph. Code Talker: A Novel about the Navajo Marines of World War Two. New York: Dial, 2005. Print.
4/18/2015	Dewey the Library Cat	Vicki Myron	2010	Chapter		This is the true story of Dewey, who was found as a kitten in a library drop box one very cold morning. He becomes the cat for the library, and lives there. It discusses the town's reactions to having a cat in the library, what Dewey did in the library, and how he basically became famous.	Spencer, Iowa	Dewey the cat, Vicki Myron	1st	love and friendship, animal	Novel	none	What an adorable book! I read both this version as well as the children's version. Both are so adorable, but this one gives you more insight into Dewey's life in the Spencer Library. Makes me love my own cats more.	Myron, Vicki, and Bret Witter. Dewey the Library Cat: A True Story. New York: Little, Brown, 2010. Print.
4/19/2015	Will in Scarlet	Matthew Cody	2013	Chapter	Mark Twain Nominee 2016	Will Shackley is a young lordling in England. His father went with King Richard on the crusades, and so Will's uncle, and his friends, Will lands in exile after his uncle is murdered by Sir Guy, who works for Prince John, who is trying to unseat the king. Will flees to Sherwood Forest and is found by the Merry Men, led by Gilbert. They think to ransom him, but instead Will tells them of a treasure at his home, which was just a ploy to go back to kill Sir Guy. When they fail, Will, Much, Rob (the dunker), and Little John decide to work for themselves, stealing from the rich and giving to the poor. But more is in store when they have to face Sir Guy and the Sheriff.	England	Will, Sir Guy, Mark Brewer (the sheriff of Nottingham), Much (Marianne), Rob, Little John	3rd	coming of age, overcoming fear	novel		Another enjoyable story. I really like how the author did not make Robin the hero at first, but that he had to learn to be one. Really good twist on this story.	Cody, Matthew. Will in Scarlet. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2013. Print.
4/21/2015	Looking for a Moose	Phyllis Root	2006	Picture	Building Block Nominee 2007	Have you ever seen a moose? You look all around, looking for the long-legged, branchy-antler, dinner-diving, butly-nose moose.	unknown woods	children	2nd	exploration	picture book, children's book	silly rhyme	nice little book. Not a favorite, but cute.	Root, Phyllis, and Randy Cecil. Looking for a Moose. Cambridge, MA: Candlewick, 2006. Print.
4/21/2015	Arrow to the Sun	Gerald McDermott	1974	Picture	Caldecott Medal Winner 1975	A boy searches for his father, who is the Lord of the Sun. He is transformed into an arrow and finds him, but must pass four tests in order to prove he is the Lord's son.	Pueblo home	Son	3rd	coming of age, Christ-like	picture book, folklore	folklore, stylized imagery	a beautifully illustrated story! I have suggested this to a professor friend of mine, whose focus is Native Americans.	McDermott, Gerald. Arrow to the Sun: A Pueblo Indian Tale. New York: Viking, 1974. Print.

4/22/2015	Theodore Boone, Kid Lawyer	John Grisham	2010	Chapter	Mark Twain nominee	Theo Boone is an 8th grader in Stratzenburg. His parents are lawyers, and he enjoys hanging out in the courthouse more than anything. He aspires to be a trial lawyer someday, and even helps out friends with animal court cases. There was a murder in town, a rarity, and only one suspect. But, though he seems guilty, there is no evidence or witnesses, or so it is thought. But, there was a witness, an illegal immigrant. Theo needs to get the witness to come forward, all while being ethical.	Theo, Marcella Boone (Mom), Woods Boone (Dad), April, Judge Gantry, Ike, Mr. Mount, Mr. Duffy, Julio, Bobby, Omar	Stratzenburg	3rd	mystery, injustice	novel	suspenseful,	I really liked this book, more than I thought I would!	Grisham, John. Theodore Boone, Kid Lawyer. New York: Dutton Children's, 2010. Print.
4/23/2015	Rapunzel Untangled	Cindy Bennett	2013	Chapter	Truman Nominee 2015-2016	This retelling of Rapunzel is told in modern times. Rapunzel is, as in other stories, stolen as an infant. She is locked in lower rooms at Gothel Manor aka Gothel Mansion. She does not go out of her rooms because she is told she has a disease that will kill her if she goes out. So, is homeschooled, and uses a computer to do her homework. She is only to use her computer for studies, but comes upon a site called Facebook. She secretly signs up for an account, and looks for kids her age in her area. She sends a friend request to Fab Fane Flannigan, who accepts, and starts a conversation with her. She slowly starts to review things about herself. When her mother goes out of town, she invites him over, which starts this whole quest as to finding out why she isn't supposed to leave the tower, why she lives in a huge mansion but only resides in a couple rooms, and eventually, who she really is and why she has such long hair.	Modern day, Shasta County, CA, Gothel Mansion	Rapunzel, Fane, Gothel	3rd	Coming of age, empowerment, good vs evil	Novel	fairy tale set in modern times	Wow, I am so glad I bought this book at MASLI! I've been wanting to read it for a while now, and I devoured it in one night.	Bennett, Cindy C. Rapunzel Untangled. Springville, UT: Sweetwater, 2013. Print.
4/24/2015	Five Flavors of Dumb	Antony John	2010	YA		Piper is a senior in high school. She is moderately deaf, and uses a combination of hearing aids, lip reading, and signs to communicate. She leads the local high school band playing on the steps of the high school, and challenges them to be better. She ends up as their manager. She starts helping them evolve, including getting them a drummer, her friend Ed, helping to get songs written and recorded, and even learning to deal with the popular girl, who only ends up in the band because the lead singer wants to get with her. Her younger brother, a trouble maker, sends her on a quest to learn about true music and rock and roll in their home area of Seattle, and learns a lot about herself, music, friendship, and even love.	Seattle suburb	Piper, Finn, Ed, members of Dumb: Josh, Will, Tash, Piper's mom and dad, and Grace	1st	coming of age,	novel		I was very pleased with this book. My undergraduate degree is in Communicative Disorders, and I have a background in music, so there were a lot of elements that really called to me. I felt the author did a great job with presenting how a older girl who is deaf would feel when her baby sister is "cured" with cochlear implants, with money that was saved for her to go to Galludet. Very impressed overall.	John, Antony. Five Flavors of Dumb. New York: Dial, 2010. Print.
4/26/2015	Theodore Boone, The Abduction	John Grisham	2011	Chapter		Theo Boone has a new mystery to solve - his best friend April has disappeared! Theo goes on a dramatic search for April with the assistance of his uncle, Ike. He manages to find April when actual detectives could not.	Stratzenburg	Theo, April, May Finnamore (April's Mom), Tom Finnamore (April's Dad), Marcella Boone (mom), Woods Boone (dad), Chase, Ike, Detective Slater, Capshaw, Leeper	3rd	suspense, mystery, missing person	novel	suspense	Another really good Theo Boone novel! I'm getting hooked on these! This is really good for boys, as there doesn't always seem to be a lot of strong boy stories for this age range.	Grisham, John. Theodore Boone, the Abduction. New York: Dutton Children's, 2011. Print.
4/26/2015	Sylvia Jean Scout Supreme	Lisa Campbell Ernst	2010	Picture	Show Me Nominee 2013	Sylvia Jean is a Pig Scout. One week they are asked to choose a good deed to do to earn the badge. Sylvia Jean decides to help her neighbor, Mrs. VanHoooven, who broke her leg. The first day, Sylvia Jean brings over so many things, and really overdoes it. She is then not allowed over. So, not to be dissuaded, she starts visiting her neighbor daily dressed up as strangers from the neighborhood such as a new elderly neighbor who brings violets, a man from Spain who brings Spanish rice, and so forth. When it comes time for Sylvia to explain what her good deed was, she realizes that because she was told to stay away and didn't, that she can't tell what she did. Mrs. VanHoooven comes to her rescue, though.	unknown fairytale town	Sylvia Jean, Mrs. VanHoooven	3rd	Perserverence, friendship	Picture Book	animals as characters	As a former girl scout and mom of a cub scout, this really spoke to me. I understand how it is to want to do your best, and sometimes over do it. This book really sends a good message about fixing your mistakes and doing good deeds for others.	Ernst, Lisa Campbell. Sylvia Jean, Scout Supreme. New York: Dutton Children's, 2010. Print.
4/27/2015	The Adventures of Beekle	Dan Santat	2014	Picture	Caldecott Award 2015, Show-Me Nominee 2016	Beekle is an imaginary friend who hasn't found his child yet. He waits and waits to be picked, but it never came. So, he went to the real world to find his friend instead. He looked all over, saw many different things, until one day Alice found him. And after a short time, they realized they were friends.	Imaginary land, real world	Beekle	3rd	perseverence, friendship	Picture Book		What a cute story! Really enjoyed this one.	Santat, Dan. The Adventures of Beekle: The Unimaginary Friend. New York: Little, Brown, 2014. Print.
4/27/2015	As Fast as Words Could Fly	Pamela Tuck and Eric Velasquez	2013	Picture	Show-Me nominee 2016, New Voices Award Winner	Mason Steele lives in the segregated city of Greenville, NC. He is a good writer and helps out the civil rights group his father belongs to by writing letters for them. They eventually buy him a typewriter. During his first year of high school, Mason and his brothers are told that because a court case has been won, they will now attend the all-white Belvoir High School instead of having to travel 12 miles to their current segregated high school. On the first couple of days, the school bus refuses to pick them up. When the bus driver finally stops, they are made to sit in the back of the bus. They are not welcomed, but forced to find their own way around their new school. One class Mason took was typing. The teacher ignored him, but he took what he learned home and practiced anyways. Soon, he got an after-school job at the school library. Things got a little better when the typing teacher realized he could type. One day, the typing class was told there was going to be a typing tournament. Mason won the right to represent his high school. When he went to the tournament, he was the only one who chose a manual typewriter, and won there as well.	Greenville, North Carolina	Mason Steele, Mrs. Roberts, Dad	3rd	empowerment, racism, perseverence	Picture book, historical fiction		This is a good book for younger students to understand how bad racism was before the turn of the civil rights movement. I can see why this is a nominee for the Show-Me awards - it has a great message.	Tuck, Pamela M., and Eric Velasquez. As Fast as Words Could Fly. New York: Lee & Low, 2013. Print.
4/28/2015	Picture Day Perfection	Deborah Diesen	2013	Picture	Show-Me Nominee 2016	The boy wants to be perfect for picture day. But everything goes wrong - except wrong is exactly what he wants!	Unknown	The boy (unnamed)	1st	humor	Picture Book, Children's Book		This was such a funny book! I could see my boy doing this some day... though he knows how mad I would be if he pulled something like this off!	Diesen, Deborah, and Dan Santat. Picture Day Perfection. New York: Abrams for Young Readers, 2013. Print.
4/28/2015	This Book just ate my dog!	Richard Byrne	2014	Picture	Building Block Nominee 2015	The book is being very naughty!	the book	Bella, the dog	3rd	humor	picture book, children's book		I can see why this is a nominee for the building blocks. Kids will love this!	Byrne, Richard. This Book Just Ate My Dog! New York: Henry Holt, 2014. Print.

Jamie Becker					
Reading Tally - EDL 53500					
WEEK	Picture/Easy Reader (5)	Chapter (2)	Young Adult (1)		Award Winner
Jan 28-Feb. 3	5	2	4		4
Feb. 4-Feb. 10	6	3	1		1
Feb. 11 - Feb. 17	5	3	2		8
Feb 18 - Feb. 24	5	2	4		6
Feb. 25 - Mar. 3	5	4	2		7
Mar. 4 - Mar. 10	5	3	2		4
Mar. 11 - Mar. 17	6	4	1		8
Mar. 18 - Mar. 24	6	1	5		8
Mar. 25 - Mar. 31	5	2	2		5
Apr. 8 - Apr. 14	5	2	1		9
Apr. 15 - Apr. 21	5	2	1		6
Apr. 22 - Apr. 28	5	3	1		7
				TOTAL	TOTAL AWARD
TOTAL	63	31	26	120	73
					0.6083333333

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