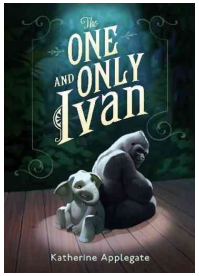
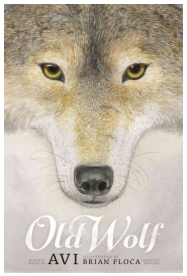
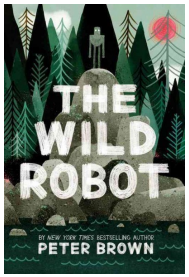


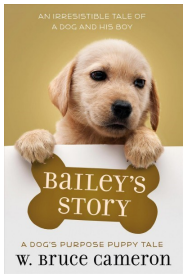
The One and Only Ivan
by Katherine Applegate
When Ivan, a gorilla who has lived for years in a down-and-out circus-themed mall, meets Ruby, a baby elephant that has been added to the mall, he decides that he must find her a better life.
305p. | 2012 | Ages 8-12



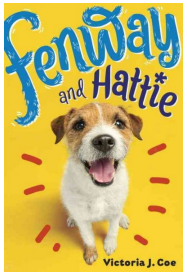
Old Wolf by Avi
A wolf teams up with a remarkable raven to survive a stark period of winter in the Colorado Mountains, where they cross paths with a 13-year-old computer gamer.
146p. | 2015 | Ages 8-13



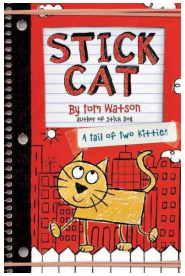
The Wild Robot by Peter Brown
Waking up for the first time on a remote island where she is all alone, Roz the robot learns survival strategies from the island's untrusting animals and finally gains acceptance when she cares for an orphaned gosling.
279p. | 2016 | Ages 7-12



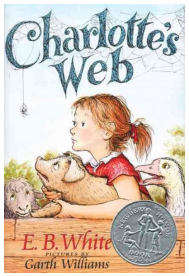
Bailey's Story by W. Bruce Cameron
When Bailey meets 8-year-old Ethan, he quickly figures out his purpose: to play, to explore the farm, and to tidy the boy's dishes by licking them clean (only when Mom isn't watching). But Bailey soon learns that life isn't always so simple and that his greater purpose is to protect the boy.
206p. | 2016 | Ages 8-12



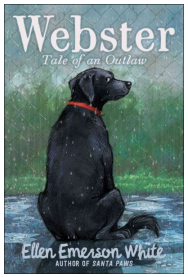
Fenway and Hattie
by Victoria Coe
An excitable Jack Russell terrier named Fenway and his favorite short human, Hattie, move to the suburbs and must adjust to the changes that come with their new home.
162p. | 2016 | Ages 8-12



Stick Cat: A Tale of Two Kitties
by Tom Watson
When Stick Cat hears terrible noises and a violent crash, he must navigate his way across the alley to rescue a man trapped in a building.
199p. | 2016 | Ages 7-11



Charlotte's Web by E.B. White
Wilbur, the pig, is desolate when he discovers that he is destined to be the farmer's Christmas dinner until his spider friend, Charlotte, decides to help him.
164p. | 1952 | Ages 8-12



Webster: Tale of an Outlaw by Ellen White
Webster may be a cynical shelter dog, but in this humorous and heartwarming story, he just may learn to let down his guard and find a home and family after all.
240p. | 2015 | Ages 8-12

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FOR GRADES 3 - 6

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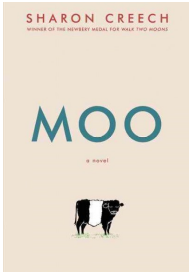
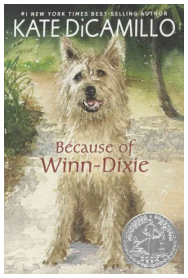
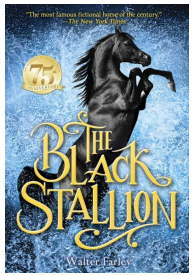


Moo by Sharon Creech
When Reena and her family first move to Maine, Reena expects beaches, blueberries, and all the lobster she can eat. Instead, her parents volunteer her and her brother to work on an eccentric farm, where there is a pig, a cat, a snake--and a stubborn cow, Zora.
278p. | 2016 | Ages 8-12

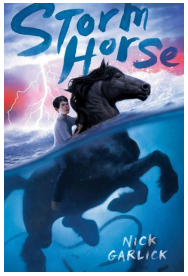


Because of Winn-Dixie by Kate DiCamillo
When 10-year-old Opal moves to Naomi, Florida, with her father, she doesn't know what to expect -- least of all that she'll adopt Winn-Dixie, a dog she names after the supermarket where they met.
182p. | 2001 | Ages 8-12



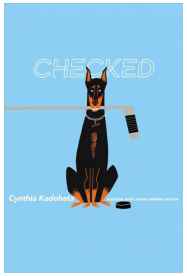
The Black Stallion by Walter Farley
Young Alec Ramsay, pulled to a deserted island by the wild black stallion he has freed during a shipwreck at sea, spends his days slowly building trust with "Black" while working to keep them both alive until they can be rescued.
187p. | 1941 | Ages 9-12

Mouseheart by Lisa Fiedler
Follows the experiences of an escaped pet shop mouse who descends into a utopian rat civilization before confronting threatening rebels, ravenous cats, and a generations-long battle involving deadly secrets.
315p. | 2014 | Ages 9-13

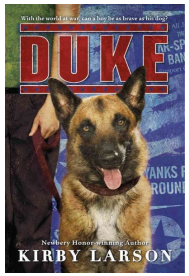


Storm Horse by Nick Garlick
When his father dies, twelve-year-old Flip goes to live with his stern uncle on the remote Dutch island of Mossum, where he deals with bullies, befriends a mute girl, and rescues a horse from the sea.
242p. | 2017 | Ages 9-13

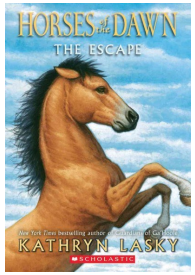
Last updated August 2018



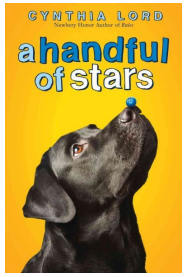
Checked by Cynthia Kadohata
Hockey is Conor's life. His whole life. There are very few things Conor loves more than the game, and one of those things is their dog, Sinbad. When Sinbad is diagnosed with cancer, Conor chooses to put hockey on hold to care for his dog.
408p. | 2018 | Ages 10-14



Duke by Kirby Larson
In 1944 Hobie Hanson's father is flying B-24s in Europe, so Hobie decides to donate his beloved German shepherd, Duke, to Dogs for Defense in the hope that it will help end the war sooner--but when he learns that Duke is being trained for combat he is shocked, frightened, and determined to get his dog back.
225p. | 2013 | Ages 8-13

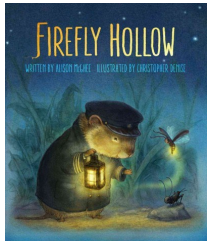


Horses of the Dawn by Katherine Lasky
Estrella is a filly, daughter of the lead mare, one of a shipment of horses bound for the new world, but when the ship is becalmed and the horses are dropped overboard to lighten the load, Estrella finds that it is up to her to lead the herd to land and safety.
219p. | 2014 | Ages 8-12

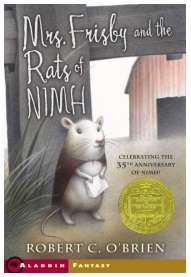


A Handful of Stars by Cynthia Lord
When her blind dog slips his collar, 12-year old Lily meets Salma Santiago, a young Hispanic girl whose migrant family is in Maine for the blueberry-picking season. The two forge a friendship which is tested as the annual Blueberry Queen pageant approaches.
184p. | 2015 | Ages 8-12

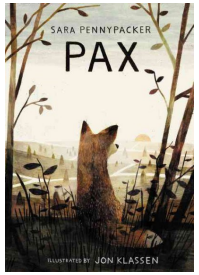
Rain Reign by Ann M. Martin
Struggling with Asperger's, Rose shares a bond with her beloved dog, but when the dog goes missing during a storm, Rose is forced to confront the limits of her comfort levels, even if it means leaving her routines in order to search for her pet.
226p. | 2014 | Ages 9-12



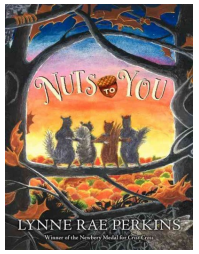
Firefly Hollow by Alison McGhee
Firefly doesn't merely want to fly, she wants to touch the moon. Cricket doesn't merely want to sing about baseball, he wants to catch. When these two little creatures defy their elders and wander out of Firefly Hollow, they find themselves face-to-face with the one creature they were always told to fear…a giant.
291p. | 2015 | Ages 7-12



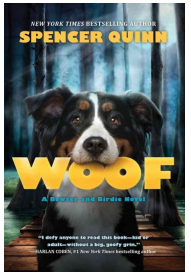
Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH
by Robert C. O'Brien
Mrs. Frisby, a widowed mouse with 4 small children, is faced with a terrible problem. She must move her family's home immediately, or face almost certain death. Fortunately, she encounters some extraordinary rats who come up with a brilliant solution to her dilemma.
233p. | 1971 | Ages 8-12



Pax by Sara Pennypacker
When his father enlists in the military and makes him return his beloved pet fox to the wild, Peter, who has been sent to live hundreds of miles away, embarks on a journey filled with astonishing discoveries in order to be reunited with his fox.
276p. | 2016 | Ages 9-13



Nuts to You by Lynne Rae Perkins
When their friend Jed is snatched up by a hawk and dropped somewhere, squirrels TsTs and Chai embark on a search involving strange communities, new friends and formidable dangers.
259p. | 2014 | Ages 8-12



Woof by Spencer Quinn
Teaming up with eleven-year-old Birdie to solve mysteries on the Louisiana coast, dog detective Bowser investigates the theft of a prize stuffed marlin in which Birdie's Grammy may have hidden a treasure map.
293p. | 2015 | Ages 8-12