

READ

May 2016

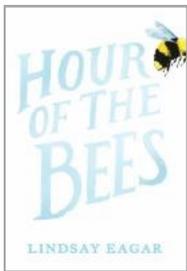
Recent books for kids that the Children's Library staff have read & loved & that we think you will too!

Baker's Magic by Diane Zahler. J Fiction



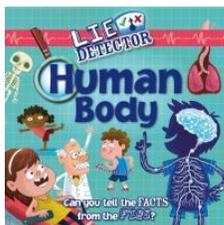
At only twelve years old, Bee has had a hard life. But when she chances to land a spot as an apprentice to a kind-hearted baker her life takes a happy turn. Her baking becomes the talk of the town, not only because it is delicious but because it makes people feel certain things. Yes, Bee discovers she has her own special kind of magic that she infuses into her baking. This leads her to meeting the orphaned princess Anika, and Anika's cruel guardian, the evil mage Master Joris who is ruining the kingdom. Together with the princess and their friend Wil, Bee sets out on an adventure to save not only Anika, but ultimately the kingdom. They wind up meeting many interesting characters who help them along the way, including some amiable pirates, forgetful mages, and gentle tree spirits. A heartwarming tale with plenty of action that is suitable for ages 8 and older.

Hour of the Bees by Lindsay Eager. J Fiction, JCD



Carol's grandfather has dementia, and the family (Carol, her parents, her older half sister and her baby brother) has gone to spend one last summer with him at his New Mexico sheep ranch getting the place ready to sell and grandpa to go into assisted living. Carol does not want to be on the hot dusty ranch away from all of her friends - she wants to be home sitting by the pool and planning her outfits for starting junior high in the fall. Neither does Grandpa want to leave, and when he is cognizant of his surroundings he berates Carol's father for taking him away. But he also tells Carol wonderful stories of a village by a lake, where a beautiful tree gave the villagers immortality - and of the bees that kept the tree alive. Grandpa says when the bees left they took the rain with them, and the area truly has been in a drought for many years. But Carol has seen bees at the ranch - and they seem to be following her around. How do the bees, the tree, the drought all tie into Carol's family history? A touch of magical realism and real life stress of dealing with dementia combine to create an unforgettable tale for readers in grades 5 and up.

Lie Detector: Human Body by Simon Holland. E 612 Holla



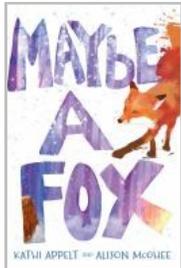
This book is part of a new series at the library. The series is called *Lie Detector* and asks the question "Can you tell the facts from the fibs?" The subjects in the series include the human body, animals, dinosaurs and the ocean. As you read any of the books, the fronts of the pages have the question "Fact or Fib?" and then a statement. Before turning over the page, the reader can decide whether the statement is true or false. When you turn the page, you find out if you were right and then read a short explanation of what is true. For example, in this book about the human body, one page says,



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“Adults have more bones than babies do.” Do you think that is a fact or a fib? It turns out that it is a fib! A newborn baby actually has around 300 bones. As children grow, a lot of their bones fuse together and when they reach adulthood, there are only 206 bones in the skeleton. Check out this book or any of the others in the series and find out what you already know and what you can learn about these interesting subjects. This would be a good book for 3rd grade and up and for younger ages to use with parent interaction.

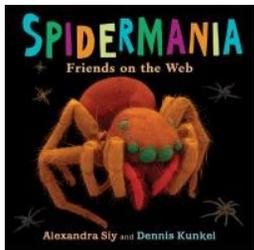


Maybe A Fox by Kathy Appelt. J Fiction, JCD

After her beloved older sister disappears forever, Jules has to deal with being left behind, as well as experiencing survivor's guilt for having gone into a part of the woods where the girls had promised their father they wouldn't go. She can't face going to back to school and riding the bus without her sister, so she stays home for several weeks. At around the same time, a baby fox is born that somehow has a connection to Sylvie. With Appelt's typical touch of magical realism, the animal and the human worlds intersect, and the fox and Jules help each other to find resolution. Give this to kids who love sad stories or animal books. And make sure to finish it in private in case you start crying! Recommended for grades 5 and up.

Spidermania: Friends on the Web by Alexandre Siy. J 595.4 Siy

Most questions about spiders that you have ever had, and probably many that you would never think of, are answered in this book. It has really amazing pictures that are actually electron micrographs that have been colorized in surreal ways. The book starts with a description of arachnids and what makes spiders unique in that group. One very important difference about spiders is that they can create silk and spin webs. Some varieties of spider silk are stronger than steel, tougher than nylon, more stretchable than a bungee cord and stickier than glue. Another aspect of spiders that makes them so interesting is their eyes. Some have as many as eight eyes, others have six, four, two, or even none. If you have arachnophobia, this would not be a good choice; but for kids 2nd grade and up who are interested in spiders, this would be a great book to check out!



Tru and Nelle by G. Neri. J Fiction, JCD

Long before they were famous, (Nelle) Harper Lee and Truman Capote were best friends and neighbors in the tiny town of Monroeville, Alabama. Truman has been sent to stay with his elderly relatives because his divorced parents don't want him. He is an odd little duck in the south - dressed impeccably in white suits and fancy shoes and a couple of grades ahead of the other kids his age at school - but he and tomboy Nelle bond over both being outsiders, as well as their love of Sherlock Holmes detective stories. They need a mystery of their own to solve - and they get one when someone breaks into the local drugstore. This portrayal of small town life at the beginning of the Great Depression is fascinating and fun. Hopefully readers won't be put off by the old fashioned cover. Recommended for grades 3-5, but older fans of *To Kill A Mockingbird* will enjoy this also.



What to Do when Mistakes Make You Quake by Claire Freeland. J 155.4 Freeland

Do you ever stop yourself from doing something because you're worried about making a mistake? This can even be something fun that you would probably really enjoy. Or maybe you'll go ahead and do it, but if something does go wrong, you pay more attention to what went wrong instead of what was good. Or maybe you just blame everyone else for causing the problem. This new book could be really helpful in figuring out better ways to try new things – without worrying so much about what might happen. The first part of the book talks about thoughts and feelings – how to identify ones that might cause trouble and how to accept and work through them. Then it explores how our thinking can affect what we try. The book gives lots of tips about dealing with unhelpful, catastrophic, or black-and-white thinking. Lastly it gives good ideas for combatting anxiety and working through mistakes that sometimes happen. This is a workbook style book with lots of activities to try. It would be good for 4th grade and up on their own or for parents to use with younger children.

