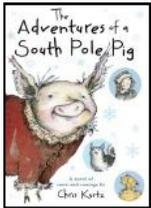


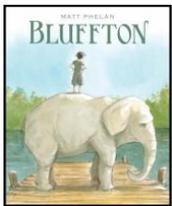
# READ READ READ READ READ READ

## January 2014

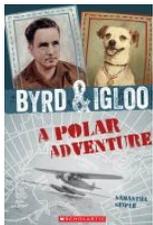
Recent books for kids that the Children's Library staff have read & loved & that we think you will too!



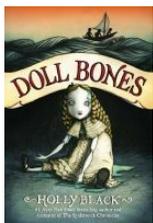
**The Adventures of A South Pole Pig: A Novel of Snow and Courage** by Chris Kurtz . J Fiction  
If you love animal adventure stories this will be just your cup of tea. Flora is an intrepid little piglet who dreams of life outside the farm and the pigpen. She dreams of joining the sled dogs for adventures and gets her wish. However there is a catch when she learns she has not been brought along to be the sled pig she trains to become. The series of adventures are peppered with little illustrations that enhance the story. This quick read will be fun for 2nd and 3rd grade independent readers as well as a nice family read aloud.



**Bluffton: My Summers with Buster** by Matt Phelan. J Fiction  
This beautiful graphic novel, set in 1908, tells the fictionalized story of young Buster Keaton and his friendship with Henry Harrison. The boys meet during the summers the vaudeville performers spent in "The Actors' Colony at Bluffton" which existed from 1908-1938. It is a quick read and will certainly lead many young and old readers to want to watch and see silent movies with new eyes.



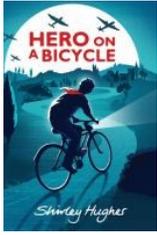
**Byrd & Igloo: A Polar Adventure** by Samantha Seiple. JB Byrd  
The biography is an exciting true story of explorer and aviator Richard Byrd's adventures at both the North and South Poles where he worked to become the first to fly over both areas. His small dog, Igloo, was his companion and best friend on these adventures, and their travels opened the door for science and research in the Antarctic. Written at about a 4<sup>th</sup> grade level, this book is long enough to satisfy required page lengths for biography reports and so interesting that you want to read the whole thing!



**Doll Bones** by Ann M. Martin. J Fiction, JCD  
*Doll Bones* is about a group of 12 year-old friends who have known each other since early childhood. Through the years, Poppy, Zach and Alice have enjoyed playing adventure fantasy games they act out with dolls. Now that they are getting older, the friends have discovered new interests and are pressured from the outside world to give up their childhood games. Their fantasy adventure game takes a new turn when Poppy discovers that the doll they call "The Queen" has a hidden and haunting past that will take them on the road to discover the truth behind the tragic and mysterious death of a young girl named Eleanor. *Doll Bones* is the perfect mixture of friendship, growing up and the ghostly unknown. This book will satisfy those who have also enjoyed other children's horror stories, such as *Coraline* by Neil Gaiman or *The Old Willis Place: A Ghost Story* by Mary Downing Hahn.

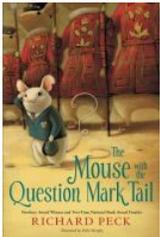


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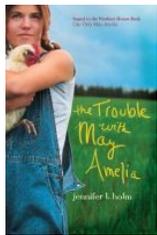
**Hero on a Bicycle** by Shirley Hughes. J Fiction, JCD

In 1944 Florence the war is finally drawing to a close. The citizens are hungry and scared and ready for the Nazis to leave and life to go back to normal. Paolo and Costanza's father left home months ago to join the Partisans in their fight against the Germans and their worry over him is constant. Because he's not old enough join the resistance, Paolo sneaks out at night and rides his bicycle around town - it makes him feel like he's going something at least. But when he runs into the Partisans and they send him back with a message for his mother, their family is reluctantly drawn into the cause. Boredom soon seems desirable compared to the danger of concealing an escaped POW. Can Paolo and Costanza stay one step ahead of the Nazis? This exciting and suspenseful novel may entice readers to do more research into this period in history.



**The Mouse with the Question Mark Tail** by Richard Peck. J Fiction, JCD

Peck's second book set in Victorian England has us attending the Diamond Jubilee. Who knew there was a parallel mouse court where the smallest mouse attends the Royal Mews Mouse Academy?! This "Minor Mouse" will have both humorous and daring adventures. This book will appeal to fans of *The Tale of Despereaux* and *The Littles* and to those who since Harry Potter want anything with a British tilt.



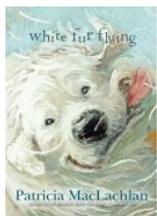
**The Trouble with May Amelia** by Jennifer Holm. J Fic, JCD

Life for girls was really different in 1900. You will probably be shocked to read what it was like for a girl growing up in that time. May Amelia is the only girl growing up in a large family of boys in the very rainy and muddy world of a farm in Washington state. Her father and brothers proclaim that "girls are useless" but she does not let that stop her from becoming her own person. She finds herself in tricky situations and struggles in this book, but also finds the true meaning of *sisu*, which is a Swedish word meaning courage. She ends up surpassing everyone in that. May Amelia Jackson captured readers' hearts in the Newbery Honor Book *Our Only May Amelia*. Now, after more than ten years, Jennifer Holm is bringing this beloved character back!



**The Two and Only Kelly Twins** by Johanna Hurwitz. J Fiction

Second graders Arlene and Ilene are identical twins. They dress alike, have the same haircuts and wear identical glasses. No one can tell them apart except for their parents. But the funny part is, even though they're identical, Arlene is one day older than her sister! The girls enjoy being special, so when a set of triplets shows up on the first day of school, Arlene and Ilene are not happy. No matter what though, it's fun to have a best friend always by your side. This is a quick, sweet short chapter book with fun black and white illustrations, perfect for fans of *Ivy and Bean* or *Ling and Ting*.



**White Fur Flying** by Patricia MacLachlan. J Fiction

Zoe and Alice's family love dogs. Their dad is a veterinarian and their mom rescues Great Pyrenees, the giant dogs that have lots of long, fluffy white fur. The family saves Great Pyrenees when their first owners can no longer take care of them, so that they can be adopted by new families who will take better care of them. Sometimes there are a lot of dogs at their house at one time, but each dog is special in its own way. For a while they also have a talking parrot move in, a bird their dad has rescued. They live out in the country so there is room for all the animals. Then some new neighbors move in who are not as fond of all these pets. Find out how the animals, who have been rescued, can become heroes and rescuers themselves.